

# Overview of the Bible - Kings

History 1 & 2 Samuel, 1 & 2 Kings, and is retold in 1 & 2 Chronicles... a Unified then a Divided Kingdom (northern Israel 10 tribes, and Southern Judah 2 tribes). And while there are moments of godly kings doing God's work, it is a history of rebellion that ultimately leads to exile - Israel to Assyria & Judah to Babylon.

## A SUMMARIZED HISTORY → THE HEART IS CENTRAL → AND DAVID IS A CENTRAL FIGURE

- Act 13:17-23 ESV The God of this people Israel chose our fathers and made the people great during their stay in the land of Egypt, and with uplifted arm he led them out of it. 18 And for about forty years he put up with them in the wilderness. 19 And after destroying seven nations in the land of Canaan, he gave them their land as an inheritance. 20 All this took about 450 years. And after that he gave them judges until Samuel the prophet. 21 Then they asked for a **king**, and God gave them **Saul** the son of Kish, a man of the tribe of Benjamin, for forty years. 22 And when he had removed him, **he raised up David to be their king**, of whom he testified and said, **'I have found in David the son of Jesse a man after my heart, who will do all my will.'** 23 Of **this man's offspring** God has brought to Israel a **Savior, Jesus**, as he promised.

## THE KINGS CAME ABOUT BECAUSE PEOPLE REJECTED GOD AS THEIR KING (Still a problem today)

- 1Sa 8:1-7 ESV When Samuel became old, he made his sons judges over Israel..... 4 Then all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah 5 and said to him, "Behold, you are old and your sons do not walk in your ways. **Now appoint for us a king to judge us like all the nations.**" 6 But the thing displeased Samuel when they said, "Give us a king to judge us." And Samuel prayed to the LORD. 7 And the LORD said to Samuel, "Obey the voice of the people in all that they say to you, for they have not rejected you, but **they have rejected me from being king over them.**

## THE UNITED KINGDOM - Saul, David and Solomon (40 years each)

- **SAUL - BEGAN WITH A CHANGED HEART** → 1Sa 10:6-9 ESV Then the Spirit of the LORD will rush upon you, and you will prophesy with them and be turned into another man..... **God gave him another heart. ...Yet he disobeyed the Lord regarding Amalekites...and God said...** 1Sa 15:11 ESV "I regret that I have made Saul king, for he has turned back from following me and has not performed my commandments."
- **THIS IS SPEAKING OF DAVID** → 1Sa 13:14 ESV But now your kingdom shall not continue. **The LORD has sought out a man after his own heart,.....We don't have to be perfect** ...1Ki 15:5 ESV because David did what was right in the eyes of the LORD and did not turn aside from anything that he commanded him all the days of his life, except in the matter of Uriah the Hittite.
- **SOLOMON'S HEART WAS TURNED AWAY** → 1Ki 11:1-6 ESV .....Solomon clung to these in love. 3 He had 700 wives, who were princesses, and 300 concubines. **And his wives turned away his heart.** 4 For when Solomon was old **his wives turned away his heart after other gods, and his heart was not wholly true to the LORD** his God, **as was the heart of David his father.** 5 For Solomon went after Ashtoreth the goddess of the Sidonians, and after Milcom the abomination of the Ammonites. 6 So Solomon did what was evil in the sight of the LORD and did not wholly follow the LORD, **as David his father had done.**

## THE DIVIDED KINGDOM →

### Rehoboam became king after Solomon but he forsook the Lord and worshiped other God's

- 1Ki 11:33 ESV **because** they have **forsaken me** and **worshiped** Ashtoreth the goddess of the Sidonians, Chemosh the god of Moab, and Milcom the god of the Ammonites, and they have **not walked in my ways**, doing what is **right** in my sight and **keeping my statutes** and my rules, **as David his father did.**

### SLIDE God tore 10 tribes from Solomon's son (Rehoboam) and gave 10 tribes to (Jeroboam)

- Jeroboam -- King over 10 northern tribes -- a.k.a. Israel → Capital Samaria
- Rehoboam -- King left with 2 tribes -- a.k.a. Judah → Capital is Jerusalem

## David and his heart toward the LORD became the standard of judging the performance of the kings

- **To JEROBOAM** - 1Ki 11:38 ESV **And if you will** listen to all that I command you, and will walk in my ways, and do what is right in my eyes by keeping my statutes and my commandments, **as David my servant did**, I will be with you and will build you a sure house, as I built for David, and I will give Israel to you.
- **To JEROBOAM** → 1Ki 14:8 ESV and tore the kingdom away from the house of David and gave it to you, **and yet you have not been like my servant David**, who kept my commandments and followed me with all his heart, doing only that which was right in my eyes,
- **AMAZIAH** - 2Ki 14:3-4 ESV **And he did what was right** in the eyes of the LORD, **yet not like David his father**. He did in all things as Joash his father had done. 4 But the high places were not removed; the people still sacrificed and made offerings on the high places.
- **To ASA** - 1Ki 15:11 ESV **And Asa did what was right** in the eyes of the LORD, **as David his father had done**.
- **To AHAZ** - 2Ki 16:2 ESV Ahaz was twenty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem. **And he did not do what was right** in the eyes of the LORD his God, **as his father David had done**

## THE HEART WAS CENTRAL

- **ABIJAM** - 1Ki 15:3 ESV **And he walked in all the sins that his father did before him, and his heart was not wholly true** to the LORD his God, **as the heart of David his father**.
- **ASA** → 1Ki 15:14 ESV **But the high places were not taken away. Nevertheless, the heart of Asa was wholly true to the LORD all his days.**
- **JOSIAH - 8 YEARS OLD** → 2Ki 23:3 ESV **And the king stood by the pillar and made a covenant before the LORD, to walk after the LORD and to keep his commandments and his testimonies and his statutes with all his heart and all his soul**, to perform the words of this covenant that were written in this book. **And all the people joined in the covenant.**
- **JOSIAH** → 2Ki 23:25 ESV **Before him there was no king like him, who turned to the LORD with all his heart and with all his soul and with all his might**, according to all the Law of Moses, nor did any like him arise after him.
- 2Ch 32:25-26 ESV **But Hezekiah did not make return according to the benefit done to him, for his heart was proud.** Therefore wrath came upon him and Judah and Jerusalem. 26 **But Hezekiah humbled himself for the pride of his heart**, both he and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that the wrath of the LORD did not come upon them in the days of Hezekiah.
- **ZEDEKIAH** 2Ch 36:13 ESV **He also rebelled against King Nebuchadnezzar, who had made him swear by God. He stiffened his neck and hardened his heart against turning to the LORD, the God of Israel.**

**SUMMARY** -- The trajectory of Israel and Judah toward exile was due to the condition of their hearts. It is the case today...we want to be like the world, we reject God as king, and our own kings lead us to destruction

## The only solution is heart replacement

- Eze 36:26-28 ESV **And I will give you a new heart**, and a new spirit I will put within you. **And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.** 27 **And I will put my Spirit within you**, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules. 28 **You shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers, and you shall be my people, and I will be your God.**
- 2Ch 16:9 NIV **For the eyes of the LORD range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him.** You have done a foolish thing, and from now on you will be at war."
- Greatest commandment to Love the LORD with ALL YOUR HEART...