

God's Story, Our Story

Lesson 17: The Divided Kingdom and the Prophets *God's Voice to His People*



1 Kgs 12

1. After Solomon dies, the Davidic Kingdom is split. The ten northern tribes follow Jeroboam and form the northern kingdom of Israel. The tribe of Benjamin stays with Judah in Jerusalem under the rule of Rehoboam (southern kingdom). Civil war ensues.

1 Kgs 12:28-33

2. Northern kingdom (Israel): Jeroboam erects golden calves. Every king in the northern kingdom is evil, despite prophets such as Elijah who warn them.

2 Kgs

3. Southern kingdom (Judah): most kings are sinful, but some are righteous and bring religious reform (Asa, Jehoshaphat).

4. The prophets are divine messengers sent for the purpose of revealing God's plans and purposes and enforcing the covenant. They announce blessings and curses, showing the divine application of the covenant.

5. They go outside of Israel and announce the oracles against the nations.

6. The great prophets:

- a. In Israel: Amos, Hosea.
- b. In Judah: Isaiah, Micah, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Jeremiah.
- c. To the nations: Obadiah, Jonah, Nahum
- d. In Exile: Ezekiel, Daniel.
- e. Post-Exilic: Zechariah, Haggai, Malachi.

2 Kgs 17

7. In 722 BC, Assyria conquers Samaria and deports the people of the northern kingdom. Samaria is repopulated with foreigners who become the Samaritans.

2 Kgs 18-23

8. Hezekiah brings reform in Judah, but his son Manasseh does great evil, even sacrificing children to Molech. Because of this God will bring disaster upon Jerusalem. King Josiah delays judgment by destroying shrines to the pagan gods.

2 Kgs 24-25

9. King Nebuchadnezzar besieges Jerusalem in 605 BC, takes king Jehoiachin into captivity in 597, and destroys the city and deports the population in 586 BC.

Questions for Discussion

1. How does the history of Israel from the time of Solomon to the two exiles reflect God's faithfulness to his covenant?
2. What part do the prophets play in God's story of salvation?
3. How do they relate to God's covenant with Israel? To the Mosaic covenant?
4. What do these seven themes show about God's will and character?
5. How are the words of the prophets still relevant today? How do they fit with current times?
6. How is the Davidic covenant fulfilled in Christ?

The 7 Great Themes of the Prophets

Theme	Description	Scripture
1. Judgment	Failure to keep the covenant will result in judgment and punishment in the form of exile.	Jer 1:14-16
2. The Remnant	God preserves and purifies a remnant to bring his salvation to others.	Is 10:20-22
3. Messianic Hope	God will establish his kingdom in Israel and in the world and bring a state of perfect peace and happiness through the coming Messiah.	Is 11:1-9
4. The New Exodus	God will use the Messiah to bring about a new and greater Exodus, bringing the tribes of Israel out of all the nations in which they have been scattered, with gentiles with them.	Is 11:12
5. Pilgrimage to Zion	The New Exodus will bring the 12 tribes with gentiles on an eschatological pilgrimage to Zion.	Is 2:2-4 Jer 16:14-15
6. Restoration of the Davidic Kingdom	The return to Zion will bring a restoration of the Davidic kingdom that will reunite all 12 tribes and the faithful from every nation under the Davidic messiah-king.	Ezek 37:21-25
7. The Day of the Lord	God will judge his people. After he has purged them through suffering, he will restore them in glory. Destruction and ruin will be followed by deliverance.	Joel 2:1-2, 10-11

Jesus Fulfills the Davidic Covenant

David	Jesus Christ
Primary Characteristics	
1) David is called "Son of God" (2 Sam 7:9-16, Ps 2:7)	Jesus is called "Son of God" and "Son of David." (Mt 1:1; Lk 1:31-35)
2) David rose and went to the hill country and exclaimed: "How can the Ark of the Lord come to me?" David danced before the Ark. The Ark stayed 3 months in the hill country. (2 Sam 6:2, 9, 11, 14, 16)	Mary rose and went to the hill country. Elizabeth exclaimed: "How is it that the mother of my Lord should come to me?" The babe in Elizabeth's womb leaped for joy. Mary stayed with Elizabeth for 3 months. (Lk 1:39, 43, 44, 56)
3) Davidic king is the anointed one.	Jesus is the Lord's anointed one. (Lk 2:11, 2:26, 9:20)
4) Davidic kingdom is centered in Jerusalem. (2 Sam 5:7)	Jesus' public ministry, passion, death and resurrection are centered in Jerusalem.
5) The Temple is the house of worship. (2 Sam 7:11-13, 1 Ki 6)	The Temple is central to Jesus' teaching and life.
6) Davidic king ruled all 12 tribes. (2 Sam 5:1-5)	Jesus appoints 12 apostles which shows he is restoring the unity of the 12 tribes of Israel. (Lk 6:12-16, 22:30)
7) Davidic king rules an international empire including the gentiles. (Ps 2, Ps 22:27, 1 Ki 10:1,5,9)	Jesus' kingship extends to all nations. (Lk 2:32, 13:29, 24:47)
8) Davidic kingdom is everlasting. (2 Sam 7:16, 2 Sam 23:5, Ps 89:35-36)	Jesus rules over the house of Jacob forever and of his kingdom there shall be no end. (Lk 1:33)
Secondary Characteristics	
1) Queen Mother (<i>gevurah</i>) (1 Kgs 2:19)	Mary reigns by the side of Jesus, the King. (Rev 12:1)
2) Prime minister holds the key to the house of David. (Isa 22)	Jesus gives Peter (and his successors) the keys to the kingdom of heaven. (Mt 16:18)
3) Todah offering of bread and wine celebrates God's deliverance. (Ps 22, 40, 50, 69)	The Eucharist is the new sacrifice of thanksgiving for God's act of deliverance. (Mt 26:26-30)