

The Story

Gods

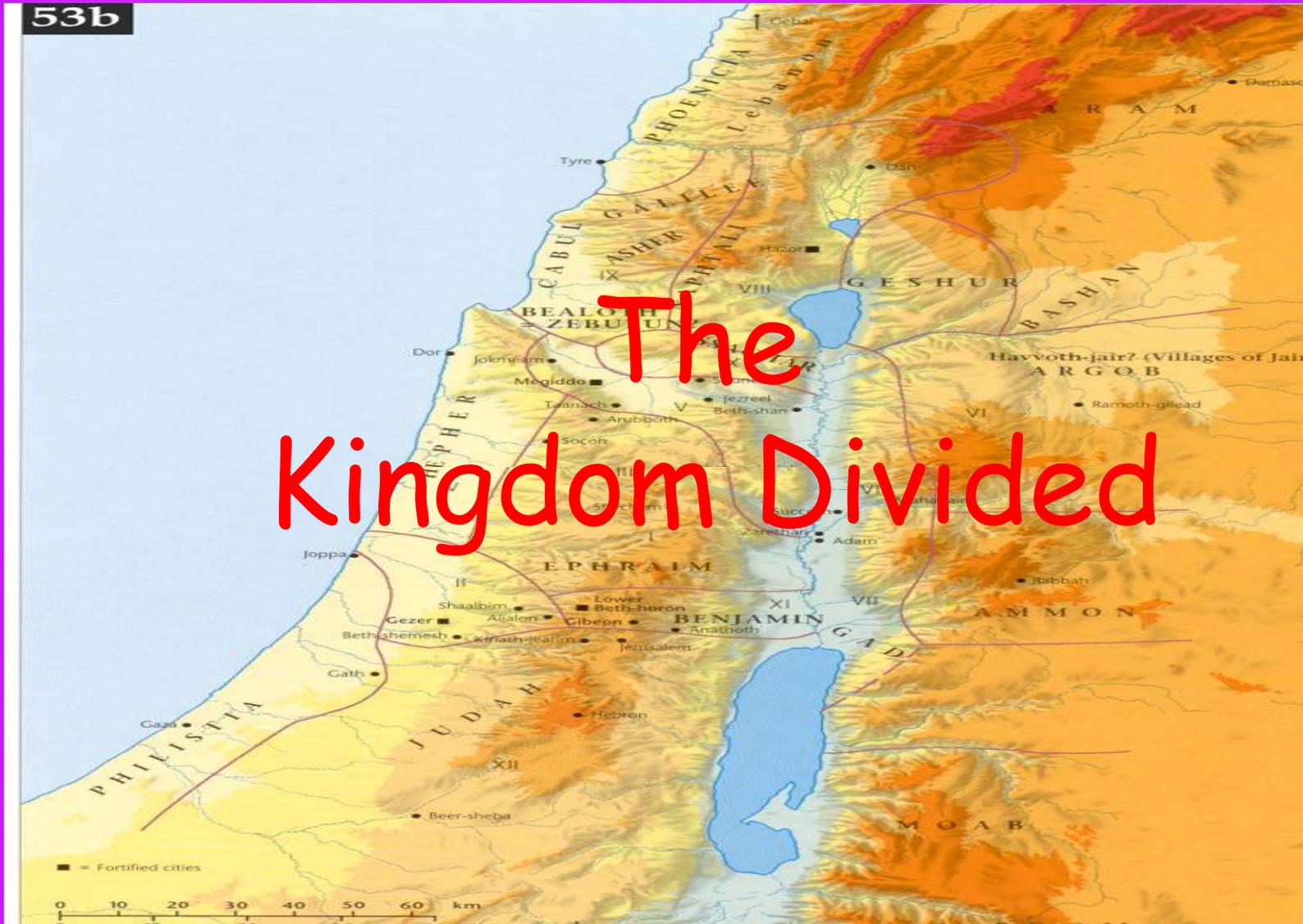
Messengers

Chapter 15

Quick Review

How did we get here?

53b

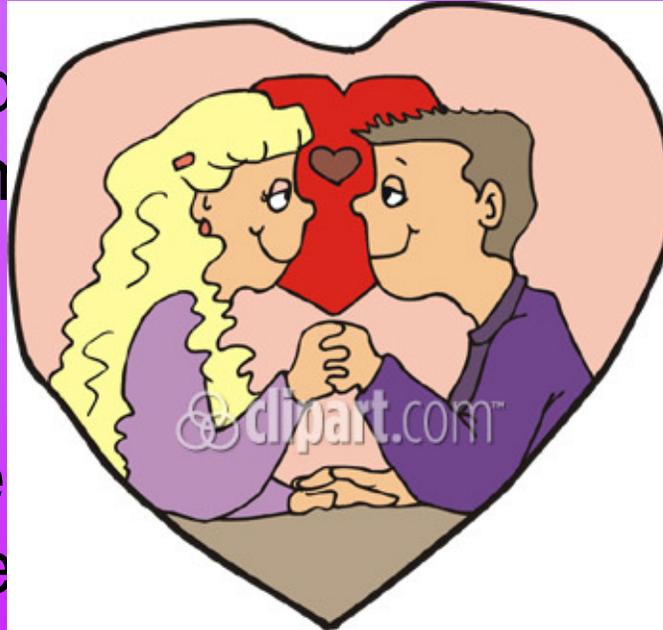


How the Kingdom Divided

- King Solomon started well.

- But, he loved many women - Egyptian, Moabites, Ammonites, Sidonites, and Hittites.

- His 700 wives and 300 concubines turned his heart away from the Lord when he was old.



Slide 4

MA1

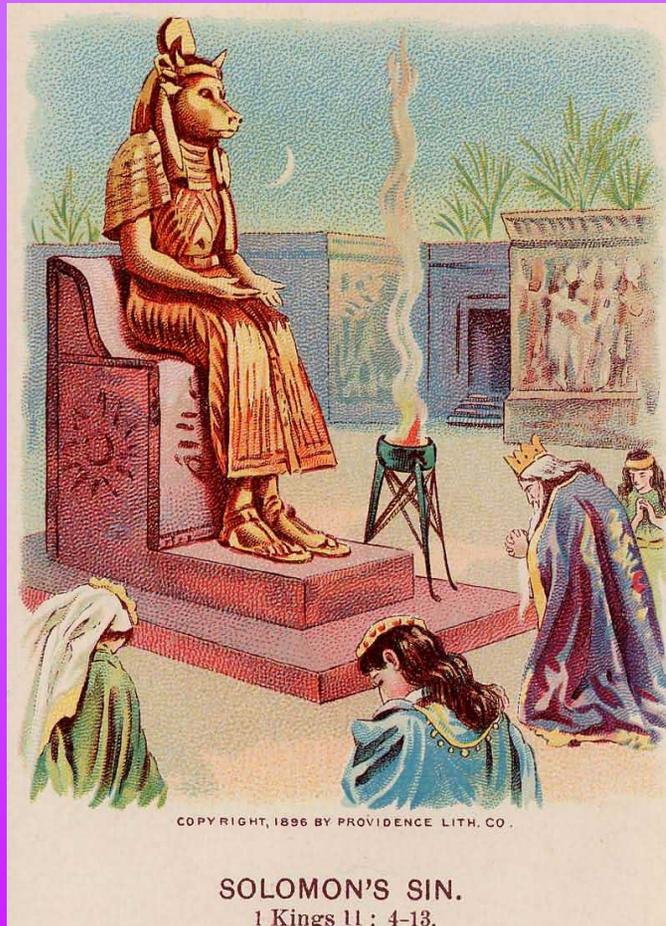
Michele Ang, 9/20/2005

How the Kingdom Divided

Deuteronomy 7:3, 4

He did not keep what the LORD has commanded:-

“Do not intermarry with them... for they will turn your sons away from following Me to serve other gods, and the LORD’s anger will burn against you and will quickly destroy you.”



THE KINGDOMS OF ISRAEL AND JUDAH

1 KGS. 12

- City
- ★ Capital city
- City (uncertain location)
- ▲ Mountain peak
- Israel
- Judah
- International roads
- Local roads

0 10 20 30 40 50 Miles
0 10 20 30 40 50 Kilometers



Kings of Israel (North)



- Jeroboam I (933-911) - 22 years
- Nadab (911-910) - 2 years
- Baasha (910-887) - 24 years
- Elah (887-886) - 2 years
- Zimri (886) - 7 days
- Omri (886-875) - 12 years
- Ahab (875-854) - 22 years
- Ahaziah (855-854) - 2 years
- Jehoram (Joram) (854-843) - 12 years
- Jehu (843-816) - 28 years
- Jehoahaz (820-804) - 17 years
- Jehoash (Joash) (806-790) - 16 years
- Jeroboam II (790-749) - 42 years
- Zechariah' (748) - 6 months
- Shallum (748) - 1 month
- Menahem (748-738) - 10 years
- Pekahiah (738-736) - 2 years
- Pekah (748-730) - 20 years
- Hoshea (730-721) - 9 years

19 kings - ALL BAD!

- Rehoboam (933-916) - 17 years
- Abijam (915-913) - 3 years
- **Asa** (912-872) - 41 years
- **Jehoshaphat** (874-850) - 25 years
- Jehoram (850-843) - 8 years
- Ahaziah (843) - 1 year
- Athaliah (843-837) - 6 years
- **Joash** (843-803) - 40 years
- **Amaziah** (803-775) - 29 years
- **Azariah (Uzziah)** (787-735) - 52 years
- **Jotham** (749-734) - 16 years
- Ahaz (741-726) - 16 years
- **Hezekiah** (726-697) - 29 years
- Manasseh (697-642) - 55 years
- Amon (641-640) - 2 years
- **Josiah** (639-608) - 31 years
- Jehoahaz (608) - 3 months
- Jehoiachin (608-597) - 11 years
- Jehoiachin (597) - 3 months
- Zedekiah (597-586) - 11 years

19 kings and 1 Queen.

8 GOOD kings



God divided the nation because his people were sending a wrong message

- *God wanted His people to be blessed by Him so that others would be drawn to their God*
- The nation rebelled from God, becoming complacent in devotion, disobedient to God's commands, and worshipers of pagan gods
- *In disobedience, Gods people were sending a wrong message to themselves and to the surrounding nations*

God divided the nation so that He could purify the message regarding His character

- God does not need all 12 tribes to fulfill His promises to Abraham and David
- From the offspring of David from the tribe of Judah God will bring the Messiah
- *This promise is fulfilled in Jesus*

God is Sovereign

God called these prophets at a critical time in Israel's history

Look at the big picture:

The legacy of the monarchy was an undignified mess, and the good king to bad king ratio was awful.

The sins of the leaders had literally split the kingdom, spawned incestuous warfare, and made the chosen people of God a spectacle to the rest of the world.

Into this fray, this fracas, this melee, God sent the prophets. They certainly had their work cut out for them.

God's Messengers of Wrath & Hope

- God sent His Prophets to
 - warn about His anger and judgment upon them (including exiles).
 - call Israel/Judah to turn from their sins immediately.
 - speak comfort about a remnant from Judah who would be delivered and return to the land.

Prophets

Israel

- Elijah
- Elisha
- Jonah
- Amos
- Hosea

Judah

- Joel
- Isaiah
- Micah
- Nahum
- Zephaniah
- Habakkuk
- Jeremiah
- Obadiah
- Ezekiel

Elijah

- His encounter with the 450 prophets of Baal on Mount Caramel is well-known
- *Israel's God answered by fire*

Hosea

Served under Jeroboam II

**Was commanded by God to marry - Gomer
a prostitute and to love her**

Hosea 1 - 3 shows the life message to God's people

**Hosea 4 - 14 reports the prophetic message to Gods
people**

1. This section begins with the story of Elijah's prophecy on rain - Summarize

- **Elijah was a Tishbite**
- **Controlled the rain**
- **He was fed by the ravens**
- **After 3 years he went to Ahab**
- **Ahab assembled the prophets 450 Baal 400 Asherah**
- **Elijah challenged the people - choose**
- **P 204**

2. What is added in the full story in 1 Kings 17 [The Widow at Zarephath]?

- **Elijah asked for water and bread**
- **She only had a little flour**
- **Flour & oil will not be used up**
- **Son became ill**
- **Blamed Elijah**
- **Elijah stretched out on him 3 X**
- **God healed the boy**
- **1 Kings 17. 24**

3. What was Jezebel's threat to Elijah? [1 Kings 19]

- **1 Kings 19. 1-4**

4. What is said of Elijah and his desire to give up?

- 1 Kings 19. 3-5

5. What was The Lord's answer to Elijah?

- **1 Kings 19. 6-10**

6. How did God “pass by” Elijah?

- **Powerful wind**
- **Earthquake**
- **Fire**
- **Gentle whisper**
- **1 Kings 19. 11-13**

7. How is Elisha introduced?

- **Elijah found him plowing the field**
- **1 Kings 19. 19-21**

8. What did Elijah desire to do for Elisha and what did Elisha desire?

- **He swore that he'd never leave Elijah**
- **2 Kings 2. 9 – a double portion of God's spirit**

9. How did Elijah die?

- He didn't
- 2 Kings 2. 11

10. What was the story of the Shunammite woman?

- 2 kings 4

11. What was Amos' prophecy and message?

- **He was a shepherd of Tekoa**
- **Uzziah was King of Judah**
- **Judgment on Israel's neighbors**

12. What was Hosea's prophecy and message?

- **Poured out his heart for God**
- **People refused to hear or repent**
- **Hosea 4**

13. What did the people of God do with these messages from God's messengers?

- **Ignored them**
- **No repentance**
- **Hardened their hearts**
- **Led to chaos**

It IS Time!

- It is time we stepped up and *spoke up*
- It is time we stepped up and *lived out our high calling*
- It's time we stepped up and *modeled some grace*

**If we get lost in the Lower Story of our
lives**

**the daily grind of putting bread on
the table and paying the bills**

**rather than the big picture missing
the forest for the trees**

**we cannot be the prophets, the truth-
tellers, of our time**

1 Corinthians 2. 9

*“What no eye has seen, what no ear has heard, and what no human mind has conceived”—
the things God has prepared for those who love him”*

It IS time We
Stepped UP
As Gods
Messengers

Lord, release us from the prison of pride and bitterness, and open our eyes that we may see the host of angels surrounding us, Your provision during drought, and fulfill our destiny as truth-tellers and peacemakers in a world sorely in need of both.

Show us the way out of the weeds, and help us see Your timeless plan, the great Upper Story, in OUR lives.

By ourselves, on our own, we are powerless, But through Your power, help us step up as Your messengers, that we might be Your witnesses under our roofs, in our marketplace, and to the ends of the earth.