

**THE BIBLE AS HISTORY**  
**A SURVEY OF THE OLD TESTAMENT**  
**VOLUME II**  
**THE UNITED KINGDOM TO THE BABYLONIAN CAPTIVITY**  
**LEADER'S STUDY GUIDE**

**Dr. Stanford E. Murrell**



The Ridge in Jerusalem over Which the Scapegoat was Sent  
Leviticus 16

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**CHAPTER 1**  
**THE FIRST BOOK OF SAMUEL**

**Review**

1. What high priest of Israel was disciplined by God and removed from office because he allowed great corruptions?

***Answer.***

Because of the spiritual failures of Eli, God moved to discipline him by removing him from office.

2. Why did the citizen-warriors of the Philistines initially desire the Ark of the Covenant?

***Answer.***

The citizen-warriors of the Philistines initially desired the Ark of the Covenant because they thought if they carried the Ark of God into battle it would bring a military victory.

3. List the weapon of choice of Othniel, Ehud, and Shamgar.

***Answer.***

Othniel used a spear.

Ehud handled a dagger.

Shamgar preferred the ox-goad.

4. Identify the following.

- Ichabod
- Dagon.
- Hannah
- Mizpeh

***Answer.***

- Ichabod (lit. inglorious). The name of the baby borne by Eli's daughter in law.
- Dagon. The fish god of the Philistines.
- Hannah. The mother of Samuel.
- Mizpeh. A place in Benjamin where the people remembered the help of the Lord.

## Reflection and Discussion

1. At what age, and under what circumstances, are parents no longer responsible for the actions of their children?
2. Superstition motivated the Philistines to capture the Ark of the Covenant. What are some modern day religious superstitions? Discuss the influence on the world of astrology, omens, and witchcraft.
3. What is one example manifested in your life of the principle of God's grace in judgment?
4. In a day of battle against the Philistines, God sent a thunderstorm to help the Israelites defeat their enemies (1 Samuel 7:10). What should be the Christian's view of weather?

### *Special Research*

Look up and study The Miracle of Dunkirk which occurred between 27 May and the early hours of 4 June 1940.

5. As there are weapons of choice so there are spiritual weapons to use in spiritual warfare. Read and discuss the armor of God found in Ephesians 6:11-18.

## Personal Application

### Heart Work

1. Do you, did you, honor your parents?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
2. Are you superstitious in any way?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
3. Has the glory of the Lord departed from your heart and life?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
4. Have you ever maliciously taunted someone?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
5. Are you familiar with the weapons of spiritual warfare provided by the armor of God?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

## Scriptural Memorization

*1 Samuel 2:2 There is none holy as the Lord: for there is none beside thee: neither is there any rock like our God.*

## A SURVEY OF THE OLD TESTAMENT

### VOLUME II

#### THE UNITED KINGDOM TO THE BABYLONIAN CAPTIVITY

#### LEADER'S STUDY GUIDE

#### CHAPTER 2

#### THE LIFE OF SAUL

##### Review

1. Why did the people of Israel want to overthrow the theocratic kingdom in favor of a monarchy?

***Answer.***

Part of the answer is that Samuel had made his unworthy sons judges over the nation and the people wanted a change.

2. List eight flaws in establishing a monarch of which the people were forewarned.

***Answer.***

- The king would force individuals into royal servitude.
- The king would institute a military draft.
- The king would choose guns and bullets over bread and butter by building an industrial complex.
- The king would enslave women for domestic work.
- The king would abolish private property and redistribute wealth to the undeserving.
- The king would impose heavy taxation to pay off political debts.
- The king would establish a dictatorship.
- The king would make the people live to regret wanting to be like other nations.

3. From which tribe was Saul selected?

***Answer.***

Saul was from the tribe of Benjamin.

4. List four charming characteristics of Saul.

***Answer.***

Saul was tall.

Saul was brave.

Saul was energetic.

Saul was modest.

5. How did Saul say he would rule the kingdom?

***Answer.***

It was Saul's stated intention to rule the kingdom according to the Law of Moses and the known will of the Lord.

6. List the seven military campaigns Saul engaged in.

- Campaign against the Ammonites at Jabesh-Gilead
- Campaign against the Philistines at Michmash
- Campaigns against Moab, Edom and Zobah
- Campaign against the Amalekites
- Campaign against the Philistines under the championship of Goliath
- Campaign against David
- Campaign against the Philistines

7. How and where did Saul die?

***Answer.***

The Philistines killed Saul in battle on Mount Gilboa near the Plain of Esdraelon.

8. What two important functions did Samuel do for Israel?

***Answer.***

First, Samuel taught the nation the Law.

Second, he established a school of the prophets.

9. What was the first great military victory Saul enjoyed as the new king of Israel?

***Answer.***

Saul enjoyed victory over the Ammonites in Jabesh-Gilead.

10. What foolish act did Saul perform trying to calm his fears prior to an important battle against the Philistines?

***Answer.***

To calm his fears Saul invaded the holy office of the priest by offering a burnt offering.

11. What did Saul propose doing to his son Jonathan but the people refused to let him?

***Answer.***

Saul proposed executing his son Jonathan for an act of disobedience, but the people of Israel would not let such an execution take place for Jonathan had proven himself heroic in battle.

12. What divine command did Saul violate in relation to the known will of the Lord?

**Answer.**

God provided an opportunity to destroy the enemy of Israel, but in violation of the known will of the Lord. Saul spared the valuable property of the Amalekites for himself and the people.

13. What divine discipline came upon Saul as a result of his disobedience over the Amalekites?

**Answer.**

The result of Saul's defiance was divine discipline in the form of his family being disowned and the kingdom taken from him.

14. Who was anointed to be the second king over Israel?

**Answer.**

To become the second king over Israel, Samuel was commissioned by God to anoint David, a son of Jesse the Beth-lehemite.

15. How tall was Goliath?

**Answer.**

Goliath was 6 cubits and a span or about 9 feet 9 inches tall.

16. Prior to a great battle at the Plain of Esdraelon, whom did Saul want to seek out for counsel?

**Answer.**

King Saul wanted to seek counsel from Samuel by way of a witch at Endor.

17. What did Samuel predict would happen?

**Answer.**

Samuel predicted Saul would die in battle.

18. What did the Philistines do with the dead bodies of Saul and his sons, having slain them in battle?

**Answer.**

When the Philistines discovered the bodies they nailed them to the wall of Beth-shan, a town in the valley of the Jordan.

19. List two self-destructive and other destructive flaws in the character of King Saul.

**Answer.**

First, Saul was impulsive.

Second, Saul was self-willed.

## Reflection and Discussion

1. When a person wants to become more like the world, what counsel can you provide?
2. Individuals who are in emotional revolt of the soul can be logical and persuasive in their determination to move in a given direction. What can arrest a person from engaging in self-destructive and other destructive behavior?
3. What spiritual lessons about the depths of human depravity can be discerned from reading and remembering the biblical stories? Be specific.
4. Do people ever surprise you by “changing” and acting in a way that was never expected or anticipated?
5. What would have made Samuel a better parent and a better priest?
6. Is it wrong for a Christian to serve in the military in a combative role?
7. Why was Saul’s offering of the burnt offering so offensive?
8. Should individuals who serve in the military be put to death in an act of insubordination?
9. What effect should music have upon the Christian?
10. What spiritual defense does the Christian have against new and powerful military weapons?
11. Is there such a thing as “white witchcraft” being good “witchcraft” as opposed to that “old black magic”?

## Personal Application

### Heart Work

1. Do you ever secretly long to be more “worldly”?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
2. Do you ever rationalize away the evil [injurious behavior to self and others] that you do?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
3. Are you horrified by the depths of human depravity?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
4. Is there any sin that is shocking to your heart?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

5. Do you appear to be religious in public, but know you are full of inward corruption?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
6. Have you changed in life from being a better person to being a worse one?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
7. Would you serve in the military?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
8. If called upon, would you fight and even die for your country?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
9. Have you ever done something very foolish as a Christian?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
10. Does music have a calming effect upon you heart?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
11. Has God ever disciplined you in such a way you knew the calamity was from the Lord?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
12. Have you ever held a séance or engaged in any form of witchcraft?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
13. Do you believe in the existence of demons?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
14. Are you an impulsive person?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
15. Are you self-willed?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

### **Scriptural Memorization**

*1 Samuel 15:22 And Samuel said, Hath the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams.*

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**CHAPTER 3**  
**THE UNITED KINGDOM OF ISRAEL**  
**THE LIFE OF DAVID**

**Review**

1. From what tribe of Israel did David come?

***Answer.***

David came from the tribe of Judah.

2. In what town was David born?

***Answer.***

David was born in the town of Bethlehem.

3. In what year was David born?

***Answer.***

David was born c. 1080 BC.

4. Provide a fivefold division of the life of David.

***Answer.***

- Part One      The Shepherd's Life at Bethlehem
- Part Two      The Singer's Life in the Court of King Saul
- Part Three     The Sought After Life in the Wilderness of Judah and among the Philistines
- Part Four      The Stable Life at Hebron as King
- Part Five      The Sovereign's Life at Jerusalem as king of the whole nation

5. From which two wild animals did David have to rescue the sheep he was attending?

***Answer.***

David had to rescue his sheep from the jaws of a lion and from the paws of a bear.

6. Detail the five attempts by King Saul on the life of David.

**Answer.**

- First, Saul spoke to Jonathan and to his household servants that they should kill David.
- Second, in his home Saul threw a javelin at David.
- Third, Saul sent soldiers to the home of David thinking he was sick. The soldiers were instructed to bring David back on his sick bed.
- Fourth, Saul sent messengers to Ramah to seize him but the Lord intervened and they were filled with the Spirit.
- Fifth, Saul went to Ramah himself only to be numbered with the prophets.

7. What sin did David commit in Nob as he fled the court of King Saul?

**Answer.**

David lied to the high priest by pretending the king had sent him on an important errand.

8. In the Philistine city of Gath, how did David disguise himself?

**Answer.**

In the Philistine city of Gath, David disguised himself by pretending to be mad. He let spittle fall upon his beard and scabbled on the doors.

9. After being forced to leave Gath, where did David take refuge?

**Answer.**

After leaving Gath, David took refuge in the cave of Adullam.

10. List the seven major movements of David from the cave of Adullam to Ziklag where he learned of the death of King Saul.

**Answer.**

- From the cave of Adullam, David's flight took him to the forest of Hareth in Judah.
- From Hareth David fled to the wilderness of Ziph.
- From Ziph David went to Maon.
- From Maon David fled to the strongholds of Engedi.
- From Engedi David moved to Carmel.
- From Carmel David went to Hachilah.
- From Hachilah David was given by the Philistines the border city of Ziklag as a reward for becoming, they thought, an ally against Israel.

11. In which city did David reign for seven and a half years?

**Answer.**

David reigned in Hebron for seven and a half years.

12. Who was Abner?

***Answer.***

Abner was a military captain who supported Ish-bosheth, a son of Saul, against David.

13. Which two tribes of Israel recognized Ish-bosheth as their king?

***Answer.***

The eastern tribes of Ephraim and Benjamin recognized Ish-bosheth as their king.

14. How did Abner die?

***Answer.***

Abner was murdered by Joab, one of David's nephews who was made commander-in-chief or "captain of hosts".

15. Where was Abraham commanded to offer his son Isaac?

***Answer.***

On Mount Moriah, one of the hills near Jerusalem, Abraham was commanded to offer up to God his son Isaac.

16. Who died because he touched the Ark of the Covenant while it was being transported?

***Answer.***

Uzzah died because he touched the Ark of the Covenant in an unauthorized manner while it was being transported.

17. Which of David's wives was disgusted with him because he danced in public in delight?

***Answer.***

Michal was disgusted with David because he danced in public in delight when the Ark of the Covenant was returned to Jerusalem.

***Special Note.***

**The Eight Known Wives of David**

**1 Chronicles 3:1-9**

**Mothers of the Children Born in Hebron**

- Ahinoam, the Jezreelitess  
Mother of Amnon
- Abigail the Carmelitess  
Mother of Daniel

- Maachah, the daughter of Talmai king of Geshur  
Mother of Absalom and his sister, Tamar
- Haggith  
Mother of Adonijah
- Abital  
Mother of Shephatiah
- Eglah  
Mother of Ithream
- Michal

**Mother of the Children Born in Jerusalem**

- Bathshua, the daughter of Ammiel  
Mother of Shimea, Shobab, Nathan, and Solomon

Seven of these eight wives bore David eleven children. There were other wives and concubines by whom David had children.

18. Which prophet approved the idea to build the Temple but disallowed David from completing it.

***Answer.***

The prophet Nathan approved the idea to build the Temple but afterwards informed David the Lord was against the proposal as stated. David was not to build the Temple but only prepare for its construction which was to be completed by his son Solomon.

19. List five nations David fought against during his reign as king.

***Answer.***

David fought wars against the following nations:

- Philistines
- Moabites
- Edomites
- Amalekites
- Syrians

20. Having received God's mercy and grace, to whom did David want to show mercy and grace?

***Answer.***

David wanted to do good to someone in the house of Saul. Finding that Mephibosheth, a lame son of Jonathan was still alive, the king brought him to Jerusalem and gave him a place of honor in his court.

21. What did Alexander Pope write about sin?

*Answer.*

“Sin is such a frightful mien  
That to be hated is but to be seen.  
But seen too often, familiar with its face  
We first endure and then embrace.”

22. What three positive emotions will be felt by those who meet God on gospel terms?

*Answer.*

Those who meet God on gospel terms will feel the following emotions:

- a feeling of honor.
- a feeling of spiritual happiness.
- a feeling of inner joy.

23. From the life of Absalom, what nine facets will characterize the heart of a deceiver?

*Answer.*

- The heart of the deceiver has a different agenda than what appears on the surface.
- The heart of the deceiver is patient.
- The heart of the deceiver uses persuasive speech to present a powerful argument for his position.
- The heart of the deceiver gathers a faithful following before making a move against established authority divinely appointed.
- The heart of the deceiver justifies every action taken in the name of the greater good for others.
- The heart of the deceiver is ruthless to the bitter end.
- Initially the deceiver appears vindicated for all that is said or done through a series of early strategic victories in the maneuvering.
- In the end the deceiver shall die under divine judgment and remain under the wrath of God.
- God’s judgment comes to the deceiver because life was lived for self and not for the glory of the Lord.

24. Which man led a petty revolt against David who was God's divinely appointed authority over Israel?

***Answer.***

Blowing a trumpet in public to make an open declaration of his intentions, Sheba, a man of Belial (Satan) from the tribe of Benjamin led a revolt against David.

25. What four general problems did David face as king of Israel?

***Answer.***

As king of Israel, David faced the following general problems:

- Foreign wars.
- Family unrest.
- Political intrigue.
- Famine in the land.

26. Who were the Gibeonites and what did they want from king David in order to satisfy their sense of social justice?

***Answer.***

Historically, the Gibeonites had deceived Joshua into making a peace treaty when Israel was conquering the land. For this they were to be bondservants to the Hebrews by being hewers of wood and drawers of water for the congregation, and for the house of God and altar of Jehovah. King Saul broke this covenant. With religious enthusiasm or patriotism he killed some and devised a general massacre of the rest. Time passed. The famine came. David asked the leaders of Gibeon what could be done to atone for the past. Seven men of Saul's descendants were requested by the Gibeonites, who hanged them "before the Lord" in Gibeah, Saul's own town. Social justice seemed to be satisfied.

27. How old was David when he died and for how long did he rule Israel?

***Answer.***

At seventy years of age David was going to die having ruled Israel for forty years.

### **Reflection and Discussion**

1. What has more influence upon the character of a person, what he is by nature, or what he is by nurture (a person's upbringing and social surroundings)?
2. Provide at least one example of how God has delivered you from a difficult or dangerous situation in life.
3. How is friendship cultivated?

4. When David began to live outside the law as a fugitive from royal injustice, he felt it necessary to lie. Does a specific situation govern the ethical position of a person? “I will trade lies for lives” (Colonel Oliver North, Iran-Contra Affair).
5. At Gath, David feigned madness. Is it ever right to deceive another person?
6. In Maon, David was cut off and was about to be captured when the Lord intervened and Saul stopped perusing David to fight the Philistines. Would you agree or disagree with the following observation: “When I pray, coincidences happen, and when I stop praying, coincidences stop happening.”
7. What does the calming and rational actions of Abigail compared to the irrational actions of Nabal say about the stereotype cliché that, “men are practical while women are emotional”?
8. The Bible records that David and his men engaged in genocide by slaughtering Philistine men and women and cattle (1 Samuel 27:3-12). Can genocide be justified?
9. Is it wrong to dance? Are all forms of dancing pleasing in the sight of the Lord? Are liturgical dances an acceptable part of a worship service?
10. Would you agree with the poem by Alexander Pope about sin’s progressive nature?

“Sin is such a frightful mien  
That to be hated is but to be seen.  
But seen too often, familiar with its face  
We first endure and then embrace.”

11. What does Hebrews 12:14 mean when the author says that without holiness “no man shall see the Lord”?
12. Despite the Divine prohibition of the Law in Deuteronomy 17:17, David had eight recorded wives plus concubines. Can polygamy ever be justified?

### **Personal Application**

#### **Heart Work**

1. Are you an idle person?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
2. Have you ever acted with bravery and courage?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
3. Do you remember the past mercies of the Lord to encourage your heart in difficult days?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
4. Have you been able to cultivate friendship love with someone as David cultivated a friendship love with Jonathan?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

5. Do you hate someone as Saul hated David so much he tried to kill him?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
6. Do you find it easy to lie?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
7. Do you believe in Divine intervention in the affairs of life?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
8. Have you ever shown grace and mercy to one of your enemies?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
9. Do your emotions dominate you in stressful situations?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
10. Do you rejoice when you hear that an enemy is hurt or dead?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
11. Do you repent from the heart when you sin?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
12. Are you inclined to listen to and accept the wise counsel of others?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
13. Do you provoke God to jealousy by loving sinning more than the Savior?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

### **Scriptural Memorization**

*Psalms 51:1 Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy loving-kindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions. 2 Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. 3 For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is ever before me. 4 Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight: that thou mightest be justified when thou speakest, and be clear when thou judgest.*

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**CHAPTER 4**  
**THE BOOK OF THE PSALMS**

**Review**

1. List seven authors of the Psalms

***Answer.***

- David
- Asaph
- The Sons of Korah
- Solomon
- Moses
- Herman the Ezrahite
- Ethan the Ezrahite

2. Describe and list the eleven Messianic Psalms.

***Answer.***

- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| • Psalm 2   | The Divinity and Universal Reign of the Messiah           |
| • Psalm 8   | The Exaltation of the Messiah and His Kingdom People      |
| • Psalm 16  | The Resurrection of the Messiah                           |
| • Psalm 22  | The Suffering Messiah                                     |
| • Psalm 45  | A Song of Love to the Messiah                             |
| • Psalm 69  | The Rejected Messiah                                      |
| • Psalm 72  | The Glory of the Messiah and His Eternal Reign            |
| • Psalm 89  | Honor and Glory Given to the Messiah by the Father        |
| • Psalm 110 | The Messiah as Eternal King and Priest                    |
| • Psalm 118 | The Messiah as the Head Stone of the Corner               |
| • Psalm 132 | The Messiah Establishes and Fulfills the Davidic Covenant |

3. What does “*selah*” indicate?

***Answer.***

The word “*selah*” indicates a musical rest, a pause.

4. Read Psalm 10. What do Reformed theologians mean when they speak of the total depravity of the heart?

***Answer.***

Total depravity of the heart does not mean man is as bad as he can be but that man, because of the natural inclination to evil, is as bad off as he can be and is in desperate need of a Savior.

5. Read Psalm 14. Who has said in their heart, “There is no God”?

***Answer.***

“The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God”.

***Special Note.***

Biblically, a “fool” is a self-sufficient person.

6. Read Psalm 19. Which secular humanistic theory is challenged in this Psalm?

***Answer.***

The theory of evolution falls before the majestic words of Psalm 19 for “The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork”.

7. Read Psalm 25. How many letters are in the Hebrew alphabet?

***Answer.***

There are twenty two letters in the Hebrew alphabet.

8. Who was Socrates and what did he say about life.

***Answer.***

The Greek philosopher Socrates (c. 469-399 BC) said, “The unexamined life is not worth living.”

9. Read Psalm 35. What threefold parallelism can be found in Psalm 35:1-10; 11-18; and 19-28?

***Answer.***

In these verses there is a complaint, a prayer, and a promise of praise.

10. Read Psalm 50. What is found in the heart of every rational person?

***Answer.***

Within the heart of every rational person is a sense of justice.

11. Read Psalm 51. What are five responses a person can choose from when they sin?

***Answer.***

First, a person can deny they have sinned.

Second, a person can dismiss their wrong doing by pretending it does not matter.

Third, a person can suppress the sin and act as if it never happened.

Fourth, a person can shift the responsibility for sin to someone else.

Fifth, a person can confess sin in order to seek the forgiveness of God.

12. Read Psalm 62. What spiritual lesson is learned because of the sons of Jeduthun?

***Answer.***

The sons of Jeduthun teach that those who serve well can sing well of the glories of God.

13. Read Psalm 64. What will happen to every enemy of the saints?

***Answer.***

The Psalmist predicts the overthrow of the enemies of the saints.

14. Read Psalm 73. Who was Asaph and what did he meditate upon?

***Answer.***

Asaph was a Levite, son of Berechiah, of the family of Gershon. He was concerned with the prosperity of the wicked.

15. List eight musical instruments used in worship of the Lord.

***Answer.***

- Harp
- Lyre
- Flute
- Pipe
- Horn
- Trumpet
- Tambourine
- Cymbal

16. Provide a five-fold book division of the Psalms.

***Answer.***

- Book One                      Psalms 1- 41
- Book Two                      Psalms 42 - 72
- Book Three                    Psalms 73 – 89
- Book Four                     Psalms 90 - 106
- Book Five                      Psalms 107 -150

17. Read Psalm 105. What is one of the greatest truths of Divine revelation?

**Answer.**

One of the great truths of Divine revelation is that God makes covenants with men and He remembers and keeps them

18. Read Psalm 119. What is unique about Psalm 119?

**Answer.**

Psalm 119 is the longest of the Psalms as the author remembers the importance of the Word of God and the fact that He is the believer's hiding place.

19. What are the eleven beatitudes found in the Psalms?

**Answer.**

- *Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly.*
- *Blessed are all they that put their trust in him [the Lord].*
- *Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven.*
- *Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord.*
- *Blessed is the man that trusteth in him [God].*
- *Blessed is he that considereth the poor.*
- *Blessed are they that dwell in thy house.*
- *Blessed is the man whose strength is in thee.*
- *Blessed is the man whom thou chastenest.*
- *Blessed is the man that feareth the Lord, that delighteth greatly in his commandments.*
- *Blessed are they that keep his testimonies, and that seek him with the whole heart.*

### **Reflection and Discussion**

1. David had many enemies in life. Is it natural to have enemies in life and if so, why?
2. The Psalmist asked, "What is man, that thou art mindful of him? And the son of man, that thou visitest him?" (Psalm 8:4). Do you believe there is life beyond our solar system or is man the crowning act of God's creation?
3. The death of a child is perhaps the most grievous of sorrowful events. Read Psalm 9. How do you find comfort in times of sorrow and loss?
4. Do you believe in the doctrine of total depravity? Is a person born dead in trespasses and sin or with a spark of divinity in the soul? Read Psalm 10.
5. When the trials of life overwhelm the soul, it is not unusual to question God. Have you ever secretly questioned the goodness of God or His existence?
6. Why does world wisdom seem to prevail over spiritual wisdom? Read Psalm 14.

7. Can the theory of evolution be reconciled with the Biblical account of creation? Read Psalm 19.
8. Do you believe the world belongs to the devil? Read Psalm 24.
9. What is the relationship between physical illness and spiritual sins? Read Psalm 31.
10. Is there any value in singing the Psalms? Read Psalm 36.
11. Should nations declare war on poverty and promote socialism as a cure for the ills of society? Read Psalm 41.
12. Who is responsible for educating children? Read Psalm 41.
13. If evolution is true, where do individuals get their sense of justice? (Read Psalm 50)
14. Have you ever prayed an imprecatory [Latin, *to curse*] prayer? Is it wrong for a Christian to pray such a prayer?
15. What is wrong with using musical instruments in worship? Read Psalm 81.
16. Is it wrong to unite politics and religion? Read Psalm 87.
17. Would you agree that true worship turns from self to the Lord? (Read Psalm 115) Consider the average worship service you are familiar with. Where is the emphasis, on man or on Christ?

### **Personal Application**

#### **Heart Work**

1. Are you walking in the counsel of the godly?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
2. Do you delight in the law of the Lord?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
3. Are your enemies of your own making?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
4. Is your heart broken over sin?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
5. Are you a jealous person like King Saul?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

6. Do you believe in the doctrine of the natural depravity of the heart?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
7. During days of depression do you hope in the Lord?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
8. Do you have faith in God?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
9. Do you believe in the theory of evolution?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
10. Are you a joyful person?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
11. Christ gave His life for His sheep. Would you give your life for the Shepherd?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
12. Have you examined your life?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
13. Is it the desire of your heart to dwell in the house of the Lord forever?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
14. The Psalmist wrote, "When thou saidst, Seek ye my face; my heart said unto thee, Thy face, Lord, will I seek" (Psalm 27:8). Do you seek the face of God?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
15. Do you believe God is a prayer hearing and a prayer answering God?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
16. The Psalmist said, "I acknowledged my sin unto thee, and mine iniquity have I not hid. I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord; and thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin. Selah" (Psalm 32:5). Have you confessed your transgressions to the Lord?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
17. Can you remember what mighty works God has done on your behalf?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
18. When you look back over your life, will it be full of regrets?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
19. When you sin, do you plead for the mercy of the Lord?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
20. Do you honor the Sabbath day as a day of worship?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

21. Are you well informed about biblical theology?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

22. Have you asked the Lord to set a watch, a guard, over your lips?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

### **Scriptural Memorization**

*Psalms 27:4 One thing have I desired of the Lord, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in his temple.*

*Psalms 119:105 Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.*

## A SURVEY OF THE OLD TESTAMENT

### VOLUME II

#### THE UNITED KINGDOM TO THE BABYLONIAN CAPTIVITY

#### LEADER'S STUDY GUIDE

#### CHAPTER 5

#### THE FIRST BOOK OF THE KINGS THE LIFE OF SOLOMON

#### Review

1. Where did Solomon construct the Temple prepared by David?

***Answer.***

The Temple was a magnificent structure constructed on Moriah, one of the heights of Jerusalem, separated from Mount Zion by the Valley of the Tyropoeon over which a bridge had been formed in order to join the two hills

2. How many years after the Exodus did work on the Temple begin?

***Answer.***

Four hundred and eighty years after the Exodus the work on the Temple began.

3. What unusual behavior by the workers characterized the construction of the Temple?

***Answer.***

No sound of hammer or axe or any tool of iron was heard as the structure arose.

4. What were the dimensions of the Temple?

***Answer.***

When the Temple building was completed the inside ceiling was 180 feet long, 90 feet wide, and 50 feet high. The highest point on the Temple that King Solomon built was actually 120 cubits tall—about 20 stories or about 207 feet.

5. Identify the Queen of Sheba.

***Answer.***

Sheba refers to the kingdom of Yemen located in the southern part of Arabia. The Queen of Sheba came to Jerusalem with great gifts to enquire about the wisdom of Solomon.

6. List three ways the heart can become hardened.

***Answer.***

- Voluntarily enslavement to sin will harden the heart.
- Non-confession of sin will harden the heart.
- Failure to “break up the fallow ground” or non-repentance will keep the heart hardened.

7. Identify the time period known as The Golden Years of Hebrew History.

***Answer.***

The combined reigns of David and Solomon have been called the Golden Years of Hebrew History.

8. List six items Solomon imported from India and Spain.

***Answer.***

- Gold
- Silver
- Ivory
- Apes
- Peacocks
- Algum-wood

**Reflection and Discussion**

1. The life of David and his inability to build the Temple has been used to illustrate that once a person has a moral failure they cannot be used again, at least not in the work of the Lord such as a pastoral ministry. Do you agree this is true?
2. For thirteen years the Temple stood on the summit of Mount Moriah, silent and unused. Are there any spiritual lessons to glean from this unusual delay?
3. As the king of Israel, Solomon led the nation in worship. Does the leader of your country do this?
4. Do you believe God has providentially provided for every nation on earth to be wealthy? Is your nation wealthy or poor? Why?

**Personal Application****Heart Work**

1. Do you put your own self-interests before the work of the Lord?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
2. Is there joy and gladness in your heart for the Lord's goodness?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
3. Do you voluntarily give yourself to sin?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
4. Do you confess the sin you give yourself to?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
5. Do you try to break up the "fallow ground" by acts of repentance?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
6. The sin of Solomon angered the Lord. Is God angry with you?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

**Scriptural Memorization**

*1 Kings 8:61 Let your heart therefore be perfect with the Lord our God, to walk in his statutes, and to keep his commandments, as at this day.*

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**CHAPTER 6**  
**THE DIVIDED KINGDOM**

**Review**

1. Who became king after the death of Solomon and how long did he reign?

***Answer.***

The death of Solomon provided for the ascension of his son Rehoboam. Rehoboam would reign for seven years (c. 922 – 915 BC).

2. Who was Jeroboam?

***Answer.***

Jeroboam, the son of Nebat, was an officer of Solomon's who led Israel in a revolt against the reign of Rehoboam.

3. Who predicted that ten of the tribes would be given by God to Jeroboam? Why was this gift of Divine grace given?

***Answer.***

Ahijah the prophet of Shiloh contacted Jeroboam and predicted that ten of the tribes would be entrusted to his care due to the sin of Solomon in seeking false gods.

4. In order to unite the people of rebellion, what did Jeroboam establish in Bethel and Dan?

***Answer.***

In order to secure his political base and keep the citizens of Israel from returning to Rehoboam, Jeroboam instituted places of worship in Bethel and Dan.

5. How did Jeroboam prove himself to be an evil man?

***Answer.***

By turning the hearts of individuals from righteousness, Jeroboam proved himself to be an evil man.

6. Which two nations united to form the southern kingdom of Israel?

**Answer.**

The two tribes of Benjamin and Judah united to form the southern kingdom

7. Of the nineteen kings of Israel, how many are spoken of in a positive way?

**Answer.**

Not one of the nineteen kings of Israel is spoken of in a positive way in Scripture.

8. How long was Jeroboam allowed to reign over Israel?

**Answer.**

After a reign of twenty-two years Jeroboam died the death of the wicked and was buried.

9. Who was Baasha?

**Answer.**

Baasha was a man from the tribe of Issachar who murdered Nadab, the son of Jeroboam, in order to secure the throne of Israel.

10. Whom did King Asa of Judah become an ally with in order to wage war against the northern kingdom?

**Answer.**

Asa was provoked to bribe Ben-hadad, king of Syria to assist him in his troubles with Baasha

11. Identify Jehu.

**Answer.**

Jehu was the prophet of God sent to Baasha to pronounce judgment upon his reign and dynasty.

12. Whose reign may be the shortest reign on record in Jewish history?

**Answer.**

The reign of Zimri may be the shortest on record in Jewish history for it lasted only seven days.

13. Which king and his Phoenician wife will live in infamy in Hebrew history?

**Answer.**

King Ahab and his Phoenician wife Jezebel will live in infamy in Hebrew history.

## Reflection and Discussion

1. Is it ever right to rise up in armed rebellion against an unjust government?
2. What is the value of religion in the life of a nation?
3. Why does God allow the establishment of false religions such as the worship of Baal in the Old Testament era and the rise of cults in the New Testament era?
4. Is the dominant religion in your nation a false religion? Discuss the rise of secular humanism in society.

### *Special Note.*

Secular humanism is a humanist philosophy that upholds reason, ethics, and justice, and specifically rejects the supernatural and the spiritual as warrants of moral reflection and decision-making. There are five main pillars that undergird secular humanism.

- Atheism. The Secular Humanist denies the existence of God.
  - Evolution. The Secular Humanist believes that time plus space plus chance equals all of creation.
  - Amoral. The Amoral person denies a Bible based morality and is completely without a conscience towards God.
  - Autonomy. The Autonomous person is self-sufficient and a law unto themselves.
  - Global Socialism. The Global Socialist supports an intrusive Big Government.
5. One day the wife of Jeroboam sought out the true prophet of God, but to no avail. Is there a turning point in life whereby those who reject grace can no longer find grace?

## Personal Application

### Heart Work

1. Have you ever turned someone from the path of righteousness or encouraged someone to stray?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
2. Do you believe in God?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
3. Do you accept the theory of evolution?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
4. Do you deny the Bible as a moral guide?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

5. Are you a self-sufficient person?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
6. Do you want more Big Government regulating every facet of your life?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
7. Do you believe people are by nature evil?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
8. Will your name live on in infamy?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

### **Scriptural Memorization**

*1 Kings 11:9 And the Lord was angry with Solomon, because his heart was turned from the Lord God of Israel, which had appeared unto him twice, 10 And had commanded him concerning this thing, that he should not go after other gods: but he kept not that which the Lord commanded. 11 Wherefore the Lord said unto Solomon, Forasmuch as this is done of thee, and thou hast not kept my covenant and my statutes, which I have commanded thee, I will surely rend the kingdom from thee, and will give it to thy servant.*

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**CHAPTER 7**

**Review**

1. During whose reign did Elijah first minister?

***Answer.***

Elijah initially ministered during the reign of King Ahab (874 -8 53 BC) of Israel.

2. What was Zidon a center for?

***Answer.***

Zidon was a center for the worship of Baal.

3. Whom was Elijah to anoint to be king of Syria?

***Answer.***

Elijah was to go to Damascus and anoint Hazael to be king of Syria.

4. Whom was Elijah to anoint to be king of Israel?

***Answer.***

Elijah was to anoint Jehu to be king of Israel.

5. Whom was Elijah to anoint to be part of the prophetic ministry?

***Answer.***

Elijah was to anoint Elisha to be part of the prophetic ministry.

6. Who was Ben-hadad?

***Answer.***

Ben-hadad was a Syrian king who waged war against Israel.

7. How was Ben-hadad treated by Ahab when captured in battle?

**Answer.**

With misguided compassion Ahab pardoned Ben-hadad and made a treaty with him calling him his “brother”.

8. What did God do to Ahab for making a political alliance with Ben-hadad?

**Answer.**

The Lord determined He would remove Ahab from power and put Israel under a greater degree of divine discipline.

9. Which prophet did Ahab refuse to listen to and placed him in prison?

**Answer.**

Ahab refused to listen to the prophet Micaiah.

10. Briefly tell the story of Hiel.

**Answer.**

Hiel, a man of Bethel beheld the beautiful fields and fountains of Jericho and decided to rebuild the walls of the city. While laying the foundation his eldest child suddenly died. And when the gates were finally finished his youngest child died. A historic curse found fulfillment.

11. Who was Ahaziah?

**Answer.**

Ahaziah was a king given to idolatry. His reign lasted only two years (853 BC - 852 BC).

12. What is the Moabite Stone and its significance?

**Answer.**

Discovered at Dibon, Jordan in 1868 by F. A. Klein, a German minister, the Moabite Stone confirms the historical accuracy of the Bible.

13. How many miracles are associated with the life of Elijah and how many miracles are associated with the life of Elisha?

**Answer.**

Fourteen miracles are associated with the life of Elijah while twenty eight miracles are associated with the life of Elisha.

## Reflection and Discussion

1. God has strange and unusual ways to take care of His servants. Can you testify to this?
2. Is spiritual depression a normal part of the Christian experience?
3. What is the primary cure for spiritual depression?
4. Are there modern day prophets in the church? Study 1 Corinthians 14:37
5. Have you ever witnessed or been the object of a divine miracle? If so, please share.

## Personal Application

### Heart Work

1. Do you believe you are in the geographical will of God for your life?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
2. Do you believe you are in the occupational will of God for your life?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
3. Do you believe you are in the moral will of God for your life?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
4. Have you ever known depression?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
5. Are you secretly worshipping a false idol?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
6. Have you ever refused to listen to the prophetic word of the Lord?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
7. Are you a greedy person?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

## Scriptural Memorization

*2 Kings 5:8 And it was so, when Elisha the man of God had heard that the king of Israel had rent his clothes, that he sent to the king, saying, Wherefore hast thou rent thy clothes? Let him come now to me, and he shall know that there is a prophet in Israel.*

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**CHAPTER 8**

**Review**

1. How many years were covered during the combined reigns of Jehu, Jehoahaz, and Joash?

*Answer*

The reigns of Jehu, Jehoahaz, Joash (Jehoash) his son and grandson covered a period of sixty years.

2. During whose reign did Jonah minister?

*Answer.*

Jonah ministered during the reign of Joash, the thirteenth king of Israel in the eighth century BC.

3. Why did Jonah not want to preach the gospel in Nineveh?

*Answer.*

Historically, the Assyrians had been very hostile to Israel. Jonah questioned why they should now be helped. They deserved to be destroyed.

4. Why did Jonah begin to pray?

*Answer.*

Jonah prayed because of his great affliction.

5. List two lying vanities.

*Answer.*

First, there is the lie that a person can go somewhere and be free of the eye of God.  
Second, there is the lie that we can be wiser than God in determining who is to have the gospel message.

## Reflection and Discussion

1. Discuss biblical and extra biblical events, both personal and social, that establishes the principle that grace precedes divine judgment.
2. Concerning the Bible, Charles Spurgeon said, *“I would recommend you either believe God up to the hilt, or else not to believe at all. Believe this book of God, every letter of it, or else reject it. There is no logical standing place between the two. Be satisfied with nothing less than a faith that swims in the deeps of divine revelation; a faith that paddles about the edge of the water is poor faith at best. It is little better than a dry-land faith, and is not good for much.”* Would you embrace this counsel?
3. What should the attitude of Christians be towards Communist, Muslims, Catholics, and members of cults such as Mormonism?

## Personal Application

### Heart Work

1. When given an opportunity, are you hesitant to witness?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
2. Is there any person, or any group of people, that you hope in your heart will go to hell?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
3. Do you maintain an effective prayer life?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
4. Is your heart sensitive to sin?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
5. Do you confess your sins honestly to God before the day ends?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
6. Does hope live in your heart when you remember the Lord?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
7. Have you ever had a sense of being free in sin from the searching eye of God?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
8. Have you ever questioned God’s creation and oversight of the universe?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
9. Does your life reflect any holy passion?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

**Scriptural Memorization**

*Jonah 2:1 Then Jonah prayed unto the Lord his God out of the fish's belly, 2 And said, I cried by reason of mine affliction unto the Lord, and he heard me; out of the belly of hell cried I, and thou heardest my voice. 3 For thou hadst cast me into the deep, in the midst of the seas; and the floods compassed me about: all thy billows and thy waves passed over me. 4 Then I said, I am cast out of thy sight; yet I will look again toward thy holy temple.*

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**CHAPTERS 9 - 11**

**Review**

1. Describe the person and work of Amos.

*Answer.*

A herdsman from Tekoa in the kingdom of Judah during the reign of Uzziah (767-739 BC), Amos was called to give prophetic words to the northern kingdom of Israel and so he relocated to Beth-el (Amos 7:13).

2. List seven specific transgressions of the people the prophet Hosea spoke against.

*Answer.*

- Government officials lied.
- There were acts of sexual immorality.
- Worship and prayer to God had ceased.
- Idolatry was rampant.
- Unauthorized political alliances were entered into with Assyria and Egypt.
- Repentance was not sincere.
- The word of God was forgotten.

3. Briefly identify the following by providing at least one or two facts.

- Zachariah
- Menahem
- Pekahiah
- Pekah
- Hoshea
- Oded
- Shalmaneser

**Answer.**

- Zachariah was the last of the house of Jehu, and fourteenth king of Israel who ascended the throne upon the death of his father, about 753 BC. He reigned only six months, being put to death by Shallum.
- Menahem was the son of Gadi and a general of king Zachariah. He continued the calf worship of Jeroboam and contributed leading the nation into moral and spiritual bankruptcy, as the contemporary prophets Hosea and Amos noted.
- Pekahiah was the seventeenth king of Israel. He reigned for two years before he was murdered.
- Pekah came to the throne as the eighteenth king of Israel.
- Hoshea was the son of Elah, and last king of Israel.
- Oded was a prophet of God who warned the victorious army of the northern kingdom not to offend God by being cruel to the captives.
- Shalmaneser was king of Assyria and an invader of the land of Israel (c. 722 BC).

**Reflection and Discussion**

1. What is often forgotten in the midst of divine judgment?
2. When the rod of divine discipline is laid upon the life of the believer, what should be the appropriate reaction?
3. Where are the ten lost tribes of Israel?

**Personal Application****Heart Work**

1. Government officials are notorious for lying. Do you?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
2. Married people commit sexual sins. Do you?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
3. Worship and prayer to God ceases. Do you worship and prayer?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
4. Idolatry runs rampant in the nations of the world. Does it dwell in your heart?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

5. Unauthorized political alliances are created among the nations of the world. Are you unequally yoked with someone due to self-interests?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
6. Repentance is often insincere. Is your repentance authentic?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
7. The word of God is often neglected or forgotten. Does the Word of God dwell richly in your heart?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

### **Scriptural Memorization**

*Amos 3:3 Can two walk together, except they be agreed?*

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#### CHAPTER 12

#### Review

1. How much longer did the southern kingdom of Judah last after the fall of the northern kingdom of Israel in 721 BC?

*Answer.*

The kingdom of Judah survived about four hundred more years after its separation from the northern kingdom of Israel.

2. How many kings ruled over Judah prior to the fall of Jerusalem in 586 BC?

*Answer.*

Twenty kings ruled over Judah prior to the fall of Jerusalem in 586 BC.

3. Who was the only queen to occupy the throne of Judah?

*Answer.*

Athaliah, daughter of king Ahab of Israel and his wicked wife Jezebel, was the wife of Jehoram and the only queen to occupy the throne of Judah (c. 842 - 836 BC).

4. Which king defeated the king of Israel, Rehoboam, and destroyed his fortifications?

*Answer.*

Shishak, king of Egypt, came against Rehoboam and destroyed him with a large army and took the fortified cities of Israel.

5. Briefly identify the following.

- Rehoboam
- Abijam (Abijah)
- Asa
- Jehoshaphat
- Jehoram
- Athaliah
- Joash

- Amaziah
- Uzziah
- Jotham
- Ahaz

***Answer.***

- Rehoboam was the son of Solomon by the Ammonite princess Naamah (1 Kings 14:21, 31).
- Abijam (Abijah) was the son of Rehoboam who reigned for three years.
- Asa was the third king to the throne of Judah. His reign lasted for forty years.
- Jehoshaphat was the son of Asa who ruled over Judah. During his reign the kingdom prospered.
- Jehoram ruled over the southern kingdom. He was thirty-two years old when he began to reign and he reigned for eight years. His wife influenced him to do evil. She was the daughter of Jezebel.
- Athaliah was the daughter of queen Jezebel (2 Chronicles 22:2), the sister of king Jehoram of Israel who had just been murdered by the bow of Jehu, the widow of king Jehoram of Judah whose bowels had gushed out and the mother of king Ahaziah.
- Joash (Jehoash) was recognized as king of Judah at the age of eight. Despite a long reign, in the end Joash suffered from a painful malady and was at length murdered by his own servants.
- Amaziah was the son of Joash who ruled for twenty-nine years. He embraced idolatry.
- Uzziah (Azariah) was the son of Amaziah who came to the throne of Judah and ruled for fifty two years. A man of great intellect and many talents, Uzziah showed interest in agricultural advancement, engineering works and most importantly to the laws of God.
- Jotham, the son of Uzziah, was the eleventh king of Judah. He reigned for eighteen years.
- Ahaz reigned for sixteen years as the twelfth king of Judah. Images and altars consecrated to Baal were permitted, for he burned his own children to this pagan god in the Valley of Hinnom

## Reflection and Discussion

1. The divine commentary of the life of Rehoboam was that “*he did evil, because he prepared not his heart to seek the LORD*” (2 Chronicles 12:9-16). Discuss the divine commentary on the life of other individuals in Scripture.

Person	Reference	Divine Commentary
• Nadab	1 Kings 15:26	_____
• Baasha	1 Kings 15:34	_____
• Jehoash.	2 Kings 12:2	_____
• Amaziah	2 Kings 14:3	_____

2. Is it true that the sins of the parents are passed on to the next generation? Comment on the concept of a generational curse. Can it be broken and reversed?
3. What is necessary to have revival?
4. Have you personally seen a revival? What was it like?

## Personal Application

### Heart Work

1. Do you daily repent of all known sin against God before going to bed at night?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
2. Are you currently engaged in a questionable habit or activity?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
3. Have you tried to make right any wrongs between yourself and others?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
4. Do you daily commune with God through prayer and His Word?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
5. Have you asked God recently to use you as an effective instrument of revival in someone’s life?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

**Scriptural Memorization**

*2 Kings 17:38 And the covenant that I have made with you ye shall not forget; neither shall ye fear other gods. 39 But the Lord your God ye shall fear; and he shall deliver you out of the hand of all your enemies.*

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**CHAPTERS 13 - 16**

**Review**

1. When did the prophet Joel minister?

***Answer.***

Joel, the son of Pethuel is believed to have ministered during the reign of Uzziah, the tenth king of Judah, c. 782 – 751 BC.

2. Summarize the message of the prophet Joel.

***Answer.***

Joel predicts an approaching famine while calling the nation to repentance, fasting and prayer.

3. Distinguish between the Near Prophecies and Far off Prophecies.

***Answer.***

Near Prophecies. Isaiah anticipated the destruction of contemporary nations to include Assyria, Babylon, Moab, Egypt, Philistia, Syria, Edom and Tyre.

Far off Prophecies. Isaiah looked down the corridors of time and foresaw the conversion of many Jews and Gentiles to the gospel along with the protection of the church from the enemies of the Cross of Christ.

4. What was the message of the prophet Micah?

***Answer.***

In predicting the destruction of both the northern and southern kingdoms, Micah foretells the invasions of the Assyrians during the days of Shalmaneser and Sennacherib and the sending of souls into exile during which time prophecy will cease.

5. List three themes that run through the message of the prophet Nahum.

***Answer.***

First, Nahum spoke of the love of God.

Second, he anticipated the death of Sennacherib and the deliverance of Hezekiah.

Third, the fall of Nineveh is also predicted and it did happen in 625 BC.

6. Was Manasseh a good king or a bad one?

***Answer.***

Manasseh was a bad king for he was hostile to the grace of God and the God of grace.

7. List twenty providential barriers that will not keep a soul from sinning.

***Answer.***

First, the warning of death will not keep the soul from sinning.

Second, physical affliction such as blindness will not keep the soul from sinning.

Third, riches and wisdom will not keep the soul from sinning.

Fourth, tears of repentance will not stop the soul from sinning.

Fifth, promises of being obedient will not stop the soul from sinning.

Sixth, knowledge of Bible doctrine and the will of the Lord will not stop the soul from sinning.

Seventh, secret shame and self-loathing will not stop the soul from sinning.

Eighth, public exposure will not stop the soul from sinning.

Ninth, fearful warnings of certain judgment and eternal damnation will not stop the soul from sinning.

Tenth, memories of Christ and His work at Calvary will not stop the soul from sinning.

Eleventh, the learning of practical self-help techniques to change will not stop the soul from sinning.

Twelfth, embracing great ideas will not stop the soul from sinning.

Thirteenth, a conscious sense of the presence of God will not stop the soul from sinning.

Fourteenth, religious works of art and the wearing of religious jewelry will not keep the soul from sinning.

Fifteenth, learning ways to escape from evil will not keep the soul from sinning.

Sixteenth, trying to maintain a busy lifestyle to reach physical exhaustion will not stop the soul from sinning.

Seventeenth, neither aversion therapy nor diversion therapy will free the soul from the strong chains of evil.

Eighteenth, making a profession of faith in Jesus Christ will not stop the soul from sinning.

Nineteenth, Religious vows accompanied by acts of dedication and re-dedication will not stop the soul from sinning.

Twentieth, the dreaming of religious dreams will not stop the soul from sinning.

8. List the seventeen characteristics of the unconverted based on Galatians 5:19-21.

***Answer.***

- Adultery
- Fornication
- Uncleaness
- Lasciviousness
- Idolatry
- Witchcraft
- Hatred
- Variance
- Emulations
- Wrath
- Strife
- Seditions
- Heresies
- Envyings
- Murders
- Drunkenness
- Revellings and such like

**Reflection and Discussion**

1. Do you believe that God controls nature or do the laws of nature rule the universe?
2. Why do some nations seem to suffer so many natural disasters such as Haiti, Cuba, the Philippines, and Japan?
3. Which sins personally shock you the most?

4. Can other sins be added to the list of seven sins that provoke God to anger?
5. Can any ruler be a good ruler if they are hostile to the God of grace and the grace of God?
6. Discuss some modern form of idolatry and indicate whether or not the following could be associated with idolatry.
  - Praying before a shrine.      Exodus 20:4-5
  - Cult follower.                      Matthew 23:9
  - Covetousness.                      Colossians 3:5
7. Of how many of the providential barriers can it be said the church has broken through?

### Personal Application

#### Heart Work

1. Are you known to murmur?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
2. Do you rebel against established authority?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
3. Are you guilty of idolatry?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
4. Do you oppose the spiritual work of others?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
5. Do you love, honor, and respect God's Word?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
6. Is your thought life pure and holy?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
7. Is your life a backslidden life?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

**Scriptural Memorization**

*Joel 2:28 And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions: 29 And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit.*

*Zephaniah 2:3 Seek ye the LORD, all ye meek of the earth, which have wrought his judgment; seek righteousness, seek meekness: it may be ye shall be hid in the day of the LORD's anger.*

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**Review**

1. List five reasons why good days prevailed during the reign of King Josiah.

***Answer.***

First, a godly king ruled.

Second, a prophet wept for the people.

Third, the Book of the Law was discovered.

Fourth, the Passover was once more celebrated in Jerusalem.

Fifth, the Lord God alone was worshipped.

2. In anger, what did king Jehoiakim do to the Word of God?

***Answer.***

In anger, Jehoiakim took the roll, cut it in pieces and burned it in the fire.

3. Who was the last king of Judah?

***Answer.***

The final king of Judah was an uncle to Jehoiachin and another son of Josiah. His name was Zedekiah and he was placed on the throne by Nebuchadnezzar.

4. Describe the threefold voices of the prophet.

***Answer.***

First, the voice of the prophet became the voice of the poet.

Second, the voice of the prophet was vindicated.

Third, the voice of the prophet was a pleading voice on behalf of the people.

5. Which two emotions drive a person to sin?

***Answer.***

Unbelief is part of the motivation to sin along with the hardening of the heart.

6. Who was Gedaliah and what was his fate?

**Answer.**

To govern the Jews, Nebuchadnezzar appointed a man named Gedaliah. Gedaliah established his residence at Mizpeh. There he was murdered by Ishmael and a band of ten treacherous men who had become fugitives in the country of Ammon.

7. What does tradition say about the death of Jeremiah?

**Answer.**

The death of Jeremiah is uncertain. Tradition states that Jews at Tahpanhes in Egypt killed him.

8. What message did Habakkuk preach and how does his book end?

**Answer.**

Habakkuk's message was sober and sorrowful as he foretold the doom of Jerusalem. His book concludes with a hymn of prayer and praise calling for revival and trust in God.

9. Which nation did Obadiah denounce?

**Answer.**

Obadiah denounced the nation of Edom.

### **Reflection and Discussion**

1. Why is there so much sadness and sorrow in life?

2. Can your heart agree with Solomon's surprising conclusion: "*Sorrow is better than laughter*" and, "*It is better to go to the house of mourning than to the house of feasting*".

3. What social sins is your nation guilty of committing in the sight of God?

4. Discuss the vocabulary of evil:

- Pedophilia
- Fellatio
- Homosexuality
- Lesbianism
- Bestiality
- Snuffer films
- Necrophilia
- Incubus
- Prostitution
- Fornication
- Adultery

## Personal Application

### Heart Work

1. Do you live a luxurious lifestyle without regard for the poor of society?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
2. Do you dress in an ostentatious manner without regard to Biblical guidelines in this area?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
3. Do you feel intellectually superior to others?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
4. Is constant immorality a part of your lifestyle?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
5. Do you oppress people?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

### Scriptural Memorization

*Jeremiah 18:3 Then I went down to the potter's house, and, behold, he wrought a work on the wheels. 4 And the vessel that he made of clay was marred in the hand of the potter: so he made it again another vessel, as seemed good to the potter to make it.*

*Jeremiah 31:33 But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the Lord, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people. 34 And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for they shall all know me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.*