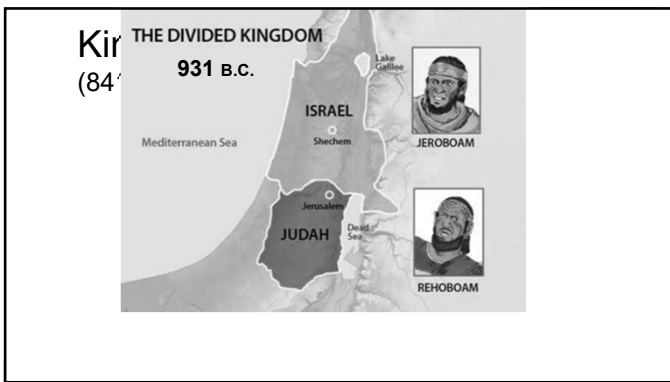


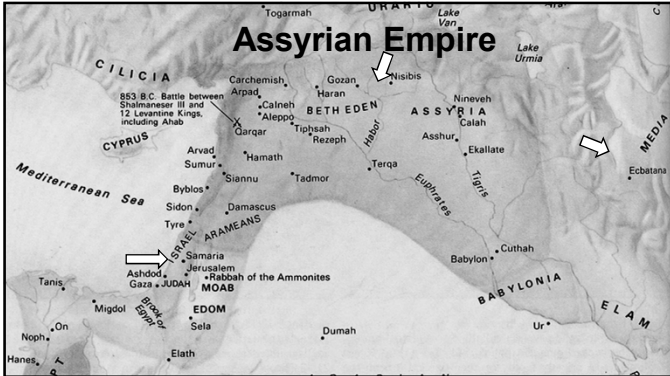


The Fall of Israel 2 KINGS 17:1-23



¹ In the twelfth year of Ahaz king of Judah, Hoshea the son of Elah became king over Israel in Samaria, *and reigned* nine years.
² He did evil in the sight of the LORD, only not as the kings of Israel who were before him. ³ Shalmaneser king of Assyria came up against him, and Hoshea became his servant and paid him tribute.
⁴ But the king of Assyria found conspiracy in Hoshea, who had sent messengers to So king of Egypt and had offered no tribute to the king of Assyria, as *he had done* year by year; so the king of Assyria shut him up and bound him in prison.
⁵ Then the king of Assyria invaded the whole land and went up to Samaria and besieged it three years.

⁶ In the ninth year of Hoshea, the king of Assyria captured Samaria and carried Israel away into exile to Assyria, and settled them in Halah and Habor, *on the river of Gozan*, and in the cities of the Medes.



2 Kings 17:7-23

⁷ Now *this* came about because the sons of Israel had sinned against the LORD their God...

The Fall of Israel

- *Israel's destruction was the Lord's judgment for their sin of covenant-forsaking idolatry*

The Fall of Israel

1. Covenant Context

- as Yahweh's redeemed, covenant people, Israel owed exclusive allegiance to Him
- keeping the covenant stipulations was an expression of love and loyalty to Yahweh
- removal from the land was in fulfillment of the covenant curses (cf. Deut. 28:64-68)

The Fall of Israel

2. Entrenched Idolatry

- their idolatry was all-pervasive; they "sold themselves to do evil"
- they rejected the warnings of the prophets, but only "stiffened their necks"

The Fall of Israel

3. Warning to Judah

- Israel's judgment was to serve as a warning to Judah, a call to repentance
- the author infers that Judah will suffer the same fate for the same reasons – *"they walked in the statutes of Israel"*

Application

1. God's judgment is real and coming

- all idolatry "provokes Him to anger"; all idolaters will be "removed from His sight"

See to it that you do not refuse Him who is speaking. For if those did not escape when they refused him who warned them on earth, much less will we escape who turn away from Him who warns from heaven. (Heb. 12:25)

Application

2. Sin is all-pervasive and enslaving
 - the Law is ineffective to rescue and make faithful covenant worshipers
 - the Law only results in greater sin and just condemnation (cf. Rom. 3:19-20; 7:7-13)

Application

3. Jesus is the mediator of a new covenant
 - He redeemed us from the curse of the Law by becoming a curse for us (cf. Gal. 3:13)
 - we are given new, spiritual life by the power of the Spirit through faith in the Son (cf. Titus 3:4-7)