

II Kings 15-20

Historical Books II
Lecture #21

II Kings

Chapter 15

Azariah to Jotham

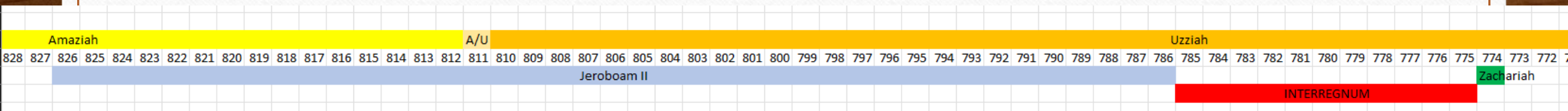
Azariah/Uzziah

- Has two similar names:
 - Azariah – “Jehovah helps”
 - Uzziah – “My strength is Jehovah”
 - Edersheim suggests that Azariah was his real name but was altered to Uzziah after his encroachment into the priesthood.
- Reigned 52 years!
- His son Jotham inherits the throne.



Interregnum

- There appears to be a 12-year period without a king between Jeroboam II and his son Zachariah
- Amaziah ruled over Judah for 29 years.
- Jeroboam II was crown in the 14th year of Amaziah's reign and ruled for 41 years.
- Uzziah followed Amaziah over Judah and ruled for 52 years.
- So, Jeroboam II's rule would coincide with the final 15 years of Amaziah and the first 26 of Uzziah.
- Therefore, Jeroboam II would have died in the 26th year of Uzziah's reign, but his successor Zachariah is not crowned until the 38th year of Uzziah's reign.



Zachariah

- Reigns six months over Israel
- Is assassinated by Shallum.
 - Fulfills the prophecy that Jehu's dynasty would end.
- His assassin Shallum takes the throne.



Shallum

- Reigned ONE WHOLE MONTH over Israel
- Assassinated by Menahem, who takes the throne.



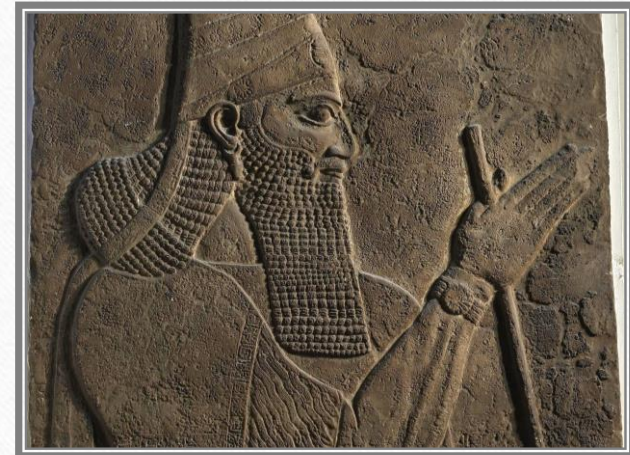
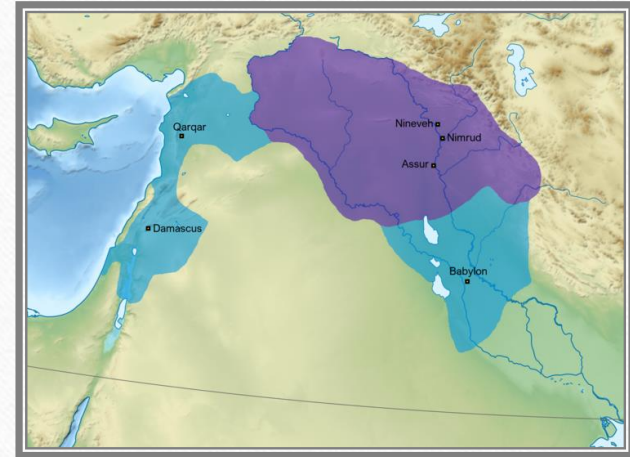
Menahem

- Reigns for ten years over Israel.
- Josephus writes of the brutality of his reign.
- His son Pekahiah inherits the throne.



Arrival of Assyria

- The first appearance of the Assyrian Empire
 - A.k.a. – Neo-Assyrian Empire
 - Not to be confused with the Syrians.
- Pul = Tiglath Pileser III
 - The map shows his territory at the beginning (purple) and end (blue) of his reign.
- Menahem pays 1,000 talents of silver as tribute.



Pekahiah

- Reigned two years over Israel.
- Assassinated in a coup led by one of his generals, Pekah.
- Pekah takes the throne.



Pekah

- Reigns over Israel for twenty years.
- Leads an expedition against Judah.
- Tiglath-Pileser III and Assyria capture much of Israel's territory.
- Assassinated and succeeded by his friend Hoshea.



Jotham

- Reigns over Judah for sixteen years.
 - Was coregent before this when Uzziah became a leper.
- A good king.
- Rebuilt the gate between the palace and the Temple.
- His son Azaz inherits the throne.



II Kings

Chapter 16

Ahaz and Hezekiah

Ahaz

- Reigns sixteen years over Judah.
- Breaks from his father and grandfather and is a wicked king.
 - Sacrificed his son to Molech? – vs. 3



Syrian-Israelite Invasion

- An alliance between Pekah of Israel and Rezin of Syria attack Judah.
- They besiege Jerusalem but do not take it.
- Syria takes the port of Elath.



Assyrian Intervention

- Ahaz submits to Assyria and pays tribute or them for them to intervene and attack Syria.
- Isaiah warns him not to do this.
- Assyria destroys the Syrian empire.



Corrupted Worship

- Ahaz builds a new altar for his own use based on the design of one in Damascus.
- Moves the Brazen Altar to make room for his own.
- Offers sacrifices himself.
- Makes various other changes.



Ahaz

- Ahaz dies.
- His son Hezekiah takes the throne.



II Kings

Chapter 17

Hoshea and the Fall of Israel

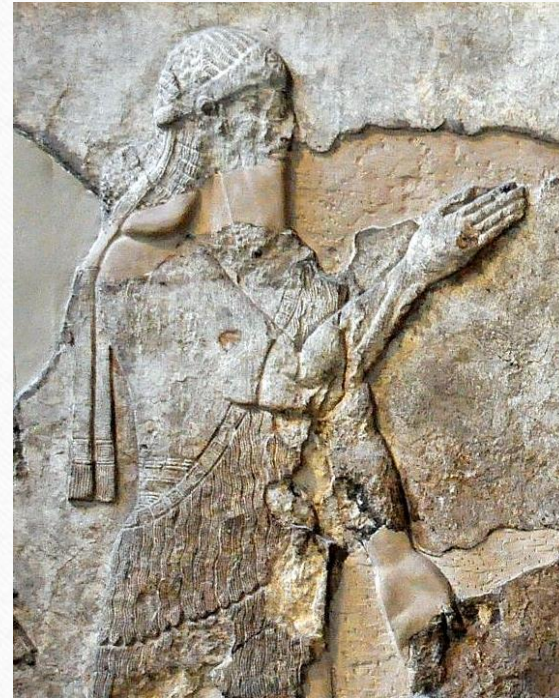
Hoshea

- Reigns for nine years over Israel
- The 19th and final king of Israel
- Wicked as all the rest.



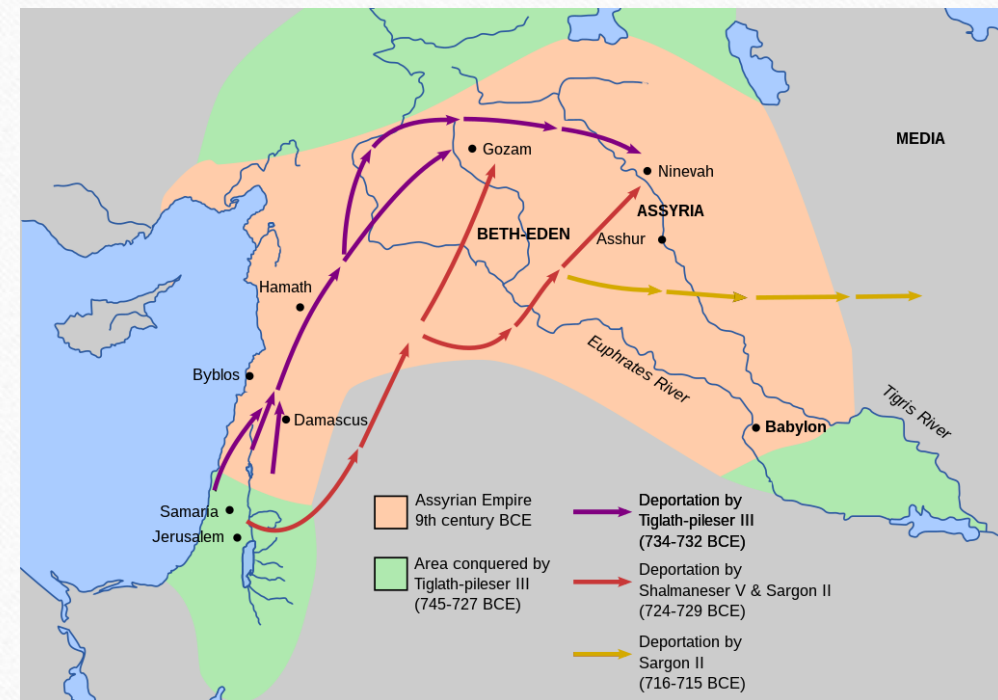
Hoshea's Machinations

- Hoshea's kingdom is basically a vassal kingdom to Assyria.
- He tries to take advantage of either Tiglath-Pileser's absence or death to court an alliance with Egypt.
- Tiglath-Pileser's son Shalmaneser V returns to reinforce Assyrian dominance.



Fall of Samaria

- The Assyrians besiege Samaria for three years before the city falls.
- Hoshea is presumably killed.
- The Jews are mostly deported.
- The land is resettled by other deportees.
 - A syncretic religion and identity develops.



II Kings

Chapter 18

Rise of Hezekiah

Hezekiah

- Reigns 29 years over Judah.
- One of the best kings of Judah.
- Removed idolatry, including the brazen serpent of Moses.
- In his early reign fought against the Philistines.



Hezekiah vs. Assyria

- Hezekiah rebelled against the Assyrians.
- Sennacherib is leading a campaign against Lachish (Philistia)
- Hezekiah re-submits to Assyria and pays tribute by spoiling his house and the Temple.
- Sennacherib sends a force against Jerusalem



Rabshakeh

- Rabshakeh gives six reasons for the Jews to submit:
 - (1) Egypt could not be trusted to help
 - (2) Hezekiah had removed their idols
 - (3) the Assyrian might
 - (4) claim of Jehovah's blessing upon the Assyrian endeavor
 - (5) surrender would lead to prospering in captivity
 - (6) Jehovah would not deliver them just as the gods of their neighbors had also failed



II Kings

Chapter 19

Hezekiah's Deliverance

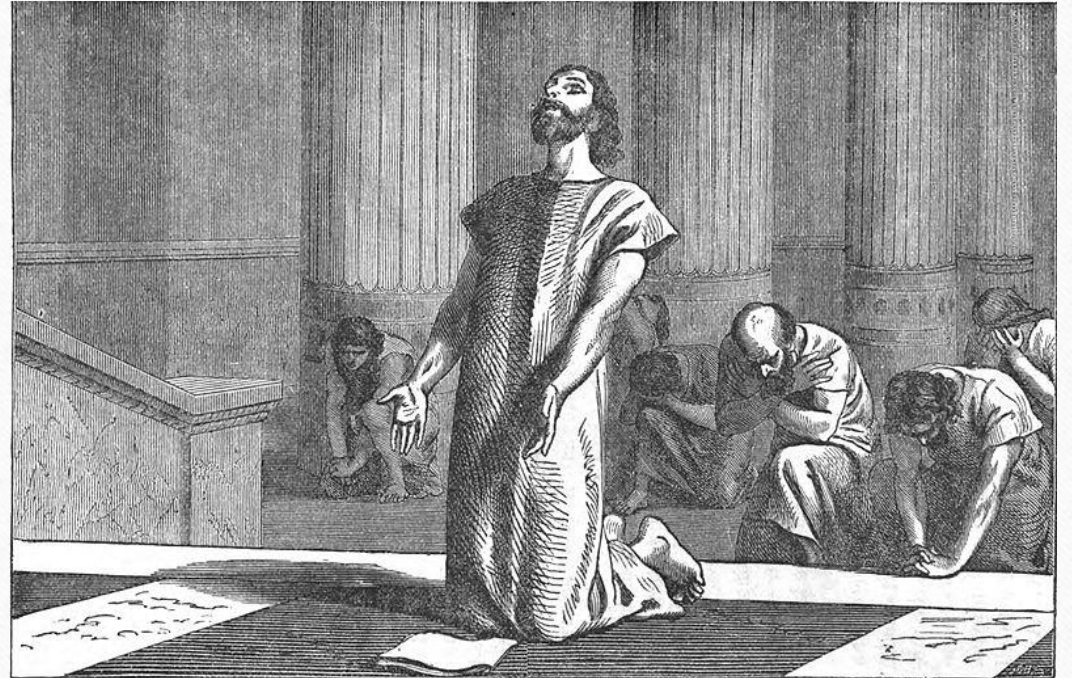
Isaiah's Message



- Hezekiah humbles himself and seeks the Lord.
- Messengers are sent to Isaiah.
- God promises deliverance and the demise of Sennacherib.

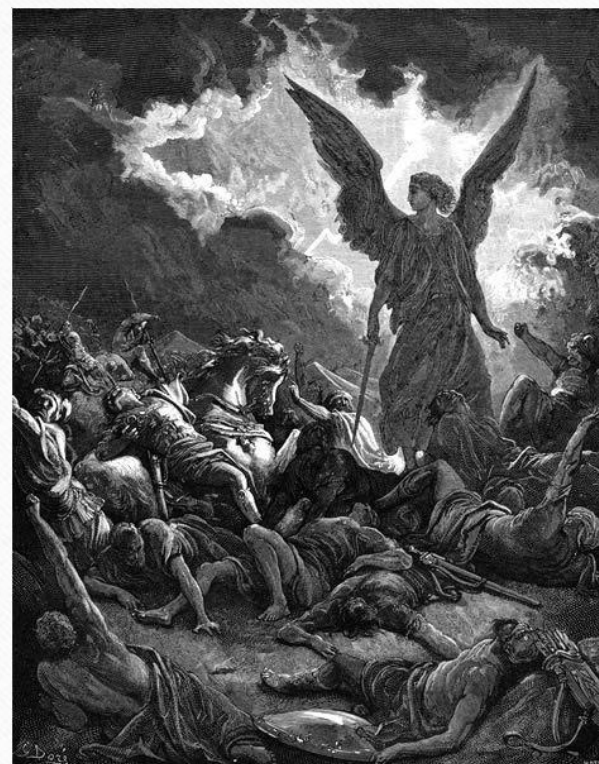
New Threats

- Sennacherib must meet a new threat in Egypt.
- He sends a threatening message to Hezekiah.
- Hezekiah takes the letter to the Temple and prays for aid.
- Isaiah brings God's response of deliverance.



Deliverance!

- 185,000 Assyrians die in the night.
- Sennacherib returns to Assyria.
- Sennacherib is assassinated later by two of his sons and another son Esarhaddon takes the Assyrian throne.

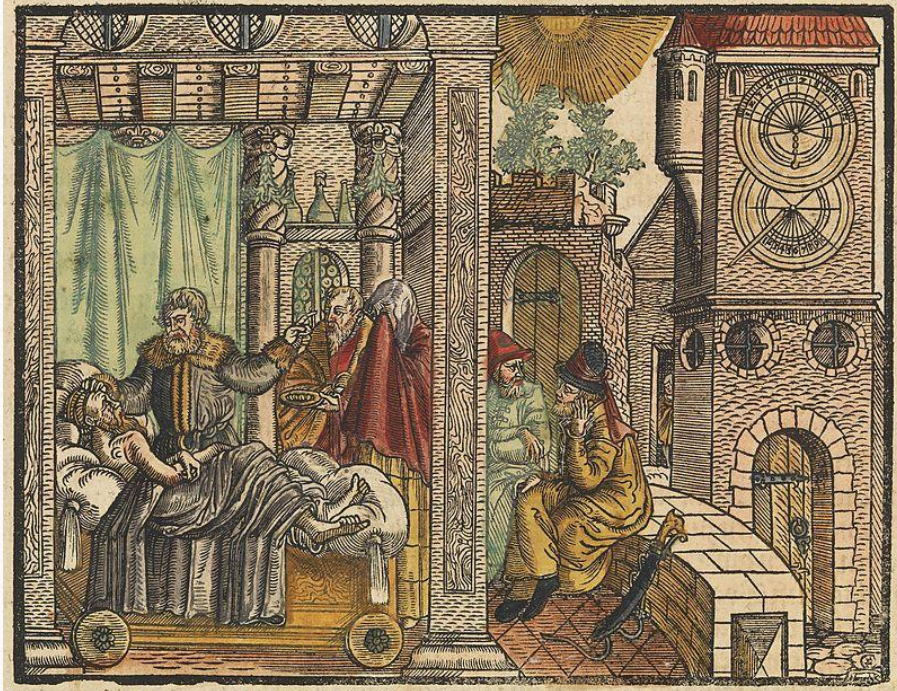


II Kings

Chapter 20

Hezekiah's Last Days

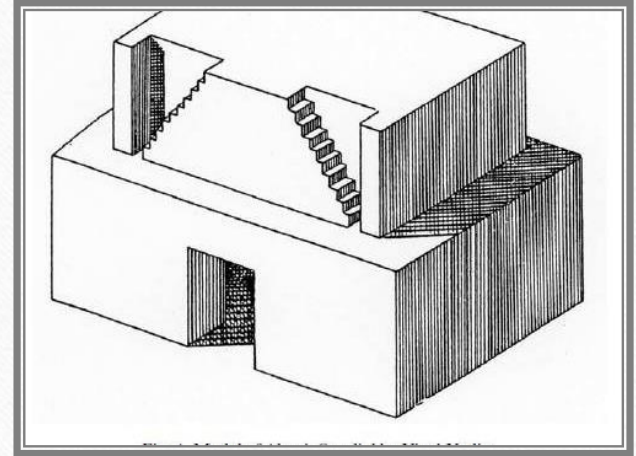
Hezekiah's Illness



- Chronologically takes place BEFORE the deliverance from Assyria.
- Hezekiah is sick and Isaiah tell him he will die.
- Hezekiah seeks God (repents of his pride?) and Isaiah returns to tell him he will live another 15 years.

Sundial?

- The sign God uses to assure Hezekiah of his healing is to move the shadow forward and back 10 degrees.
- The exact design is unknown, but the device was built by Ahaz and probably copied from Damascus.



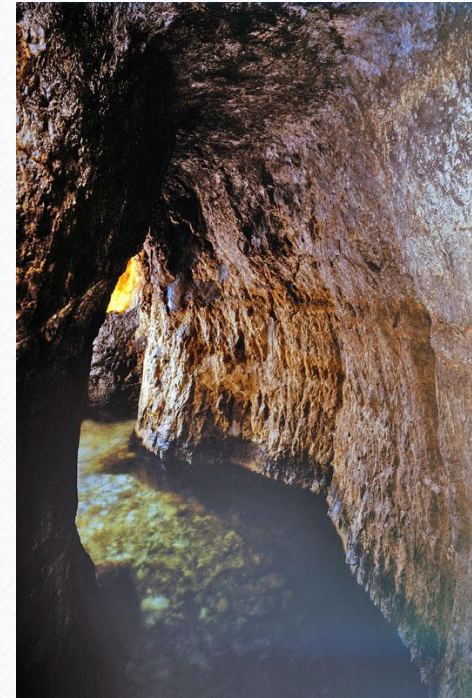
Babylonian Envoys

- Berodachbaladin of Babylon sends envoys to meet Hezekiah.
 - Probably drumming up support to rebel against Assyria.
- Hezekiah reveals the wealth of the kingdom, making it a target for future conquest by Babylon.
- Isaiah rebukes him for these actions.



Death of Hezekiah

- Hezekiah had a very busy reign.
- Archaeology attests to his building projects, including his tunnel to bring water into the city from Gihon Spring to the Pool of Siloam.
- His son Manasseh inherits the throne.



Next Week...

The Fall of the Southern Kingdom
and
GENEALOGIES!!!!