Old Testament Survey - 1 & 2 Kings

Author: Jeremiah + (Talmud tradition) (Except for 2 Kings 24,25). Written to those in exile.

Date: Written prior to 586 B.C. (Except for 2 Kings 24, 25 about 550 B.C.) 1 Kings covers period from David’s death to beginning of Ahaziah’s reign (971 - 851 B.C.) 2 Kings covers Ahaziah’s reign to Jehoachin’s release after the fall of Jerusalem (853 - 560 B.C.)

Theme: The historical development of the kingdom of God under the Davidic covenant - The welfare of the kingdom depends on covenant faithfulness of the king & the people.

Outline:
I. The United Kingdom under Solomon. 1 Kings 1-11
II. The Divided kingdom. 1 Kings 12-22 to 2 Kings 1-17
III. The Kingdom of Judah, Hezekiah to its fall. 2 Kings 18-25

Key People: Solomon, Jeroboam, Rehoboam, Jezebel, Ahab, Elijah, Elisha, Josiah

Key Chapters & Verses (Bold required for Elders)
1 Kg. 1: Solomon anointed king.
1 Kg. 2: David's charge to Solomon, David's death, execution of Adonijah, Joab & Shimei.
1 Kg. 3: God grants Solomon's prayer for wisdom, and gives him riches & honor too.
1 Kg. 8: The Ark is brought into the Temple, Solomon's prayer of dedication
1 Kg. 9: God's promises and warnings to Solomon - Obedience = establishment
   Disobedience = cut off from land & temple destroyed
1 Kg. 11: Solomon deviates from God & gets difficulty until death.
1 Kg. 13:2 - Prophecy against altars of Jeroboam - Josiah would burn false prophets on them. Fulfilled in 2 Kg.23:15-20
1 Kg. 17: Elijah prophecies drought & raises widow's son
1 Kg. 18: Elijah's challenge on Mt. Carmel - Fire from heaven, He kills 450 prophets of Baal.
1 Kg. 19: Elijah flees from Jezebel, is confronted by the LORD at Horeb, & calls Elisha.
1 Kg. 21: Ahab & Jezebel scheme & steal Naboth's vineyard Elijah prophecies against them.

2 Kg. 2: Elijah taken to heaven, Elisha succeeds him.
2 Kg. 4: Elisha's miracles - widow's oil increased, Shunamite's son raised, cures poisonous stew
2 Kg. 4:18-28 - Elisha raises Shunamite's son.
2 Kg. 5: Naaman healed of leprosy by Elisha, Gehazi's greed gets him the leprosy
2 Kg. 6: Axe head made to float, Aramean attempt to capture Elisha, Cannibalism in Samaria
2 Kg. 6:1-7 - Elisha makes iron Axe head float.
2 Kg. 11:2 - Joash (Messianic line) is hid by nurse & rescued from wicked grandmother, Athaliah, who murdered the rest of the royal line.
2 Kg 17: Samaria falls to Assyria (722 B.C)
2 Kg 18: Sennacherib invades Judah & speaks against the LORD - Hezekiah is king / Isaiah is prophet
2 Kg 22-23: The reign and revival under Josiah
2 Kg 24-25: Jerusalem falls, the deportations to Babylon
Overview: 1 & 2 Kings was one book in the Hebrew text entitled “Kings.” It was divided in the Septuagint in the middle of the reign of Ahaziah. (Possible due to limitations on Scroll length).

1 Kings begins with the establishment and beginning of glorious reign of Solomon. It then records his heart becoming divided by this many foreign wives resulting in trouble for him and the kingdom. The kingdom then split under his son, Rehoboam and remains divided until Israel is taken into captivity by Assyria (722 B.C. - 2 Kings 17) and Judah is conquered by Babylon (539 B.C. 2 Kings 25). The welfare of the nation was largely dependent on the faithfulness of the king to God’s covenant. There were blessings under good kings and curses under evil kings. 1 & 2 Kings explains the reasons for the breakup of the nation into two separate nations and the eventual defeat and deportation into foreign lands.

Detailed Outline

I. The United Kingdom under Solomon. 1 Kings 1-11
   A. The Establishment of Solomon’s Kingdom (1-2)
      1. Appointment of Solomon as King (1)

      2. Solidification of Solomon’s Kingdom (2)
         a. David’s Charge to Solomon (1-9)

         b. David’s Death (10-11)

         c. Solomon Begins Reign (12)

         d. Solomon’s Enemies are Removed (13-36)

   B. The Growth of Solomon’s Kingdom (3-8)
      1. Solomon’s Request for Wisdom (3)

      2. Solomon’s Administration (4)
3. Construction of the Temple & Solomon’s House (5-8)
   a. Construction of the Temple (5-6)
   
   b. Construction of Solomon’s House (7:1-12)
   
   c. Furnishings of the Temple (7:13-51)
   
   d. Dedication of the Temple (8)

C. The Decline of Solomon’s Kingdom (9-11)
   1. God Recounts the Covenant to Solomon (9:1-9)

   2. General Disobedience to the Covenant by Solomon (9:10-11:8)
      a. Sale of Israelite Cities (9:10-14)
      
      b. Enslavement of Canaanites (9:15-28)
      
      c. Multiplication of Wealth (10:1-15)
      
      d. Multiplication of Horses (10:26-29)
      
      e. Multiplication of Wives, Marriage with Foreign Wives (11:1-3)
      
      f. Worship of Idols (11:4-8)

   3. Chastening of Solomon (11:9-40)

   4. Death of Solomon (11:41-43)
II. The Divided kingdom. 1 Kings 12-22 to 2 Kings 1-17

A. The Kingdom is Divided (12-14)
   1. Rehoboam’s Foolishness (12:1-15)

   2. Jeroboam’s Revolt & Reign in Israel (12:16-13:34)
      a. His Revolt (12:16-24)

      b. His Sin (12:25-33)

      c. His Judgment (13:1 - 14:20)

   3. Rehoboam’s Reign in Judah (14:21-31)

B. Abijam’s Reign in Judah (15:1-8)

C. Asa’s Reign in Judah (15:9-24)

D. Nadab’s Reign in Israel (15:25-31)

E. Baasha’s Reign in Israel (15:32-16:7)

F. Elah’s Reign in Israel (16:8-14)

G. Zimri’s Reign in Israel (16:15-20)

H. Omri’s Reign in Israel (16:21-28)

I. Ahab’s Reign in Israel (16:29-22:40)
   1. The Sin of Ahab (16:29-34)

   2. The Ministry of Elijah to Israel (17-19)
      a. The Miracle of the Drought (17:1-7)
b. The Miracle of the Flour Bowl (17:8-15)

c. The Miracle of the Resurrection of the Widow’s Son (17:16-24)

d. The Miracle of Fire on Mt. Carmel (18:1-40)

e. The Miracle of Rain (19:41-46)

f. The Failings of Elijah (19:1-18)

g. The Call of Elisha (19:19-21)

3. Ahab’s Wars with Syria (20)

4. The Murder of Naboth (21:1-16)

5. The Death of Ahab (21:17-22:40)

   b. Defeated by Syria (22:1-36)

   c. Death of Ahab (22:37-40)

J. Jehoshaphat’s Reign in Judah (22:41-50)

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