

Divided Kingdom

I KINGS 12--22; 2 KINGS; 2 CHRONICLES 10-36; OBADIAH; JONAH; JOEL; AMOS;
HOSEA; ISAIAH; MICAH; NAHUM; ZEPHANIAH; HABAKKUK; JEREMIAH; LAMENTATIONS

This stage is the most interwoven, fast-moving, and detailed period in all the Bible. It will be considered under four main divisions.

- I. An Introduction to the Chaotic Kingdom Stage.
- II. The Rulers of the Chaotic Kingdom Stage.
- III. A Study of the Prophets.
- IV. The Old Testament Books Written During the Chaotic Kingdom Stage.

I. AN INTRODUCTION TO THE CHAOTIC KINGDOM STAGE.

After the death of Solomon, a tragic civil war split Israel into two opposing kingdoms, the north and the south.

- A. The northern kingdom:
 1. It began in 931 B.C. and lasted 210 years.
 2. The first ruler was Jeroboam I.
 3. The last ruler was Hoshea.
 4. The total number of kings was nineteen. Not one was righteous.
 5. It consisted of ten tribes.
 6. Its capital later became Samaria.
 7. It was captured by the Assyrians in 721 B.C.
 8. There was no return from captivity.
 - B. The southern kingdom:
 1. It began in 931 B.C. and lasted 326 years.
 2. The first ruler was Rehoboam.
 3. The last ruler was Zedekiah.
 4. The total number of rulers was twenty: nineteen kings and one queen. Eight of the twenty were righteous.
 5. It consisted of two tribes (Judah and Benjamin).
 6. Its capital remained Jerusalem.
 7. It was captured by the Babylonians in 605 B.C.
 8. There were three separate returns from captivity.
- Note: The Chaotic Kingdom Stage may thus be divided into two time periods:
- a. The divided kingdom (both north and south) (931-721 B.C.).
 - b. The single kingdom (only the south) (721-605 B.C.).

II. THE RULERS OF THE CHAOTIC KINGDOM STAGE (1 Ki. 12:1-5, 14-24).

Northern rulers:

- A. Jeroboam I (1 Ki. 11:26--14:20; 2 Chron. 9:29--13:22).
 1. He reigned twenty-two years (931-910) (14:20).
 2. He served as a cabinet member under Solomon (11:26).
 3. He introduced a false religion system to keep his people from returning to the Jerusalem Temple (12:28).
 4. He made two golden calves and placed them in Dan and Bethel (12:29-32).
 5. He degraded the Levitical priesthood (12:31).
 6. He was punished by God for his intrusion into the office of the priesthood (12:33; 13:4; 14:1, 17).
 - a. His arm was paralyzed (13:4).
 - b. His son Abijah died (13:33--14:1, 17).
 - c. His future seed was destroyed, thus ending his dynasty (14:10-11; 15:29).
 - d. The Assyrians would someday carry Israel into captivity (14:15).
 7. A prophecy was given him that a king named Josiah would someday burn the bones of the dead priests upon the altar where Jeroboam I stood sacrificing. (Compare 1 Ki. 13:2 with 2 Ki. 23:15-16.)
 8. There was constant war between Jeroboam I and Rehoboam (14:30).
 9. He was defeated by Abijah (Rehoboam's son) despite outnumbering him two to one. Jeroboam I lost 500,000 troops that day (2 Chron. 13:1-3, 13-18).
 10. It is said of him twenty-one times that he caused Israel to sin (14:16; 15:30).
 11. He died as a result of a plague sent from God (2 Chron. 13:20).
- B. Nadab (1 Ki. 15:25-28).
 1. He reigned two years (910-909) (15:25).
 2. He was the son of Jeroboam I (15:25).
 3. He was assassinated by a rebel named Baasha (15:28).
- C. Baasha (1 Ki. 15:27--16:7; 2 Chron. 16:1-6).
 1. He reigned twenty-four years (909-886) (15:33).

2. He unknowingly fulfilled the prophecy given by Ahijah the prophet in killing Nadab and his relatives. (Compare 1 Ki. 14:10, 14 with 15:29.)
 3. He declared war on Asa (third king of Judah) and began building a wall fortress at Ramah, thus hoping to cut off all trade to Jerusalem (2 Chron. 16:1-6).
 4. Jehu, the prophet, predicted that Baasha's descendants would suffer the same judgment God placed on Jeroboam I (16:1-7).
- D. Elah (1 Ki. 16:6-14).
1. He reigned two years (886-885) (16:8).
 2. He was the son of Baasha (16:6).
 3. He was assassinated by the commander of his royal chariot troops, a man named Zimri (16:10).
- E. Zimri (1 Ki. 16:9-20).
1. He reigned but seven days (885) (16:15).
 2. He fulfilled Jehu's prophecy by slaughtering all the seed of Baasha. (Compare 1 Ki. 16:7 with 16:12.)
 3. Zimri was trapped by Omri, Israel's new commander-in-chief, in the palace, which resulted in a fiery suicidal death (16:15-19).
- F. Tibni (1 Ki. 16:21-22)
1. He made a claim for the throne for 5 years (885-880).
 2. Tibni was a claimant to the throne of the Israel, and the son of Ginath, a man of some position. Following the death of Zimri, a considerable number of the people chose Tibni as monarch, and he contended for the throne against Omri over the next few years only to be defeated.
 3. Tibni's death is recorded but not explained.
- G. Omri (1 Ki. 16:15-28).
1. He reigned twelve years (885-874) (16:23).
 2. He moved the northern capital from Tirzah to Samaria (16:23-24).
 3. He was the most wicked king of the north up to that time (16:25-28).
- H. Ahab (1 Ki. 16:28--22:40; 2 Chron. 18:1-34).
1. He reigned twenty-two years (874-853) (16:29).
 2. He married Jezebel (16:31).
 3. He was allowed to defeat the Syrians on two occasions (20:1-22, 23-43).
 4. He was more wicked than his father Omri (16:33; 21:25-26).
 5. He was confronted by Elijah and warned that a three-and-a-half-year famine would occur because of his sin (16:31--17:1; Jas. 5:17).
 6. His prophets of Baal (450) and the prophets of Asherah (400) who were supported by Jezebel were defeated by Elijah on Mt. Carmel (18:19-40).
 7. His death was predicted by both Elijah and the prophet Micaiah (21:19; 22:17).
 8. He was slain in battle with the Syrians (22:35-37).
- I. Ahaziah (1 Ki. 22:40--2 Ki. 1:18; 2 Chron. 20:35-37).
1. He reigned two years (853-852) (22:51).
 2. He was the oldest son of Ahab and Jezebel.
 3. He persuaded Jehoshaphat to enter into a shipbuilding enterprise with him at Ezion-geber (2 Chron. 20:35-37).
 4. He suffered a severe (and later fatal) fall in his palace at Samaria (2 Ki. 1:2-4).
 5. He turned to the pagan god Baal-zebul for healing, but received instead the condemnation of Elijah, whom he unsuccessfully attempted to arrest (1:2-18).
- J. Jehoram (2 Ki. 3:1--9:25; 2 Chron. 22:5-7).
1. He reigned twelve years (852-841) (3:1-3).
 2. He was the youngest son of Ahab and brother of Ahaziah.
 3. He also persuaded Jehoshaphat to ally with him against Syria (3:4-9).
 4. The prophet Elisha at this time worked a miracle on the battlefield (for Jehoshaphat's sake) which resulted in an allied victory (3:14-27).
 5. Elisha later helped Jehoram by warning him of several planned Syrian ambushes. Elisha refused, however, to allow him to slaughter some enemy Syrian soldiers who had been supernaturally blinded by God (6:8-23).
 6. Jehoram was on the throne when God used the four lepers to save the city of Samaria from starvation (7:1-10, 16-20).
 7. He was also the king with whom the Syrian leper Naaman met (5:1-19).
 8. He was later murdered by Jehu in the Valley of Jezreel (9:14-26).
- K. Jehu (2 Ki. 9:1--10:36; 2 Chron. 22:7-12).
1. He reigned twenty-eight years (841-814) (10:36).
 2. He was anointed by a messenger from Elisha (9:1-10).
 3. He was notorious for his chariot riding (9:20) and bloodletting. He executed:
 - a. Judah's King Ahaziah, grandson of Jehoshaphat (9:27).

- b. Northern King Jehoram (9:24).
 - c. Jezebel (9:30-37).
 - d. Ahab's seventy sons (10:1-11).
 - e. Forty-two royal princes of Judah (10:13-14).
 - f. The Baal-worshippers (10:25).
4. He didn't follow the Lord God with all his heart, for he continued to worship Jeroboam's gold calves (10:29-31).
- L. Jehoahaz (2 Ki. 13:1-9).
- 1. He reigned seventeen years (814-798) (13:1-3).
 - 2. He was the son of Jehu.
 - 3. He saw his army almost wiped out by the Syrians (13:5, 7).
 - 4. He briefly displayed remorse (as Ahab had once done, see 1 Ki. 21:27-30), but apparently it was not true repentance (13:4-7).
- M. Jehoash (2 Ki. 13:10--14:16; 2 Chron. 25:17-24).
- 1. He reigned sixteen years (798-782) (5 + 11 = 16) (13:10).
 - 2. He was the son of Jehoahaz.
 - 3. He visited Elisha on his deathbed (13:14-19).
 - 4. He defeated Amaziah (sixth king of Judah) on the battlefield (14:8-14).
 - 5. He related the second of two Old Testament fables to ridicule the arrogant claims of Amaziah (14:9-11).
 - 6. He plundered Jerusalem, taking many hostages and much wealth (14:13-14).
- N. Jeroboam II (2 Ki. 14:23-29).
- 1. He reigned forty-one years (793-753) (11 + 30 = 41) (14:23-24).
 - 2. He was the son of Jehoash.
 - 3. He was also one of the most powerful kings of the north.
 - 4. He recovered the lost territories of Israel surrounding the Dead Sea (14:25-27).
 - 5. Jonah the prophet lived and ministered during this time (14:25).
- O. Zechariah (2 Ki. 14:19--15:12).
- 1. He reigned six months (753) (15:8-9).
 - 2. He was the great-great-grandson of Jehu, and fourth ruler in his dynasty.
 - 3. He was murdered by a rebel named Shallum (15:10). With his death the line would cease, thus fulfilling God's prophecy to Jehu. (See 2 Ki. 10:30; 14:29; 15:8-12.)
- P. Shallum (2 Ki. 15:10-15).
- 1. He reigned one month (752) (15:13).
 - 2. He was murdered by a cruel warrior named Menahem (15:14-15).
- Q. Menahem (2 Ki. 15:14-22).
- 1. He reigned ten years (752-742) (15:17).
 - 2. He was one of the most brutal dictators to sit upon the northern throne (15:16).
 - 3. He bought off the Assyrian king Tiglath-pileser with a two million dollar bribe (15:19-20).
- R. Pekahiah (2 Ki. 15:22-26).
- 1. He reigned two years (742-740) (15:23).
 - 2. He was the son of Menahem (15:22).
 - 3. He was assassinated by his army commander, Pekah (15:25).
- S. Pekah (2 Ki. 15:27-31; 2 Chron. 28:5-8).
- 1. He reigned twenty years (740-732) (15:27).
Note: It will be noted that only eight years are in view here (740-732). It is thought that the first twelve years (752-740) were shared by a co-regency arrangement with both Menahem and Pekahiah.
 - 2. Pekah was assassinated by Hoshea (15:30).
- T. Hoshea (2 Ki. 15:30--17:6).
- 1. He reigned nine years (732-722) (17:1).
 - 2. He was the last ruler of the northern kingdom.
 - 3. After becoming a vassal to the Assyrian king, Shalmaneser, Hoshea joined with Egypt in rebelling against Assyria (17:3-4).
 - 4. For this he was imprisoned and the people were exiled to Assyria (17:4-6).

Southern rulers:

- A. Rehoboam (1 Ki. 11:42--14:31; 2 Chron 9:31--12:16).
- 1. He reigned seventeen years (931-913) (14:21-24).
 - 2. He was the son of Solomon (14:21).
 - 3. His stupidity caused the civil war of Israel (12:1-15).
 - 4. He had eighteen wives and sixty concubines. His favorite wife was Maachah, the evil daughter of Absalom (2 Chron. 11:21-22; 1 Ki. 15:1-3, 9-13).
 - 5. His capital, Jerusalem, was invaded by Shishak of Egypt (14:25-26).

- B. Abijam (1 Ki. 14:31--15:8; 2 Chron. 13:1-22).
1. He reigned three years (913-911) (15:1-3).
 2. He defeated (by supernatural intervention) the northern king, Jeroboam, on the battlefield (2 Chron. 13:1-19).
 3. In spite of God's help at this time, he degenerated into a wicked king (15:3).
- C. Asa (1 Ki. 15:8-14; 2 Chron. 14:1--16:14).
1. He reigned forty-one years (911-870) (15:9-10).
 2. He was Judah's first righteous king (15:11).
 3. He led Judah in a revival (15:12-15) and was a great builder (2 Chron. 14:6-8).
 4. God answered his prayer and delivered him from a massive Ethiopian attack (2 Chron. 14:9-13).
 5. He even deposed his own grandmother Maachah because of her idolatry (15:13).
 6. He later was rebuked by a prophet for his sin and responded by throwing him in prison (2 Chron. 16:7-10).
 7. He died with a foot disease, which problem he refused to take to God (2 Chron. 16:12-13).
- D. Jehoshaphat (1 Ki. 22:41-50; 2 Chron. 17:1--20:37).
1. He reigned twenty-five years (873-848). For three of those years he reigned together with his father (22:41-42).
 2. He continued the moral reforms and building projects his father Asa had started (2 Chron. 17:3-6).
 3. He instituted a nationwide Bible education program (2 Chron. 17:7-9).
 4. He compromised with Ahab and his two sons, Ahaziah and Jehoram.
 - a. His matrimonial alliance with Ahab (2 Chron. 18:1).
 - b. His military alliance with Ahab (1 Ki. 22; 2 Chron. 18:2-3, 28-29; 19:1-3).
 - c. His trading alliance with Ahaziah (2 Chron. 20:35-37).
 - d. His military alliance with Jehoram (2 Ki. 3:6-7, 10-15).
- E. Joram (1 Ki. 22:50; 2 Ki. 8:16-24; 2 Chron. 21:1-20).
1. He reigned eight years (853-841). He reigned together with his father, King Jehoshaphat, for 4 years ($4 + 8 = 12$) (2 Chron. 21:5).
 2. He married Athaliah, daughter of Jezebel and Ahab (2 Chron. 21:6).
 3. He began his reign by murdering his six brothers (2 Chron. 21:2-4).
 4. He received a posthumous message from Elijah predicting judgment upon him because of his wicked and murderous reign (2 Chron. 21:12-15).
 5. He was attacked and defeated by the Philistines and Arabians (2 Chron. 21:16-17).
 6. He died of a horrible disease and was not mourned at the funeral (2 Chron. 21:18-19).
- F. Ahaziah (2 Ki. 8:24--9:29; 2 Chron. 22:1-9).
1. He reigned one year (841) (22:1-4).
 2. He was the son of Joram and Athaliah (22:1).
 3. He was killed by Jehu (tenth northern king) (22:5-9).
- G. Athaliah (2 Ki. 11:1-20; 2 Chron. 22:1--23:21).
1. She reigned six years (841-835) (11:3).
 2. She was the mother of the slain Ahaziah (11:1).
 3. At his death she slaughtered all his children except one who was hidden from her (11:1-3).
 4. She herself was later executed (11:13-16).
- H. Joash (2 Ki. 11:1--12:21; 2 Chron. 22:10--24:27).
1. He reigned forty years (835-796) (12:1-3).
 2. He was the surviving heir of Athaliah's bloodbath.
 3. He ordered Jehoiada, the high priest, to repair Solomon's Temple (12:4-16).
 4. He lived for God until the death of Jehoiada, when he degenerated into a cruel tyrant (2 Chron. 24:15-19).
 5. He sanctioned the stoning of Zechariah, the godly Jewish high priest who had rebuked Judah's sin and called for national repentance (2 Chron. 24:20-22).
 6. He was executed by his own palace guard (2 Chron. 24:25-26).
- I. Amaziah (2 Ki. 14:1-20; 2 Chron. 25:1-28).
1. He reigned twenty-nine years (796-767) ($0 + 5 + 24 = 29$) (25:1).
 2. He was a good king for awhile, and executed the men who had assassinated his father, Joash (2 Chron. 25:2-3).
 3. He was rebuked by a prophet for hiring some mercenary Israeli soldiers to help him fight against Edom (2 Chron. 25:5-8).
 4. He reluctantly dismissed these paid soldiers and, with God's help, defeated Edom with his own soldiers (2 Chron. 25:9-12).
 5. He foolishly brought back some of the Edomite gods to worship (2 Chron. 25:14).
 6. The reckless king then declared war on northern Israel and was soundly defeated (2 Chron. 25:17-25).
 7. His death (2 Chron. 25:26-28).
- J. Uzziah (2 Ki. 15:1-7; 2 Chron. 26:1-23).
1. He reigned fifty-two years (791-739). He reigned together with his father, King Amaziah, for 24 years

- (24 + 16 + 12 = 52) (2 Chron. 26:1-5).
2. He did more to strengthen Judah both militarily and economically than any other king (2 Chron. 26:6-15).
 3. He attempted to intrude into the office of the priest (2 Chron. 26:16).
 4. He was punished for this sin by leprosy (2 Chron. 26:17-21).
- K. Jotham (2 Ki. 15:30, 32-38; 2 Chron. 27:1-9).
1. He reigned sixteen years (750-731). He reigned together with his father, King Uzziah, for 12 years (12 + 8 = 20) (2 Chron. 27:1; 2 Ki. 15:30).
 2. He was a good king (2 Chron. 27:2, 6).
 3. He built the upper gate of the Temple and erected fortresses and towers (2 Chron. 27:3-4).
 4. He defeated the Ammonites and received a huge annual tribute of silver and wheat from them (2 Chron. 27:5).
- L. Ahaz (2 Ki. 16:1-20; 2 Chron. 28:1-27).
1. He reigned sixteen years (731-715). He reigned together with his father, King Jotham, for 12 years (12 + 3 + 13 = 28) (2 Chron. 28:1).
 2. He was perhaps the second worst king of Judah (2 Chron. 28:2-4, 22-25).
 3. He sacrificed his own children on the altars of Baal (2 Chron. 28:3).
 4. He was the first person to hear about the virgin birth (Isa. 7:1-16).
- M. Hezekiah (2 Ki. 18:1--20:21; 2 Chron. 29:1--32:33).
1. He reigned twenty-nine years (715-686). He reigned together with his father, King Ahaz, for 13 years (13 + 18 + 11 = 42) (2 Chron. 29:1).
 2. He was the godliest king since David (2 Chron. 29:2).
 3. He was the richest king since Solomon (2 Chron. 32:27-29).
 4. He repaired the Temple (2 Chron. 29:16-19) and cleansed the land of idols (2 Chron. 31:1).
 5. He organized the greatest Passover celebration since the days of Solomon (2 Chron. 30).
 6. He saw the death angel defeat the Assyrian enemies which had surrounded Jerusalem (2 Chron. 32:21-22; 2 Ki. 19:35).
 7. He was supernaturally healed and given an additional fifteen years to live (2 Ki. 20:1-19).
- N. Manasseh (2 Ki. 21:1-18; 2 Chron. 33:1-20).
1. He reigned fifty-five years (697-642) (11 + 44 = 55) (2 Chron. 33:1).
 2. He ruled longer than any northern or southern king.
 3. He was the most wicked king of all (2 Chron. 33:2-10).
 4. He repented while in an enemy prison, and God restored to him his kingdom (2 Chron. 33:11-13, 15-17).
- O. Amon (2 Ki. 21:19-26; 2 Chron. 33:21-25).
1. He reigned two years (642-640) (2 Chron. 33:21).
 2. He was wicked like his father Manasseh, but did not repent (2 Chron. 33:22-23).
 3. He was executed by his own household servants (2 Chron. 33:24-25).
- P. Josiah (2 Ki. 22:1--23:30; 2 Chron. 34:1--35:27).
1. He reigned thirty-one years (640-609) (2 Chron. 34:1).
 2. He was the godliest king since David and was Judah's last godly king (2 Chron. 34:2-7; 1 Ki. 13:1-2).
 3. Upon discovery of the book of Moses in the Temple, he led his people in a great revival (2 Chron. 34:14-21, 29-33).
 4. He also conducted a larger Passover celebration than that of Hezekiah his great-grandfather (2 Chron. 35:1, 18-19).
 5. He was killed in a battle with the Egyptians (2 Chron. 35:20-25).
- Q. Jehoahaz (2 Ki. 23:31-33; 2 Chron. 36:1-4).
1. He reigned three months (609) (2 Chron. 36:1-2).
 2. He was the middle son of Josiah.
 3. He was deposed after only ninety days by the Pharaoh who had killed his father (2 Chron. 36:3).
 4. He was carried into Egyptian captivity where he eventually died (2 Chron. 36:4; 2 Ki. 23:34).
- R. Jehoiakim (2 Ki. 23:34--24:5; 2 Chron. 36:5-7).
1. He reigned eleven years (609-597) (2 Chron. 36:5).
 2. He was the brother of Jehoahaz (2 Chron. 36:4).
 3. With the exception of Manasseh, Jehoiakim may be regarded as Judah's most evil king (2 Ki. 23:36—24:4).
 4. He was made vassal by Nebuchadnezzar after the Babylonians had defeated the Egyptians (2 Ki. 24:1).
 5. He persecuted Jeremiah the prophet (Jer. 36:9, 21-26).
 6. During this time Daniel and other Hebrew young people were taken to Babylon by Nebuchadnezzar (Dan. 1:1-7) (606 BC).
 7. He died, and as Jeremiah had predicted, received the burial of an ass (Jer. 22:18-19; 2 Chron. 36:6).
- S. Jehoiachin (2 Ki. 24:5-16; 2 Chron. 36:8-10).
1. He reigned three months (597) (2 Ki. 24:8). He was 18 years of age.
 2. He was the son of Jehoiakim and grandson of Josiah (2 Ki. 24:6).
 3. He incurred a curse from God, stating that his sons would not sit upon Judah's throne (Jer 22:24-30).

4. Both Ezekiel (19:5-9) and Jeremiah (22:24-26) predicted he would be carried off into Babylonian captivity.
 5. This happened during Nebuchadnezzar's second "visit" (597) to Jerusalem. Ezekiel was also carried away at this time (2 Ki. 24:11-16).
 6. He eventually died in Babylon (2 Ki. 25:27-30).
- T. Zedekiah (2 Ki. 24:17--25:30; 2 Chron. 36:11-21).
1. He reigned eleven years (597-586) (2 Ki. 24:18-19).
 2. He was the youngest son of Josiah and uncle to Jehoiachin (2 Ki. 24:17).
 3. Jeremiah was persecuted during his reign (Jer. 38:1-6).
 4. He rebelled against Babylon and was captured, blinded, and carried off into captivity by Nebuchadnezzar (2 Ki. 25:1-7).
 5. Jerusalem was burned to the ground and the Temple destroyed at this time (2 Ki. 25:8-9).

III. A STUDY OF THE PROPHETS.

A. The Nature of the Prophets:

1. The Hebrew word for prophet is nabhi, meaning "to boil."
2. The Greek words are: pro, meaning "in place of," and phemi, meaning "to speak." Thus, a prophet was one who spoke reverently the message of God as his ambassador.
3. He was different from a priest. A priest represented men to God, while a prophet represented God to men. Furthermore, a prophet did not inherit his office as many Old Testament priests and kings did.
4. He exercised hindsight, insight, and foresight. He reviewed the past and previewed the future. A prophet both forthtold and foretold.
5. Samuel is generally acknowledged as the first man to hold the office of a prophet. However, a number of men prior to him on occasion did function as prophets. Some of the more well known are Enoch, Jacob, and Moses. Samuel also organized schools for the prophets. (See 1 Sam. 19:20; Acts 3:24; 13:20; Heb. 11:32.)
6. Agabus (Acts 11:27-28; 21:10-11) is the last recorded prophet in the Bible.
7. The prophets were fierce revivalists and intense patriots. They were for the most part unpopular.
8. The predictive messages of the Old Testament prophets covered six main themes.
 - a. The first advent of Christ (Isa. 7:14; 9:6; 53; Micah 5:2).
 - b. The second advent of Christ (Isa. 2:4; 66:15-16; Zech. 13:4-9).
 - c. The dispersion of Israel (Jer. 25:11; Deut. 28).
 - d. The regathering of Israel (Isa. 43:5-6; Jer. 24:6; Ezek. 11:27; Amos 9:14-15).
 - e. The coming great tribulation (Isa. 13:6-7, 10-11; 24:1, 19-20; 34:2-4; 63:3-4, 6; Joel 2:1-2).
 - f. The coming glorious millennium (Isa. 2:1-3; 35; 65:18-25).
9. The Old Testament prophets were not told about the church age (Eph. 3:5-6).
10. Because of this, they did not always fully understand everything they wrote about (1 Pet. 1:10-11; Lk. 24:25-27).
11. They were, in Old Testament times, often described as watchmen on a wall. (See Isa. 21:8, 11; Jer. 6:17; 44:4; Ezek. 3:17; 33:2-3; Hab. 2:1.)
12. Both the Assyrian and Babylonian captivities were caused (in part) by the lying ministries of false prophets! (See Jer. 23:13-14, 21-22.)
13. There were a number of tests laid down in the Bible whereby a false prophet might be distinguished from a true one:
 - a. Do they ever predict things that do not come to pass? If so, they are false prophets (Deut. 18:21-22).
 - b. Do they turn people away from the true God to other gods? If so, they are false prophets (Deut. 13:1-3).
 - c. Do they use instruments of divination (crystal balls, tea leaves, etc.)? If so, they are false prophets (Deut. 18:10-11).

B. The Names of the Prophets:

True Prophets

1. Abel (Lk. 11:49-51).
2. Enoch (Jude 14-15).
3. Noah (Gen. 9:24-27).
4. Abraham (Gen. 20:7).
5. Isaac (Gen. 27:27-29; Ps. 105:8-15).
6. Jacob (Gen. 49:1-27).
7. Deborah (prophetess) (Jdg. 4-5).
8. Unknown prophet (Jdg. 6:7-10).
9. Man of God in the days of Eli (1 Sam. 2:27-36).
10. Samuel (1 Sam. 3:20).
11. Bands of prophets (1 Sam. 10:5-13; 19:20-24).

12. Moses (Deut.18:15; 34:10-12).
13. Miriam (prophetess) (Ex. 15:20).
14. Aaron (Ex. 7:1).
15. Seventy elders (Num. 11:24-29).
16. Gad (1 Sam. 22:5; 2 Sam. 24:11-19; 1 Chron. 21:9-19; 29:29).
17. Nathan (2 Sam. 7:1-17; 12:1-25; 1 Ki. 1:5-53; 1 Chron. 17:1-15; 29:29).
18. David (Acts 2:29-31; Messianic Psalms).
19. Ahijah (1 Ki. 11:26-49; 12:15; 14:1-18).
20. Shemaiah (1 Ki. 12:21-24; 1 Chron. 12:1-16).
21. Man of God from Judah (1 Ki. 13:1-34).
22. Iddo (2 Chron. 9:29; 12:15; 13:22).
23. Azariah (2 Chron. 15:1-19).
24. Hanani (2 Chron. 16:7-10).
25. Jehu (son of Hanani) (1 Ki. 16:1-4; 2 Chron. 19:1-3).
26. Elijah (1 Ki. 17:1; 2 Ki. 2:14).
27. Unknown prophet (1 Ki. 20:13-15).
28. A son of the prophets (1 Ki. 20:35-43).
29. Micaiah (1 Ki. 22:1-40).
30. Jahaziel (2 Chron. 20:14-30).
31. Eliezer (2 Chron. 20:37).
32. Elisha (1 Ki. 19:16-19; 2 Ki. 2:8; 13:14-21).
33. Sons of the prophets (2 Ki. 2:3-15; 4:1, 38; 6:1; 9:1).
34. Zechariah (2 Chron. 24:20-22; Lk. 11:49-51).
35. Man of God (2 Chron. 25:5-10).
36. Unknown prophet (2 Chron. 25:15).
37. Zechariah (2 Chron. 26:5).
38. Oded (2 Chron. 28:8-15).
39. Isaiah's wife (prophetess) (Isa. 8:3).
40. Huldah (prophetess) (2 Ki. 22:14-20).

(Note) This list does not include the writing prophets, like Isaiah, Amos, etc.

41. John the Baptist (Matt. 11:9; 14:5; 21:26; Lk. 1:76; Jn. 1:23).
42. Anna (prophetess) (Lk. 2:36).
43. Agabus (Acts 11:27-28; 21:10-11).
44. The two tribulational prophets (Rev. 11:3-12).
45. Jesus Christ (Matt. 21:11; Lk. 4:24; 7:16; 24:19; Jn. 4:19; 6:14; 7:40).

False Prophets

1. The prophets of Baal
 - a. Elijah defeated and destroyed a number of them. See 1 Ki. 18:19, 22, 40.
 - b. Jehu deceived and destroyed the rest of them. See 2 Ki. 10:18-27.
2. The prophet Balaam (Num. 22-24).
3. Saul (1 Sam. 10:1-13; 19:24).
4. An old prophet from Bethel (1 Ki. 13:11-19).
5. Zedekiah (1 Ki. 22:5-12).
6. Hananiah (Jer. 28:11).
7. The prophetess Noadiah (Neh. 6:14).
8. Elymas (Acts 13:6-8).
9. The prophetess Jezebel (Rev. 2:20).
10. The false prophet (helper to the antichrist) during the great tribulation (Rev. 16:13; 19:20; 20:10).

The Important Oral Prophets

Elijah

1. Elijah and King Ahab
 - a. Announcing the three-and-a-half year drought (1 Ki. 17:1; Jam. 5:17).
 - b. Challenging him to a contest on Mt. Carmel (1 Ki. 18:17-20).
 - c. Predicting the end of the drought (1 Ki. 18:41-46).
 - d. Pronouncing the death sentence upon him and his wife (1 Ki. 21:17-24).
2. Elijah and the ravens at Cherith (1 Ki. 17:2-7).
3. Elijah and the widow at Zarephath (1 Ki. 17:8-16, 17-24).
4. Elijah and Obadiah (1 Ki. 18:1-16).

5. Elijah and the people of Israel (1 Ki. 18:20-24).
6. Elijah and the priests of Baal (1 Ki. 18:25-40).
7. Elijah and God (1 Ki. 19:1-18).
8. Elijah and Elisha
 - a. Calling him to special service (1 Ki. 19:19-21).
 - b. Preparing him for special service (2 Ki. 2:1-10).
9. Elijah and King Ahaziah (2 Ki. 1:1-17).
10. Elijah and the chariot of fire (2 Ki. 2:11).

Elisha

1. Parting the waters at Jordan (2 Ki. 2:14).
2. Purifying the waters at Jericho (2 Ki. 2:19-22).
3. Judging some hoodlums at Bethel (2 Ki. 2:23-24).
4. Causing some empty ditches to fill with water (2 Ki. 3:16-27).
5. Creating oil in empty vessels (2 Ki. 4:1-7).
6. Raising a dead boy at Shunem (2 Ki. 4:18-21, 32-37).
7. Purifying a poisonous stew at Gilgal (2 Ki. 4:38-41).
8. Feeding 100 men by supernaturally increasing twenty loaves of bread and a sack of corn (2 Ki. 4:42-44).
9. Healing of Naaman (2 Ki. 5:1-19).
10. Recovering a lost axe head (2 Ki. 6:1-7).
11. Revealing the secret war plans of Syria (2 Ki. 6:8-12).
12. Praying that his servant could see an invisible angelic army (2 Ki. 6:13-17).
13. Blinding the entire Syrian army (2 Ki. 6:18-23).
14. Predicting:
 - a. Gehazi's leprosy (2 Ki. 5:20-27).
 - b. The salvation of Samaria from starvation (2 Ki. 7:1).
 - c. The death of an arrogant king's assistant (2 Ki. 7:2).
 - d. A seven-year famine (2 Ki. 8:1).
 - e. The death of Bechadad, king of Syria (2 Ki. 8:7-10).
 - f. The reign of Hazael over Syria (2 Ki. 8:11-15).
 - g. Israel's three victories over Syria (2 Ki. 13:14-19).
15. Raising a man from the dead years after the prophet himself had died (2 Ki. 13:20-21).

IV. THE OLD TESTAMENT BOOKS WRITTEN DURING THE CHAOTIC KINGDOM STAGE:

	Author	Years of Ministry	Dates	Destination
A.	Obadiah	10	850-840	Edom
B.	Jonah	35	785-750	Nineveh
C.	Nahum	30	650-620	Nineveh
D.	Amos	7	760-753	North (Israel)
E.	Hosea	60	760-700	North
F.	Joel	7	841-834	South (Judah)
G.	Isaiah	58	739-681	South
H.	Micah	35	735-700	South
I.	Zephaniah	20	640-620	South
J.	Habakkuk	3	609-606	South
K.	Jeremiah	32	627-575	South
L.	Lamentations	--	586	South