

A Study of the Prophets

OT Survey Lesson 107--Introduction to the Assyrian Period

Introduction: In our upcoming lessons we will be studying the prophets who lived in the eighth century before Christ--Amos, Hosea, Isaiah, and Micah. We will appreciate their messages better if we know something of the historical background of this period when Assyria ruled the ancient world. God used this pagan nation as a rod of punishment against Israel for her sins.

Lesson aim: To show the conditions in Israel and Judah during the period of Assyrian power.

The reign of Jeroboam II, Zechariah, Shallum, Menahem, Pekahiah, Pekah, Hoshea, kings of Israel--2 Kg. 14-17

1. What kind of man was Jeroboam II? (2 Kg. 14:23-24)
2. Was Jeroboam II able to successfully recover some of the land lost by the Israelites? (2 Kg. 14:25) What prophet predicted this? (2 Kg. 14:25)
3. Why did God allow this evil man to succeed? (2 Kg. 14:26-27)
4. Who was Jeroboam's successor? (2 Kg. 15:8) Was he good or evil? (v. 9)
5. Who killed Zechariah and became king in his place? (2 Kg. 15:10) How long did he reign? (v. 13)
6. Who killed Shallum and became king in his stead? (2 Kg. 15:14) How long did he reign? (v. 17) What event showed his terribly cruelty? (v. 16)
7. What Assyrian king came up against Israel? (2 Kg. 15:19) How much tribute was Menahem forced to pay for Assyria's "protection"?
8. Menahem was succeeded by his son Pekahiah. How long did he reign? (2 Kg. 15:23) Was he good or evil?

9. Who killed Pekahiah and became king in his place? (2 Kg. 15:25) What Assyrian king came against Israel during his reign? (v. 29) What did he do?
10. Who conspired against Pekah and became king in his place? (2 Kg. 15:30) What Assyrian king came up and force Hoshea to pay tribute? (2 Kg. 17:3) When Hoshea rebelled against the king what happened to the northern kingdom? (2 Kg. 17:4-6)
11. Read 2 Kg. 17:7-23. Make a list of the reasons why God allowed His people in Israel to be conquered and taken into captivity by the Assyrians.

The reign of Uzziah (Azariah), Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah--2 Kg. 14-20 (2 Chron. 26-32)

1. Uzziah reigned _____ years in Judah (2 Kg. 15:2). He did _____ in the sight of the Lord (2 Kg. 15:3).
2. Read 2 Chron. 26:6-7. Was Uzziah successful militarily?
3. With what disease was Uzziah smitten because of his pride shown in offering incense in the temple? (2 Kg. 15:5)
4. Uzziah was succeeded by whom? (2 Kg. 15:32-35) Was he good or evil?
5. Who was Jotham's successor? (2 Kg. 16:1-18) How long did he reign? In what way did he walk? (v. 2-3)
6. With whom did Ahaz make an agreement to protect him from Rezin, king of Syria? (2 Kg. 16:7-9)
7. What good king came after Ahaz? (2 Kg. 18:1) What did the prophet-historian say about Hezekiah? (v. 5-7)
8. Thought question: Why was Assyrian able to successfully destroy the northern kingdom of Israel but unable to defeat the southern kingdom?