



## THE RISE AND FALL OF THE GOLDEN KINGDOM

The Books of I and II Kings, from the Old Testament in the Bible, yield some of the most phenomenal stories in human history. They are not only true historical sagas, but they also serve as warning signs for any society that has begun to decay morally and spiritually.

In this study, we will delve into the lives of such prophets as Elijah and Elisha, Jeremiah, attacks on the nation of Israel from within and without, wicked monarchs such as Ahab and Jezebel, youngsters being anointed king, mighty kings such as Hezekiah and the Babylonian uprising that led to the collapse of Jerusalem and Judah.

All these events took place between 931 and 587 B.C. The cast of characters is amazing and each one offers lessons for us today.

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Taught by Pastor Dan Betzer / First Assembly of God / Ft. Myers, Florida

THE RISE AND FALL OF THE GOLDEN KINGDOM  
A Study of First and Second Kings

Session 1 - The Introduction

1 The Old Testament is divided into the following sections:

- 2 1. The Torah (Or Pentateuch - Five Books) Genesis through Deuteronomy
- 3 2. The Historical Books - Twelve Books - Joshua through Esther
- 4 3. The Poetical Books - 5 Books - Job through Song of Solomon
- 5 4. Major Prophets - 5 Books - Isaiah through Daniel
- 6 5. Minor Prophets - 12 Books - Hosea through Malachi

7 Today we begin a major study from the Historical Books, I and II Kings.

8  
9 There three sets of “double books” in the Old Testament, I and II Samuel, I and II Kings,  
10 and I and II Chronicles. They were doubtless one took each at their writing; however,  
11 translators divided them (and they also added chapters headings and verse numbering, a  
12 tremendous asset to the readers today).

13  
14 Who wrote I and II Kings? We are not sure, although there is some evidence it might  
15 have been the great prophet Jeremiah.

16  
17 The theme of these two books is DECLINE AND COLLAPSE of the great kingdom of  
18 Israel - first, after Solomon’s death in 931 B.C., into a divided kingdom - Israel (north)  
19 and Judah (south) - and then the collapse of Israel to the Assyrians in 721 B.C. and finally  
20 the collapse and conquest of Judah to the Babylonians in 586 B.C.

21  
22 Two passages virtually sum up these two books:

2 Kings 17:22-23 **For the children of Israel walked in all the sins of Jeroboam which he did; they departed not from them; [23] Until the Lord removed Israel out of his sight, as he had said by all his servants the prophets. So was Israel carried away out of their own land to Assyria unto this day. And 2 Kings 25:21 And the king of Babylon smote them, and slew them at Riblah in the land of Hamath. So Judah was carried away out of their land.**

23  
24 Here are the main thrusts of the two books:

- 25 • I Kings – The Division of the Golden Kingdom
- 26 • II Kings – The Destruction of the Golden Kingdom

27  
28 While this sounds depressing at first glance, in truth the two books contain stories of

1 some of the greatest heroes of all Biblical history - as well as the clumsy, sordid and  
2 disgusting collapse of others.

3  
4 In I Kings, which we shall look at briefly in this series, we have the continuation of the  
5 history of Israel started in I and II Samuel. In reality, these four books, I and II Samuel  
6 and I and II Kings give us basically the whole history of the nation of Israel, from its  
7 inception under Samuel the prophet to the Babylonian Empire (which we recently studied  
8 in Daniel).

9  
10 I like one commentator's summation of the teaching of these books: *The moral teaching*  
11 *of these books is to show man his inability to rule himself and the world. In these four*  
12 *historical books we get a very graphic view of the rise and fall of the Golden Kingdom of*  
13 *Israel.*

14  
15 Here is a very simple outline of I Kings:

- 16 I. The Death of King David - I Kings 1-2
- 17 II. The Peak of the Golden Kingdom Under Solomon - I Kings 3-11
- 18 III. The Kingdom is Divided I Kings 12 to II Kings 16

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## 21 THE LAST DAYS OF KING DAVID

22  
23 David was a fine musician, a classic warrior, a good king - and a lousy father. That's  
24 not my summation, but God's. II Samuel, chapters 13-15 tell the tragedy of a father who  
25 would not discipline his sons. One of his sons raped his sister. What did David do?  
26 Nothing. He got angry, but that's all. Later the perverted son was murdered by his  
27 brother. There is yet another scriptural reference to David's poor parenting: 1 Kings  
28 1:6 **And his father had not displeased him (corrected or disciplined him) at any time**  
29 **in saying, Why hast thou done so?**

30  
31  
32 This weakness on David's part almost cost him his throne in the waning days of his life.  
33 Lying on his death bed, he was pretty much unaware of what was happening with his  
34 fourth son, Adonijah: 1 Kings 1:5 **Then Adonijah the son of Haggith exalted**  
35 **himself, saying, I will be king; and he prepared him chariots and horsemen, and fifty**  
36 **men to run before him.** God never meant for that kid to be king. Had it not been for  
37 the awareness of Nathan the prophet, it would have been disaster for Israel. But Nathan  
38 intervened and Solomon was made the legitimate king. 1 Kings 1:39 **And Zadok the**  
39 **priest took an horn of oil out of the tabernacle, and anointed Solomon. And they**  
40 **blew the trumpet; and all the people said, God save king Solomon.**

1 This was with David's full awareness and blessing: 1 Kings 2:1-4 **Now the days of**  
2 **David drew nigh that he should die; and he charged Solomon his son, saying, [2] I go**  
3 **the way of all the earth: be thou strong therefore, and shew thyself a man; [3] And**  
4 **keep the charge of the Lord thy God, to walk in his ways, to keep his statutes, and**  
5 **his commandments, and his judgments, and his testimonies, as it is written in the**  
6 **law of Moses, that thou mayest prosper in all that thou doest, and whithersoever**  
7 **thou turnest thyself: [4] That the Lord may continue his word which he spake**  
8 **concerning me, saying, If thy children take heed to their way, to walk before me in**  
9 **truth with all their heart and with all their soul, there shall not fail thee (said he) a**  
10 **man on the throne of Israel.**

11  
12 So there was the passing of the torch: 1 Kings 2:10-12

13 **So David slept with his fathers, and was buried in the city of David. [11] And the**  
14 **days that David reigned over Israel were forty years: seven years reigned he in**  
15 **Hebron, and thirty and three years reigned he in Jerusalem.**

16 **[12] Then sat Solomon upon the throne of David his father; and his kingdom was**  
17 **established greatly.**

#### 18 19 SOLOMON'S FOLLY

20  
21 Very few men in Scripture ever were given so much and fell so short of God's plan for  
22 their lives as was Solomon. Right away we learn of his weakness: women! 1 Kings  
23 3:1-4 **And Solomon made affinity with Pharaoh king of Egypt, and took Pharaoh's**  
24 **daughter, and brought her into the city of David, until he had made an end of**  
25 **building his own house, and the house of the Lord, and the wall of Jerusalem round**  
26 **about. [2] Only the people sacrificed in high places, because there was no house built**  
27 **unto the name of the Lord, until those days. [3] And Solomon loved the Lord,**  
28 **walking in the statutes of David his father: only he sacrificed and burnt incense in**  
29 **high places. [4] And the king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there; for that was the**  
30 **great high place: a thousand burnt offerings did Solomon offer upon that altar.**

31  
32 A born-again person marrying a non-born-again person is just asking for trouble! This  
33 Egyptian gal was just the first of what would later be hundreds of pagan wives - plus a  
34 few hundred mistresses. Yet Solomon (in chapter 3) asked God for wisdom, which he  
35 apparently got when it came to kingdom management, but he was pretty foolish when it  
36 came to his own life.

37  
38 He married a non-believer and he tried to mix pure worship of God with pagan worship.  
39 It didn't work then - and it won't work now. His great moment was THE BUILDING  
40 OF THE TEMPLE IN JERUSALEM.



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This is the entrance to Solomon's stone quarry beneath the old walled city of Jerusalem. This entrance is just a few feet from the Damascus Gate, the northern entrance to the old city. The quarry is 650 feet deep and nearly as wide. I have journeyed through it many times. It is believed that at least some, if not most, of the stone for the Temple was quarried in here.

The crowning achievement of King Solomon's reign was the construction of the Temple in Jerusalem. His father David had desired to build it but God would not permit it: 1 Chron. 28:3 **But God said unto me, Thou shalt not build an house for my name, because thou hast been a man of war, and hast shed blood.**

From Scriptures we deduce that the Temple was 180 feet long, 90 feet wide and 50 feet high. (To give you some concept of that height, the highest light in our sanctuary is 44 feet off the floor.)

Solomon spared no expense for the Temple's construction. He ordered huge quantities of cedar wood from King Hiram of Tyre (Lebanon), had huge blocks of the best stone quarried and commanded that the building's foundation be laid with hewn stone (note the picture at the top of the page).

When the Temple was completed, Solomon dedicated it with prayer and sacrifice. His prayer to God: 1 Kings 8:43 **Hear thou in heaven thy dwelling place, and do**

1 according to all that the stranger calleth to thee for: that all people of the earth may  
2 know thy name, to fear thee, as do thy people Israel; and that they may know that  
3 this house, which I have builded, is called by thy name.  
4

5 It is sometimes said that every person has a weakness, something that makes that person  
6 vulnerable to the temptations of Satan. Solomon had a weakness as well. His vanity  
7 “did him in.” Early in his reign, he asked God for wisdom. 1 Kings 3:8-15 **And thy**  
8 **servant is in the midst of thy people which thou hast chosen, a great people, that**  
9 **cannot be numbered nor counted for multitude. [9] Give therefore thy servant an**  
10 **understanding heart to judge thy people, that I may discern between good and bad:**  
11 **for who is able to judge this thy so great a people? [10] And the speech pleased the**  
12 **Lord, that Solomon had asked this thing. [11] And God said unto him, Because thou**  
13 **hast asked this thing, and hast not asked for thyself long life; neither hast asked**  
14 **riches for thyself, nor hast asked the life of thine enemies; but hast asked for thyself**  
15 **understanding to discern judgment; [12] Behold, I have done according to thy**  
16 **words: lo, I have given thee a wise and an understanding heart; so that there was**  
17 **none like thee before thee, neither after thee shall any arise like unto thee. [13] And I**  
18 **have also given thee that which thou hast not asked, both riches, and honour: so that**  
19 **there shall not be any among the kings like unto thee all thy days. [14] And if thou**  
20 **wilt walk in my ways, to keep my statutes and my commandments, as thy father**  
21 **David did walk, then I will lengthen thy days. [15] And Solomon awoke; and,**  
22 **behold, it was a dream. And he came to Jerusalem, and stood before the ark of the**  
23 **covenant of the Lord, and offered up burnt offerings, and offered peace offerings,**  
24 **and made a feast to all his servants.**  
25

26 Later in his life Solomon seemed to forget God. He had been lauded by leaders of the  
27 known earth, including the famous Queen of Sheba (1 Kings 10). He had more money  
28 personally than many nations had: 1 Kings 10:14-15 **Now the weight of gold that**  
29 **came to Solomon in one year was six hundred threescore and six talents of gold. [15]**  
30 **Beside that he had of the merchantmen, and of the traffick of the spice merchants,**  
31 **and of all the kings of Arabia, and of the governors of the country. Some**  
32 **commentaries estimate the gold alone amounted to over 16 tons each year.**  
33

34 But...here it comes!...1 Kings 11:1-6 **But king Solomon loved many strange**  
35 **women, together with the daughter of Pharaoh, women of the Moabites, Ammonites,**  
36 **Edomites, Zidonians, and Hittites; [2] Of the nations concerning which the Lord said**  
37 **unto the children of Israel, Ye shall not go in to them, neither shall they come in**  
38 **unto you: for surely they will turn away your heart after their gods: Solomon clave**  
39 **unto these in love. [3] And he had seven hundred wives, princesses, and three**  
40 **hundred concubines: and his wives turned away his heart. [4] For it came to pass,**

1 **when Solomon was old, that his wives turned away his heart after other gods: and**  
2 **his heart was not perfect with the Lord his God, as was the heart of David his father.**  
3 **[5] For Solomon went after Ashtoreth the goddess of the Zidonians, and after**  
4 **Milcom the abomination of the Ammonites. [6] And Solomon did evil in the sight of**  
5 **the Lord, and went not fully after the Lord, as did David his father.**

6  
7 This moral calamity in Solomon's life made him vulnerable to his enemies. And there  
8 were many, some even in his own house.

#### 9 10 ENTER JEROBOAM

11  
12 **1 Kings 11:26 And Jeroboam the son of Nebat, an Ephrathite of Zereda, Solomon's**  
13 **servant, whose mother's name was Zeruah, a widow woman, even he lifted up his**  
14 **hand against the king.**

15  
16 Two men are now going to play prominently in this sacred narrative: Rehoboam and  
17 Jereboam. How do you keep from being confused? Easy. Try this: **Rehoboam**  
18 **begins with the letter "R" – he's Really the true kid of the king. Jeroboam begins with**  
19 **the letter "J" - he's Just a servant of the king but who later becomes part of the civil split**  
20 **in the Kingdom and ends up as the king in the northern kingdom of Israel. (Judah will**  
21 **be the southern part).**

22  
23 **Jereboam rebelled against Solomon: 1 Kings 11:40 Solomon sought therefore to kill**  
24 **Jeroboam. And Jeroboam arose, and fled into Egypt, unto Shishak king of Egypt,**  
25 **and was in Egypt until the death of Solomon.**

#### 26 27 THE SPLIT OF THE KINGDOM OF ISRAEL

28  
29 It seems strange to us now, perhaps, that a nation such as Israel, founded by God under  
30 David 3,000 years ago, would split in two. However, we are seeing now in our own  
31 beloved nation such a verbal war between liberals and conservatives that it is most  
32 disconcerting. The theme, "One nation under God, indivisible," seems "iffy." Here  
33 again - HISTORY REPEATS ITSELF.

34  
35 When Solomon died in 931 B.C., he was followed on the throne by his son Rehoboam.  
36 This young man goes down in history as a champion of stupidity. Solomon had taxed the  
37 Israelites beyond endurance....and despite pleas from the people to new King Rehoboam  
38 to reduce taxes, he followed the advice of his young counselors to increases them:  
39 **1 Kings 12:8-11 But he forsook the counsel of the old men, which they had given**  
40 **him, and consulted with the young men that were grown up with him, and which**

1 stood before him: [9] And he said unto them, What counsel give ye that we may  
2 answer this people, who have spoken to me, saying, Make the yoke which thy father  
3 did put upon us lighter? [10] And the young men that were grown up with him  
4 spake unto him, saying, Thus shalt thou speak unto this people that spake unto thee,  
5 saying, Thy father made our yoke heavy, but make thou it lighter unto us; thus shalt  
6 thou say unto them, My little finger shall be thicker than my father's loins. [11] And  
7 now whereas my father did lade you with a heavy yoke, I will add to your yoke: my  
8 father hath chastised you with whips, but I will chastise you with scorpions.

9  
10 There is something about being given responsibility that sometimes brings out the worst  
11 in people. Maybe driven by inner fears of inferiority, they rise with rage and exert the  
12 most outlandish rules and regulations on people. Given a well-off, powerful nation with  
13 nothing but blue skies ahead, with one stroke of his so-called pen, Rehoboam split Israel  
14 in two:  
15

**1 Kings 12:16**

**So when all Israel saw that the king hearkened not unto them, the people answered the king, saying, What portion have we in David? neither have we inheritance in the son of Jesse: to your tents, O Israel: now see to thine own house, David. So Israel departed unto their tents.**

16 Israel in those days did have states as we know them, but were designated by the sons of  
17 Jacob, twelve in all (the 12 "tribes" of Israel). The ten NORTHERN tribes split from  
18 Israel: Asher, Dan, Ephraim, Gad, Issachar, Manasseh, Naphtali, Reuben, Simeon and  
19 Zebulun. They kept the name ISRAEL and set their capital in the city of Samaria (today  
20 the ruins are known as Sebaste). They made Jeroboam their king. The two southern  
21 tribes were Benjamin and Judah. They became known as JUDAH with their capital  
22 remaining in Jerusalem. Rehoboam remained their monarch.

23  
24 Soon, Jeroboam got worried that the people in his northern kingdom would start missing  
25 Jerusalem and want to go "home." The great Temple of Solomon was there. The graves  
26 of their ancestors were there. So - how to keep the folks "at home" in the northern  
27 kingdom?  
28

29 **1 Kings 12:26-30 [26] And Jeroboam said in his heart, Now shall the kingdom**  
30 **return to the house of David: [27] If this people go up to do sacrifice in the house of**  
31 **the Lord at Jerusalem, then shall the heart of this people turn again unto their lord,**  
32 **even unto Rehoboam king of Judah, and they shall kill me, and go again to**





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22 These are the remaining ruins of the Golden Calf shrine, established by Jeroboam, king of the northern kingdom in  
23 the region of Dan, one of the most beautiful sections of Galilee. Each year, I take our “pilgrims” to this spot, where  
24 we stop and read the scriptures and speak of the horrendous results of idolatry and relive those tumultuous days in  
25 ancient Israel.

26  
27 **Rehoboam king of Judah. [28] Whereupon the king took counsel, and made two**  
28 **calves of gold, and said unto them, It is too much for you to go up to Jerusalem:**  
29 **behold thy gods, O Israel, which brought thee up out of the land of Egypt. [29] And**  
30 **he set the one in Bethel, and the other put he in Dan. [30] And this thing became a**  
31 **sin: for the people went to worship before the one, even unto Dan.**

32  
33 Both Judah and Israel suffered greatly. Eventually, as we will see, the Assyrians  
34 destroyed the northern kingdom and a hundred or so years later the Babylonians did the  
35 same to Judah. 1 Kings 14:30 **And there was war between Rehoboam and**  
36 **Jeroboam all their days.**

37  
38 Now we are going to see the names of a lot of kings, representing the two kingdoms. To  
39 help clarify who they are by name, I am making you a list here. Remember they  
40 represent two separate nations now. The northern kingdom of Israel NEVER had a good  
41 king, and they were few and far between in the southern kingdom of Judah.

- 1 **ISRAEL - THE NORTHERN KINGDOM 931 - 721 B.C. CAPITAL: SAMARIA**
- 2 1. Jeroboam 22 yrs Bad
- 3 2. Nadab 2 years Bad
- 4 3. Baasha 24 years Bad
- 5 4. Elah 2 years Bad
- 6 5. Zimri 7 DAYS Bad
- 7 6. Omri 12 years Bad
- 8 7. Ahab 22 years Really, really, really Bad
- 9 8. Ahaziah 2 years Bad
- 10 9. Joram 12 years Bad
- 11 10. Jehu 28 years Bad
- 12 11. Jehoahaz 17 years Bad
- 13 12. Joash 16 years Bad
- 14 13. Jeroboam II 41 years Bad
- 15 14. Zechariah (not the prophet, Zechariah) 6 months Bad
- 16 15. Shallum 1 month
- 17 16. Menahem 10 years Bad
- 18 17. Pekahiah 2 year Bad
- 19 18. Pekah 20 years Bad
- 20 19. Hoshea 9 years Bad
- 21 **JUDAH - SOUTHERN KINGDOM - CAPITAL: JERUSALEM**
- 22 1. Rehoboam 17 years Bad
- 23 2. Abijah 3 years Bad
- 24 3. **Asa 41 years Good**
- 25 4. **Jehoshaphat 25 years Good**
- 26 5. Jehoram 8 years Bad
- 27 6. Ahaziah 1 year Bad
- 28 7. Athaliah 6 years Bad
- 29 8. **Joash 40 years Good**
- 30 9. **Amaziah 29 years Good**
- 31 10. **Uzziah 52 years Good**
- 32 11. **Jotham 16 years Good**
- 33 12. **Ahaz 16 years Good**
- 34 13. **Hezekiah 29 years Good**
- 35 14. Manasseh 55 years Bad - the Worst
- 36 15. Amon 2 years Bad
- 37 16. **Josiah 31 years Good**
- 38 17. Jehoahaz 3 months Bad
- 39 18. Jehoiakim 11 years Bad
- 40 19. Jehoiachin 3 months Bad
- 41 20. Zedekiah 11 years Bad

## ELIJAH, KING AHAB AND JEZEBEL

The character studies in the Bible are fascinating - real people, in a real place and in a real time. Ahab, the 7<sup>th</sup> king in the northern kingdom of Israel, reigned for 22 years. That's a very long time - nearly a generation. Consider the Franklin Roosevelt served as our President for 12 year and 3 months, the record for one of our leaders, and you realize what a long time it was for Ahab to be king of Israel.

He led the nation into unprecedented ungodliness, helped along the way by his wicked Queen Jezebel, the daughter of the king of Phoenicia (Lebanon today). She brought with her the pagan worship of her nation, along with hundreds of their priests, sinking Israel lower and lower into idolatry and sin.

Israel has long been at the mercy of rain. It has been essential that the snows of Mount Hebron and the seasons of early and later rain come with regularity. At the depth, the lowest of Ahab's reign, there was a major drought. God sent the rain when it was needed; however, His promise was conditional:

### **Deut. 28:12-14**

**The Lord shall open unto thee his good treasure, the heaven to give the rain unto thy land in his season, and to bless all the work of thine hand: and thou shalt lend unto many nations, and thou shalt not borrow. [13] And the Lord shall make thee the head, and not the tail; and thou shalt be above only, and thou shalt not be beneath; if that thou hearken unto the commandments of the Lord thy God, which I command thee this day, to observe and to do them: [14] And thou shalt not go aside from any of the words which I command thee this day, to the right hand, or to the left, to go after other gods to serve them.**

Under Ahab's vile rule, the heavens were shut up for a number of years. It was growing critical in the land. Instead of turning to God and repenting, Ahab led the people deeper and deeper into idolatry, doubtless spurred on by his wife Jezebel. The man the royal couple hated the most was Elijah, the prophet of God. Knowing the Word of God, Elijah had prophesied:

### **1 Kings 17:1**

**And Elijah the Tishbite, who was of the inhabitants of Gilead, said unto Ahab, As the Lord God of Israel liveth, before whom I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, but according to my word.**

1 This battle between obedience and disobedience, between good and evil, between the  
2 prophet of God and the prophets of Baal cleared the way for the huge confrontation on  
3 Mount Carmel:

4  
5 1 Kings 18:19-40

6 [19] Now therefore send, and gather to me all Israel unto mount Carmel, and the  
7 prophets of Baal four hundred and fifty, and the prophets of the groves four  
8 hundred, which eat at Jezebel's table. [20] So Ahab sent unto all the children of  
9 Israel, and gathered the prophets together unto mount Carmel. [21] And Elijah  
10 came unto all the people, and said, How long halt ye between two opinions? if the  
11 Lord be God, follow him: but if Baal, then follow him. And the people answered him  
12 not a word. [22] Then said Elijah unto the people, I, even I only, remain a prophet of  
13 the Lord; but Baal's prophets are four hundred and fifty men. [23] Let them  
14 therefore give us two bullocks; and let them choose one bullock for themselves, and  
15 cut it in pieces, and lay it on wood, and put no fire under: and I will dress the other  
16 bullock, and lay it on wood, and put no fire under: [24] And call ye on the name of  
17 your gods, and I will call on the name of the Lord: and the God that answereth by  
18 fire, let him be God. And all the people answered and said, It is well spoken. [25]  
19 And Elijah said unto the prophets of Baal, Choose you one bullock for yourselves,  
20 and dress it first; for ye are many; and call on the name of your gods, but put no fire  
21 under. [26] And they took the bullock which was given them, and they dressed it,  
22 and called on the name of Baal from morning even until noon, saying, O Baal, hear  
23 us. But there was no voice, nor any that answered. And they leaped upon the altar  
24 which was made. [27] And it came to pass at noon, that Elijah mocked them, and  
25 said, Cry aloud: for he is a god; either he is talking, or he is pursuing, or he is in a  
26 journey, or peradventure he sleepeth, and must be awaked. [28] And they cried  
27 aloud, and cut themselves after their manner with knives and lancets, till the blood  
28 gushed out upon them. [29] And it came to pass, when midday was past, and they  
29 prophesied until the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice, that there was  
30 neither voice, nor any to answer, nor any that regarded. [30] And Elijah said unto  
31 all the people, Come near unto me. And all the people came near unto him. And he  
32 repaired the altar of the Lord that was broken down. [31] And Elijah took twelve  
33 stones, according to the number of the tribes of the sons of Jacob, unto whom the  
34 word of the Lord came, saying, Israel shall be thy name: [32] And with the stones he  
35 built an altar in the name of the Lord: and he made a trench about the altar, as  
36 great as would contain two measures of seed. [33] And he put the wood in order, and  
37 cut the bullock in pieces, and laid him on the wood, and said, Fill four barrels with  
38 water, and pour it on the burnt sacrifice, and on the wood. [34] And he said, Do it  
39 the second time. And they did it the second time. And he said, Do it the third time.  
40 And they did it the third time. [35] And the water ran round about the altar; and he  
41 filled the trench also with water. [36] And it came to pass at the time of the offering

1 of the evening sacrifice, that Elijah the prophet came near, and said, Lord God of  
2 Abraham, Isaac, and of Israel, let it be known this day that thou art God in Israel,  
3 and that I am thy servant, and that I have done all these things at thy word. [37]  
4 Hear me, O Lord, hear me, that this people may know that thou art the Lord God,  
5 and that thou hast turned their heart back again. [38] Then the fire of the Lord fell,  
6 and consumed the burnt sacrifice, and the wood, and the stones, and the dust, and  
7 licked up the water that was in the trench. [39] And when all the people saw it, they  
8 fell on their faces: and they said, The Lord, he is the God; the Lord, he is the God.  
9 [40] And Elijah said unto them, Take the prophets of Baal; let not one of them  
10 escape. And they took them: and Elijah brought them down to the brook Kishon,  
11 and slew them there.

12  
13 Those barrels of water, by the way, had to be brought up to the peak of Mount Carmel  
14 from the stream way down below in the valley. Can you imagine the consternation of the  
15 unbelievers seeing all those barrels of precious water being poured on the altar and  
16 sacrifice? God sent down His judgment, using Elijah, as the prophets of Baal were  
17 destroyed. And:

18  
19 1 Kings 18:45

20 **And it came to pass in the mean while, that the heaven was black with clouds and**  
21 **wind, and there was a great rain. And Ahab rode, and went to Jezreel.**

22  
23 Jezebel swore on an oath to assassinate God's prophet Elijah and he ran for his life.  
24 We'll pick up this dramatic story next week.

25  
26  
27  
28  
29 ON THE LAST PAGE IS A PICTURE OF THE STATUE OF ELIJAH ATOP MOUNT  
30 CARMEL, OVERLOOKING THE VALLEY OF ARMAGEDDON. THIS IS ONE OF  
31 HE FAVORITE STOPS IN OUR TOURS TO ISRAEL.



SUBSERT ELIAS  
PROPHETA QUASI  
IGNIS ET VESICA  
IPSEUS QUASI FACULA  
ARDEAT

וְעַל מַלְאָכָיו כְּאֵשׁ  
וְעַל מַלְאָכָיו כְּאֵשׁ  
וְעַל מַלְאָכָיו כְּאֵשׁ  
וְעַל מַלְאָכָיו כְּאֵשׁ