

# Session Five – CONQUEST AND JUDGES

## and ROYAL KINGDOM

### ISRAEL ENTERS THE PROMISED LAND GOD ESTABLISHES A KINGDOM IN ISRAEL



Hill country of Judea

#### Session Five Talk Notes

- I. Review: The Story So Far
- II. Conquest and Judges
  - A. Conquest and Judges on the Chart
  - B. The Conquest of Canaan (Joshua)
    1. Israel crosses the Jordan (Joshua 3)
    2. The fall of Jericho (Joshua 6)
      - a. *Herem* warfare
    3. Covenant renewal
    4. Conquest strategy: divide and conquer
    5. Incomplete conquest
    6. Tribal allotment
    7. “Every man did what was right in his own eyes” (Judges 21:25)
  - C. Judges (book of Judges)
    1. Death of Joshua
    2. Sevenfold cycle: sin – servitude – supplication – salvation – silence
    3. Twelve judges

- a. Deborah
- b. Samson: microcosm of the macro reality
- 4. Supplemental book for Judges: Ruth
- 5. The last judge: Samuel
  - a. Israel asks for a king (1 Samuel 8:4-5)
  - b. Consequences
  - c. What they need, wrapped in what they want

### III. Royal Kingdom

- A. Royal Kingdom on the Chart
- B. Saul unites the kingdom
  - 1. Saul from the Hebrew *Sha'ul* (“asked for”), tribe of Benjamin
  - 2. Saul sins, loses the kingdom (1 Samuel 13:13-14)
- C. David expands the kingdom
  - 1. David is anointed
  - 2. David kills Goliath
  - 3. David sins, repents (Psalm 51)
  - 4. God’s Covenant with David (2 Samuel 7)
    - a. I will make *your* name great (royal dynasty)
    - b. KEY: Jesus will assume the throne of David
- D. Solomon builds the kingdom
  - 1. Supplemental books: 1 and 2 Chronicles and the wisdom literature
  - 2. First Temple is built
  - 3. Solomon becomes a tyrant
    - a. Deuteronomy 17:14-17
    - b. 1 Kings 10-12
- E. Ahijah’s prophecy to Jeroboam (1 Kings 11:29-32)
- F. The kingdom will be torn in two
  - 1. A portion will remain for David’s line

### IV. Use *The Bible Timeline* Chart to Find Your Place in the Story

**T • A • K • E • A • W • A • Y • S**

1. God can change the world through the most unlikely people.
2. God wants to be enthroned on your heart.

**Discussion Questions**

1. Before he dies, Moses tells Israel how to live in order to receive God's blessing in the Promised Land. Read Deuteronomy 6:4-9 (see the green box below). Observant Jews today pray this passage, known as the *Shema*, every morning and evening. In Israel's conquest of the land, do they follow Moses' instructions? What happens?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. How well does Israel follow God's command to possess the land of Canaan?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. Explain the sevenfold cycle Israel experiences during the time of Conquest and Judges.

**THE SHEMA (DEUTERONOMY 6:4-9)**

“Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD; and you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. And these words which I command you this day shall be upon your heart; and you shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. And you shall bind them as a sign upon your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. And you shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.”

4. At the close of the period of Conquest and Judges, what plea does Israel make?


5. Who is the first king of Israel? How does he fare?

6. Read 2 Samuel 7:1-16. How does the Davidic covenant fulfill and expand upon God's second promise to Abraham?

7. King Solomon is the wisest man who ever lived. What causes him to turn away from God? (See 1 Kings 11:4-6.)

8. God says David is "a man after his own heart" (see 1 Samuel 13:14). Based on this description, what qualities do you think David has?

## Closing Prayer

  
 God’s plan unfolded through history and gives us the “story” for our lives.  
 Let us pray in the name of Jesus.

You led Israel triumphantly into the Promised Land. They failed to teach their children and instead did what was right in their own eyes:

*R: Help us to keep our eyes on you and bring up our children in your way.*

You established a kingdom on your servant David and promised him an eternal throne:

*R: Establish your kingdom in our midst.*

*Our Father ...*

## Home Preparation: Review

*We are now halfway through The Bible Timeline Chart. Take a moment to review the periods you have covered so far, using your Chart or Bookmark. What are the period names? What does each color stand for? Record a simple phrase you can use to remember what each period is about. (You may use titles from each session or make up your own.) Fill out the chart below. If you need help, see page 5 for ideas.*

	Period Name	Color	Color Meaning	Phrase
1.				
2.				

	Period Name	Color	Color Meaning	Phrase
3.				
4.				
5.				
6.				

### Home Preparation: Looking Ahead

King Solomon's son Rehoboam increases the oppressive policies of his father, and the people revolt. The kingdom divides into two separate kingdoms—Israel in the North, Judah in the South—and the kingdom of Israel is irrevocably changed.

The **DIVIDED KINGDOM** leads to idolatry and wickedness. Israel and Judah's spiritual separation from God leads to physical separation from their land in a period of foreign **EXILE**. A remnant of God's people will return to the Promised Land after seventy years in exile. In the **RETURN**, they will work hard to rebuild what they lost through sin and idolatry.

Use your Chart to fill in the following information about these three time periods:

Period name: **DIVIDED KINGDOM** Approximate dates: \_\_\_\_\_

Period color: \_\_\_\_\_ Color meaning: \_\_\_\_\_

The two kingdoms are represented on the *Timeline* Chart by two horizontal bars: the Northern Kingdom of \_\_\_\_\_, its capital at \_\_\_\_\_ ; and the Southern Kingdom of \_\_\_\_\_, its capital at \_\_\_\_\_.

Period name: EXILE Approximate dates: \_\_\_\_\_

Period color: \_\_\_\_\_ Color meaning: \_\_\_\_\_

New world power: \_\_\_\_\_

List three events found in the gray-colored boxes during the Exile period on your Chart:

1) \_\_\_\_\_

2) \_\_\_\_\_

3) \_\_\_\_\_

Period name: RETURN Approximate dates: \_\_\_\_\_

Period color: \_\_\_\_\_ Color meaning: \_\_\_\_\_

Apart from the actual return to the land itself, what important events characterize this time? (Read events 49, 50, and 52.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Prophets during this time (*hint: look at Supplemental Books*): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Two new world powers: \_\_\_\_\_

The readings for the period of the Divided Kingdom are complex because of the number of people involved and because the story swings back and forth between events in Israel (in the North) and Judah (in the South). The following passages will focus your attention on the reason for the split and give you an understanding of why and how the people go into exile. Readings from the prophets (supplemental books for this period) are included. These prophets demonstrate God’s love for his disobedient children.

<b>DIVIDED KINGDOM:</b>	1 Kings 11:26–13:10, 14	The Royal Kingdom divides; sins of the North
	Hosea 11, 14	A message to the North (Israel; also called “Ephraim”)
	Jeremiah 31:1-14	A message to the South (Judah)
<b>EXILE:</b>	2 Kings 17	Exile of the North (Israel)
	2 Kings 25:1-21	Exile of the South (Judah)
<b>RETURN:</b>	Ezra 1, 3	Cyrus foretold; the Return; foundations of the Temple laid
	Ezra 4–6	Samaritan opposition
	Nehemiah 1, 2, 6	Nehemiah’s return; rebuilding of Jerusalem walls

### The Divided Kingdom

