

Week Thirty-Seven
2 Kings 10 - 17

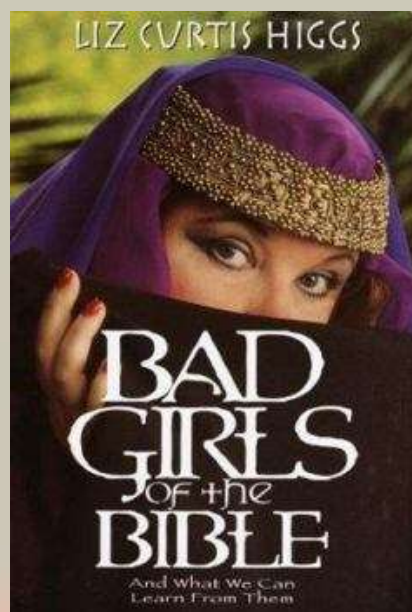
PASTOR'S
BIBLE STUDY

We've gotten rid of Ahab and Jezebel – Good riddance!

But Ahab and Jezebel were only bad – Jehu will prove more despicable!

Jezebel is one of the bad girls in the Bible, but was she the evilest bad girl?

When we get to chapter 11 we will read about another greater and more despicable than her.



Review

In our last class we meet Jehu

- ▶ Jehu is the 10th King of the Northern Kingdom
- ▶ Reigned from 841 BCE to 814 BCE
- ▶ He became King by assassinating King Ahab and King Ahaziah of the Northern Kingdom and King Jehoram who he shot with an arrow of the Southern Kingdom of Judah
- ▶ He will unite the two Kingdoms once again
- ▶ He also killed the vial Jezebel by having thrown from the window driving his chariot over her body and entering the palace to eat her meal
- ▶ As we enter Chapter 10 we will see Jehu destroy all of King Ahab's family
- ▶ We've seen this before

Review

In our last class we meet Jehu (continued)

- ▶ Jehu's actions will show us how remarkable King David was in not killing Saul's family
 - ▶ Yes, many of them died at the actions of others, but David was not involved
 - ▶ He would take Jonathans son Mephibosheth into his household as an adopted son. He returned all of King Saul's property to Mephibosheth.
 - ▶ This was a very kind thing to do in keeping his promise to Jonathan but also a shrewd decision to be able to keep an eye on the only one who could claim the throne.
 - ▶ The story of Mephibosheth is one that shows the blessings and struggles that can come from helping a former enemy. King David wanted to help the son of his best friend Jonathan as a thank-you for his friendship, but later discovered his son didn't have the caring spirit that his late friend once had.

2 Kings 10 NIV

Ahab's Family Killed

10 Now there were in Samaria seventy sons of the house of Ahab. So Jehu wrote letters and sent them to Samaria:

To the officials of Jezreel, to the elders and to the guardians of Ahab's children.

You have your master's sons with you and you have chariots and horses, a fortified city and weapons. Now as soon as this letter reaches you, ³choose the best and most worthy of your master's sons and set him on his father's throne. Then fight for your master's house.

Signed King Jehu

⁴But they were terrified and said, **"If two kings could not resist him, how can we?"**

⁵So the palace administrator, the city governor, the elders and the guardians sent this message to Jehu: **"We are your servants and we will do anything you say. We will not appoint anyone as king; you do whatever you think best."**

⁶Then Jehu wrote them a second letter, saying,

"If you are on my side and will obey me, take the heads of your master's sons and come to me in Jezreel by this time tomorrow."

Now the royal princes, seventy of them, were with the leading men of the city, who were rearing them. ⁷When the letter arrived, these men took the princes and slaughtered all seventy of them. They put their heads in baskets and sent them to Jehu in Jezreel. ⁸When the messenger arrived, he told Jehu, "They have brought the heads of the princes."

Then Jehu ordered, **“Put them in two piles at the entrance of the city gate until morning.”**

⁹The next morning Jehu went out. He stood before all the people and said, **“You are innocent. It was I who conspired against my master and killed him, but who killed all these? ¹⁰ Know, then, that not a word the LORD has spoken against the house of Ahab will fail. The LORD has done what he announced through his servant Elijah.”** ¹¹ So Jehu killed everyone in Jezreel who remained of the house of Ahab, as well as all his chief men, his close friends and his priests, leaving him no survivor.

He has Killed all who could have a claim to throne and will do the same to the descendants of King Ahaziah

¹² Jehu then set out and went toward Samaria. At Beth Eked of the Shepherds, ¹³ he met some relatives of Ahaziah king of Judah and asked, “Who are you?”

They said, “We are relatives of Ahaziah, and we have come down to greet the families of the king and of the queen mother.”

¹⁴ “Take them alive!” he ordered. So they took them alive and slaughtered them by the well of Beth Eked—forty-two of them. He left no survivor.

¹⁵ After he left there, he came upon Jehonadab son of Rekab, who was on his way to meet him. Jehu greeted him and said, “Are you in accord with me, as I am with you?”
“I am,” Jehonadab answered.

“If so,” said Jehu, “give me your hand.” So he did, and Jehu helped him up into the chariot. ¹⁶ Jehu said, “Come with me and see my zeal for the LORD.” Then he had him ride along in his chariot.

¹⁷ When Jehu came to Samaria, he killed all who were left there of Ahab's family; he destroyed them, according to the word of the LORD spoken to Elijah.

Servants of Baal Killed

¹⁸ Then Jehu brought all the people together and said to them, **"Ahab served Baal a little; Jehu will serve him much. ¹⁹ Now summon all the prophets of Baal, all his servants and all his priests. See that no one is missing, because I am going to hold a great sacrifice for Baal. Anyone who fails to come will no longer live."** But Jehu was acting deceptively in order to destroy the servants of Baal.

²⁰ Jehu said, **"Call an assembly in honor of Baal."** So they proclaimed it. ²¹ Then he sent word throughout Israel, and all the servants of Baal came; not one stayed away.

They crowded into the temple of Baal until it was full from one end to the other. ²² And Jehu said to the keeper of the wardrobe, **"Bring robes for all the servants of Baal."** So he brought out robes for them.

²³ Then Jehu and Jehonadab son of Rekab went into the temple of Baal. Jehu said to the servants of Baal, **"Look around and see that no one who serves the LORD is here with you—only servants of Baal."** ²⁴ So they went in to make sacrifices and burnt offerings. Now Jehu had posted eighty men outside with this warning: **"If one of you lets any of the men I am placing in your hands escape, it will be your life for his life."**

²⁵ As soon as Jehu had finished making the burnt offering, he ordered the guards and officers: **"Go in and kill them; let no one escape."**

So they cut them down with the sword. The guards and officers threw the bodies out and then entered the inner shrine of the temple of Baal. ²⁶ They brought the sacred stone out of the temple of Baal and burned it. ²⁷ **They demolished the sacred stone of Baal and tore down the temple of Baal, and people have used it for a latrine to this day.**

²⁸ So Jehu destroyed Baal worship in Israel. ²⁹ **However, he did not turn away from the sins of Jeroboam son of Nebat, which he had caused Israel to commit—the worship of the golden calves at Bethel and Dan.**

Jehu could be called a psychopath, mass murderer, or a conquer

So what did God call him?

³⁰ The LORD said to Jehu, **“Because you have done well in accomplishing what is right in my eyes and have done to the house of Ahab all I had in mind to do, your descendants will sit on the throne of Israel to the fourth generation.”**

We will have to wrestle with this as we move along

As we move on King Jehoram in the Southern Kingdom is dead
In Chapter 9 King Jehu killed King Jehoram
In Chapter 11 we see what happens

If we thought Jezebel was bad

We have one who will out shine her and prove to be the baddest of all

Athaliah

2 Kings 11 NIV

Athaliah and Joash

11 When Athaliah the mother of Ahaziah saw that her son was dead, she proceeded to destroy the whole royal family.

She will kill all her grandchildren to become King

² But Jehosheba, the daughter of King Jehoram^[a] and sister of Ahaziah, took Joash son of Ahaziah and stole him away from among the royal princes, who were about to be murdered. She put him and his nurse in a bedroom to hide him from Athaliah; so he was not killed. ³ He remained hidden with his nurse at the temple of the LORD for six years while Athaliah ruled the land.

⁴ In the seventh year Jehoiada sent for the commanders of units of a hundred, the Carites and the guards and had them brought to him at the temple of the LORD. He made a covenant with them and put them under oath at the temple of the LORD. Then he

showed them the king's son. ⁵ He commanded them, saying,

“This is what you are to do: You who are in the three companies that are going on duty on the Sabbath—a third of you guarding the royal palace, ⁶ a third at the Sur Gate, and a third at the gate behind the guard, who take turns guarding the temple— ⁷ and you who are in the other two companies that normally go off Sabbath duty are all to guard the temple for the king. ⁸ Station yourselves around the king, each of you with weapon in hand. Anyone who approaches your ranks^[b] is to be put to death. Stay close to the king wherever he goes.”

⁹ The commanders of units of a hundred did just as Jehoiada the priest ordered. Each one took his men—those who were going on duty on the Sabbath and those who were going off duty—and came to Jehoiada the priest.

- ¹⁰ Then he gave the commanders the spears and shields that had belonged to King David and that were in the temple of the LORD.
- ¹¹ The guards, each with weapon in hand, stationed themselves around the king—near the altar and the temple, from the south side to the north side of the temple.

¹² Jehoiada brought out the king's son and put the crown on him; he presented him with a copy of the covenant and proclaimed him king. They anointed him, and the people clapped their hands and shouted, **“Long live the king!”**

¹³ When Athaliah heard the noise made by the guards and the people, she went to the people at the temple of the LORD. ¹⁴ She looked and there was the king, standing by the pillar, as the custom was. The officers and the trumpeters were beside the king, and all the people of the land were rejoicing and blowing trumpets. Then Athaliah tore her robes and called out, **“Treason! Treason!”**

¹⁵ Jehoiada the priest ordered the commanders of units of a hundred, who were in charge of the troops: **“Bring her out between the ranks and put to the sword anyone who follows her.”**

For the priest had said, **“She must not be put to death in the temple of the LORD.”** ¹⁶ So they seized her as she reached the place where the horses enter the palace grounds, and there she was put to death.

¹⁷ Jehoiada then made a covenant between the LORD and the king and people that they would be the LORD’s people. He also made a covenant between the king and the people. ¹⁸ All the people of the land went to the temple of Baal and tore it down. They smashed the altars and idols to pieces and killed Mattan the priest of Baal in front of the altars.

Then Jehoiada the priest posted guards at the temple of the LORD. ¹⁹ He took with him the commanders of hundreds, the Carites, the guards and all the people of the land, and together they brought the king down from the temple of the LORD and went into the palace, entering by way of the gate of the guards. The king then took his place on the royal throne. ²⁰ All the people of the land rejoiced, and the city was calm, because Athaliah had been slain with the sword at the palace.

²¹ Joash^[a] was seven years old when he began to reign.^[e]

King Joash will do well

As long as he is mentored by the good priest Jehoiada

2 Kings 12 NIV

Joash Repairs the Temple

12 ^[a]In the seventh year of Jehu, Joash ^[b] became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem forty years. His mother's name was Zibiah; she was from Beersheba. **2 Joash did what was right in the eyes of the LORD all the years Jehoiada the priest instructed him.** ³The high places, however, were not removed; the people continued to offer sacrifices and burn incense there.

⁴ Joash said to the priests, **"Collect all the money that is brought as sacred offerings to the temple of the LORD—the money collected in the census, the money received from personal vows and the money brought voluntarily to the temple.** ⁵ Let every priest receive the money from one of the treasurers, then use it to repair whatever damage is found in the temple."

⁶ But by the twenty-third year of King Joash the priests still had not repaired the temple.

⁷ Therefore King Joash summoned Jehoiada the priest and the other priests and asked them, **“Why aren’t you repairing the damage done to the temple? Take no more money from your treasurers, but hand it over for repairing the temple.”**

Where had all the money gone?

⁸ The priests agreed that they would not collect any more money from the people and that they would not repair the temple themselves.

⁹ Jehoiada the priest took a chest and bored a hole in its lid. He placed it beside the altar, on the right side as one enters the temple of the LORD.

The priests who guarded the entrance put into the chest all the money that was brought to the temple of the LORD. **¹⁰ Whenever they saw that there was a large amount of money in the chest,**

- the royal secretary and
- the high priest came,
- counted the money that had been brought into the temple of the LORD and put it into bags.
- **¹¹** When the amount had been determined,
- they gave the money to the men appointed to supervise the work on the temple.

With it they paid those who worked on the temple of the LORD—the carpenters and builders, **¹²** the masons and stonecutters. They purchased timber and blocks of dressed stone for the repair of the temple of the LORD, and met all the other expenses of restoring the temple.

¹³ The money brought into the temple was not spent for making silver basins, wick trimmers, sprinkling bowls, trumpets or any other articles of gold or silver for the temple of the LORD; ¹⁴ it was paid to the workers, who used it to repair the temple.

¹⁵ They did not require an accounting from those to whom they gave the money to pay the workers, because they acted with complete honesty.

→ ¹⁶ The money from the guilt offerings and sin offerings^[c] was not brought into the temple of the LORD; it belonged to the priests.

¹⁷ About this time Hazael king of Aram went up and attacked Gath and captured it. Then he turned to attack Jerusalem.

¹⁸ But Joash king of Judah took all the sacred objects dedicated by his predecessors—Jehoshaphat, Jehoram and Ahaziah, the kings of Judah—and the gifts he himself had dedicated and all the gold found in the treasuries of the temple of the LORD and of the royal palace, and he sent them to Hazael king of Aram, who then withdrew from Jerusalem.

→ This will prove to be an unwise decision – if you pay off an adversary once, they will return again

¹⁹ As for the other events of the reign of Joash, and all he did, are they not written in the book of the annals of the kings of Judah? ²⁰ **His officials conspired against him and assassinated him at Beth Millo, on the road down to Silla.** ²¹ The officials who murdered him were Jozabad son of Shimeath and Jehozabad son of Shomer. He died and was buried with his ancestors in the City of David. And Amaziah his son succeeded him as king.

2 Kings 13 NIV

Jehoahaz King of Israel

13 In the twenty-third year of Joash son of Ahaziah king of Judah, Jehoahaz son of Jehu became king of Israel in Samaria, and he reigned seventeen years. **2 He did evil in the eyes of the LORD by following the sins of Jeroboam son of Nebat, which he had caused Israel to commit, and he did not turn away from them.**

3 So the LORD's anger burned against Israel, and for a long time he kept them under the power of Hazael king of Aram and Ben-Hadad his son (**Syria**) .

4 Then Jehoahaz sought the LORD's favor, and the LORD listened to him, for he saw how severely the king of Aram (**Syria**) was oppressing Israel.

5 The LORD provided a deliverer for Israel, and they escaped from the power of Aram. So the Israelites lived in their own homes as they had before.

6 But they did not turn away from the sins of the house of Jeroboam, which he had caused Israel to commit; they continued in them. Also, the Asherah pole remained standing in Samaria.

7 Nothing had been left of the army of Jehoahaz except **fifty horsemen, ten chariots and ten thousand foot soldiers**, for the king of Aram (**Syria**) had destroyed the rest and made them like the dust at threshing time.

8 As for the other events of the reign of Jehoahaz, all he did and his achievements, are they not written in the book of the annals of the kings of Israel? **9** Jehoahaz rested with his ancestors and was buried in Samaria. And Jehoash^[b] his son succeeded him as king.

The Northern Kingdom of Israel is impoverished

- ▶ Barley holding with the few remaining forces
- ▶ Loss of riches
- ▶ Amaziah his son succeeded him as king.
- ▶ Others will follow a series of kings. One worse than the other
- ▶ The Kingdom will come crashing down

Jehoash King of Israel

¹⁰In the thirty-seventh year of Joash king of Judah, Jehoash son of Jehoahaz became king of Israel in Samaria, and he reigned sixteen years. ¹¹He did evil in the eyes of the LORD and did not turn away from any of the sins of Jeroboam son of Nebat, which he had caused Israel to commit; he continued in them.

¹²As for the other events of the reign of Jehoash, all he did and his achievements, including his war against Amaziah king of Judah, are they not written in the book of the annals of the kings of Israel? ¹³Jehoash rested with his ancestors, and Jeroboam succeeded him on the throne. Jehoash was buried in Samaria with the kings of Israel.

¹⁴**Now Elisha had been suffering from the illness from which he died.** Jehoash king of Israel went down to see him and wept over him. **“My father! My father!” he cried. “The chariots and horsemen of Israel!”**

¹⁵ Elisha said, **“Get a bow and some arrows,”** and he did so. ¹⁶ **“Take the bow in your hands,”** he said to the king of Israel. When he had taken it, Elisha put his hands on the king’s hands.

¹⁷ **“Open the east window,”** he said, and he opened it. **“Shoot!”** Elisha said, and he shot. **“The LORD’s arrow of victory, the arrow of victory over Aram!”** Elisha declared. **“You will completely destroy the Arameans at Aphek.”**

¹⁸ Then he said, **“Take the arrows,”** and the king took them. Elisha told him, **“Strike the ground.”** He struck it three times and stopped. ¹⁹ The man of God was angry with him and said, **“You should have struck the ground five or six times; then you would have defeated Aram and completely destroyed it. But now you will defeat it only three times.”**

²⁰ Elisha died and was buried.

Now Moabite raiders used to enter the country every spring. ²¹ Once while some Israelites were burying a man, suddenly they saw a band of raiders; so they threw the man’s body into Elisha’s tomb. When the body touched Elisha’s bones, the man came to life and stood up on his feet.

Remember no person can perform a miracle

A miracle can only be performed by God

If God chooses to perform a miracle through a person it signifies the close relation the individual has with God

Matthew 16:13-16 NIV

Peter Declares That Jesus Is the Messiah

¹³ When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say the Son of Man is?" ¹⁴ They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets." ¹⁵ "But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?" ¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God."

Miracle of Feeding

- Elijah feeds the widow and son
- Elisha multiplied food to feed 100 men
- Jesus feeds the 5,000

Miracle of Restoration of Life

- Elijah raised a dead child who had just died
- Elisha raises a dead child who is cold dead
- Jesus will raises a dead child, widow of Naams son who has been dead for while then He raises Lazarus who was "Stinkith"

²² Hazael king of Aram oppressed Israel throughout the reign of Jehoahaz. ²³ But the LORD was gracious to them and had compassion and showed concern for them because of his covenant with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. To this day he has been unwilling to destroy them or banish them from his presence.

²⁴ Hazael king of Aram died, and Ben-Hadad his son succeeded him as king. ²⁵ Then Jehoash son of Jehoahaz recaptured from Ben-Hadad son of Hazael the towns he had taken in battle from his father Jehoahaz. Three times Jehoash defeated him, and so he recovered the Israelite towns.

Elisha will be the last of the prophets of the Northern Kingdom as it continues its decline

- ▶ In Chapters 14 – 16 we witnessed downward spiral
- ▶ We will have raiding parties coming in from
- ▶ As all this is going on in the 700's BCE
- ▶ In the far northeast the (Northern Iraq of today) the Assyrian empire is on the rise
- ▶ King killing Kings – There is total instability in the land
- ▶ Growing farther and farther away from God

2 Kings 17 NIV

Hoshea Last King of Israel

17 In the twelfth year of Ahaz king of Judah (**Southern Kingdom**), Hoshea son of Elah became king of Israel in Samaria, and he reigned nine years. ²He did evil in the eyes of the LORD, but not like the kings of Israel who preceded him.

3 **Shalmaneser king of Assyria came up to attack Hoshea, who had been Shalmaneser's vassal and had paid him tribute.** ⁴But the king of Assyria discovered that **Hoshea was a traitor,**

- for he had sent envoys to So^[a] king of Egypt, and
- he no longer paid tribute to the king of Assyria, as he had done year by year.

Therefore Shalmaneser seized him and put him in prison. ⁵The king of Assyria invaded the entire land, marched against Samaria and laid siege to it for three years.

⁶ In the ninth year of Hoshea (**722 BCE**), the king of **Assyria captured Samaria and deported the Israelites to Assyria**. He settled them in Halah, in Gozan on the Habor River and in the towns of the Medes.

Why did this happen?'

Israel Exiled Because of Sin

⁷ **All this took place because the Israelites had sinned against the LORD their God, who had brought them up out of Egypt from under the power of Pharaoh king of Egypt.**

- They worshiped other gods ⁸ and
- followed the practices of the nations the LORD had driven out before them, as well as the
- practices that the kings of Israel had introduced.

⁹ The Israelites secretly did things against the LORD their God that were not right.

- From watchtower to fortified city they built themselves high places in all their towns.
- ¹⁰ They set up sacred stones and Asherah poles on every high hill and under every spreading tree.
- ¹¹ At every high place they burned incense, as the nations whom the LORD had driven out before them had done.
- They did wicked things that aroused the LORD's anger.
- ¹² They worshiped idols, though the LORD had said, "You shall not do this."^[b]

¹³ The LORD warned Israel and Judah through all his prophets and seers: **"Turn from your evil ways. Observe my commands and decrees, in accordance with the entire Law that I commanded your ancestors to obey and that I delivered to you through my servants the prophets."**

14 But they would not listen and were as stiff-necked as their ancestors, who did not trust in the LORD their God.

- ¹⁵ They rejected his decrees and
- the covenant he had made with their ancestors and
- the statutes he had warned them to keep.
- They followed worthless idols and themselves became worthless.
- They imitated the nations around them although the LORD had ordered them,

“Do not do as they do.”

¹⁶ They forsook all the commands of the LORD their God and

- made for themselves two idols cast in the shape of calves, and an Asherah pole.
- They bowed down to all the starry hosts, and
- they worshiped Baal. ¹⁷
- They sacrificed their sons and daughters in the fire.
- They practiced divination and sought omens and sold themselves to do evil in the eyes of the LORD, arousing his anger.

¹⁸ So the LORD was very angry with Israel and removed them from his presence. Only the tribe of Judah was left, ¹⁹ and even Judah did not keep the commands of the LORD their God. They followed the practices Israel had introduced. ²⁰ Therefore the LORD rejected all the people of Israel; he afflicted them and gave them into the hands of plunderers, until he thrust them from his presence.

21 When he tore Israel away from the house of David, they made Jeroboam son of Nebat their king. Jeroboam enticed Israel away from following the LORD and caused them to commit a great sin. 22 The Israelites persisted in all the sins of Jeroboam and did not turn away from them 23 **until the LORD removed them from his presence, as he had warned through all his servants the prophets.** So the people of Israel were taken from their homeland into exile in Assyria, and they are still there.

Deuteronomy 4 NIV

The Israelites have been out of Egypt for 40 years and the first generation has died off. Moses is now talking to the new generation before they enter the promised land.

25 After you have had children and grandchildren and have lived in the land a long time—if you then become corrupt and make any kind of idol, doing evil in the eyes of the LORD your God and arousing his anger, 26 I call the heavens and the earth as witnesses against you this day that you will quickly perish from the land that you are crossing the Jordan to possess. You will not live there long but will certainly be destroyed. 27 The LORD will scatter you among the peoples, and only a few of you will survive among the nations to which the LORD will drive you. 28 There you will worship man-made gods of wood and stone, which cannot see or hear or eat or smell. 29 But if from there you seek the LORD your God, you will find him if you seek him with all your heart and with all your soul. 30 When you are in distress and all these things have happened to you, then in later days you will return to the LORD your God and obey him. 31 For the LORD your God is a merciful God; he will not abandon or destroy you or forget the covenant with your ancestors, which he confirmed to them by oath.

Samaria Resettled

²⁴ The king of Assyria brought people from Babylon, Kuthah, Avva, Hamath and Sepharvaim and settled them in the towns of Samaria to replace the Israelites. They took over Samaria and lived in its towns. ²⁵ When they first lived there, they did not worship the LORD; so he sent lions among them and they killed some of the people.

²⁶ It was reported to the king of Assyria: **“The people you deported and resettled in the towns of Samaria do not know what the god of that country requires. He has sent lions among them, which are killing them off, because the people do not know what he requires.”**

²⁷ Then the king of Assyria gave this order: **“Have one of the priests you took captive from Samaria go back to live there and teach the people what the god of the land requires.”** ²⁸ So one of the priests who had been exiled from Samaria came to live in Bethel and taught them how to worship the LORD.

²⁹ Nevertheless, each national group made its own gods in the several towns where they settled, and set them up in the shrines the people of Samaria had made at the high places.

³⁰ The people from Babylon made Sukkoth Benoth, those from Kuthah made Nergal, and those from Hamath made Ashima; ³¹ the Avvites made Nibhaz and Tartak, and the Sepharvites burned their children in the fire as sacrifices to Adrammelek and Anammelek, the gods of Sepharvaim. ³² They worshiped the LORD, but they also appointed all sorts of their own people to officiate for them as priests in the shrines at the high places. ³³ They worshiped the LORD, but they also served their own gods in accordance with the customs of the nations from which they had been brought.

³⁴ To this day they persist in their former practices. They neither worship the LORD nor adhere to the decrees and regulations, the laws and commands that the LORD gave the descendants of Jacob, whom he named Israel.

³⁵ When the LORD made a covenant with the Israelites, he commanded them: **“Do not worship any other gods or bow down to them, serve them or sacrifice to them. ³⁶ But the LORD, who brought you up out of Egypt with mighty power and outstretched arm, is the one you must worship. To him you shall bow down and to him offer sacrifices. ³⁷ You must always be careful to keep the decrees and regulations, the laws and commands he wrote for you. Do not worship other gods. ³⁸ Do not forget the covenant I have made with you, and do not worship other gods. ³⁹ Rather, worship the LORD your God; it is he who will deliver you from the hand of all your enemies.”**

⁴⁰ They would not listen, however, but persisted in their former practices. ⁴¹ **Even while these people were worshiping the LORD, they were serving their idols. To this day their children and grandchildren continue to do as their ancestors did.**



God has judged the people

**10 of the 12 tribes are no longer
coming to and end at 722 BCE.**

**The Southern Kingdom is not doing
much better and will fall next.**