

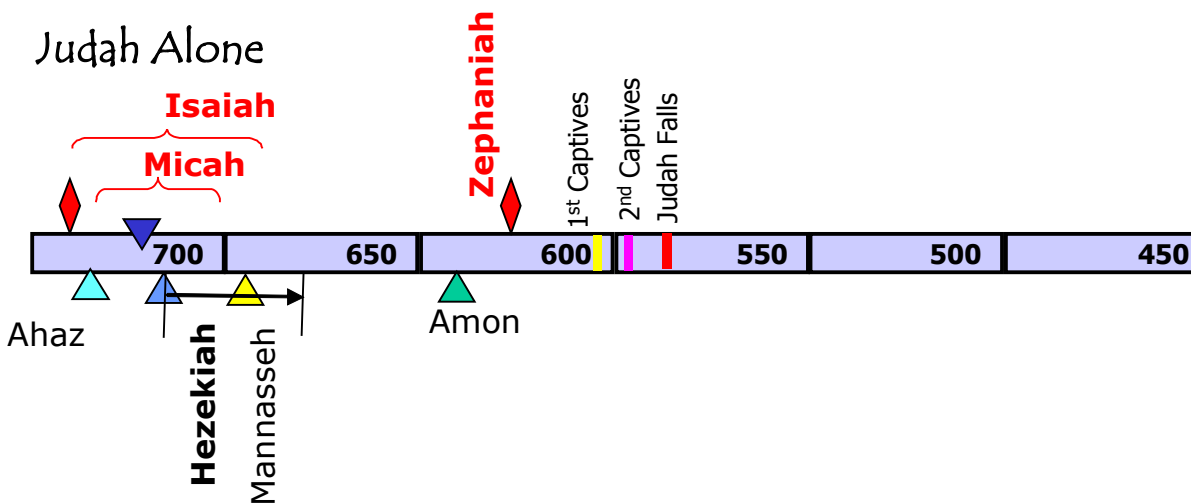
He was one of the very best kings that Judah ever had. He began a reform in religious practices by destroying all the altars to foreign gods, reopened the temple and cleansed it, offered sacrifices with the priests and Levites officiating, and reestablished the Mosaic pattern of worship. After the Assyrians destroyed Samaria and took Israel captive, it was the faith and godly influence of Hezekiah and the prophets Isaiah and Micah which helped stop Assyria from overthrowing Judah too. The Assyrian army turned back after 185,000 soldiers died at the hands of an angel of God in one night (II Kings 19:32-37). These men stood faithful in the midst of crisis and God spared Judah for another century.

**WHO: was King Hezekiah**

Fill out the following information in the Kings of Judah Scorecard section.

<b>King's Basic Information</b>	<b>II Kgs 18:1-20:21; II Chr 29:32; Is 36-39</b>
Good or Bad King – II Kings 18:3,5	
Age When Became King - II Kings 18:2	
Years of Rule - II Kings 18:2	
Cause of Death – II Chr 32:33	
Buried Where – II Chr 32:33	
<b>King's Family</b>	
Mother's Name – II Kgs 18:2	
Mother's Father – II Kgs 18:2	
Wife's Name & Father- II Kgs 21:1	
<b>King's Wars &amp; Temple Activities</b>	
Relationship to Israel – II Chr 30:4-5	
War with Other Nations – II Kgs 18:13	
Temple Sacrifices – II Chr 29:21,32 II Chr 30:2	
Temple Treasury – II Kgs 18:15-16	
Temple/Law of Moses- II Chr 29:3, 29:24, 30:31	
High Places, Pillars & Asherim - II Kgs 18:4, II Chr 30:14, 31:1	

WHEN: did King Hezekiah (715?-686)



WHAT: did King Hezekiah do?

1. What things needed to be restored for worship at the house of the Lord? (II Chr 29:3-36)
  - a. (II Chr 29:5,12-15)
  - b. (II Chr 29:16)
  - c. (II Chr 29:17)
  - d. (II Chr 29:24)
  - e. (II Chr 29:31)
  - f. (II Chr 29:35-36)
2. What did Hezekiah keep after the House of the Lord was ready & how did he keep it (II Chr 30)
  - a. What was to be kept? (II Chr 30:1)
  - b. First invitation sent to whom? (II Chr 30:1)
  - c. To whom else was the invitation extended? (II Chr 30:5)
  - d. What did the whole assembly agreed to extend? (II Chr 30:23)
  - e. What was the result of this event? (II Chr 30:26-27)

3. How did the people's attitude change after the worship at the Lord's house?
  - a. Attitude toward pillars, Asherim & high places (II Chr 31:1)
  - b. Given themselves to the Law of the Lord (II Chr 31:5-6)
4. Hezekiah's attitude is shown in that every work was in accordance to what & how much did he seek his God (II Chr 31:21)
5. What was the nature of Sennacherib's threat to Hezekiah? (II Kgs 18:13-37)
6. What action did Hezekiah take as a result of the threat? (II Kgs 19:1-2)
7. How was Judah finally delivered? (II Kgs 19:32-37)
8. When Hezekiah was sick, what did the Lord do for him? (II Kgs 20:1-6)
9. Who sent a letter to Hezekiah congratulating him on his recovery? (II Kgs 20:12)
10. What did Hezekiah show the letter bearers (II Kgs 20:13)
11. What did Isaiah say about it? (II Kgs 20:16-18)
12. What was Hezekiah's reply (II Kgs 20:19)

**WHERE: did events occur in King Hezekiah's Life**

It is helpful to know the following locations

1. Hezekiah's restoration to the temple lead to invitation and interactions with the former northern kingdom. Write the location of the following tribes discussed in II Chr 30:1-18)
  - a. Invitations sent to Judah (highlight) and to Ephraim & Manasseh in Israel (List names)
  - b. From Beersheba to Dan defined the length of the United Kingdom and extent of Hezekiah's invitation.
  - c. Tribes/regions that scorned the invite were Ephraim, Manasseh & Zebulun, enter in red letters.
  - d. Men of some tribes humbled themselves. Write in name of Asher, Manasseh, & Zebulun
  - e. Majority from Issachar, Ephraim, & Manassesh had not cleansed themselves.
2. Sennachrib was besieging Lachish (W5, mark with star) and moved on the fight Libnah (W5, mark with star).





## Hezekiah

## Lesson 8



Sela/  
Petra

## Chronicles of Judah

### Manasseh & Amon

## Lesson 9

Manasseh was one of the very worst kings that Judah ever had and he angered the Lord with his leadership. He led Judah and Jerusalem astray to do more evil than the nations destroyed by the Lord in the conquest. Yet, he humbled himself and prayed to God who listened and returned him from Assyrian captivity in Babylon. His son Amon reigned for only two years incurred more guilt than Manasseh & was killed by his servants.

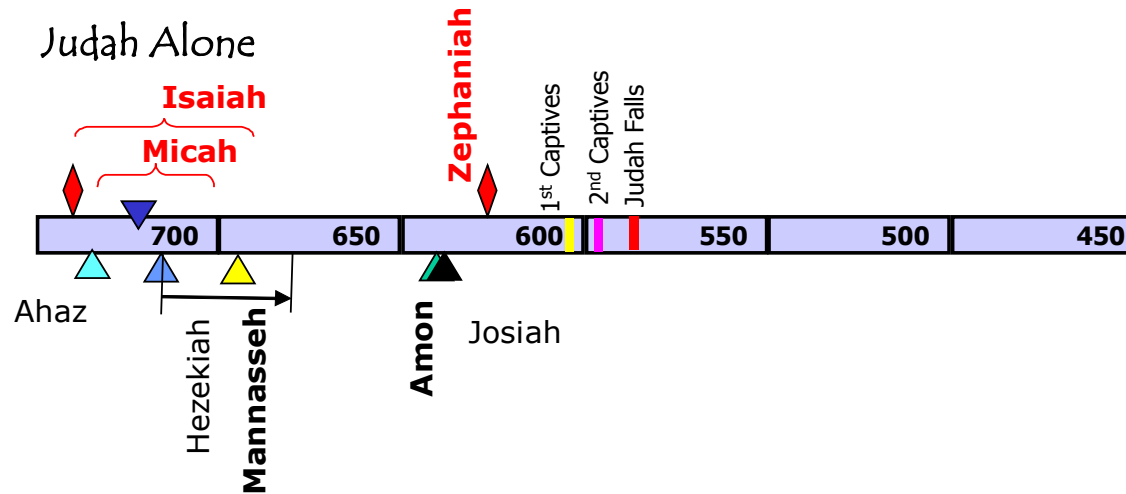
**WHO: was King Manasseh**

Fill out the following information in the Kings of Judah Scorecard section.

<b>King's Basic Information</b>	<b>II Kgs 21:1-18; II Chr 33:1-20</b>
Good or Bad King – II Kings 21:2	
Age When Became King - II Kings 21:1	
Years of Rule - II Kings 21:1	
Cause of Death – II Chr 33:20	
Buried Where – II Kgs 21:18; II Chr 33:20	
<b>King's Family</b>	
Mother's Name – II Kgs 21:1	
Wife's Name & Father- II Kgs 21:19	
Wife's Home – II Kgs 21:19	
<b>King's Wars &amp; Temple Activities</b>	
War with Other Nations – II Chr 33:11	
Temple Sacrifices – II Chr 33:16	
Temple – II Kgs 21:4-5, 7	
Law of Moses – II Kgs 21:8-9, 16	
High Places, Pillars & Asherim - II Kgs 21:3-5, 7 II Chr 33:15	

WHEN: did King Manasseh rule (695-642)

did Amon rule (642-640)



WHAT: did King Manasseh do?

1. How did the reign of Manasseh compare to his father's reign? (II Kgs 21:2)
2. What steps did the Lord take as a results of Manasseh's behavior.
  - a. Messengers (II Kgs 21:10)
  - b. Message (II Kgs 21:11-12)
  - c. Measuring Scale (II Kgs 21:13)
  - d. Judgment against Jerusalem (II Kgs 21:13)
  - e. Change in Relationship with Judah (II Kgs 21:14)
  - f. Response of Manasseh and people (II Chr 33:10)
2. To what place was Manasseh taken captive? (II Chr 33:11)

Did he ever return? (II Chr 33:12-13)

3. What changes did he make later in life? (II Chr 33:14-17)

**WHO: was King Amon**

Fill out the following information in the Kings of Judah Scorecard section.

<b>King's Basic Information</b>	<b>II Kgs 21:19-26; II Chr 33:21-25</b>
Good or Bad King – II Kgs 21:20	
Age When Became King - II Kgs 21:19	
Years of Rule - II Kgs 21:19	
Cause of Death – II Kgs 21:23	
Buried Where – II Kgs 21:26	
<b>King's Family</b>	
Mother's Name – II Kgs 21:19	
Mother's Father & Home – II Kgs 21:19	
Wife's Name, Home & Father- II Kgs 22:1	
<b>King's Wars &amp; Temple Activities</b>	
Temple Sacrifices – II Kgs 21:21	
Temple/Law of Moses- II Chr 33:23	
High Places, Pillars & Asherim - II Chr 33:22	

**WHAT: did King Amon do?**

1. What was the reaction of the people of Judah to his death? (II Chronicles 33:25)



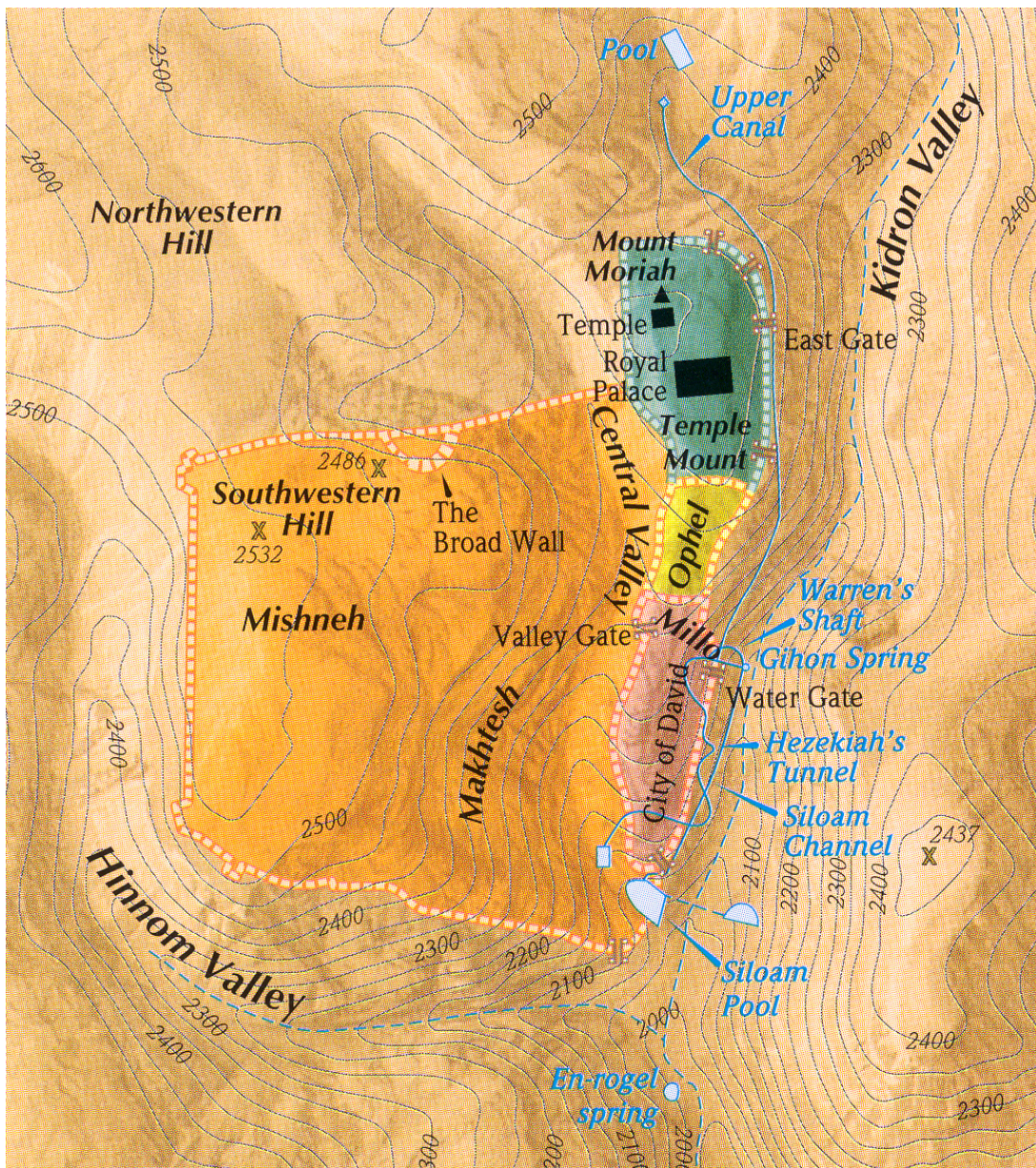
WHERE: did events occur in King Manasseh's Life

It is helpful to know the following locations

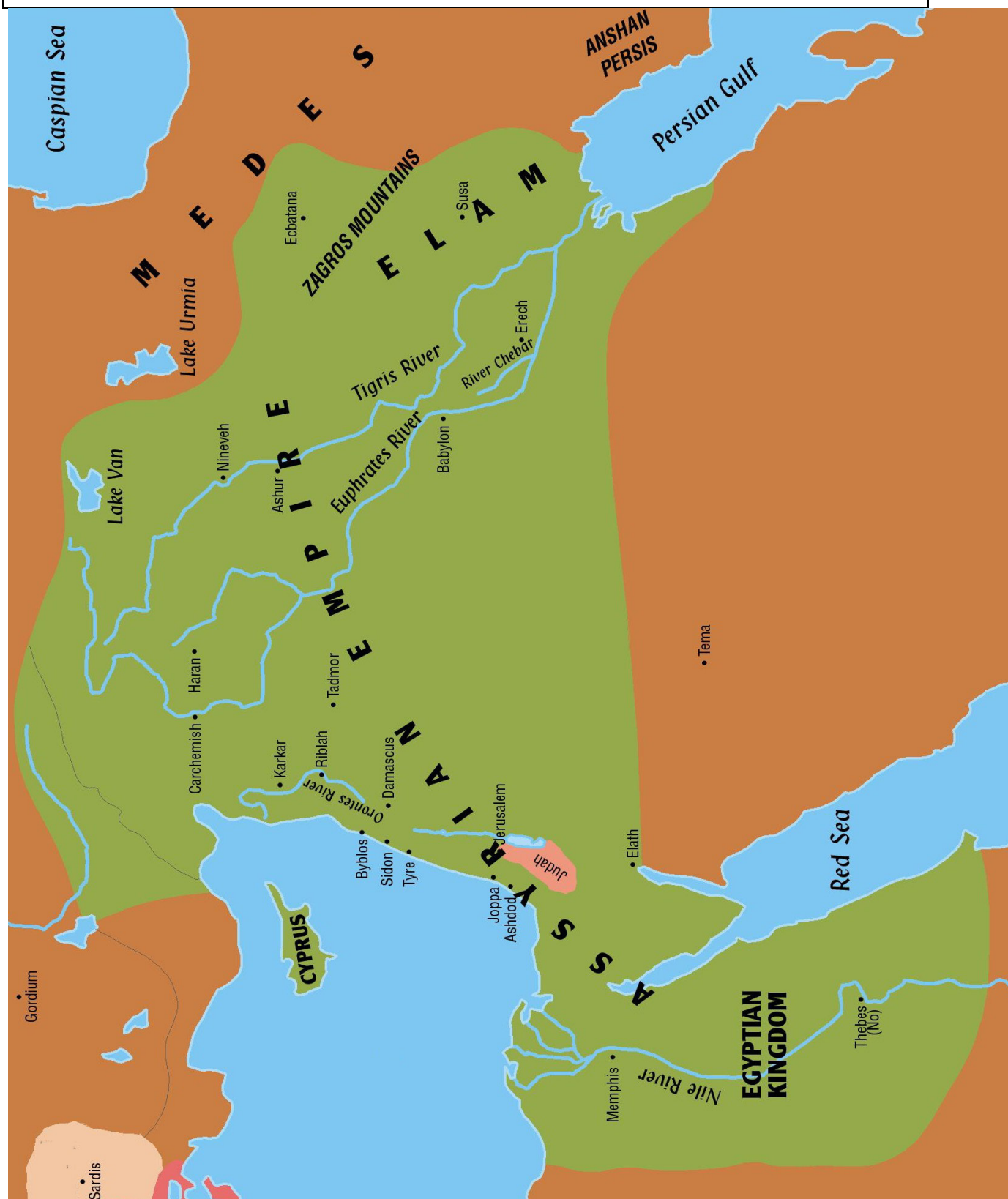
1. The Assyrians took Manasseh away with hooks and bound him in chains and took him to Babylon

Mark with a star the city of Jerusalem, Nineveh (a capital of Assyria) & Babylon.

2. When Manasseh returned from Assyria he fortified Jerusalem. Highlight the spring of Gihon, the city of David, the Fish Gate and the Ophel.







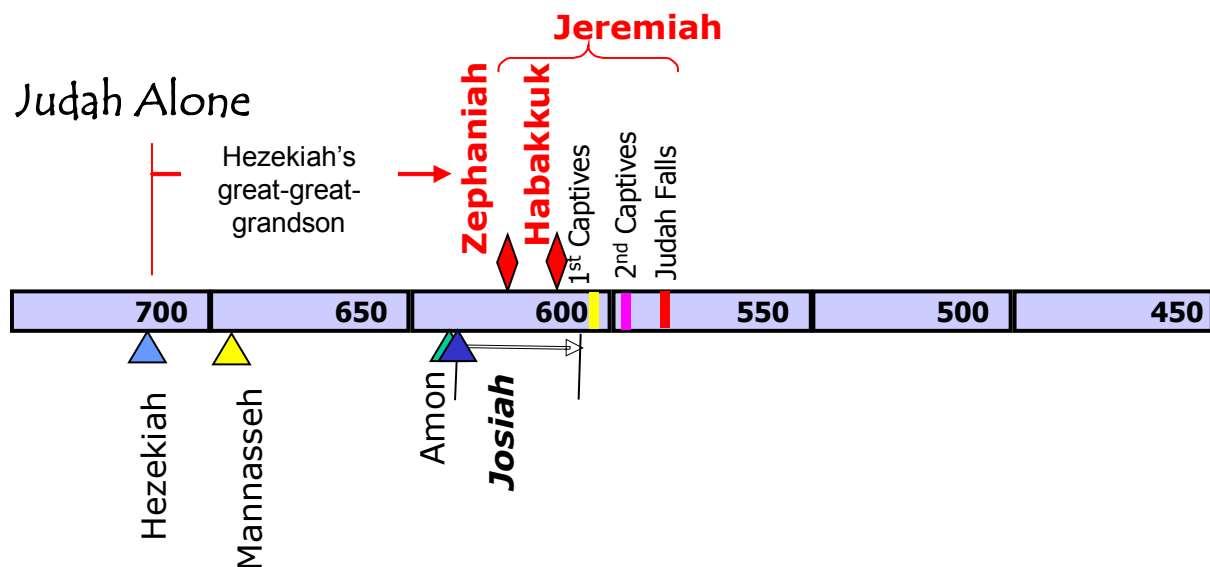
Josiah was one of the very best kings that Judah ever and the last good king. He purposed from a very young age to obey God and during the repair of the temple after the long neglect by Manasseh the law was recovered and he learned how far Judah had strayed from God's law. During his reign he planned and carried out a Passover that had not been seen since the days of Samuel. His died at Megiddo trying to stop or delay Pharaoh Necho in 609 BC from aiding the Assyrian Empire against the Babylonians. In the summer of 605 BC (or 607 BC by some sources), an important battle was fought at Carchemish by the Babylonian army of Nebuchadrezzar II and that of Pharaoh Necho II of Egypt (Jer. 46:2) who lost.

**WHO: was King Josiah**

Fill out the following information in the Kings of Judah Scorecard section.

<b>King's Basic Information</b>	<b>II Kgs 22:1-23:30; II Chr 34-35</b>
Good or Bad King – II Kings 22:2	
Age When Became King - II Kings 22:1	
Years of Rule - II Kings 22:1	
Cause of Death – II Chr 35:23-24	
Buried Where – II Kgs 23:30; II Chr 33:24	
<b>King's Family</b>	
Mother's Name – II Kgs 22:1	
Mother's Father & Home II Kgs 22:1	
Wife's Name & Father- II Kgs 23:31, 36, 24:18	
Wife's Home – II Kgs 23:31,36, 24:18	
<b>King's Wars &amp; Temple Activities</b>	
Relationship with Israel – II Chr 34:6, 35:18	
War with Other Nations – II Chr 35:20	
Temple Sacrifices – II Chr 35:1, 7-9,18	
Temple – II Chr 34:8, 10-11	
Law of Moses – II Chr 34:14,18-19, 21, 33 II Kgs 23:25	
High Places, Pillars & Asherim - II Chr 34:3-7	

WHEN: did King Josiah rule (640-609)



WHAT: did King Josiah do?

### I. The Prophet Zephaniah

Since the days of righteous King Hezekiah, Judah had followed the wicked leadership of Manasseh and Amon for over 50 years. One of Hezekiah's great-great-grandsons was the prophet Zephaniah, who spoke during the days of King Josiah (Zeph 1:1). His message appears to have prepared the people for the revival that this good young king would lead.

1. What news did Zephaniah have for Judah from the Lord? (Zeph 1:2-6)
2. What had Jerusalem failed to do in the past? (Zeph 3:1-2)
3. What had the Lord done to other disobedient nations (like Israel)? (Zeph 3:6)
4. What impact did the Lord hope such judgment would have on Judah? (3:7)  
What happened instead (3:7c)?
5. What glimmer of hope does Zephaniah offer? (2:1-3)



**II. Josiah (640-609; II Kings 22:1-23:30; II Chronicles 34-35)**

**A. His Accession and Early Reforms (II Kings 22:1-2; II Chronicles 34:1-3)**

Josiah carries out his reforms over several years as he matures.

1. What did he begin to do at the age of 16 (II Chr 34:3)?
2. What did he begin to do at the age of 20 (II Chr 34:3-7)?
3. What did he begin to do at the age of 26 (II Chr 34:8)

**B. He Discovers the Law (II Kings 22:8-20; II Chronicles 34:14-28)**

1. What action did Josiah take that led to the discovery of the Law (II Chr 34:14)?
2. How did Josiah react when the Law was read to him (II Chr 34:19)?
3. Did God say he would spare Judah from its punishment? (II Kings 22:15-17, 23:26-27)
4. What does God promise Josiah about the *timing* of this punishment? (II Chr 34:28)

**C. He Renews the Covenant (II Kings 23:1-3; II Chronicles 34:29-32)**

1. How does Josiah's effort to renew the covenant with the Passover in his 18<sup>th</sup> year compare to Passovers of the past ( II Kgs 23:21-23, II Chr 35:18)
2. According to Jeremiah 3:6-11, were the people of Judah completely sincere in renewing their covenant with God?

**D. He Reforms the Nation** (II Kings 23:4-20, 24-27; II Chronicles 34:4-7, 33)

1. Josiah takes steps to “clean up” the nation.
  - a. What is removed from the Temple (II Kgs 23:4, 6)?
  - b. What is done to the priest who worshiped idols (II Kgs 23:5)
  - c. What is done to homes of the male cult prostitutes (II Kgs 23:7)
  - d. What was done to high places from Geba to Beersheba (II Kgs 23:8)
  - e. What was done to Topheth in Valley of Hinnom by Josiah to prevent sacrifice of children (II Kgs 23:10)?
  - f. What was done to the horses and chariot dedicated to the sun (II Kg 23:11)
  - g. What was done to the altars of Ahaz and Manasseh (II Kgs 23:12)?
  - h. What was done to the high places east of Jerusalem which were set-up for Solomon’s wives (II Kgs 23:13-14)?
  - i. What was done to the altar at Bethel (II Kgs 23:15-16)?
  - j. What was done to the priest of the high places (II Kgs 23:20)

**E. His Death** (II Kings 23:28-30; II Chronicles 35:20-27)

Beginning in 626, the Babylonians under Nabopolassar (626-605), along with their allies, began to succeed in rebelling against Assyrian domination. By 610, Nabopolassar had conquered two major Assyrian cities (Nineveh and Haran), effectively ending Assyrian rule and creating the Neo-Babylonian Empire. In 609, Egypt, wary of the growing strength of Babylon, sent its armies to support the remnant of its former enemy, Assyria. It was this military expedition that brought Pharaoh Neco through Palestine during the reign of Josiah.

1. What was Josiah’s reaction when Neco came through Judah on his way to fight with the Babylonians (II Chr 35:20)?
2. What was Necho’s warning to Josiah (II Chr 35:21)? Did Josiah heed this warning (II Chr 35:22-23)?

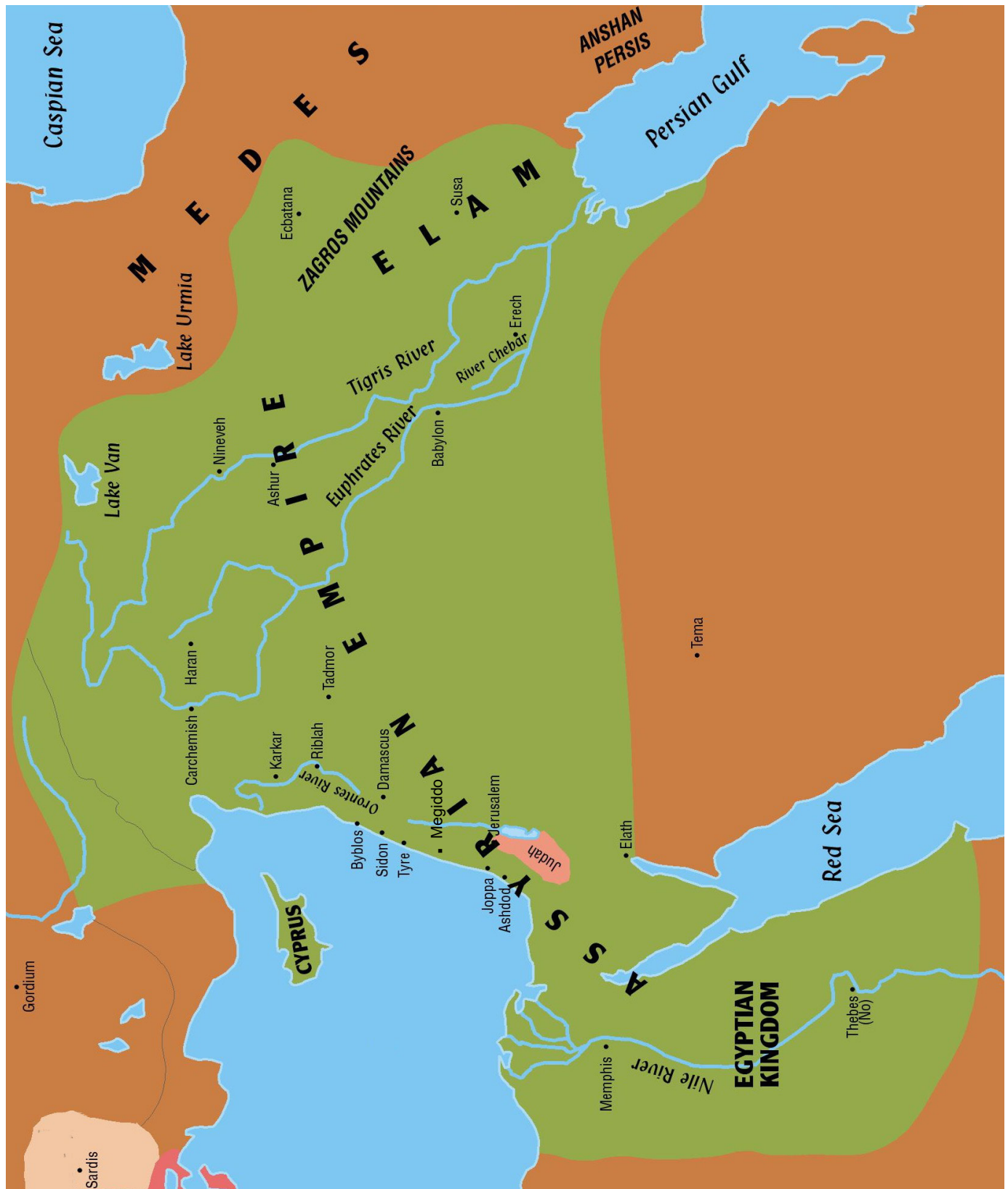
**WHERE: did events occur in King Josiah's Life**

It is helpful to know the following locations

1. Josiah's mother was from Bozkath(W5) which is in the Shephelah of Judah. Mark the city with a circle.
2. In the days of the United Kingdom the term "From Dan to Beersheba" was common in describing the kingdom. In II Kings 23:8 the term "From Geba to Beersheba" is used to describe where the priest sacrificed to high places were gathered from. Mark with an X Beersheba (W6) and Geba (X5) and connect them with a line.
3. Josiah fought Pharaoh Neco at Megiddo (X3) mark this city with an X.
4. In describing the effort of Josiah to cleanse the land several tribal regions are mentioned. Using the map on page 51 mark the following regions and places listed.
  - a. Places where Josiah burned the bones of the priest (II Chr 34:5-6); Judah, Jerusalem, Manasseh, Ephraim, Simeon, Naphtali. Write in red.
  - b. Pulled down the altar at Bethel and burned bones on the altar (II Kgs 23:15-16). Mark city in red.
  - c. Money to repair the temple was collected in the following areas (II Chr 34:9); Manasseh, Ephraim, from all the remnant of Israel, from all of Judah, Benjamin & Jerusalem. Write or highlight in green.
5. Josiah was killed at Megiddo trying to stop Pharaoh Neco on his way to Haran. The Egyptians were attempting to support the Assyrians as their empire was falling apart under attacks by the Babylonians under Nabopolassar and the Medes. Mark out these events on the third map showing the Assyrian Empire
  - a. In 626 Nabopolassar seized the throne of Babylon (Mark with a square).
  - b. From the Northeast, the Medes attacked Assyria and captured Ashur the ancient Assyrian capital in 614 BC (Highlight the land of the Medes and mark with an X or flames Ashur and draw an arrow from the land of the Medes to Ashur).
  - c. Nineveh fell to a combined attack from the Medes and the Babylonians in 612 BC (Mark the city of Nineveh with an X or flames)
  - d. The surviving Assyrian army retreated to Haran which fell in 610 BC (Mark the city with an X or flames and draw an arrow from Nineveh to Haran).
  - e. Pharaoh Neco comes up from Egypt in 609 BC, fights King Josiah at Megiddo and then joins the Assyrians in attacking Haran. Draw a route/line going from Memphis to Megiddo and then up to Haran. Mark Megiddo with an X. Assyria ceased to exist.
  - f. In 605 BC Egypt fought the Babylonians at Carchemish and was defeated by Nebuchadnezzar, ending Egyptian effort to control the lands north of the Euphrates and establishing the Babylonian Empire. Mark Carchemish with an X .







Josiah death at Megiddo trying to stop or delay Pharaoh Neco in 609 BC from aiding the Assyrian Empire against the Babylonians brought a succession of kings. Jehoahaz was selected by the people, Jehoiakim was placed on the throne by Pharaoh Neco. In 605, Nebuchadnezzar defeated the Egyptian armies in the decisive battle of Carchemish, sending Egypt back home and establishing Babylon as the world's foremost power. Nebuchadnezzar's armies then came to Jerusalem and sent the first group of exiles, along with treasures from the temple, back to Babylon (Daniel 1:1-2). In July of 605, Nabopolassar died, and Nebuchadnezzar returned to Babylon to claim the throne, delaying a potential assault against Egypt itself. Nebuchadnezzar marched down to Egypt in 601, where a costly yet indecisive battle forced him to return to Babylon to regroup. In late 598, after having sent bands of men to harass Judah, Nebuchadnezzar brings his armies to lay siege to Jerusalem. During this siege, Jehoiakim dies.

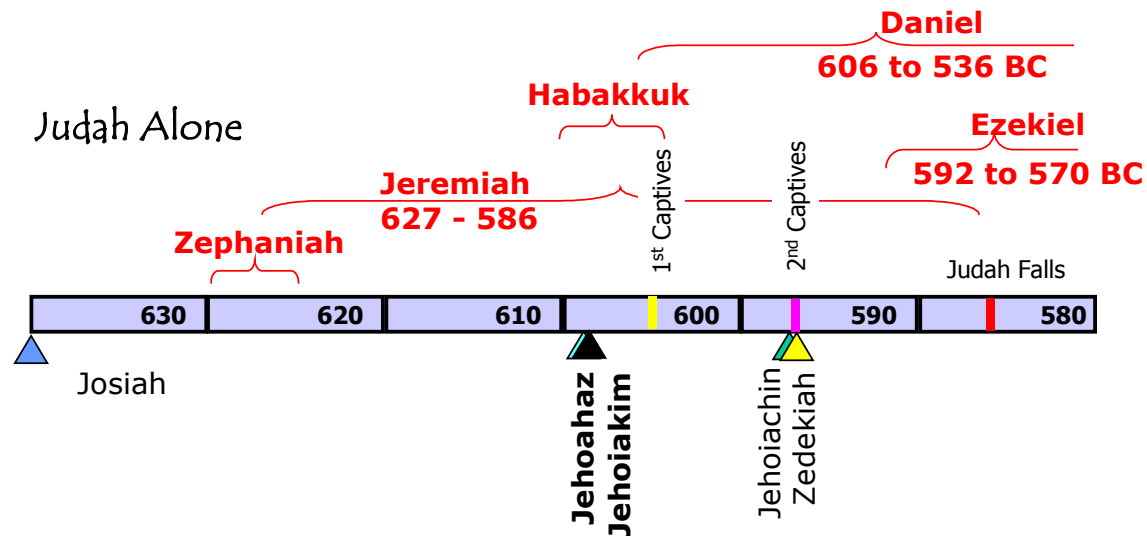
**WHO: was King Jehoahaz**

Fill out the following information in the Kings of Judah Scorecard section.

<b>King's Basic Information</b>	<b>II Kings 23:31-34; II Chronicles 36:1-4</b>
Good or Bad King – II Kings 23:32	
Age When Became King – II Kings 23:31	
Years of Rule - II Kings 23:31	
Cause of Death – Jer 22:11-12	
Buried Where – Jer 22:12, II Kgs 23:34	
<b>King's Family</b>	
Mother's Name – II Kgs 23:31	
Mother's Father & Home II Kgs 23:31	
<b>King's Wars &amp; Temple Activities</b>	
War with Other Nations – II Kgs 23:33	

WHEN: did King Jehoahaz rule (609)

did King Jehoiakim rule (609-597)



WHAT: did King Jehoahaz do?

I. Jehoahaz (Joahaz) (609; II Kings 23:30-34; II Chronicles 36:1-4)

A. His Installation

1. Who was Jehoahaz (II Kgs 23:30)?
2. Who made him king (II Kgs 23:30)?

B. His Removal

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## The Assyrian Empire

SECTIONS

Roots





The Assyrians were Semitic people living in the northern reaches of Mesopotamia; they have a long history in the area, but for most of that history they are subjugated to the more powerful kingdoms and peoples to the south. The new state grew around four cities fed by the waters or tributaries of the Tigris: Ashur, Arbela, Nimrud (or Calah) and Nineveh.

The god Ashur gave his name to the city Ashur, and then to the whole of Assyria. There, the earliest of the nation's kings had their residence, until its exposure to the heat of

the desert and the attack of the neighboring Babylonians led Ashur's rulers to build a secondary capital in cooler Nineveh, named after Nina, the Ishtar of Assyria.

They took their common language and their arts from Sumeria, but modified them later into an almost undistinguishable similarity to the language and arts of Babylonia. However, unlike Babylon, from beginning to end they were a race of warriors, more crueler and more brutal than any other race before. Their history is one of kings and slaves, wars and conquests, bloody victories and sudden defeat.

### **Early Empires and Dependency**

About 1810 BC an Assyrian king, Shamshi-Adad I (reigned 1813-1780 BC), succeeded in extending the territory of Assyria from the Zagros Mountains to the Mediterranean Sea. Shamshi-Adad may have been the first ruler to establish a centrally organized empire in the ancient Middle East. He divided his kingdom into districts under specially appointed administrators and councils, instituted a system of couriers, and took a census of the population at regular intervals. This first Assyrian Empire did not last long, however; Shamshi-Adad's son, Ishme-Dagan I, (reigned circa 1780-1760 BC), was defeated about 1760 BC by the Babylonian king Hammurabi, and Assyria became part of the Babylonian Empire.

The Babylonian Empire was also short-lived. The Kassites, a non-Semitic people, invaded Babylonia in the 16th century BC and seized political power. Another non-Semitic mountain people, the Hurrians, infiltrated practically all northern Mesopotamia and even reached Palestine to the west. Close behind the Hurrians, and to some extent intermingling with them, came an Indo-European people whose name is unknown. As a result of these migrations and wanderings, the 16th century BC was one of turmoil in Mesopotamian history. About 1500 BC Assyria became a dependency of Mitanni, a kingdom of imperial proportions that had extended its sway over all northern Mesopotamia. Assyria remained in subjection until early in the 14th century, when the Mitanni Kingdom suffered a serious defeat at the hands of the rising empire of the Hittites to the north. Taking advantage of the ensuing confusion, the Assyrian king Ashur-uballit I (reigned 1364-1328 BC) freed Assyria from the Mitanni yoke and even annexed some of its



territory.

Ashur-uballit I was succeeded by a series of vigorous rulers, notably Adad-nirari I (reigned 1307-1274 BC), Shalmaneser I (reigned 1274-1244 BC), and Tukulti-Ninurta I (reigned 1244-1207 BC). They were successful in extending the Assyrian boundaries and in keeping at bay their powerful neighbors, the Urartians, the Hittites, the Babylonians, and the Lullubi.

Beginning with the monarch, Tukulti-Ninurta, Assyria began its first conquests, in this case the conquest of Babylon. The Assyrian dream of empire began with the monarch, Tiglat-Pileser I (1115-1076), who extended Assyrian dominance to Syria and Armenia. At the time of

Tiglat-Pileser's death, Assyria was enjoying a period of tranquillity, which did not last, however, very long; for we find his two sons and successors, seeking offensive and defensive alliances with the Kings of Babylonia

### **Beginning of the Neo Assyrian Empire**

From about 1070 to 950 B.C., a gap of more than one hundred years presents itself in the history of Assyria. But from 950 B.C. down to the fall of Nineveh and the overthrow of the Assyrian Empire (609 B.C.) the history of Assyria is very completely represented in documents. Towards 970 B.C., Tiglathpileser II was king over Assyria. In 935 B.C. he was succeeded by his son, Assuhr-Dan II, and about 911 B.C. by the latter's son, Adad-nirari II, who, in 889 B.C., was succeeded by his son, Tukulti-Ninurta II. The last two monarchs appear to have undertaken several successful expeditions against Babylonia and the regions north of Assyria. Tukulti-Ninurta's successor was his son Asshur-Nasir-Pal (884-859 B.C.), with whose accession to the throne began a long career of victory that placed Assyria at the head of the great powers of that age. He was a great conqueror, soldier, organizer, hunter, and builder, but fierce and cruel.

In his many military campaigns he invaded, subdued, and conquered, after a series of devastations and raids, all the regions north, south, east, and west of Assyria, from the mountains of Armenia down to Babylon, and from the mountains of Kurdistan and Lake Urmi to the Mediterranean. He crossed the Euphrates and the Orontes, penetrated into the Lebanon region, attacked Karkemish, the capital of the Hittites (Neo-Hittite), invaded Syria, and compelled the cities of the Mediterranean coast (such as Tyre, Sidon, Bylos, and Arvad) to pay tribute.

Asshur-Nasir-Pal was succeeded by his son, Shalmaneser III, who during his reign made an expedition to the West with the object of subduing Damascus. In this memorable campaign he came into direct touch with Israel and their king Ahab who happened to be one of the allies of Benhadad, King of Damascus. In describing this expedition the Assyrian monarch goes on to say that he approached Karkar, a town to the southwest of Karkemish, and the royal residence of Irhulini

After Shalmaneser III came his son Shamshi-Adad V (824 B.C.), who, in order to quell the rebellion



caused by his elder son, Asshur-Danin-Pal, undertook four campaigns. He also fought and defeated the Babylonian King, Marduk-balatsuiqbi, and his powerful army. Shamshi-Adad V was succeeded by his son, Adad-Nirari III (811 B.C.). This king undertook several expeditions against Media, Armenia, the land of Nairi, and the region around Lake Urmi, and subjugated all the coastlands of the West, including Tyre, Sidon, Edom, Philistia, and the "land of Omri", i.e. Israel. Adad-Nirari III also claimed sovereignty over Babylonia. In one of his inscriptions, which are unfortunately scarce and laconic, he mentions the name of his wife, Sammuramat, which is the only Assyrian or Babylonian name discovered so far having any phonetic resemblance to that of the famous legendary queen, Semiramis. The personal identity of the two queens, however, is not admissible. Adad-Nirari III was succeeded by Shalmaneser IV (782-772 B.C.), and the latter by Asshur-Dan III (773-754 B.C.). Of these three kings we know little, as no adequate inscriptions of their reigns have come down to us.

### **World Empire**



In the year 745 B.C. Tiglath-Pileser III seized the throne of Assyria, at Nineveh. For the first time in history the idea of centralization was introduced into politics; the conquered provinces were organized under an elaborate bureaucracy at the head of which was the king, each district paying a fixed tribute and providing a military contingent.

The Assyrian forces became a standing army, which, by successive improvements and careful discipline, was moulded into an irresistible fighting machine, and Assyrian policy was directed towards the definite object of reducing the whole civilized world into a single empire and thereby throwing its trade and wealth into Assyrian hands. With this object, after terrorizing Armenia and the Medes and breaking the power of the Hittites, Tiglath-Pileser III secured the high-roads of commerce to the Mediterranean together with the Phoenician seaports and then made himself master of Babylonia. In 729 BC the summit of his ambition was attained, and he was invested With the sovereignty of Asia in the holy city of Babylon.

Two years later he died but his successor, who took the name of Shalmaneser IV, continued the policy he had begun. Shalmaneser died suddenly in Tebet 722 B.C., while pressing the siege of Samaria, and the seizure of the throne by another general, Sargon, on the 12th of the month, gave the Babylonians an opportunity to revolt. The Babylonian prince Marduk-baladan, entered Babylon and was there crowned legitimate king. For twelve years he successfully resisted the Assyrians; but the failure of his allies in the west to act in concert with him, and the overthrow of the Elamites, eventually compelled him to flee to his ancestral domains in the marshes of southern Babylonia. Sargon, who meanwhile had crushed the confederacy of the northern nations, had taken (717 B.C.) the Hittite stronghold of Catchemish and had annexed the future kingdom of Ecbatana, was now accepted as king by the Babylonian priests, and his claim to be the successor of Sargon of Akkad acknowledged up to the time of his murder in 705 B.C.

His son and successor - Sennacherib, did not possess the military or administrative abilities of his father; and the success of his reign was not commensurate with the vanity of the ruler. He was never crowned at Babylon, which was in a perpetual state of revolt until, in 691 B.C., he shocked the religious and political conscience of Asia by razing the holy city of Babylon to the ground. His campaign against Hezekiah of Judah was as much a failure as his policy in Babylonia, and in his murder by his sons on 681 B.C. both Babylonians and Jews saw the judgment of heaven.

Esarhaddon, who succeeded him, was of different calibre from his father. He was commanding the army in a campaign against Ararat at the time of the murder; forty-two days later the murderers

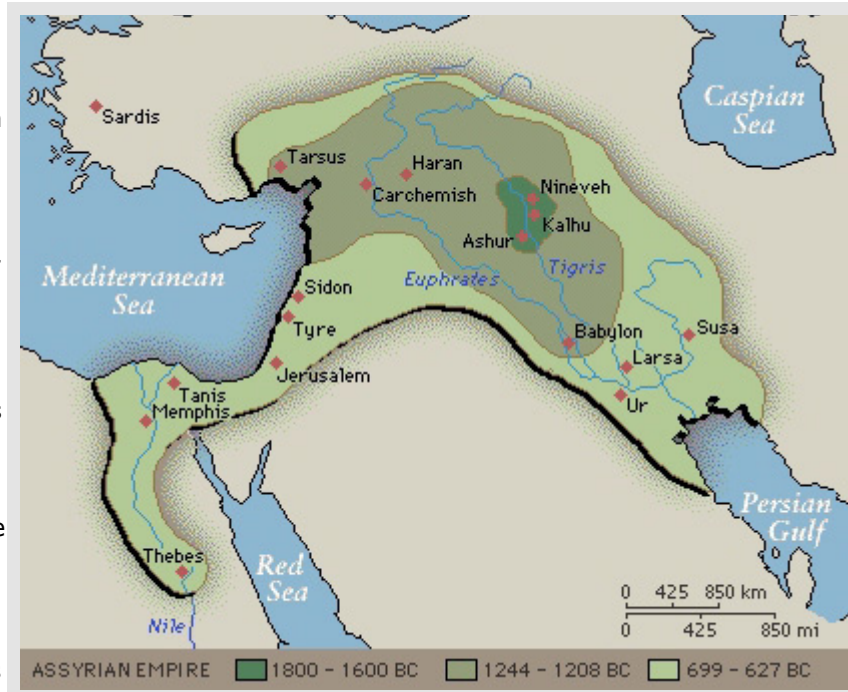


fled from Nineveh and took refuge at the court of Ararat. But the Armenian army was utterly defeated near Malatia, and at the end of the day Esarhaddon was saluted by his soldiers as king. He there upon returned to Nineveh and on the formally ascended the throne.

One of his first acts was to restore Babylon, and to re-people the city with such of the priests and the former population as had survived massacre. Then he was solemnly declared king in the temple of Bel-Merodach, which had again risen from its ruins, and Babylon became the second capital of the empire. Esarhaddon's policy was successful and Babylonia remained contentedly quiet throughout his reign.

In February (674 B.C.) the Assyrians entered upon their invasion of Egypt, and in March 670 B.C. an expedition on an unusually large scale set out from Nineveh. The Egyptian frontier was crossed on June, Egyptian forces, were driven to Memphis after fifteen days of continuous fighting, during which the Egyptians were defeated with heavy losses. Next Memphis was entered by the victorious army and Tirhaka (Egyptian commander) fled to the south. Two years later (668 BC) Egypt revolted, and while on the march to reduce it, Esarhaddon fell ill and died.

Assur-Bani-Pal succeeded him as king of Assyria and its empire, while his brother, Samassumyukin was made viceroy of Babylonia. The arrangement was evidently intended to flatter the Babylonians by giving them once more the semblance of independence. But it failed to work, Samassumyukin became more Babylonian than his subjects. The viceroy claimed to be the successor of the monarchs whose empire had once stretched to the Mediterranean. Even the Summerian language was revived as the official tongue, and a revolt broke out which shook the Assyrian empire to its foundations. After several years of struggle, during which Egypt recovered its independence, Babylon was starved into surrender, and the rebel viceroy and his supporters were put to death.



Egypt had already recovered its independence (660 B.C.) with the help of mercenaries sent by king of Lydia. Next followed the contest with Elam, in spite of the efforts of Assur-Bani-Pal to ward it off.

Assyria, however, was aided by civil war in Elam itself; the country was wasted with fire and sword, and its capital Susa levelled with the ground. But the long struggle left Assyria maimed and exhausted. It had been drained of both wealth and fighting population; the devastated provinces of Elam and Babylonia could yield nothing with which to supply the

needs of the imperial exchequer, and it was difficult to find sufficient troops even to garrison the

conquered populations. Assyria, therefore, was ill prepared to face the hordes of Scythians who now began to har

### **Decline of the Empire**

The rapid downfall of the Assyrian empire was formerly attributed to military defeat, although it was never clear how the Medes and the Babylonians alone could have accomplished this. More recent work has established that a civil war occurred, weakening the empire so that it could no longer stand up against a foreign enemy. Ashur-Bani-Pal had twin sons. Ashur-Etil-Ilani was appointed successor to the throne, but his twin brother Sin-Shar-Ishkun did not recognize him. The fight between them and their supporters forced the old king to withdraw to Harran, in 632 at the latest, perhaps ruling from there over the western part of the empire until his death in 627. Ashur-Etil-Ilani governed in Assyria from about 633, but a general, Sin-Shum-Lisher, soon rebelled against him and proclaimed himself counter-king. Some years later Sin-Shar-Ishkun finally succeeded in obtaining the kingship. In Babylonian documents dates can be found for all three kings. In 626 the Chaldean Nabopolassar (Nabu-apal-usur) revolted from Uruk and occupied Babylon. There were several changes in government. King Ashur-Etel-Ilani was forced to withdraw to the west, where he died (621?).

About the year 626 the Scythians laid waste to Syria and Palestine. In 625 the Medes under Cyaxares began to conquer the Iranian provinces of Assyria. One chronicle relates of wars between Sin-Shar-Ishkun and Nabopolassar in Babylonia in 625-623. It was not long until the Assyrians were driven out of Babylonia. In 616 the Medes struck against Nineveh, but, according to the Greek historian Herodotus, were driven back by the Scythians. In 615, however, the Medes conquered Arrapkha (Kirkuk), and in 614 they took the old capital of Ashur, looting and destroying the city. Now Cyaxares and Nabopolassar made an alliance for the purpose of dividing Assyria. In 612 Kalakh and Nineveh succumbed to the superior strength of the allies. The revenge taken on the Assyrians was terrible. Sin-shar-ishkun, king of Assyria, found death in his burning palace. The commander of the Assyrian army in the west crowned himself king in the city of Harran, assuming the name of the founder of the empire, Ashur-Uballit II (612-609 BC). Ashur-Uballit had to face both the Babylonians and the Medes. They conquered Harran in 610, without, however, destroying the city completely. In 609 the remaining Assyrian troops had to capitulate. With this event Assyria disappeared from history. The great empires that succeeded it learned a great deal from the Assyrians, both in the arts and in the organization of their states.

### **ASSYRIAN WARFARE AFTER TIGLATH-PILESER III REFORMS**

Tiglath-Pileser III established the most efficient military, financial, and administrative system the world had yet seen. The army was its heart. He abolished the militia organization and built the state around a standing regular army. The principal business of the nation became war; its wealth and prosperity were sustained by booty and by supervision of trade and finance. A semimilitary bureaucracy carried out the functions of government at home and in the conquered regions, setting the first pattern of centralized imperial<sup>3</sup> control over far-flung provincial territories.



This was the first truly military society of history. No effort was spared which would contribute to the efficiency of the army, or which would assure continued Assyrian supremacy over all possible foes. The Assyrians were the first to recognize fully the advantage of iron over bronze. As early as 1000 B.C. their militia armies had been completely equipped with weapons, chariots, and armor made of iron. Tiglath-pileser saw

to it that this technical superiority was maintained by constant and systematic improvement of weapons, and by the careful training of the soldiers in the use of their arms.

The bulk of the army was comprised of large masses of spearmen, slow-moving and cumbersome, but relatively more maneuverable than similar infantry formations of other peoples of the time. Their irresistible advance was the culminating phase of a typical Assyrian battle plan.

In the Assyrian Army the archers were more highly organized than their counterparts elsewhere and evidently had stronger bows, from which they fired iron-tipped arrows with deadly accuracy. They created confusion in the enemy ranks in preparation for a closely coordinated chariot and cavalry charge.

The main striking force of the Assyrian Army was the corps of horse-drawn, two-wheeled chariots. Their mission was to smash their way through the ranks of enemy infantry. Like their contemporaries, the Assyrians used chariots in simple, brute force, but employed them in larger numbers, with more determination, and in closer coordination with archers, spearmen, and cavalry.

The cavalry was the smallest element of the army, but probably the best trained and equipped. The noble horsemen fought with a combination of discipline, skill, and ingenuity not possible in the other elements of the army. Only the cavalry could be employed in the occasional maneuvers attempted in battle.

The art of fortification had been well developed in the Middle East before 1000 B.C. The great walls of the large cities were almost invulnerable to the means of attack available within the limited technology of the times.

The Assyrians greatly improved the techniques of siegecraft and attack of fortifications. Accompanying their armies were siege trains and various forms of specialized equipment, including materials for building large movable wooden towers (protected from the flaming arrows of defenders by dampened leather hides) and heavy battering rams.



From the tops of the wooden towers, skilled archers would sweep the walls of the defenders, to prevent interference with the work of demolition, while nearby other archers, sheltered by the shields of spearmen, would fire arrows-some of them flaming in a high trajectory over the walls, to harass the defenders and to terrify the population. The methods used by the Assyrians did not originate with them, but were apparently borrowed from the Sumerians. But it was the skill and organization of employment which brought success to Assyrian siegecraft.

The high degree of organization of the Assyrian Army is clearly evidenced by its ability to fight successfully over all kinds of terrain. The organizational details have not been preserved in the fragmentary records available to us, but their field armies may occasionally have

approached a strength of 50,000 men. Forces of such size would have required large supply trains for desert or mountain operations, and could have functioned only with smoothly operating start and logistical systems.

Terror was another factor contributing greatly to Assyrian success. Their exceptional cruelty and ferocity were possibly reflections of callousness developed over centuries of defense of their homeland against savage enemies. But theirs was also a calculated policy of terror-possibly the earliest example of organized psychological warfare. It was not unusual for them to kill every man, woman, and child in captured cities. Sometimes they would carry away entire populations into captivity. The policies and procedures of Tiglath-Pileser III were employed with vigor and ferocity by his successors and proved invaluable in maintaining security.

### **List of Kings**

#### **House of Shamshi-Adad**

Shamshi-Adad I c. 1813-1781  
Ishme-Dagan I c. 1780-1741  
Mut-Ashkur, c. 1740-1730  
Rimu....., c. 1730-1727  
Asinum, c. 1726  
Usurpers Puzur-Sin, c. 1726-1707  
Ashur-dugul, c. 1706-  
Ashur-apla-idi  
Nasir-Sin  
Sin-namir  
Ipqi-Ishtar  
Adad-salulu, -1701

Enlil-Nirari. 1329-1319 BC  
Arik-Den-Ili 1319-1307 BC  
Adad-Nirari I. 1307-1274 BC  
Shalmaneser I 1274-1244 BC  
Tukulti-Ninurta I. 1244-1207 BC  
Ashur-Nadin-Apli 1207-1203 BC  
Ashur-Nirari III. 1203-1197 BC  
Enlil-Kudurri-Usur. 1197-1192 BC  
Ninurta-Apil-Ekur I. 1192-1180 BC  
Ashur-Dan I. .1180- ?  
Ninurta-Tukulti-Ashur (?)  
Mutakkil-Nusku. 1179-1133 BC  
Ashur-Resh-Ishi. 1133-1115 BC  
Tiglathpileser I (Tukulti-apal-Esharra), 1115-



**House of Adasi\***

Adasi, c. 1701  
Belu-bani, c. 1700-1691

\*Adasi was the last of the usurpers.  
His dynasty lasts until 1014 BC

Libaia 1690-1673 BC  
Sharma-Adad I 1673-1661 BC  
Iptar-Sin 1661-1649 BC  
Bazaia. 1649-1621 BC  
Lullaia 1621-1615 BC  
Kidin-Ninua 1615-1601 BC  
Sharma-Adad II 1601-1598 BC  
Erishum III 1598-1585 BC  
Shamshi-Adad II. 1585-1579 BC  
Ishme-Dagan II. 1579-1563 BC  
Shamshi-Adad III 1563-1547 BC  
Ashur-Nirari I. 1547-1521 BC  
Puzur-Ashur III 1521-1497 BC  
Enlil-Nasir I. 1497-1483 BC  
Nur-Ili 1483-c. 1475 BC

**Mitanni vassalage**

*Ashur-Shaduni. 1475 -1472 BC*  
*Ashur-Rabi I. 1472-1452 BC*  
*Ashur-Nadin-Ahhe I. 1452-1432 BC*  
*Enlil-Nasir II. 1432-1426 BC*  
*Ashur-Nirari II. 1426-1419 BC*  
*Ashur-Bel-Nisheshu 1419-1410 BC*  
*Ashur-Rim-Nisheshu. 1410-1402 BC*  
*Ashur-Nadin-Ahhe II 1402-1392 BC*

Eriba-Adad I. 1392-1365 BC  
Ashur-Uballit I. 1365-1329 BC

1077  
Ashared-apil-Ekur, 1076-1075  
Ashur-bel-kala, 1074-1057  
Eriba-Adad II, 1056-1055  
Shamshi-Adad IV, 1054-1051  
Ashurnasirpal I, 1050-1032  
Shalmaneser II, 1031-1020  
Ashur-nirari IV, 1019-1014

**House of Ashur-rabi II**

Ashur-rabi II, 1013-973  
Ashur-resha-ishi II, 972-968  
Tiglathpileser II, 967-935  
Ashur-Dan II 935-911 BC  
Adad-Nirari II. 911-889 BC  
Tukulti-Ninurta II. 889-884 BC  
Ashur-Nasir-Pal II. 884-859 BC  
Shalmaneser III. 859-824 BC  
Shamshi-Adad V. 824-811 BC  
Adad-Nirari III 811-782 BC  
Shalmaneser IV. 782-772 BC  
Ashur-Dan III 772-754 BC  
Ashur-Nirari IV. 754-745 BC  
Tiglath-Pileser III. 745-727 BC  
Shalmaneser V. 727-722 BC

**House of Sargon II**

Sargon II. 722-705 BC  
Sennacherib 705-681 BC  
Esarhaddon. 681-669 BC  
Ashur-Bani-Pal. 669-626 BC  
Ashur-Etil-Ilani. 626-621 opposed by Sin-Shum-Lishir the Usurper 626 -? BC  
Sin-Shar-Ishkun. 621-612 BC  
Ashur-Uballit II. 612-609 BC

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While Josiah did not succeed in stopping Neco from reaching the Euphrates River, he did delay him enough that Nebuchadnezzar, the son of King Nabopolassar, could use his armies to mop up what was left of Assyria. But, after defeating Josiah, the Egyptians essentially



controlled Palestine.

1. How long did the Egyptians allow Jehoahaz to rule (II Kgs 23:31)?
2. What did they do to Jehoahaz (II Kgs 23:33)?

**WHO : was King Jehoiakim**

Fill out the following information in the Kings of Judah Scorecard section.

<b>King's Basic Information</b>	<b>II Kings 23:34-24:7; II Chronicles 36:5-8</b>
Good or Bad King – II Kgs 23:37	
Age When Became King – II Kgs 23:36	
Years of Rule - II Kgs 23:36	
Cause of Death – II Kgs 24:6	
Buried Where – Jer 22:18-19	
<b>King's Family</b>	
Mother's Name – II Kgs 23:36	
Mother's Father & Home II Kgs 23:36	
Wife's Name II Kgs 24:8	
Wife's Father & Home II Kgs 24:8	
<b>King's Wars &amp; Temple Activities</b>	
War with Other Nations – II Kgs 24:1-2	
Temple Treasure II Chr 36:7	

**WHAT: did King Jehoiakim do?**

**II. Jehoiakim (609-597; II Kings 23:34-24:7; II Chronicles 36:5-8)**

**A. As Egyptian Vassal**

1. Who made Jehoiakim king of Judah (II Kgs 23:34)?
2. What relationship was he to Jehoahaz (II Kgs 23:34)?
3. What did King Jehoiakim do to Uriah, another prophet like Jeremiah? (Jer 26:20-24)

**B. As Babylonian Vassal**

In 605, Nebuchadnezzar defeated the Egyptian armies in the decisive battle of Carchemish, sending Egypt back home and establishing Babylon as the world's foremost power. Nebuchadnezzar's armies then came to Jerusalem and sent the first group of exiles, along with treasures from the temple, back to Babylon (Daniel 1:1-2). In July of 605, Nabopolassar died, and Nebuchadnezzar returned to Babylon to claim the throne, delaying a potential assault against Egypt itself.

1. In light of these changes, what did Jehoiakim do? (II Kgs 24:1a)
2. What message did Jeremiah write on a scroll for the king? (Jer 36:1-3)
3. What was Jehoiakim's reaction when the scroll was read to him? (Jer 36:20-26)
4. What message for Jehoiakim did the Lord send next? (Jer 36:27-32)

**C. In Rebellion to Babylon**

Nebuchadnezzar marched down to Egypt in 601, where a costly yet indecisive battle forced him to return to Babylon to regroup.

1. What action did Jehoiakim take during this time? (II Kgs 24:1b)
2. How did Nebuchadnezzar respond? (II Kgs 24:2)

In late 598, after having sent bands of men to harass Judah, Nebuchadnezzar brings his armies to lay siege to Jerusalem. During this siege, Jehoiakim dies.

**III. The Prophet Habakkuk**

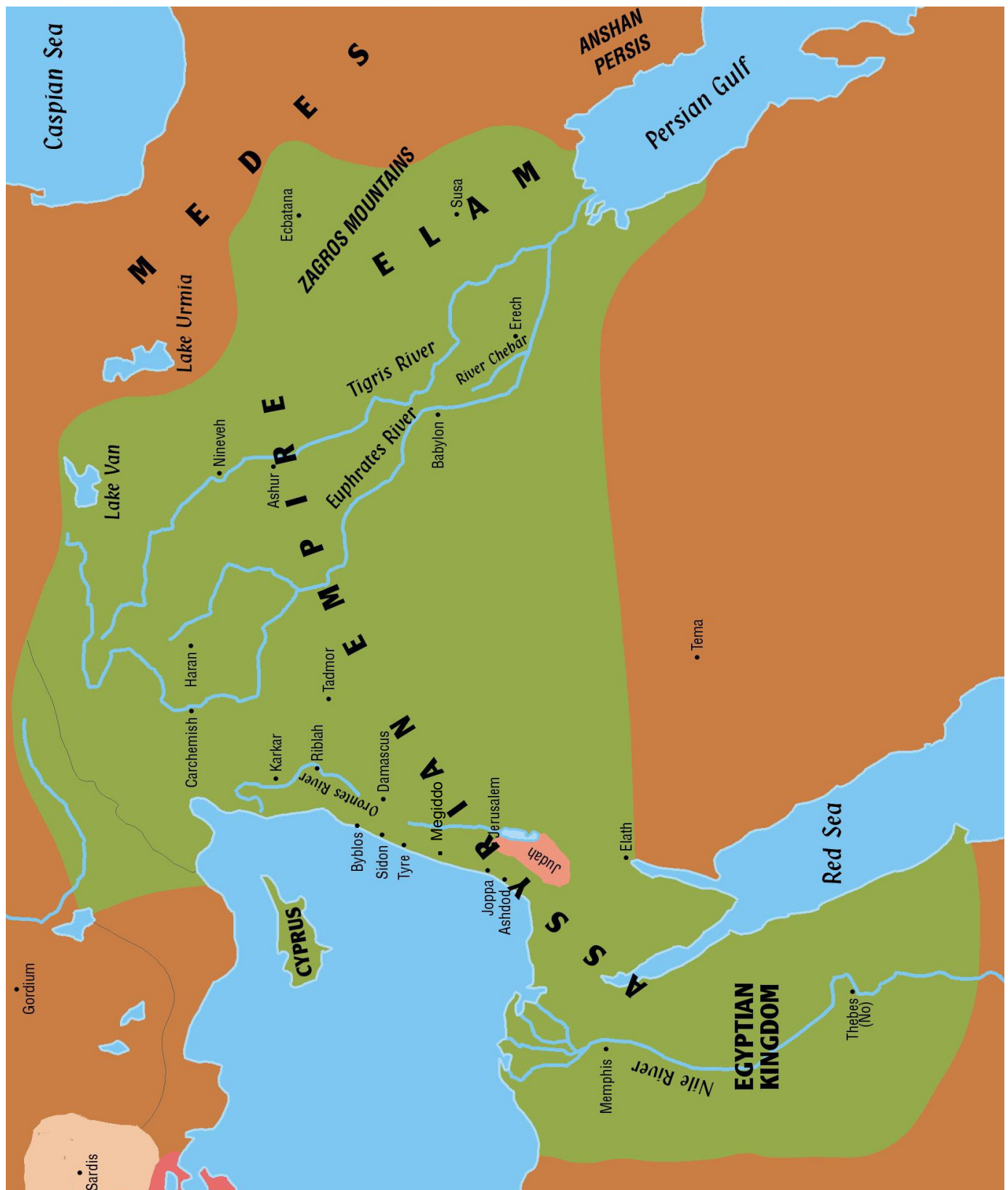
1. What was Habakkuk's first question for the Lord? (1:2)
2. What was the Lord's answer? (1:5-6)
3. What was Habakkuk's objection to that answer? (1:12-13)
4. What was the Lord's reply? (2:4)
5. Did Habakkuk seem satisfied with this reply? (3:17-18)

**WHERE: did events occur in King Jehoahaz & Jehoiakim's Life**

It is helpful to know the following locations

1. Jehoahaz's mother was from Libnah (W5) which is in the Shephelah of Judah. Mark the city with a circle.
2. The brother of Jehoahaz was Jehoiakim's and his mother was from Rumah (X3), which is in the land of the tribe of Zebulun. Mark cities with a circle.
3. When Jehoiakim rebelled against Nebuchadnezzar the Lord sent bands from Chaldeans (Babylonians), Sryians (YZ1), the Moabites (Y56), and the Ammonites (Y4) against him. Highlight those bands close to Judah and on the Assyrian map mark Babylon.
4. Pharaoh Neco imprisoned Jehoahaz in the city of Riblah in the land of Hamath in Syria. It is at this same city that Zedekiah would face Nebuchadnezzar (II Kgs 25:6). Mark the city with a square on the map showing the Assyrian empire.





Josiah death at Megiddo trying to stop or delay Pharaoh Neco in 609 BC from aiding the Assyrian Empire against the Babylonians brought a succession of kings. Jehoahaz was selected by the people, Jehoiakim was placed on the throne by Pharaoh Neco. In late 598, after having sent bands of men to harass Judah, Nebuchadnezzar brings his armies to lay siege to Jerusalem. During this siege, Jehoiakim dies and Jehoiachin is on the throne a little over 3 months. He was the last direct heir to the Jewish crown. He was carried captive to Babylon by Nebuchadnezzar, along with the flower of the nobility, all the leading men in Jerusalem, and a great body of the general population, some thirteen thousand in all in 597 BC. After an imprisonment of thirty-seven years, he was liberated by Evil-merodach, and permitted to occupy a place in the king's household and sit at his table until his death. He was replaced with Zedekiah who was the last king of Judah and his uncle. He was the third son of Josiah and he had the same mother as Jehoahaz. The kingdom was at that time tributary to Nebuchadnezzar; but, despite the strong remonstrances of Jeremiah and others, as well as the example of Jehoiachin, he threw off the yoke of Babylon, and entered into an alliance with Hophra, king of Egypt. This brought up Nebuchadnezzar, "with all his host", against Jerusalem. During this siege, which lasted about eighteen months, "every worst woe befell the devoted city, which drank the cup of God's fury to the dregs." The city was plundered and laid in ruins while Zedekiah and his followers, attempting to escape, were made captive and taken to Riblah. There, after seeing his own children put to death, his own eyes were put out, and, being loaded with chains, he was carried captive (586 B.C.) to Babylon.

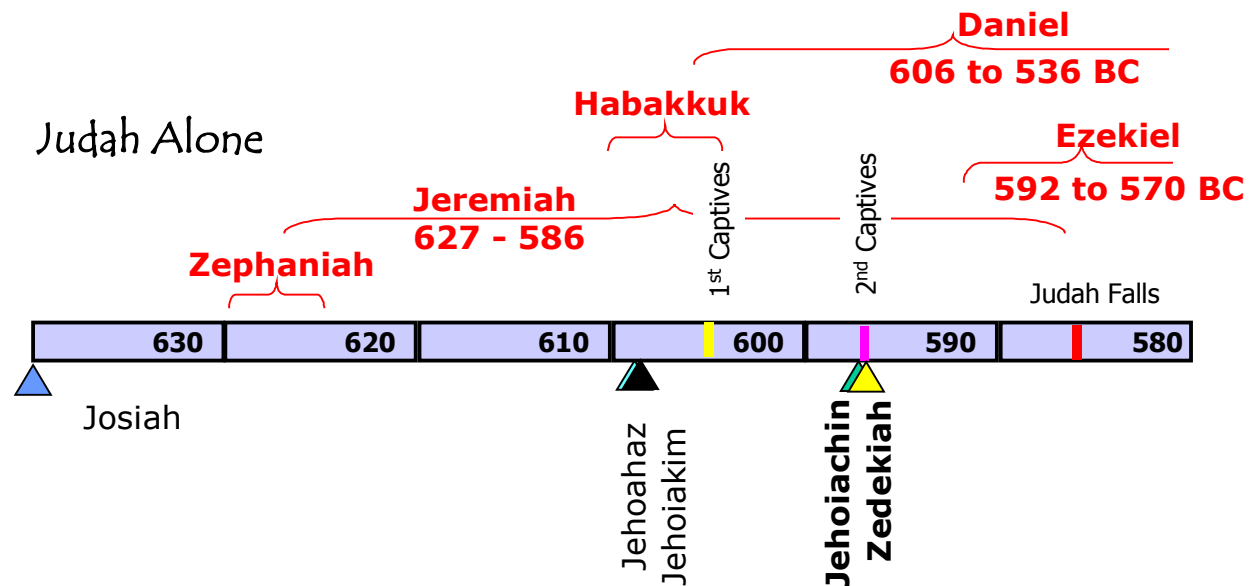
**WHO: was King Jehoiachin**

Fill out the following information in the Kings of Judah Scorecard section.

<b>King's Basic Information</b>	<b>II Kings 24:8-16; II Chronicles 36:9-10)</b> <b>Jeremiah 22-23</b>
Good or Bad King – II Kgs 24:9	
Age When Became King – II Kgs 24:8, II Chr 36:9	
Years of Rule - II Kgs 24:8, II Chr 36:9	
Cause of Death – II Kgs 25:27-30	
Buried Where – Jer 22:6, II Kgs 25:30	
<b>King's Family</b>	
Mother's Name – II Kgs 24:8	
Mother's Father & Home II Kgs 24:8	
<b>King's Wars &amp; Temple Activities</b>	
War with Other Nations – II Chr 24:11	
Armed Men – II Kgs 24:16	
Temple Treasures – II Kgs 24:13	

WHEN: did King Jehoiachin rule (597)

did King Zedekiah rule (597-586)



WHAT: did King Jehoiachin do?

I. Jehoiachin (597; II Kings 24:8-16; II Chronicles 36:9-10)

1. What were the servants of Nebuchadnezzar doing around the time Jehoiachin came to the throne? (II Kgs 24:10)
3. What did Jeremiah say would be the fate of Jehoiachin (or Coniah, or Jeconiah)? (Jeremiah 22:24-30)
4. What did Jehoiachin decide to do once Nebuchadnezzar arrived on the scene? (II Kgs 24:11-12)
5. What did Nebuchadnezzar do to him (II Kgs 24:12) ?
6. What did Nebuchadnezzar take with him back to Babylon? (24:13-16)
7. What later became of Jehoiachin? (II Kings 25:27-30)



**WHO : was King Zedekiah**

Fill out the following information in the Kings of Judah Scorecard section.

<b>King's Basic Information</b>	<b>II Kgs 24:17-25:21; II Chr 36:11-21)</b> <b>Jer 21; 24; 27-34; 37-39</b>
Good or Bad King – II Kgs 24:19	
Age When Became King – II Kgs 24:18	
Years of Rule - II Kgs 24:18	
Cause of Death – Jer 52:11	
Buried Where – Ez 17:16	
<b>King's Family</b>	
Mother's Name – II Kgs 24:18	
Mother's Father & Home II Kgs 24:18	
<b>King's Wars &amp; Temple Activities</b>	
War with Other Nations – II Chr 24:20	
Temple II Kgs 25:9	
Law/Prophets II Chr 36:12-13	
Temple Treasure II Kgs 25:13-16	

**WHAT: did King Zedekiah do?**

## **II. Zedekiah (597-586; II Kings 24:17-25:21; II Chronicles 36:11-21)**

### **A. His Installation (II Kings 24:17-19)**

After deporting the king and 10,000 captives -- the "cream of the crop" of Judah -- to Babylon, Nebuchadnezzar leaves Zedekiah in charge of what people were left.

1. What was Zedekiah's original name, and what has his relationship to Jehoiachin, the king now in exile in Babylon (II Kgs 24:17)?

**B. The Vision of the Figs (Jeremiah 24:1-10)**

1. How were the figs in Jeremiah's vision divided? (Jer 24:1-3)
2. What did the good figs represent, and what would be their fate? (Jer 24:4-7)
3. What did the bad figs represent, and what would be their fate? (Jer 24:8-10)

**C. His Rebellion Against Babylon (II Kings 24:20; Jeremiah 27:1-15)**

1. What had the "prophets" in Jerusalem been telling Zedekiah? (Jer 27:9)
2. Who else supported the message of these prophets? (Jer 27:3)
3. What was Jeremiah's advice? (Jer 27:12)

Why? (Jer 27:13-15)

**D. Nebuchadnezzar Lays Siege to Jerusalem**

In response to Zedekiah's rebellion, Nebuchadnezzar brings his armies once again to Judah. Before beginning the final siege of Jerusalem (II Kings 25:1-2), the Babylonian king appears to attack the outlying fortified cities of Judah (Jeremiah 34:6-7).

1. As the armies approached, what did Jeremiah tell Zedekiah would be the fate of Jerusalem? (Jer 34:1-2)
2. What bad news did he have for Zedekiah personally? (Jer 34:3)
3. What good news did he have for Zedekiah personally? (Jer 34:4-5)
4. Perhaps hoping for a Hezekiah-style miracle from God, what request does Zedekiah make to Jeremiah? (Jer 21:1-2)
5. How does Jeremiah respond? (Jer 21:3-7)
6. Perhaps believing that "repentance" may bring about God's help during the siege, what covenant does Zedekiah make with the people? (Jer 34:8-11)

**E. The Egyptians Approach in Support of Jerusalem**

The siege of Jerusalem lasted a year and a half, until 587. In mid 588, however, the Egyptian army approached in support of Zedekiah, and the siege was lifted briefly as Nebuchadnezzar went to meet this threat. (Jer 37:5).

1. What did the people do once it appeared that the siege may be over? (Jer 34:11)
2. What was the Lord's opinion of this action? (Jer 34:17)
3. What "reassurance" did Jeremiah give to the people? (Jer 37:6-10)

**F. The Siege Resumes and Concludes**

1. What had Ezekiel said would become of Zedekiah? (Ez 12:12-13)
2. How bad had the siege made conditions for the people of Jerusalem? (II Kgs 25:3)
3. How did Zedekiah and his men try to get away? (II Kgs 25:4-5)
4. What things did Nebuchadnezzar do to Zedekiah? (II Kgs 25:6-7)

**WHERE: did events occur in King Jehoiachin & Zedekiah's Life**

It is helpful to know the following locations

1. When Zedekiah was captured he was taken to Riblah (II Kgs 25:6-7) where the Babylonians killed his sons and then blinded him. Mark with a square the city of Riblah in Syria.
2. A major effort was made by God to speak to the people about why the Babylonians were going to destroy Jerusalem and carry the people away into captivity. Locate the location of the following prophets and write where they were on the map of the Babylonian map.
  - a. Daniel (Dan 1:2) was taken captive during Nebuchadnezzar's first conquest of Judah and was taken to the land of Shinar. Write Daniel's name in Shinar/Babylon.
  - b. Jeremiah (Jer 1:1-3) was in Judah/Jerusalem speaking to king of Judah and then taking to Egypt (Jer 43:6-7) and the people who fled lived in Migdol, Taphanes, and Memphis cities in northern region. Write Jeremiah's name in Judah and in Egypt.
  - c. Ezekiel (Ez 1:1) The Chebar canal south of Babylon



## Chronicles of Judah

### Gedaliah

## Lesson 13

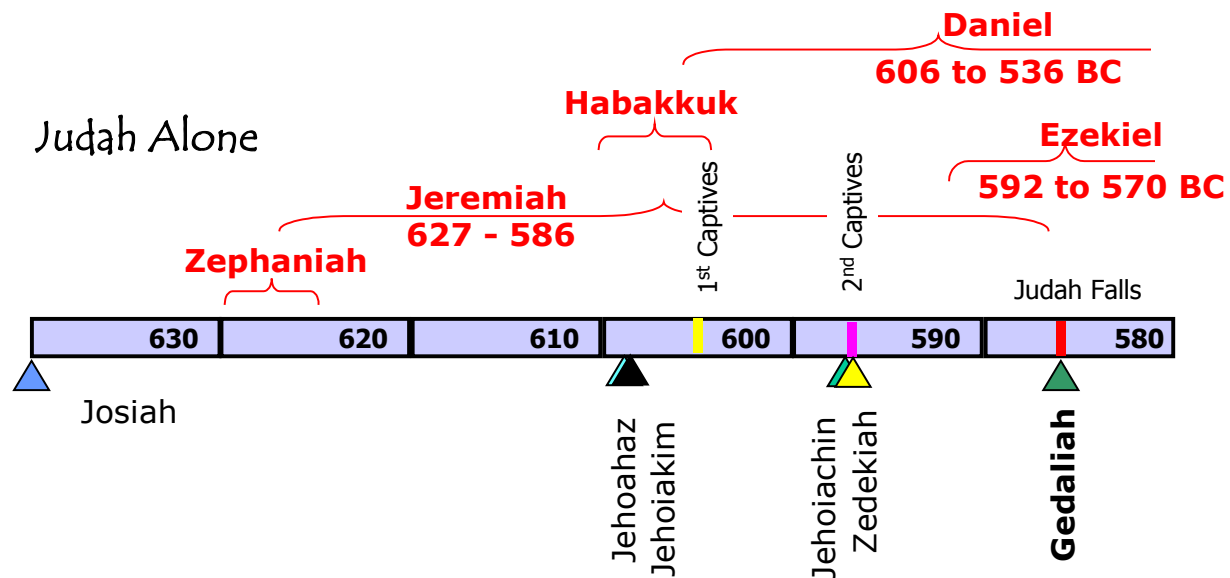
Gedaliah was the son of Ahikam, and grandson of Shaphan, secretary of king Josiah (Jer. 26:24). After the destruction of Jerusalem Nebuchadnezzar left him to govern the country as tributary to him (2 Kings 25:22; Jer. 40:5; 52:16). Ishmael, however, at the head of a party of the royal family, “Jewish irreconcilable”, rose against him, and slew him and “all the Jews that were with him” (Jer. 41:2, 3) at Mizpah about three months after the destruction of Jerusalem. He and his band also plundered the town of Mizpah, and carried off many captives. He was, however, overtaken by Johanan and routed. He fled with such of his followers as escaped to the Ammonites (Jer. 41:15). The little remnant of the Jews now fled to Egypt.

### WHO: was Governor Gedaliah

Fill out the following information in the Kings of Judah Scorecard section.

Governor's Basic Information	II Kgs 25 22-26, Jeremiah 40-44
Good or Bad – Jer 29:3-7, Jer 40:9-12	
Years of Rule - II Kgs 25:1 & II Kgs 25:25	
Cause of Death – II Kgs 25:25	
Burial/Remembrance II Kgs 25:8-9, II Kgs 25:25 Zech 7:5, Zech 8:19	
Governor's Family	
Father's Name – II Kgs 25:22	
Grandfather's Name II Kgs 25:22	
Grandfather's Job - II Kgs 22:3-4, 22:8-10	

WHEN: did Governor Gedaliah rule ()



WHAT: did Governor Gedaliah do?

#### I. The Fall of Jerusalem (II Kings 25:8-21; II Chronicles 36:17-21)

1. Who was Nebuzaradan? (II Kgs 25:8)
2. What work did Nebuzaradan oversee in Jerusalem? (II Kgs 25:9-10)
3. Who was taken to Babylon, and who was left behind? (II Kgs 25:11-12)
4. What seems to be the predominant material that was taken from the temple and its furnishings? (II Kgs 25:13-17) Why?
5. What orders did Nebuchadnezzar have for Jeremiah? (Jer 39:11-14)



**II. Gedaliah (II Kings 25:22-26)**

1. What job did Nebuchadnezzar give to Gedaliah, who was a grandson of one of King Josiah's nobles? (II Kgs 25:22)
2. What did the remaining Jewish guerilla forces do after Gedaliah's appointment? (Jer 40:7-8)
3. What did Gedaliah urge them to do? (Jer 40:9-10)
4. Who else joined with Gedaliah at his base in Mizpah, just north of the ruins of Jerusalem? (Jer 40:11-12)
5. What plot did Johanan suspect against Gedaliah? (Jer 40:13-14)
6. What did Johanan wish to do about it (Jer 40:15)?
7. Why did Gedaliah not permit him (Jer 40:16)?
8. What did Ishmael do as a guest at a meal at Gedaliah's home? (Jer 41:1-3)
9. What might have been part of his motive? (see Jer 41:1)

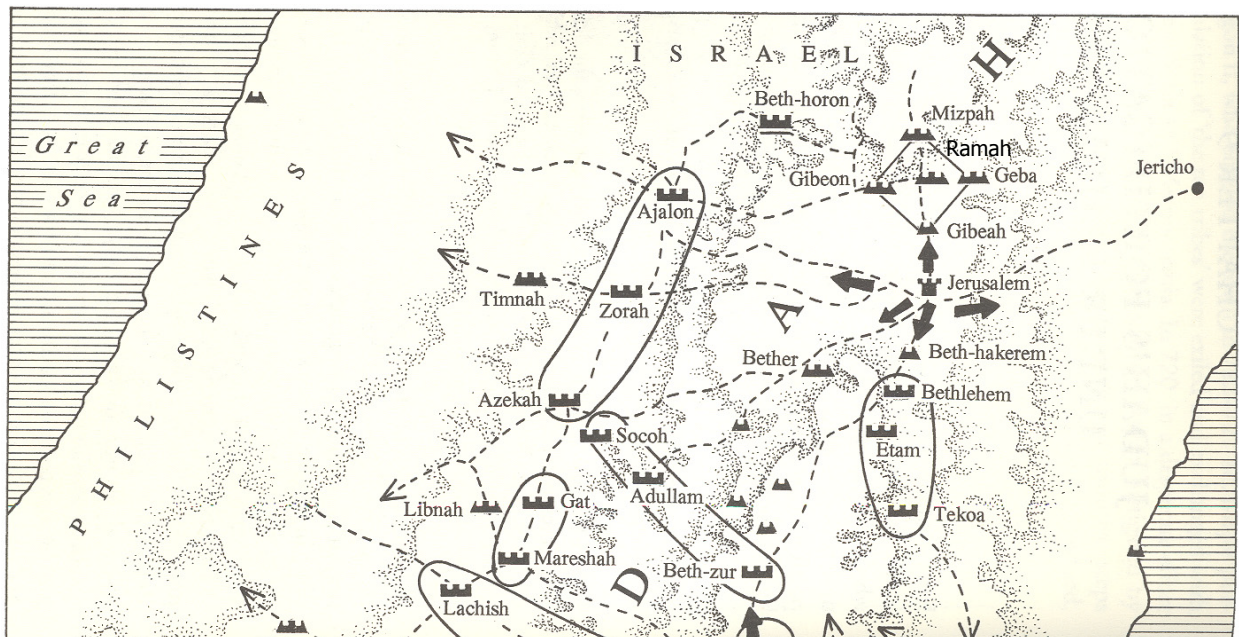
**III. The Aftermath (Jeremiah 41:11-43:13)**

1. After Johanan and his men opposed him, what became of Ishmael? (Jer 41:11-15)
2. What concern for their future did Johanan have now? (Jer 41:16-18)
3. Whose advice did they seek at this juncture? (Jer 42:1-3)
4. What did Jeremiah promise to provide them? (Jer 42:4)
5. What did Johanan and the people promise to do? (Jer 42:5-6)
6. After ten days, where did the Lord advise the people to go? (Jer 42:7-12)
7. What promises were made if they spurned His advice (Jer 42:15-19)?
8. How did the people accept the Lord's message? (Jer 43:1-3)
9. Where did the people (including Jeremiah) go? (Jer 43:4-7)

**WHERE: did events occur in Governor Gedaliah's Life**

It is helpful to know the following locations

1. Gedaliah governed from Mizpah (northern border of Judah) mark this city with a star.
2. He gathered Jews who had scattered during the invasion of the Babylonians (Jer 40:11) .  
Highlight the countries of Edom, Moab, and Ammon.
3. After Ishmael killed Gedaliah his plan was to flee to Ammon. Johanan caught up with him at Gibeon where he abandoned the people he had taken from Mizpah and fled to Ammon. Mark Gibeon with a square box and draw a line from Mizpah to Gibeon.
4. The people then fled to outside of Bethlehem (south of Jerusalem) in preparation to head to Egypt/ Mark Bethlehem with a square and draw a line from Gibeon to Bethlehem.
5. After asking for and then refusing to hear God's word on what they should do the people fled to Egypt and went as far as Tahpanhes (Jer 43:7) On the map on page 72 mark a line from Mizpah to Gibeon and then to Bethlehem and then down to Tahpanhes in Egypt.





Map used by permission of S. Scott Richardson Sr., Russellville, AL

ISRAEL			JUDAH	
King	Years		King	Years
Jeroboam I	22		Rehoboam	17
Nadab	2		Abijah	3
Baasha	24		Asa	41
Elah	2		Jehoshaphat	25
Zimri	7 days		Jehoram	8
Omri	12		Ahaziah	1
Ahab	22			
Ahaziah	2			
Joram	12			
Total	98 – 7 days		Total	95

ISRAEL			JUDAH	
King	Years		King	Years
Jehu	28		Athaliah	7
Jehoahaz	17		Joash	40
Jehoash	16		Amaziah	29
Jereboam II	41		Uzziah or Azariah	52
Zechariah	6 month		Jotham	16
Shallum	1 month		Ahaz	16
Menahem	10		Hezekiah	6
Pekahiah	2			
Pekah	20			
Hoshea	9			
Total	143 – 7 months		Total	166

## Kings Of The Divided Kingdom

Kings Of Israel			Years (B.C.)		Kings of Judah		
Prophet	Type	King			King	Type	Prophet
	B	Jeroboam	931-910	931-913	Rehoboam	B	
				913-911	Abijam	B	
	B	Nadab	910-909	911-870	Asa	G	
	B	Baasha	909-886				
	B	Elah	886-885				
	B	Zimri	885				
	B	Tibni	885-880				
	B	Omri	885-874				
Elijah	B	Ahab	874-853	873-848	Jehoshaphat	G	
	B	Ahaziah	853-852				
Elisha	B	Jehoram	852-841	853-841	Jehoram	B	
	B	Jehu	841-814	841	Ahaziah	B	
				841-835	Athaliah	B	
				835-796	Joash	G	Joel
	B	Jehoahaz	814-798				
	B	Jehoash	798-782	796-767	Amaziah	G	
Jonah	B	Jeroboam II	793-753				
				792-740	Uzziah	G	
Amos	B	Zechariah	753-752				
	B	Shallum	752				
	B	Menahem	752-742				
				750-731	Jotham	G	
	B	Pekahiah	742-740				
Hosea	B	Pekah	752-732	735-715	Ahaz	B	
	B	Hoshea	732-722				
				715-686	Hezekiah	G	Isaiah/Micah
				695-642	Manasseh	B	Nahum
				642-640	Amon	B	
				640-609	Josiah	G	Jeremiah/Zeph
				609	Jehoahaz	B	Habakkuk
				609-597	Jehoiakim	B	Daniel
				597	Jehoiachin	B	
				597-586	Zedekiah	B	Ezekiel/Lam.



Kings Of Israel During Divided Kingdom					
King	Dates BC	Type	Prophets	References	Principal Events
Jeroboam	931-910	Bad	Amijah Men of God	1K 11:28-14:20 2Ch 10:13	Introduction of calf worship in Dan and Bethel
Nadab	910-909	Bad		1K 15:25-31	Slain in conspiracy by Baasha
Baasha	909-888	Bad	Jehu	1K 15:27-16:7 2Ch 16:1-6	
Elah	888-885	Bad		1K 16:8-14	Slain by his servant Zimri while drunk
Zimri	885	Bad		1K 16:9-20	Ruled only seven days, burned palaces down around himself.
Tibni	885-880	Bad		1K 16:21-22	Israel was divided, half following Tibni and half following Omri
Omri	885-874	Bad		1K 16:15-28	Built city of Samaria for capital of Israel
Ahab	874-853	Bad	Elijah, Micajah	1K 16:28-22:40 2Ch 18:1-34	Most evil king of Israel, introduced Baal worship
Ahaziah	853-852	Bad	Elijah	1K 22:51- 2K 1:18 2Ch 20:35-37	Elijah prophesied his death after falling through lattice
Jehoram	852-841	Bad	Elisha	2K 3:1-8:15 2Ch 22:5-8	End of Ahab's dynasty, killed by Jehu
Jehu	841-814	Bad	Elisha	2K 9:1-10:36 2Ch 22:7-9	Killed all Ahab's family, worshipped golden calves.
Jehoahaz	814-798	Bad		2K 13:1-9	
Jehoash	798-782	Bad	Elisha	2K 13:10-14:16 2Ch 25:17-24	Smote Syria three times and overtook cities of Israel
Jeroboam II	783-753	Bad	Jonah, Amos, Hosea	2K 14:23-29	Restored Israel's territory and prosperity
Zachariah	753-752	Bad	Hosea	2K 15:8-12	Killed in conspiracy
Shallum	752	Bad	Hosea	2K 15:13-15	Ruled one month
Menahem	752-742	Bad	Hosea	2K 15:16-22	Paid tribute to Pul (Tiglath-Pileser III of Assyria)
Pekahiah	742-740	Bad	Hosea	2K 15:23-26	Killed in conspiracy
Pekah	752-732	Bad	Hosea	2K 15:27-31 2Ch 28:5-8	Allied with Rezin (Syria) against Assyria
Hoshea	732-722	Bad	Hosea	2K 17:1-41	Fall of Samaria, Assyrian captivity

Kings Of Judah During Divided Kingdom					
King	Dates BC	Type	Prophets	References	Principle Events
Rehoboam	931-913	Bad	Shemaiah	1K 12; 14:21-31 2Ch 10-12	Rejected people's appeal for lighter taxes—split nation
Abijam	913-911	Bad		1K 15:1-8 2Ch 13	Took Bethel and defeated Jeroboam
Asa	911-870	Good	Azariah, Hanani	1K 15:9-24 2Ch 14-16	Put away evil and idolatry
Jehoshaphat	873-848	Good	Jehu, Eleazar, Jahaziel	1K 22:41-50 2Ch 17-20	Made alliance with Israel and defeated many nations
Jehoram	853-841	Bad	Elijah	2K 8:18-24 2Ch 21	Married Athaliah and turned to Baal worship
Ahaziah	841	Bad	Elijah	2K 8:25- 9:29 2Ch 22:1-9	Died from wounds in battle with Syria
Athaliah	841-835	Bad		2K 11 2Ch 22:10- 23:21	Woman, usurped throne, killed her grandsons
Joash	835-798	Good	Zachariah Joel?	2K 11:21-12:21 2Ch 24	King at 7 years old, made extensive repairs to temple
Amaziah	798-767	Good	Man of God	2K 14:1-22 2Ch 25	Waged civil war and was subjected by Israel for only time
Uzziah	762-740	Good	Zachariah, Isaiah	2K 15:1-7 2Ch 26	Entered temple to burn incense and was stricken with leprosy
Jotham	750-731	Good	Isaiah, Micah	2K 15:32-38 2Ch 27	Prepared his ways before Lord
Ahaz	735-715	Bad	Isaiah, Oded, Micah	2K 16 2Ch 28	Turned to idolatry and worship of Baal

Kings Of Judah After Fall Of Israel					
Hezekiah	715-686	Good	Isaiah, Micah	2K 18-20 2Ch 29-32	Removed idols, destroyed brazen serpent, saved Judah from capt.
Manasseh	686-642	Bad		2K 21:1-18 2Ch 33:1-20	Reestablished idols, repented in later years
Amon	642-640	Bad		2K 21:19-26 2Ch 33:21-25	Idolatrous, killed by own servants
Josiah	640-609	Good	Huldah, Jer. Zeph. Hab.	2K 22:1- 23:30 2Ch 34-35	Destroyed idols, false religions, one of Judah's best kings
Jehoshaz	609	Bad	Jeremiah, Habakkuk	2K 23:31-34 2Ch 36:1-4	Imprisoned by Pharaoh-Necho, died in Egypt
Jehoiakim	609-597	Bad	Jeremiah, Habakkuk	2K 23:34-24:7 2Ch 36:5-8	Defeated by Babylonians
Jehoiachin	597	Bad	Jeremiah	2K 24:8-17 2Ch 36:9-10	Jerusalem besieged, temple stripped of treasures
Zedekiah	597-586	Bad	Jeremiah	2K 24:18- 25:7 2Ch 36:11-21	Made king by Nabuchadnezzar, taken into captivity

## Chronicles of Kings of Judah Kingly Scorecard

As the writer of Chronicles looks back over the history of the Kings of Judah he tells us if the King was good (following after God) or bad. The focus of the king's attitude about God and his temple points to the author having a priestly focus. We also find out about the king's age, how long they ruled and their family. This section tabulates how the king scores with respect to goodness, length of his reign, family, wars, and attitude toward the temple. We also learn what the people thought of the king's rule by where he was buried. By filling out this scorecard it will allow us to see how the kings of Judah compare with each other.

### Basic King Stats

#### Kings of Judah Before Fall of Israel

King	Good /Bad King	Age	Years of Rule	Cause of Death	Buried Where
Rehoboam					
Abijah					
Asa					
Jehoshaphat					
Jehoram					
Ahaziah					
Athaliah (usurper)					
Joash					
Amaziah					
Uzziah					
Jotham					
Ahaz					

<b>Chronicles of Kings of Judah</b> <b>Kingly Scorecard</b>
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## **Kings of Judah After Fall of Israel**

<b>King</b>	<b>Good /Bad King</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Years of Rule</b>	<b>Cause of Death</b>	<b>Buried Where</b>
Hezekiah					
Manasseh					
Amon					
Josiah					
Jehoahaz					
Jehoiakim					
Jehiachin					
Zedekiah					

**Chronicles of Kings of Judah  
Kingly Scorecard**

**King's Family Stats**

**Kings of Judah Before Fall of Israel**

<b>King</b>	<b>Mother's Name &amp; Homeland</b>	<b>Wife's Name</b>	<b>Wife's Family</b>	<b>Wife's Homeland</b>
Rehoboam				
Abijah				
Asa				
Jehoshaphat				
Jehoram				
Ahaziah				
Athaliah (usurper)				
Joash				
Amaziah				
Uzziah				
Jotham				
Ahaz				

<b>Chronicles of Kings of Judah</b> <b>Kingly Scorecard</b>
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## **Kings of Judah After Fall of Israel**

<b>King</b>	<b>Mother's Name &amp; Homeland</b>	<b>Wife's Name</b>	<b>Wife's Family</b>	<b>Wife's Homeland</b>
Hezekiah				
Manasseh				
Amon				
Josiah				
Jehoahaz				
Jehoiakim				
Jehiachin				
Zedekiah				



**Chronicles of Kings of Judah  
Kingly Scorecard**

**King's War & Temple Stats**

**Kings of Judah Before Fall of Israel**

King	Relationship with Israel	War with Other Nations	Temple Treasury	Temple Sacrifices	High Places & Idols
Rehoboam					
Abijah					
Asa					
Jehoshaphat					
Jehoram					
Ahaziah					
Athaliah (usurper)					
Joash					
Amaziah					
Uzziah					
Jotham					
Ahaz					

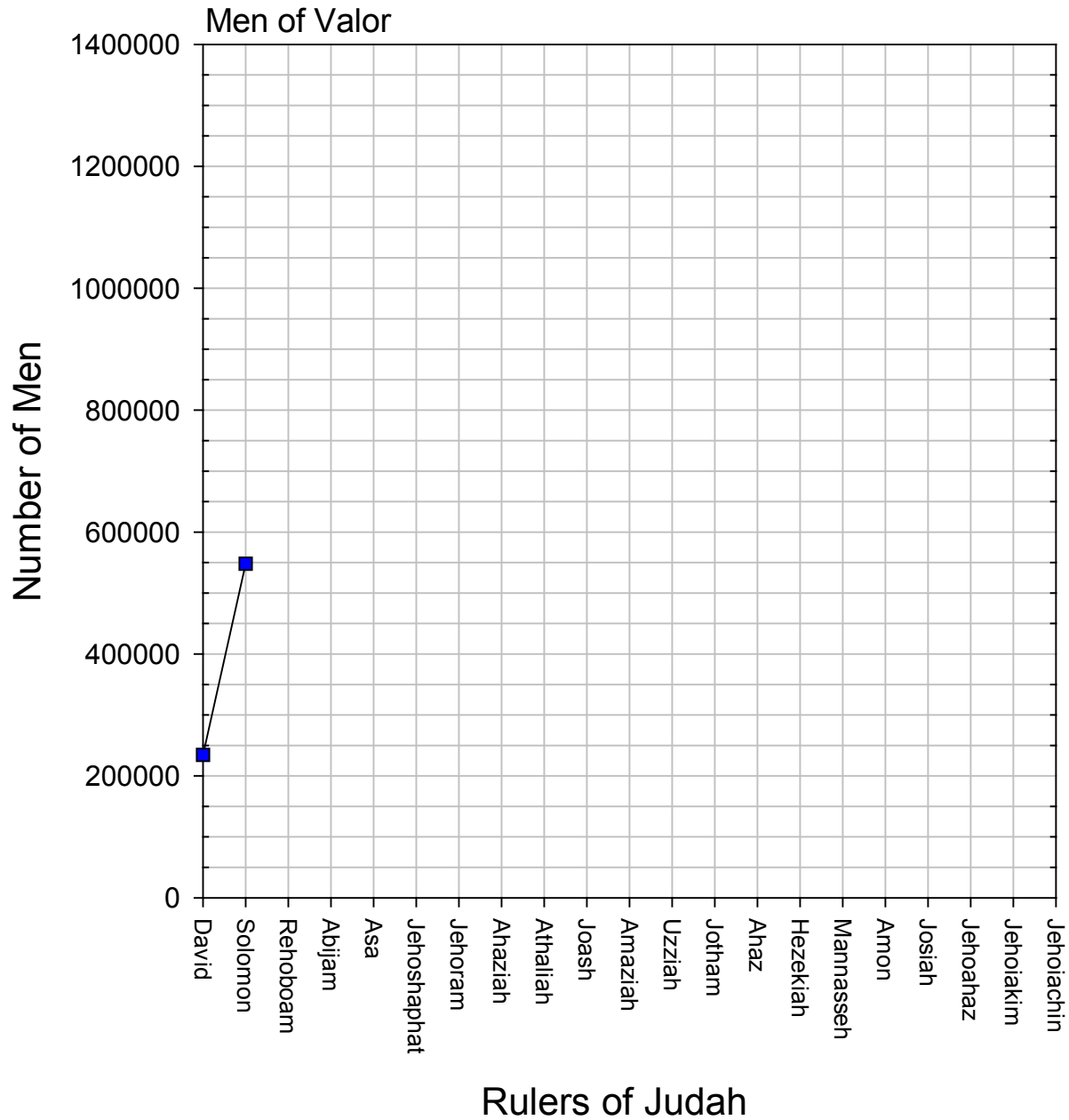
<b>Chronicles of Kings of Judah</b> <b>Kingly Scorecard</b>
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## Kings of Judah After Fall of Israel

King	Relationship with Israel	War with Other Nations	Temple Treasury	Temple Sacrifices	High Places & Idols
Hezekiah					
Manasseh					
Amon					
Josiah					
Jehoahaz					
Jehoiakim					
Jehiachin					
Zedekiah					

# Chronicles of Kings of Judah

## Kingly Scorecard



## I. The Kings of Judah

Match the king on the left with the best description on the right:

- |                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| _____ 1. Rehoboam    | A. Married Ahab's daughter; died from intestinal disease      |
| _____ 2. Abijam      | B. Usurper who tried to kill off the line of David            |
| _____ 3. Asa         | C. Formed an alliance with Ahab of Israel                     |
| _____ 4. Jehoshaphat | D. Deported to Babylon after three months                     |
| _____ 5. Jehoram     | E. His idolatry included child sacrifice and importing altars |
| _____ 6. Ahaziah     | F. Heeded advice of peers & brought about split in kingdom    |
| _____ 7. Athaliah    | G. Found law; reformed worship; killed in battle with Egypt   |
| _____ 8. Joash       | H. Rebellion against Babylon brings end of Jerusalem          |
| _____ 9. Amaziah     | I. Rebuilt the military to defeat Edom, but lost to Israel    |
| _____ 10. Uzziah     | J. Deported to Egypt after three months                       |
| _____ 11. Jotham     | K. Boy king who led reforms, but later killed Zechariah       |
| _____ 12. Ahaz       | L. Killed by Jehu in bloodbath of Jezreel                     |
| _____ 13. Hezekiah   | M. Babylonian-appointed governor, assassinated by Jews        |
| _____ 14. Manasseh   | N. Cut Jeremiah's scroll; imposed big taxes & forced labor    |
| _____ 15. Amon       | O. First reformer; removed idolatry and the high places       |
| _____ 16. Josiah     | P. Idolater who repented after being taken prisoner           |
| _____ 17. Jehoahaz   | Q. Burned incense out of pride; struck with leprosy           |
| _____ 18. Jehoiakim  | R. Greatest reformer; depended on God for deliverance         |
| _____ 19. Jehoiachin | S. Killed after two years in a conspiracy                     |
| _____ 20. Zedekiah   | T. Coregent with Uzziah                                       |
| _____ 21. Gedaliah   | U. With God's help, achieved victory over Jeroboam            |

**II. Lessons Learned**

1.	
2.	
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## I. The Kings of Judah

Match the king on the left with the best description on the right:

- |                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <u>  F  </u> 1. Rehoboam    | A. Married Ahab's daughter; died from intestinal disease      |
| <u>  U  </u> 2. Abijam      | B. Usurper who tried to kill off the line of David            |
| <u>  O  </u> 3. Asa         | C. Formed an alliance with Ahab of Israel                     |
| <u>  C  </u> 4. Jehoshaphat | D. Deported to Babylon after three months                     |
| <u>  A  </u> 5. Jehoram     | E. His idolatry included child sacrifice and importing altars |
| <u>  L  </u> 6. Ahaziah     | F. Heeded advice of peers & brought about split in kingdom    |
| <u>  B  </u> 7. Athaliah    | G. Found law; reformed worship; killed in battle with Egypt   |
| <u>  K  </u> 8. Joash       | H. Rebellion against Babylon brings end of Jerusalem          |
| <u>  I  </u> 9. Amaziah     | I. Rebuilt the military to defeat Edom, but lost to Israel    |
| <u>  Q  </u> 10. Uzziah     | J. Deported to Egypt after three months                       |
| <u>  T  </u> 11. Jotham     | K. Boy king who led reforms, but later killed Zechariah       |
| <u>  E  </u> 12. Ahaz       | L. Killed by Jehu in bloodbath of Jezreel                     |
| <u>  R  </u> 13. Hezekiah   | M. Babylonian-appointed governor, assassinated by Jews        |
| <u>  P  </u> 14. Manasseh   | N. Cut Jeremiah's scroll; imposed big taxes & forced labor    |
| <u>  S  </u> 15. Amon       | O. First reformer; removed idolatry and the high places       |
| <u>  G  </u> 16. Josiah     | P. Idolater who repented after being taken prisoner           |
| <u>  J  </u> 17. Jehoahaz   | Q. Burned incense out of pride; struck with leprosy           |
| <u>  N  </u> 18. Jehoiakim  | R. Greatest reformer; depended on God for deliverance         |
| <u>  D  </u> 19. Jehoiachin | S. Killed after two years in a conspiracy                     |
| <u>  H  </u> 20. Zedekiah   | T. Coregent with Uzziah                                       |
| <u>  M  </u> 21. Gedaliah   | U. With God's help, achieved victory over Jeroboam            |



**II. Lessons Learned**

1.	
2.	
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