

Chronological Bible Study

Week 24 and 25:

Trust in God

Jersualem's Rebellion, Punishment and Hope

2 Kings 18:13-19:37; 20:1-20:21; 21:1-22:20; 23:1-27;

Isaiah: 22:1-14; 23:1-18; 24:1-23; 25:1-27:13; 36:1-37:8:38; 38:1-22; 39:1-8

2 Chronicles 29:1-31:21; 32:1-33; 33-35:19

Zephaniah:1:1-3:20

Psalms 33, 66-67, 100

Jeremiah 1:1-6:30

Opening

[Video Link](#)





Introductions

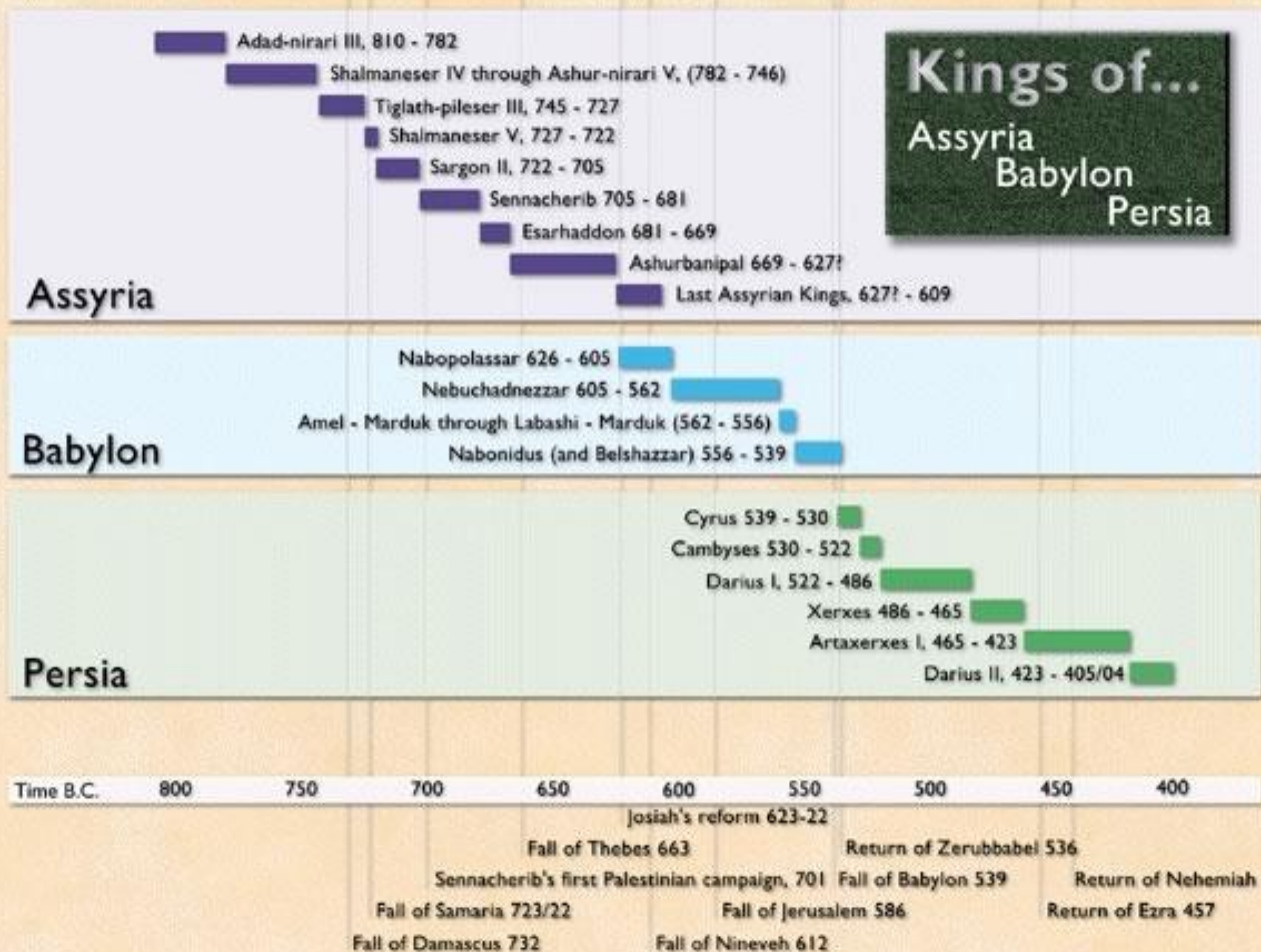
How did you spend your Easter?

Questions?

Comments?

Summary of This Week's Readings

- Hezekiah's reign
- Assyria's Invasion
- Isaiah's prophecies on Jerusalem's deliverance
- Bad and Good kings of Judah
- The Book of Zephaniah
- Josiah's reign
- Psalms of Joy and Praise
- The Call of Jeremiah
- Jeremiah's prophecies for unfaithful Israel





Sennacherib

Son of Sargon II and powerful King of Assyria from 705 – 681 BC.

Attacked Judah during Hezekiah's reign

Destroyed city of Babylon in 689 BC

Expanded Nineveh as capital of Assyrian empire

Murdered by two of his sons

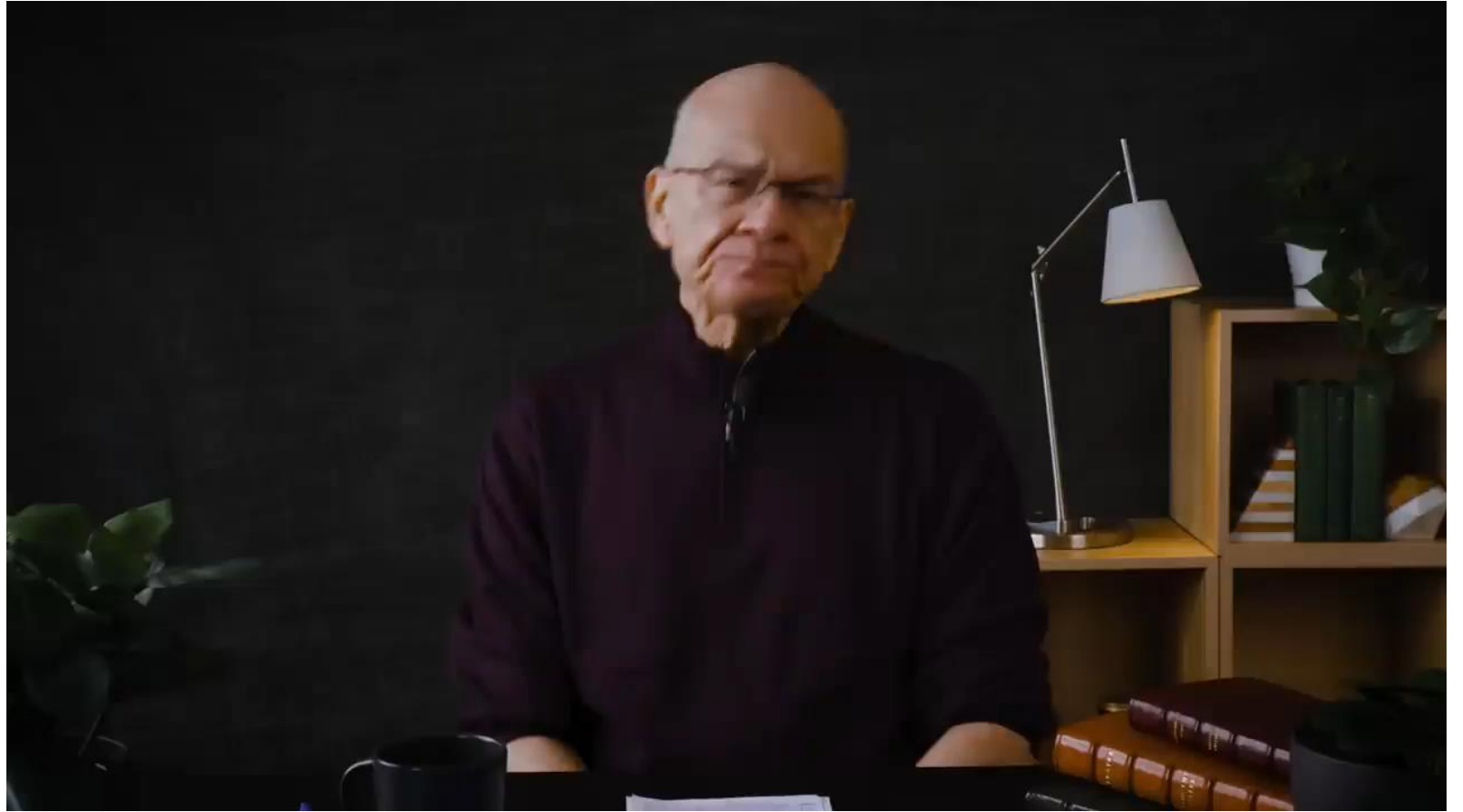


2 Kings and Isaiah

- Both describe the same historical event – the Assyrian invasion of Judah and deliverance by divine intervention in 700 BC.
- Common practice in ancient literature for multiple sources to recount the same events from their own perspective.
- Most likely Isaiah written first. Jeremiah is likely the author of Kings, so Isaiah's scrolls would have been available to him.
- Isaiah is considered by many scholars to be a compilation of Isaiah material from several sources.

Discovering the Gospel in 1 and 2 Chronicles

[Video Link](#)





Thoughts and comments on the video?

Discussion

Hezekiah's Prayers

- Facing impending invasion by the Assyrians (2 Kings 19)
- After Isaiah diagnosed the king with a terminal illness (Isaiah 38)
- After being healed (Isaiah 38)





Prophecies Against the Nations

- A Prophecy about Jerusalem
- A Prophecy against Tyre
- God is the sovereign actor in history
 - The City of the Earth vs. the City of God
 - The songs of the ruthless vs the song of salvation



The Last Kings of Judah

- Last chapters of Kings describes 150 years
 - Northern kingdom in exile
 - Southern kingdom remnant
- Kings Hezekiah, Manasseh, and Josiah of Judah
- Josiah's sons and grandson reverted to idolatry
- Babylonia will destroy the temple and exile the people
- But there is hope for Judah



Mannaseh

- Became king at age 12
- Reigned 55 years (697-642 BC)
- Reinstated idolatry and viewed as a wicked king
- Repents and brings Judah to revival before he dies

Amon

- Son of King Manasseh
- Began his reign following Manasseh's death and reigned 2 years.'
- Practiced idolatry
- Assassinated in 641 BC



Josiah

- 16th king of Judah (640-609 BC)
- Chose to do right, despite sins of his father and grandfather.
- Reforms to get rid of idolatry
- Renewed covenant with God
- Reigned during a period when Assyria was falling and Babylonia gaining power.



The Book of Zephaniah

[Video Link](#)





Zephaniah

- Great-great-grandson of Hezekiah.
- Lived in Jerusalem and prophesies c635-625
- Contemporary of Nahum, Habakkuk, and a young Jeremiah
- Reminds Judah to repent and wait upon God.
- He anticipates the church age and sees God blessing Jews and gentiles alike.

The Book of Zephaniah

- Judgment day is coming and sin will be dealt with.
- But blessings will follow in the person of the Messiah.
- Apocalyptic literature portraying the end times – The Day of the Lord.

Big Ideas in ZEPHANIAH

On the day of the Lord, he will sweep away all nations in judgment

Mixing worship of the true God with idolatry yields disastrous results

Seeking God alone brings salvation

God will restore both his people and Jerusalem





Discussion

Zephaniah lists sins of the people in 3:1-5: Jerusalem is a city of oppressors who obeys no one and accepts no correction; a city that does not trust in God, people who are unprincipled, treacherous, priests who profane the sanctuary and do violence to the law.

What warnings does God have for our society today? Are we paying attention to them or ignoring them?

Psalm 33

OVERVIEW

- Psalm 33 describes the endless rule of God in heaven over all that happens on earth.
- For the psalmist this is the cause of great joy.
 - When you trust in God as your help and shield the frenetic anxieties that clutch at your heart lose their grip.
 - His sovereign rule is freeing rather than threatening.
- By sending his Son to die in our place, the Father shows His love for us.

Psalm 66



- A hymn to the God of Israel, praising his gracious deliverance in times past.
- God brings us into meaningful relationship not through ease but through difficulty. We often find him in the valley. This psalm provides comfort. Through tears he brings us to a place of abundance.
- God is concerned for all the earth and its people and nations.
- [Come and see] "what God hath wrought" was the first message sent by telegraph in 1844.

Refined Like Silver

[Video Link](#)



Psalm 67

OVERVIEW

- The Old Testament looks to a future era where nations (i.e., Gentiles) receive God's light. God will be known by all nations through his wondrous deeds/saving acts. God is the God of all people and all nations.
- Why has God's grace come to you? For the same reason it came to the Israelites – so this same grace can stream out to the nations.
- The blessing of Aaron (Numbers 6:24-26), in this psalm, is extended to all the nations of the earth. The congregation is asking God to shine among them, radiate his light and truth outward as a testimony to the nations so his ways and his salvation would be known everywhere.
- God is not parochial or narrow minded – he wants all peoples of the earth to have faith.

Psalm 100

OVERVIEW

- Psalm 100 talks about movement into the presence of God – the first and fundamental human act of worship.
- There is pain in this life, but our pain never outpaces God’s love.
- The worship of the psalm is confessional – a way of enacting the call to “acknowledge that the LORD is God.
- The perspective of the psalm is global (all the earth), but the location is particular (his courts).
- We are called to worship because God is good.

The Book of Jeremiah

[Video Link](#)



Jeremiah

- Born c 650 BC in Anathoth (a priest-city)
- Called by God to be a prophet c 628 BC, in the 13th year of Josiah's reign. He prophesized for more than 40 years.
- His prophecies occur during Josiah's reign through Jerusalem's destruction.
- Called to be a "prophet to the nations."
- He was despised and persecuted by his countrymen.
- Known as the "weeping" prophet.

LifeLines: JEREMIAH

Jeremiah 1-51

All Ages
Unknown

Serves
as priest

1:1



Called as prophet

1:4-10

Prophecies to Judah
and Israel

2:1-11:23

Persecuted and
imprisoned many times

11:18-21; 18:18-19;
20:1-2,7-10; 26:8-11,16;
32:2-3; 33:1; 37:15-16,21;
38:4-6,13,28

Warns Jerusalem of
Babylonian invasion

34:1-22

Scroll is burned

36:23



Survives Jerusalem's fall

39:1-14; 40:1-6

Taken to Egypt

43:4-7



Gives final prophecy

51:59-64

Book of Jeremiah

- Central focus: God's relationship with his people, Israel
- Basic message: the inevitable and inescapable judgment of God upon Israel for her rebellion and disobedience.

Big Ideas in JEREMIAH



Jeremiah warns God's people to return to God and repent

Judah's idolatry will result in judgment and punishment

God will make a new covenant with his people

Ultimate trust must be found not in earthly things but in God



Next Week

Readings For 4/2-8: Evil and Injustice Will Not Last Forever

- Nahum
- Jeremiah
- 2 Kings
- 2 Chronicles
- Habakkuk

Closing Song

[Video Link](#)



The accounts of the Assyrian invasion of Syria-Palestine show an increasing trust in God by Hezekiah. Sennacherib mocks God, but as he does. Hezekiah places more and more trust in God. God shows the Assyrians that they were used for His purpose and that He is in control. Hezekiah celebrates Passover to pray for deliverance. God answers with a message of comfort and hope, victory and triumph. Hezekiah’s increasing growth of trust in God, resulted in a supernatural defeat of the Assyrian Army by the angel of death at night. Isaiah’s prophecy to Jerusalem is fulfilled.

Weekly Reading Plan

(pg. 660-686)

Day 1: 2 KI 20:1-11; ISA 38:1-22;
 2 KI 20:12-19; ISA 39:1-8;
 ISA 36:1; 2 KI 18:13-16
 Day 2: 2 KI 18:17-19:7; ISA 26:2-37:7
 Day 3: 2 KI 19:8-37; ISA 37:8-38;
 2 KI 20:20-21
 Day 4: ISA 22:1-14, 23:1-18; 24:1-23
 Day 5: ISA 25:1-27:13
 Day 6: 2 CH 29:1-31:21
 Day 7: 2 CH 32:24-31; 32:1-23, 32:32-33, 2 KI 21:1 - 22:20

Outline

Hezekiah’s Illness and Recovery [Day 1]
 Sennacherib’s Invasion [Day 1]
 A Second Invasion [Day 2-3]
 After Sennacherib’s Campaign [Day 4-5]
 Priestly Account: Assyria’s Invasions [Day 6]
 Hezekiah’s Sickness and Rebellion [Day 7]
 Prophetic Account: Bad and Good Kings [Day 7]

Key Characters

Hezekiah	Isaiah
Marduk-Baladan	Eliakim
Sennacherib	Hilkiah
Joah	Shebna
Levites	Manasseh
Amon	

Key Locations

Judah	Babylon
Assyria	Jerusalem
Tyre	Tarshish

Key Terms

Remnant
 Prophecy
 Righteous
 Trust
 Deliverance

Key Verses

Now, Lord our God, deliver us from his hand, so that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that you alone, Lord, are God. [2 KI 19:19]

For out of Jerusalem will come a remnant, and out of Mount Zion a band of survivors. [2 KI 19:31]

The path of the righteous is level; you, the Upright One, make the way of the righteous smooth. [ISA 26:7]

In everything that he undertook in the service of God’s temple and in obedience to the law and the commands, he sought his God and worked wholeheartedly. And so he prospered. [2 CH 31:21]

Chapter Summaries (from @biblesummary)

2Ki20: Hezekiah was sick but the LORD extended his life. Envoys came from Babylon. Isaiah told Hezekiah, "Everything will be taken away."

Isa38: Hezekiah became sick, so he prayed. The LORD said, "I will add fifteen years to your life." Hezekiah wrote, "The LORD will save me."

Isa39: The king of Babylon sent envoys. Hezekiah showed them his treasure houses. Isaiah said, "All you have shall be carried to Babylon."

Isa36: The king of Assyria came against Judah. His commander said, "Do not listen to Hezekiah. Have any of the gods delivered their lands?"

2Ki18: Hezekiah ruled Judah and did right. The Assyrians surrounded Jerusalem. Rabshakeh said, "Don't listen to Hezekiah. Come out to me."

2Kgs19: Hezekiah prayed, "O LORD, save us." Isaiah said, "The LORD says: I will defend the city." That night the Assyrians were struck dead.

Isa26: A song will be sung in Judah: The LORD is the eternal Rock. Your hand is lifted high. We gave birth to wind, but your dead will rise.

Isa27: In that day the LORD will slay Leviathan. By exile the guilt of Jacob will be purged. Those who were perishing will worship the LORD.

Isa28: Woe to the drunkards of Ephraim! They will be snared. Behold, I lay in Zion a precious cornerstone. The LORD will do his alien work.

Isa29: Woe to Ariel, the city of David! But your enemies will be like dust. I will astound these people. No longer will Jacob be ashamed.

Isa30: Woe to the stubborn children who seek help from Egypt! The LORD will wait to show mercy. The voice of the LORD will shatter Assyria.

Isa31: Woe to those who trust in chariots! As a lion roars, so the LORD will come down to fight for Mount Zion. Turn back to him, O Israel.

Isa32: Behold, a king will reign in righteousness. Tremble, you women of ease. The city will be deserted until the Spirit is poured upon us.

Isa33: Woe to you, O destroyer! The fear of the LORD is Zion's treasure. "I will arise," says the LORD. You will see the king in his beauty.

Chapter Summaries (from @biblesummary)

Isa34: The LORD is enraged against the nations. His sword is filled with blood. He has a day of vengeance for Zion. Edom shall lie waste.

Isa35: The desert shall rejoice and bloom. The eyes of the blind shall be opened. The ransomed of the LORD shall return to Zion with songs.

Isa36: The king of Assyria came against Judah. His commander said, "Do not listen to Hezekiah. Have any of the gods delivered their lands?"

Isa37: Hezekiah prayed to the LORD. Isaiah said, "The king of Assyria will not enter the city." The angel of the LORD struck the Assyrians.

2Kgs20: Hezekiah was sick but the LORD extended his life. Envoys came from Babylon. Isaiah told Hezekiah, "Everything will be taken away."

2Kgs21: Manasseh ruled in Jerusalem and did evil. The LORD said, "I will bring disaster on Jerusalem and Judah." Amon ruled and did evil.

Isa22: The oracle concerning the valley of vision: The LORD has taken away the covering of Judah. I will give to Eliakim the key of David.

Isa23: The oracle concerning Tyre: Wail, O ships, for Tyre is laid waste. The LORD has planned it. Tyre will be forgotten for seventy years.

Isa24: Behold, the LORD lays the earth waste. Its people are held guilty. Fear and pit and snare await you. The LORD of hosts will reign.

Isa25: O LORD, I will praise you. You have done marvellous things. The LORD will swallow up death forever. Moab will be trampled as straw.

Isa26: A song will be sung in Judah: The LORD is the eternal Rock. Your hand is lifted high. We gave birth to wind, but your dead will rise.

Isa27: In that day the LORD will slay Leviathan. By exile the guilt of Jacob will be purged. Those who were perishing will worship the LORD.

2Chr29: Hezekiah became king and did right. He told the Levites to cleanse the temple. He assembled the officials and they made offerings.

2Chr30: Hezekiah sent couriers throughout Judah and Israel saying, "Return to the LORD." Many gathered in Jerusalem to celebrate Passover.

2Chr31: Hezekiah assigned the priests and Levites to their duties. The Israelites gave a tithe. Conaniah was in charge of the offerings.

2Chr32: Sennacherib besieged Judah. Hezekiah and Isaiah cried out to the LORD and the Assyrians were struck dead. Hezekiah had great riches.

2Kgs22: Josiah ruled and did right. He had the law read out and tore his robes. Huldah said, "The LORD says: You will be buried in peace."

Teachings About God

- Ultimately, God sent Israel’s people into dispersion. Ultimately Judah will also go into exile. Yet God’s kingdom plan is never in jeopardy.
- God is severe in punishing those who rebel against him.
- God intends to keep his covenant promise about an everlasting Davidic dynasty.
- We can approach God with confidence because of this great love for us.

Teachings About Humanity

- Humans are fallen sinners whom God must redeem.
- Hezekiah shown as a ruler who valued trust in God more than military or economic success.
- Hezekiah demonstrated confident faith and bold prayer even in desperate situations.
- 2 Kings emphasizes two sieges of Jerusalem: Sennacherib (Assyria) c701 BC that was thwarted by divine intervention (2 KI 19) and the 2nd by Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon c 586 BC that destroyed Jerusalem and the temple (2 KI 18-25).
- The royal Davidic line lived on, even though a temporal kingdom and temple were not the goal.

Teachings About Salvation

- Turning from the sin of idolatry, when accompanied by a desire for God’s glory to be displayed may even bring salvation from military threats (2 KI 19:15-37)
- Once we have experienced the deliverance of God don’t fall prey to pride and entitlement.

Reflections of Christ/Holy Spirit

- Jesus is revealed in 2 Chronicles in the wisdom and blessing of the kings of Judah who honored God and kept his law.

Literary Genres/Techniques

- Isaiah is written as prophecy in Hebrew poetry calling people to turn from sin and predicting near and remote events. The narrative in ISA 36-39 shifts from challenges of Judah facing the Assyrians to those Judah would face with Babylon.
- 2 Kings written as historical narrative from a theological perspective.
- 2 Chronicles was written with a concern for the temple and whether the king was following God.

Author/Date of Writing/Audience

- Jeremiah may have written 2 Kings ca 560 BC to the Israelites during the Babylonian exile.
- Isaiah was compiled ca 680 BC to the people living in Judah near the end of the 700s BC. The chapters focus on Sennacherib’s invasion of Judah (701 BC).
- 2 Chronicles may have been written by Ezra v 450 BC to the exiles in Jerusalem after they returned from exile.

What did I learn about God?

- When Isaiah tells Hezekiah he will soon die from his illness, Hezekiah prays to God and is healed. What makes prayer most effective? Can prayer actually change God's mind? If so, what does it mean to say God never changes?
- Wicked people often live easy lives, or long lives, whereas those serving God often experience great hardships. How do you deal with the seeming unfairness? What might be God's perspective on the matter?
- What do you learn about God from considering his past judgments (e.g., Noah's flood or the fall of specific nations)? In comparison, what do you learn when you consider God's future glory, which will eclipse even the sun and stars above?
- Hezekiah is criticized for his pride [2 CH 23:24-33]. Is pride always bad? What can make it objectionable to God? How does God measure greatness in life? Is there anything God won't forgive if you are truly repentant?

What did I learn about human nature?

- After Sennacherib's attack, every city in Judah, except Jerusalem, was destroyed, thousands of innocent people were killed and Judah was plunged into poverty for decades following the attack. If you were living in Jerusalem, how would you react when you heard that 185,000 Assyrian soldiers died? Although Jerusalem was spared, a nearby city, Lachish, was destroyed. How would you explain God's ways to a resident of Lachish? What could be God's purpose in delaying or saying No?
- Hezekiah links "right worship" with God's blessing [2 CH 29]. Do you agree? What evidence would you give for pro or con?
- If Babylon represented the height of the world's culture and Tyre the apex of its wealth, how would you use Isaiah's message to challenge people dedicated to power and money? Does this mean power and wealth in themselves are wrong? Why or why not? How does this message serve as an ongoing warning to people in every age?

What did I learn about my life/relationship with God?

- When have you felt like Hezekiah – backed up against a wall with no recourse but to pray? How have you seen God's affirmation of his love for you?
- Hezekiah viewed life as a gift from God to be used for His purposes. How does this affect how you will live out your numbered days?
- In Isaiah, Judah looks to alliances to provide protection against Assyria in stead of relying on God. To what or to whom have you looked to fill that God-shaped void of insecurity in your own life? Since all we have comes from God, what is the place for human planning, preparing and hard work?

Insights about the time and/or customs?