II Chronicles 29-36 Historical Books II Lecture #29

Hezekiah

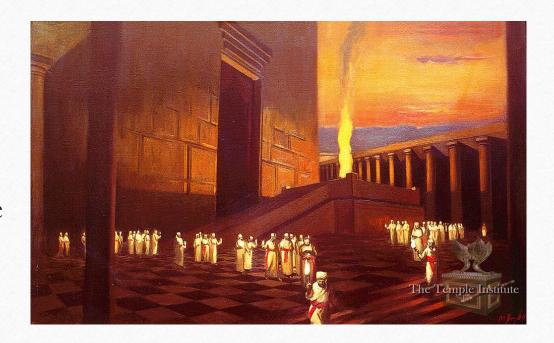
Hezekiah



- Begins to reign at 25 and reigns for 29 years.
- Repairs and reopens the Temple after being closed for ~16 years.

Temple Worship Restored

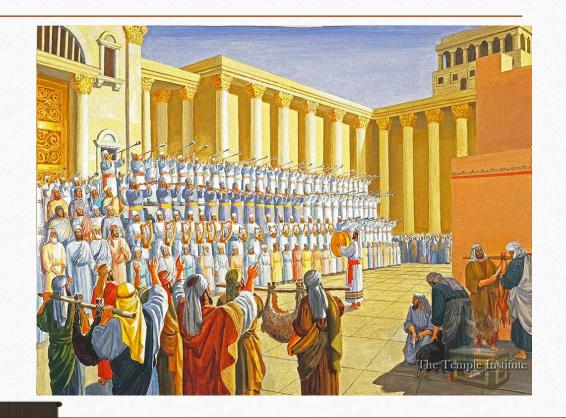
- The Temple is cleansed and reopened.
- It reopens with sacrifice, singing, and worship.
- This happens so quickly that people and priests did not have time to consecrate themselves.



Hezekiah's Revival

Passover

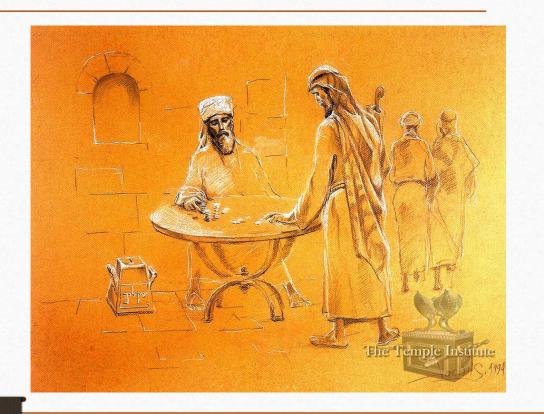
- Because the Temple had not been cleansed in time for it to be celebrated on its proper day, it is moved back one month.
- ALL OF ISRAEL is invited.
- The feast is kept for two weeks.



Hezekiah's Reforms

Results of the Passover

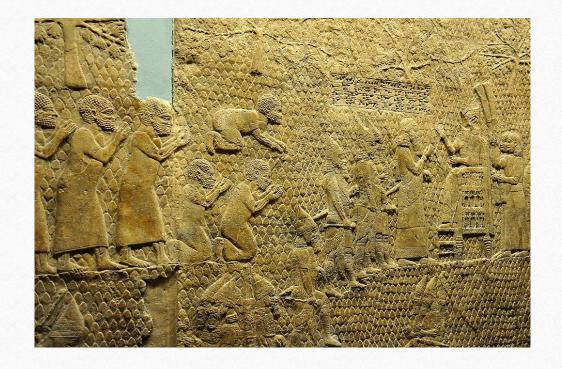
- Many of Israel return home and destroy their idols.
- Hezekiah fund the Temple worship.
- Tithes resume and an abundance of offerings come in.
- Proper support of Levi resumes.



Hezekiah Delivered

Assyrian Invasion

- Hezekiah stopped tribute payments to Assyria began by his father.
- He prepares defenses.
- Sennacherib arrives and demands surrender.
- Hezekiah prays and God delivers Judah.



Hezekiah's Illness

- Hezekiah is deathly sick and is miraculously healed.
- Hezekiah humbled himself enough to hold of God's judgment.



Hezekiah's Last Days

- He prospers and strengthens Judah.
- He entertains Babylonian envoys.
- He dies and his son Manasseh inherits the throne.



Manasseh

Manasseh



- Reigns 55 years.
- Promotes idolatry and persecutes the prophets.
- Desecrates the Temple with an idol.

Manasseh's Repentance



- At some point (likely late in his reign), Manasseh is taken prisoner by the Assyrians.
 - Likely because he was suspected of disloyalty.
- His ordeal brings him to repent and turn back to God.

Amon

- Inherits the throne from his father Manasseh.
- Followed the wicked ways of Manasseh and refused to repent as Manasseh did.
- He is assassinated and his sone Josiah is put on the throne.



Josiah

Josiah

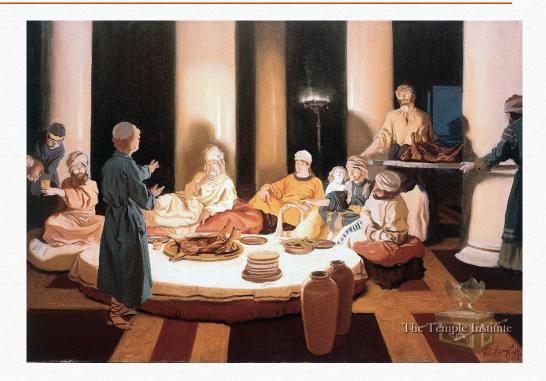
- At 8, he becomes king.
- At 12, he leads the people to reject idolatry and purge it from the land.
- At 26, he repairs the Temple.
 - The Law is recovered.
 - The king and people covenanted to keep the Law.



Josiah

The Passover Kept

- After discovering the Law, Josiah leads the people in celebrating the Passover in grand fashion.
- The Ark is mentioned for the last time in vs. 3.
- "And there was no passover like to that kept in Israel from the days of Samuel the prophet; neither did all the kings of Israel keep such a passover as Josiah kept, and the priests, and the Levites, and all Judah and Israel that were present, and the inhabitants of Jerusalem."



Josiah's Death

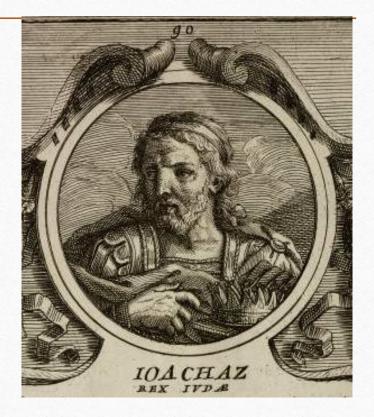
- Josiah goes into battle against Necho and the Egyptians.
- He is warned not to but disguises himself and enters the battle.
- He is wounded by an arrow and dies in Jerusalem.



The Fall of Judah

Jehoahaz

- Reigns for three months.
- Pharaoh Necho replaces him and demands tribute.



Jehoakim

- Necho changes Eliakim's name ("raised up by God") to Jehoakim ("whom Jehovah sets up").
- Reigns 11 years.
- Is taken prisoner by the Nebuchadnezzar and the Babylonians.



Jehoiachin

- Reigns 3 months and 10 days.
- He is 8 years old when made crown prince and 18 years old when made king.
- Is taken prisoner by the Nebuchadnezzar and the Babylonians.



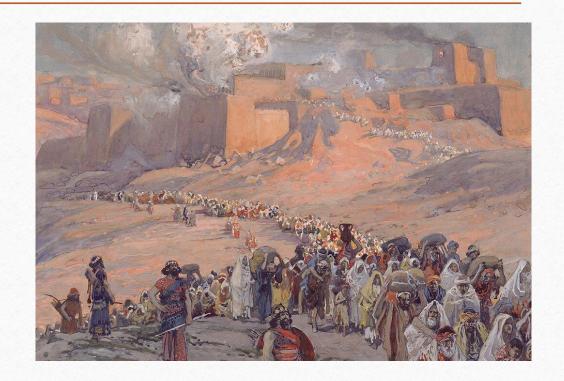
Zedekiah

- Reigns 11 years.
- Leads the people to rebel against Babylon and, more importantly, against God.



The Fall of Jerusalem

- Babylon returns and destroys Judah.
- The people are killed or taken captive.
- The Temple is looted and burned.
- Jerusalem is destroyed.



Sabbatical Years

- In vs. 21, the length of the Captivity is tied to the 70 Sabbatical Years that had not been observed.
 - If only Sabbatical Years are counted, this is a span of 490 years going back into Saul's reign.
 - If Jubilee Years are also counted, this is a span of 440 years going back into the last years of David's reign.
- This seems to cover the entire Kingdom Period.

"...When ye come into the land which I give you, then shall the land keep a sabbath unto the LORD.

Six years thou shalt sow thy field, and six years thou shalt prune thy vineyard, and gather in the fruit thereof;

But in the seventh year shall be a sabbath of rest unto the land, a sabbath for the LORD: thou shalt neither sow thy field, nor prune thy vineyard."

Proclamation of Cyrus – 538 B.C.



- Cyrus the Great is the first ruler of either Babylon or Persia to allow the Jews to return home and rebuild the Temple.
- The Captivity Period closes when the Temple is rebuilt in 516 B.C.



