



IN
OUT®

English Standard Version

*God
Searches
For a Heart
Fully His*

IN & OUT[®]
English Standard Version
KINGS AND PROPHETS SERIES
Course 2
GOD SEARCHES FOR A HEART FULLY HIS

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BEFORE YOU BEGIN WE WANT YOU TO KNOW . . .

We are so thrilled that you have chosen to study *God Searches for a Heart Fully His*, the second of our ten courses in the Kings and Prophets Series. It will be such a blessing to your life because the Old Testament places a tremendous emphasis on the holy character and works of God that anticipate fulfillment in the person of Christ in the New Testament. In essence, it lays the groundwork for the only salvation possible—the salvation God provides in His Son “by which we must be saved.” The Bible is a progressive revelation—all sixty-six parts are essential to understanding the whole counsel of God.

As you begin this series, it’s vital to understand the importance of a study like this and some of the differences between studying (primarily historical) Old Testament books and (primarily doctrinal) New Testament epistles.

- In the Old Testament we come to know God—who He is and how He works in the affairs of mankind—and we develop a godly fear of His awesome majesty, holy character, and works.
- The nation that is in the front and center of all God’s dealings is Israel. So as you study Kings and Chronicles, you find yourself immersed in Israel’s history, studying events surrounding the reigns of her kings in an effort to get the *big picture*—to understand how these events affect her relationship to God and how God responds to His covenant people. It’s much like looking at the history of your country through the lives of its leaders, what the times were like under each, the direction each led the country, and how each impacted its future.
- As you observe the texts of Kings and Chronicles, remember observing history is different from observing doctrine. If you’ve done New Testament Precept courses, you’ll find doing Observation Worksheets of historical books is much different from doing one on a doctrinal epistle. You don’t want to get bogged down with details; rather, you want to get a general understanding of the times and God’s dealings. Also, your focus on key words will not be as strong as when you’re observing doctrine.
- It’s not important to remember every detail of a king’s life as long as you understand the essence of it—how lessons from his life and leadership can apply to your life and walk with the Lord.
- If you study the entire series (we pray that you will), you will also hear and understand God’s message to His people through the voices of His prophets during those times.
- According to 1 Corinthians 10:11 and Romans 15:4, what God chose to preserve in the Old Testament is for our example and instruction, “on whom the end of the ages has come” (1 Corinthians 10:11). The application, the encouragement, and the hope from these historical studies are distinctive.



IMPORTANT NOTE TO IN & OUT LEADERS

We have included “The Who’s Who Optional Review” after the last lesson for you and your students to aid in reviewing the kings and prophets studied in this course.

Here are some suggestions of how this optional assignment can be used:

- In scheduling this course, plan an extra week at the end and have your students complete the optional assignment for that week. You can encourage them to be creative by preparing a song, poem, skit, etc. and/or sharing some of their completed sketches. This is a great way to review the kings of Israel and Judah and some of the main events of their reign. Allow time for students to tell how God spoke to them through His Word in this course.
- If you’re completing this course and then breaking for the summer, you can assign students to complete the optional assignment during the break. Use letters, phone calls, or emails to remind them to review what they’ve done before your first meeting in the fall. At your first meeting, briefly review the kings to help new students understand the context. Let students show some of their sketches. Then help all students get started on their first lesson, making sure the new ones know how to do the assignments.



Asa Sought the Lord

God found David, a man after His heart, but His search was not over. One is not enough. The kingdom of God marches on—advances—on the strength of men and women whose hearts are blameless toward Him. A careful study of church history affirms over and over the power of individuals fully committed to serving God’s purpose in their generations. How they are needed in our generation!

This is why, Beloved, each of us needs to come to the point where we consciously choose to serve the Lord.

To whom will you give your heart? Whose purpose will you serve?

TAKING IT IN

If this is your first course with us in this kings and prophets series, you can get an overview of where we are historically by looking at the chart, “Israel’s Division and Captivity” at the end of this lesson. At this point in Israel’s history the twelve tribes of Israel have divided into two kingdoms (ten tribes in the North and two tribes in the South) that conflict not only with their enemies but also unfortunately with each other.

The war between the first kings of the divided kingdom, Rehoboam and Jeroboam, didn’t end with Rehoboam’s death. When his son Abijam (or Abijah, as he is called in Chronicles) took the throne of Rehoboam, it was “like father, like son.” Abijam followed his father’s footsteps in the path of evil, in the course of his war with Jeroboam. Fortunately he reigned only three years. Asa his son succeeded him. This is where our study begins—a study, once again, that will especially benefit you if you long to be a man or woman of God.

1. Since you are studying the words of God preserved for your spiritual understanding and godliness, begin with prayer, asking for the assistance of the blessed Holy Spirit. Remember, if you are a child of God, the Spirit of God lives in you as your resident tutor! Take full advantage of His presence.

Observe 1 Kings 15:1-24, which you will find in the Appendix of this workbook, reading these verses at least twice.



God Searches For a Heart Fully His

Lesson 1, 1 Kings 15, 2 Chronicles 14–16

As you observe:

- a. It is helpful to make a **Key Word Bookmark**. Cut out the bookmark on the back cover of your workbook. List the key words and mark them the way you will throughout this study.

On the reverse side of the bookmark, you'll see suggested markings for some words used frequently throughout the Bible. We'll indicate those words with an asterisk [*].

- 1) *did right in the sight of the Lord* or *did what was evil*. Mark each in a distinguishable way.
 - 2) references to time.* They show us timing or sequence of events. Note when a king began his reign and how long he reigned.
 - 3) geographical locations.* Find places you mark on the map "Israel in the Days of Elijah," located in the Appendix.
 - 4) *heart*
 - 5) *sin**
 - 6) references to death or dying (see *die**)
 - 7) *the house of the Lord**
- b. After you list the key words on your Key Word Bookmark, read the chapter, marking them along with the kings of Israel and Judah.

Develop a system for marking the kings of Israel and the kings of Judah so they are easily distinguished. Use either colors and/or symbols. The simpler the symbols the easier it will be unless you have a lot of time to devote to this. Some of you may choose to mark your Bibles instead of the Observation Worksheets.

- c. In the Appendix of this workbook you will find the chart "The Kings of Israel and Judah."
- 1) Fill this out as you study the kings and it will help you remember who they are. Give a brief description of each king, including how long he reigned and what he was like. Color the heart to the left of each king's name, using one color for the kings whose hearts were devoted to the Lord and another color for those whose hearts were not.



God Searches For a Heart Fully His

Lesson 1, 1 Kings 15, 2 Chronicles 14–16

- 2) There is also a column on the chart for nations who were enemies of Israel and/or Judah. Read 1 Kings 15:18-20. In the middle column of the chart, fill in the name of the nation who was an enemy and draw an arrow toward the king or kings the nation came against. See the example of Egypt on the chart.
 - d. The heart is very important. Note below what you learn from marking “heart.”
-
2. As you observed, you saw references to **Jeroboam**, such as in verse 6: “Now there was war between Rehoboam and Jeroboam all the days of his life.” As you proceed through Kings, you will see many references to Jeroboam, the first king of the Northern Kingdom. The ten northern tribes of Israel came under his leadership after Solomon died and his son Rehoboam became king.
 3. Your next assignment is to observe 2 Chronicles 14. Again, read the verses at least twice.
 - a. Mark the words on your Key Word Bookmark. Also mark:
 - 1) *seek, sought* (add to bookmark)
 - 2) *LORD**
 - b. Find geographical locations on the map “Israel in the Days of Elijah.”
 - c. Now before you go any further add the information from this chapter to “The Kings of Israel and Judah” in the Appendix.
 - d. When you finish observing the chapter, summarize the central event of the chapter in as few words as possible using words from the text. This is the chapter theme. Write it on the “2 Chronicles 14–20 at a Glance” chart in the Appendix.



God Searches For a Heart Fully His

Lesson 1, 1 Kings 15, 2 Chronicles 14–16

4. Now observe 2 Chronicles 15.
 - a. Mark the words on your bookmark, along with the following:
 - 1) *courage*
 - 2) *covenant, *oath* (add to your bookmark)
 - b. Record the theme for 2 Chronicles 15 on the “2 Chronicles 14–20 at a Glance” chart.
5. On “The Kings of Israel and Judah” chart, there is a column for the prophets to Israel and to Judah. Find Azariah’s name on the chart and record a summary of his message from 2 Chronicles 15:1-8.
6. We move into the final chapter on Asa, 2 Chronicles 16. Observe the text. It will help you follow what happens during his forty-one-year reign—a reign covered in four chapters in the Bible, one in Kings and three in Chronicles.
7. Now record any information from 2 Chronicles 16 on the chart, “The Kings of Israel and Judah.”

LIVING
IT OUT

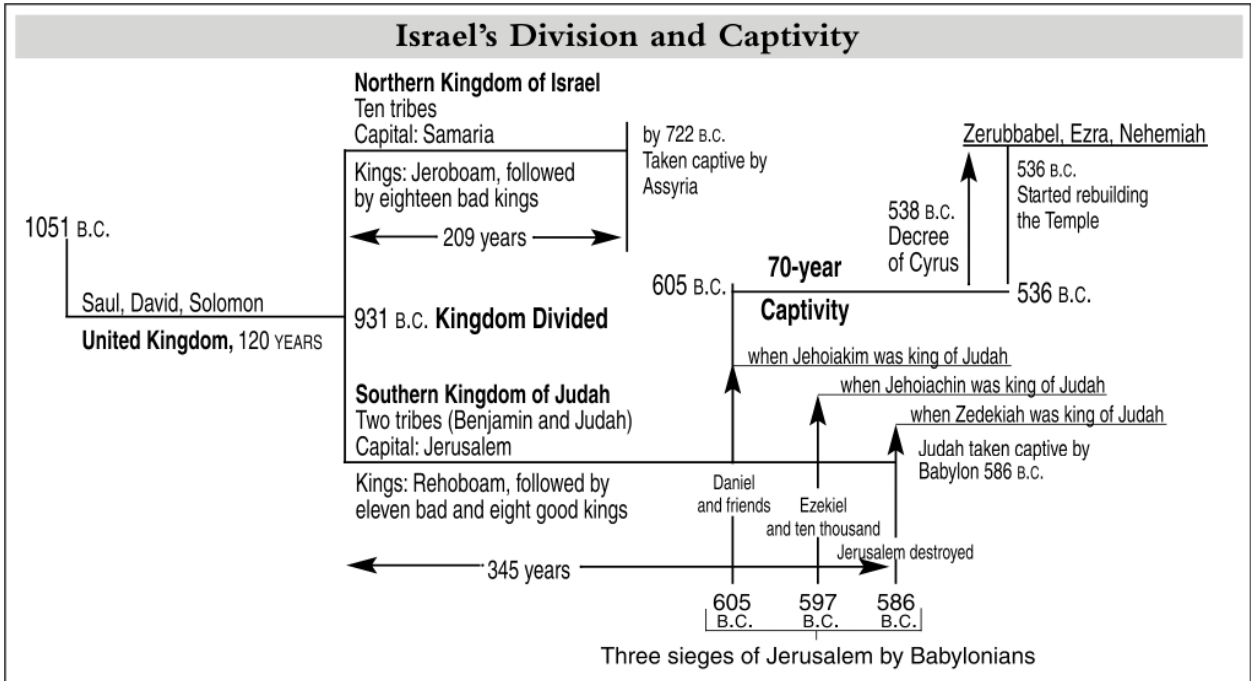
1. God does nothing, says nothing, records nothing in His Book without a purpose. Read 1 Corinthians 10:11 and Romans 15:4. What do you think God’s purpose is for including this account of Asa in His holy Book? Think about it and then thoughtfully write your answer. You don’t want to miss the lesson(s) God preserves for our generation.



God Searches For a Heart Fully His
Lesson 1, 1 Kings 15, 2 Chronicles 14–16



God Searches For a Heart Fully His
Lesson 1, Israel's Division and Captivity





1 KINGS 15

Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme _____

- NOW in the eighteenth year of King Jeroboam the son of Nebat, Abijam began to reign over Judah.
- 2 He reigned for three years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Maacah the daughter of Abishalom.
 - 3 And he walked in all the sins that his father did before him, and his heart was not wholly true to the LORD his God, as the heart of David his father.
 - 4 Nevertheless, for David's sake the LORD his God gave him a lamp in Jerusalem, setting up his son after him, and establishing Jerusalem,
 - 5 because David did what was right in the eyes of the LORD and did not turn aside from anything that he commanded him all the days of his life, except in the matter of Uriah the Hittite.
 - 6 Now there was war between Rehoboam and Jeroboam all the days of his life.
 - 7 The rest of the acts of Abijam and all that he did, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Judah? And there was war between Abijam and Jeroboam.
 - 8 And Abijam slept with his fathers, and they buried him in the city of David. And Asa his son reigned in his place.
 - 9 In the twentieth year of Jeroboam king of Israel, Asa began to reign over Judah,
 - 10 and he reigned forty-one years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Maacah the daughter of Abishalom.
 - 11 And Asa did what was right in the eyes of the LORD, as David his father had done.
 - 12 He put away the male cult prostitutes out of the land and removed all the idols that his fathers had made.



- 13 He also removed Maacah his mother from being queen mother because she had made an abominable image for Asherah. And Asa cut down her image and burned it at the brook Kidron.
- 14 But the high places were not taken away. Nevertheless, the heart of Asa was wholly true to the LORD all his days.
- 15 And he brought into the house of the LORD the sacred gifts of his father and his own sacred gifts, silver, and gold, and vessels.
- 16 And there was war between Asa and Baasha king of Israel all their days.
- 17 Baasha king of Israel went up against Judah and built Ramah, that he might permit no one to go out or come in to Asa king of Judah.
- 18 Then Asa took all the silver and the gold that were left in the treasures of the house of the LORD and the treasures of the king's house and gave them into the hands of his servants. And King Asa sent them to Ben-hadad the son of Tabrimmon, the son of Hezion, king of Syria, who lived in Damascus, saying,
- 19 "Let there be a covenant between me and you, as there was between my father and your father. Behold, I am sending to you a present of silver and gold. Go, break your covenant with Baasha king of Israel, that he may withdraw from me."
- 20 And Ben-hadad listened to King Asa and sent the commanders of his armies against the cities of Israel and conquered Ijon, Dan, Abel-beth-maacah, and all Chinneroth, with all the land of Naphtali.
- 21 And when Baasha heard of it, he stopped building Ramah, and he lived in Tirzah.
- 22 Then King Asa made a proclamation to all Judah, none was exempt, and they carried away the stones of Ramah and its timber, with which Baasha had been building, and with them King Asa built Geba of Benjamin and Mizpah.



- 23 Now the rest of all the acts of Asa, all his might, and all that he did, and the cities that he built, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Judah? But in his old age he was diseased in his feet.
- 24 And Asa slept with his fathers and was buried with his fathers in the city of David his father, and Jehoshaphat his son reigned in his place.
- 25 Nadab the son of Jeroboam began to reign over Israel in the second year of Asa king of Judah, and he reigned over Israel two years.
- 26 He did what was evil in the sight of the LORD and walked in the way of his father, and in his sin which he made Israel to sin.
- 27 Baasha the son of Ahijah, of the house of Issachar, conspired against him. And Baasha struck him down at Gibbethon, which belonged to the Philistines, for Nadab and all Israel were laying siege to Gibbethon.
- 28 So Baasha killed him in the third year of Asa king of Judah and reigned in his place.
- 29 And as soon as he was king, he killed all the house of Jeroboam. He left to the house of Jeroboam not one that breathed, until he had destroyed it, according to the word of the LORD that he spoke by his servant Ahijah the Shilonite.
- 30 It was for the sins of Jeroboam that he sinned and that he made Israel to sin, and because of the anger to which he provoked the LORD, the God of Israel.
- 31 Now the rest of the acts of Nadab and all that he did, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Israel?
- 32 And there was war between Asa and Baasha king of Israel all their days.
- 33 In the third year of Asa king of Judah, Baasha the son of Ahijah began to reign over all Israel at Tirzah, and he reigned twenty-four years.
- 34 He did what was evil in the sight of the LORD and walked in the way of Jeroboam and in his sin which he made Israel to sin.



2 CHRONICLES 14

Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme _____

ABIJAH slept with his fathers, and they buried him in the city of David.

And Asa his son reigned in his place. In his days the land had rest for ten years.

2 And Asa did what was good and right in the eyes of the LORD his God.

3 He took away the foreign altars and the high places and broke down the pillars and cut down the Asherim

4 and commanded Judah to seek the LORD, the God of their fathers, and to keep the law and the commandment.

5 He also took out of all the cities of Judah the high places and the incense altars. And the kingdom had rest under him.

6 He built fortified cities in Judah, for the land had rest. He had no war in those years, for the LORD gave him peace.

7 And he said to Judah, "Let us build these cities and surround them with walls and towers, gates and bars. The land is still ours, because we have sought the LORD our God. We have sought him, and he has given us peace on every side." So they built and prospered.

8 And Asa had an army of 300,000 from Judah, armed with large shields and spears, and 280,000 men from Benjamin that carried shields and drew bows. All these were mighty men of valor.

9 Zerah the Ethiopian came out against them with an army of a million men and 300 chariots, and came as far as Mareshah.

10 And Asa went out to meet him, and they drew up their lines of battle in the Valley of Zephathah at Mareshah.

11 And Asa cried to the LORD his God, "O LORD, there is none like you to help, between the mighty and the weak. Help us, O LORD our God, for we rely on you, and in your name we have come against this multitude. O LORD, you are our God; let not man prevail against you."



- 12 So the LORD defeated the Ethiopians before Asa and before Judah, and the Ethiopians fled.
- 13 Asa and the people who were with him pursued them as far as Gerar, and the Ethiopians fell until none remained alive, for they were broken before the LORD and his army. The men of Judah carried away very much spoil.
- 14 And they attacked all the cities around Gerar, for the fear of the LORD was upon them. They plundered all the cities, for there was much plunder in them.
- 15 And they struck down the tents of those who had livestock and carried away sheep in abundance and camels. Then they returned to Jerusalem.



2 CHRONICLES 15

Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme _____

THE Spirit of God came upon Azariah the son of Oded,

- 2 and he went out to meet Asa and said to him, “Hear me, Asa, and all Judah and Benjamin: The LORD is with you while you are with him. If you seek him, he will be found by you, but if you forsake him, he will forsake you.
- 3 “For a long time Israel was without the true God, and without a teaching priest and without law,
- 4 but when in their distress they turned to the LORD, the God of Israel, and sought him, he was found by them.
- 5 “In those times there was no peace to him who went out or to him who came in, for great disturbances afflicted all the inhabitants of the lands.
- 6 “They were broken in pieces. Nation was crushed by nation and city by city, for God troubled them with every sort of distress.
- 7 “But you, take courage! Do not let your hands be weak, for your work shall be rewarded.”
- 8 As soon as Asa heard these words, the prophecy of Azariah the son of Oded, he took courage and put away the detestable idols from all the land of Judah and Benjamin and from the cities that he had taken in the hill country of Ephraim, and he repaired the altar of the LORD that was in front of the vestibule of the house of the LORD.
- 9 And he gathered all Judah and Benjamin, and those from Ephraim, Manasseh, and Simeon who were residing with them, for great numbers had deserted to him from Israel when they saw that the LORD his God was with him.
- 10 They were gathered at Jerusalem in the third month of the fifteenth year of the reign of Asa.



- 11 They sacrificed to the LORD on that day from the spoil that they had brought 700 oxen and 7,000 sheep.
- 12 And they entered into a covenant to seek the LORD, the God of their fathers, with all their heart and with all their soul,
- 13 but that whoever would not seek the LORD, the God of Israel, should be put to death, whether young or old, man or woman.
- 14 They swore an oath to the LORD with a loud voice and with shouting and with trumpets and with horns.
- 15 And all Judah rejoiced over the oath, for they had sworn with all their heart and had sought him with their whole desire, and he was found by them, and the LORD gave them rest all around.
- 16 Even Maacah, his mother, King Asa removed from being queen mother because she had made a detestable image for Asherah. Asa cut down her image, crushed it, and burned it at the brook Kidron.
- 17 But the high places were not taken out of Israel. Nevertheless, the heart of Asa was wholly true all his days.
- 18 And he brought into the house of God the sacred gifts of his father and his own sacred gifts, silver, and gold, and vessels.
- 19 And there was no more war until the thirty-fifth year of the reign of Asa.



2 CHRONICLES 16

Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme _____

- IN the thirty-sixth year of the reign of Asa, Baasha king of Israel went up against Judah and built Ramah, that he might permit no one to go out or come in to Asa king of Judah.
- 2 Then Asa took silver and gold from the treasures of the house of the LORD and the king's house and sent them to Ben-hadad king of Syria, who lived in Damascus, saying,
 - 3 "There is a covenant between me and you, as there was between my father and your father. Behold, I am sending to you silver and gold. Go, break your covenant with Baasha king of Israel, that he may withdraw from me."
 - 4 And Ben-hadad listened to King Asa and sent the commanders of his armies against the cities of Israel, and they conquered Ijon, Dan, Abel-maim, and all the store cities of Naphtali.
 - 5 And when Baasha heard of it, he stopped building Ramah and let his work cease.
 - 6 Then King Asa took all Judah, and they carried away the stones of Ramah and its timber, with which Baasha had been building, and with them he built Geba and Mizpah.
 - 7 At that time Hanani the seer came to Asa king of Judah and said to him, "Because you relied on the king of Syria, and did not rely on the LORD your God, the army of the king of Syria has escaped you.
 - 8 "Were not the Ethiopians and the Libyans a huge army with very many chariots and horsemen? Yet because you relied on the LORD, he gave them into your hand.
 - 9 "For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to give strong support to those whose heart is blameless toward him. You have done foolishly in this, for from now on you will have wars."



- 10 Then Asa was angry with the seer and put him in the stocks in prison, for he was in a rage with him because of this. And Asa inflicted cruelties upon some of the people at the same time.
- 11 The acts of Asa, from first to last, are written in the Book of the Kings of Judah and Israel.
- 12 In the thirty-ninth year of his reign Asa was diseased in his feet, and his disease became severe. Yet even in his disease he did not seek the LORD, but sought help from physicians.
- 13 And Asa slept with his fathers, dying in the forty-first year of his reign.
- 14 They buried him in the tomb that he had cut for himself in the city of David. They laid him on a bier that had been filled with various kinds of spices prepared by the perfumer's art, and they made a very great fire in his honor.



2 CHRONICLES 14–20 AT A GLANCE

Chapter Themes

14
15
16
17
18
19
20



God Searches For a Heart Fully His
Israel in the Days of Elijah





God Searches For a Heart Fully His
The Kings of Israel and Judah




THE KINGS OF ISRAEL AND JUDAH

B.C.	Kings of Israel	Prophets to Israel	Enemies	Prophets to Judah	Kings of Judah	B.C.
980					David 1011-971 Son of Jesse Man after God's own heart. Lord appointed as king & made covenant - D. Will not lack a man on Israel's throne. Repentant when sinned. God gave him pattern for Temple.	980
970					Solomon 971-931 Son of:	970
960						960
950						950



God Searches For a Heart Fully His
The Kings of Israel and Judah

THE KINGS OF ISRAEL AND JUDAH

B.C.	Kings of Israel	Prophets to Israel	Enemies	Prophets to Judah	Kings of Judah	B.C.
940						940
930	 Jeroboam 931-910 Son of:	Ahijah 931-906 Man of God from Judah Iddo 921-902	Egypt →	Shemaiah 931-901	 Rehoboam 931-913 Son of:	930
920					 Abijah or Abijah 913-911 Son of:	920



THE KINGS OF ISRAEL AND JUDAH

B.C.	Kings of Israel	Prophets to Israel	Enemies	Prophets to Judah	Kings of Judah	B.C.
910	Nadab 910-909 Son of:				Asa 911-870 Son of:	910
900	Baasha 909-886 Son of:			Azariah 900-875		900
890	Elah 886 Son of:	Jehu 891-865		Hanani 895-870		890
880	Omri 885-874 Son of: Tibni 885-880 Son of:					880

