# INFORMED AND FAITHFUL

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#### BUILDING A NATION

- Judges 2:10 All that generation also were gathered to their fathers; and there arose another generation after them who did not know the Lord, nor yet the work which He had done for Israel.
- ❖ Judges 2:11-13 Then the sons of Israel did evil in the sight of the Lord and served the Baals, and they forsook the Lord, the God of their fathers, who had brought them out of the land of Egypt, and followed other gods from among the gods of the peoples who were around them, and bowed themselves down to them; thus they provoked the Lord to anger. So they forsook the Lord and served Baal and the Ashtaroth.
- ❖ Judges 2:15 Wherever they went, the hand of the Lord was against them for evil, as the Lord had spoken and as the Lord had sworn to them, so that they were severely distressed.

## JUDGES OF ISRAEL 1380-1045 BC

- Othniel (3:7-11) 1st Judge after Joshua's death
- Ehud (3:12-30) Fought the Moabites
- Shagmar (3:31) Led Israelites against the Philistines
- Deborah (4-5) Prophetess, guided Barak to victory over the Canaanites, only female judge
- Gideon (6-8) Defeated Midianites with 300 men
- Abimelech (9) Only judge to win leadership through-- treachery Jews don't count
- Tola (10:1-5) Judged Israel for 23 years
- Yair (10: 1-5) Judged Israel for 22 years
- Jepthah (10:17-12:7) Defeated Ammonites
- Ibzan (12:8-15) Judged people for 7 years
- Elon (12:8-15) Judge for 10 years
- Abdon (12:8-15) Ruled for 8 years
- Samson (13-16) Fought Phillistines singlehandedly
- Eli (1 Samuel 1:9) Priest, ruled people from the sanctuary at Gilo
- Samuel Last judge before the kingdom came under the rule of Saul

## GOD'S PLAN

- \*Judges 2:16-17 Then the Lord raised up judges who delivered them from the hands of those who plundered them. Yet they did not listen to their judges, for they played the harlot after other gods and bowed themselves down to them. They turned aside quickly from the way in which their fathers had walked in obeying the commandments of the Lord; they did not do as their fathers.
- 1 Samuel 3:1 Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the Lord before Eli. And word from the Lord was rare in those days, visions were infrequent.
- After the battle of Ebenezer, the people followed. Samuel's judgeship for about 40 years

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## FIRST KING: SAUL

- ♣ 1 Samuel 8:4-6 Then all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah; and they said to him, "Behold, you have grown old, and your sons do not walk in your ways. Now appoint a king for us to judge us like all the nations." But the thing was displeasing in the sight of Samuel when they said, "Give us a king to judge us." And Samuel prayed to the Lord.
- Saul became king around 1051 BC; started well; finished badly
- God had Samuel anoint David to be king while Saul was still reigning
- 1 Samuel 16:14 Now the Spirit of the Lord departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from the Lord terrorized him.
- ❖ 1 Samuel 28:7 Then Saul said to his servants, "Seek for me a woman who is a medium, that I may go to her and inquire of her." And his servants said to him, "There is a woman who is a medium at En-dor."

## SECOND KING: DAVID

- David did not immediately take over kingdom upon being anointed by Samuel
- Saul became fearful of David because of the adulation of the people after the slaying of Goliath (1 Samuel 17:54 Then David took the Philistine's head and brought it to Jerusalem, but he put his weapons in his tent.) (John 19:17 They took Jesus, therefore, and He went out, bearing His own cross, to the place called the Place of a Skull, which is called in Hebrew, Golgotha.)
- Saul tried to kill David multiple times
- David was in covenant with Jonathan
- David was in covenant with the elders of Israel
- David was in covenant with God
- David captured Jerusalem (city of David) and brought the ark of the covenant to it

# THIRD KING: SOLOMON

- David's last words of praise and acknowledgement of covenant are recorded in 2 Samuel 23.
- Solomon, David's son, became king at David's death
- Solomon built the temple in Jerusalem and dedicated it in 953 BC
- 2 Chronicles 6:13 Now Solomon had made a bronze platform, five cubits long, five cubits wide and three cubits high, and had set it in the midst of the court; and he stood on it, knelt on his knees in the presence of all the assembly of Israel and spread out his hands toward heaven.
- 2 Chronicles 7:1 Now when Solomon had finished praying, fire came down from heaven and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices, and the glory of the Lord-filled the house.

## THE KINGDOM SPLIT

- After the death of Solomon, the kingdom split into a Northern Kingdom and a Southern Kingdom
- The northern kingdom fell more quickly because of greater sin, finally being taken by Assyria in 722 B.C. They had paid tribute to Assyria for 6 years; they were beseiged for 3 years after Hoshea sought help from Egypt
- 2 Kings 17:7-11 Now this came about because the sons of Israel had sinned against the Lord their God, who had brought them up from the land of Egypt from under the hand of Pharaoh, king of Egypt, and they had feared other gods and walked in the customs of the nations whom the Lord had driven out before the sons of Israel, and in the customs of the kings of Israel which they had introduced. The sons of Israel did things secretly which were not right against the Lord their God. Moreover, they built for themselves high places in all their towns, from watchtower to fortified city. They set for themselves sacred pillars and Asherim on every high hill and under every green tree...

#### KINGS OF JUDAH AND ISRAEL

King Saul

King David

King Solomon

Prophet Samuel Prophet Nathan

Rehoboam, Abijah, Asa\*, Jehoshaphat\*, Jehoram, Ahaziah, Athalia, Joash, Amaziah, Uzziah\* (Azariah), Jotham\*, Ahaz, Hezekiah\*,' Manasseh, Amon, Josiah\*, Jehoahaz (Shallum), Jehoiakim (Eliakim), Jehoiachin (Jeconiah, Coniah), Mattaniah (Zedekiah) CAPTIVITY TO BABYLON 586 BC

Jeroboam, Nadab, Baasha, Elah, Zimri, Omri, Ahab, Ahaziah, Jehoram (Joram), Jehu, Jehoahaz, Jehoash, Jeroboam, Zechariah, Shallum, Mebnahem, Pekakiah, Pekah, Hoshea CAPTIVITY TO ASSYRIA 722 BC

## THE UNBELIEVABLE FIND

- 2 Kings 22:8 Then Hilkiah the high priest said to Shaphan the scribe, "I have found the book of the law in the house of the Lord." And Hilkiah gave the book to Shaphan who read it.
- 2 Kings 22:11 When the king heard the words of the book of the law, he tore his clothes.
- There was repentance but it was short lived
- The people in the southern kingdom of Judah took God for granted; they took their freedom and blessing for granted; they served other gods when their nation had been founded on the true God

# RECOGNIZING POVERTY

- Matthew 5:3 "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."
- \* Poor: ptochos: to crouch, beg; be a pauper; realize worthlessness
- \* Isaiah 6:1-5 In the year of King Uzziah's death I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, lofty and exalted, with the train of His robe filling the temple. Seraphim stood above Him, each having six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. And one called out to another and said, "Holy, Holy, Holy, is the Lord of hosts, the whole earth is full of His glory." And the foundations of the thresholds trembled at the voice of him who called out, while the temple was filling with smoke. Then I said, "Woe is me, for I am ruined! Because I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts."

#### STILL NATION BUILDING

- God allowed his covenant people to be taken captive
- The southern kingdom fell to Babylon in 586 BC
- The beautiful temple of Solomon was destroyed
- The beautiful temple furnishings and gold were carried away; some was later returned under the Medo-Persian empire; most was lost forever
- The ark of the covenant has not been seen since this time
- God gave the reason for the fall: failure to keep the sabbatical year