

Lesson 8

1 Kings 1-4; 1 Chron. 28-29

Death of David + Solomon
begins his reign.

Lesson: David is getting older + his life is coming to an end. People around him know that he's going to die soon + they try to make one of David's son, Adonijah, king. But he isn't supposed to be the next king!

David hears about this plan from his wife Bathsheba + some other men. So David gets Zadok the priest, Nathan the prophet, + Benaiah ^(son of Jehoida) all together. David tells them to put his son SOLOMON on his own mule + anoint Solomon King of Israel, and to blow the trumpet + say, "Long live King Solomon!" Then Solomon was to go + sit on David's throne because David chose Solomon to be King over Israel + Judah.

All of what David said was done.

Now all this trumpet blowing + shouting was loud! And guess who heard it? Adonijah + his friends! But they think all the noise is good news being brought to them. It's NOT!

Adonijah is told, "No! Our lord King David has made Solomon king." This made Adonijah and his friends terrified + they all left!

So, Solomon is king + David encourages Solomon his son to always obey God.

READ 1 Kings 2:3

David died old, full of days, riches + honor.
≈ 70-71 years old

Lesson 8

1 Kings 1-4; 1 Chron. 28-29

Wednesday

Death of David
and Solomon begins his reign

Lesson: Now that Solomon is king, he prays to God. And Solomon is so humble, not trusting in his own abilities, and tells God that he needs help being king.

He asks God: READ 1 Kings 3:9-10

So God was happy with Solomon's prayer. God said, "You didn't ask for a long life, or a whole bunch of money, or for your enemies to be killed, but instead, you asked for wisdom! I will give you so much wisdom, that no one before OR after you will be like you. Plus I'll give you riches + honor. And if you obey me, I'll give you a long life."

Since Solomon was so wise, people would come + ask him for help. One day 2 women came before. They lived in the same house + they both had new babies.

One of the women said, "At night, she laid on her baby boy + he died! So she got up + took my son while I slept and put her dead son next to me. When I woke up, I see the boy is dead, but then I realize it's not my son!"

Now the OTHER woman says, "No! The dead son is hers + the alive son is mine!"

And they go back + forth about who's son is alive or dead.

Oh my! What a problem to solve!

But Solomon, being so wise, says, "Alright. You both say the living son is your own and the dead son is the other woman's."

"Bring me my sword," Solomon declares, so servants give him his sword.

Solomon says, "Divide the child in two and that way you both get half the baby."

Well, the lady who's baby it was said, "Oh no! Just give him to her - don't kill him!"

And the other woman said, "Sure-divide him!"
Now Solomon knows who the REAL mommy is - the one who doesn't want her son to die!

So Solomon gives the baby to her.
When everyone heard what Solomon decided, they knew that God had helped him!

Lesson 9

1 Kings 5-9
2 Chron. 2-7

Solomon builds the temple and
God's agreement with his lineage

Before David died, he prayed to God for his son, Solomon.
(We pray to ~~people~~ God for other people, don't we?)
READ 1 Chron. 29:18-19

So David asks God to help Solomon to obey God + to do something else - build the temple! Remember how David wanted to, but God said, "No, you won't be the one to do it, but a descendant will." And did David obey, even though he wanted to build it? Yes!
He obeyed!

And now, Solomon is the one!
In 1 Kings 5:3 we can read why David couldn't build the temple - because there were too many wars, but Solomon had peace all around him, so he was able to.

So the materials used to make + build the temple were:

- + cedar, cypress, algum woods
- + gold, silver, brass, + iron
- + purple, crimson, violet fabrics

All very beautiful materials

Starting in 2 Chronicles 3, it describes the temple.

- There was a long porch - covered in gold.
- The main room had cypress wood - gold over that + decorated w/ Palm trees + Chains.

The main room also had precious stones + carved cherubim on the walls.

- The room holy of holies was also covered

in gold & had 2 cherubim sculptures and
THEY were covered in gold.

- There was a veil of purple, crimson, & violet linen & there were cherubim on it.

There was a :
bronze altar
basins to wash
golden lampstands
tables
golden bowls
big doors covered in bronze
pails, shovels, forks
flowers, lamps, tongs made of
the purest gold.

Finally the temple is finished. Solomon assembles the elders & heads of the tribes & they bring up the ark of the covenant & it was put in the holy of holies.

READ 2 Chron 5:13

Then Solomon prays in front of the people, after the prayer, fire came down & consumed the burnt offering & sacrifices & God's glory filled the house. No one could get in because the glory of the Lord filled the house.

Everyone, seeing the fire & glory of the Lord, bowed down with their faces to the ground & worshiped & praised God and said, "Truly He is good, truly His loving kindness is everlasting."

Lesson 9 - Wednesday

Review Temple

READ 2 Chron. 7:11

The the LORD comes to Solomon at night and tells him, He's heard the prayer + that He has chosen the temple for His house.

God goes on to say that if He stops the rain or sends locusts to eat everything, or send pestilence (disease) ~~among~~ ^{His} people, and then if the people humble themselves + pray + seek God and not wickedness, then God will hear them from heaven + forgive them!

READ 2 Chron. 7:15

So God will see + hear their prayers.

READ 2 Chron 7:17-18 - says to Solomon

But if Solomon turns away from God + stops serving + obeying Him, and starts worshipping idols, then God will... READ 2 Chron 7:20

So God will not be ~~with~~ with Solomon or the people! And if they walk away from God, others will notice + wonder why. They'll say "because they left the LORD to serve other Gods - so He brought trouble for them." (vs. 21-22)

If God says this will happen if they leave Him, will it? yes
God keeps His promises!

Other promises: -Told David someone else to build temple: Solomon

- Said David + Bathsheba's 1st baby would die: he did, then had Solomon

- Abraham + Sarah, promised a baby when already very old. Did they? yes
Isaac!

- After flood, God promised to Never destroy WHOLE earth again w/ water.
Has He kept that promise? yes! What did He put in the sky to remind us of that promise? rainbow

Solomon's Success & Decline

1 Kings 10-11; 2 Chron. 9

Lesson 10

Remember back when Solomon first became king & he could've asked for anything? What did he ask for? wisdom And because he asked God for wisdom, a very unselfish thing to ask for, Solomon was given wisdom. God said He would give Solomon riches too!

Now since Solomon was so wise, other kings & queens heard of him. They wanted to see him & give him presents. But not just any old presents - they brought him gold, silver, & jewels! He was also given spices, trees, clothes, weapons, horses & mules. He also had gold cups, gold shields, an ivory throne, apes, & peacocks!

A queen, the queen of Sheba, had heard about Solomon. She brought him many gifts. She also asked him lots of questions. READ 1 Kings 10:3, 6, 9
READ 1 Kings 10:24 So lots of people wanted to hear Solomon & would bring gifts

But, when Solomon was old, (11:4) something happened. Solomon had many friends who didn't believe in the one true God - they believed in other gods. And because of this, Solomon turned his heart from God & did evil (vs. 6). He even built idols for ~~his friends~~ the gods his friends believed in!

God was NOT happy. Because Solomon turned from God, God allowed Solomon to have enemies - not peace anymore. One of these enemies was named Jeroboam, and he was a valiant warrior. He is told: READ 1 Kings 11:31-32

So God is going to take all the tribes away from Solomon, except for 1: BECAUSE God promised David that he'll have a descendant on the throne always. (1 Kings 8:25)

But... Jeroboam is told he will have to obey God + all of His commandments.

God wants everyone to obey + follow Him, doesn't He? ☺

Well, Solomon tries to have Jeroboam killed, but he runs + goes to Egypt + stays there until Solomon dies.

After ~~reigning~~ reigning over Israel for 40 years Solomon dies. His son Rehoboam then becomes king.

Principle: So we need to be careful who our friends are. Solomon had friends that led him away from God, so then he had all this trouble with enemies + Jeroboam.

Application: We need to have friends that will HELP us follow God better + we need to be a good friend to the people we know.

4-6 yr. olds

Lesson 11

Israel^{is} Divided Between Rehoboam + Jeroboam

1 Kings 12-14

Rehoboam, Solomon's son was made king.

Now, Jeroboam is in Egypt, ~~was~~ but came back.

why in Egypt? He was a good man - that's why God wanted to give him 10 tribes of the Kingdom - but had to run b/c Solomon wanted to kill him.

All the people and Jeroboam come to Rehoboam and said, "Rehoboam - your father, Solomon, made our work hard. Please, make our work easier than he did, & we'll serve you."

Rehoboam says, "Go away for 3 days, then come back"

So they left.

King Rehoboam goes to the elders who also worked with his dad and asked them what he should do. They advised saying READ 1 Kings 12:7

But Rehoboam didn't listen to what they said. Instead he asked the young men, his friends, he grew up with, "What do you think I should do? Make the people's work easier?"

THEY told him, "No! Don't make it easier. In fact, you should give them MORE WORK!" They say to tell the people that "hey, Solomon disciplined you with whips - I will use scorpions!"

Well, after the 3 days, Jeroboam + the pple came back to get their answer. Rehoboam didn't listen to the elders but his friends instead! He said, "My father made you work hard - I'm going to make you work harder! My father disciplined you w/ whips - I will use scorpions."

Well the people did not like that!

Get map

So now, the kingdom splits.

→ Jeroboam was made king over Israel.

Rehoboam over Judah, ~~because none of those people followed~~ When he came to Jerusalem, Rehoboam assembled an army to fight against Israel to bring them back to Rehoboam. But God said, "No, don't go fight - just have everyone go home." They listened to God + went home! Yah!

Jeroboam, though, starts thinking READ 1 Kings 12:27

So if the people in Israel, go to the temple in Jerusalem, Jeroboam is afraid the people will go back to Rehoboam.

So he makes 2 golden calves + tells the people, "It's too much for you to go to Jerusalem. Here are your gods (the calves) that brought you from Egypt!" MAP = He put one in Bethel, the other in Dan. He also makes priests - he allows anyone to become one - not just from tribe of Levi. He sets up feasts + sacrifices, too: all things he had no permission for = it's a sin (vs. 30) And the Kingdom of Israel follow this! None of this is good!

If Rehoboam would've listened to the elders instead of ~~the~~ the men his age, the kingdom wouldn't have split.

Another instance where it is so important who our friends are and who we listen to. Listening to wisdom + obeying God ^{would} have ~~kept~~ Rehoboam out of this trouble.

If Jeroboam would have obeyed God, he wouldn't have led his kingdom to idolatry! Like Solomon, Jeroboam, we can be good + follow God, but if not careful we can go down the wrong path.
 Solomon listened to wives/friends, Jeroboam thought too highly of himself?

1 Kings 17

Lesson 12 Elijah Survives the drought and raises Widow's son

Lots of time has passed since Jeroboam was king over Israel, about 80-90 years. Now a man named Ahab is king.

There was a prophet in the land named Elijah. He said that there wouldn't be rain or any dew, except for when he said it would rain. Then God told him to go and hide by a brook named Cherith. God told Elijah to drink from the brook and that ravens would bring him food.

Elijah obeyed God and went to the brook Cherith, and ravens brought him bread & meat in the morning and bread and meat at night, and he drank from the brook.

After awhile the water in the brook dried up - because remember, it hadn't ~~been~~ been raining.

Then God told Elijah to leave, go to a city named Zarephath, and a widow will take care of him there.

What is a widow? a woman whose husband has died.

So again, Elijah obeys God & he goes where God told him. At the gate of the city, he sees the widow gathering sticks. Elijah asks her to get ~~him~~ some water. As she goes to get it he calls, "Oh! And please bring me a piece of bread."

READ 1 Kings 17:12 So that's all she had left to feed them - a little oil & a little flour. When that's all gone, they'll have ~~no~~ nothing more to eat & they'll die.

But Elijah told her not to be afraid. She needs to do what he tells her - make a little bread cake for him then one for her + her son.

Elijah told her, "the LORD of Israel says, "the flour won't be used up + the oil jar won't be empty until the day the LORD sends rain again.""

So she obeyed what Elijah said, - and she didn't run out!

Remember, this woman has a son. He became so sick that he died. The widow said to Elijah READ 1 Kings 17:18.

So she sees it as God punishing her for any wrong she's done.

Instead, she should have thought, "Hey! I have a prophet of God living with me! This can help my faith to grow!"

Well, Elijah asks her for her son and Elijah carries the boy up to the room where he was staying + put the boy on his bed. Elijah called to God, "Have you brought trouble to this widow I'm staying with + making her son die?"

Then Elijah stretched himself over the boy 3 times and called to God, "O LORD, I pray you, let this child's life return to him!"

God heard Elijah + answered his prayer. Then Elijah + the boy went back downstairs + Elijah said, "See, your son is alive." Then the widow said to Elijah, "Now I know that you are a man of God + that the word of the LORD in your mouth is truth!"

Principle: Obedience, trust, faith

Application: God helps everyone + He's the God of everyone.

We should talk to all we can about God.
We shouldn't blame God when bad things happen.

* Jesus uses this account in Luke 4, showing Gentile evangelism and faith in God + His love for everyone. (widow a Gentile) Luke 4:26

Elijah Victorious on Mt. Carmel and Fear before Jezebel

Lesson 13

1 Kings 18-19:8

After Kingdom split Jeroboam King of Northern Kingdom, Israel. Then there was Nadab, Baasha, Elah, Zimri, Omri, then Ahab. About 80-90 yrs between Jeroboam - Ahab. Ahab is King now.

Lesson

We're going to be talking about Elijah again. God told Elijah to go to King Ahab, and then God will send rain. (There is a famine. ^{What's a famine?} no rain, so food scarce.)
So Elijah heads out to see King Ahab.

As Elijah is walking, he meets a friend, Obadiah. Now Obadiah works for King Ahab, so Elijah tells Obadiah to let King Ahab know he's here. So Obadiah tells Ahab & Ahab goes to meet Elijah. Ahab doesn't like Elijah & calls him a troubler of Israel.

Elijah says, "I'm not a troubler of Israel, but you are! You don't obey God but instead you follow Baals (idols)." Then Elijah tells Ahab to gather the people & 450 prophets of Baal & 400 prophets of the Asherah & meet ^{to the people} up at Mt. Carmel. So everyone meets at Mt. Carmel. Elijah says, "You need to decide - If the LORD is God, follow Him, but if Baal, follow him." But no one answered. So he says, "I'm the only prophet of God here & there are 450 prophets of Baal."

Then Elijah sets up a contest, of sorts. He wants 2 oxen, the prophets of Baal will choose the one they want, Elijah will get the other. They'll cut their ox, place it on the wood - but they weren't to put fire under it. Then Elijah would do the same to his ox. Then the prophets of Baal are to call on their god, Elijah will call on the LORD & the one who answers by sending fire, that one is the true God. So the prophets agree!

They choose an ox, cut it up, place it on wood, & from morning

until noon they call to Baal! But there is no answer. Then they start jumping - "Baal! Answer us!"

After awhile Elijah teases them + tells them, "Hey, maybe yell louder because maybe he's busy, or away on a trip, or maybe he's asleep!" So they did this all the way until the evening, but there was no answer. Elijah says, "Everyone, come here," and they did. Elijah fixes his altar, he digs a trench, or ditch, all around the altar. Then he arranges his oxen meat + wood. Then he tells them to fill up 4 pitchers of water + pour it over the meat + wood. They did. Elijah says do it again, they do, and a third. Now there is water all over the meat, ~~wood~~ wood, and in the trench.

Then Elijah takes his turn to call on the LORD.
READ 1 Kings 18:36-37

Guess what?! Fire fell + consumed the meat, wood, stones, dust + even burnt up the water in the trench!

How can this be? If something's wet, can it burn? No!
How did all of this burn? God - He can do anything

Well when the ppl saw this they fell on their faces! They said, "The LORD, He is God!" Then Elijah tells the ppl to catch the prophets of Baal + let no one escape! Then Elijah took them to the brook Kishon + they were killed.

Why didn't the Baals answer? They aren't real
What did Elijah, having all the water put on, prove? that God is powerful + can do anything

Lesson 13

Wednesday

Now King Ahab - remember Ahab - he does NOT like Elijah. Ahab told his wife, Jezebel, what Elijah had done - that Elijah had killed all the prophets! (Ahab + Jezebel liked those prophets of Baal.)

Well Jezebel was very mad at Elijah! She sent a message to Elijah that "by this time tomorrow you will be dead - and if not, may the gods kill me." So Jezebel wants Elijah dead by ~~tomorrow~~ the next day - if not, may her false gods kill her.

This scared Elijah + he ran! He went into the wilderness + sat under a tree and asked God that he can please, die.
READ 1 Kings 19:5-8

Even though Elijah was scared + thought nothing else could be done except to die, God took care of him.
Will God take care of us when we're scared? Sick? Happy?