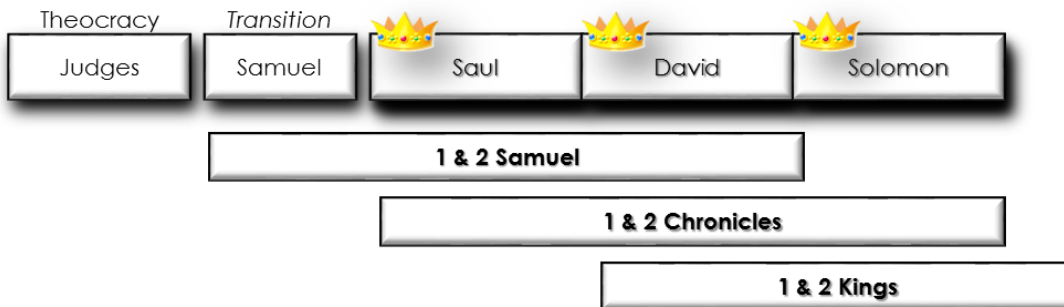


LESSON 8: THE UNITED MONARCHY PERIOD

Discovering the Heart of the Old Testament

QUICK LOOK AT THE PERIOD

- A. The United Monarchy is the name given to the Israelite kingdom of Israel and Judah, during the reigns of Saul, David and Solomon.
- B. This is traditionally dated between 1050 and 930 BC.



THE KINGSHIP OF SAUL

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saul began by putting the Lord first in his life. • He had physical superiority (1 Samuel 9:2). • He was given the Holy Spirit (1 Samuel 10:9-13). • He was discreet (1 Samuel 10:27), generous (1 Samuel 11:12, 13), and had godly companions (1 Samuel 10:25, 26). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He relied less on Samuel's advice • He took the priestly function, which should have been Samuel's, into his own hand against the will of God (1 Samuel 13:8-13). As a result his kingdom did not flourish (1 Samuel 13:14). • He didn't execute Agag the Amalekite (1 Samuel 15:9). • He lost the Spirit of God (1 Samuel 16:14). • His frustration caused him to kill the priests of Nob (1 Samuel 22:11-19). • He turned to witchcraft at Endor (1 Samuel 28:7-20). • He committed suicide to end his life (1 Samuel 31:4).

THE KINGSHIP OF DAVID

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A valiant spirit. • Military strategy. • Diplomatic skills. • Musical and poetic gifts. • Ability to admit his faults. • An unshakeable trust in God. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committed adultery with Bathsheba. • Arranged the murder of Uriah, Bathsheba's husband. • Directly disobeyed God in taking a census of the people. • Poor father--his reluctance to take needed disciplinary action brought bloodshed within his own family.

THE DAVIDIC COVENANT (2 SAM. 7:1-17)

- A. David is to have a child, yet to be born, who shall succeed him and establish his kingdom (2 Sam. 7:11-12).
- B. This son (Solomon) shall build the temple instead of David (2 Sam. 7:13a).
- C. The throne of his kingdom shall be established forever (2 Sam. 7:13b).
- D. The throne will not be taken away from him (Solomon) even though his sins justify chastisement (2 Sam. 7:14-15).
- E. David's house, throne, and kingdom shall be established forever (2 Sam. 7:16).

THE KINGSHIP OF SOLOMON

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Requested wisdom from God so that he could successfully lead Israel.• Directed the construction of Israel's first temple.• Led Israel to become a significant kingdom in the ancient near east.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Married foreign pagan women.• Allowed pagan wives to divert his devotion from God.• Established excessive taxation.

TEMPLES OF ISRAEL

- A. 1st Temple: Built during Solomon's reign (mid 900s BC), destroyed later by Nebuchadnezzar (586 BC).
- B. 2nd Temple: Completed in 516 BC, beautified by Herod the Great and completed in AD 64. Destroyed by Titus in AD 70.
- C. 3rd Temple: Future (Tribulation Period) temple. See Matthew 24:15; Mark 13:14.
- D. Ezekiel's Temple: A future temple? (Ezekiel 40-43).



Portions of these notes are adapted from the Life Applications Bible (NIV) (Zondervan)