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**Wednesday, February 8, 2023 • Read 2Kings 15**


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Questions from the Scripture text: In what year, of whose reign, where, did who become king where (v1)? How old was he (v2)? How long did he reign? Who was his mother, from where? What did he do (v3)? In Whose eyes? According to what? With what shortcoming (v4)? What did Yahweh do in v5? With what result for the king? Who ruled during this time? How much more of his fifty-two (!) years of reigning is recorded here (v6)? What happened when he died (v7)? In what year, of whose reign, where, did who become king, where (v8)? How long did he reign? What did he do (v9)? In Whose sight? Like whom? Especially by not departing from what? How did the transition of power occur (v10)? Before whom? What else of his reign is recorded here (v11)? Why wasn't Zechariah's son able to take the throne like his predecessors who were assassinated (v12)? In what year of whose reign did who become king (v13)? How long did he reign, where? How did this transition of power take place (v14)? What else is recorded here of Shallum (v15)? What was the new king like; what did he do (v16)? In what year, of whose reign, where, did who become king, where (v17)? For how long, and in what city? What did he do (v18)? In whose sight? By not departing from what? Who did what in v19? How did Menahem manage to keep the kingdom? Where did he get so much silver (v20)? With what result? What else of his ten year reign is recorded here (v21)? With whom did he lay down (v22)? Who reigned in his place? In what year, of whose reign, where, did who become king over where (v23)? In what city? For how long? What did he do (v24)? In Whose sight? By not departing from what? Who conspires against Pekahiah in v25? Where does he kill him, with whom? What else is recorded here of Pekahiah (v26)? In what year, of whose reign, where, did who become king over where (v27)? In what city? How long did he reign? What did he do (v28)? In Whose sight? By not departing from what? What happened in his days (v29)? Then how did his reign end (v30)? Who reigned in his place? In what year of whose reign? What else is recorded here of his reign (v31)? In what year, of whose reign, over whom, did who become king of whom (v32)? How old was he (v33)? How long did he reign? Who was his mother? What did he do (v34)? According to what pattern? With what shortcoming (v35)? But what did he accomplish? What else is recorded here of his sixteen years of reigning (v36)? What happened during his reign (v37)? What happened when he died (v38)? Who reigned in his place?

**When there's chaos in the church and in the world, what is the Lord doing?** 2Kings 15 looks forward to the first serial reading in morning public worship on the coming Lord's Day. In these thirty-eight verses of Holy Scripture, the Holy Spirit teaches us that **despite all the chaos that we see from sinners and their sin, the history of the world and the church marches steadily on, in fulfillment of the Word of God.**

**The Lord is faithful to His Word of promise.** Things have been bad in the northern kingdom the whole time, but things go to pot (or go to Pul, a.k.a. Tiglath Pileser the Assyrian) in this chapter. Azariah (a.k.a. Uzziah) is in his 38<sup>th</sup> year of reigning in Judah in v8, but has time to span five more kings in the north. They're the last five kings, and at the end, the northern kingdom literally falls apart (v29). It turns out that the one thing that had kept this from happening earlier was the Word of Yahweh to Jehu (v12, cf. 10:30). Things often go badly in the world and in the church, but we would do well to remember that for the sake of fulfilling His Word—and in particular, His Word about Christ and His kingdom—the Lord is actually restraining the evil and the chaos.

**The Lord is faithful to His Word of curse.** Jeroboam the son of Nebat had capitalized on Aaronic precedent and established a feast to Yahweh (1Ki 12:32, cf. Ex 32:5) at altars before bull images (1Ki 12:28, cf. Ex 32:4), devising the holy days from his own heart (1Ki 12:33). And Israel never did do away with their manmade way of commemorating God's great works of redemption (v9, v18, v24, v28).

So now God is doing away with Israel. Hoshea is on the throne in v30, but he's now a surrogate of Assyria, and that will come to a final end in chapter 17. But the Lord had threatened this in Deut 4:23–28. Moses warned them precisely against this manmade religion, and that Yahweh would scatter them to lands where there wasn't even the pretense of worshiping Yahweh by the images, but just the worship of the wood and stone itself. And now, dreadfully, after marvelous patience and longsuffering on the Lord's part, His Word of curse has proven true.

The Word of God has promised the coming day of wrath for the world, and though He has been marvelously patient, it will eventually prove perfectly true (cf. 2Pet 3). And the words of Jesus to many churches (whose lampstands have now been removed) warned that they were testing His patience (cf. Rev 2–3). We mustn't mistake patience for indifference. We must hate what he hates and repent of it, embracing instead the love of Him Who currently bears with us so patiently (cf. Rom 2:4–5).

**The Lord is bringing salvation.** Uzziah doesn't get nearly the press here that he does in 2Chr 26. His greatest flaw is referred to backhandedly by the punishment for it (v5, cf. 2Chr 26:19–23). Things under him and Jotham aren't perfect (v4, 35a). But, they are Davidic (v3, 7, 34, 38). There is a promise like that which had been made to Jehu (v12), but the one to David is for a forever-King. The coming of Jesus is still in the background of this passage.

What manmade ways of marking God's redemptive acts is the church having difficulty getting rid of? What might we expect the Lord to give the church over to, since He is the same today as in 2Kings 15? Why is He still being patient? How should we be responding to that patience?

*Sample prayer: Lord, we praise You for Your marvelous patience. You have saved Your people with great acts of redemption. And You have given us the way of commemorating these acts in Your worship. But like Aaron and Jeroboam the son of Nebat, we are prone to coming up with our own ways of commemorating Your redemptive acts. And like these five kings, and the many generations from Aaron down to them, Your churches keep persisting in their sin, as if You will never come and remove their lampstands. But here we stand before You today, beholding the riches of Your forbearance, and longsuffering, once again. Grant that by Your Spirit, these would lead us to repentance and faith in Your Son, our Lord Jesus, in Whose Name we ask it, AMEN!*

Suggested songs: ARP72A "God, Give Your Judgments to the King" or TPH72A "O God, Your Judgments Give the King"

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Second kings 15. These are the words of god. And the 27th year of geroboam king of Israel. That's ryerson of amazon, king of judah. Became king. He was 16 years old when he became king. And he arranged 52 years in jerusalem. His mother's name was jealous of jerusalem. And he did what was right in the sight of yahua.

According to all that his father, amazon had done. Except that the high places we're not removed. The people still sacrificed and burned incense on the high places. Then you always struck the king so that he was a leper until the day of his death. So he dwelt in an isolated house and jot them king, king's son.

Was over the royal house, judging the people of land. Another rest of the act of asria and all that he did, are they not written in the book. Of the chronicles, the kings of judah. So as we arrested with his fathers and they buried him with his fathers, In the city of david.

Then drop them, his son reigned in his place. And the 38th year of asere, king of juda, Zacharia, The son of rejero bomb died. Sorry, rained over israel, in Samaria. Six months. And he did evil. And the side of the aqua is his fathers had done. He did not depart from the sins.

Of zero poem, the son of nibat. Tomatoes rosin. Then shalom, the son of jabesh. Conspired against him and struck and killed him in front of the people. And he reigned in his place. Now, the rest of the acts of Zecharia, Indeed, they are written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel.

This was the word of yahweh, which He spoke to who said, Your sons are set on the throne of Israel to the fourth generation. So, it was Shalom. The son of jabesh became king in the 39th year of the Seahawk kingdom Judah. And he reigned a full month in Samaria.

And the son of Gaddy. Went up from tiered, son came to Samaria, instructionaloom instead of gabash and Samaria and killed him. He reigned in his place. The rest of the act of salute and the conspiracy which he led Indeed, they are written in a book of the chronicles. The kings of Israel.

Then from tertz, mana hem, attacked tipsa. All who were there and its territory because they did not surrender, therefore he attacked it. All the women there. Who are with child, he ripped open. In the 39th year. That's rearing king of Judah, men and son of Gaddy became king of Israel.

And rained 10 years in Samaria. And he did evil and the side of Yahweh. You did not depart all his days from the sins of herobomb. Son of kneebat, you had made his real sin. Paul king of Assyria came against the land. And Manhattan gave Paul a thousand talents of silver.

Fit his hand might be with him to strengthen the kingdom under his control. And when I am exacted the money from Israel. From all the very wealthy from each man, 50 shekels of silver. To give to the king of Assyria. So the king of Assyria turned back and did not stay there in the land.

Now, the rest of the act of man and all that he did, I did not written in the book of the chronicles of the king's of Israel. So, I'm gonna have rested with his fathers. Then package here, his son reigned in his place. In the 50th year, that's Aha, king of Judah.

Became king of Israel and Samaria. And reigned two years. And he did evil on the side of Yahweh. He did not depart from the sins. Of Geroboam, the son of Nabat who made Israel sin. Then pack off the son of Ramalia. Offer officer of. Conspired against him and killed him in Samaria.

Then the citadel of the king's house along with our globe and are yeah. With him or 50 men of Gilead. He killed him and reigned in his place. Now the rest of the act to pick a here and all that he did, indeed. They are written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel.

In the 50 second year of Asaria, king of Judah. Pick up the son of Ramalia. Became king over Israel and Samaria and reigned 20 years. He did evil in the sight of Yahweh, he did not depart. From the sins of your own, son of knee back. Good made Israel sin.

In the days of Pica, can you Israel take left the laser king of its area? Okay. And took y'all bitmayaka. Younowa Kardashian Gilead. And Galilee all the land of Naftali. And he carried them captive to Assyria. Then hush a son of Ela led a conspiracy against Aha on the Ramalia.

And struck and killed him. So he reigned in his place in the 20th year of Joplin King Jotham. The son of Utsia. Now, the rest of the act of Pica and all that he did, indeed, they are written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel.

And the second year of Pica. Some of Emilia. King of Israel. Gotham the son of it's a king of Judah. Began to reign. He was 25 years old when he became king. And he reigned 16 years in Jerusalem, His mother's name was Jerusa. The daughter of Zatic. And he did what was right in the sight of Yahweh.

He did according to all that his father Utsia had done. However, the high places were not removed. People still sacrificed burned, incense on the high places. He built the upper gate of the house of Yahweh. Now, the rest of the act of Yotham, and all that he did are they not written in the book of the chronicles, the kings of Judah.

In those days, he all had began to send rates and king of Syria. And Pica. The son of Remalia against Judah. So Jathan rested with his fathers. And was buried with his fathers in the city of David, his father. Then they have his son. Rained in his place.

So far the reading of God's inspired and inherent word. Throughout this chapter, we have great stability. In Judah for 52 years. Pasaria or Asariah was American say? There's also known by the name Uzia or Uziya. Is the same king. Died. In Isaiah 6. And then the year that he died, I say I had the vision.

Of the hiking on his throne. The seraphene, the flame fire angels. Saying. Holy holy. Holy But he reigned 52 years. And in the north, He spend five six kings, really. If you count the ones who are on the throne, When he became king. And when he And when he died, And although the Family of David, the line of David is still on the throne.

The entire time in the south. We are interested in. Them, as Both the descendants of David. And as The seed of the woman. Those texts keeps telling us. To their mothers, were their mothers are also from From Israel. Yet things in the north. Are extremely chaotic. We see them.

Continuing to sin, we see Uh, several cues several assassinations. In this chapter, And we see. The northern kingdom. So, beginning to be exiled, which will be completed. In chapter 17. So, what we see in the north is actually what we see. Throughout human history. She said and violence, we see chaos, we see.

One kingdom or dynasty torn down. Another one raised up. And even in our own day, we live in a day. Of comparative chaos and sin. Even in the life of our own nation. Which at other times has had more outward conformity to God's law. And at other times. Has had more stability.

And so it's helpful to us. Whether we're talking about in the church or in the nation, Perhaps in the household sometimes even in our own hearts, when there is this chaos, And that's in. To be instructed by second kings 15, and to see what the Lord is highlighting. What is he doing?

And what are we to think? As he does it behind the scenes. Of history like this. And the first thing that we are to see is that the word of Yahweh is controlling everything? We already mentioned that the reason that Sons of David are still on the thrones in the south is that the Lord had made a promise to them.

And we already, Thought about the fact that, This was actually. A second promise or Third, fourth, fifth. There have been other promises to Abraham and so forth. In between. But this is participating in the same. Promises of the covenant of grace in which the seed of the woman has been promised to crush.

The serpent's head. But even the north, we see. That the reason that, For generations of JJ's family. Had followed on the throne of the north was because the Lord had promised that So verse 12 says, this was the word of Yahweh, which he spoke to Saying your sons shall sit.

On the throne of Israel. To the fourth generation. The Lord keeps his words. The Lord keeps. This word. The word of Yahweh kept. Even wicked kings on the throne. Because the Lord is faithful to himself, even when no one else. Is faithful to him. And so, the Lord is faithful to his words of promise.

It is sobering however, for churches and nations. That the Lord is faithful. To his words of curse.

Geroboam the son of Kneebat had capitalized. On. The president set by Aaron. And just as Aaron said, That he was establishing a feast to Chihawaii. Exodus 32. Verse 5.

And that. These. The images were images of yahweh who Had delivered israel out of the land of egypt and not abundant. Remember back in first kings 12. That geroboam had used. This exact same language. About the worship that took place. The calf worship. So first kings 12:32 matches almost exactly Exodus 32 verse 5, This, we must not think that.

Geroboam underneath was setting up bull worship. He was Providing an alternative way of worshiping yahweh. And specifically with the historical act of the lord's. Redemption is delivering the people. From egypt, it is exactly parallel. To when people today say but shouldn't we celebrate? The incarnation. Shouldn't we celebrate? The crucifixion.

Shouldn't we celebrate the resurrection? And they invent religion. By which to worship the lord. And this is, The sin that geroboam son of knee back sinned. And caused israel to sin established a feast. Yahweh first king's 12:32, That alters before bull images. First kings 12:28. And of course, the bull image was also Borrowed from or historical traditional.

Established by erin at Sinai. A devised holy days from his own heart. First kings 12:33. And that becomes a refrain throughout. The history of the northern kingdom. And it's mentioned four times. And this chapter is things, spiral out of control. And as the as the, the exile begins. So god is now doing away with the northern kingdom, he's doing away with israel.

Yes, hashaya is on the throne in verse 30. But by the time, Josiah comes to sit on the throne and Have this. Fairly wrong. Fairly. Long rain. Um,

No, it's pika. Who has the long range, 20 years, but When? By the time her Shea sits on the throne israel is not its own kingdom anymore. It's a vassal state. It's a servant state. Of Assyria. Which was already sort of the case. When menaheim. Taxed, the rich. To send 10 thousand.

Was 10 thousand talents. Thousands talents. Sorry. Text the rich to send a thousand talents of silver. To poking of Assyria. So israel is going to come to its final end in chapter 17. The northern kingdom will. This is exactly. What y'all play had threatened in Deuteronomy 4. 23 through 28.

Moses warned them against man-made religion. And he specifically said yahui would scatter them to lands. Where they would not just use word images to worship yahweh. But they would be forced to worship wood and stone itself. And now dreadfully after the lord's, marvelous patience and long suffering. His word of curse.

Has proven true. So on the one hand, you can look at the promise that was fulfilled to geez family and say The Lord's promises are true. Praise god.

On the other hand, you can look at Deuteronomy 4, 23 through 28. And what has happened in this chapter and what is going to finish? And Chapter 17. You save a board's threats. The words, the lord's word of threat of the Lord's word of curse. Are also true. The lord is marvelously, patient.

So we forget that second peter Chapter 3. Deals with that. Where's the promise of his coming things? Continue as they have ever since the fathers? The lord jesus is patient. It was Fairly long time as far as we think. Between when the threats of the light stand removal and revelation 2 to 3 were made.

And when they finally ultimately happened, And yet, the lord is faithful to his threats and faithful to his curses. We must not mistake the patience of the lord. With us along suffering of the lord as we sin. For indifference towards that sin or approval of that sin. We must hate what he hates and we must repent of it.

Embracing his love, who is bearing so patiently with us? Remember the patience and kindness the forbearance? Of god is meant to lead us to repentance. And if we don't, we just store out more wrath. Against the day of wrath. That's what we heard. In romans chapter 2 verses 4 through 5.

So the first lesson from this chapter was that the lord is faithful to his word of promise. Even to a man and a line like Jimmy. The second lesson from this chapter is that the lord is faithful to his word of curse. For the third lesson, of course, is that the lord is bringing salvation.

Let's see here. Reserve as ryan as as real, it's all the same two, pronunciations of two different names. Uh, gets a lot more written about him in second chronicles 26 and about his reign and about how He took upon himself that which belonged only to priests and Was struck with leprosy and Had to be.

Isolated. For the last several years of his rain. His greatest flaw is referred backhandedly. Referred to backhandedly. In this chapter, by the punishment for it. In verse 5.

Things under him and under jotham aren't perfect. If you look at verse 4, And the first part of verse 35, They do not. Let's do away with the worship of the high places. And so we can't really say. But the great difference between the, the southern kings and the northern kings is how much better they obey Yahweh?

The reality is that the lord is bringing salvation. And so we're reminded of david. The text reminds us of david. In verse 3, verse 7 verse 34 Verse 38. The board made a promise to david, just like he had made a promise to junior. But the promise that he made david is, The most recent installment.

And a long line of promises that go back to the garden. That was made even in the curse on the serpent. Before he even. Uh, told the woman or the man. What they would be punished with. In genesis chapter 3, And the lord's promised to David in 2nd Samuel 7.

Was not merely that there would be a few generations of his family on the throne but that from him. Would come one, whose reign? Would be forever. And so, while we have many lessons, Or too big lessons at least in. The lord's dealing with israel. It's all set in the context.

Of what the lord was doing with junio, what the lord was doing, of the south. And when he's doing still, Is bringing jesus. Is bringing salvation to sinners. Because we are unable to save ourselves. We are sinful. We're unfaithful. Even our repentance is incomplete. And the sin that is in, it is offensive enough.

To deserve an eternity of hell. And yet, god, Has committed himself. To saving us.

So let's pray, confess our sin. That's for his help.

What we praise you for your marvelous patience, you have saved your people with great acts of redemption. And you alone have given us the right way of remembering you. And remembering your salvation in our worship. But like Aaron and geroboam the son of knee bad. We are prone both to coming up of our

own ways, commemorating your redemptive acts.

And have continuing the traditions. That of other men have established. And so, not only continuing idolatry. But raising the men who have passed the traditions down. Above our lord, Jesus, who has given us. The right way. Now worshiping you under him Your son. Whom you love to glorify. We have despised By following that.

Which mere men. Have given us by way. Worshiping you? So, like the five kings and the many generations that have That proceeded from Aaron down to them. Your churches today. Keep persisting in their sin. As if you will never come and remove our lamp stands for it. But here we stand before you this morning.

Considering how richly. You have been patient with us the riches of your forbearance and long suffering once again. And we ask once again. The by your spirit. Your patience. You're forbearance your kindness. Would lead us to repentance and faith. In your son. Our lord Jesus. That he would bring.

Reformation to your church. That he would cleanse our hearts. From all desire to continue in anything that did not come from him. In our worship and our religion. And we ask it all in his name. Amen.