

**CONFIDENCE**

Scriptures are:

~~Full of Errors~~

~~Outdated~~

~~CONFIDENCE~~

*“Did God really say that?”*

Bible = a single narrative, multiple sub-plots

## **THE BOOKS OF THE KINGS**

- 1. Transition from Judge to King: 1 Sam 1...1 Sam 7**
- 2. The rise and fall of the first king: 1 Sam. 8...1 Sam 15**
- 3. The struggle between kings, the rise of David: 1 Sam. 16...2 Sam 2**
- 4. The reign of David: 2 Sam. 2...2 Sam 20**
- 5. The United Kingdom: Solomon: 1 Kings 1...11**  
**North: Israel**  
**South: Judah**
- 6. The Divided Kingdom: 1 Kings 12...2 Kings 18**  
**\*Fall of the Northern Kingdom**
- 7. The Final days of the Southern Kingdom: 2 Kings 18...25**

*A common reason people struggle with their faith or fall away completely is because they were pursuing God primarily because they believed he would make them happy in ways they demanded to be made happy*

1 Sam. 8:4-9 So all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah. They said to him, “You are old, and your sons do not walk in your ways; now appoint a king to lead us, such as all the other nations have.” But when they said, “Give us a king to lead us,” this displeased Samuel; so he prayed to the LORD. And the LORD told him: “Listen to all that the people are saying to you; it is not you they have rejected, but they have rejected me as their king. As they have done from the day I brought them up out of Egypt until this day, forsaking me and serving other gods, so they are doing to you. Now listen to them; but warn them solemnly and let them know what the king who will reign over them will do.”

1 Sam. 10:17 Samuel summoned the people of Israel to the LORD at Mizpah and said to them, “This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: ‘I brought Israel up out of Egypt, and I delivered you from the power of Egypt and all the kingdoms that oppressed you.’ But you have now rejected your God, who saves you out of all your calamities and distresses. And you have said, ‘No, set a king over us.’”

# The Kingdoms: Important Distinctions

## Northern Kingdom

1. Nine different ruling families
2. Never returns from exile

## Southern Kingdom

1. One ruling family (David)
2. Returns from exile

# The Books of the Kings

The curse of idolatry

*And*

The gift of repentance



Deut. 6:4 Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

Is. 44:12-18 The blacksmith takes a tool and works with it in the coals; he shapes an idol with hammers, he forges it with the might of his arm. He gets hungry and loses his strength; he drinks no water and grows faint. The carpenter measures with a line and makes an outline with a marker; he roughs it out with chisels and marks it with compasses. He shapes it in the form of man, of man in all his glory, that it may dwell in a shrine. He cut down cedars, or perhaps took a cypress or oak. He let it grow among the trees of the forest, or planted a pine, and the rain made it grow. It is man's fuel for burning; some of it he takes and warms himself, he kindles a fire and bakes bread. But he also fashions a god and worships it; he makes an idol and bows down to it. Half of the wood he burns in the fire; over it he prepares his meal, he roasts his meat and eats his fill. He also warms himself and says, "Ah! I am warm; I see the fire." From the rest he makes a god, his idol; he bows down to it and worships. He prays to it and says, "Save me; you are my god." They know nothing, they understand nothing; their eyes are plastered over so they cannot see, and their minds closed so they cannot understand."

# Israel's Prophets:

## Three Part Message

1. I will be your God
2. You will be my people
3. I will dwell in your midst

## Three Part Indictment

1. Idolatry
2. No social justice
3. Ritual over relationship

John 1:1-4 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of men.

Jer. 2:13 “My people have committed two sins:  
They have forsaken me, the spring of living water,  
and have dug their own wells, broken wells that  
cannot hold water.”

Psa. 51:1-12 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions. Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin. For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are proved right when you speak and justified when you judge. Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me. Surely you desire truth in the inner parts; you teach me wisdom in the inmost place. Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow. Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones you have crushed rejoice. Hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquity. Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.

Repentance is a gift

“God’s kindness leads you toward repentance”

Romans 2:4