No knowledge of God in the land

Text – Hosea 4



Don’t point your finger at someone else

The Book of Hosea

Chapters 1–3

Enacted parable
Hosea and Gomer

Three children

Jezreel

Lo-Ruhamah

Lo-Ami

Chapters 4–14

Warnings, laments, poems, sermons

Chapters 4–7

Spiritual condition of the nation

Chapters 8–11

Israel's history through the lawsuit lens

Chapters 12–14

Current plight in light of future redemption

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Why knowing God matters

You will perish for not knowing him

Taking responsibility

Hear this warning

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Text – Hosea 4

1 Hear the word of the LORD, O people of
Israel! The LORD has brought charges against
you, saying: “There is no faithfulness, no
kindness, no knowledge of God in your land.
2 You make vows and break them; you kill and
steal and commit adultery. There is violence
everywhere— one murder after another.
3 That is why your land is in mourning, and
everyone is wasting away. Even the wild
animals, the birds of the sky, and the fish of
the sea are disappearing.
4 “Don’t point your finger at someone else and
try to pass the blame! My complaint, you
priests, is with you.



King Charles III

1994 - "I personally would much rather see it as defender of faith, not the faith, because it means just one particular interpretation of the faith."

2023 – 'Will you to the utmost of your power maintain the Laws of God and the true profession of the Gospel?' *Answer* 'All this I promise to do'.

2026 - "Protector of the Space for Faith within the Multi-faith Nation."

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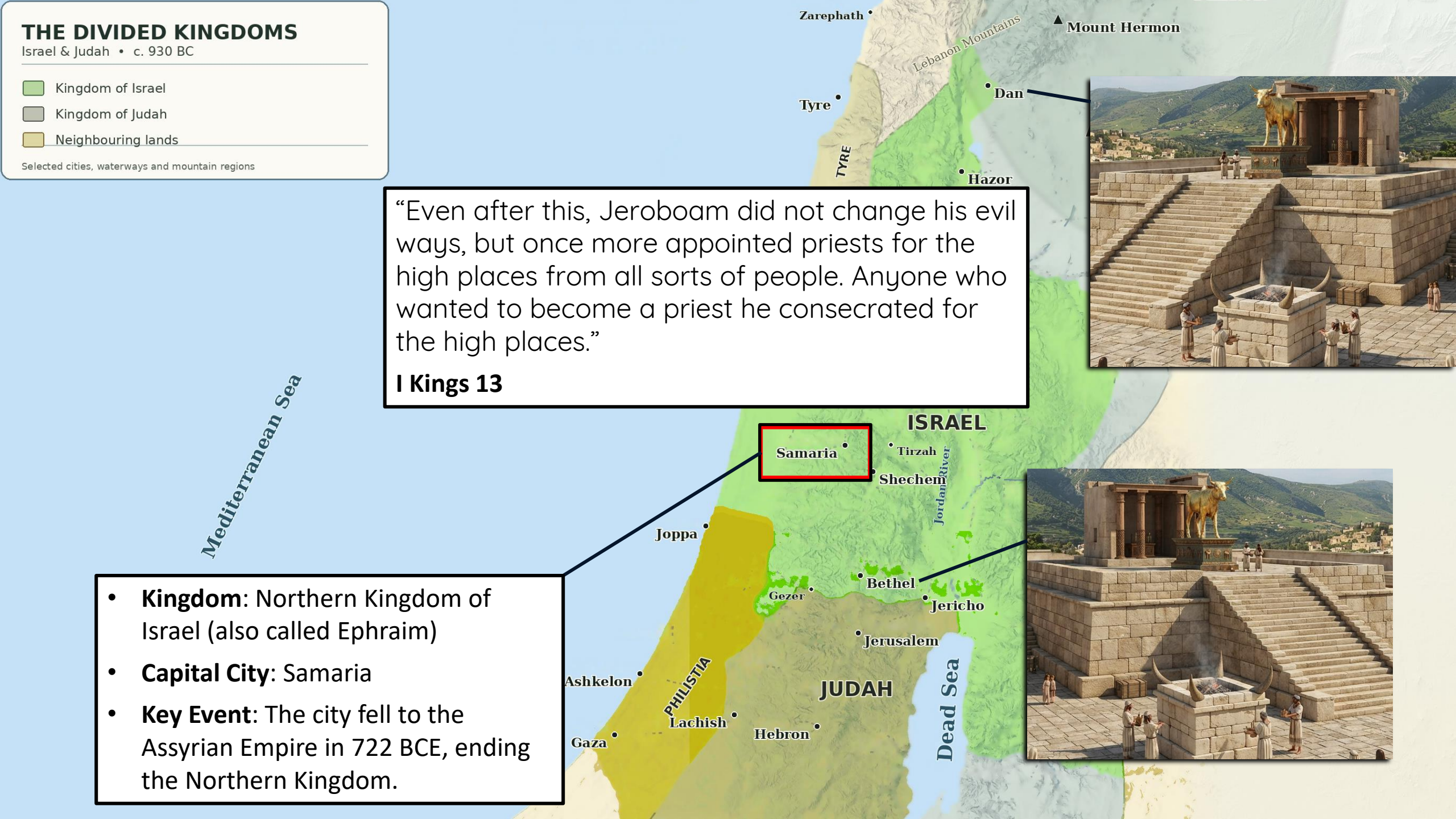
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THE DIVIDED KINGDOMS
Israel & Judah • c. 930 BC
Kingdom of Israel
Kingdom of Judah
Neighbouring lands
Selected cities, waterways and mountain regions
Zarephath
Mount Hermon
Lebanon Mountains
Tyre
Dan
TYRE
Hazor
"Even after this, Jeroboam did not change his evil ways, but once more appointed priests for the high places from all sorts of people. Anyone who wanted to become a priest he consecrated for the high places."
I Kings 13
Mediterranean Sea
ISRAEL
Samaria
Tirzah
Shechem
Jordan River
Joppa
Bethel
Gezer
Jericho
Jerusalem
Ashkelon
PHILISTIA
JUDAH
Dead Sea
Lachish
Hebron
Gaza
• Kingdom: Northern Kingdom of Israel (also called Ephraim)
• Capital City: Samaria
• Key Event: The city fell to the Assyrian Empire in 722 BCE, ending the Northern Kingdom.

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You own your sin, but it affects others too

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5 So you will stumble in broad daylight, and
your false prophets will fall with you in the
night. And I will destroy Israel, your mother.
6 My people are being destroyed because
they don’t know me. Since you priests refuse
to know me, I refuse to recognize you as my
priests. Since you have forgotten the laws of
your God, I will forget to bless your children.
7 The more priests there are, the more they
sin against me. They have exchanged the
glory of God for the shame of idols.
8 “When the people bring their sin offerings,
the priests get fed. So the priests are glad
when the people sin!
9 ‘And what the priests do, the people also do.’
So now I will punish both priests and people
for their wicked deeds.

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10 They will eat and still be hungry. They will
play the prostitute and gain nothing from it,
for they have deserted the LORD
11 to worship other gods. "Wine has robbed my
people of their understanding.
12 They ask a piece of wood for advice! They
think a stick can tell them the future! Longing
after idols has made them foolish. They have
played the prostitute, serving other gods and
deserting their God.
13 They offer sacrifices to idols on the
mountaintops. They go up into the hills to burn
incense in the pleasant shade of oaks, poplars,
and terebinth trees. "That is why your
daughters turn to prostitution, and your
daughters-in-law commit adultery.
14 But why should I punish them for their

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prostitution and adultery? For your men are doing the same thing, sinning with whores and shrine prostitutes. O foolish people! You refuse to understand, so you will be destroyed.

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Kingdom Marriage
LifeWorks

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15 “Though you, Israel, are a prostitute, may
Judah not be guilty of such things. Do not join
the false worship at Gilgal or Beth-aven, and
do not take oaths there in the LORD ’s name.
16 Israel is stubborn, like a stubborn heifer. So
should the LORD feed her like a lamb in a lush
pasture?
17 Leave Israel alone, because she is married
to idolatry.
18 When the rulers of Israel finish their
drinking, off they go to find some prostitutes.
They love shame more than honor.
19 So a mighty wind will sweep them away.
Their sacrifices to idols will bring them shame.

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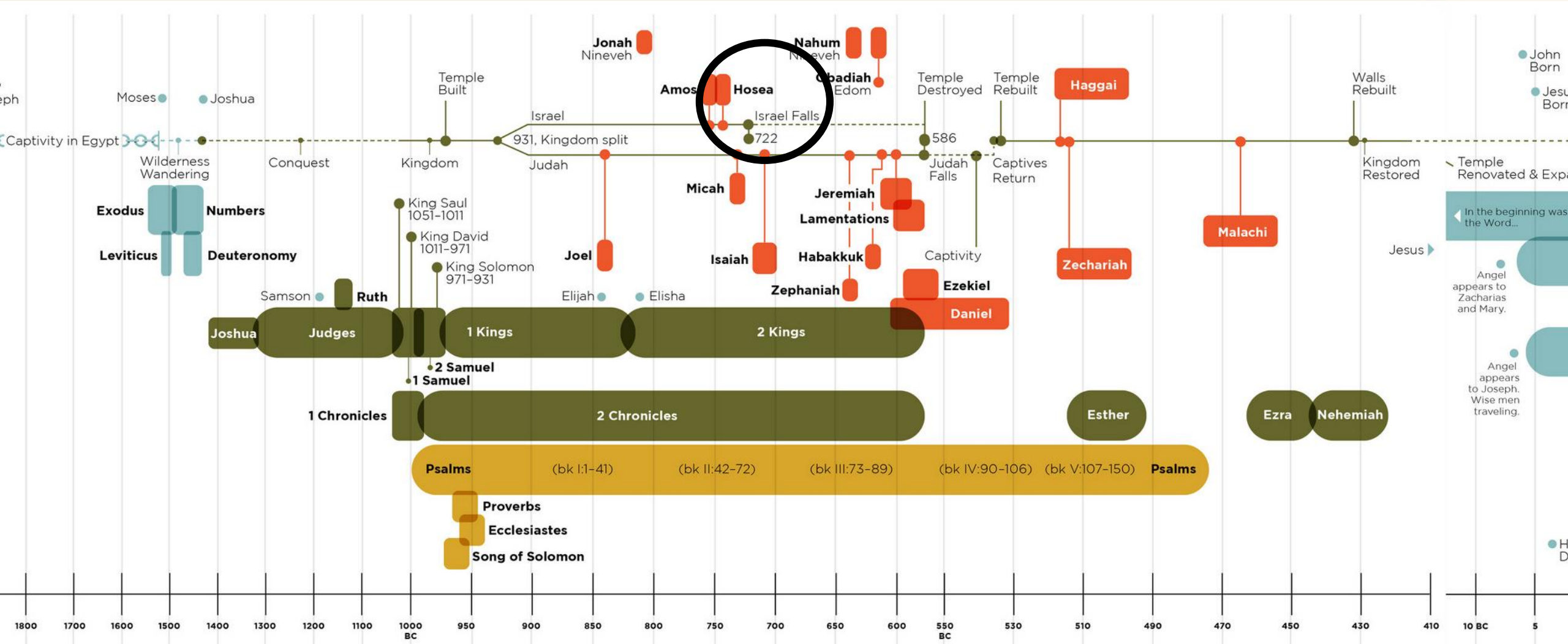
Be determined not to be like the world

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Bible Timeline



And (Jesus) beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself

History

I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.

History

For Ezra had set his heart to study the Law of the Lord, and to do it and to teach his statutes and rules in Israel

Gospels

History

Hosea lists Commandments broken by Israel

Hosea 4 names seven of the Ten Commandments as broken — and says the violations are piling up.

- Named as broken in Hosea 4
- Not named in the chapter

01 NAMED

No other gods

“joined to idols”
and left to it

Hosea 4:17

02 NAMED

No carved idols

“inquire of a piece of wood”,
sacrifice under the oaks

Hosea 4:12–13

03 NAMED

Name not in vain

“swearing”

Hosea 4:2

04 NOT NAMED

Sabbath rest

Not named in Hosea 4
— not thereby unbroken

ABSENT, NOT ACQUITTED

05 NOT NAMED

Honour parents

Not named in Hosea 4
— not thereby unbroken

ABSENT, NOT ACQUITTED

06 NAMED

Murder

“murder”; “bloodshed
follows bloodshed”

Hosea 4:2

07 NAMED

Adultery

“adultery”

Hosea 4:2

08 NAMED

Theft

“stealing”

Hosea 4:2

09 NAMED

False witness

“lying”

Hosea 4:2

10 NOT NAMED

Coveting

Not named in Hosea 4
— not thereby unbroken

ABSENT, NOT ACQUITTED

THE CHARGES PILE UP

“Bloodshed follows bloodshed” (4:2).
The counts are cumulative,
not isolated incidents.

“NOT NAMED” ≠ “UNBROKEN”

4:2 says they “break all bounds”;
4:6 charges them with “forgetting
the law of your God.”

WHAT THE CHAPTER SHOWS

Seven are named outright. Sabbath,
parents and coveting are simply absent
from the chapter’s list — not denied.

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