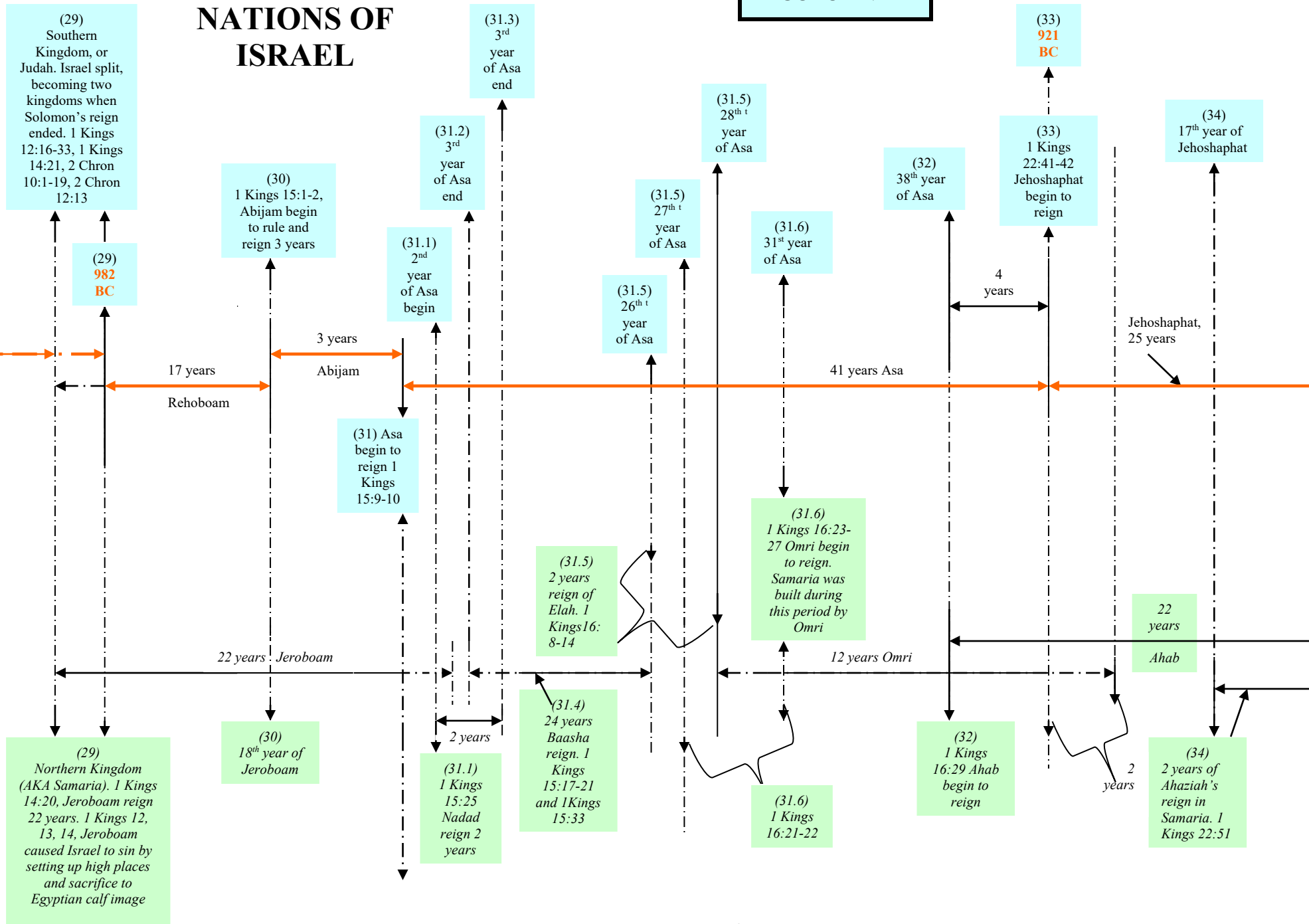


# THE TWO NATIONS OF ISRAEL

## COLUMN 4



---- **'THE TWO NATIONS OF ISRAEL – ABOUT 989 B.C. through 903 B.C. ----**

When Solomon begins to rule Israel after his father David the LORD instructed him that he was not to take wives or concubines from other nations. The reason being that they were idol worshippers, and God knew they would bring their idolatry/ fornication with them; thereby causing Israel to turn away from him to idolatry/ fornication worship. But Solomon disobeyed God in this, and sure enough the nation fell deep into idolatry. As a result God judged the whole nation; and after Solomon's reign split the nation into Northern Israel (Samaria) and Southern Israel (Judah).

All the kings of Samaria/ Northern Israel followed the practice of idol worship/ fornication in the foot steps of the first (*1<sup>st</sup>*) king, Jeroboam. And then about **722 B.C.** the Assyrian Empire destroyed Samaria/ Northern Israel, and they were no longer a nation of covenant people with the God of their Fathers ever again. The behavior of most kings over Judah encouraged the people in idol worship/ fornication. And so, God allowed the Babylonian Empire to destroy Southern Israel (*Judah*) around **586 B.C.**, and they were in captivity for seventy (*70*) years according to the prophecy of *Jeremiah 25:11, 12 & Jeremiah 29:10*:

(29) – After Solomon died his son Rehoboam reigned over all the tribes of Israel for a short time until the ten (*10*) tribes in Samaria made *Jeroboam the first* their king. Jeroboam set up a temple in Samaria and proceeded to practice their own brand of worship, which was contrary to the instructions of God that every tribe was to worship Him in Jerusalem, according to *King David*. They were deep into idol worship (*fornication/ defiance of God*) from their very inception as a nation, and the idolatry/ fornication just grew worse and increased. This was the time beginning the two (*2*) nations of Israel; the *Northern and Southern Kingdoms*. There may have been individuals from all the tribes of Israel residing in the Southern Kingdom, but the Southern Kingdom consisted primarily of the tribes of Judah and Benjamin (*1 Kings Chapter 12 through 14*).

Rehoboam, the son of Solomon, reigned in Judah seventeen (*17*) years. He was forty one (*41*) years old when he began to rule, and Judah did evil in the sight of the LORD. After his death Abijam his son begin to reign in Judah; this was also the 22<sup>nd</sup> year of the reign of Jeroboam in Samaria/ Northern Kingdom:

(30) – Abijam reigned three (*3*) years and he did that which was evil (*false god\ idol worship*) in the sight of the LORD just as his fathers before him (*1 Kings 15:1 through 15:8*).

After the death of Abijam, which was about the 20<sup>th</sup> year of Jeroboam's reign in Samaria, Asa the son of Abijam begin to reign in Judah:

(31, 31.1, 31.2, 31.3) – Asa reigned forty one (*41*) years and he did that which was right in the sight of the LORD according to David his father (*1 Kings 15:9 through 15:24*). Asa took away the sodomites out of the land, and removed all the idols that his father Abijam had made. He did many other things to remove idolatry/ fornication from the land.

In the second (2<sup>nd</sup>) year of the reign of Asa in Judah, Nadab the son of Jeroboam reigned in Samaria (Northern Israel) 2 years. And he did evil in the sight of the LORD, and walked in way of his father, and in his sin wherewith he made Israel to sin (*1 Kings 14:19 and 20, 1 Kings 15:25 and 26*). Then, in the third (3<sup>rd</sup>) year of the reign of Asa in Judah, Baasha son of Ahijah smote Nadab, king of Northern Israel (Samaria) and reigned twenty four (24) years in his place (*1 Kings 15:25 through 15:34*).

**In the twenty six (26) year of Asa king of Judah began Elah the son of Baasha to reign over Northern Israel in Tirzah two (2) years. And his servant Zimri, captain of half his chariots, conspired against him. And Zimri smote Elah, and killed him in the twenty seventh (27<sup>th</sup>) year of Asa king of Judah. And it came to pass when Zimri begin to reign, as soon as he sat on his throne, that he slew all the house of Baasha according to the word of the LORD, which he spoke against Baasha by Jehu the prophet in 1 Kings 16:1 through 4:**

(31.4, 31.5) – After Baasha ruled in Northern Israel twenty four (24) years, his son Elah reigned two (2) years until his servant Zimri murdered him and reigned in his place seven (7) days. The people/ army of Israel/ Northern Kingdom rose up against Zimri, and appointed Omri, who was captain of the army as king, instead. When Zimri realized that the nation would not accept his treachery, he committed suicide by burning the Palace down upon himself (*1 Kings 15:17 through 21, and 1 Kings 15:33; 1 Kings 16:8 through 14; 1 Kings 16:15 through 20*). All of these rulers did that which was evil (*promoted idolatry*) in the sight of the LORD, causing the people to sin even more.

**The people of the Northern Kingdom of Israel become divided into two camps. Half of the people followed Tibni son of Ginath, to make him king, and half followed Omri. But the people that followed Omri prevailed against the followers of Tibni the son of Ginath (so Tibni died and Omri reigned). This was probably a time of civil war in the Northern Kingdom of Israel, but scripture does not say that Tibni died as a result of war; it just say that he died (1 Kings 16:21 and 22):**

(31.6) – In the thirty first (31<sup>st</sup>) year of the reign of Asa in Judah, the Southern Kingdom, Omri began to reign over Israel, the Northern Kingdom. Omri ruled a total of twelve (12) years; six (6) of those years his capitol was in Tirzah. Then he bought the hill “Samaria of Shemer” for two (2) talents of silver, and built on the hill, and called the name of the city “Samaria,” which was the name of the owner of the property. Thus, the name of Northern Israel became known as “Samaria” (*1 Kings 16:23 through 28*).

**Ahab reigned after his father Omri in Samaria, the Northern Kingdom of Israel:**

(32) – In the thirty eight (38<sup>th</sup>) year of the reign of King Asa in the Southern Kingdom of Israel (Judah) Ahab began to reign in Samaria. Ahab reigned twenty two (22) years; and did evil in the sight of the LORD, above all that were before him. And it came to pass, as it had been a light thing for him to walk in the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat that he took to wife Jezebel the daughter of Ethbaal king of the Zidonians (*Baal/ idol worshippers*). And Ahab served Baal, and worshipped him (*1 Kings 16:29 through 34*).

Elijah began his prophecies to Israel and her leaders about this time. Ahab and Jezebel were specially and harshly admonished for their evils. And God replaced Elijah with Elisha after he took (*or raptured?*) Elijah up to heaven (*2 Kings Chapter 2*). Elisha continued in his ministry of prophet to all of Israel even unto the reign of Joash king of Judah (*1 Kings Chapter 17 through 2 Kings 13:20*).

**In the fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) year of the reign of Ahab in Samaria, Jehoshaphat began to reign over Judah after his father Asa:**

(33) – Jehoshaphat was thirty five (35) years old when he began to reign; and he reigned twenty five (25) years in Judah/ Jerusalem. He walked in all the ways of Asa his father; he turned not aside from it, doing that which was right in the eyes of the LORD. He took out of the land, the remnant of the sodomites, which remained from the days of his father Asa: nevertheless the high places were not taken away; for the people offered and burned incense yet in the high places (*1 Kings 22:41 through 46*).

Commentary of Specific Points on the Timeline Continues ...

---- THE TWO NATIONS OF ISRAEL - 921 B.C. to About 902 B.C. ----

**Ahaziah the son of Ahab began to reign in Samaria/ Northern Israel in the seventh (17<sup>th</sup>) year of Jehoshaphat, King of Judah, and he reigned two (2) years:**

(34, 35, 36) – And Ahaziah did evil in the sight of the LORD and walked in the ways of his father (Ahab), and in the ways of his mother (*Jezabel*), and in the ways of Jeroboam son of Nebat, who made Israel to sin: for he served Baal, and worshipped him, and provoked the anger of the LORD God of Israel, according to all that his father had done. Ahaziah died of injuries from a fall, and Jehoram son of Jehoshaphat, King of Judah reigned in his place because Ahaziah had no sons (*1 Kings 22:51 through 2 Kings Chapter 1*). Thus, the son of Jehoshaphat, “Jehoram” is King of Samaria and Jehoshaphat is King in Judah/ Jerusalem; all of Israel is under the rule of one family at the same time.

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<sup>1</sup> **Timeline of 1 and 2 Kings –**

The Kings of Judah in the Southern Kingdom of Israel were allowed of the LORD God to reign from the eternal throne of David; but not all conducted themselves and their ruler ship in the manner that was approved of the LORD God!

And none of the kings of Samaria; the Northern Kingdom of Israel returned to the LORD God from worshipping false gods and idols!

***Recall the message God gave David by the prophet Nathan in 2 Samuel Chapter 7:***

Moreover I will appoint a place for my people Israel, and will plant them, that they may dwell in a place of their own, and move no more; neither shall the children of wickedness afflict them any more, as beforetime,

And as since the time that I commanded judges *to be* over my people Israel, and have caused thee to rest from all thine enemies. Also the LORD telleth thee that he will make thee (*David*) an house.

And when thy days be fulfilled, and thou shalt sleep with thy fathers, I will set up thy seed after thee, which shall proceed out of thy bowels, and I will establish his (*David and his seed's*) kingdom.

He (*David and his seed*) shall build an house for my name, and I will stablish the throne of his kingdom for ever (*or throughout eternity?*).

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I will be his father, and he shall be my son. If he commit iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men, and with the stripes of the children of men:

But my mercy shall not depart away from him, as I took *it* from Saul, whom I put away before thee.

And thine house and thy kingdom shall be established for ever before thee: thy throne shall be established for ever (*Refer to, “Thy Throne Forever” in the “Definitions & Figures”*) section.

According to all these words, and according to all this vision (*and prophecy!*), so did Nathan speak unto David.

2 Samuel 7:10 through 7:17

<u>Kings of Judah</u>	<u>Kings of Samaria</u>
=== Book of 1 Kings ===	
Solomon; <i>1024 to 984 BC</i>	
Rehoboam; <i>984 to 967 BC</i>	Jeroboam I; <i>984 to 962 BC</i>
Abijam; <i>966 to 963 BC</i>	
*Asa; <i>964 to 923 BC</i>	Nadab; <i>962 to 960 BC</i>
	Baasha; <i>961 to 937 BC</i>
	Elah; <i>938 to 936 BC</i>
	Zimri; <i>937 BC; killed after 7days</i>
	Omri; <i>933 to 921 BC</i>
	Ahab; <i>926 to 904 BC</i>
<i>The LORD God Called Elijah to his Ministry of Prophet (1 Kings Chapter 17)</i>	
<i>The LORD God Commissioned Elijah to Anoint Elisha to his Ministry of Prophet (1 Kings 19:19)</i>	
*Jehoshaphat; <i>922 to 897 BC</i>	
<i>Note: * = Purposed to put false gods and idol worship away and walk after the LORD God of Israel; the God of Creation!</i>	
<i>Related dates are approximations.</i>	