

## **Dr. Robert Vannoy, Exodus to Exile -- Kings, Session 15, Jehoshaphat, Jehoram, Israel from Jehu to Hosea Resources from NotebookLM**

1) Abstract, 2) Audio podcast, 3) Briefing Document, 4) Study Guide, and 5) FAQs

### **1. Abstract of Vannoy, Exodus to Exile -- Kings, Session 15, Jehoshaphat, Jehoram, Israel from Jehu to Hosea, Biblicalelearning.org, BeL**

This lecture from Dr. Vannoy explores the history of Judah and Israel during and after the reigns of Jehoshaphat and Jehoram. It contrasts the accounts of these kings in 1 and 2 Kings with those in Chronicles, highlighting the different focuses of each historical record. The lecture also examines the dynasty of Jehu in Israel, including Jehu's revolution and subsequent rulers. It emphasizes the prophecies and their fulfillments during this era, like those regarding Ahab and Jezebel, while also acknowledging Jehu's excesses and their consequences. Finally, it touches upon the reign of Jeroboam II and the prophets, like Jonah, who ministered during his time, setting the stage for the decline and fall of the Northern Kingdom.

**2. 16 - minute Audio Podcast Created based on  
Dr. Vannoy, Exodus to Exile -- Kings, Session 15 – Double click  
icon to play in Windows media player or go to the  
Biblicalelearning.org [BeL] Site and click the audio podcast link  
there (Old Testament → Historical Books → Exodus to Exile).**



**Vannoy\_ExtoExileK\_  
Session15.mp3**

### 3. Briefing Document: Vannoy, Exodus to Exile -- Kings, Session 15, Jehoshaphat, Jehoram, Israel from Jehu to Hosea

Okay, here's a briefing document summarizing the main themes and important ideas from the provided excerpts of Dr. Vannoy's Lecture 15, focusing on Judah under Jehoshaphat and Jehoram, and Israel from Jehu to Hoshea:

#### **Briefing Document: Dr. Vannoy, Kings, Lecture 15**

##### **Overview:**

This lecture primarily covers the reigns of Jehoshaphat and Jehoram in Judah, then shifts to an examination of the Divided Kingdom of Israel from the dynasty of Jehu through to Hoshea, the last king before the fall of the Northern Kingdom. It highlights political alliances, religious compromises, prophetic fulfillments, and the overall trajectory of both kingdoms. The lecture also touches upon the complex theological issue of divine sovereignty versus human responsibility in the context of evil actions.

#### **I. Judah Under Jehoshaphat and Jehoram**

- **Jehoshaphat:** While Kings provides limited information on Jehoshaphat, Chronicles offers a more extensive account, likely because Chronicles focuses primarily on the Davidic line and the Southern Kingdom. Jehoshaphat is depicted as a generally godly king who made significant errors, primarily through his alliance with the Northern Kingdom.
- "He was basically a godly man, but he did make some serious errors if you look at his life."
- **Alliance with Ahab:** A key point is Jehoshaphat's close alliance with Ahab, symbolized by the marriage of his son Jehoram to Ahab's daughter, Athaliah. This alliance, though intended to foster peace, had disastrous consequences, including the introduction of Baal worship into Judah and a near-extinction of the Davidic line through Athaliah's later actions.
- "Jehoshaphat's son Jehoram marries Athaliah, who is the daughter of Ahab and probably Jezebel... The ultimate outworking of that, if it hadn't been for God's intervention, would have been the destruction of the house of David."
- **Ramoth Gilead & The Lying Spirit:** The lecture revisits the story of Jehoshaphat joining Ahab in battle at Ramoth Gilead, emphasizing Jehoshaphat's initial desire to seek counsel from the Lord. This leads to the episode with Micaiah and the

"lying spirit." The lecturer emphasizes that Ahab's prophets were already predisposed to falsehood. The lecture explores the complex theological point that all things are under God's control, including the evil acts of men, but at the same time, that men are responsible for their evil actions, and that God is not the author of sin.

- "I think in either case the lying spirit sent by the Lord is to be understood as signifying that even what Satan does is ultimately under the sovereignty of God's decrees."
- "...you're immediately up against a problem of how to reconcile divine sovereignty and human responsibility, and particularly you have to be careful when talking about the evil acts of man: that they don't make God the author of sin. I think ultimately there's a mystery there that you cannot fully explain."
- **Jehoram:** Jehoram's reign is characterized by wickedness and the negative consequences of Jehoshaphat's compromise. He murders his brothers to secure his rule. The Edomites and Libnah revolt during his reign. He dies of an incurable disease, and his death is unlamented.
- "When Jehoram established himself firmly over his father's kingdom, he put all his brothers to the sword along with some of the princes of Israel."
- "He passed away, to no one's regret, and he was buried in the City of David."

## II. The Divided Kingdom: Jehu to Hoshea (Israel)

- **Transition:** This section marks a significant shift, moving from the united kingdom under Solomon to the divided kingdoms of Israel and Judah. The focus is on the Northern Kingdom from Jehu's revolution to the reign of Hoshea and the fall of Israel.
- **Jehu's Dynasty:** Jehu's dynasty was the longest lasting in the Northern Kingdom. Jehu initiated the fourth dynasty, following Jeroboam I, Baasha, and Omri. Although the Northern Kingdom started off weak, the kingdom became strong and prosperous by the reign of Jeroboam II, although they remained spiritually unsound.
- **Jehu's Revolution:** Jehu's revolution was commissioned by God, and involved the killing of Joram (King of Israel) and Ahaziah (King of Judah), the killing of Jezebel, and the destruction of Ahab's family and the Baal worshipers. This resulted in the destruction of Baal worship in Israel. However, Athaliah, of Ahab's line, remained

in the south, and false worship still remained. The lecture notes that Jehu may have exceeded his commission, as Hosea 1:4 suggests judgment on Jehu for the massacre at Jezreel. Jehu is known from the Assyrian Black Obelisk where he is depicted bowing and paying tribute to Shalmaneser III.

- “Then the Lord said to Hosea, ‘Call him Jezreel because I will soon punish the house of Jehu for the massacre at Jezreel, and I will put an end to the kingdom of Israel.”
- **Successors of Jehu:**
- **Jehoahaz:** Jehoahaz reigned for 17 years, did evil, followed in the sin of Jeroboam's son Nebat, and faced threats from Syria.
- **Joash (Jehoash):** Elisha died during his reign. Elisha prophesied that Joash would only have moderate success against the Syrians because he only struck the ground three times. Joash of Israel defeated Amaziah of Judah, took plunder from Jerusalem, and weakened the relationship between the north and south.
- **Jeroboam II:** Jeroboam II had a long reign of 41 years and extended the power of Israel territorially to its earlier frontiers, from Lebo Hamath to the Sea of the Arabah, according to the word of the Lord spoken through Jonah, son of Amittai. The lecturer emphasized the significance of this reference to Jonah, arguing against interpretations of the Book of Jonah as purely fictional. Despite economic and political success, Amos and Hosea prophesied during his reign and painted a picture of dishonesty, oppression, social injustice, and religious apostasy.
- "There is a great tendency, even among certain Evangelical scholars, to take the book of Jonah as fiction rather than history. And I think one of the strong objections to doing that is the fact that 2 Kings 14:25 makes it very clear that there was a man named Jonah, son of Amittai, who lived during the time of Jeroboam II, and who prophesied, and his prophecy was fulfilled."
- **Zechariah:** Zechariah only reigned six months and was assassinated. His reign fulfilled the prophecy that Jehu's descendants would sit on the throne to the fourth generation.
- **Decline and Fall:** After the downfall of Jehu's dynasty, the Northern Kingdom entered a period of political instability, marked by assassinations and a rapid decline from prosperity to captivity by the Assyrians.

### **III. Looking Ahead (to next lecture)**

- The lecture will continue with Judah during the century after 841 BC and then cover the final days of the Northern Kingdom and the last century of Judah.

## 4. Study Guide: Vannoy, Exodus to Exile -- Kings, Session 15, Jehoshaphat, Jehoram, Israel from Jehu to Hosea

### The Divided Kingdom: From Jehu to Hoshea

#### Study Guide

This study guide covers the period of the divided kingdom of Israel and Judah, focusing on the reigns of Jehoshaphat and Jehoram in Judah, and the dynasty of Jehu through Hoshea in Israel. It is based on Dr. Vannoy's Lecture 15 and aims to help you review and solidify your understanding of the key events, figures, and theological themes of this era.

#### Quiz

Answer the following questions in 2-3 sentences each.

1. Why does the book of Chronicles provide more information about Jehoshaphat than the book of Kings?
2. What was the consequence of Jehoram (King of Judah) marrying Athaliah?
3. Explain the theological significance of the "lying spirit" incident in 1 Kings 22.
4. What was Jehoram's (son of Jehoshaphat) first action upon ascending to the throne, and what does it reveal about his character?
5. What was the significance of Jehu being referred to as the "son of Omri" on the Assyrian Black Obelisk?
6. Why was Jehu's dynasty significant in the history of the Northern Kingdom?
7. What prophecy of Elijah concerning Ahab was fulfilled during Jehu's revolution?
8. How was the prophet Jonah mentioned in 2 Kings, and why is that significant?
9. What was the nature of the Northern Kingdom during the reign of Jeroboam II, according to the prophets Amos and Hosea?
10. What was the state of the Northern Kingdom after the downfall of Jehu's dynasty?

#### Answer Key

1. Chronicles focuses on the Southern Kingdom of Judah and the Davidic line, while Kings gives more attention to the Northern Kingdom, especially during the reign

of Omri and Ahab. Since Jehoshaphat was a king of Judah, Chronicles provides a more detailed account of his reign.

2. The marriage of Jehoram and Athaliah brought the influence of Ahab's idolatrous practices into Judah, and nearly led to the extermination of the Davidic line when Athaliah attempted to seize the throne after Jehoram's death.
3. The "lying spirit" represents God's sovereignty over even evil forces, showing that even Satan's actions are subject to His decrees. It highlights the complex relationship between divine sovereignty and human responsibility in the context of Ahab's impending judgment.
4. Jehoram killed his brothers and princes of Israel to consolidate his power. It reveals his ruthless and wicked character, marking a departure from the relative righteousness of his father, Jehoshaphat.
5. The reference to Jehu as the "son of Omri" demonstrates the enduring influence and recognition of Omri's dynasty by the Assyrians. Omri was a well-known ruler, so the Assyrians may have used the term as a general descriptor for the king of Israel, regardless of his actual lineage.
6. Jehu's dynasty was the longest dynasty in the Northern Kingdom lasting approximately 80 years. It also saw a period of strength and prosperity in the Northern Kingdom, particularly under Jeroboam II.
7. Elijah prophesied that dogs would lick up Ahab's blood in the place where they licked up Naboth's blood. This prophecy was partially fulfilled when Ahab died in battle, but was fully realized when Jehu had Ahab's son, Joram, killed and thrown on Naboth's property.
8. Jonah is mentioned in 2 Kings 14:25 as the prophet through whom God promised Jeroboam II would restore Israel's borders. This reference affirms Jonah's existence as a historical figure, lending credence to the book of Jonah as a historical account.
9. Though Jeroboam II expanded Israel's territory and brought prosperity, Amos and Hosea reveal that this prosperity came at the expense of the poor. The kingdom was characterized by social injustice, dishonesty, religious apostasy, and oppression.
10. After the downfall of Jehu's dynasty, the Northern Kingdom entered a period of political instability. This era was marked by frequent assassinations of kings and a

rapid decline in power and prosperity, leading to the kingdom's eventual fall to the Assyrians.

## Essay Questions

Consider the following essay questions, drawing on the lecture material to formulate well-supported arguments.

1. Analyze the complex relationship between divine sovereignty and human responsibility as illustrated in the story of the "lying spirit" and Jehu's actions, considering the implications for understanding God's character and justice.
2. Compare and contrast the reigns of Jehoshaphat and Jehoram in Judah, highlighting the impact of Jehoshaphat's alliances on the subsequent trajectory of the kingdom.
3. Evaluate the successes and failures of Jehu's revolution, assessing the extent to which he fulfilled God's purposes and the consequences of his actions.
4. Discuss the role of prophecy and fulfillment in the narratives of this period, examining specific examples and their theological significance.
5. Assess the reasons for the Northern Kingdom's decline and fall after the death of Jeroboam II, considering political, social, and spiritual factors.

## Glossary of Key Terms

- **Ahab:** King of Israel known for his wickedness and the introduction of Baal worship through his wife, Jezebel.
- **Ahaziah:** King of Judah, son of Jehoram and Athaliah, killed during Jehu's revolution.
- **Amos:** Prophet during the reign of Jeroboam II in the Northern Kingdom, known for his messages of social justice and condemnation of Israel's sins.
- **Athaliah:** Daughter of Ahab and Jezebel, wife of Jehoram of Judah, who attempted to exterminate the Davidic line to seize power.
- **Baal:** Canaanite deity whose worship was introduced into Israel by Ahab and Jezebel.



- **Chronicles (Books of):** Old Testament books that focus on the history of Judah, particularly the Davidic line, with less emphasis on the Northern Kingdom.
- **Elijah:** Prophet who challenged Ahab and Jezebel, known for his miraculous deeds and condemnation of Baal worship.
- **Elisha:** Prophet and successor to Elijah, known for his miracles and involvement in the anointing of Jehu.
- **Hazael:** King of Aram (Syria) who oppressed Israel during the reigns of Jehoahaz and Jehoash.
- **Hosea:** Prophet during the reign of Jeroboam II in the Northern Kingdom, known for his messages of God's love and Israel's unfaithfulness, symbolized by his marriage to Gomer.
- **Jehoahaz:** King of Israel, son of Jehu, who reigned during a time of Syrian oppression.
- **Jehoash (Joash):** King of Israel who defeated Amaziah of Judah and received a prophecy from the dying Elisha.
- **Jehoshaphat:** King of Judah known for his righteousness but also for his alliance with Ahab.
- **Jehoram (Joram):** Son of Ahab and King of Israel who was killed during Jehu's revolution.
- **Jehoram (Joram):** King of Judah, son of Jehoshaphat, who married Athaliah and led Judah into idolatry.
- **Jehu:** King of Israel who led a revolution, wiping out the house of Ahab and destroying Baal worship.
- **Jeroboam II:** King of Israel who brought economic and territorial prosperity to the Northern Kingdom, but was condemned by the prophets for social injustice and religious apostasy.
- **Jezebel:** Wife of Ahab, known for her wickedness and promotion of Baal worship in Israel.
- **Jonah:** Prophet during the reign of Jeroboam II, known for his mission to Nineveh and his mention in 2 Kings as a historical figure.

- **Kings (Books of):** Old Testament books that provide a historical account of the kings of Israel and Judah, emphasizing their obedience or disobedience to God.
- **Lying Spirit:** A spirit sent by God to deceive Ahab's prophets in 1 Kings 22, illustrating God's sovereignty over even evil forces.
- **Omri:** King of Israel who established a strong dynasty and made Samaria the capital, but is condemned for his wickedness.
- **Ramoth Gilead:** A strategic city east of the Jordan River that was frequently contested between Israel and Aram (Syria).
- **Shalmaneser III:** Assyrian king who received tribute from Jehu, as depicted on the Black Obelisk.
- **Zechariah:** The last of Jehu's dynasty as king of Israel, assassinated after reigning only six months, fulfilling a prophecy.

## 5. FAQs on Vannoy, Exodus to Exile -- Kings, Session 15, Jehoshaphat, Jehoram, Israel from Jehu to Hosea, Biblicalelearning.org (BeL)

### Frequently Asked Questions About the Kingdoms of Judah and Israel

- **Question 1: Why does the book of Chronicles provide more details about Jehoshaphat compared to the book of Kings?**
- The book of Kings primarily focuses on the Northern Kingdom (Israel) during this period, particularly the events surrounding Omri, Ahab, the introduction of Baal worship, and the ministry of Elijah. Jehoshaphat's reign in Judah is of lesser significance in this broader narrative of the Northern Kingdom's rise and fall. Chronicles, on the other hand, focuses primarily on the Southern Kingdom (Judah), the Davidic dynasty, and the Temple in Jerusalem. Therefore, the Chronicler provides a more comprehensive account of Jehoshaphat's reign due to its direct relevance to Judah's history.
- **Question 2: What was the significance of Jehoshaphat's alliance with Ahab and how did it impact Judah?**
- Jehoshaphat formed a close alliance with Ahab, king of Israel, which included the marriage of his son Jehoram to Athaliah, Ahab's daughter (likely the daughter of Jezebel). This alliance led to the introduction of Ahab's wicked practices into Judah. This almost led to the extinction of the Davidic line because Athaliah attempted to wipe out the royal family after the death of her son, Ahaziah. Jehoshaphat was later rebuked by the prophet Jehu for allying with the wicked Ahab. This alliance also led Jehoshaphat to join Ahab in a battle against Aram at Ramoth Gilead, where Ahab was killed.

- **Question 3: What is the theological significance of the "lying spirit" in 1 Kings 22 in the story of Ahab at Ramoth Gilead?**
- The story of the lying spirit highlights God's sovereignty even over evil actions. Although God sends a "lying spirit" to entice Ahab's prophets, this doesn't make God the author of sin. It suggests that Ahab's prophets were already predisposed to falsehood, and this event represents a hardening of their hearts and a consequence of their existing wickedness. It can be seen as God using the situation to accomplish his purposes, even through deceptive means. This raises complex questions about divine sovereignty and human responsibility, concepts that Scripture presents as coexisting without fully resolving the tension.
- **Question 4: What were the key events and characteristics of Jehoram's reign as king of Judah?**
- Jehoram's reign was marked by violence and rebellion. He killed his brothers to consolidate his power. The Edomites and Libnah revolted against Judah during his rule. He was later afflicted with an incurable disease of the bowels, leading to a painful death that was met with little mourning. His reign highlights the negative consequences of Jehoshaphat's alliance with Ahab, as Jehoram followed the ways of the kings of Israel due to his marriage to Athaliah.
- **Question 5: What was the significance of Jehu's revolution in the Northern Kingdom (Israel)?**
- Jehu's revolution marked a major turning point in the history of the Northern Kingdom. He was anointed king by a prophet sent by Elisha and commissioned to destroy the house of Ahab and eradicate Baal worship. Jehu killed King Joram of Israel and King Ahaziah of Judah, as well as Queen Jezebel. He destroyed the Temple of Baal and slaughtered its followers. While Jehu successfully eliminated Baal worship from Israel, he did not turn away from the sins of Jeroboam I (idol worship), and he was later judged for excessive violence in the massacre at Jezreel.

- **Question 6: How did Jehu's actions impact both the Northern and Southern Kingdoms?**
- Jehu's revolution directly affected both the Northern and Southern Kingdoms. In the Northern Kingdom, he ended the Omri dynasty and temporarily eliminated Baal worship. In the Southern Kingdom, he killed King Ahaziah of Judah, leading to Athaliah (Ahaziah's mother and daughter of Ahab and Jezebel) seizing the throne and attempting to destroy the Davidic line. Thus, Jehu's actions caused political upheaval in both kingdoms, resulting in a new dynasty in the North and a temporary interruption of the Davidic line in the South.
- **Question 7: Who was Jeroboam II and what made his reign significant, even though scripture gives it so little attention?**
- Jeroboam II was the fourth king in the dynasty of Jehu, reigning for 41 years in the Northern Kingdom. Despite the relatively brief biblical account of his reign in 2 Kings, he is considered one of the most successful kings of Israel from a political and economic standpoint. He expanded Israel's territory to its former boundaries, as prophesied by Jonah son of Amittai. However, the prophets Amos and Hosea reveal that this prosperity was accompanied by social injustice, oppression of the poor, religious apostasy, and dishonesty.
- **Question 8: How did the Northern Kingdom decline after the reign of Jeroboam II?**
- Following Jeroboam II's death, the Northern Kingdom experienced a period of rapid decline and political instability. Zechariah, Jeroboam II's son, ruled for only six months before being assassinated, marking the end of Jehu's dynasty. In the subsequent 30 years, the Northern Kingdom saw a succession of five kings, four of whom were assassinated. This internal strife, coupled with external pressure from the Assyrians, led to the Northern Kingdom's downfall in 722 BC, just three decades after the height of its prosperity under Jeroboam II.