

*Analysis of*  
**1 KINGS**

**"FROM GLORIOUS UNITY TO IDOLATROUS DIVISION"**

“Now the LORD was angry with Solomon because his heart was turned away from the LORD, the God of Israel, who had appeared to him twice, and had commanded him concerning this thing, that he should not go after other gods; but he did not observe what the Lord had commanded. So the LORD said to Solomon, ‘Because you have done this, and you have not kept My covenant and My statutes, which I have commanded you, I will surely tear the kingdom from you, and will give it to your servant.’” 1 Kings 11:9-11

Analysis of FIRST KINGS

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# 1 KINGS

## “FROM GLORIOUS UNITY TO IDOLATROUS DIVISION”

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<sup>1</sup> "A fortress incorporated into the wall of Jerusalem." (*Ryrie Study Bible* note)

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C3 Yahweh's Raising Up an Adversary against Solomon in Hadad the Edomite 11:14-22

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C1 Jeroboam and the Peoples' Request of Rehoboam to Lighten the Burden Placed upon Them By Solomon 12:1-5

C2 Rehoboam's Rejection of the Gentle Advice of the Elders; His Yielding to the Heavy-Handed Advice of his Peers 12:6-11

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<sup>2</sup> Sadly, Solomon's wives dragged him away into idolatry, which, unfortunately, was not limited to his reign, but was passed on down to successive generations after him. The 19 kings of Israel unanimously practiced idolatry, inasmuch as it was a focal point of their political stance to remain separate from Jerusalem and the possibility of unification (1 Kings 12:25-33). 12 of the 20 kings of Judah practiced idolatry. See 2 Kings 23:4-27 for the massive purging of idolatry by Josiah, the most reform-minded king of Judah's history.

<sup>3</sup> Dates are from the *Ryrie Study Bible*.

- C3 Rehoboam's Heavy-Handed Response to Jeroboam and the People of Israel in Accordance with the Word of the Lord 12:12-15
- C4 The Revolt of Jeroboam and Ten Tribes against Rehoboam and the House of David 12:16-20
- C5 Shemaiah's Successful Dissuasion of Rehoboam and Judah-Benjamin from Fighting against Israel 12:21-24

**B2 The Perpetuation of National Disunity: The Idolatrous Reign of King Jeroboam over Israel (931-910 B. C.) 12:25 - 14:20**

- C1 Jeroboam's Creation of an Idolatrous, Substitute Religious System to Prevent Israel from Worshiping in Jerusalem and Returning to the House of David <sup>4</sup> 12:25-33
- C2 The Prophetic Announcement of Judgment against Jeroboam's Idolatrous Worship System 13
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  - D2 The successful attempt of an old prophet in Bethel to deceive the prophet from Judah into pausing for a meal contrary to God's Word 13:11-19
  - D3 The Bethel prophet's successful prediction of an untimely death for the prophet from Judah 13:20-25
  - D4 The Bethel prophet's burial of and mourning over the prophet from Judah 13:26-32
  - D5 Jeroboam's refusal to turn aside from his evil practices 13:33-34

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<sup>4</sup> Jeroboam's move evidenced a lack of faith in God's Word on his part. Had he really believed God, he would have welcomed the peoples' loyalty to Yahweh and His central sanctuary in Jerusalem. The very thing he believed would solidify his hold on Israel actually turned out to be his demise (cf. 14:1-16)!

- C3 The Prophetic Announcement of Judgment against Jeroboam and His House 14:1-20
  - D1 Jeroboam's sending of his wife in disguise to inquire of Ahijah the prophet concerning his sick son, Abijah 14:1-4
  - D2 The prophet Ahijah's pronouncement of judgment against Jeroboam and his entire house 14:5-16
  - D3 The death of Jeroboam's son Abijah according to the word of Yahweh spoken by Ahijah the prophet 14:17-18
- C4 The Summary of Jeroboam's Reign; The Accession of Nadab His Son 14:19-20

**B3 The Reign of King Rehoboam over Judah, Continued 14:21-31**

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- C2 Judgment Rendered: Shishak of Egypt's Plundering the Houses of Yahweh and the King of Their Treasures 14:25-28
- C3 The Summary of the Reign of Rehoboam, Son of Naamah the Ammonitess; the Accession of Abijam His Son 14:29-31

**B4 The Sinful Reign of King Abijam over Judah (913-911 B. C.) 15:1-8 (cf. 2 Chron. 13:1-22)**

**B5 The Reforming Reign of King Asa over Judah (911-870 B. C.) 15:9-24 (cf. 2 Chron. 14:1 - 16:14)**

- C1 The Spiritual Reforms of Righteous King Asa in Judah 15:9-15
- C2 The War between King Asa of Judah and King Baasha of Israel 15:16-22
- C3 The Summary of Asa's Reign 15:23-24

- B6 The Evil Reign of King Nadab over Israel (910-909 B. C.) 15:25-32**
- C1 The Evil Reign of Nadab ben Jeroboam over Israel 15:25-26
  - C2 The Conspiracy of Baasha ben Ahijah against Nadab ben Jeroboam 15:27-30
  - C3 The Summary of Nadab's Reign 15:31-32
- B7 The Evil Reign of King Baasha over Israel (909-886 B. C.) 15:33 - 16:7**
- C1 The Accession of Evil Baasha to the Throne of Israel 15:33-34
  - C2 The Prophecy of Jehu ben Hanani Concerning the Demise of Baasha and His House 16:1-4
  - C3 The Summary of the Reign of Baasha 16:5-6
  - C4 The Reasons for the Prophetic Judgment against Baasha 16:7
- B8 The Two-Year Reign of King Elah over Israel (886-885 B. C.) 16:8-10**
- C1 The Accession and Two-Year Reign of Elah ben Baasha 16:8
  - C2 Zimri's Assassination of Elah 16:9-10
- B9 The Seven-Day Reign of King Zimri over Israel (885 B. C.) 16:11-20**
- C1 Zimri's Destruction of All the Male Heirs of Elah for His Own Sins and Those of Baasha, His Father, According to the Word of Yahweh 16:11-13
  - C2 The Summary of Elah's Reign 16:14
  - C3 Zimri's Seven-Day Reign over Israel Terminated by Suicide 16:15-20
- B10 The Populist, But Evil Reign of King Omri over Israel (885-874 B. C.) 16:21-28**
- C1 The Civil War between Followers of Omri and Followers of Tibni ben Ginath 16:21-22
  - C2 Omri's Twelve-Year Reign over Israel 16:23
  - C3 Omri's Establishment of Samaria as Capital of Israel 16:24

C4 Omri's Unprecedentedly Evil Reign 16:25-26

C5 The Summary of Omri's reign 16:27-28

**B11 The Reign of King Ahab over Israel as Marred by Unprecedented Evil (874-853 B. C.) 16:29-34**

C1 The Introduction of the Unprecedentedly Evil Reign of Ahab ben Omri over Israel 16:29-33

C2 Parenthetic: The Costly, Prophecy-Fulfilling Rebuilding of Jericho 16:34

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D2 God's miraculous provision for Elijah by the brook Cherith 17:2-7

D3 God's miraculous provision for Elijah by a widow of Zarephath, a suburb of Sidon 17:8-24

E1 The multiplying meal and oil 17:8-16

E2 Elijah's raising of the widow's son back to life! 17:17-23

E3 The widow's assurance that Elijah is a man of God and that when he speaks God's word, it is truth 17:24

C2 Elijah's Restoration of Rain 18

D1 Elijah's revealing himself to Ahab 18:1-18

E1 Yahweh's instruction to Elijah to show himself to Ahab and He would send rain upon the earth 18:1-2

E2 Ahab's and Obadiah's searching of the land for water for the king's horses 18:3-6

E3 Elijah's revealing himself to fearful Obadiah 18:7-16

E4 The confrontational meeting between Ahab and Elijah 18:17-18

- D2 The contest between Elijah, the prophet of Yahweh, and the prophets of Baal 18:19-40
  - E1 Elijah's challenging Ahab to gather all Israel to Mount Carmel along with the prophets of Baal and of the Asherah 18:19-20
  - E2 Elijah's challenging the people to a contest of fire between Yahweh and Baal 18:21-24
  - E3 The unsuccessful attempt by the prophets of Baal to call down fire on their sacrifice 18:25-29
  - E4 Elijah's success in calling down fire from Yahweh on his drenched sacrifice 18:30-39
  - E5 Elijah's execution of the prophets of Baal 18:40
- D3 Elijah's successful prayer for rain 18:41-46
- C3 The Flight of the Demoralized Prophet 19
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  - D2 Elijah's flight for his life to Horeb, the mountain of God 19:3-8
  - D3 Yahweh's speaking to Elijah 19:9-18
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    - E2 Yahweh's assigning Elijah to anoint three individuals to office 19:15-16
      - F1 Hazael as king over Syria 19:15
      - F2 Jehu ben Nimshi as king over Israel 19:16
      - F3 Elisha ben Shaphat as prophet in his own place 19:16

- E3 Yahweh's assurance of justice and loyalty 19:17-18
  - F1 Promised executions by those appointed to office 19:17
  - F2 Promised loyalty of 7,000 in Israel who have not worshiped Baal 19:18
- D4 Elijah's obedience: His anointing of Elisha ben Shaphat to follow him 19:19-21

**B13 The Evil Reign of King Ahab over Israel, Continued 20:1 - 22:40**

- C1 The War Against Syria 20
  - D1 The First Battle: The Siege of Samaria 20:1-21
    - E1 Ben-hadad's siege of and threats against Samaria 20:1-12
    - E2 A prophet's communication from Yahweh that He would deliver the Syrian army into Ahab's hand so he would know God is Yahweh 20:13-15
    - E3 Israel's great slaughter of the Syrian army 20:16-21
  - D2 The Second Battle: The Battle on the Plains 20:22-27
    - E1 Syria's determination to fight against Israel on the plains 20:22-25
    - E2 The encampment of Syria against Israel 20:26-27
    - E3 Yahweh's promise through a man of God that He would deliver Syria into Israel's hand so Ahab would know He was Yahweh 20:28
    - E4 Israel's routing of the Syrian troops 20:29-30
    - E5 Ahab's folly 20:31-43
      - F1 Ahab's sparing the life of Ben-hadad 20:31-34
      - F2 Yahweh's prophetic pronouncement of judgment upon Ahab for failing to execute Ben-hadad of Syria 20:35-43

- C2 The Confiscation of Naboth's Vineyard 21
  - D1 Ahab's unsuccessful negotiation with Naboth for the latter's vineyard 21:1-4
  - D2 Ahab's homicidal seizure of Naboth's vineyard 21:5-16
    - E1 Jezebel's plot to have Naboth killed 21:5-10
    - E2 The city fathers' manipulation of Naboth's death 21:11-16
  - D3 Yahweh's judgment upon Ahab and his house 21:17-29
    - E1 Yahweh's pronouncement of judgment upon Ahab and Jezebel through Elijah 21:17-24
    - E2 The analysis of Ahab's evil reign 21:25-26
    - E3 Yahweh's postponing the evil against until his son's days because of Ahab's humility before Yahweh 21:27-29
- C3 War Against Syria Resumed: The Death of Ahab 22:1-36
  - D1 The king of Israel's request of Jehoshaphat, king of Judah to help him fight against the king of Syria 22:1-4
  - D2 The search for prophetic reinforcement 22:5-28
    - E1 The false prophets' assurance of success 22:5-12
    - E2 Micaiah's gloomy predictions 22:13-28
      - F1 Micaiah's promise not to modify his message for political correctness 22:13-14
      - F2 Micaiah's cynical prediction of success 22:15
      - F3 Micaiah's prediction of disaster against Israel 22:16-23
      - F4 The king's imprisonment of Micaiah until his safe return 22:24-28

D3 The demise of Ahab 22:29-36

E1 The Syrian captains' near destruction of Jehoshaphat,  
thinking he was the king of Israel 22:29-33

E2 The death of the king of Israel from a random arrow shot  
22:34-36

C4 The Summary of Ahab's Reign and Prophecy-Fulfilling Death 22:37-40

**B14 The Righteous Reign of King Jehoshaphat over Judah (873-848 B. C.)  
22:41-50 (cf. 2 Chron. 17:1 - 20:37)**

C1 The Good Reign of Jehoshaphat ben Asa 22:41-44

C2 The Summary of the Reign of Jehoshaphat 22:45-49

C3 The Death of Jehoshaphat and Accession of Jehoram <sup>5</sup> His Son 22:50

**B15 The Evil Reign of King Ahaziah ben Ahab over Israel (841 B. C.) 22:51-53**

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<sup>5</sup> Jehoram ben Jehoshaphat's reign is discussed in detail beginning in 2 Kings 8:16.