

The New Covenant

Jeremiah 31:31-34

IN CONGRESS, JULY 4, 1776.
A DECLARATION
BY THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
IN GENERAL CONGRESS ASSEMBLED.

WHEN in the Course of human Events, it becomes necessary for one People to dissolve the Political Bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the Powers of the Earth, the separate and equal Station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent Respect to the Opinions of Mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the Separation.

We hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness—That to secure these Rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just Powers from the Consent of the Governed, that whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these Ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its Foundation on such Principles, and organizing its Powers in such Form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient Causes; and accordingly all Experience hath shewn, that Mankind are more disposed to suffer, while Evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the Forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long Train of Abuses and Usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object, evinces a Design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their Right, it is their Duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future Security. Such has been the patient Sufferance of these Colonies; and such is now the Necessity which constrains them to alter their former Systems of Government. The History of the present King of Great-Britain is a History of repeated Injuries and Usurpations, all having in direct Object the Establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States. To prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid World.

He has refused his Assent to Laws, the most wholesome and necessary for the public Good.

He has forbidden his Governors to pass Laws of immediate and pressing Importance, unless suspended in their Operation till his Assent should be obtained; and when so suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them.

He has refused to pass other Laws for the Accommodation of large Districts of People, unless those People would relinquish the Right of Representation in the Legislature, a Right inestimable to them, and formidable to Tyrants only.

He has called together Legislative Bodies at Places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the Depository of their public Records, for the sole Purpose of

I. New Covenant Contrasted (31-32)

II. New Covenant Defined (33-34)

I. New Covenant Contrasted (31-32)

A. Introduction of the New Covenant (31)

B. Review of the Mosaic Covenant (32a)

C. Outcome of the Mosaic Covenant (32b)

A. Introduction of the New Covenant (31)

1. Definition of a Covenant

Biblical Covenant

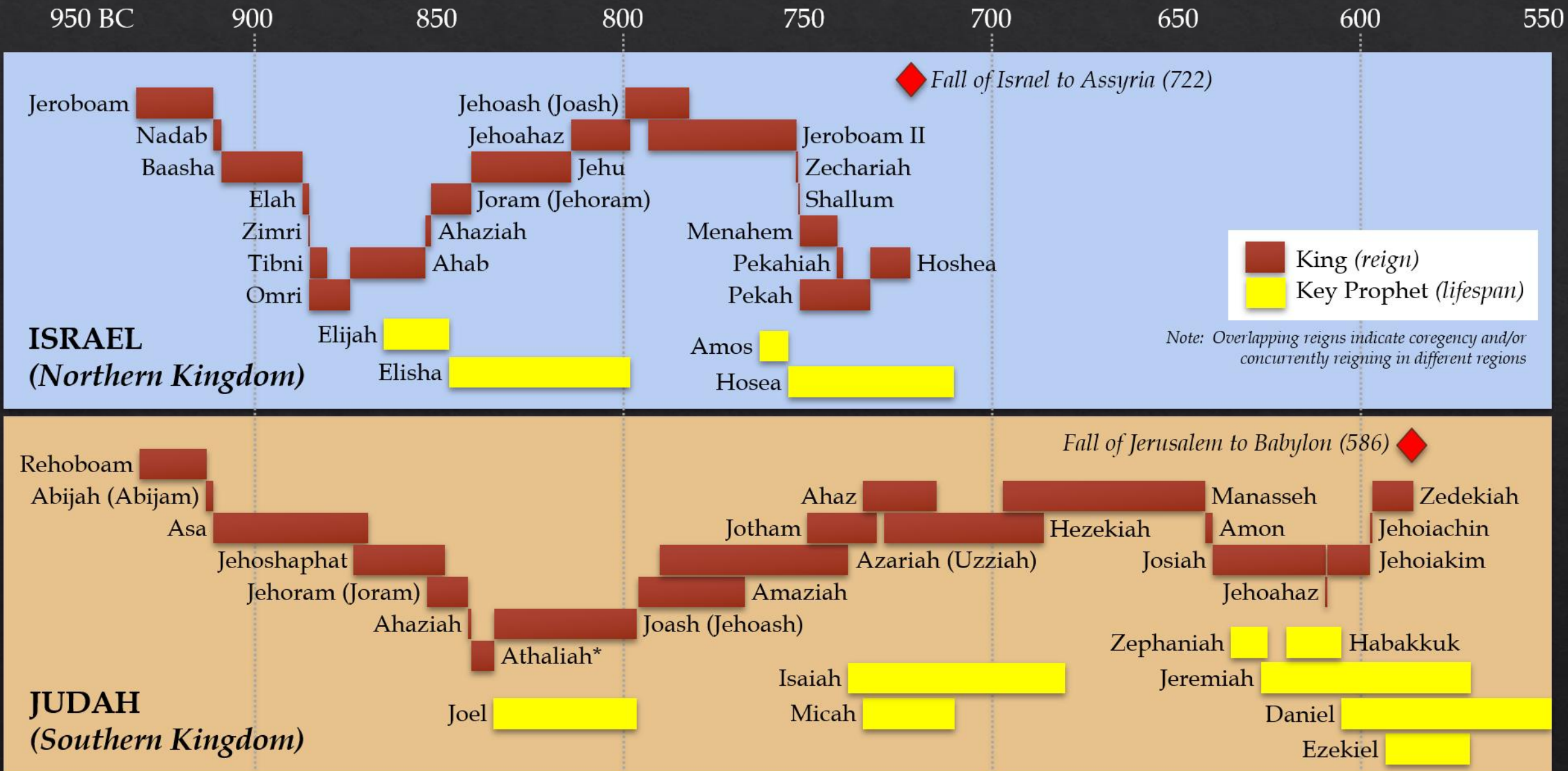
*A covenant is an unchangeable,
divinely imposed legal
agreement between God and
man that stipulates the
conditions of their relationship.
– Grudem*

Four Essentials of a Covenant

1. Clear stipulation of the parties involved
2. Conditions of the Covenant
 - a. Bilateral (Conditional) – binding on both parties
 - b. Unilateral (Unconditional) – binding only on the party making the Covenant
3. Promise of blessing for obedience
4. Promise of punishment for disobedience

A. Introduction of the New Covenant (31)

1. Definition of a Covenant
2. Timing



A. Introduction of the New Covenant (31)

1. Definition of a Covenant
2. Timing
3. Maker
4. Name
5. Recipients
6. Recipients Expanded

B. Review of the Mosaic Covenant (32a)

1. Father's Covenant
2. Not like the New Covenant
3. Took them by the hand

C. Outcome of the Mosaic Covenant (32b)

1. Broken Covenant
2. Unfaithful Israel

Questions about the Mosaic Covenant

1. What was the purpose of the Mosaic Covenant?
2. Was the Mosaic Covenant flawed?
3. Was the Mosaic Covenant abandoned?
4. Are NT Believers under the Mosaic Covenant?

I. New Covenant Contrasted (31-32)

II. New Covenant Defined (33-34)

A. Details of the New Covenant (33a)

B. Heart of the New Covenant (33b)

C. Outcome of the New Covenant (34)

A. Details of the New Covenant (33a)

1. Timing
2. Maker
3. Name
4. Recipients

B. Heart of the New Covenant (33b)

1. Law Within
2. Law on the Heart
3. Their God
4. My People

C. Outcome of the New Covenant (34)

1. No more Teaching
2. Knowing the Lord
3. Forgiveness of Sin
4. A Clean Slate