

*The Good, the
Bad, and the Ugly*
Leader Guide
(NASB and ESV)

KINGS & PROPHETS SERIES

Course 10

(2 Kings 21–25; 2 Chronicles 33–36; Zephaniah)

The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly Leader Guide (NASB and ESV)
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USING LEADER GUIDES

Leader Guides are intended for you, the leader, to guide your Precept Upon Precept® and In & Out® discussions. They are designed to help you reason through the content of the lessons and to ensure you have understood what your group should have learned from their study. The guides offer effective plans for leading discussions.

The Holy Spirit is your guide as you prepare. He is the one who knows what your group needs to apply to their lives. Pray for them as they study and for yourself as you prepare to lead the discussion.

These guides can be used for either the NASB or the ESV edition of the courses. ESV words follow the NASB after a slash / or are set off with parentheses.

Leader Guides include the following:

- Lesson emphasis
- A logical order for the discussion
- Discussion questions
- Suggested visual aid(s)

Practical tips for using the Leader Guide:

- **Don't simply "do" the lesson.**
Stay with the lesson until you have a good understanding of it. This will give you a better grasp of how the Leader Guide takes you through the lesson.
- **You don't have to ask every question in the guide.**
Often one question will be covered while discussing another question so there is no reason to ask it. Your goal is not to ask every question, but to ask enough questions to make sure your group understood the lesson and to help them apply the truths to their lives.

Using the Leader Guide with In & Out


When your entire group uses In & Out

Compare an In & Out lesson with the Leader Guide. Use what relates to the In & Out lesson as a guide for the discussion. Don't teach what's not in In & Out lessons. Remember your goal in the discussion is for your group to discuss what they've learned, not for you to lecture on what you learned.

For groups studying both Precept Upon Precept and In & Out

Use the Leader Guides as designed for PUP, knowing that the In & Out assignments will be covered in the discussion. Make a note in the Leader Guide of what is not in the In & Out.

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**THE GOOD, THE BAD, AND THE UGLY
LEADER GUIDE
Lesson 1**

Lesson emphasis:

- 2 Kings 21
- 2 Chronicles 33

NOTE: It is difficult to determine an exact chronology and dating of the reigns of kings and their ages, and of events in Old Testament historical books. The authors had information not available to us today. Various schemes have sought to reconcile years and age, such as different calendars and co-regencies, but there are difficulties with all solutions. Don't get sidetracked trying to reconcile years and ages, as there are entire books written on this subject. There are no contradictions or errors in Scripture. Our focus should be on the lessons we learn for our lives from the lives of these characters.

REVIEW

To begin this discussion, tell your group to look at their chart “The Kings of Israel and Judah.” If they studied the previous Kings and Prophets courses, a quick review will be helpful. Ask about the previous kings and the two kingdoms.

David was the king to whom all others were compared. He had wholehearted devotion to God—a man after God’s own heart. Therefore, God promised him an enduring house.

All of the kings of Judah were descended from David, but only a few such as Hezekiah were righteous. Most led Judah into evil.

There were several different dynasties in the Northern Kingdom of Israel, and all of the kings were evil. Therefore, God sent them into captivity to Assyria. That was during Hezekiah’s reign.

DEUTERONOMY 28-30

Begin with the promises in Deuteronomy 26:16-19. What did Israel promise God?

Walk
Keep
Listen / obey

What did God promise Israel?

Treasured possession
High above the nations
Consecrated / holy people

Ask your group what they learned from studying these chapters. What is the main point?
These chapters in Deuteronomy set the foundation for this course.

If God's people Israel obeyed His commands, He would bless them above all other nations.

If they didn't, He would bring disaster and destruction on them and destroy them from the land of promise.

Deuteronomy 28

What is the emphasis of this chapter?

The curses for disobedience are the focus.

- Pestilence
- Sickness / disease
- No rain
- Enemies
- Madness
- Sons and daughters will go into captivity
- None to save / help

What are some of the specifics of verses 36-57?

The Lord will bring a nation against them.
That nation will set a siege against God's people until they are destroyed.

Ask about the content of verses 58-68.

- Extraordinary plagues / afflictions
- Few in number, were numerous as the stars
- Torn from / plucked off the land
- Scattered among the nations
- No rest
- No assurance
- Slaves in foreign lands

Deuteronomy 29

Ask about the main point of this chapter and what your group learned about God.

God's people entered into a covenant with Him to obey His commands.

His desire was to make Israel prosper and establish them as His people.

The warning is against idolatry and the consequences for it:

- Plagues / afflictions
- Diseases / sicknesses
- Land like brimstone

Uprooted
God's anger and wrath

Deuteronomy 30

How does the emphasis of this chapter differ from the other two?

His people returning to Him in their hearts
Then God will restore them from captivity and bring them back to their land.

Ask your group if there is any application from these chapters in Deuteronomy which is relevant to their lives.

2 KINGS 21 AND 2 CHRONICLES 33

Ask what they noted on their At a Glance charts as the themes of these chapters.

2 Kings 21	Manasseh and Amon kings of Judah
2 Chronicles 33	Manasseh and Amon kings of Judah

2 Kings 21:1-18 and 2 Chronicles 33:1-9

Who was Manasseh?

He was good king Hezekiah's son.

Ask about Hezekiah from 2 Kings 18:1-12 and 2 Chronicles 29:1-11

- Trusted God
- None like him among the kings of Judah
- God was with him
- Reopened God's temple
- During his reign, Samaria was captured by Assyria

Ask about Manasseh's reign.

Manasseh was only twelve when he became king, but reigned until he was 67 (55 years).

He undid the righteous things his father had done. Manasseh followed in his grandfather's footsteps instead of his father's.

He brought Baal worship back to Judah and even put an Asherah in the temple. He practiced witchcraft and sacrificed his sons in fire.

Manasseh misled Judah and Jerusalem to do more evil than the nations.

How does 2 Kings 21:10-15 relate to Deuteronomy 28–30?

Because they didn't listen to God's commands and prophets . . .

Calamity / disaster on Jerusalem and Judah
Jerusalem will become as Samaria, delivered to their enemies
God's anger against them

You might ask your group if they think a person or nation can continuously sin against God and not suffer the consequences.

2 Chronicles 33:10-20

What happened in these verses?

Manasseh was taken captive to Babylon by the Assyrian army commanders.

In distress, he humbled himself before God and entreated, prayed to, Him.
He knew that the Lord is God.

As a result, God restored him to his kingdom in Jerusalem.

What does this teach about God? Give time for application discussion.

Ask about 2 Chronicles 33:14-17.

Manasseh removed the idols he had set up in Jerusalem.

He made peace and thank offerings to the Lord and ordered the people to serve Him.

2 Kings 21:19-26 and 2 Chronicles 33:21-25

Who are these verses about?

Amon the next king of Judah

What were the kings of Judah like from Ahaz to Amon?

Ahaz—most evil king up to that time

Hezekiah—most like David up to his time

Manasseh—most evil of all kings of Judah until he humbled himself

Amon—evil

Ask what they learned about Amon and/ or his reign.

He was 22 when he became king, but only reigned for 2 years.

He followed the evil years of his father.

Amon didn't humble himself, but multiplied guilt.

His servants conspired and killed him. Then the people killed the servants and made Josiah king.

To end this discussion, ask about John 14:15, 21.

Who keeps God's commands?

Those who truly love the Lord keep His commands. That's even an Old Testament principle.

Obedience from the heart is what God described in Deuteronomy.

Deuteronomy 30:19-20

Choose life . . . by loving God, by obeying His voice (His Word).

**THE GOOD, THE BAD, AND THE UGLY
LEADER GUIDE
Lesson 2**

Lesson emphasis:

- Zephaniah
- The day of the Lord

REVIEW

Ask your group what they remember from the first lesson in this course about the kings of Judah.

Manasseh was the most evil of all Judah's kings, then he humbled himself.
He ruled Judah for 55 years.

His son Amon ruled for only 2 years and followed the evil ways of his father.

ZEPHANIAH 1

Tell them to look at their At a Glance charts and "The Kings of Israel and Judah" chart as visual aids for this discussion.

What is the theme of this chapter?

Day of the Lord, a day of wrath

Verse 1

Now ask who Zephaniah was and his connection to the kings of Judah.

He was a prophet to Judah and the great-great grandson of Hezekiah, whom many scholars think is King Hezekiah.

If so, then he was part of the royal family, the descendants of King David.

God spoke to and through Zephaniah during Josiah's reign, who was Amon's son and the subject of the next lesson in this course.

Understanding Zephaniah's prophecy gives the setting for studying Josiah.

Verses 2-6

What are these verses about?

Verses 2-3 say God will completely remove all from the earth. He will cut off the wicked from the earth. This might refer to the end times.

Verses 4-6 are about His hand against Judah and Jerusalem. He'll cut off Baal and idolatrous priests along with those who worship the heavenlies and other idols.

Verses 7-13

Tell your group to look at their list about The Day of the Lord as a visual aid.
What are these verses about? Who will be punished?

The day of the Lord is near. God will punish:
Princes, the king's sons

All who leap on the temple threshold and fill it with violence and deceit

All who weigh out silver, those who trust in their wealth

The stagnant / complacent in spirit who say that God will do nothing

Verses 14-18

What will the day of the Lord be like? Why?

It's coming quickly / hastening.

The warrior / mighty man cries out bitterly.
Battle against the fortified cities. Relate this to 2 Chronicles 33:14.

A day of wrath, trouble / distress, distress / anguish, destruction / ruin, desolation / devastation, darkness, gloom

Silver and gold cannot deliver people on the day of the Lord's wrath.

All the earth will be devoured in the fire of His jealousy.

Because they have sinned against the Lord. Compare this with Deuteronomy 28-30.

Ask what your group learned about God from this chapter and let them have enough time to discuss it.

You can also ask if they think that Zephaniah 1 has yet been fulfilled. How do they think that this is related to the times after Hezekiah, Manasseh, and Amon?

ZEPHANIAH 2

Ask what they noted as the theme of this chapter.

Seek the Lord in humility; Philistines, Moab, Ammon, Ethiopia, Assyria—desolation

Verses 1-3

What is the call and to whom?

Gather yourselves and seek the Lord before the decree takes effect.

The nation without shame is a reference to Judah.

God called them to gather together and seek Him before the day of the Lord comes, before His decree through Zephaniah takes effect (literally, *is born*¹).

He called them to seek Him in humility; seek righteousness.

Humility is used twice in these verses.

Compare to Manasseh.

The humble are described as those who are obedient.

Verses 4-15

Who is the rest of this chapter about?

Tell your group to look at the map in the lesson as a visual aid.

The Philistines—inhabitants of the seacoast, verses 4-7

Gaza

Ashkelon

Ashdod

Ekron

God is against them and will destroy them.

The remnant of Judah will have their land as God cares for them and restores their fortune.

This is still in the future. It has not yet been fulfilled.

Moab and Ammon, verses 8-11

They were arrogant against Judah's territory.

The desolation of Moab and Ammon will be like that of Sodom and Gomorrah.

The remnant of Judah will plunder them.

¹ *New American Standard Bible: 1995 update*, marginal note (Zeph 1:2) (LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation, 1995).

Ethiopia / Cush and Assyria, Nineveh, verses 12-15

Ethiopia / Cush, to the south of Judah, would be killed with God's sword, battle.

Assyria was north of Judah.

Nineveh was the prominent city of Assyrian territory at the time when Zephaniah wrote his prophecy. God said He would destroy it and make it a desolation.

Nineveh of that time was living securely, as Jerusalem might have been. But destruction from the Lord was about to come on both because of their sin against Him.

Some in your group might want to discuss the modern countries who live in these places and how these prophecies can relate to them or not.

ZEPHANIAH 3

Ask what they put as the theme for this chapter on their At a Glance chart.

Woe to the tyrannical / oppressing city; wait for the Lord...remnant

Verses 1-7

Who is the rebellious, defiled, and tyrannical / oppressing city?

Verse 4 indicates that it's a reference to Jerusalem.

They were eager to corrupt all their deeds.
Compare to Amon undoing all the good Manasseh did.

Verses 8-13

Ask your group what they observe about God from these verses.

He told them to wait for His wrath.
Indignation and burning anger against the nations

Compassion toward the remnant
Compare this with His compassion toward Manasseh when he humbled himself and prayed.

What will happen to the nations? The remnant?

He calls His people to wait for Him.

After His burning anger is poured out on the nations, then He'll purify those who are left of the nations. They, along with the remnant, will call on His name.
There will be no shame for past deeds at that time.

The proud will be removed and only the humble will remain—those who take refuge in the Lord.

Relate this to the time of Zephaniah's message to Judah.

Verses 14-20

How does this chapter end?

These verses are about restoration.

It's the time when the King of Israel, the Lord Jesus, will be in the midst of Jerusalem.

The Lord in one's midst is a victorious warrior / mighty one.

It's the time when Israel will again be gathered as God's people with renown and praise from the nations.

Zephaniah is the last of the minor prophets to be studied in the King and Prophets series. The book's message contains the same pattern as most of the others.

Sin, judgment, restoration

It's the gospel message in the Old Testament.

Encourage your group that this lesson is the foundation for the next one in this course. They'll be excited to see how Zephaniah's message was heeded when they study Josiah.

They have a responsibility like Manasseh—humble yourself before the Lord and entreat Him.

They have a responsibility like Zephaniah—to give forth God's message to their people.

They know how to do both.

**THE GOOD, THE BAD, AND THE UGLY
LEADER GUIDE
Lesson 3**

Lesson emphasis:

- 2 Kings 22–23
- 2 Chronicles 34–35

REVIEW

Ask your group who the kings of Judah were from Hezekiah to Josiah, what kind of a king each was, and how long he ruled. Tell them to look at the chart “The Kings of Israel and Judah.”

Hezekiah—a good king	ruled for 29 years
Manasseh—most evil king	ruled for 55 years
Then humbled himself	
Amon—evil king	ruled for 2 years

Tell them to also look at their At a Glance charts as visual aids for this discussion.

2 KINGS 22 AND 2 CHRONICLES 34

What did they note as the theme of these chapters on their At a Glance charts?

2 Kings 22	Josiah heard the Law, humbled himself
2 Chronicles 34	Josiah sought the Lord, purged Judah, made a covenant

There is a simple list about Josiah at the end of this guide which you might find helpful as a visual aid.

2 Kings 22:1-2 and 2 Chronicles 34:1-7

Who and what are these verses about?

Josiah was 8 years old when he began his 31-year reign in Jerusalem.
He was a righteous king who followed David’s ways.

In the 8th year of his reign, at age 16, he began to seek God.

Why might he have done that? Relate it to Zephaniah.

Zephaniah prophesied during the days of Josiah. Zephaniah told about the coming day of the Lord, the day of His wrath. Since Zephaniah was of the royal house, Josiah should have heard his message of wrath and restoration. Twice in Zephaniah 2 he said to seek the Lord.

Josiah's father only reigned for 2 years, so Josiah probably knew of Manasseh's humbling and could see the results.

These things may have influenced Josiah so that his heart was tender toward God at a very young age. He must have believed what he heard.

In his 12th year (age 20), he began to purge Judah and Jerusalem of the high places. He had them torn and chopped down, and the idols ground to powder and scattered on the graves of the ones who sacrificed to them.

He also did this in the cities of Manasseh, Ephraim, Simeon, and Naphtali. Assyria took the Israelites in these areas captive 100 years prior to this time. He continued the purging throughout the land of Israel. It took six years.

2 Kings 22:3-7 and 2 Chronicles 34:8-13

What happened in Josiah's 18th year as king of Judah?

After the land and the Lord's house had been purged / cleansed, Josiah had the temple repaired.

Manasseh and Ephraim, all the remnant of Israel, all Judah and Benjamin, and the inhabitants of Jerusalem brought money into God's house.

2 Kings 22:7 and 2 Chronicles 34:12 say that no accounting of the money was made of the men assigned because they were honest, faithful. They were trustworthy.

You might ask your group if that could be said about them. Are they faithful with what God has given them?

2 Kings 22:8-13 and 2 Chronicles 34:14-21

What was found in the temple?

Hilkiah the priest found the book of the law of the Lord given by Moses. It had been lost in the Lord's house.

You could ask if they think that happens today and how; then continue discussing these verses.

Shaphan the scribe read from the book in the presence of King Josiah.

Should Josiah have known what the book of the law of Moses said? What does Deuteronomy 17:14-20 say?

The king was to write a copy of the law in the presence of the priests. It was to be with him and he was to read it all the days of his life so that he learns to fear the Lord and obey.

What happened when Josiah heard God’s Word?

When the king heard the law, he tore his clothes and sent men to inquire of the Lord for him and those left in Israel and Judah.

Josiah understood that God’s wrath was on them because the fathers had not obeyed God’s word.

2 Kings 22:14-20 and 2 Chronicles 34:22-28

What happened in these verses?

Huldah the prophetess told those sent by Josiah that the Lord would bring evil on Israel and its inhabitants, even all the curses written in the book they had found and read.

These things were coming because they had forsaken the Lord and turned to other gods. They provoked God to anger; therefore, He would pour out His wrath on that place and it would not be quenched.

You could ask what your group remembers about God’s wrath from Zephaniah’s message.

Zephaniah describes God’s wrath as fire, burning anger, indignation. Surely some of the people had heard Zephaniah’s message, but had not taken it to heart.

Ask what the Lord said to Josiah.

- because your heart was tender
- because you humbled yourself when you heard the words of the law
- because you tore your clothes
- because you wept before Me

I have heard and you will die in peace.
Your eyes will not see the evil I will bring on these.

God would spare Josiah, but there would be consequences for unfaithfulness.

2 Kings 23:1-3 and 2 Chronicles 34:29-33

Ask what King Josiah does after hearing from Huldah.

After gathering all the people, he went to the house of the Lord and read the words of the book found in the house of the Lord.

Josiah stood and made a covenant before the Lord to walk after Him and keep His commandments, testimonies, and statutes with all his heart and soul.

He made all present do the same.

He removed all abominations and the people did not turn from following the Lord as long as he was alive.

They followed outwardly, even if there was not heart change.

You might ask if they think people do that now as well.

2 KINGS 23

Ask what your group put as the theme for this chapter on their At a Glance chart.

Josiah made a covenant, Passover; Pharaoh Neco against Josiah, Jehoahaz and Eliakim

Note: 2 Kings 23 was Josiah's 18th year as king.

Verses 4-14

What are these verses about? Compare with 2 Chronicles 34:33.

Tell them to look at “The Reforms of Josiah’s Time” chart as a visual aid.

All the vessels in the temple that were made for Baal, Asherah, and the heavens were burned and the ashes carried to Bethel.

Josiah did away with the idolatrous priests and those who burned incense to Baal. The kings of Judah had appointed those idolatrous priests.

He had the Asherah brought out of the temple, burned, ground, and thrown on the graves of the common people. Also, he broke down the houses of the male cult prostitutes that were in the house of the Lord.

The high places were defiled from Geba to Beersheba.

The evil place of Topheth was defiled so that men could no longer sacrifice their sons and daughters through the fire for Molech.

Not only did Josiah do away with altars and idols, but also horses and chariots that had been given to the sun.

There were altars on the roof and in the upper chamber of Ahaz. Also, Manasseh’s altars were in the two courts of the house of the Lord. Josiah broke these down, smashed them, and threw the dust into the brook Kidron.

Solomon had built abominations as well and they were still before Jerusalem. Josiah defiled these, cut them down, and filled their places with human bones.

Verses 15-20

Ask what your group learned in these verses.

The altar of Jeroboam at Bethel was demolished, ground, and the idol burned.

1 Kings 13:1-5, 11, 31-32

These verses give the prophecy for what happens in 2 Kings 23:16-18. These words were spoken about 309 years prior to Josiah's purging.

Ask what this incident shows about the Word of the Lord.

Oftentimes what God says or promises may seem to take a long time. But His promises are sure; God does exactly what He says He will do.

You might ask how this applies to their lives and relationship with the Lord.

Lead your discussion back to 2 Kings 23:19-20.

Josiah did to the cities of Samaria the same as he had done in Bethel.

All the priests of the high places were slaughtered on the altars, and he defiled the altars by burning human bones on them.

Then he returned to Jerusalem.

2 CHRONICLES 35

What is a possible theme for 2 Chronicles 35?

Josiah's Passover; Pharaoh Neco killed Josiah

2 Kings 23:21-23 and 2 Chronicles 35:1-19

What are these passages about?

The Kings verses give a synopsis and 2 Chronicles gives the details. Chronicles was written about the kings of Judah to the exiles who returned from Babylon.

The king commanded the people to celebrate the Passover in his 18th year (26 years old).

His legacy is profound: before or after there was no king like him. He turned to the Lord with all his heart, soul, and might.

However, the Lord did not turn from His great wrath brought on by Manasseh. The Lord would remove Judah and cast off Jerusalem just as He had done with the Northern Kingdom 100 years prior. Not only would he cast off Jerusalem, but the temple as well.

They celebrated the Passover on the 14th day of the first month, Exodus 12:14-49. If there is time, you could let someone share what the Exodus passage says. The emphasis for this lesson, however, is that they should always celebrate the Passover in the land.

Josiah encouraged the priests and the Levites in their service in the house of the Lord.

The Levites were told to put the ark back into the house of the Lord; it would not be a burden on their shoulders any longer. Possibly Manasseh had it taken out when he put in his altars. Compare 2 Chronicles 33:1-7.

Josiah had the Levites prepare for the Passover.

Josiah's contribution was very large. Perhaps his example caused the officers and officials to make large contributions as well.

Ask what this might say about Josiah's heart and the hearts of those that watched his obedience. Give time to discuss application.

Everyone ate as written in the book of Moses. Even the gatekeepers who were not able to leave their posts were prepared for by the Levites.

There had not been a Passover celebrated like this since Samuel. After Passover were seven days of the Feast of Unleavened Bread.

2 Kings 23:24-28

What do these verses say about Josiah?

There was no king like him, before or after, who turned to the Lord with all his heart, soul and might. He was a man like King David.

2 Kings 23:29-30 and 2 Chronicles 35:20-27

Who and what are these passages about?

Tell them to look at the map.

Thirteen years after Josiah's Passover, in 609 B.C. King Neco of Egypt was on his way to Carchemish for war. (To help Assyria against Babylon)

Josiah went out to stop him. Neco sent messengers to Josiah not to come up against him because God had ordered him to hurry. He told Josiah not to interfere with God who was with him so that God would not destroy Josiah.

Josiah didn't listen and was shot at Megiddo. They brought him back to Jerusalem and he died there.

2 Kings 23:31-37

How does this chapter end?

Josiah's son Jehoahaz, also known as Shallum, became king and reigned three months. He was an evil king. Neco imprisoned him in Riblah. Eventually, they took him to Egypt where he died.

Pharaoh Neco made another of Josiah's sons king, Eliakim. Neco changed his name to Jehoiakim. He was 25 years old and reigned 11 years. He was an evil king who taxed the people and gave the money to Neco.

NOTE: 1 Chronicles 3:15 gives the birth order of Josiah's sons.

In 605 B.C., Babylon defeated Egypt and the remnants of Assyria at Carchemish, which left Babylon as the predominant power.

You might end your discussion by letting them share how Psalm 119 ministered to them.

Or you might ask what the lesson is for us in these chapters and how God used His Word in their lives this week.

King Josiah

King at 8 years of age

8 th year	began to seek the Lord (16 years old)
12 th year	began to purge the land (20 years old)
18 th year	made covenant/ purged the land/ Passover (26 years old)
31 st year	died/ Pharaoh Neco (39 years old)

**THE GOOD, THE BAD, AND THE UGLY
LEADER GUIDE
Lesson 4**

Lesson Emphasis:

- 2 Kings 24:1-7
- 2 Chronicles 36:1-4
- Prophecies from Jeremiah

REVIEW

A good way to begin your discussion is by asking about the history given in the lesson on Day Two. Tell them to look at “The Rulers and Prophets of Jeremiah’s Time” as a visual aid along with “The Kings of Israel and Judah” and the map in the lesson.

733 and 722 B.C.—Assyria took Israel (Northern Kingdom) captive.

612 B.C.—Nineveh fell, as Nahum said, to Nabopolassar of Babylon.

609 B.C.—Pharaoh Neco killed Josiah king of Judah.

605 B.C.—Battle of Carchemish . . .
Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon defeated Egypt and Assyria.

Ask what they remember as main points of Josiah and his reign over Judah.

Did what was right from his youth

Humbled himself when he heard God’s Word

Cleansed the land of Judah and Israel, led the people to worship God

Followed God’s Word, loved the Lord with his whole heart

How does Jeremiah 3:6-10 relate to this time?

Josiah turned to God with his whole heart, but most of the people did not.

Jeremiah said that they turned in deception / pretense.

Therefore, they faced God’s judgment when Josiah died.

JEHOAHAZ (JOAHAZ OR SHALLUM)

Ask what your group learned about him and his reign from all they studied in the lesson. Discuss the contrast between Josiah and him.

The first of Josiah's sons to be king of Judah
King when he was 23, at Josiah's death

He reigned for only 3 months when Pharaoh Neco (who had killed Josiah) deposed him, imprisoned him at Riblah, then took him to Egypt where he died.

Jeremiah 22:10-12

Verse 10 is about the people mourning for Josiah's death. The Lord said not to weep for him, but for the one who was taken away. That was his son Jehoahaz or Shallum.

Verses 11-12 are about him. He was an evil king who reigned only a short while.

Hezekiah was a good king, then his son Manasseh was the worst but humbled himself, then his son Josiah was the best since David, and his sons were evil kings.

NOTE: Commentators do not agree with one another about the king of Judah in verses 13-17. Some say it refers to Shallum, and others say Jehoiakim.

ELIAKIM (JEHOIAKIM)

Ask what your group learned about the events of his reign by piecing together the various prophecies of Jeremiah with 2 Kings and 2 Chronicles. Work in the contrast with Josiah and application questions when appropriate.

Eliakim was Josiah's son who became king the same year, 609 B.C., that Josiah died and only 3 months after his brother Jehoahaz had been made king by the people of Judah.

He was 25 years old when he was made king by Pharaoh Neco. Eliakim was 2 years older than his brother Shallum (Jehoahaz). Neco also changed his name to Jehoiakim.

He, like his brother and unlike his father, was an evil man. He reigned for 11 years.

Jeremiah 22:13-23

The Lord says, "Woe to him [Jehoiakim], who builds his house without righteousness (ESV—by unrighteousness) . . . and justice (ESV—by injustice)." In contrast, verses 15-17 say that Josiah did justice and righteousness, pleading / judged the cause of the afflicted / poor and needy. The Lord said that's what it means to know Him—it shows in behavior. Ask your group how this applies to their lives.

The prophet said, "They will / shall not lament for him," speaking of Jehoiakim.

He continued his prophecy against Jehoiakim by saying he would be dragged off and thrown out beyond the gates of Jerusalem and be buried with a donkey's burial.

God spoke to him in prosperity, but he didn't listen, as was his practice from his youth. Contrast this with Josiah's response to hearing God's Word.

He was a wicked man who would suffer shame and humiliation because of it.

Jeremiah 26

Ask about the time of this chapter and what happened.

In the beginning of Jehoiakim's reign, Jeremiah stood in the temple and spoke from the Lord to all who came to worship there. He called them to listen and turn.

The prophecy said the temple would become like Shiloh where the tabernacle had been. Evidently the Lord destroyed Shiloh because of the people's wickedness—the same thing coming on Jerusalem and the temple.

The officials saved Jeremiah from the priests and prophets who wanted to kill him. Uriah had given a similar message, but King Jehoiakim pursued him to Egypt, brought him back, and Jehoiakim killed him.

Daniel 1:1-2

In 605 B.C. Nebuchadnezzar besieged Judah and took some of the royal family into exile to Babylon. It was Jehoiakim's 3rd year as king.

Compare with 2 Kings 24:1-4 and 2 Chronicles 36:6-7.

A possible sequence of events is:

- Pharaoh Neco made Jehoiakim king in 609 B.C.
- In 605 B.C., Nebuchadnezzar defeated Neco at the battle of Carchemish.
- The same year Nebuchadnezzar invaded Judah.
This was the first of his three invasions to take Judah captive.
It began the 70 years of captivity, Jeremiah 25:11.
Daniel was taken.
- He bound Jehoiakim to take him to Babylon, but apparently did not.
- Jehoiakim paid tribute to Nebuchadnezzar for the next three years.
- God also sent Arameans, Moabites, and Ammonites against Judah.

Jeremiah 25:1-14

How do these prophecies fit into the chronological order of the previous events?
Also ask what they learned about God from these verses.

Jeremiah foretold that Nebuchadnezzar would come against Judah in the same year as his first invasion or siege, 605 B.C.

The Lord had spoken again and again through him for 23 years to call Judah to return to Him, but they didn't listen—just like King Jehoiakim.

For 70 years Judah would serve the king of Babylon.

Jeremiah 36

How do the events of this chapter fit into the chronology of Jehoiakim's life?
What does this tell about him?

Since Jeremiah could not go into the temple (compare to Jeremiah 26), he sent Baruch to read from a book (scroll) the Lord's words.

He read it in the 4th year of Jehoiakim and again in the 5th year.

In the 5th year, Baruch and the scroll were taken to the officials who listened to its words. They then told him to hide with Jeremiah so no one would know where they were.

As the king heard the words of the scroll read to him by Jehudi, one of the officials, he burned the book piece by piece.

He was not afraid of the Lord, nor did he listen to His Word.
He and his servants did not tear their garments in repentance.
He even tried to seize Jeremiah and Baruch, but the Lord hid them.

That was after the first invasion.

Verses 27-32

Ask about the specifics regarding King Jehoiakim.

He would have no one to sit on David's throne.
His dead body would be cast out to the heat of day and frost of night.
Compare this with Jeremiah 22:19.

All calamity / disaster would come on him.
He didn't listen.

Help your group to understand the severity of not listening to God's Word, especially for leaders.

**THE GOOD, THE BAD, AND THE UGLY
LEADER GUIDE
Lesson 5**

Lesson Emphasis:

- Jehoiachin
- The new covenant

REVIEW

Ask your group who the kings of Judah were from Hezekiah to Josiah, what kind of a king each was, and how long he ruled. Tell them to look at the chart “The Kings of Israel and Judah.”

Hezekiah—a good king	ruled for 29 years
Manasseh—most evil king	ruled for 55 years
Then humbled himself	
Amon—evil king	ruled for 2 years
Josiah—righteous king	ruled for 31 years
Jehoahaz—evil king	ruled for 3 months
Jehoiakim—evil king	ruled for 11 years

2 CHRONICLES 36:1-10; 2 KINGS 24:1-17

Who and what are these passages about?

Pharaoh Neco of Egypt made Jehoiakim king, and he reigned for 11 years in Jerusalem.

After Babylon defeated Egypt and Assyria, King Nebuchadnezzar came up against King Jehoiakim. This was the first siege of Babylon against Judah (605 B.C.).

Jehoiachin was the next evil king. He was Jehoiakim’s son, Josiah’s grandson.

These two passages give different ages for him, although his reigning time is the same—3 months in Jerusalem. He was probably 18 years old (not 8), since he had wives (2 Kings 24:15).

NOTE: Most commentators think the age difference in Kings and Chronicles is due to a scribal error.

In 597 B.C., Nebuchadnezzar’s 8th year as king, he came to Jerusalem and besieged it again. Jehoiachin surrendered along with his mother, servants, captains, and officials.

Nebuchadnezzar carried away to Babylon (exile) 10,000 people along with the vessels of gold that Solomon had made for the temple, Judah’s military, and craftsmen. He left the poorest people in the land.

Then Nebuchadnezzar made Jehoiachin's uncle Mattaniah king and changed his name to Zedekiah. Zedekiah was Josiah's son. He reigned 11 years in Jerusalem and was also an evil king.

JEREMIAH 24

Ask about the timing and message of this chapter.

After Nebuchadnezzar carried the 10,000 captives into exile (Zedekiah now king), the Lord showed Jeremiah two baskets of figs—one very good basket like first-ripe figs, the other very bad figs that could not be eaten.

What did God say about the good figs? Compare this with Micah 4:10.

The Lord told Jeremiah that like the good figs, He will have regard for the captives of Judah sent to the Chaldeans. Micah says they will be rescued, redeemed by the Lord.

He will set His eyes on them for good and bring them again to the land given to them and their forefathers. He will build them up and not overthrow them.

He will give them a heart to know Him. They will be His people and He their God, because they will return to Him with their whole heart.

Ask about the bad figs.

These could not be eaten because of rottenness. These “bad figs” were the ones who remained in Jerusalem and the ones who lived in Egypt. (There will be more about those in Egypt in the next lesson.)

God would abandon them and King Zedekiah. You could relate this to 2 Kings 24:3-4.

God would make them a terror / horror. He would send sword, famine, and pestilence on them until they were destroyed from the land, the land of Israel given to them and their forefathers.

JEREMIAH 29:1-23

Ask what God's message was through Jeremiah to the “good figs,” those in captivity, as to how they were to live, what their hope was.

Verses 1-9

Jeremiah sent a letter after Jehoiachin had been taken from Jerusalem, so this would be after 597 B.C. Zedekiah was king.

The letter was an encouragement for the exiles God sent from Jerusalem to Babylon.

His instructions were to build houses and live in them and plant gardens and eat. Take wives and have families—multiply, not decrease.

Seek the welfare of Babylon and pray on its behalf. The city's welfare would be their welfare. If the city did well, so would they.

They were not to listen to the false prophets or diviners. These were not from God.

Ask if there might be any principles in this for believers today.

Was any hope given in the letter?

Verses 10-14

When the 70 years of captivity were completed, God would visit them, fulfill His good word, and bring them back to Israel.

Ask whom the promises of these verses are for and what those promises are.

These promises were for those captives in Babylon.

God's plans were for their welfare and not calamity, a future and a hope. They would call and He would listen. They would seek Him and find Him when they searched with all their heart.

Ask if there are similar promises in the New Testament for those who belong to Christ and let them share what they found in their study.

You could ask if they have ever experienced a time when they sought for God with all their heart, when He was what they wanted more than anything.

God says to Israel that when they search for Him, He will be found, will restore their fortunes, and will gather them from all the places He has driven them and bring them back to the place they had been sent from.

Ask what God said to the "bad figs."

Verses 15-20

The "bad figs," the ones left in the land, God would make like split-open figs, too rotten to eat. He would pursue them with sword, famine, and pestilence and make them a terror and reproach among all the nations where He had driven them.

This happened because they had not listened to His words sent repeatedly by His servants, the prophets.

Ask how verse 20 relates to these verses and what He was saying to them.

This was a warning to the ones in exile in Babylon: hear the word of the Lord.
One way people learn about God is to watch and listen to how He works with others.

Verses 21-23

God would deliver the false prophets into the hands of Nebuchadnezzar and he would roast them in the fire.

NEW COVENANT

Ask what they learned from other cross-references about returning to God with their whole heart.

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Let your group share what they learned about these two covenants from these verses.

Help them remember that these people were in captivity when this was said, and they were there because they had not kept the Old Covenant (The Law). Sin and iniquity were everywhere.

The Old Covenant

- made with their fathers when He led them out of Egypt
- Israel broke it

The New Covenant

- not like the old
- God will put His law within and write it on hearts
- He'll be their God and they His people
- all will know Him
- forgiveness; remember their sin no more

Luke 24:26-27

You could ask how these verses might relate.

When Jesus taught the two men on the road to Emmaus after His resurrection, He taught them beginning with Moses and all the prophets. He explained the things concerning Himself in all the Scriptures, the Old Testament. The Old Testament contains many prophecies about Jesus and much of it prefigures/ pictures Jesus and the New Covenant.

Hebrews 10:1-18

Ask how they could know that Jeremiah 31:31-34 speaks about salvation through Christ.

These verses in Hebrews are commentary on Jeremiah 31:31-34. They quote the Jeremiah passage.

You might let them share how the sacrifices in the Old and New Covenant are different.

Law/ Old Covenant

- shadow of the good to come
- can't make perfect
- priest offered same sacrifices year after year
- reminder of sin year after year
- blood of bulls and goats couldn't take away sin
- taken away by Jesus in order to establish the new

New Covenant

- Jesus established this one
- He offered His body as one sacrifice for sins once for all
- He perfected for all time those sanctified
- Lord will put His laws on hearts and write them on minds
- sins and lawless deeds remembered no more
- forgiveness of sins—offering for sin no longer needed

Ezekiel 36:24-28

Ezekiel was in captivity in Babylon when this prophecy is given.

God will take them from the nations and bring them to their own land. He will

- cleanse them from all their filthiness and idols
- give them a new heart
- put new spirit within
- remove heart of stone that could not keep the law
- give heart of flesh
- put His Spirit (the Holy Spirit) within
- cause them to walk in His statutes
- be their God and they His people

Matthew 26:26-29; Luke 22:17-20

Jesus said these things the night He was betrayed. He and the disciples were in the Upper Room.

Ask how these Scriptures relate to what they have learned about the New Covenant.

Jesus said that His blood is the blood of the New Covenant poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. When the Lord's Supper/ Communion is celebrated, it is in remembrance of Him.

The promise of the New Covenant was spoken to the Jew in captivity, giving hope.

Ask your group what this says about God to them.

**THE GOOD, THE BAD, AND THE UGLY
LEADER GUIDE
Lesson 6**

Lesson emphasis:

- Jehoiachin and Zedekiah
- Jeremiah's prophecies about Zedekiah and his time

REVIEW

You can begin your discussion with a brief review of the kings your group studied in this course. Some of the review can come from 2 Chronicles 36. They might find it helpful to have their charts of the kings in front of them as a visual aid.

Manasseh

- Good King Hezekiah's son
- The most evil king of Judah
- Reigned 55 years
- Repented and humbled himself before the Lord

Amon

- Manasseh's son
- Evil king
- Reigned 2 years

Josiah

- Son of evil King Amon
- Reigned 31 years
- No king like him—turned to God with all his heart
- Killed by Pharaoh Neco in 609 B.C.

Jehoahaz, Joahaz or Shallum

2 Chronicles 36:1-4

- Josiah's son
- evil
- ruled only 3 months, then deposed and taken to Egypt by Neco in 609 B.C.

Jehoiakim, Eliakim

2 Chronicles 36:4-8; 2 Kings 24:1-6

- Josiah's son and older brother of Jehoahaz
- Made king by Pharaoh Neco in 609 B.C.
- Evil, burned God's Word
- reigned 11 years
- rebelled against Babylon

Important events during his reign:

- Babylon defeated Assyria and Egypt in 605 B.C.
- 1st siege and exiles from Judah to Babylon (Daniel), 605 B.C.

JEHOIACHIN, CONIAH, OR JECONIAH

Ask your group what they learned about him from 2 Chronicles 36 and 2 Kings 24:8-17 along with Jeremiah 22. Tell them to look at “The Kings of Israel and Judah” and “The Rulers and Prophets of Jeremiah’s Time” as visual aids for this discussion.

2 Chronicles 36:9-10

He was Jehoiakim’s son.

Remind your group of the prophecy in Jeremiah 36:30-31 about Jehoiakim’s descendants. Because he burned God’s Word, he was to have no one to sit on David’s throne. He and his descendants / offspring would be punished by the calamity / disaster God brought on Judah and Jerusalem—the Babylonians.

Jehoiachin only reigned for 3 months and ten days. Then he was taken to Babylon. Jeremiah’s prophecy was fulfilled.

He did evil like his father and, evidently, his mother.

2 Kings 24:8-17

This passage says that he was 18 years old when he became king. It also mentions his wives. The Babylonian record shows he had five sons in 592 B.C., five years after his captivity. Therefore, 8 years old stated in 2 Chronicles 36:9 could be a scribal error.

At that time, 597 B.C., Babylon besieged Jerusalem for the 2nd time. It was the 8th year of Nebuchadnezzar’s reign.

In that 2nd siege most of Jerusalem was taken captive (10,000 and Ezekiel), only the poorest people of the land were left there.

Jeremiah 22:24-30

This is the passage in which Jehoiachin is named Coniah, the son of Jehoiakim, king of Judah.

Jeremiah prophesied that God would give him into Nebuchadnezzar’s hand. He and his mother would be taken to Babylon and die there.

Coniah was to be recorded as

- childless
- not prosper in his days
- no descendant prosper on David’s throne, ruling again in Judah

MATTANIAH, ZEDEKIAH

Tell your group to look at their At a Glance chart, and ask what they noted as the theme for 2 Kings 24.

Jehoiachin and Zedekiah; siege and exile

Ask your group what they learned about this last king of Judah.

2 Chronicles 36:10-17 and 2 Kings 24:17-20

King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon made Jehoiachin's uncle Mattaniah king of Judah when he took Jehoiachin captive to Babylon. It was in 597 B.C.—the 2nd siege against Jerusalem.

Mattaniah was another of Josiah's sons, and Nebuchadnezzar changed his name to Zedekiah. He was 21 years old at the time and reigned for 11 years.

All three of good King Josiah's sons who were kings of Judah were evil men. Zedekiah was stiff-necked and hardened his heart against turning to the Lord.

He didn't humble himself before Jeremiah who spoke for the Lord. He was like Jehoiakim, his brother who burned the scroll of God's words.

He rebelled against Nebuchadnezzar who had made him swear allegiance by God. Since the Lord meant nothing to him, he broke the allegiance.

Jeremiah 27 and 28

In the 4th year of Zedekiah's reign, the Lord spoke through Jeremiah regarding the king and other nations.

Jeremiah said that God would give all Edom, Moab, Ammon, Tyre, Sidon, and Judah to Nebuchadnezzar. They would serve him, his son, and his grandson until the time when he was made a servant by other nations.

If those nations had submitted willingly to Nebuchadnezzar's rule, they would not have been punished. They would have remained on their own land.

There were false prophets in Jerusalem saying that Babylon would not rule over them, even that the exiles of 605 and 597 B.C. would return in two years.

Hananiah was one of those false prophets who challenged Jeremiah. He died two months later because he spoke rebellion against the Lord.

Ask how Deuteronomy 28:47-50 relates to this.

The people should have know what God had said that Moses wrote in Deuteronomy 28— God would send a nation to destroy them. Deuteronomy 28 was verification that Jeremiah was speaking God’s Word and that Hananiah’s words were false, against God. God’s Word is the measure for whether truth is spoken.

Give time for your group to discuss relevant application.

Ezekiel 17

Since observations on this entire chapter were optional work in the lesson, question your group about verses 11-21 only. Ask what they learned and how it related to Zedekiah.

The one of the royal family who made a covenant with Nebuchadnezzar was Zedekiah, verse 13.

Nebuchadnezzar’s plan was to have Judah in submission to him, not destroy it. That’s why he made Zedekiah swear allegiance and removed the mighty people.

But Zedekiah’s breaking of the covenant caused the destruction, which the Lord had already said would happen because of Manasseh’s sin.

Zedekiah’s rebellion against Nebuchadnezzar was sending to Egypt for help.

Jeremiah 37

Ask your group for the details in this chapter about Zedekiah, Egypt and Babylon.

Although Zedekiah didn’t listen to the Lord’s word through Jeremiah, he still asked him to pray for Judah.

Babylon had begun a siege against Jerusalem, but when Egypt came at Zedekiah’s request for help, then Babylon lifted its siege.

God said Pharaoh’s army would leave and the Chaldeans (Babylonians) would take Jerusalem and burn it. Verse 10 tells the surety of God’s promise.

The grandson of Hananiah (the false prophet of Jeremiah 28) arrested Jeremiah and put him in prison. When Zedekiah let him out, he secretly questioned Jeremiah about a word from the Lord.

God had sent His Word to the kings of Judah, even Zedekiah, repeatedly, and they had refused to listen to what He said.

Review the kings again and ask about their responses to God’s Word. What were the results of each?

**THE GOOD, THE BAD, AND THE UGLY
LEADER GUIDE
Lesson 7**

Lesson Emphasis:

- 2 Kings 25
- 3rd siege
- exile

REVIEW

Ask your group for a short review of the kings and main events they studied in this course. They might look at their charts on the kings as a visual aid for this part of your discussion.

Manasseh was the son of good King Hezekiah, but he was the most evil king of Judah until he humbled himself. He ruled Judah for 55 years.

Amon, Manasseh's son, was an evil king who only ruled for 2 years.

Josiah became king when his father Amon died. He was only 8 years old, but ruled Judah for 31 years. He followed the Lord with all his heart. The Word of the Lord was found in the temple during his reign. He cleansed all of Judah and Israel as a result of reading it.

Josiah was killed by Pharaoh Neco in 609 B.C.

Zephaniah prophesied during Josiah's reign.

Jeremiah began prophesying for the Lord in Josiah's 13th year as king.

Jehoahaz (Joahaz or Shallum) was the first of Josiah's sons to rule after him. The people of Judah made him king when he was 23 years old, but he only ruled for 3 months. In 609 B.C., Pharaoh Neco deposed him and took him to Egypt.

Eliakim (Jehoiakim), Jehoahaz's older brother, was made king by Neco in 609 B.C. He, like his brother, was an evil king. His reign was for 11 years.

605 B.C.

- Battle of Carchemish—Nebuchadnezzar defeated Assyria and Egypt
- 1st siege on Judah and Jerusalem by Nebuchadnezzar

Jehoiachin (Jeconiah or Coniah) was Jehoiakim's evil son who reigned only 3 months.

597 B.C.—Nebuchadnezzar took him to Babylon in the 2nd siege.

Zedekiah, another of Josiah's sons, was appointed king by Nebuchadnezzar. After making a covenant with Nebuchadnezzar, he rebelled and sent to Egypt for help. Babylon temporarily lifted the siege against Jerusalem because of Egypt, but then moved back in and continued it for 2 years.

Tell your group to look at their At a Glance charts. Then ask what they noted as the theme for 2 Chronicles 36.

Joahaz, Jehoiakim, Jehoiachin, Zedekiah to Babylon; Cyrus' proclamation

JEREMIAH AND ZEDEKIAH, JEREMIAH 38

Ask what they learned from Jeremiah 38. Encourage them to discuss application for their lives and what they learned about God.

The Lord's word to Judah was to go out to the Babylonians and live. If they stayed in Jerusalem, they would die by sword, famine, and pestilence.

Jeremiah was put in a cistern because of proclaiming the message. At that time, there was no bread left in Jerusalem because of the siege.

An appeal was made to King Zedekiah who had Jeremiah brought to him. In secret, he asked for a word from the Lord.

Zedekiah knew that the Lord lives and gives life, verse 16. Even so, he chose to go against God's Word.

Jeremiah told Zedekiah that if he would surrender, then his life would be spared and the city would not be burned. He also said that if the king didn't surrender, then he would not survive.

Zedekiah's fear of those Jews who had already gone to Babylon kept him from making the right choice. He kept refusing to obey the Lord's Word.

Jeremiah remained in the guardhouse court until Jerusalem was captured.

THE SIEGE

What was it like in Jerusalem when it was captured and during the two-year siege?

After two years of siege, the famine in Jerusalem was so severe that there was no food, and the land was a desolation.

Leviticus 26:27-33 tell results of the siege. Those in the city ate the flesh of their sons and daughters.

Why?

2 Chronicles 36:15-16 says the people of Judah repeatedly mocked God's prophets and despised His Word.

God had compassion on them until His wrath arose; then there was no remedy for them.

Let your group discuss the importance of paying attention to God's Word.

Ask what they learned about giving it to the people around them from Romans 10, Philippians 2, 2 Timothy 4, and Jeremiah 20.

THE CAPTIVITY

Discuss what happened after the siege weakened Jerusalem.

Zedekiah fled the city, but was captured and taken to Babylon.
Sixty leaders were killed at Riblah before Nebuchadnezzar.

The Chaldeans had no compassion on those they killed in the city.

The temple was burned, but all of the holy things were taken for their bronze, silver, and gold.

The people were taken into exile; only some of the poorest were left as vinedressers and plowmen. They were told not to fear the Chaldeans' servants, but to live in the land and serve the king of Babylon, 2 Kings 25:22-26.

A group rebelled against the Chaldean authority left in Judah, and then fled to Egypt.

God gave them into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar—as His prophets had said.

What happened to Jehoiachin?

Jechoniah or Coniah was released from almost 37 years of prison when Evil-merodach became king of Babylon. The king was generous to Jehoiachin.

Compare this with the prophecy about him in Jeremiah 22:24-30.

Ask about the length of the captivity.

Jeremiah said that it would last for 70 years.

While the people were in exile making amends for their iniquity (Leviticus 26:34-43), the land rested and enjoyed its Sabbaths.

Ask your group how important the land of Israel is to God. Let them discuss what they've learned about it in this series of courses.

If you have time, let them share what they learned about the captivity from Leviticus 26:36-45. Ask also what they learned about God from this chapter.

AFTER THE 70 YEARS

What happened?

God remembered His covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. He did not completely reject their descendants in the land of their enemies, Leviticus 26:42-45.

Isaiah prophesied 150 years or more previously that King Cyrus of Persia would send the captives back to Jerusalem to rebuild the temple.

In Cyrus' 1st year as king of Persia, he made such a proclamation. God's Word was fulfilled.

You might end this discussion and this course by asking your group what they learned about God.

He keeps His Word.

He brings His wrath on the disobedient.

He's the Redeemer.

He is sovereign over nations.

He stirs the hearts of people and kings to do His will, fulfill His word.

He's the Maker and Creator of all.

He is the Holy One of Israel.

He's the Lord of hosts.

There is none like Him.