PRECEPT
UPON
PRECEPT

The Good, The Bad and The Ugly

KINGS AND PROPHETS SERIES

Course 10

THE GOOD, THE BAD, AND THE UGLY

2 Kings 21–25/2 Chronicles 33–36 and Zephaniah

PRECEPT UPON PRECEPT

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HELPFUL STUDY TOOLS

ARTHUR, KAY
How to Study Your Bible
Eugene, Oregon: Harvest House Publishers, 1994

The New Inductive Study Bible
Eugene, Oregon: Harvest House Publishers, 2000

Hebrew Word Study Tools
(The following is a list of helpful Hebrew Word Study Tools:)

HARRIS, R. LAIRD; ARCHER, GLEASON L. JR.; WALTKE, BRUCE K.
Theological Wordbook of the Old Testament
Chicago, Illinois: Moody Press, 1980

ZODHIATES, SPIROS.
The Complete Word Study Old Testament
Chattanooga, Tennessee: AMG Publishers, 1994

BAKER, WARREN; CARPENTER, EUGENE
The Complete Word Study Dictionary: Old Testament
Chattanooga, Tennessee: AMG Publishers, 2003

RECOMMENDED COMMENTARIES

GAEBELIEN, FRANK E.
The Expositor's Bible Commentary, Volume 4
Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan Publishers, 1990

HOUSE, P. R.
The New American Commentary, Volume 8
Nashville, Tennessee: Broadman and Holman Publishers, 1995

KEIL, C. F.; DELITZSCH, F.
Commentary on the Old Testament
Peabody, Massachusetts: Hendrickson Publishers Inc. 1996

RECOMMENDED SOFTWARE

Logos Bible Software

Powerful search engines and up to 4,000 electronic Bible study resources (commentaries, lexicons, Bible dictionaries etc.) make it fast and easy to do simple and complex searches of multiple sources, then pull materials together for orderly presentation—excellent for word and topical studies based on English or original Hebrew and Greek. Available at www.logos.com.

BEFORE YOU BEGIN WE WANT YOU TO KNOW . . .

We are so thrilled that you have chosen to study *The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly*, the last in our ten-course series of the Kings and Prophets. It will be such a blessing to your life because the Old Testament places a tremendous emphasis on the holy character and works of God that anticipate fulfillment in the person of Christ in the New Testament. In essence, it lays the groundwork for the only salvation possible—the salvation God provides in His Son "by which we must be saved." The Bible is a progressive revelation—all sixty-six parts are essential to understanding the whole counsel of God.

As you begin this series, it's vital to understand the importance of a study like this and some of the differences between studying (primarily historical) Old Testament books and (primarily doctrinal) New Testament epistles.

- In the Old Testament we come to know God—who He is and how He works in the affairs of mankind—and we develop a godly fear of His awesome majesty, holy character, and works.
- The nation that is in the front and center of all God's dealings is Israel. So as you study Kings and Chronicles, you find yourself immersed in Israel's history, studying events surrounding the reigns of her kings in an effort to get the *big* picture—to understand how these events affect her relationship to God and how God responds to His covenant people. It's much like looking at the history of your country through the lives of its leaders, what the times were like under each, the direction each led the country, and how each impacted its future.
- As you observe the texts of Kings and Chronicles, remember observing history is different from observing doctrine. If you've done New Testament Precept courses, you'll find doing Observation Worksheets on historical books is much different from doing one on a doctrinal epistle. You don't want to get bogged down with details; rather, you want to get a general understanding of the times and God's dealings. Also, your focus on key words will not be as strong as when you're observing doctrine. Greek is a technical language capable of formulating precise doctrine, while Hebrew has a simple narrative elegance: poetic and very picturesque.
- It's not important to remember every detail of a king's life as long as you understand the essence of it—how lessons from his life and leadership can apply to your life and walk with the Lord.
- If you study the entire series (we pray that you will), you will also hear and understand God's message to His people through the voices of His prophets during those times.
- According to 1 Corinthians 10:11 and Romans 15:4, what God chose to preserve in the Old Testament is for our example and instruction, "upon whom the ends of the ages have come" (1 Corinthians 10:11). The application, the encouragement, and the hope from these historical studies are distinctive.

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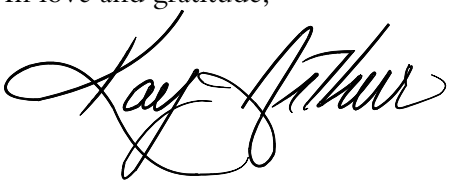
We have sought God's heart for you in writing these courses. Your faces have been before us as we have sought God to know how to present truth so that you will be established in His Word and walk "in the fear of the Lord." This does not mean what we have written is perfect. We welcome your constructive suggestions.

Remember that since God gave us sixty-six books, all sixty-six are necessary . . . and we only have a short time to study them. Press on as His valiant one.

We're looking forward to your stories of how God has used these courses to teach you more of Who He is, conform you more into His image, and prepare you to be the vessel He desires to use for righteousness in these epochal times.

In love and gratitude,



Kay and the Precept Staff

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IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR FIRST-TIMERS

Welcome to Precept Upon Precept Inductive Bible studies. We're excited that you'll be studying with us! Inductive Bible study draws you into personal interaction with God through His Word so that your beliefs are based on a prayerful observation and understanding of the Scriptures—truth that will transform your life. Studying this way is summed up in the words of the psalmist: "for You Yourself have taught me" (Psalm 119:102). May the Lord bless you richly as you delve into the treasures of His Word.

The following will be helpful to you as you begin your studies:

OBSERVING THE TEXT

In the lessons that follow, you'll be asked to mark key words or phrases on a particular passage using Observation Worksheets.

- Key words or phrases unlock your understanding of the text. Marking them distinctively with colors or symbols helps you quickly locate the word or phrase, see how it's used and how often.
- It's advantageous to keep markings simple; colors and color combinations are easiest and least cluttering.
- You'll find suggestions on the back cover of your Precept book; however, what colors and symbols you use are your choice.
- When you have several words or phrases to mark, it's helpful to read through the chapter more than once, marking a couple of words each time.
- It's also helpful to make a bookmark (e.g., an index card) and list all the key words, marking them the way you want to mark them in the text.

FILLING IN THE AT A GLANCE CHART

As you finish observing a chapter, you'll be asked to record its theme (main subject) on an **At a Glance** chart specifically designed for the book you're studying. This chart provides space to list each chapter's theme and places for recording other pertinent information on the book. When completed, this chart provides a synopsis of the book at a glance.

We have three sources that will show you how to do the above and more (all available at www.precept.org or by calling 800-763-8280):

> *How to Study Your Bible* by Kay Arthur: Chapter 2, "Getting the Big Picture" (p. 27ff.).
>
> *The New Inductive Study Bible* (NISB). See "How to Use the Inductive Study Approach" (NISB-15ff) and "A System for Marking Key Words… Throughout Your Bible" (NISB-26.)
>
> *Discover the Bible for Yourself* by Kay Arthur (new), pages 7-19.

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WORD STUDIES

You'll find out how to do word studies by reading the chapter, "It's All Greek to Me," in *How to Study Your Bible*.

There are many helpful computer programs. We highly recommend Logos Bible Software's wide range of products.

We're so thankful you've joined us. You're about to join hundreds of thousands in an exciting adventure that will help you discover truth for yourself in a way you've never done before. Your life will be transformed and strengthened through the Word of God.

However, we want you to remember that it takes time and practice to make these study skills "second nature." And it does not come without spiritual warfare. The only offensive weapon the child of God has is the sword of the Spirit, the Word of God. You need to sharpen this sword and not let anyone or anything discourage you. Precept is not difficult; it simply takes time and discipline, but that's what discipleship is about!

QUESTIONS

If you have questions, call your Precept Leader for help. We're sure he/she will help you or connect you with a student who can. We also want to urge you to take our training courses "How to Study the Bible" and "Studying and Leading Precept." The second one teaches you basic skills, gives you opportunity to practice, and helps prepare you to lead Precept should God so direct. You can find out more about the training workshops by going online to www.precept.org.

Blessings, Beloved. Welcome to the Precept family.

Remember, you too can say with the psalmist, "I have not turned aside from Your ordinances, for You Yourself have taught me."

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IMPORTANT NOTE TO PRECEPT LEADERS

We have included "The Who's Who Optional Review" after the last lesson for you and your students to help review the kings studied in this course.

Here are some suggestions of how this optional assignment can be used:

- In scheduling this course, plan an extra week at the end and have your students complete the optional assignment for that week. You can encourage them to be creative by preparing a song, poem, skit, etc. and/or sharing some of their completed sketches. This is a great way to review the kings of Israel and Judah and some of the main events of their reign. Allow time for students to tell how God spoke to them through His Word in this course. You may also have a time of fellowship with snacks or a luncheon.

- If you're completing this course and then breaking for the summer, you can assign students to complete the optional assignment during the break. Use letters, phone calls, or emails to remind them to review what they've done before your first meeting in the fall. At your first meeting, briefly review the kings to help new students understand the context. Let students show some of their sketches. Then help all students get started on their first lesson, making sure the new ones know how to do the assignments.

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LESSON ONE
2 Kings 21; 2 Chronicles 33

THIS LESSON INCORPORATES

The following located in the Appendix:
- Observation Worksheets of Deuteronomy 28–30
- Observation Worksheet of 2 Kings 21
- "2 Kings 21–25 at a Glance" chart
- Observation Worksheet of 2 Chronicles 33
- "2 Chronicles 33–36 at a Glance" chart
- "The Kings of Israel and Judah" chart

Cross-references

Sometimes we miss God in the events of life because we do not understand His full counsel. We want to know and be assured of His love, experience His kindness—to present Him to the world as merciful and compassionate, which He truly is.

Yet because He is holy, righteous, and just, there is, of necessity, a severity in His dealings with His chosen people, Israel, and the nations of this world when they spurn Him.

It is our prayer, Beloved, that God will use this seven-week study to help you understand more clearly God's kindness and severity—kindness to those who continue in His kindness, severity to those who do not believe and obey.

DAY ONE AND DAY TWO

We have come to the last of the Kings and Prophets Series. If you have been with us all the way, you know what a great accomplishment this is. We are so very proud of you in the Lord for your diligence and discipline. Thank you for studying to show yourself approved unto God, a workman who does not need to be ashamed, accurately handling the Word of truth (2 Timothy 2:15).

Before we study the final chapters of Kings and Chronicles, we thought it would be profitable to go back and review God's Word to His chosen people in Deuteronomy. What did God want His people to remember and do as He prepared to take them into the land He promised by covenant to Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and their descendants forever?

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The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly

Lesson 1, 2 Kings 21; 2 Chronicles 33

Deuteronomy is often referred to as the "second giving of the Law." After wandering in the wilderness for forty years there was a new generation, who, in preparation for entering the promised land, needed to be fully aware of the Lord's statutes and precepts and how they were to live.

May we remind you again, faithful student, you are about to study the very words of God. Hear in your heart the words of Psalm 119:102-104. By the way, if you are new to Precept, make sure you read the instructions for newcomers in the front of this book.

> I have not turned aside from Your ordinances,
> For You Yourself have taught me.
>
> How sweet are Your words to my taste!
> *Yes, sweeter* than honey to my mouth!
>
> From Your precepts I get understanding;
> Therefore I hate every false way.

1. We are going to begin by observing Deuteronomy 28. In preparation for this, you'll find it beneficial to read through Deuteronomy 26:16-19.

   a. Catch the immediacy in Moses' voice when he says, "Today"! Summarize what God commands His people to do (as few words as possible).

   b. Don't miss what He is going to do *for* His people. You may want to summarize this too.

   c. What will Israel's relationship to the nations be? You may have already noted this, but write it out again. Repetition will make it memorable.

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2. Now, let's pause for a moment and think about these things.

   a. If this is what God expects from His covenant people, do you think He expects less of those who believe on the Lord Jesus Christ? Explain your answer.

   b. Read John 14:15 and 21. How do Jesus' words compare with the Father's in Deuteronomy 26:16-19?

3. Now we're ready. You will find an Observation Worksheet on Deuteronomy 28 in the Appendix. This chapter is part of Moses' charge to the people as they camp near Mount Nebo east of the Jordan River. Mark the following words but not the synonyms and pronouns, unless you want to. The purpose of this Observation Worksheet is to familiarize you with what will happen if Israel does not obey.

   a. *obey*
   b. *blessing (blessed)*
   c. *cursed*
   d. *the land*
   e. *besiege (siege)*
   f. *until you are destroyed*
   g. Using a pencil, put a check in the margin next to verses that <u>describe</u> Israel's captivity. (The word *captivity* is used only once in this chapter.)

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4. List what will happen as a result of the siege.

5. Look at the places you checked the description of Israel's captivity. Briefly summarize what you learned.

6. Finally, Beloved, reflect on what you learned about God from this chapter. List your insights.

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What you learned about captivity, Moses taught the people about 1405 B.C. Stand on tiptoe—you're about to see its fulfillment.

7. As you bring this assignment to a close, spend time in prayer. What do you need to talk to the Father about? What is on your heart?

As I sit here this Saturday evening writing this, it is hard to explain the affection that wells up in my heart for you—my deep gratitude to our Father for individuals like you. In a time when "activism" seems to be the dominating force in the majority of believers' lives, you, precious one, have made the Word of God a priority in your life.

How I pray our Father will greatly reward you—that you will truly sense His presence as you study, realizing "You Yourself have taught me" (Psalm 119:102). Taught by God because His "Words are sweet to your mouth" and because you want to have the understanding which only comes from knowing His precepts! Press on. As long as the Father permits, I am beside you at His feet.

— Kay Arthur

DAY THREE

1. In Deuteronomy 29 Moses begins another address to the children of Israel. The address ends with Deuteronomy 30:20. As you observe these chapters, focus on the following key words:
   a. *covenant*
   b. time phrases—important—don't miss them
   c. *heart*
   d. *anger of the Lord*
   e. *love*
   f. *command, commandments*

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2. When you finish your observations, reflect on what you learned from marking the key words.

3. Did you see any references to being taken captive? If so, put a check in the margin as you did in Deuteronomy 28. List additional things you learn about the captivity.

4. Now, from all you learned these past three days, what was necessary for the children of Israel to remain in their land?

5. What did you learn about God? Meditate on these truths, remembering that He never changes. The God of the Old Testament is the God of the New Testament. The God who inaugurated the Old Covenant of Law also brought into being the New Covenant of Grace.

6. Finally, read Deuteronomy 31:9-13 carefully. Record what God instructed the children of Israel to do and for how long.

Well done, faithful one. Until tomorrow…

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DAY FOUR

1. Today, we turn our attention to the final chapters of 2 Kings and 2 Chronicles, which we will study one chapter at a time. After prayer, read through 2 Kings 21.

   a. Note who is sitting on the throne of Judah as the chapter begins and the name of his father.

   b. By way of review, take a few minutes and read 2 Kings 18:1-12.

      1) Note what kind of king Manasseh's father was.

      2) What happened to the Northern Kingdom during Hezekiah's reign?

   c. It will also help to read 2 Chronicles 29:1-11, which will give you insight into Hezekiah's character and reign. Record what you learn.

2. In light of this background, observe 2 Kings 21. Mark the following words and phrases including references to time and geographical location. Many of the words will be used just once in this chapter; however, you will see the significance of marking them as we proceed through the study. You'll find it helpful to list these words on a card and mark them as you would in the text. Then use the card as a bookmark for the rest of this study.

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a. *doing evil in the sight of the Lord*
b. *sin*
c. *the house* (the temple of the Lord in Jerusalem)
d. *prophets*
e. *calamity*
f. *remnant*
g. *anger*
h. *blood*
i. *nations*

3. When you finish, reflect on Manasseh's reign. Look at the words you marked and see what you learn. List the evil Manasseh did and how God defines it.

4. Do you see information in this chapter that parallels what you observed in Deuteronomy? List parallel items.

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5. Finally, compare the days of Manasseh with our days. What do you see? What can you learn?

DAY FIVE

If you are not familiar with Manasseh's story, you're in for a surprise today as we observe a parallel account of Manasseh recorded in 2 Chronicles 33.

1. Begin your study time in prayer, asking our Father to show you how you can use what you learn to minister to others. Remember, what we are studying was recorded "for our instruction, so that through perseverance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope" (Romans 15:4) Watch for "hope."

2. Observe 2 Chronicles 33. Use the bookmark of key words you began yesterday. Add the following:

   a. *prayer, prayed*

   b. *Babylon*

3. Now, what did you learn about Manasseh that wasn't recorded in 2 Kings?

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4. What do you learn from Manasseh's life about judgment—the severity of a sovereign God? What about the kindness of the Lord?

5. Have you ever tried to spare a person from the consequences of sin? How have you done it? Did you realize you were contributing to more sin by sparing them from consequences? Take time to think about this. What does God want you to learn?

6. Do you see how Manasseh's life can be used to give others hope? How? Ask God to use what you've learned, then continue in prayer until you see Him use you. What you're learning is not just for you—it's to equip you to teach others. God is going to use you, faithful one.

7. Now record the themes of 2 Kings 21 and 2 Chronicles 33 on the appropriate At a Glance charts. Then record what you learned about Manasseh and Amon on the chart "The Kings of Israel and Judah" in the Appendix. On the same chart, find the column "Prophets to Judah." To the left of Manasseh's name, you'll see "The prophets." Record a brief summary of their message given in 2 Kings 21:10-15. Now move to the left one more column and record Manasseh's enemy from 2 Chronicles 33:11. From his name draw an arrow pointing toward Manasseh.

It's been quite a week, hasn't it? Once again, we all thank you for your determination to honor God by studying His Word, knowing man lives by every word which proceeds out of the mouth of God. Don't let anything rob you or deter you in your pursuit of God.

You're loved…

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Appendix

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2 KINGS 21

Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme _____

MANASSEH was twelve years old when he became king, and he reigned
fifty-five years in Jerusalem; and his mother's name was Hephzibah.
2 He did evil in the sight of the LORD, according to the abominations of
the nations whom the LORD dispossessed before the sons of Israel.
3 For he rebuilt the high places which Hezekiah his father had destroyed;
and he erected altars for Baal and made an Asherah, as Ahab king of
Israel had done, and worshiped all the host of heaven and served them.
4 He built altars in the house of the LORD, of which the LORD had said,
"In Jerusalem I will put My name."
5 For he built altars for all the host of heaven in the two courts of the
house of the LORD.
6 He made his son pass through the fire, practiced witchcraft and used
divination, and dealt with mediums and spiritists. He did much evil in
the sight of the LORD provoking *Him to anger.*
7 Then he set the carved image of Asherah that he had made, in the house
of which the LORD said to David and to his son Solomon, "In this
house and in Jerusalem, which I have chosen from all the tribes of Israel,
I will put My name forever.
8 "And I will not make the feet of Israel wander anymore from the land
which I gave their fathers, if only they will observe to do according to
all that I have commanded them, and according to all the law that My
servant Moses commanded them."
9 But they did not listen, and Manasseh seduced them to do evil more
than the nations whom the LORD destroyed before the sons of Israel.
10 Now the LORD spoke through His servants the prophets, saying,
11 "Because Manasseh king of Judah has done these abominations, having
done wickedly more than all the Amorites did who *were* before him, and
has also made Judah sin with his idols;
12 therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, 'Behold, I am bringing
such calamity on Jerusalem and Judah, that whoever hears of it, both his
ears will tingle.

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13 'I will stretch over Jerusalem the line of Samaria and the plummet of the house of Ahab, and I will wipe Jerusalem as one wipes a dish, wiping it and turning it upside down.
14 'I will abandon the remnant of My inheritance and deliver them into the hand of their enemies, and they will become as plunder and spoil to all their enemies;
15 because they have done evil in My sight, and have been provoking Me to anger since the day their fathers came from Egypt, even to this day.' "
16 Moreover, Manasseh shed very much innocent blood until he had filled Jerusalem from one end to another; besides his sin with which he made Judah sin, in doing evil in the sight of the LORD.
17 Now the rest of the acts of Manasseh and all that he did and his sin which he committed, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Judah?
18 And Manasseh slept with his fathers and was buried in the garden of his own house, in the garden of Uzza, and Amon his son became king in his place.
19 Amon was twenty-two years old when he became king, and he reigned two years in Jerusalem; and his mother's name *was* Meshullemeth the daughter of Haruz of Jotbah.
20 He did evil in the sight of the LORD, as Manasseh his father had done.
21 For he walked in all the way that his father had walked, and served the idols that his father had served and worshiped them.
22 So he forsook the LORD, the God of his fathers, and did not walk in the way of the LORD.
23 The servants of Amon conspired against him and killed the king in his own house.
24 Then the people of the land killed all those who had conspired against King Amon, and the people of the land made Josiah his son king in his place.
25 Now the rest of the acts of Amon which he did, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Judah?
26 He was buried in his grave in the garden of Uzza, and Josiah his son became king in his place.

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2 CHRONICLES 33

Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme _____

MANASSEH was twelve years old when he became king, and he reigned
fifty-five years in Jerusalem.
2 He did evil in the sight of the LORD according to the abominations of
the nations whom the LORD dispossessed before the sons of Israel.
3 For he rebuilt the high places which Hezekiah his father had broken
down; he also erected altars for the Baals and made Asherim, and
worshiped all the host of heaven and served them.
4 He built altars in the house of the LORD of which the LORD had said,
"My name shall be in Jerusalem forever."
5 For he built altars for all the host of heaven in the two courts of the
house of the LORD.
6 He made his sons pass through the fire in the valley of Ben-hinnom; and
he practiced witchcraft, used divination, practiced sorcery and dealt with
mediums and spiritists. He did much evil in the sight of the LORD,
provoking Him *to anger.*
7 Then he put the carved image of the idol which he had made in the
house of God, of which God had said to David and to Solomon his son,
"In this house and in Jerusalem, which I have chosen from all the tribes
of Israel, I will put My name forever;
8 and I will not again remove the foot of Israel from the land which I
have appointed for your fathers, if only they will observe to do all that I
have commanded them according to all the law, the statutes and the
ordinances *given* through Moses."
9 Thus Manasseh misled Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem to do
more evil than the nations whom the LORD destroyed before the sons of
Israel.
10 The LORD spoke to Manasseh and his people, but they paid no attention.
11 Therefore the LORD brought the commanders of the army of the king
of Assyria against them, and they captured Manasseh with hooks, bound
him with bronze *chains* and took him to Babylon.

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12 When he was in distress, he entreated the LORD his God and humbled himself greatly before the God of his fathers.
13 When he prayed to Him, He was moved by his entreaty and heard his supplication, and brought him again to Jerusalem to his kingdom. Then Manasseh knew that the LORD *was* God.
14 Now after this he built the outer wall of the city of David on the west side of Gihon, in the valley, even to the entrance of the Fish Gate; and he encircled the Ophel *with it* and made it very high. Then he put army commanders in all the fortified cities of Judah.
15 He also removed the foreign gods and the idol from the house of the LORD, as well as all the altars which he had built on the mountain of the house of the LORD and in Jerusalem, and he threw *them* outside the city.
16 He set up the altar of the LORD and sacrificed peace offerings and thank offerings on it; and he ordered Judah to serve the LORD God of Israel.
17 Nevertheless the people still sacrificed in the high places, *although* only to the LORD their God.
18 Now the rest of the acts of Manasseh even his prayer to his God, and the words of the seers who spoke to him in the name of the LORD God of Israel, behold, they are among the records of the kings of Israel.
19 His prayer also and *how God* was entreated by him, and all his sin, his unfaithfulness, and the sites on which he built high places and erected the Asherim and the carved images, before he humbled himself, behold, they are written in the records of the Hozai.
20 So Manasseh slept with his fathers, and they buried him in his own house. And Amon his son became king in his place.
21 Amon *was* twenty-two years old when he became king, and he reigned two years in Jerusalem.
22 He did evil in the sight of the LORD as Manasseh his father had done, and Amon sacrificed to all the carved images which his father Manasseh had made, and he served them.
23 Moreover, he did not humble himself before the LORD as his father Manasseh had done, but Amon multiplied guilt.
24 Finally his servants conspired against him and put him to death in his own house.
25 But the people of the land killed all the conspirators against King Amon, and the people of the land made Josiah his son king in his place.

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2 KINGS 21–25 AT A GLANCE

Chapter Themes
21
22
23
24
25

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2 CHRONICLES 33–36 AT A GLANCE

Chapter Themes
33
34
35
36

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DEUTERONOMY 28

Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme _____

"NOW it shall be, if you diligently obey the LORD your God, being careful to do all His commandments which I command you today, the LORD your God will set you high above all the nations of the earth.

2 "All these blessings will come upon you and overtake you if you obey the LORD your God:

3 "Blessed *shall* you *be* in the city, and blessed *shall* you *be* in the country.

4 "Blessed *shall be* the offspring of your body and the produce of your ground and the offspring of your beasts, the increase of your herd and the young of your flock.

5 "Blessed *shall be* your basket and your kneading bowl.

6 "Blessed *shall* you *be* when you come in, and blessed *shall* you *be* when you go out.

7 "The LORD shall cause your enemies who rise up against you to be defeated before you; they will come out against you one way and will flee before you seven ways.

8 "The LORD will command the blessing upon you in your barns and in all that you put your hand to, and He will bless you in the land which the LORD your God gives you.

9 "The LORD will establish you as a holy people to Himself, as He swore to you, if you keep the commandments of the LORD your God and walk in His ways.

10 "So all the peoples of the earth will see that you are called by the name of the LORD, and they will be afraid of you.

11 "The LORD will make you abound in prosperity, in the offspring of your body and in the offspring of your beast and in the produce of your ground, in the land which the LORD swore to your fathers to give you.

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12 "The LORD will open for you His good storehouse, the heavens, to give rain to your land in its season and to bless all the work of your hand; and you shall lend to many nations, but you shall not borrow.
13 "The LORD will make you the head and not the tail, and you only will be above, and you will not be underneath, if you listen to the commandments of the LORD your God, which I charge you today, to observe *them* carefully,
14 and do not turn aside from any of the words which I command you today, to the right or to the left, to go after other gods to serve them.
15 "But it shall come about, if you do not obey the LORD your God, to observe to do all His commandments and His statutes with which I charge you today, that all these curses will come upon you and overtake you:
16 "Cursed *shall* you *be* in the city, and cursed *shall* you *be* in the country.
17 "Cursed *shall be* your basket and your kneading bowl.
18 "Cursed *shall be* the offspring of your body and the produce of your ground, the increase of your herd and the young of your flock.
19 "Cursed *shall* you *be* when you come in, and cursed *shall* you *be* when you go out.
20 "The LORD will send upon you curses, confusion, and rebuke, in all you undertake to do, until you are destroyed and until you perish quickly, on account of the evil of your deeds, because you have forsaken Me.
21 "The LORD will make the pestilence cling to you until He has consumed you from the land where you are entering to possess it.
22 "The LORD will smite you with consumption and with fever and with inflammation and with fiery heat and with the sword and with blight and with mildew, and they will pursue you until you perish.
23 "The heaven which is over your head shall be bronze, and the earth which is under you, iron.
24 "The LORD will make the rain of your land powder and dust; from heaven it shall come down on you until you are destroyed.

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25 "The LORD shall cause you to be defeated before your enemies; you will go out one way against them, but you will flee seven ways before them, and you will be *an example of* terror to all the kingdoms of the earth.
26 "Your carcasses will be food to all birds of the sky and to the beasts of the earth, and there will be no one to frighten *them* away.
27 "The LORD will smite you with the boils of Egypt and with tumors and with the scab and with the itch, from which you cannot be healed.
28 "The LORD will smite you with madness and with blindness and with bewilderment of heart;
29 and you will grope at noon, as the blind man gropes in darkness, and you will not prosper in your ways; but you shall only be oppressed and robbed continually, with none to save you.
30 "You shall betroth a wife, but another man will violate her; you shall build a house, but you will not live in it; you shall plant a vineyard, but you will not use its fruit.
31 "Your ox shall be slaughtered before your eyes, but you will not eat of it; your donkey shall be torn away from you, and will not be restored to you; your sheep shall be given to your enemies, and you will have none to save you.
32 "Your sons and your daughters shall be given to another people, while your eyes look on and yearn for them continually; but there will be nothing you can do.
33 "A people whom you do not know shall eat up the produce of your ground and all your labors, and you will never be anything but oppressed and crushed continually.
34 "You shall be driven mad by the sight of what you see.
35 "The LORD will strike you on the knees and legs with sore boils, from which you cannot be healed, from the sole of your foot to the crown of your head.
36 "The LORD will bring you and your king, whom you set over you, to a nation which neither you nor your fathers have known, and there you shall serve other gods, wood and stone.

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37 "You shall become a horror, a proverb, and a taunt among all the people where the LORD drives you.
38 "You shall bring out much seed to the field but you will gather in little, for the locust will consume it.
39 "You shall plant and cultivate vineyards, but you will neither drink of the wine nor gather *the grapes,* for the worm will devour them.
40 "You shall have olive trees throughout your territory but you will not anoint yourself with the oil, for your olives will drop off.
41 "You shall have sons and daughters but they will not be yours, for they will go into captivity.
42 "The cricket shall possess all your trees and the produce of your ground.
43 "The alien who is among you shall rise above you higher and higher, but you will go down lower and lower.
44 "He shall lend to you, but you will not lend to him; he shall be the head, and you will be the tail.
45 "So all these curses shall come on you and pursue you and overtake you until you are destroyed, because you would not obey the LORD your God by keeping His commandments and His statutes which He commanded you.
46 "They shall become a sign and a wonder on you and your descendants forever.
47 "Because you did not serve the LORD your God with joy and a glad heart, for the abundance of all things;
48 therefore you shall serve your enemies whom the LORD will send against you, in hunger, in thirst, in nakedness, and in the lack of all things; and He will put an iron yoke on your neck until He has destroyed you.
49 "The LORD will bring a nation against you from afar, from the end of the earth, as the eagle swoops down, a nation whose language you shall not understand,
50 a nation of fierce countenance who will have no respect for the old, nor show favor to the young.

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51 "Moreover, it shall eat the offspring of your herd and the produce of your ground until you are destroyed, who also leaves you no grain, new wine, or oil, nor the increase of your herd or the young of your flock until they have caused you to perish.
52 "It shall besiege you in all your towns until your high and fortified walls in which you trusted come down throughout your land, and it shall besiege you in all your towns throughout your land which the LORD your God has given you.
53 "Then you shall eat the offspring of your own body, the flesh of your sons and of your daughters whom the LORD your God has given you, during the siege and the distress by which your enemy will oppress you.
54 "The man who is refined and very delicate among you shall be hostile toward his brother and toward the wife he cherishes and toward the rest of his children who remain,
55 so that he will not give *even* one of them any of the flesh of his children which he will eat, since he has nothing *else* left, during the siege and the distress by which your enemy will oppress you in all your towns.
56 "The refined and delicate woman among you, who would not venture to set the sole of her foot on the ground for delicateness and refinement, shall be hostile toward the husband she cherishes and toward her son and daughter,
57 and toward her afterbirth which issues from between her legs and toward her children whom she bears; for she will eat them secretly for lack of anything *else,* during the siege and the distress by which your enemy will oppress you in your towns.
58 "If you are not careful to observe all the words of this law which are written in this book, to fear this honored and awesome name, the LORD your God,
59 then the LORD will bring extraordinary plagues on you and your descendants, even severe and lasting plagues, and miserable and chronic sicknesses.
60 "He will bring back on you all the diseases of Egypt of which you were afraid, and they will cling to you.

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61 "Also every sickness and every plague which, not written in the book of this law, the LORD will bring on you until you are destroyed.

62 "Then you shall be left few in number, whereas you were as numerous as the stars of heaven, because you did not obey the LORD your God.

63 "It shall come about that as the LORD delighted over you to prosper you, and multiply you, so the LORD will delight over you to make you perish and destroy you; and you will be torn from the land where you are entering to possess it.

64 "Moreover, the LORD will scatter you among all peoples, from one end of the earth to the other end of the earth; and there you shall serve other gods, wood and stone, which you or your fathers have not known.

65 "Among those nations you shall find no rest, and there will be no resting place for the sole of your foot; but there the LORD will give you a trembling heart, failing of eyes, and despair of soul.

66 "So your life shall hang in doubt before you; and you will be in dread night and day, and shall have no assurance of your life.

67 "In the morning you shall say, 'Would that it were evening!' And at evening you shall say, 'Would that it were morning!' because of the dread of your heart which you dread, and for the sight of your eyes which you will see.

68 "The LORD will bring you back to Egypt in ships, by the way about which I spoke to you, 'You will never see it again!' And there you will offer yourselves for sale to your enemies as male and female slaves, but there will be no buyer."

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DEUTERONOMY 29

Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme _____

THESE are the words of the covenant which the LORD commanded
Moses to make with the sons of Israel in the land of Moab, besides the
covenant which He had made with them at Horeb.
2 And Moses summoned all Israel and said to them, "You have seen all
that the LORD did before your eyes in the land of Egypt to Pharaoh and
all his servants and all his land;
3 the great trials which your eyes have seen, those great signs and
wonders.
4 "Yet to this day the LORD has not given you a heart to know, nor eyes
to see, nor ears to hear.
5 "I have led you forty years in the wilderness; your clothes have not
worn out on you, and your sandal has not worn out on your foot.
6 "You have not eaten bread, nor have you drunk wine or strong drink,
in order that you might know that I am the LORD your God.
7 "When you reached this place, Sihon the king of Heshbon and Og the
king of Bashan came out to meet us for battle, but we defeated them;
8 and we took their land and gave it as an inheritance to the Reubenites,
the Gadites, and the half-tribe of the Manassites.
9 "So keep the words of this covenant to do them, that you may prosper
in all that you do.
10 "You stand today, all of you, before the LORD your God: your chiefs,
your tribes, your elders and your officers, *even* all the men of Israel,
11 your little ones, your wives, and the alien who is within your camps,
from the one who chops your wood to the one who draws your water,
12 that you may enter into the covenant with the LORD your God, and
into His oath which the LORD your God is making with you today,

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13 in order that He may establish you today as His people and that He may be your God, just as He spoke to you and as He swore to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

14 "Now not with you alone am I making this covenant and this oath,

15 but both with those who stand here with us today in the presence of the LORD our God and with those who are not with us here today

16 (for you know how we lived in the land of Egypt, and how we came through the midst of the nations through which you passed;

17 moreover, you have seen their abominations and their idols *of* wood, stone, silver, and gold, which *they had* with them);

18 so that there will not be among you a man or woman, or family or tribe, whose heart turns away today from the LORD our God, to go and serve the gods of those nations; that there will not be among you a root bearing poisonous fruit and wormwood.

19 "It shall be when he hears the words of this curse, that he will boast, saying, 'I have peace though I walk in the stubbornness of my heart in order to destroy the watered *land* with the dry.'

20 "The LORD shall never be willing to forgive him, but rather the anger of the LORD and His jealousy will burn against that man, and every curse which is written in this book will rest on him, and the LORD will blot out his name from under heaven.

21 "Then the LORD will single him out for adversity from all the tribes of Israel, according to all the curses of the covenant which are written in this book of the law.

22 "Now the generation to come, your sons who rise up after you and the foreigner who comes from a distant land, when they see the plagues of the land and the diseases with which the LORD has afflicted it, will say,

23 'All its land is brimstone and salt, a burning waste, unsown and unproductive, and no grass grows in it, like the overthrow of Sodom and Gomorrah, Admah and Zeboiim, which the LORD overthrew in His anger and in His wrath.'

24 "All the nations will say, 'Why has the LORD done thus to this land? Why this great outburst of anger?'

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25 "Then *men* will say, 'Because they forsook the covenant of the LORD, the God of their fathers, which He made with them when He brought them out of the land of Egypt.
26 'They went and served other gods and worshiped them, gods whom they have not known and whom He had not allotted to them.
27 'Therefore, the anger of the LORD burned against that land, to bring upon it every curse which is written in this book;
28 and the LORD uprooted them from their land in anger and in fury and in great wrath, and cast them into another land, as *it is* this day.'
29 "The secret things belong to the LORD our God, but the things revealed belong to us and to our sons forever, that we may observe all the words of this law.

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DEUTERONOMY 30

Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme _____

"SO it shall be when all of these things have come upon you, the blessing
and the curse which I have set before you, and you call *them* to mind in
all nations where the LORD your God has banished you,
2 and you return to the LORD your God and obey Him with all your
heart and soul according to all that I command you today, you and your
sons,
3 then the LORD your God will restore you from captivity, and have
compassion on you, and will gather you again from all the peoples
where the LORD your God has scattered you.
4 "If your outcasts are at the ends of the earth, from there the LORD your
God will gather you, and from there He will bring you back.
5 "The LORD your God will bring you into the land which your fathers
possessed, and you shall possess it; and He will prosper you and multiply
you more than your fathers.
6 "Moreover the LORD your God will circumcise your heart and the
heart of your descendants, to love the LORD your God with all your
heart and with all your soul, so that you may live.
7 "The LORD your God will inflict all these curses on your enemies and
on those who hate you, who persecuted you.
8 "And you shall again obey the LORD, and observe all His
commandments which I command you today.
9 "Then the LORD your God will prosper you abundantly in all the work
of your hand, in the offspring of your body and in the offspring of your
cattle and in the produce of your ground, for the LORD will again
rejoice over you for good, just as He rejoiced over your fathers;
10 if you obey the LORD your God to keep His commandments and His
statutes which are written in this book of the law, if you turn to the
LORD your God with all your heart and soul.

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11 "For this commandment which I command you today is not too difficult for you, nor is it out of reach.
12 "It is not in heaven, that you should say, 'Who will go up to heaven for us to get it for us and make us hear it, that we may observe it?'
13 "Nor is it beyond the sea, that you should say, 'Who will cross the sea for us to get it for us and make us hear it, that we may observe it?'
14 "But the word is very near you, in your mouth and in your heart, that you may observe it.
15 "See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, and death and adversity;
16 in that I command you today to love the LORD your God, to walk in His ways and to keep His commandments and His statutes and His judgments, that you may live and multiply, and that the LORD your God may bless you in the land where you are entering to possess it.
17 "But if your heart turns away and you will not obey, but are drawn away and worship other gods and serve them,
18 I declare to you today that you shall surely perish. You will not prolong *your* days in the land where you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess it.
19 "I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, the blessing and the curse. So choose life in order that you may live, you and your descendants,
20 by loving the LORD your God, by obeying His voice, and by holding fast to Him; for this is your life and the length of your days, that you may live in the land which the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, to give them."

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The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly

The Kings of Israel and Judah

B.C.	Kings of Israel	Prophets to Israel	Enemies	Prophets to Judah	Kings of Judah	B.C.
730	Hoshea 732-722 Son of:			Oded 733-716?		730
					Hezekiah 728-686 Son of:	
720						720
						710
710						
						700
					Manasseh 697-642 Son of:	
				The Prophets		

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B.C.	Kings of Israel	Prophets to Israel	Enemies	Prophets to Judah	Kings of Judah	B.C.
690						690
670						670
650				Nahum 650-620	Amon 642-640 Son of:	650
				Zephaniah 636-623		
					Josiah 640-609 Son of:	
630				Huldah 635-607?		630
				Jeremiah 627-574		

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