

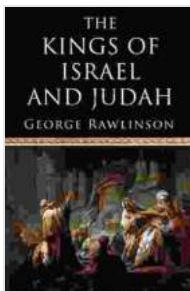
The Kings Of Israel And Judah

The history of ancient Israel is a rich and complex tapestry, marked by periods of both triumph and turmoil. One of the most significant eras in this history is the period of the Divided Kingdom, when the united kingdom of Israel split into two separate entities: the Kingdom of Israel in the north and the Kingdom of Judah in the south. This period was characterized by a series of kings who ruled over both Israel and Judah, leaving an enduring legacy on their respective kingdoms.

The Kings of Israel

Jeroboam I (931-910 BCE):

Jeroboam was the first king of the Kingdom of Israel, having led a revolt against King Solomon of the united kingdom. He established the city of Shechem as his capital and introduced a new form of worship that involved golden calves. Jeroboam's reign was marked by a period of prosperity and expansion, but he also faced challenges from the neighboring Kingdom of Judah.



The Kings of Israel and Judah by George Rawlinson

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

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File size : 1447 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
X-Ray : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 210 pages



Ahab (874-853 BCE):

Ahab is one of the most well-known kings of Israel. He married Jezebel, the daughter of the King of Sidon, and adopted her pagan practices. During his reign, Ahab built the city of Samaria as his new capital and engaged in wars against the Arameans. Ahab's reign is also significant for the rise of the prophet Elijah, who confronted him over his idolatry.

Jehu (842-814 BCE):

Jehu was a military commander who overthrew King Jehoram and became the new ruler of Israel. He is remembered for his ruthless campaign against the worshipers of Baal and his extermination of the house of Ahab. Jehu's reign was marked by both military successes and political instability.

Jeroboam II (793-753 BCE):

Jeroboam II was the most successful king of the Kingdom of Israel. During his long reign, he expanded the kingdom's borders and restored its military might. He also oversaw a period of economic prosperity and cultural development.

The Kings of Judah

Rehoboam (931-913 BCE):

Rehoboam was the first king of the Kingdom of Judah, the son of King Solomon. He inherited a divided kingdom, having lost the northern tribes to

his brother Jeroboam. Rehoboam faced rebellions and wars from both Israel and Egypt during his reign.

Asa (913-873 BCE):

Asa was one of the most pious and successful kings of Judah. He removed the idols from the kingdom and promoted the worship of Yahweh. Asa also entered into alliances with the Kingdom of Israel and defeated an invasion from the Ethiopians.

Jehoshaphat (873-848 BCE):

Jehoshaphat continued his father Asa's policies of religious reform and alliances with Israel. He also formed a trading partnership with the Kingdom of Tyre. Jehoshaphat's reign was marked by relative peace and prosperity.

Hezekiah (727-698 BCE):

Hezekiah was one of the most important kings of Judah. He is remembered for his religious reforms, which included the centralization of worship at the Temple in Jerusalem. Hezekiah also faced a major threat from the Assyrian Empire and successfully defended his kingdom during the Siege of Jerusalem.

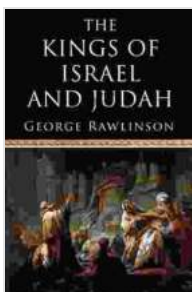
The Fall of the Divided Kingdom

The Divided Kingdom came to an end in the 8th century BCE. The Kingdom of Israel was conquered by the Assyrian Empire in 722 BCE, while the Kingdom of Judah fell to the Babylonians in 586 BCE. This marked the end of an era in the history of ancient Israel and the beginning of a long period of exile and dispersion.

Legacy of the Kings

The kings of Israel and Judah played a significant role in shaping the history and destiny of their respective kingdoms. Their policies, actions, and spiritual beliefs had a lasting impact on their people. While some kings were pious and successful, others were cruel and corrupt. However, all of them contributed to the complex and fascinating story of the Divided Kingdom.

The Divided Kingdom was a turbulent and transformative period in the history of ancient Israel. The kings who ruled over Israel and Judah left an enduring legacy on their kingdoms, shaping their political, religious, and cultural landscapes. The study of these kings provides valuable insights into the challenges and triumphs of a divided nation and the enduring power of faith and leadership.



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