

**LEADERSHIP SPECIAL - PART 1****A. Great Leaders in the Bible lived by Faith:**

1. **Abel** (אָבֵל - Hebel - Hebrew name meaning: “breath, breathing,” was righteous. (Gen. 4:4; Heb. 11:4)
2. **Enoch** (חֲנוֹךְ - Hanoch - Heb. name meaning: “dedicated, initiated,” walked with God and was pleasing to God. (Gen. 5:21-24; Heb. 11:5)
3. **Noah** (נֹחַ - Noach - Heb. name meaning: “rest,” was a righteous man, blameless in his generations (time); Noah walked with God. (Gen. 6:9; Heb. 11:7) Noah’s righteousness is recounted by Ezekiel. (Ezek. 14:14-20)
4. **Job** (יֹבֵב - Yob - Heb. name meaning: “hated or persecuted,” was blameless, upright, fearing God, and turning away from evil. (Job 1:1, 22) God describes Job as “*My servant Job.*” (Job 42:7, 8) Job is listed with the righteous Noah and Daniel. (Ezek. 14:14-20) His great endurance (patience) is praised. (James 5:11)
5. **Abraham** (אַבְרָהָם - 'Abraham - Heb. name meaning: “father of the multitude,” obeyed God. (Gen. 22:11-18) Abraham was called “*the friend of God.*” (2 Chron. 20:7; Isa. 41:8; Heb. 11:8-19; James 2:23)
6. **Moses** (מֹשֶׁה - Moses - Heb. name meaning: “drawn out or child,” was a prophet, a type of Christ. (Deut. 18:15, 18) Moses was called “*the servant of the Lord.*” (Deut. 34:5; Josh. 1:1, 2, 7, 13; Heb. 11:23-29)
7. **Joshua** (יְהוֹשֻׁעַ - Yehoshua - Heb. name meaning: “whose salvation is the Jehovah,” was called “*the servant of the Lord.*” (Josh. 24:29, 31) Joshua was faithful. (Josh. 24:15; Heb. 11:30)
8. **David** (דָּוִד - David - Heb. name meaning: “beloved” or “chieftain,” was called “*a man after His (God’s) own heart,*” (1 Sam. 13:14; Acts 13:22) “*one who will do My will.*” “*The Lord appointed him as ruler over his people.*” (Heb. 11:32)
9. **Daniel** (דָּנִיֵּאל - Daniy’el - Heb. name meaning: “God’s judge,” would not defile himself. (Dan. 1:8) He had an excellent report in the world. (Dan. 1:17-21) Daniel distinguished himself and was faithful. (Dan. 6:3-5; Heb. 11:33) Daniel’s righteousness is recounted by Ezekiel. (Ezek. 14:14-20)

**B. The First Three Kings of Israel:**

1. **Saul** (שָׂאֻל - Sha’ul - Heb. name meaning: “asked for,” was from the tribe of Benjamin. He reigned for 40 years from 1095-1055BC.

- a. Saul usurped the roll of the prophet Samuel, who was also a judge and a priest by offering a burnt offering without spiritual authorization. (1 Sam. 13:8-14)
  - b. Saul failed to execute Agag, king of the Amalekites, as the Lord had commanded and destroy all that belonged to Amelek. (1 Sam. 15)
  - c. Saul appealed to a certain woman, “*the medium at Endor*” who had a familiar spirit (a demon), to get information about the upcoming battle at Gilboa. This disobedience finally caused his death. (1 Sam. 28-31)
2. **David** (דָּוִד) - David - Heb. name meaning: “beloved” or “chieftain,” was of the tribe of Judah and the youngest son of Jesse. (1 Sam. 16:1, 13; 2 Sam. 5:4) He reigned for 40 years from 1055-1015BC.
- a. David did what was right in the sight of the Lord, and had not turned aside from anything that He had commanded him all the days of his life, except in the case of Bathsheba and Uriah the Hittite. (1 Kings 15:5-11; 2 Sam. 11-12:14)
  - b. David was unfortunately a polygamous and an adulterer, having: 2 wives during his wanderings (1 Sam. 27:3; 1 Chron. 3:1), 5 wives at Hebron (2 Sam. 3:2-5; 1 Chron. 3:1-4), probably 10 more unnamed concubines, whose children are not named (2 Sam. 5:13a; 15:16;) and 10 more unnamed wives at Jerusalem (2 Sam. 5:13b-16; 1 Chron. 3:5-9; 14:4-7; 2 Chron. 11:18); plus Bathsheba, the wife of Uriah the Hittite (1 Chron. 3:5). He had a possible total of 28 wives and concubines.
  - c. However, David is still said to be “*a man after His (God’s) own heart.*” (1 Sam. 13:14; Acts 13:22)
3. **Solomon** (שְׁלֹמֹה) - Shelomoh - Heb. name meaning: “peaceable,” was a son of David by Bathsheba. He reigned over Israel for 40 years from 1015-975BC.
- a. Solomon built the temple for the Lord from 967-960BC (1 Kings 6), and dedicated it with a prayer. (1 Kings 8:23-53; 2 Chron. 6:14-42)
  - b. However, like his father David, Solomon was a polygamous to a greater degree with “*seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines, and his wives turned his heart away*” from the Lord. (1 Kings 11:1-11)
  - c. “*Solomon did what was evil in the sight of the Lord, and did not follow the Lord fully as David his father had done.*” (1 Kings 11:6-13)

**C. The First Kings of the Divided Kingdom:**

1. **Rehoboam** (רְחָבְיָם) - Rechabe‘am - Heb. name meaning: “who enlarges the people,” was a son of Solomon by Naamah the Ammonitess. (1 Kings 14:21) He reigned in Judah, the Southern Kingdom, for 17 years from 975-958BC.

- a. Rehoboam did not listen to the wise counsel of his elders who counselled him to be gracious and make peace with Jeroboam. Instead Rehoboam listened to the young men he had grown up with, who counselled him to deal harshly with the northern tribes. This created a rebellion and division between the southern kingdom (Judah and Benjamin) and the northern kingdom (the other ten tribes) which lasted until 721BC. (2 Chron. 10:1-19)
  - b. Rehoboam tolerated the worship of the Asherah or Ashtoreth (the so-called goddess of fertility) and the gross immorality associated with this pagan worship. (1 Kings 14:22-24) This pagan worship continued into the reign of King Asa, who finally put a stop to it, 955BC. (1 Kings 15:9-15; 2 Chron. 12:1)
  - c. Rehoboam and all Israel with him forsook the Lord, and he was forced to give up the temple treasure to Shishak, King of Egypt, to secure peace. (2 Chron. 12:2-9)
  - d. Rehoboam followed in the steps of his father Solomon and his grandfather David, as a polygamous, having eighteen wives, sixty concubines, twenty-eight sons, and sixty daughters. (2 Chron. 11:21)
  - e. However, *“he did evil because he did not set his heart to seek the Lord.”* (2 Chron. 12:14)
2. **Abijah** (אַבִּיָּה) - 'Abiyah – Heb. name meaning: “whose father is Jehovah,” was a son of Rehoboam by his favorite wife, Maachah. Rehoboam bequeathed the kingdom to her son. Abijah reigned in Judah three years from 958-956BC. (1 Kings 15:1, 2; 2 Chron. 12:16; 13:1, 2)
- a. Abijah imitated the polygamous sins of his fathers, having fourteen wives, twenty-two sons, and sixteen daughters. (2 Chron. 13: 21)
  - b. Abijah *“walked in all the sins of his father which he had committed before him; and was not wholly devoted to the Lord his God, like the heart of his father David.”* (1 Kings 15:1-4)
3. **Jeroboam** (יֵרוּבָאֵם) - Yarabe‘am - Heb. name meaning: “whose people are many,” was the son of Nebat, an Ephraimite, by a woman named Zeruah. (1 Kings 11:26) He reigned 22 years in Israel, the Northern Kingdom, from 975-954BC. (1 Kings 14:20)
- a. Jeroboam, an Ephraimite, was promoted by Solomon from the ranks of the workforce building the citadel of Zion. He was a strong and aggressive worker. Solomon raised him to the position of superintendent over taxes and forced labor in Ephraim and Manasseh. (1 Kings 11:28)

- b. Jeroboam was told and graphically shown by Ahijah, the prophet, how the kingdom of Israel would be divided because of Solomon's disobedience and Israel's practice of idolatry. (1 Kings 11:29-33)
- c. Jeroboam would have rulership of all of Israel except the two southern tribes, Judah and Benjamin, as a conditional covenant if he ruled wisely. (1 Kings 11:34-38)
- d. Jeroboam and Solomon had a dispute that led to Solomon wanting to kill Jeroboam, who then fled to Egypt under Pharaoh Shishak until the death of Solomon. (1 Kings 11:26, 27, 40)
- e. When Jeroboam returned from Egypt, he was encouraged by the heads of the northern tribes under the leadership of the Ephraimites to present a plea to Rehoboam for lowering taxes and reducing the conscription requirements on his people. (1 Kings 12:2-4)
- f. Jeroboam basically wanted to make peace between the northern kingdom and the two southern tribes under Rehoboam who had been made king of Israel at Shechem. (1 Kings 11:43; 12:1; 2 Chron. 9:31; 10:1)
- g. Jeroboam's plea was rejected by Rehoboam so that Israel, the northern ten tribes, continued "*in rebellion against the house of David*" until 721BC. (1 Kings 12:15-19; cf. 2 Chron. 13:5-9)
- h. The assembly of the ten northern tribes made Jeroboam king over all Israel. Only the tribes of Judah and Benjamin followed the house of David under King Rehoboam. (1 Kings 12:20)
- i. Jeroboam made and worshipped the golden calves from the land of Egypt and caused his people to sin with all the pagan gods of the nations. He made new feast days and instituted a new priesthood. (1 Kings 12:25-33; 2 Chron. 11:13-15)
- j. Although Jeroboam had been warned by a prophet of God, he nevertheless continued in his evil practices. (1 Kings 13:33; 14:7-11)

**D. The First two Good Kings in Judah:**

1. **Asa** (אָסָא - 'asa' Heb. name meaning: "physician," the son of Abijah, son of Rehoboam, son of Solomon, son of David became king of Judah in 955BC. (1 Kings 15:8-23; 2 Chron. 13:1-16:14)

- a. **Asa** was the fifth generation from David and he reigned 41 years to 914BC, *“and Asa did what was right in the sight of the Lord, like his father David,”* (1 Kings 15:11) *“and Asa did good and right in the sight of the Lord his God.”* (2 Chron. 14:1)
  - b. **Asa** died and was buried in the city of David, *“and Jehoshaphat his son reigned in his place.”* (1 Kings 15:24; 2 Chron 16:13-14)
2. **Jehoshaphat** (יְהוֹשָׁפָט - Heb. name meaning: “whom the Lord judges,” the son of Asa, who was the sixth generation from King David became king of Judah in 914BC at age 35. (1 Kings 15:24; 22:2-50; 2 Chron. 17:1-21:1)
- a. **Jehoshaphat** reigned 25 years to 889BC, *“and he walked in the way of Asa his father; he did not turn aside from it, doing right in the sight of the Lord.”* (1 Kings 22:43; 2 Chron. 20:32)
  - b. **Jehoshaphat** died *“and was buried with his fathers in the city of David, and Jehoram his son became king in his place.”* (1 Kings 22:50; 2 Chron. 21:1)  
NOTE: Jehoram did not walk in the ways of Jehoshaphat his father and the ways of Asa his grandfather, king of Judah. (2 Chron. 21:12-20)

**LEADERSHIP – PART 1**  
**THE BOOKS OF THE KINGS OF ISRAEL**

- A. First Samuel:** (covers 115 years) Chapters 1-31  
**Note:** Originally 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Samuel were a single book; in the Septuagint, the Greek translation of the Hebrew text, they were called 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Kings. The author and date of composition are unknown, although Samuel probably wrote or contributed to the information in 1 Samuel 1:1-25:1.
1. Samuel's birth to his death (chapters 1:1-25:1) 1171-1060 BC
  2. Saul's reign to his death (chapters 11:15-31:13) 1096-1056 BC
- B. Second Samuel:** (covers 39 years) Chapters 1-24
1. David's lament 1056 BC
  2. David's census and punishment 1017 BC
- C. First Kings:** (covers 126 years) Chapters 1-22  
**Note:** Originally 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Kings were one book in the Hebrew text and the continuation of the historic narrative begun in 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Samuel. The Septuagint divided Kings into two parts, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Kings. The possible date of these compositions is probably between 560 and 538 BC. Although the author is unknown, Ezra and Ezekiel, Jews of the exile, or possibly Jeremiah who died in Egypt have been considered.
1. Death of David and Solomon's rule (chapters 1:1-11:43) 1015-975 BC
  2. The kings of Judah and Israel: (chapters 11:43-22:53) 975-889 BC
    - a. Ending with Ahaziah in Israel 897 BC
      - (1) Elijah the prophet (chapters 17:1-21:28) 918-897 BC
      - (2) Elisha the prophet (chapter 19:16-19) 899
    - b. Ending with Jehoram in Judah 889 BC
- D. Second Kings:** (covers 309 years) Chapters 1-25
1. The kings of Judah and Israel: 897-588 BC
    - a. Beginning with Ahaziah, King of Israel 897 BC
      - (1) Elijah the prophet (chapters 1:3-2:11) 897 BC
      - (2) Elisha the prophet (chapters 2:1-13:20) 899-832 BC
    - b. Beginning with Jehoram, King of Judah 889
  2. Ending with Zedekiah, king of Judah 588 BC
- E. First Chronicles:** (covers 2989 years) Chapters 1-29  
**Note:** Originally the Hebrew manuscripts 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Chronicles were one scroll. The first division of the text into two books was in the Septuagint around 200 BC. While the author is not mentioned in the Old Testament, tradition indicates that it was Ezra. The time of writing is about 400 BC.
1. Genealogy from Adam to Saul (covers 2948 years) 4004-1056 BC
  2. Ending with David's reign over Israel (covers 41 years) 1056-1015 BC
- F. Second Chronicles:** (covers 479 years) Chapters 1-36
1. Solomon's history 1015-975 BC
  2. Ending with the edict of Cyrus 536 BC