

NAMES OF THE RULERS OF JUDAH (all descendants of David with the exception of the illegitimate rule of # 7)	DATE OF REIGN	GOOD OR BAD RULE	YEARS OF REIGN	RELATION TO PREDECESSOR & QUEEN MOTHER <i>(Gebirah)*</i>	SCRIPTURE REFERENCES FOR DAVIDIC KINGS AND QUEEN MOTHERS
1. King Rehoboam	930-913 BC	Bad	17	son of Solomon; mother = Naamah the Ammonite	1 Kings 11:42 – 14:31; 2 Chronicles 9:31-12:16
2. King Abijam (Abijah)	913-911 BC	Bad	3	son of Rehoboam; mother: Maacah (Micaiah), descendant of Absalom son of David	1 Kings 14:31 – 15:8; 2 Chronicles 13:1-23
3. King Asa	911-870 BC	Good	41	son of Abijam; mother: ?, Gebirah = grandmother Maacah	1 Kings 15:8-24; 2 Chronicles 13:23-16:14
4. King Jehoshaphat	870-848 BC	Good	25	son of Asa; mother: Azubah	1 Kings 15:24; 22:41-51; 2 Chronicles 17:1-21:1
5. King Jehoram	848-841 BC	Bad	8	son of Jehoshaphat; mother: ?	2 Kings 8:16-24; 2 Chronicles 21:1-20
6. King Ahaziah	841- BC	Bad	1	son of Jehoram; mother: Athaliah daughter of Jezebel and Ahab, King of Northern Kingdom of Israel	2 Kings 8:24-29; 9:14-26; 2 Chronicles 22:1- 12
7. Queen Mother Athaliah (descendant of the dynasty of Omni of Israel)	841-835 BC	Bad	6	daughter of Jezebel and Ahab, King of Northern Kingdom of Israel	2 Kings 8:26; 11:1-20; 2 Chronicles 21:6; 22:2, 9-23:21

8. Jehoash (Joash)	835-796 BC	Good	40	grandson of Athaliah and son of Ahaziah; mother: Zibiah of Beersheba	2 Kings 11:1 – 12:21; 2 Chronicles 22:10-23- 24:27
9. Amaziah	796-781 BC	Good	29	son of Jehoash; mother: Jehoaddan of Jerusalem	2 Kings 14:1-22; 2 Chronicles 24:27-25:28
10. Uzziah	781-740 BC	Started good/later bad	52	son of Amaziah mother: Jecoliah of Jerusalem	2 Kings 15:1-7; 2 Chronicles 26:1-23
11. Jotham (served as regent for several years until his father's death)	740-736 BC	Good	16	son of Uzziah; mother: Jerushah daughter of Zadok	2 Kings 15:32-38; 2 Chronicles 26:21- 23 (regent); 26:23-27:9 (king)
12. Ahaz	736-716 BC	Bad	16	son of Jotham; mother: ?	2 Kings 15:38 – 16:20; 2 Chronicles 27:9-28:27
13. Hezekiah	716-687 BC	Good	29	son of Ahaz; mother: Abijah daughter of Zechariah	2 Kings 16:20; 18:1- 20:21; 2 Chronicles 28:27-32:33
14. Manasseh	697-642 BC	Bad	55	son of Hezekiah; mother: Hephzibah	2 Kings 21:1-18; 2 Chronicles 32:33-33:20
15. Amon	642-640 BC	Bad	2	son of Manasseh; mother: Meshullemeth daughter of Haruz of Jotbah	2 Kings 21:18-26; 2 Chronicles 33:20-25
16. Josiah	640-609 BC	Good	31	son of Amon; mother: Jedidiah daughter of Adaiah of Bozkath	2 Kings 21:26 – 23:30; 2 Chronicles 33:25-35:27

17. Eliakim /Jehoahaz (name changed from Eliakim to Jehoahaz by Necho, Pharaoh of Egypt; probably reflects vassal status)	609 BC	Bad	3 months	son of Josiah; mother: Hamutal daughter of Jeremiah of Libnah	2 Kings 23:30-34; 2 Chronicles 36:1-4
18. Jehoiakim	609-598 BC	Bad	11	brother of Eliakim/Jehoahaz; mother: Zebidah daughter of Pedaiah of Rumah	2 Kings 23:34 – 24:6; 2 Chronicles 36:5-8
19. Jehoiachin	598-597 BC	Bad	3 months	son of Jehoiakim; mother: Nehusta daughter of Elnathan of Jerusalem	2 Kings 24:6-17 2 Chronicles 36:8-10
20. Mattaniah / Zedekiah (name changed to Zedekiah by King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon probably reflects vassal status)	597-586 BC	Bad	11	paternal uncle of Jehoiachin; mother: Hamital daughter of Jeremiah of Libnah (another daughter was also the mother of King Eliakim/ Jehoahaz)	2 Kings 24:17 – 25:30 2 Chronicles 36:10-13; Jeremiah 52:1-3; 37-39; Ezekiel 17:13-16
21. Jesus of Nazareth, son of David, son of God	30AD- eternity	Sinless	Eternity	Son of God, mother: Mary of Nazareth, descendant of King David: Queen (Gebirah) of the Heavenly Kingdom	Matthew 1:1-17, 20; Luke 1:26-38; 2:5; 3:23-38; Revelation 12:1-17
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All dates are approximate and may vary according to various scholars

*Note: The *Gebirah*, the Queen Mother of the Kingdom of Judah, was an official position held by the mother of the Davidic kings. She was the most important and influential woman in the royal court and the king's chief counselor. The Hebrew word, *gebirah*, is found fifteen times in the Old Testament and can be translated as "Queen Mother" or "Great Lady" [Genesis 16:4, 8, 9; 1 Kings 11:19 (used for the Egyptian Queen Mother); 15:13; 2 Kings 5:3; 10:13; 2 Chronicles 15:16; Psalm 123:2; Proverbs 30:23; Isaiah 24:2; 47:5, 7; Jeremiah 13:18; 29:2]. The institution of the *Gebirah* was evidently not practiced in the 9 dynasties of the Northern Kingdom.

THE DAVIDIC KINGS OF JUDAH 930 – 30AD →to Eternity

One ruling family = the House of David. First Davidic successor was Solomon, son of Bathsheba, c 970- 930 BC. With the revolt of the 10 Northern tribes, two kingdoms were formed: the Kingdom of Israel in the north and the Kingdom of Judah in the south. The Northern Kingdom had 9 ruling dynasties while the Southern Kingdom was ruled only by the descendants of King David:

- *But Yahweh would not destroy the House of David, because of the covenant which he had made with David, promising to provide him and his sons with a lamp for ever (2 Chronicles 21:7).*
- *Do you not know that Yahweh, God of Israel, has given eternal sovereignty of Israel to David and his sons by an inviolable covenant? (2 Chronicles 13:5).*

Additional information on the institution of the Davidic *Gebirah* may be found in these resources:

1. *Birth of the Messiah*, Father Raymond Brown, New York: Doubleday, 1993.
2. *Ancient Israel*, Father R. De Vaux, New York: McGraw-Hill, 1961.
3. *Queen Mother: A Biblical Theology of Mary's Queenship*, Edward Sri, Steubenville, Ohio: Emmaus Road Publishing, 2005.

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Handout 2: 1 Kings Lesson 6

- I. The Division of the Kingdom (12:1-14:31)
 - A. Cause of the division (12:1-24)
 - B. Reign of Jeroboam in Israel (12:25-14:20)
 - C. Reign of Rehoboam in Judah (14:21-31)
- II. The Reigns of Two Kings in Judah (15:1-24)
 - A. Reign of Abijah in Judah (15:1-8)
 - B. Reign of Asa in Judah (15:9-24)
- III. The Reigns of Five Kings in Israel (15:25-16:28)
 - A. Reign of Nadab in Israel (15:25-31)
 - B. Reign of Baasha in Israel (15:32-16:7)
 - C. Reign of Elah in Israel (16:8-14)
 - D. Reign of Zimri in Israel (16:15-20)
 - E. Reign of Omri in Israel (16:21-28)

The *Gebirah* was official title of the Queen Mother of the Davidic kings of Judah. She served as the people's intercessor to her son the king (see 1 Kng 1:13-19; Jn 2:1-10).

The chapters 15-16 cover and parallel two kings of Judah and four kings of Israel over a period of thirty years (911-883 BC). Their reigns are presented in a formula that is the same as that which summed up the reigns of Rehoboam and Jeroboam:

- The length of each king's reign
- The name of the king's mother, if he is a descendant of David
- A summary of the king's religious and moral conduct
- A concluding statement of his death and the name of his successor
- A reference to the Annals of the Kings of either Judah or Israel

In each account of the kings of Israel and Judah, the inspired writer is concerned with the moral and religious condition of these kings and their nations. He compares the kings of Judah with David and the kings of Israel with Jeroboam.

The parallel account of King Asa's reign is found in 2 Chronicles chapters 14-16. He is named in the genealogies of 1 Chronicles 3:10 and Matthew 1:8. There is a controversy concerning the names of several of the Davidic queens between Rehoboam and Asa:

- 2 Chronicles 11:20 ~ [Rehoboam] *married Maacah daughter of Absalom, who bore him Abijah [Abijah]...*
- 1 Kings 15:10b ~ *His [Abijah son of Rehoboam] mother's name was Maacah descendant [daughter] of Absalom.*
- 2 Chronicles 13:2 ~ *In the eighteenth year of King Jeroboam, Abijah became king of Judah and reigned for three years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Micaiah daughter of Uriel of Gibeah.*
- 1 Kings 15:10 ~ *Asa became king of Judah and reigned for forty-one years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Maacah descendant [daughter] of Absalom.*
- 2 Chronicles 15:15 ~ *King Asa even deprived his mother Maacah of the dignity of Great Lady [Gebirah] for having made an obscenity for Asherah ...*

King Asa stands out in the Davidic family line as the first righteous king of Judah since David:

1. He drove out the male cult prostitutes.
2. He destroyed the idols of false gods in Judah.
3. He deposed his mother/grandmother from her role as the Gebirah because she promoted idol worship.
4. He made gifts of silver and gold to the Temple of Yahweh.

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