

Bible Reading

Due: Thursday November 19

Background:

I. General background in Israel and Judah (850-722 BC) [2 Kin 10-15]

* Prosperity and victories.

* Idolatry and meaningless worship.

II. God sends messengers to warn Israel (and Judah)... "because of your sins..."

*Jonah -- God's compassion for Nineveh. (c 800 BC)

*Hosea -- Israel unfaithful to God.

*Micah -- (5:5-9) Predicts invasion of Judah by _____ but saved by God.

(1:6) Israel will be smashed; Judah also (1:10). Predicts siege of Lachish.

*Amos -- (5:27) Predicts captivity of Israel beyond... _____

Ultimate promise after all the destruction that is coming. Isaiah: 7: 13-15 Savior to be Immanuel.

Isa 7:16-25 Assyria to bring destruction. Syria and Israel will be captured.

Isa: 10:5-19 Assyria herself will then be destroyed, and a remnant of Israel will be brought back to reestablish the nation.

God's metaphors (symbols) for Assyria: (Isa.7:20) _____

(Isa. 10:5) _____

III. Assyria, led by King Sargon II invades Israel. (Year 722)

*First tribes to be captured: _____ 1 Chr 5:26 / 2 Kin 15:29

*Damascus is captured. (Capital of the Syrians or Arameans)

*Israel (Samaria) is destroyed. What happens to the people of Israel? _____ (2 Kin. 17:6)

Foreigners are settled in the land of Israel. (2 Kin 17:24)

Reasons for Israel's fall... given in 2 Kin.17:7-12

*Judah gets a second chance.

King Hezekiah of Judah.

(Isaiah is his advisor.)

King's Strategy: Get help from _____

God's strategy: Assyria will be punished. (Isa. 30:27-33)

IV. Assyria, led by King Sennacherib invades Judah (Year 701 BC)

*Surrounds and *sieges* Jerusalem. *Siege* images are found on Downey attachment and at:

<http://www.dabar.org/Breasted/Assyrians-Chaldeans/Section19/AssyrianEmpire.htm>

Q: How does Jerusalem survive against the Assyrian siege army? (2 Chr. 32:2-8 and 2 Kin. 18-19)

1. Hezekiah supplies the city with _____. Builds up the _____

2. How does God fight for Judah. (2 Kin. 19:33-36)? _____

3. What happens to Sennacherib after the siege? Where does he go? _____

See Siloam Inscription page 1: Answer the three questions.

V. Judah backslides.

* New king of Judah after Hezekiah is his son Manasseh -- weak (2 Kings 20:21 - 21:2-9)

*Isaiah predicts captivity and destruction by Babylon. But ultimately a "Cyrus" will be raised up. (Isaiah 44:28-45:13)

*Describe this *Cyrus* and what he will accomplish: _____

[This prediction is 150 years ahead of time.]

Nahum predicts the fall of Nineveh. (650 BC) -- [38 years ahead of time]. Nahum 2: 1-2

***Read Nahum verses and describe...**

2:3-10 The fall of Nineveh. What is it "like" after its fall? How does this happen?

View the image and caption at: <http://www.dabar.org/Breasted/Assyrians-Chaldeans/Section19/FIG-map1.html>

3:8-11 Nineveh's fate is the same as what other victims? _____

3:12-17 What happens to Assyria's forts? _____

3:18-19 What will the world do when it hears of Assyria's fall? _____

New king -- Josiah. **Zephaniah** (2:13-15) predicts Assyria's fall [c 630 BC]

Josiah reforms Judah while Jeremiah warns and predicts the future. [c 626 BC]

Year 626 Chaldeans (Babylonians) ally with Medes and Scythians and rebel against Assyria.
[Remember: All of the Fertile Crescent is controlled by Assyria.]

Year 612 Chaldeans conquer Nineveh, and begin an empire. ****Note the year.****
Egypt allies with Assyria against Chaldeans.

Year 605 Final battle of the armies of Assyria. ****Note the year.****

***Read Jeremiah verses and describe...**

46:1-11 Final battle between Babylonians and Assyrians. **Find this location on a map.***

1. Where is the battle? _____

2. Babylonian king? _____

3. Who else will be defeated? _____

Another prophet at this time: **Habbakkuk**.

Predictions: **Read Hab. 1:5-11**

1. What nation is God raising up? _____

2. Describe this nation's battle tactics. How it does war: _____

Year 605 **While reading 2 Kin 23:36-24:7 answer these questions:**

1. What is the relationship between Judah and Babylon now? _____

2. What did Nebuchadnezzar do with Egypt (Judah's ally)? _____

*** Read: 2 Chronicles 36:7 and Daniel 1:1-4**

1. Name three important features of the Jews that Nebuchadnezzar had brought back to Babylon? _____

Among these was Daniel.

***Read Jeremiah's prophecy at 25:8-14**

1. What nation and for how long will the Jews be servants? _____

2. And at the end of that period what will happen to the nation they serve? _____

Read 2 Kings 24:13-16 The Great Deportation of Jews

1. Gold is taken from _____.

2. What types of people were carried into exile from Jerusalem? _____

***Among the people taken captive was the priest/prophet Ezekiel, who predicts:**

-- The fall of Judah; harsh treatment of Judah's enemies; and return of Jews to the land.

Read 2 Kings 25:1-21 The Fall of Jerusalem [586 BC]

1. How did Nebuchadnezzar treat the inhabitants? _____

2. How was the Temple treated? _____

3. What did the Babylonians do with the city walls? _____

Siloam Inscription



Date: 701 BC

Language: Hebrew

TRANSLATION	
הנקבה וזה היה דבר הנקבה בעוד	1 [. . .] the tunneling; and this was how the tunneling was completed: As [the laborers employed]
הגרזן אש אל רעו ובעוד שלש אמת להנקב וישע קל אש ק	2 their picks, each crew toward the other, and while there were still three cubits remaining, the voices of the men calling out
[ר] א אל רעו כי הית קדה בצר מימן [ומשמ] אל ובים ה	3 to each other [could be heard], since it got louder on the right [and left]. The day the
נקבה הכו החצבם אש לקרת רעו גרזן על [ג]רזן וילכו	4 opening was made, the stonecutters hacked toward each other, pick against pick.
המים מן המוצא אל הברכה במאתי [ם ו] אלף אמה [ומ] [א]	5 And the water flowed from the source to the pool [twel]ve hundred cubits ,
ת אמה היה גבה הצר על ראש החצב [ם]	6 (despite the fact that) the height of the rock above the stonecutters' heads was one hundred cubits.

A cubit is an ancient unit of length, approximating the distance from the elbow to the end of the middle finger. The English word is from the Latin cubitum (“elbow”).

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS
1. Why would the construction of the tunnel be singled out among Hezekiah's deeds? (2 Kings 20:20; 2 Chronicles 32:30)
2. What role does the tunnel play in Isaiah's “argument” (Isaiah 22:11)?
3. What was the significance of city water systems in the ancient world relative to military strategies?



The Black Obelisk is a significant artifact from (Assyrian King) Shalmaneser III's reign. It is a black limestone, bas-relief sculpture from Nimrud in northern Iraq. It is the most complete Assyrian obelisk yet discovered, and is historically significant because it displays the earliest ancient depiction of an Israelite. On the top and the bottom of the reliefs there is a long cuneiform inscription recording the annals of Shalmaneser III. It lists the military campaigns which the king and his commander-in-chief headed every year, until the thirty-first year of reign.

The second register from the top includes the earliest surviving picture of an Israelite: the Biblical Jehu, king of Israel. Jehu severed Israel's alliances with Phoenicia and Judah, and became subject to Assyria. It describes how Jehu brought or sent his tribute in or around 841 BC. The caption above the scene, written in Assyrian cuneiform, can be translated:

"The tribute of *Jehu*, son of *Omri*: I received from him silver, gold, a golden bowl, a golden vase with pointed bottom, golden tumblers, golden buckets, tin, a staff for a king [and] spears."



Jehu bows before Shalmaneser III.

Answer the following questions:

****What is significant (most important for world history) about this monument?**

****In what language is it written?**