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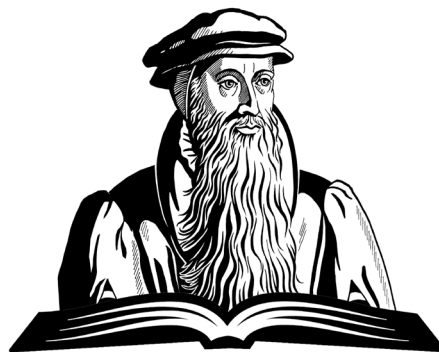
**BIBLE FOR
6TH GRADE STUDENTS**

Old Testament

Lesson 75:

A Succession of Kings

Lecture Presenter: Mr. Daniel Van Brugge



The John Knox Institute
of Higher Education

Entrusting our Reformed Inheritance to the Church Worldwide

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Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are from the Authorized King James Version.

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Module

BIBLE FOR 6TH GRADE STUDENTS

Old Testament

113 LESSONS

77 Lessons presented by Mr. Daniel Van Brugge

36 Lessons presented by Dr. Daniel Sweetman

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|--------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| 01. The Bible: The Word of God | 26. Joseph and His Brethren |
| 02. Creation: The Work of an Almighty God | 27. Jacob Comes to Joseph |
| 03. Man: A Special Place in God's Creation | 28. God Heard Their Cry |
| 04. A Gracious Promise | 29. Moses and the Burning Bush |
| 05. Cain and Abel | 30. Let My People God |
| 06. Only Noah Found Grace | 31. Deliverance |
| 07. The Coming Judgment –A Way of Escape | 32. God's Patience with a Complaining People |
| 08. The Noahic Covenant | 33. Keeping the Law: Not to Merit /Thankfulness |
| 09. The Tower of Babel | 34. The Lord Dwells Among His People |
| 10. Abram: Called by God | 35. A Priest for the People |
| 11. Abram Intercedes for Lot | 36. Moses Intercedes for a Rebellious People |
| 12. Melchizadek | 37. Worshiping God Rightly |
| 13. Righteous by Faith | 38. Walk Not According to the World |
| 14. Two Sons | 39. Hearts of Ingratitude |
| 15. Lessons from Lot's Life | 40. Aaron's Rod Blossoming |
| 16. Faithless Abraham – Faithful God | 41. The Serpent of Brass Lifted Up |
| 17. Abraham Tested – God's Provision | 42. Phinehas Turning Away God's Wrath |
| 18. Isaac and Rebekah | 43. Cities of Refuge |
| 19. Jacob: A Better Desire than Esau | 44. A New Generation |
| 20. Jacob the Deceiver | 45. Moses' Last Days |
| 21. God Preserves Jacob | 46. Joshua—God's Promise Fulfilled |
| 22. Jacob Returns to Beth-el | 47. A Promise to Rahab |
| 23. Joseph Loved – Joseph Hated | 48. The Rise of Judges |
| 24. An Eye upon God | 49. Gideon—God with Him |
| 25. Joseph Raised Out of Prison | 50. Samson |

51. Ruth the Moabitess
52. Samuel Judges Israel
53. Israel's First King
54. The Kingdom Established
55. David Anointed the Next King
56. David Hunted by Saul
57. The Last Days of Saul
58. David, the Next King
59. Fetching the Ark
60. Thou Art the Man
61. David's Return to Jerusalem
62. Seven Sons of Saul Killed
63. Genealogies of Israel
64. David Appointed King
65. David's Kingdom Established
66. David Prepares for the Temple
67. David's Departing Instructions
68. Solomon Becomes King
69. Solomon Builds the House of God
70. The Kingdom is Rent
71. A Wicked Divided Kingdom
72. Ahab's Reign and Death
73. Elisha Begins his Work
74. Elisha's Voice is Heard
- 75. A Succession of Kings**
76. Ahaz and Hezekiah
77. The Captivity of Judah
78. Introduction to the Prophets
79. Isaiah's Vision & Song
80. Isaiah Prophecies about Christ
81. The Prophet Jeremiah Called and Sent
82. Jeremiah Opposed and Comforted
83. Ezekiel, the Captive Prophet
84. Ezekiel's Comforting Visions
85. Daniel and His Three Friends
86. Nebuchadnezzar's Forgotten Dream
87. Three Friends in the Fiery Furnace
88. Nebuchadnezzar's Madness
89. The Writing on the Wall
90. Daniel in the Lions' Den
91. Daniel's Visions and Dreams
92. Ezra—Return from Captivity
93. Ezra—Rebuilding the Temple
94. Ezra—The Scribe
95. Nehemiah—Rebuilding the Walls
96. Nehemiah—The Task Completed
97. Esther the Queen
98. Esther—Haman's Plot
99. Esther—The Jews Saved
100. Hosea—The Minor Prophets
101. Joel and the Day of the LORD
102. Amos the Fearless Herdsman
103. Obadiah Prophecies Edom's Fall
104. Jonah's Flight
105. Jonah's Mission
106. Micah Preaches Judgment & Mercy
107. Nahum—A Message for Nineveh
108. Habakkuk's Questions, God's Replies
109. Zephaniah—Threatenings & Promises
110. Haggai Urges Building the Temple
111. Zechariah—The Night Visions
112. Zechariah Prophecies of Christ
113. Malachi—Last Old Testament Prophet

Lesson 75

A Succession of Kings

The Second Book of the Kings, chapters 11 thru 15,
and the Second Book of Chronicles, chapters 22 thru 27

Memory Verse

*“He departed not from all the sins of Jeroboam, the son of Nebat,
who made Israel to sin.”*

2 Kings 14:24b

Historical Summary

When Jehoram king of Judah died, his youngest son Ahaziah reigned in his stead, but only for one year, because he was soon killed by Jehu. Ahaziah’s sons were too young to reign, and his brothers had all died, so it seemed there was no one who could become the next king. Ahaziah’s mother Athaliah was the granddaughter of Ahab and Jezebel, and she was a Baal worshipper. When she heard Ahaziah was dead, she developed a horrible plan to kill all of Ahaziah’s children so that she could take the crown for herself. She was a wicked woman who promoted the worship of Baal in Judah.



What she didn’t know was that one baby grandson named Joash was hidden away by his nurse, and the good priest Jehoiada kept him safely hidden in the temple for seven years. When Joash was seven years old, Jehoiada gathered a large multitude near the temple and brought out Joash to be crowned king. There was a great celebration, and when Athaliah realized what had happened, she cried, “Treason, treason!” But Jehoiada commanded her to be killed, and then he and Joash restored the worship of Jehovah in Judah.

At first, Joash was a good king. He even issued a command that money be collected to repair the house of God. And when the collection lagged and the repairs were not completed, he rebuked Jehoiada who was in charge of the collection. Joash had a chest made for the entrance of the temple, with a hole bored in it for people to put in their money. In this way, plenty of money was collected and the temple of God was repaired.

But when the priest Jehoiada died, Joash turned away from God and allowed idol worship to be revived in Judah. The Spirit of God came upon Zechariah, the son of Jehoiada, and he came and told Joash that he had forsaken the Lord, and that the Lord would forsake him. Joash forgot the kindness which Jehoiada had done to him and he had his son Zechariah killed! But God punished Joash for his apostasy and murder. The king of Syria fought and killed many in Judah, and Joash himself was killed by men in his own country in a conspiracy. So ended the life of a young man who started well, but ended badly.

Meanwhile in Israel, Jehoahaz began to reign in the capital of Samaria. He was a wicked king like Jeroboam, the first king of Israel. Because of this, God caused Hazael king of Syria to oppress Israel. This made Jehoahaz repent, but his repentance was not whole-hearted or sincere. When he died, his son Jehoash reigned in Israel, but he was also not a good king.

During the reign of Jehoash, Elisha became sick and was about to die. Jehoash came to visit him because he saw that Elisha was the one who helped Israel. Elisha told Jehoash to shoot an arrow and to strike the ground with more arrows. This was a sign that God would be with Jehoash in battle. However, he would not be able to completely destroy his enemies because he did not fully serve God.



When Joash king of Judah was killed, his son Amaziah began to reign in Jerusalem. Amaziah's behavior as a king was good at first, but his heart was not right. While he lived, he was able to subdue Edom's rebellion. But then he took home the gods of the Edomites whom he had just defeated, and worshipped them in Judah! He became proud, and went to war against Jehoash, king of Israel, and eventually he died in disgrace. His son Azariah (also spelled Uzziah) became king of Judah in his place.

Later, Jehoash king of Israel also died, and his son Jeroboam II ruled in Samaria over what was left of Israel. He was also a wicked king like his father. But the Lord did not completely forsake Israel, but spared their kingdom and even extended it somewhat. This is because the Lord our God is longsuffering, and he remembered his covenant with an unworthy people.

Because the walls of Jerusalem had been broken by Jehoash king of Israel, they were repaired again by Uzziah (Azariah). Uzziah was a good king and his reign lasted for 52 years. During his reign Judah prospered greatly. Cities

were fortified, the military was strengthened, and many good things were done. He did that which was right in God's sight, and the Lord blessed him in his work. But then he became proud, and he even thought he could go into the house of God and burn incense like a priest. He tried to do this, and he was stricken with leprosy, so Jotham his son had to do his duties for him until he died.

Jotham was a good king, and he did what was right in the eyes of God. He did many great things for Judah. Some of the people of Judah did not support him, but he stayed faithful to the Lord. He ruled only 16 years, and when he died, he was buried in Jerusalem with respect and honor.

Meanwhile, Israel was ruled by a series of wicked kings, some only for a short time. After Jeroboam II, reigned Zachariah, Shallum, Menahem, Pekahiah, and then Pekah. Often conspiracies led to new families coming into power, only to be defeated by another family who then reigned for some time. All the kings in Israel were wicked and followed in the sins of Jeroboam their first king. The last king of Israel was Hoshea, who was imprisoned by the king of Assyria. Then many people of Israel were carried away captive to Assyria and foreigners were brought in and made to settle in the land of Israel. Clearly the hand of God was against Israel for their sin. Thus ended the line of the kings of that divided kingdom of Israel.

The Gospel in the Old Testament

Israel was a theocratic nation—that means that the law of God was the law of the land. God had separated this people to be an example for the nations around them. But often Israel sinned against God and trampled on his commandments. Yet the Lord was longsuffering and sent his prophets to warn the leaders and the kings of the divided kingdoms to turn from their sin and find mercy in his sight. The prophets pointed a sinful people to a coming Messiah who would build a new spiritual kingdom of righteousness which would reign forever. Those who were weary of sin would sometimes long for the coming of that kingdom where they could live without sin. Is that your desire too?

Questions

1. Where was the baby Joash hidden when Athaliah tried to kill all the grandchildren?
 - a. In an ark of bulrushes.
 - b. In a palace in Egypt.
 - c. In the home of Jehoida.
 - d. In a bedchamber of the temple.

2. Enough money was collected to repair the house of God :
 - a. Because of a gift from the king of Syria.
 - b. From taxes collected by Jehoiada.
 - c. By a special chest placed near the door of the temple.
 - d. When some land was sold and the money was donated.

3. What kind of kings were Jehoahaz and Joash?
 - a. Both were good kings.
 - b. Both were wicked kings.
 - c. Jehoahaz was a good king, but Joash was a wicked king.
 - d. Joash was a good king, but Jehoahaz was a wicked king.

4. What kind of man was Amaziah, king of Judah?
 - a. A good king like David.
 - b. A wicked king like Saul.
 - c. His conduct was sometimes good, but his heart was not right.
 - d. A strong king who captured Joash , king of Israel.

5. Which of the following were wicked kings of Isreal?
 - a. Joash and Jotham
 - b. Ahaz and Jehu
 - c. Jeroboam and Zachariah
 - d. Azariah (Uzziah) and Jotham

Essay Questions

1. God had promised that Christ would be born of the seed of David. Show from the remarkable survival of Joash that the devil always tries to oppose God’s work but will never be able to stop God’s plan of salvation.

2. What can we learn from the life of Joash about our lives today?

3. God afflicted Israel during the reign of Jehoahaz and Jehoash.What can we learn from this?

4. Many of the kings of Israel and of Judah were wicked kings, yet the Lord did not completely destroy them. Name two important reasons that the Lord preserved these kingdoms.

5. Some of the kings of Judah were godly men, but all of the kings of Israel were wicked men. What can we learn from the history of these kings?

6. Although many of the kings of Israel and of Judah were wicked kings, why were they not immediately forsaken and destroyed?
