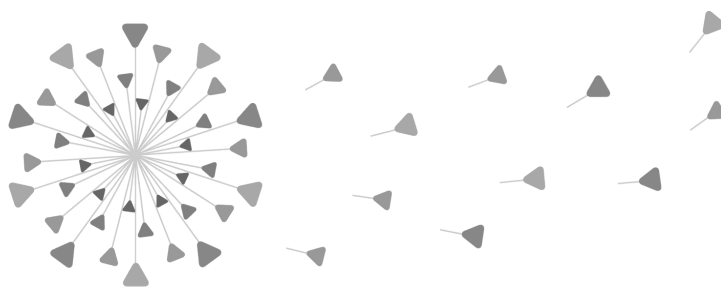


Cornhill
Scotland



His Word in My Hands '23



Timetable

09:30 - Registration Opens
10:00 - Welcome and Prayer
10:00 - Judges Overview - Edward Lobb
11:00 - Refreshments
11:30 - Bible Workshop [1] - Jon Gemmell
12:30 - Lunch
13:30 - Bible Workshop [2] - Jon Gemmell
14:20 - Q&A
14:40 - Refreshments
15:10 - Sermon Lab - Andy Gemmill
16:00 - Close

Q&A

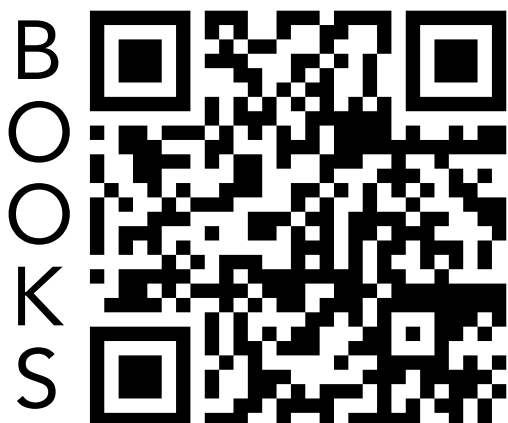
For our Q&A time at the end of the day we are keen to try and answer your questions and be as helpful as we possibly can.

To ask a question:

Text

07451 287890

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The Book of Judges & The Gospel of Christ

1. Reading OT Narrative profitably:

- Always the big question to ask is “what does this book of narrative teach us about God?”
Ask "what is God doing?" before asking "what are people doing?"
God is always the prime mover of events. Reading narrative God-centredly, not man-centredly, will teach us about God's grace and God's plan of salvation.
- The Bible never chronicles “bare facts”: it records the facts and their God-given interpretation. The Bible teacher's job is not to invent an interpretation but to teach God's interpretation.

2. Underlying the book of Judges is God's command to Israel to drive the pagan Canaanite nations out of the Promised Land.

Modern people find this command difficult. “Isn't this ethnic cleansing?” they say.

The Bible itself answers that question clearly.....

3. **Judges 2:11 – 3:6** lays out in summary form the pattern of the book of Judges. It's like a map of the whole book. This pattern is repeated again, and again:

- a) The Israelites abandon the Lord and serve the Baals (**2:11-13**)
- b) The Lord's anger is kindled against Israel, and he gives Israel into the hands of the plunderers (**2:14**)
- c) Israel, in terrible distress, cries out to the Lord for help (**2:15**)
- d) The Lord raises up a judge, who rescues Israel (**2:16**)
- e) A period of peace follows (**eg.3:11**), but the wretched pattern is then repeated.

4. The book of Judges falls into three main sections:

- a) **1:1 – 3**, The Introduction
- b) **3:7 – 16:31**, The saving work of the 12 judges
- c) **Chapters 17 – 21**, Spiritual and moral chaos in Israel

5. The book of Judges illuminates the gospel and the work of Jesus:

- a) We need a King: see **Judges 21:25**. Jesus is ultimately the King.
- b) We need a Saviour, better than the Judges. Jesus is that Saviour.
- c) **Judges 17 - 21** magnify the power of Jesus' salvation, because they reveal the utter depravity of our fallen human nature.
- d) Jesus is the warrior, the Conqueror. The price of our peace with God is his warfare with the Enemy. The expulsion of the Canaanites from Israel foreshadows Jesus' final expulsion of all his enemies from God's kingdom.

Some useful (If slightly approximate) dates:

- 1440 B.C.** - The Exodus
- 1400 B.C.** - Moses dies
- 1400-1360 B.C.** - Joshua leads Israel
- 1360-1040 B.C.** - The period of the Judges
- 1040 B.C.** - Saul becomes King of Israel
- 1000 B.C.** - David becomes King of Israel

Bible Handling Workshop [Familiarity] – 2 Kings 18-19

'Hezekiah is the most important Bible character we never think about.'

Context:

Whole Bible in 3 sentences:



1 –

2 –

3 –

Israel in 3 sentences:



1 –

2 –

3 –

1 Samuel-2 Kings [4 Reigns]

Anarchy ➡ Monarchy ➡ Dynasty ➡ Infidelity ➡ Disunity ➡ Idolatry ➡ Captivity

1-2 Samuel

Hannah [Overture] – Low things Grow & Tall things Fall

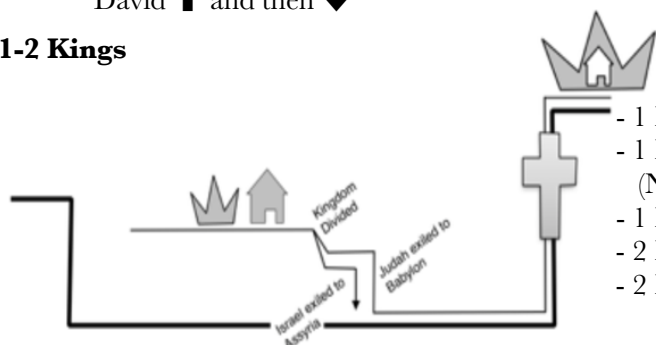
Samuel ↑ Eli ↓

Samuel ↓ Saul ↑

Saul ↓ David ↑

David ↑ and then ↓

1-2 Kings



- 1 Kings 1-11 - Solomon Reigns
- 1 Kings 12-16 - Kingdom Splits
(North 20 - 20 Bad, South 20 - 4 Great, 4 Average, 12 Terrible)
- 1 Kings 17-2 Kings 8 - Israel's Kings vs. Prophets
- 2 Kings 9-17 - Road to Exile
- 2 Kings 18-25 - Goodbye Jerusalem, Hello Babylon

Covenants

Serpent Crusher? – Saul, David, Solomon...

Abraham – God's People, in God's Place, under God's Rule, experiencing God's Blessing, and bearing His Image to the World.

Moses – A Saved People living obediently in a worshipful relationship with the LORD who dwells with them to blesses them.

David – A King who rules the people under God to establish all of the above.

Reading:

18:1-8 – What sort of a King was Hezekiah – top trumps?

18:9-18 – What were some of the events surrounding Hezekiah's Reign?

18 In the third year of Hoshea son of Elah, king of Israel, Hezekiah the son of Ahaz, king of Judah, began to reign.² He was twenty-five years old when he began to reign, and he reigned twenty-nine years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Abi the daughter of Zechariah.³ And he did what was right in the eyes of the Lord, according to all that David his father had done.⁴ He removed the high places and broke the pillars and cut down the Asherah. And he broke in pieces the bronze serpent that Moses had made, for until those days the people of Israel had made offerings to it (it was called Nehushtan).⁵ He trusted in the Lord, the God of Israel, so that there was none like him among all the kings of Judah after him, nor among those who were before him.⁶ For he held fast to the Lord. He did not depart from following him, but kept the commandments that the Lord commanded Moses.⁷ And the Lord was with him; wherever he went out, he prospered. He rebelled against the king of Assyria and would not serve him.⁸ He struck down the Philistines as far as Gaza and its territory, from watchtower to fortified city.

⁹ In the fourth year of King Hezekiah, which was the seventh year of Hoshea son of Elah, king of Israel, Shalmaneser king of Assyria came up against Samaria and besieged it,¹⁰ and at the end of three years he took it. In the sixth year of Hezekiah, which was the ninth year of Hoshea king of Israel, Samaria was taken.¹¹ The king of Assyria carried the Israelites away to Assyria and put them in Halah, and on the Habor, the river of Gozan, and in the cities of the Medes,¹² because they did not obey the voice of the Lord their God but transgressed his covenant, even all that Moses the servant of the Lord commanded. They neither listened nor obeyed.

¹³ In the fourteenth year of King Hezekiah, Sennacherib king of Assyria came up against all the fortified cities of Judah and took them.¹⁴ And Hezekiah king of Judah sent to the king of Assyria at Lachish, saying, "I have done wrong; withdraw from me. Whatever you impose on me I will bear." And the king of Assyria required of Hezekiah king of Judah three hundred talents of silver and thirty talents of gold.¹⁵ And Hezekiah gave him all the silver that was found in the house of the Lord and in the treasuries of the king's house.¹⁶ At that time Hezekiah stripped the gold from the doors of the temple of the Lord and from the doorposts that Hezekiah king of Judah had overlaid and gave it to the king of Assyria.¹⁷ And the king of Assyria sent the Tartan, the Rab-saris, and the Rabshakeh with a great army from Lachish to King Hezekiah at Jerusalem. And they went up and came to Jerusalem. When they arrived, they came and stood by the conduit of the upper pool, which is on the highway to the Washer's Field.¹⁸ And when they called for the king, there came out to them Eliakim the son of Hilkiah, who was over the household, and Shebna the secretary, and Joah the son of Asaph, the recorder.

¹⁹ And the Rabshakeh said to them, "Say to Hezekiah, 'Thus says the great king, the king of Assyria: On what do you rest this trust of yours?'²⁰ Do you think that mere words are strategy and power for war? In whom do you now trust, that you have rebelled against me? ²¹ Behold, you are trusting now in Egypt, that broken reed of a staff, which will pierce the hand of any man who leans on it. Such is Pharaoh king of Egypt to all who trust in him. ²² But if you say to me, 'We

trust in the Lord our God,' is it not he whose high places and altars Hezekiah has removed, saying to Judah and to Jerusalem, 'You shall worship before this altar in Jerusalem'?"²³ Come now, make a wager with my master the king of Assyria: I will give you two thousand horses, if you are able on your part to set riders on them.²⁴ How then can you repulse a single captain among the least of my master's servants, when you trust in Egypt for chariots and for horsemen? ²⁵ Moreover, is it without the Lord that I have come up against this place to destroy it? The Lord said to me, "Go up against this land and destroy it."'"

²⁶ Then Eliakim the son of Hilkiah, and Shebna, and Joah, said to the Rabshakeh, "Please speak to your servants in Aramaic, for we understand it. Do not speak to us in the language of Judah within the hearing of the people who are on the wall."²⁷ But the Rabshakeh said to them, "Has my master sent me to speak these words to your master and to you, and not to the men sitting on the wall, who are doomed with you to eat their own dung and to drink their own urine?"

²⁸ Then the Rabshakeh stood and called out in a loud voice in the language of Judah: "Hear the word of the great king, the king of Assyria! ²⁹ Thus says the king: 'Do not let Hezekiah deceive you, for he will not be able to deliver you out of my hand. ³⁰ Do not let Hezekiah make you trust in the Lord by saying, The Lord will surely deliver us, and this city will not be given into the hand of the king of Assyria.' ³¹ Do not listen to Hezekiah, for thus says the king of Assyria: 'Make your peace with me and come out to me. Then each one of you will eat of his own vine, and each one of his own fig tree, and each one of you will drink the water of his own cistern, ³² until I come and take you away to a land like your own land, a land of grain and wine, a land of bread and vineyards, a land of olive trees and honey, that you may live, and not die. And do not listen to Hezekiah when he misleads you by saying, 'The Lord will deliver us.'"³³ Has any of the gods of the nations ever delivered his land out of the hand of the king of Assyria? ³⁴ Where are the gods of Hamath and Arpad? Where are the gods of Sepharvaim, Hena, and Ivvah? Have they delivered Samaria out of my hand? ³⁵ Who among all the gods of the lands have delivered their lands out of my hand, that the Lord should deliver Jerusalem out of my hand?"

³⁶ But the people were silent and answered him not a word, for the king's command was, "Do not answer him."³⁷ Then Eliakim the son of Hilkiah, who was over the household, and Shebna the secretary, and Joah the son of Asaph, the recorder, came to Hezekiah with their clothes torn and told him the words of the Rabshakeh.

19 As soon as King Hezekiah heard it, he tore his clothes and covered himself with sackcloth and went into the house of the Lord.² And he sent Eliakim, who was over the household, and Shebna the secretary, and the senior priests, covered with sackcloth, to the prophet Isaiah the son of Amoz.³ They said to him, "Thus says Hezekiah, This day is a day of distress, of rebuke, and of disgrace; children have come to the point of birth, and there is no strength to bring them forth.⁴ It may be that the Lord your God heard all the words of the Rabshakeh, whom his master the king of Assyria has sent to mock the living God, and will rebuke the words that the Lord your God has heard; therefore lift up your prayer for the remnant that is left."

⁵ When the servants of King Hezekiah came to Isaiah, ⁶ Isaiah said to them, “Say to your master, ‘Thus says the Lord: Do not be afraid because of the words that you have heard, with which the servants of the king of Assyria have reviled me. ⁷ Behold, I will put a spirit in him, so that he shall hear a rumor and return to his own land, and I will make him fall by the sword in his own land.’”

⁸ The Rabshakeh returned, and found the king of Assyria fighting against Libnah, for he heard that the king had left Lachish. ⁹ Now the king heard concerning Tirhakah king of Cush, “Behold, he has set out to fight against you.” So he sent messengers again to Hezekiah, saying, ¹⁰ “Thus shall you speak to Hezekiah king of Judah: ‘Do not let your God in whom you trust deceive you by promising that Jerusalem will not be given into the hand of the king of Assyria. ¹¹ Behold, you have heard what the kings of Assyria have done to all lands, devoting them to destruction. And shall you be delivered? ¹² Have the gods of the nations delivered them, the nations that my fathers destroyed, Gozan, Haran, Rezeph, and the people of Eden who were in Telassar? ¹³ Where is the king of Hamath, the king of Arpad, the king of the city of Sepharvaim, the king of Hena, or the king of Ivvah?’”

¹⁴ Hezekiah received the letter from the hand of the messengers and read it; and Hezekiah went up to the house of the Lord and spread it before the Lord. ¹⁵ And Hezekiah prayed before the Lord and said: “O Lord, the God of Israel, enthroned above the cherubim, you are the God, you alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth; you have made heaven and earth. ¹⁶ Incline your ear, O Lord, and hear; open your eyes, O Lord, and see; and hear the words of Sennacherib, which he has sent to mock the living God. ¹⁷ Truly, O Lord, the kings of Assyria have laid waste the nations and their lands ¹⁸ and have cast their gods into the fire, for they were not gods, but the work of men's hands, wood and stone. Therefore they were destroyed. ¹⁹ So now, O Lord our God, save us, please, from his hand, that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that you, O Lord, are God alone.”

²⁰ Then Isaiah the son of Amoz sent to Hezekiah, saying, “Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: Your prayer to me about Sennacherib king of Assyria I have heard. ²¹ This is the word that the Lord has spoken concerning him:

“She despises you, she scorns you—
the virgin daughter of Zion;
she wags her head behind you—
the daughter of Jerusalem.

²² “Whom have you mocked and reviled?
Against whom have you raised your voice
and lifted your eyes to the heights?
Against the Holy One of Israel!

²³ By your messengers you have mocked the Lord,
and you have said, ‘With my many chariots
I have gone up the heights of the mountains,
to the far recesses of Lebanon;
I felled its tallest cedars,
its choicest cypresses;
I entered its farthest lodging place,
its most fruitful forest.

²⁴ I dug wells
and drank foreign waters,
and I dried up with the sole of my foot
all the streams of Egypt.’

²⁵ “Have you not heard
that I determined it long ago?
I planned from days of old
what now I bring to pass,
that you should turn fortified cities
into heaps of ruins,

²⁶ while their inhabitants, shorn of strength,
are dismayed and confounded,
and have become like plants of the field
and like tender grass,
like grass on the housetops,
blighted before it is grown.

²⁷ “But I know your sitting down
and your going out and coming in,
and your raging against me.

²⁸ Because you have raged against me
and your complacency has come into my ears,
I will put my hook in your nose
and my bit in your mouth,
and I will turn you back on the way
by which you came.

²⁹ “And this shall be the sign for you: this year eat what grows of itself, and in the second year what springs of the same. Then in the third year sow and reap and plant vineyards, and eat their fruit. ³⁰ And the surviving remnant of the house of Judah shall again take root downward and bear fruit upward. ³¹ For out of Jerusalem shall go a remnant, and out of Mount Zion a band of survivors. The zeal of the Lord will do this.

³² “Therefore thus says the Lord concerning the king of Assyria: He shall not come into this city or shoot an arrow there, or come before it with a shield or cast up a siege mound against it. ³³ By the way that he came, by the same he shall return, and he shall not come into this city, declares the Lord. ³⁴ For I will defend this city to save it, for my own sake and for the sake of my servant David.”

³⁵ And that night the angel of the Lord went out and struck down 185,000 in the camp of the Assyrians. And when people arose early in the morning, behold, these were all dead bodies. ³⁶ Then Sennacherib king of Assyria departed and went home and lived at Nineveh. ³⁷ And as he was worshiping in the house of Nisroch his god, Adrammelech and Sharezer, his sons, struck him down with the sword and escaped into the land of Ararat. And Esarhaddon his son reigned in his place.

Bible Handling Workshop [Clarity] – 2 Kings 18-19

Reading 2 Kings 18:19-19:34

Repeated Words & Phrases [18:19-36]

Structure:

Who speaks when?

What are the Speeches Doing?

• 18:19-37 -		-	
• 19:1-4 -		-	
• 19:5-7 -		-	
• 19:8-13 -		-	
• 19:14-19 -		-	
• 19:20-34 -		-	

Are there any movements in the two cycles?

Detail:

How many different ways can you see that the Rabshekah attacks the people of Israel's faith in 18:19-37?

What is the big thrust of Isaiah's second speech in 19:20-34?

First Audience: Jews in Exile in Babylon...

What Statement: This sentence summarises What the Bible author has written in this passage of Scripture. The 'What?' sentence captures the central **truth** that the author is teaching in the passage expressed in 10-14 words. This sentence will be greatly enhanced by taking account of the immediate context as well as the context of the whole Bible book. This statement is always in the 'indicative' (it is a statement of fact). [This is sometimes called a *Theme* sentence.]

Who Am I?

Hezekiah is Jesus[ish]...

Hezekiah is an example for me...

Why Statement: This sentence summarises 'Why' the original author wrote these things for the original readers, and what he hoped would be the result of his writing. This sentence should be between 10-14 words and is always an imperative (a command). This sentence will be greatly strengthened by considering the context into which the author is writing. Not simply what is the author saying but also why is he saying it to these people, what is his purpose in telling them this. [This is sometimes called an *Aim* sentence.] An ideal Why sentence is written in a way that would be true for the original readers and for us.

2 Kings 20 – Time Stood Still but not Forever...

Sermon Lab – Jonah 1

1 Now the word of the Lord came to Jonah the son of Amittai, saying, **2** “Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it, for their evil has come up before me.” **3** But Jonah rose to flee to Tarshish from the presence of the Lord. He went down to Joppa and found a ship going to Tarshish. So he paid the fare and went down into it, to go with them to Tarshish, away from the presence of the Lord.

4 But the Lord hurled a great wind upon the sea, and there was a mighty tempest on the sea, so that the ship threatened to break up. **5** Then the mariners were afraid, and each cried out to his god. And they hurled the cargo that was in the ship into the sea to lighten it for them. But Jonah had gone down into the inner part of the ship and had lain down and was fast asleep. **6** So the captain came and said to him, “What do you mean, you sleeper? Arise, call out to your god! Perhaps the god will give a thought to us, that we may not perish.”

7 And they said to one another, “Come, let us cast lots, that we may know on whose account this evil has come upon us.” So they cast lots, and the lot fell on Jonah. **8** Then they said to him, “Tell us on whose account this evil has come upon us. What is your occupation? And where do you come from? What is your country? And of what people are you?” **9** And he said to them, “I am a Hebrew, and I fear the Lord, the God of heaven, who made the sea and the dry land.” **10** Then the men were exceedingly afraid and said to him, “What is this that you have done!” For the men knew that he was fleeing from the presence of the Lord, because he had told them.

11 Then they said to him, “What shall we do to you, that the sea may quiet down for us?” For the sea grew more and more tempestuous. **12** He said to them, “Pick me up and hurl me into the sea; then the sea will quiet down for you, for I know it is because of me that this great tempest has come upon you.” **13** Nevertheless, the men rowed hard to get back to dry land, but they could not, for the sea grew more and more tempestuous against them. **14** Therefore they called out to the Lord, “O Lord, let us not perish for this man's life, and lay not on us innocent blood, for you, O Lord, have done as it pleased you.” **15** So they picked up Jonah and hurled him into the sea, and the sea ceased from its raging. **16** Then the men feared the Lord exceedingly, and they offered a sacrifice to the Lord and made vows.

17 And the Lord appointed a great fish to swallow up Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

2 Kings 14 In the second year of Joash the son of Joahaz, king of Israel, Amaziah the son of Joash, king of Judah, began to reign. **2** He was twenty-five years old when he began to reign, and he reigned twenty-nine years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Jehoaddin of Jerusalem. **3** And he did what was right in the eyes of the Lord, yet not like David his father. He did in all things as Joash his father had done. **4** But the high places were not removed; the people still sacrificed and made offerings on the high places. **5** And as soon as the royal power was firmly in his hand, he struck down his servants who had struck down the king his father. **6** But he did not put to death the children of the murderers, according to what is written in the Book of the Law of Moses, where the Lord commanded, “Fathers shall not be put to death because of their children, nor shall children be put to death because of their fathers. But each one shall die for his own sin.”

7 He struck down ten thousand Edomites in the Valley of Salt and took Sela by storm, and called it Joktheel, which is its name to this day.

8 Then Amaziah sent messengers to Jehoash the son of Jehoahaz, son of Jehu, king of Israel, saying, “Come, let us look one another in the face.” **9** And Jehoash king of Israel sent word to Amaziah king of Judah, “A thistle on Lebanon sent to a cedar on Lebanon, saying, ‘Give your daughter to my son for a wife,’ and a wild beast of Lebanon passed by and trampled down the thistle. **10** You have indeed struck down Edom, and your heart has lifted you up. Be content with your glory, and stay at home, for why should you provoke trouble so that you fall, you and Judah with you?”

11 But Amaziah would not listen. So Jehoash king of Israel went up, and he and Amaziah king of Judah faced one another in battle at Beth-shemesh, which belongs to Judah. **12** And Judah was defeated by Israel, and every man fled to his home. **13** And Jehoash king of Israel captured Amaziah king of Judah, the son of Jehoash, son of Ahaziah, at Beth-shemesh, and came to Jerusalem and broke down the wall of Jerusalem for four hundred cubits, from the Ephraim Gate to the Corner Gate. **14** And he seized all the gold and silver, and all the vessels that were found in the house of the Lord and in the treasuries of the king's house, also hostages, and he returned to Samaria.

15 Now the rest of the acts of Jehoash that he did, and his might, and how he fought with Amaziah king of Judah, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Israel? **16** And Jehoash slept with his fathers and was buried in Samaria with the kings of Israel, and Jeroboam his son reigned in his place.

17 Amaziah the son of Joash, king of Judah, lived fifteen years after the death of Jehoash son of Jehoahaz, king of Israel. **18** Now the rest of the deeds of Amaziah, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Judah? **19** And they made a conspiracy against him in Jerusalem, and he fled to Lachish. But they sent after him to Lachish and put him to death there. **20** And they brought him on horses; and he was buried in Jerusalem with his fathers in the city of David. **21** And all the people of Judah took Azariah, who was sixteen years old, and made him king instead of his father Amaziah. **22** He built Elath and restored it to Judah, after the king slept with his fathers.

²³ In the fifteenth year of Amaziah the son of Joash, king of Judah, Jeroboam the son of Joash, king of Israel, began to reign in Samaria, and he reigned forty-one years. ²⁴ And he did what was evil in the sight of the Lord. He did not depart from all the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, which he made Israel to sin. ²⁵ He restored the border of Israel from Lebo-hamath as far as the Sea of the Arabah, according to the word of the Lord, the God of Israel, which he spoke by his servant Jonah the son of Amittai, the prophet, who was from Gath-hepher. ²⁶ For the Lord saw that the affliction of Israel was very bitter, for there was none left, bond or free, and there was none to help Israel. ²⁷ But the Lord had not said that he would blot

out the name of Israel from under heaven, so he saved them by the hand of Jeroboam the son of Joash.

²⁸ Now the rest of the acts of Jeroboam and all that he did, and his might, how he fought, and how he restored Damascus and Hamath to Judah in Israel, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Israel?²⁹ And Jeroboam slept with his fathers, the kings of Israel, and Zechariah his son reigned in his place.

Notes