

ELIJAH AND ELISHA

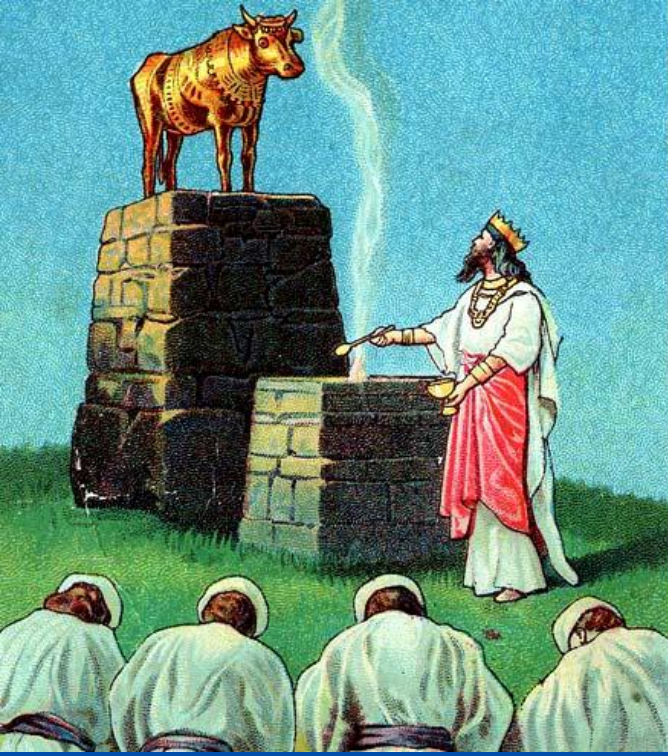
1 KGS. 17-21;
2 KGS. 1:1-4; 2:1-25; 4-9; 13:14-21

- City
- City (uncertain location)
- ▲ Mountain peak
- ← Possible flight of Elijah
- ← Elisha follows Elijah and becomes his disciple



- Elijah operated in the north
- Elisha operated mostly in the north, but also in the south
- Elisha's spiritual gifts went even further than Elijahu's
- Elijah and Elisha were counterbalances
- Prophet Guilds represent a kind of replacement "priesthood"
- These common prophets kept the Word of God alive in the land

THE CHOICE OF IGNORANCE



- Starting with Jeroboam, the people of the north were barred from going to the Temple
- Leaders who clung to YHWH were targets for extermination
- Layman were seen as non-conformists
- God used the prophet guilds to teach His Word to the people, so that they had a choice
- Ignorance would not be an excuse when divine judgment came
- In modern times, Christianity is seen as an obstacle to peace
- Faithful followers are seen as unintelligent bigots with phobias

IGNORANCE



IS BLISS

ELISHA IS DEVASTATED

- Elisha tells Haza'el that Ben-Hadad will not die of his illness, but will die of another cause
- Elisha becomes speechless and starts to cry
- Elisha upbraided Israel's kings, but loved the Hebrew people
- But what he was about to do would bring killing, pillaging, and oppression upon his own people



ELISHA PREDICTS THAT HAZA'EL WILL MURDER MANY HEBREWS

Who
Me?

- Haza'el feigns innocence
- Elisha knew what would happen as a result of his anointing of Haza'el
- 1st Kings 19:15 – 17
- Later, King Yehu of Judah will also kill Hebrews
- It is even predicted that ELISHA will put Hebrews to death!

HALLELUYAH???

REALLY???

- Why are Christians often so joyous as we hear sermons about the End Times?
- When Christ returns, it sets off the war to end all wars and time of worldwide horrors
- Mt. of Olives splits in a devastating earthquake
- Would Hertzl have so worked so hard if he knew that the Nazi death camps would be part of the road back to a Jewish Homeland?
- Elisha did not look happily heavenward, he wept and despaired at what was coming even though it was God's will

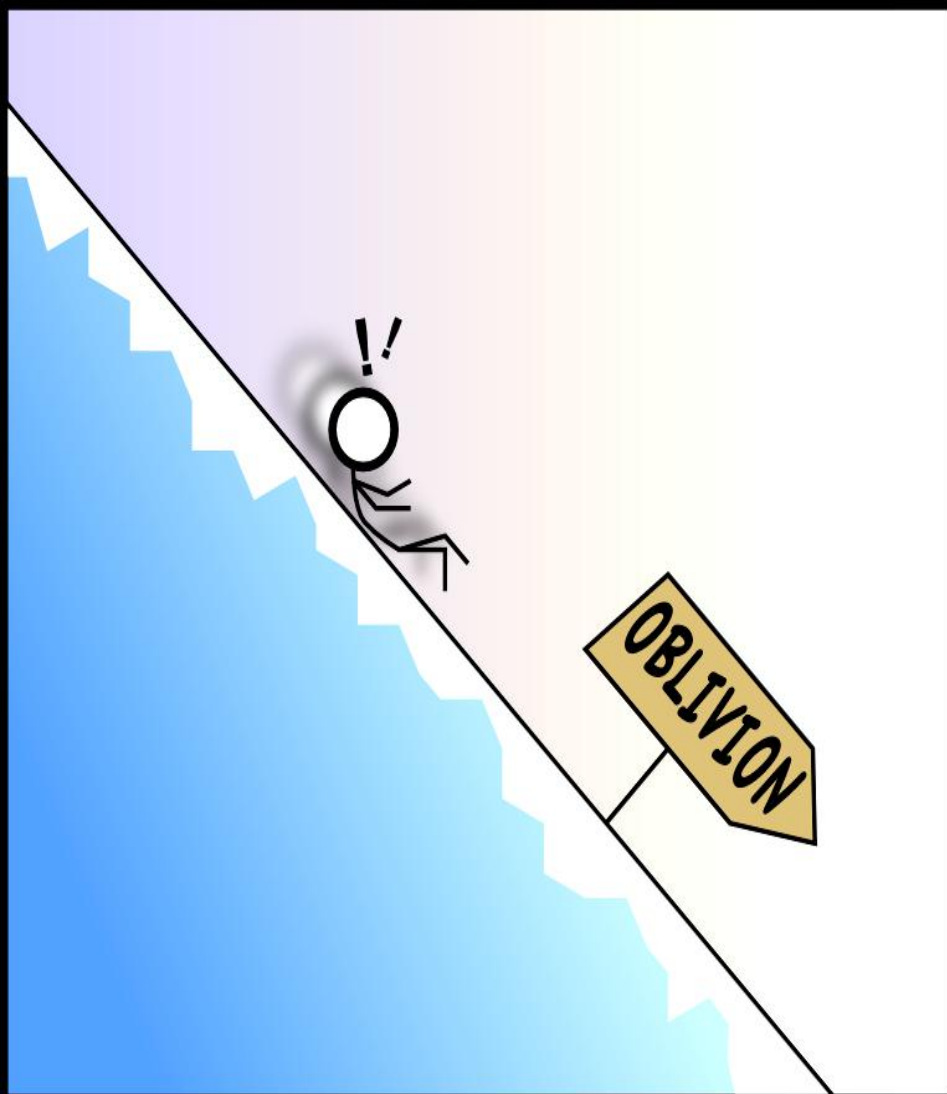


THE UNHOLY INTERMARRIAGE OF THE TWO MONARCHIES

- Haza'el returns to Aram and murders Ben-Hadad, becomes King of Syria
- Names of the kings becomes confusing
- *Y'horam* a King of Judah, another *Y'horam* King of Israel...at the same time!
- Daughter of *Achav* and Jezebel was Athalia
- King of Judah married Athalia



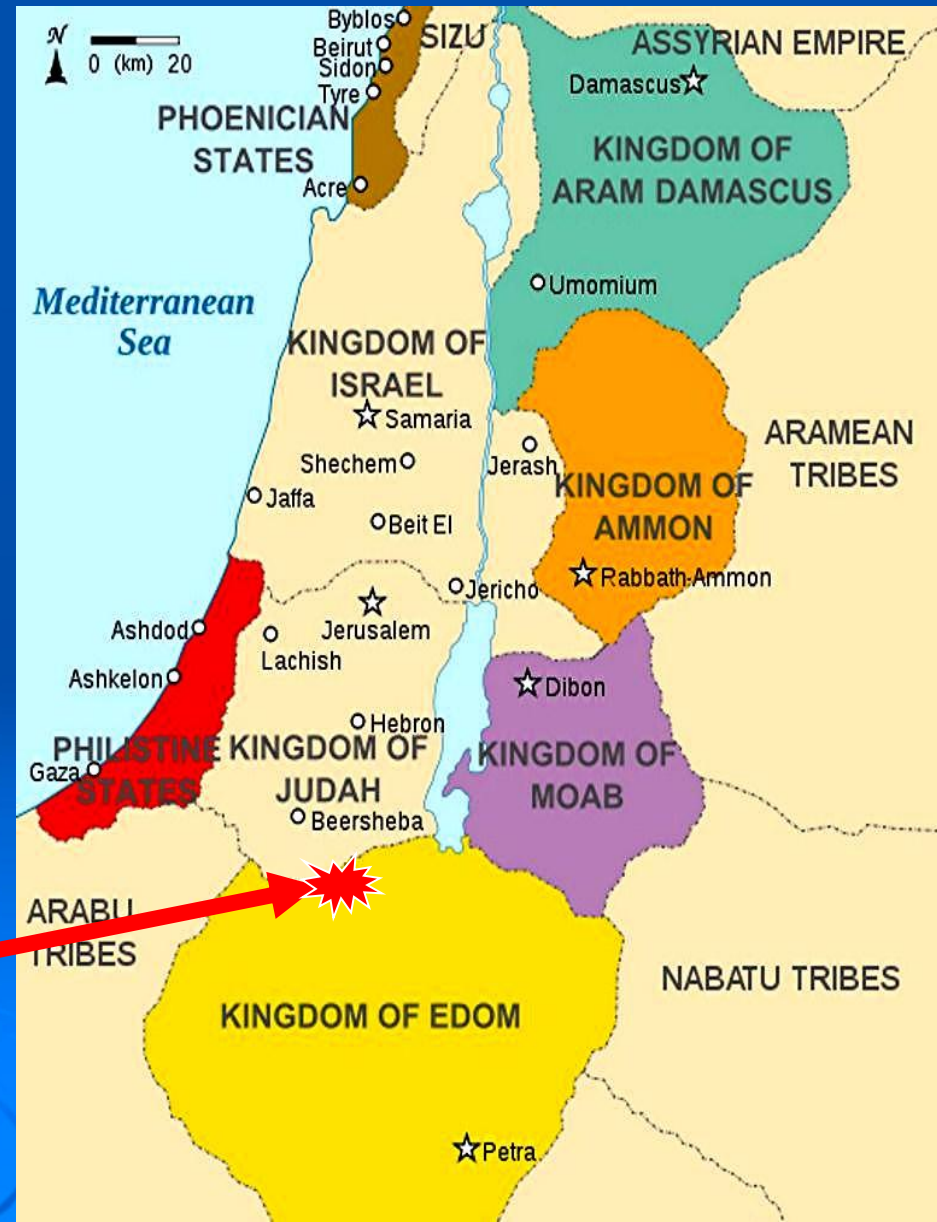
JUDAH STEPS ONTO THE SLIPPERY SLOPE TO EVIL



- The ONLY reason God didn't judge Judah was for King David's sake
- 2Chronicles 21:1 - 7
- King Y'horam of Judah immediately killed his brothers to possess their inheritance
- King of Judah mixed the religion of Judah with pragmatic politics by marrying Athalia

THE REBELLION OF EDMOM

- God punished Judah by the rebellion of Edom
- It was NOT the King of Israel who attacked Edom
- Judah's army attacked Edom, became surrounded, and the non-professional militia ran for home
- *Livnah* an Edomite border city also rebelled



THE SOURCE OF THE EVIL? JEZEBEL AND ATHALIA



- 2 Chronicles 21: 8 – end
- *Achazyah* replaced his father *Y'horam*
- He reigned only 1 year
- Died an agonizing death
- 2nd Kings pinpoints Jezebel and her daughter Athalia as the source of the spirit of evil
- King Achazyah of Judah related by blood to the northern kingdom dynasty of *Achav* and *Omri*

GOD'S PATTERNS ARE HIS CHIEF GOVERNING DYNAMIC

- The 2 Kingdoms of Judah and Ephraim/Israel became closely aligned, because the kings were related by blood
- In a joint war effort they tried to retake the city of Ramoth-Gilead in the Trans-Jordan
- King *Y'horam* of Israel was wounded and went to his Jezreel palace to recover
- 14 years earlier, *Achazyah's* grandfather Jehoshaphat united with the King of Israel to fight to regain Ramoth-Gilead
- The King of Israel was killed in the process, and the pattern would repeat

