

# THE

# CHALLENGE OF 2<sup>ND</sup> KINGS

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 14 & 15 are a turning point in Redemption history
- Following progress of kings and prophets by name requires a study aid
- It's the overall picture that we must focus on, not names



# DOES THE BOOK OF KINGS MATTER?

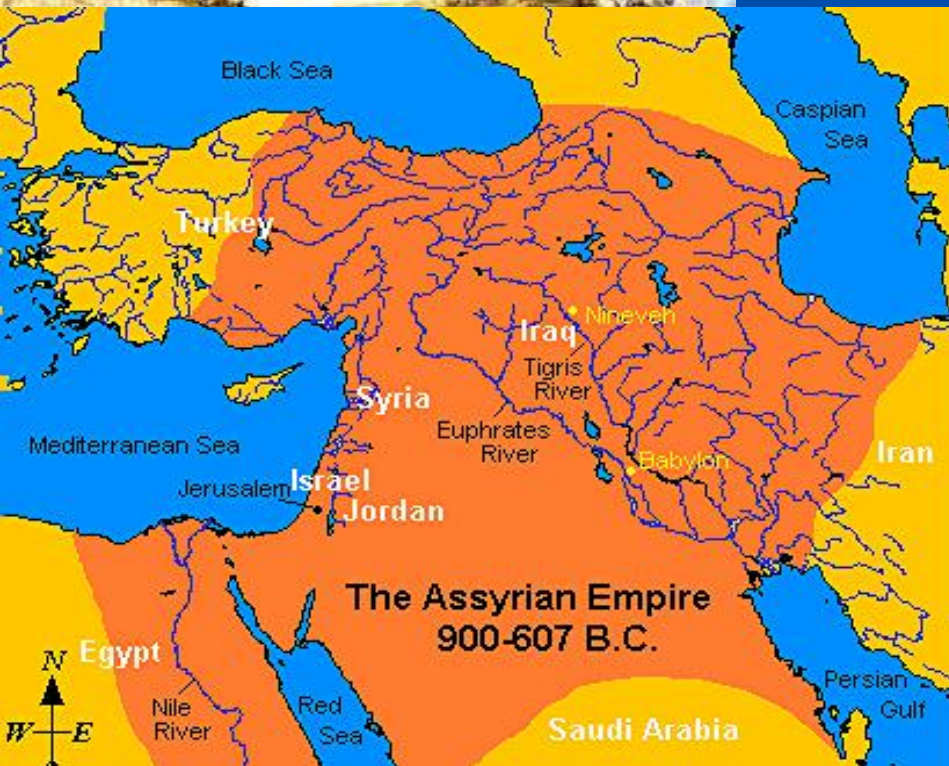
- Alfred Edersheim, father of Hebrew Roots perspective
- *“.....without the Old Testament, the New Testament would have no historical basis....”*
- Without the OT, Jesus the man, His mission and purpose cannot be understood
- European Jesus
- Hebrew Scriptures are the **ONLY** source of prophecies about the Messiah !!



# FROM SLIDE TO FREE FALL



- The governance of the kings reflects the chaos of Israel and Judah
- In Chapter 15, 7 kings are discussed
- Each new king typically murdered his predecessor
- Assyria redefined the meaning of “Empire”
- Sought to dominate the entire known world
- Egypt, Israel and Judah were part of Assyrian aspirations



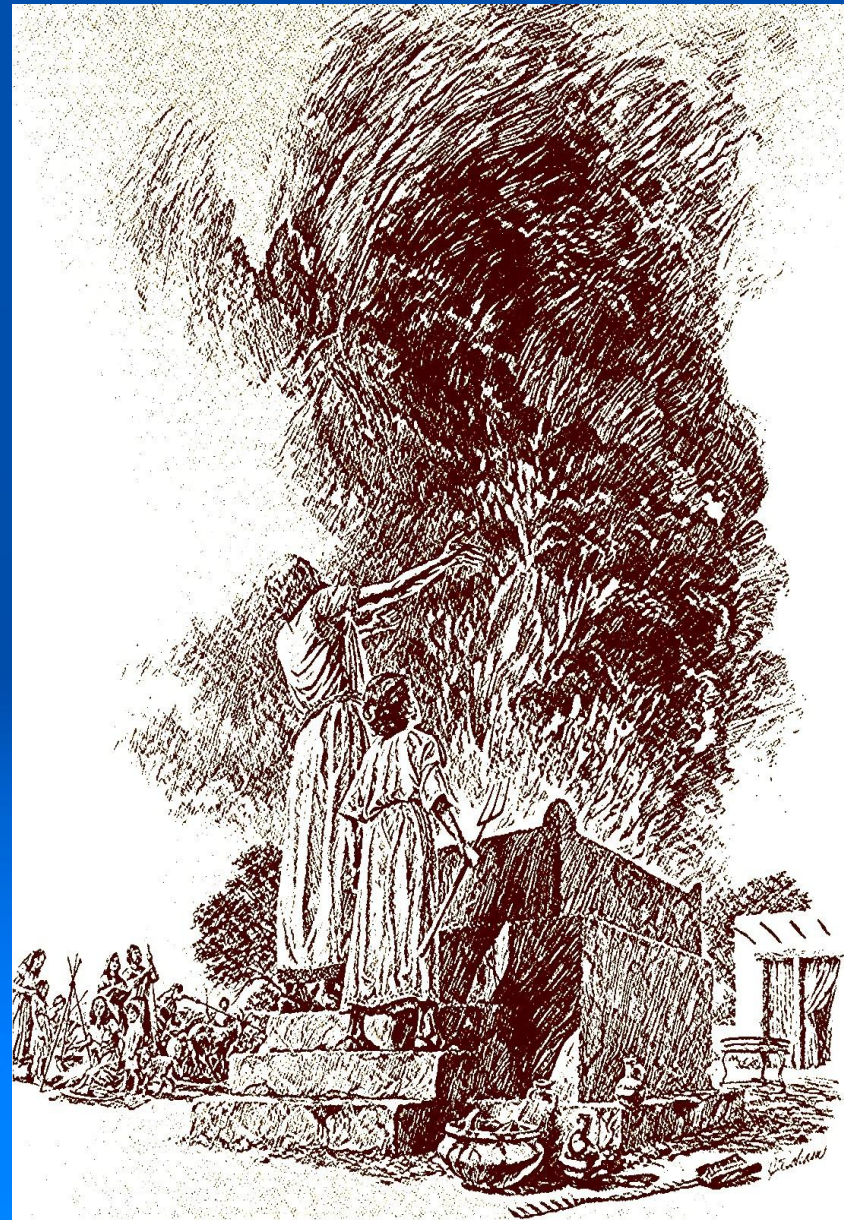
# TRANSFORMATION OF PROPHECY



- Up to now, the prophets were only mentioned in relation to their kings, and only with a few words (Natan, Elijah, Elisha, etc.)
- NOW.....prophets have their own Bible books
- They warn the people, explain why God has retracted His hand of blessing, tell them what to do now that judgment has come, and predict a better future
- All the prophecies concerning Messiah and the End Times were written during the era of the Kings

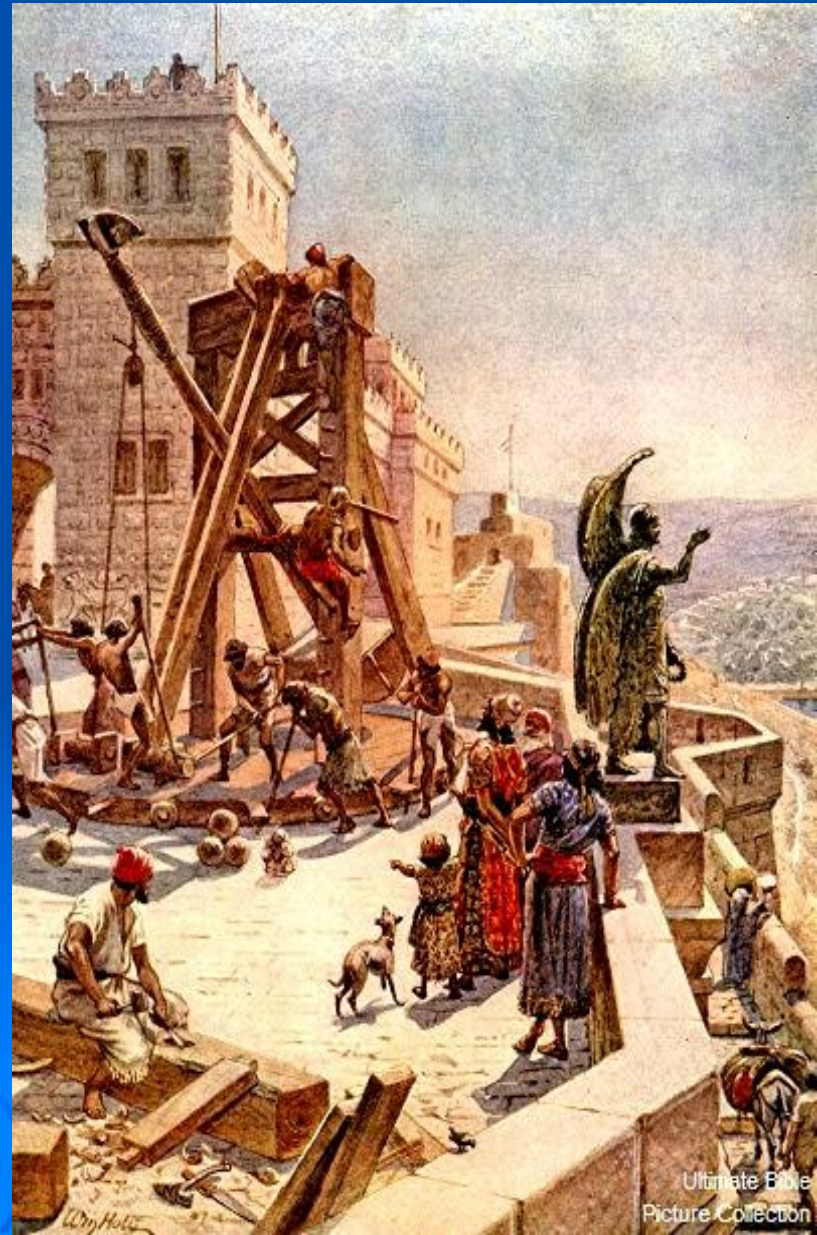
# THE ONGOING ISSUE OF *BAMOT*

- *Bamot* = high places
- King *Amatzyah* and his son *Azaryah* (aka *Uziah*) were co-regents for several years
- *Azaryah* ruled from 785 to 733 B.C.
- The use of *bamot* was so ingrained in Hebrew culture that it became sacrosanct
- The use of high places was **WRONG** in God's eyes
- God does **NOT** punish our every sin in this life; but they are not overlooked or forgotten



# UZZIAH A MOSTLY RIGHTEOUS KING

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 15 reports no special deeds of *Azaryah (Uziah's)* reign
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Chron.26: 1-15 tells us more about *Uziah*
- *Uziah* = God is my strength
- *Uzياهو* = YHWH is my strength
- He consulted God as long as his advisor *Z'karyahu* lived
- He defeated the Philistines, the Arabs and Ammon
- He built up a strong army and large well trained militia
- He designed and improved Jerusalem's defenses



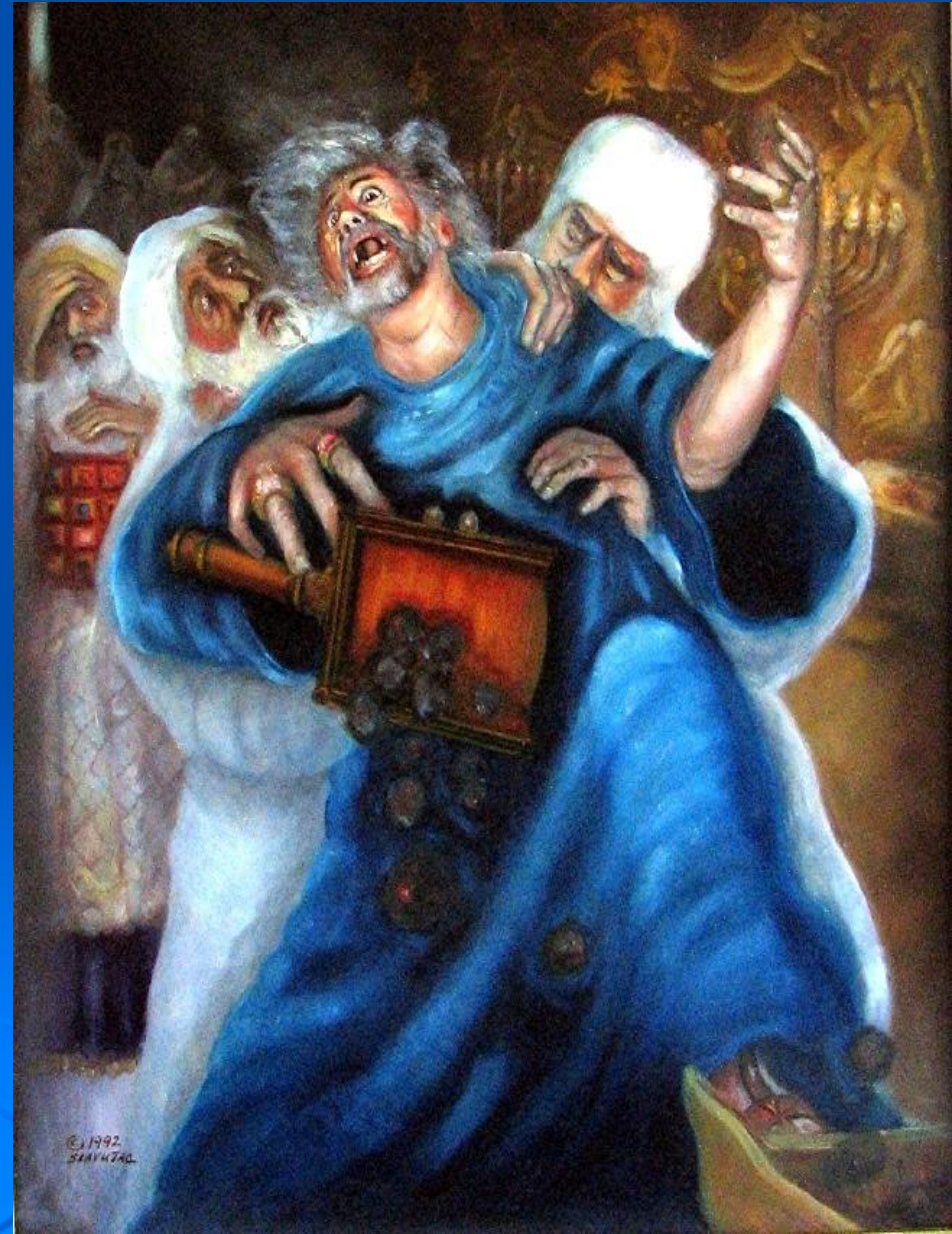
# THE FALL OF *UZIYAH*



- After Zechariah died, *Uziah* lost his way
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Chron.26:16 – end
- *Uziah* a good example of fallen pastors, teacher, politicians
- God-blessed accomplishments give way to pride and arrogance
- *Uziah* did NOT think “*Now I shall do something wrong and evil!*”
- He had good intentions, he wanted to do something highly spiritual, pious, and righteous

# GOD GIVES *UZIYAH TZARA'AT*

- No one but priests may enter the Temple sanctuary
- The High Priest confronted the king and the king became livid
- Instantly *Tzara'at* broke out on the king's forehead
- The priests physically tossed the king from the Temple
- The king would now be separated from everyone else for the rest of his life
- He could not atone at the Temple, and died an unclean sinner





# ISRAEL CONTINUES TO DETERIORATE



- *Uziah's* son *Yotam* became co-regent with his father
- *Uziah* not allowed to be buried in the royal burial caves
- Jeroboam II, King of Israel, replaced by his son Zechariah
- Zechariah murdered in 6 months by *Shallum*

# HOSHEA PROPHECIES OF ISRAEL'S UNFAITHFULNESS AND DOOM

- During the era we're studying, Hoshea and Amos were active
- Hoshea 4 & 5
- Context is the northern kingdom at the time of Zechariah
- The *cohanim* (priests) are referring to the Levite priests who lead the Golden Calf cult
- Ephraim = Israel (northern)
- God accuses Israel of consorting with foreigners and their gods
- He pronounces judgment: EXILE !

