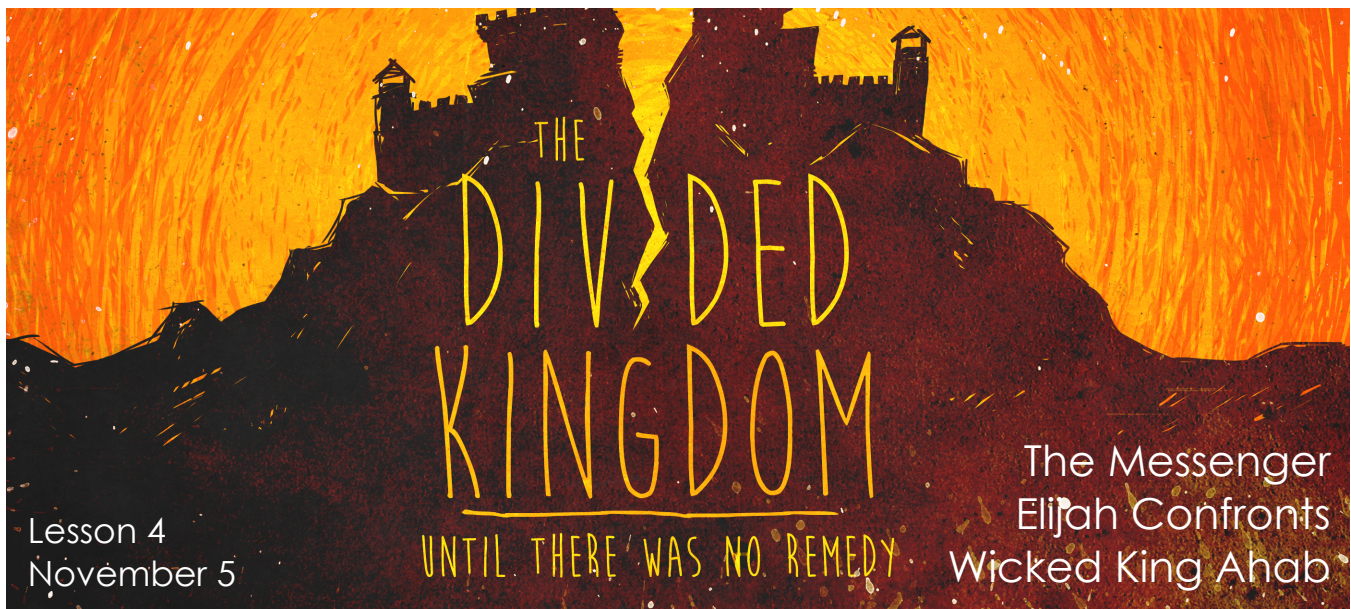




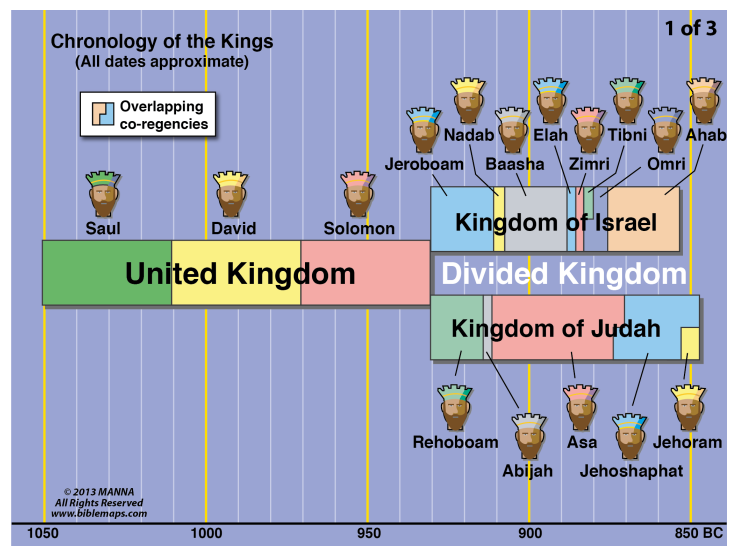
In **1 Kings 16** our narrator walking us through the history of the divided kingdom slows down and spends several chapters focusing on the reign of **Ahab**, king of Israel.

In the thirty-eighth year of Asa king of Judah, Ahab the son of Omri began to reign over Israel, and Ahab the son of Omri

reigned over Israel in Samaria twenty-two years. And Ahab the son of Omri did _____ in the sight of the LORD, more than _____ who were before him. And as if it had been a light thing for him to walk in the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, he took for his wife _____ the daughter of Ethbaal king of the Sidonians, and went and served Baal and worshiped him. He erected an _____ for Baal in the house of

Baal, which he built in Samaria. And Ahab made an Asherah. Ahab did _____ to provoke the LORD, the God of Israel, to anger than all the kings of Israel who were before him. (**16:29-33**)

We've referenced **2 Chronicles 36:15-16** several times in this study. It describes the LORD sending messengers to warn his people. **1 Kings 17** introduces us to one of the first and most famous.



Now _____ the Tishbite, of Tishbe in Gilead, said to Ahab, "As the LORD, the God of Israel, lives, before whom I stand, there shall be neither dew nor rain these _____, except by my word." (17:1)

When it doesn't rain for a very long time, life on the earth gets really tough. Droughts and famines are very challenging things to live through. So why would the LORD do this sort of thing?

What things happened in 1 Kings 17 that proved Elijah was a messenger from the LORD?

The LORD had made a promise, and he kept his promise.

After many days the word of the LORD came to Elijah, in the _____ year, saying, "Go, show yourself to Ahab, and I will send rain upon the earth." So Elijah went to show himself to Ahab. Now the _____ was severe in Samaria. (18:1-2)

Listen carefully to 1 Kings 18:17-18:

When Ahab saw Elijah, Ahab said to him, "Is it you, you _____ of Israel?" And he answered, "I have not troubled Israel, but you have, and your father's house, because you have _____ the commandments of the LORD and followed the Baals."

What do you think? Do people still talk or act like that today? Do those who have abandoned the commandments of the LORD sometimes look at those who are walking with the LORD as the real "troublers"? What should we do or say when that happens?

In 1 Kings 18:19, Elijah calls for a showdown with the prophets of Baal and Asherah on Mount Carmel. As a class, let's spend some time talking about what happened next, through the end of 1 Kings 18.

✿ What do we learn about Baal?

✿ What do we learn about the LORD?



What have you seen and heard in 1 Kings 16-18 that makes you appreciate Jesus our King even more?

What should we learn from this chapter in Israel's history?