

Crummy Kings, Coups, and Breaking Cycles
II Kings 15:8-38



“Think *generationally* in your life. How you live today and the kind of relationship you have with God can affect your descendants for generations to come and make their lives better!” --Greg Thomas, Christian Counselor

A cycle repeated—five crummy kings continue an evil pattern (8-31)

- ◆ Repeated ref. (4x) is made to Jeroboam’s “original sin” in I Kgs. 12:27ff.
- ◆ Coups create instability and brief reigns which undermine earlier success of Jeroboam II; Menahem now even appeals to Assyria for stability.
- ◆ Pekahiah is no doubt assassinated in part for his continued pro-Assyrian foreign policy, as Pekah is anti-Assyrian—which is a vain strategy now.
- ◆ According to Assyrian annals Hoshea was a puppet ruler till 17:4.
- ◆ Recall phrase (“... made Israel sin”). We, as these kings, can do this!

A cycle broken—one alert king avoids a pattern of tragedy (32-38)

- ◆ Recall Jotham follows three good kings who all tragically fell.
- ◆ See II Chron. 27:1-7 for some specifics of his reign. Like his dad, he “did right” and was successful in building, warfare, getting tribute, etc., but he made sure to avoid dad’s big mistake with incense!
- ◆ Jotham’s legacy = he became mighty because of continued obedience and finished well—nice to read for a change!!!

What family patterns does your family have? Any need to be broken?