

Week 9: The Divided Monarchy

“Thus says the Lord, God of Israel, ‘Behold, I am about to tear the kingdom from the hand of Solomon and will give you ten tribes.’”

1 Kings 11:31



No sooner has Solomon died than is his glorious kingdom rifted inseparably into two, launching what has been deemed the years of the “divided monarchy.” The nation of Israel, united for so long, fractured into two independent states: Israel and Judah. Assaulted by external foes and tugged back and forth between warring kings, Israel and Judah are battered by war, internal conflict, and rampant paganism. Meanwhile, however, a far greater threat festers beyond their borders: the burgeoning empires of Assyria and Babylon. And it’s only a matter of time before their armies arrive in the land of the Israelites, who will be powerless to stop them.

Readings:

- 1 Kings 11-12, 14-18, 2 Kings 9-11, 22-23

History of the Old Testament Era

