

## Bible Overview 4: The failure of Israel

Promises fulfilled?

“Praise be to the LORD, who has given rest to his people Israel just as he promised. Not one word has failed of all the good promises he gave through his servant Moses.” (1 Kings 8:56)

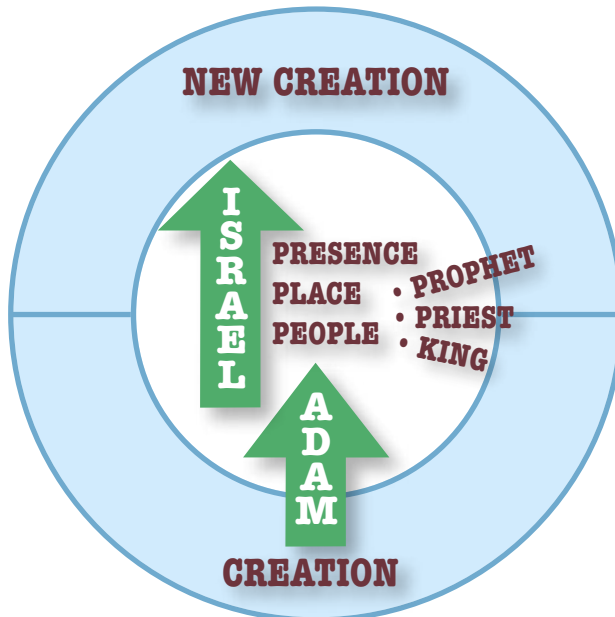


Diagram 7

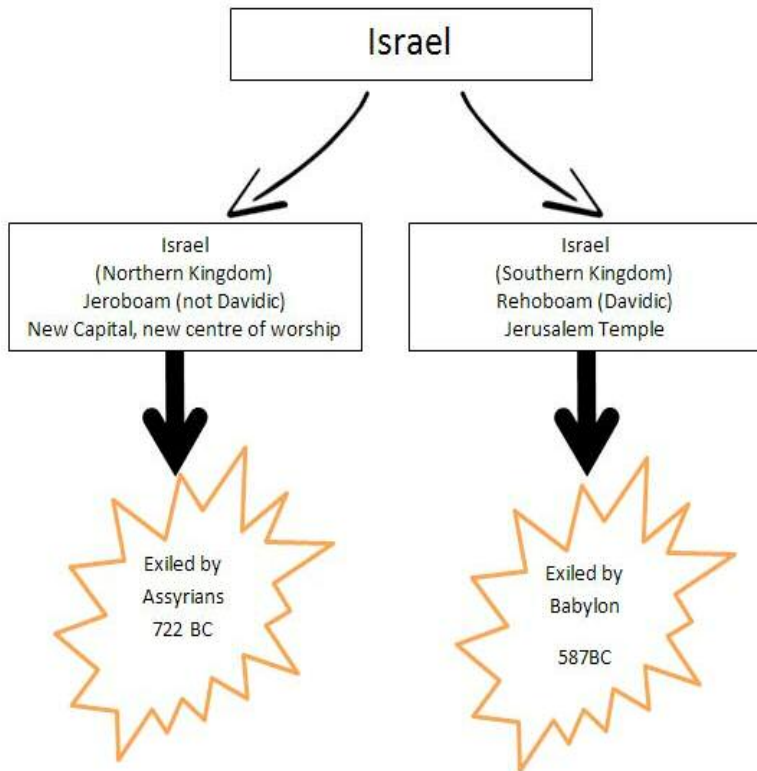
### The failure of Israel: What goes wrong?

1 Kings 11:1-4 “Aaaargh!!!”

1 Kings 11-12 A divided Kingdom.

Israel – the 10 northern tribes. Capital in Samaria.

Judah – the 2 southern tribes (Judah and Benjamin). Capital in Jerusalem. The line of Promise.



### **The Northern Kingdom.**

A disaster from the start. The sin of Jeroboam son of Nebat.

The warnings of the prophets (eg Elijah, Elisha, Amos and Hosea). The people refuse to listen.

722 BC. Assyrian Exile (2 Kings 17)

### **The Southern Kingdom**

Better than the north with some good kings. But most of the kings rebel.

The warnings of the prophets (eg Jeremiah). The people refuse to listen.

587 BC. Babylonian Exile (2 Kings 25)

## What's happened to the three P's?

People - lost

Place – lost

Presence - lost

**Tragedy:** Knowledge of God is rejected for that of idols. So God is not known among the nations and people do not come to know God.

**2 Kings 25 – back to square one.**

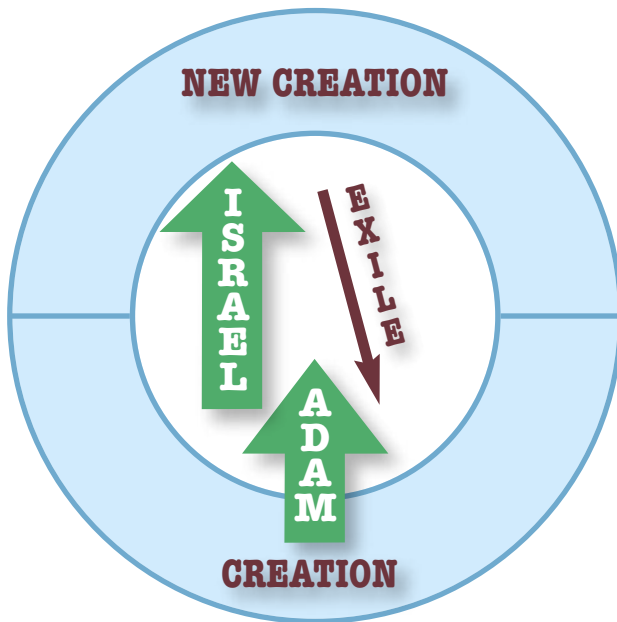


Diagram 8

**Question:** What about God's promise to Abraham (Gen. 12) and to David (2 Samuel 7). Has He failed to keep it?

## **Question: Why have a prototype?**

So that we can see what God is like

So that we see the heart of the problem

So that we know we cannot fix the problem

So that we appreciate the solution.

## **And that's what the prophets begin to speak about!**

The prophets not only warn of judgment to come but hold out the hope of salvation. They speak not only of the failure of Israel but of a future for Israel.

*'I will surely gather all of you, Jacob;*

*I will surely bring together the remnant of Israel.*

*I will bring them together like sheep in a sheepfold,*

*like a flock in its pasture;*

*the place will throng with people.*

<sup>13</sup> *The One who breaks open the way will go up before them;*

*they will break through the gate and go out.*

*Their King will pass through before them,*

*the LORD at their head.'* (Micah 2:12-13)