

Appendix 2C, I

Introduction to the Period of the Kings

The texts do not define a territorial border between the Judah and Israel kingdoms. *Very generally*, the border is taken to have run through the original Benjamin allotment more or less parallel with the old Ephraim line. The South's capital remained at Jerusalem throughout the period. Northern kings ruled first out of Shechem, next from Tirzah, and then Samaria City--all as noted in Appendix 2C, IV ("Through the 'Period of the Kings,' Narrative"). Considerable detail is consolidated in appendices 2C, II ("Table of Kings") and 2C, III ("Parentages of Kings"), to unencumber the narrative.

Appendix 2C, II summarizes progression of tenures, derivable only by cross-referencing the tandem text format, which gives the first year of each king in each kingdom in a given year of the king in the other. Uncertainty also remains in sequencing many period events, mainly due to disparate distribution of material between *Kings* and *Chronicles*. (Items that prohibit exacting the precise length of the period are discussed in 2C, II, and uncertain sequences are noted in the Narrative. Appendix 2D, "Calendar Year Comparison Timeline," compares three calendaring sources.)

Certain names identically borne by kings of both Israel and Judah pose some confusion. They are:

- a) Kings *Jehoram/Joram*,¹ name of two kings--south king #5 and north king #9--whose terms overlapped some seven to eight years. The second spelling of the name is taken to be a shortened form; each form variously is found used for each king.² To avoid confusion in this work, these two kings uniformly are referred to as Jehoram-S and Jehoram-N.
- b) Kings *Jehoash/Joash*,³ south #8 and north #12. Here the "short" form, *Joash*, predominantly is found used for both in the Hebrew script but frequently rendered *Jehoash*, both interlineally and at the margin.⁴ Again for clarity, these two kings uniformly are referred to in this appendix as Joash-S and Joash-N.⁵

¹ *Heb.*: "Jehoram" = *yowd, he, vav, reysh, mem*; "Joram" = *yowd, vav, reysh, mem*, where the latter generally has been accepted as a "short" form of the name. One other use of "Jehoram" is as a priest-teacher under King Jehoshaphat, *2 Chronicles* 17:7-9. Other Jorams: (a) Joram/ Hadoram, son of King Toi of Hamath; sent by his father as an ambassador to king David; *2 Samuel* 8:10; *1 Chronicles* 18:10; (b) (Moses-Gershom-Shebuel-) Joram, *1 Chronicles* 26:24-25.]

² *2 Kings* 8 of the interlinear text used in this work is the prime example. Verse 16 gives "Joram" in both Hebrew and interlineally for north king #9 but is rendered "Jehoram" at the margin. Verses 17 and 25 give "Jehoram" across the board for south king #5; yet at verses 20, 23, 24 and 25 he appears as "Joram" in the Hebrew and interlineally, but "Jehoram" at the margin.

³ *Heb.*: "Jehoash" = *yowd, he, vav, aleph, shiyn*; "Joash" = *yowd, vav, aleph, shiyn*, where the latter generally has been accepted also as a "short" form. [A second shorter spelling--*yowd, vav, ayin, shiyn*--occurs only once, as (Benjamin-Becher-) *Joash* at *1 Chronicles* 7:6, 8.]

⁴ *2 Kings* 13 here being the prime example. North king #12's name at 13:10 is given across the board as "Jehoash;" yet in the immediately preceding (:9) and subsequent (:12, 13 and 14) verses the name appears as "Joash" in Hebrew and interlineally, but with "Jehoash" supplied at the margin. Other uses of *Joash*, Appendix 2C, III, fn. 18.

- (c) The identical name *Jehoahaz* for king north #11 and *Jehoahaz* south #17 (also given as *Shallum*) generally creates no problem, since their terms were widely separate. However, in keeping with the format established, they are referred to in this appendix as Jehoahaz-N and Jehoahaz-S.⁶
- (d) Kings *Ahaziah*--north #8 and south #6--are referred to in this appendix as Ahaziah-N and Ahaziah-S.⁷

⁵ As a side note, per the given timeframe it appears impossible that the *Joash* at *2 Chronicles* 18:25 and *1 Kings* 22:26--referred to as "son of the king," when Ahab ordered imprisonment of the prophet Michaiah--could have been either of these individuals.

⁶ (a) There exists a .63-inch red jasper seal of unknown provenance, "incised with a fighting cock surmounted by two registers containing Hebrew letters of the last half of the seventh century B.C.E. and reading, 'Belonging to Jehoahaz / son of the king.' McCarter, p. 144. See page 509, *Jaazaniah*, for a second seal bearing the same emblem. (b) *Jehoahaz*/Shallum, south king #17 (refer to Appendices 2C, II, fn. 7; 2C, III, at fn. 69; and 2C, VII, fn. 7), while *Jehoash* is another form given (e.g. at *2 Kings* 14:1 and *2 Chronicles* 36:2). (c) "Jehoahaz" also is encountered once as seemingly an alternate rendition of *Ahaziah*, south king #6--see next footnote.

⁷ *2 Chronicles* 21:17 shows "Jehoahaz" as south king #6's name; it may be that this "alternate spelling...simply transposes the divine name (Jah) to serve as prefix instead of suffix." *Aid*, p. 877.