

Lesson 12 – Hoshea & the Fall of Israel

2 Kings 17

1. How did Hoshea become king? How long did he reign? (2 Kings 15:30; 17:1)
2. How had the Assyrians been involved in Israel in the years leading up to Hoshea's reign? (2 Kings 15:19-20, 29; 17:3-4)
3. Although Hoshea initially submitted to Shalmaneser, what action angered Shalmaneser, leading to an attack on Samaria? (2 Kings 17:4)
4. How long did the siege of Samaria last? What conditions would this have created in the capital? (2 Kings 17:5; Deut. 28:52-57; 2 Kings 6:24-29; 18:27)
5. What did the king of Assyria do with the captives? (2 Kings 17:6)
6. List a few of the sins which led to Israel's demise. (2 Kings 17:7-18)
7. "The LORD removed Israel out of his sight, as he had spoken by all his servants the prophets" (2 Kings 17:23). Locate at least one of these prophecies.
8. The Assyrian king received reports concerning "the god of the ____." How did pagan nations view Yahweh [Jehovah]? (2 Kings 17:26)
9. What was the Assyrian kings' solution to the divine punishment in Samaria? What was the result? (2 Kings 17:27-33, 41)

Lesson 12 – Hoshea & the Fall of Israel

10. What was the new ethnically and religiously mixed population of Israel called?
(2 Kings 17:29; John 4:9)
11. Looking ahead, what was the relationship between the Jews (people of Judah) and Samaritans? (Ezra 4; Neh. 4; John 4:9; 8:48)
12. Who was reigning in Judah when Samaria fell? (2 Kings 18:9-12)
13. What is said about Judah in the record of Israel's fall? (2 Kings 17:18-20)
14. Using a Bible timeline or other resources, calculate about how many years Israel continued in the sins Jeroboam had introduced? (2 Kings 17:21-23)

Notes:

Shalmaneser V initiated the siege of Samaria, but he died, and his successor, Sargon II, completed it. Sargon is named in the Bible only in Isaiah 20:1, where his conquest of Ashdod, about ten years after Samaria, is recorded.

According to Assyrian records, 27,290 people were exiled when Samaria fell. The Assyrian artifacts detailing Sargon's conquest of Samaria are the Khorsabad Cylinder and the Nimrud Prism.

The timeline of 2 Kings 17:24-41 is debated. One view is that this described the initial deportation in 721 BC by Sargon II (2 Kings 18:11). Another is that it described Esarhaddon's resettlement c. 680-670 BC (Ezra 4:2), which some think fulfilled Isaiah's prophecy concerning the complete destruction of Israel (Isa. 7:8).