



# **ELIJAH & ELISHA**

## **Lessons In Faith**



**LESSON 1**  
**INTRODUCTION**

# TIMELINE OF THE OLD TESTAMENT

Adam  
Noah  
Abraham  
Isaac  
Jacob & Esau  
Job  
Joseph

Moses  
Joshua, Judges, Ruth  
Samuel  
United Kingdom: Saul, David, Solomon  
The Kingdom Divided

**Mosaical  
Age**

**Elijah & Elisha**

Jonah

Northern Kingdom/Israel taken into Assyrian Captivity  
Southern Kingdom/Judah taken into Babylonian Captivity  
Daniel & Ezekiel in Babylon

Persia takes Babylon – becomes world power  
Return to Canaan begins – rebuilding of the temple / Ezra  
Esther Persian Queen

More Jews return – rebuilding of the wall / Nehemiah

Notice the  
chronological  
placement of  
these lessons  
about Elijah &  
Elisha

# TIMELINE OF THE OLD TESTAMENT

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**Samuel**

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**Mosaical  
Age**

During the days  
of Samuel the  
Israelites  
desired a king.

After the first  
three kings the  
kingdom  
divided.

# The United Kingdom

**The kingdom lasted 120 years before dividing**

Saul reigned 40 years (Acts 13:21)

David reigned 40 years (2 Sam. 5:4)

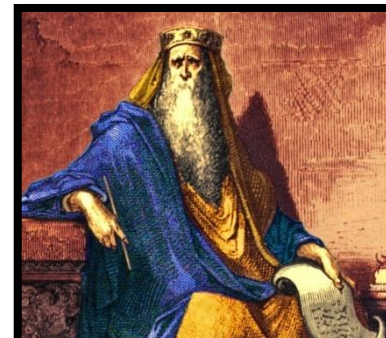
Solomon reigned 40 years (1 Kings 11:42)



**SAUL**



**DAVID**

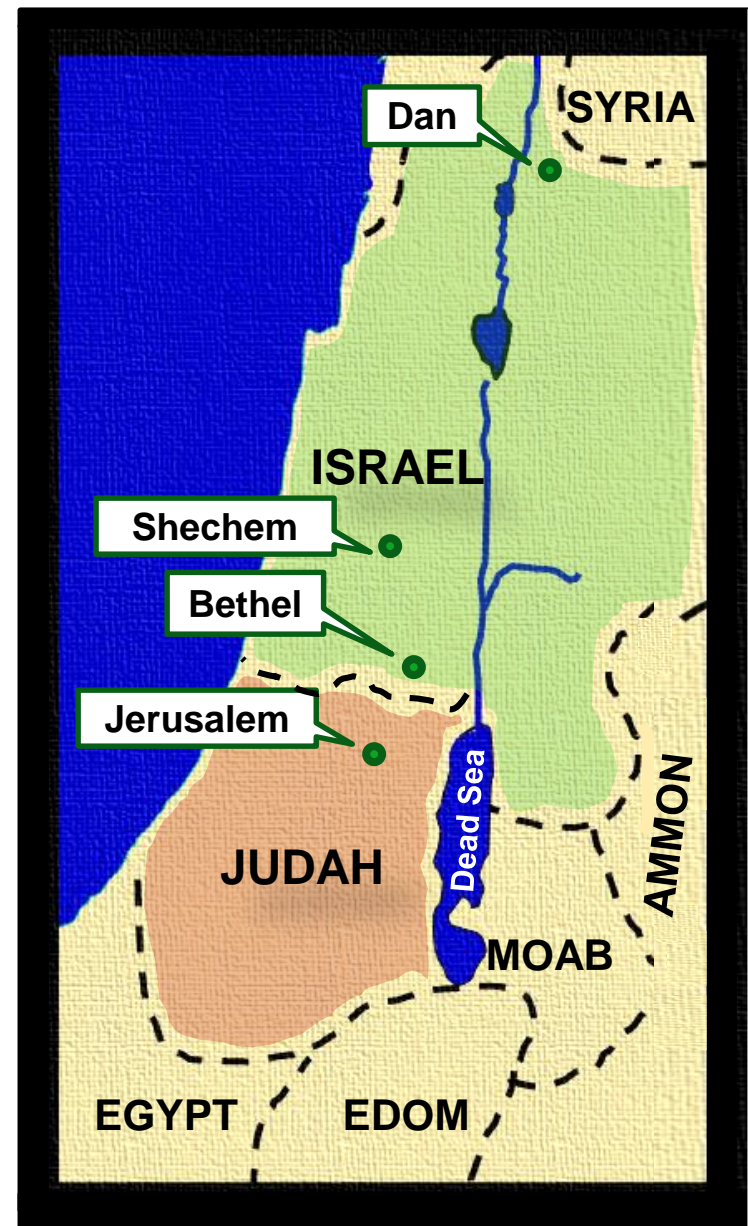


**SOLOMON**

## WHEN THE KINGDOM DIVIDED

**Solomon's son, Rehoboam** reigned over Judah in Jerusalem.

**Solomon's servant, Jeroboam** reigned from Shechem over the 10 tribes of Israel and provided idols at Dan and Bethel as places of worship to keep Israel from going to Jerusalem to worship the true God in the temple.

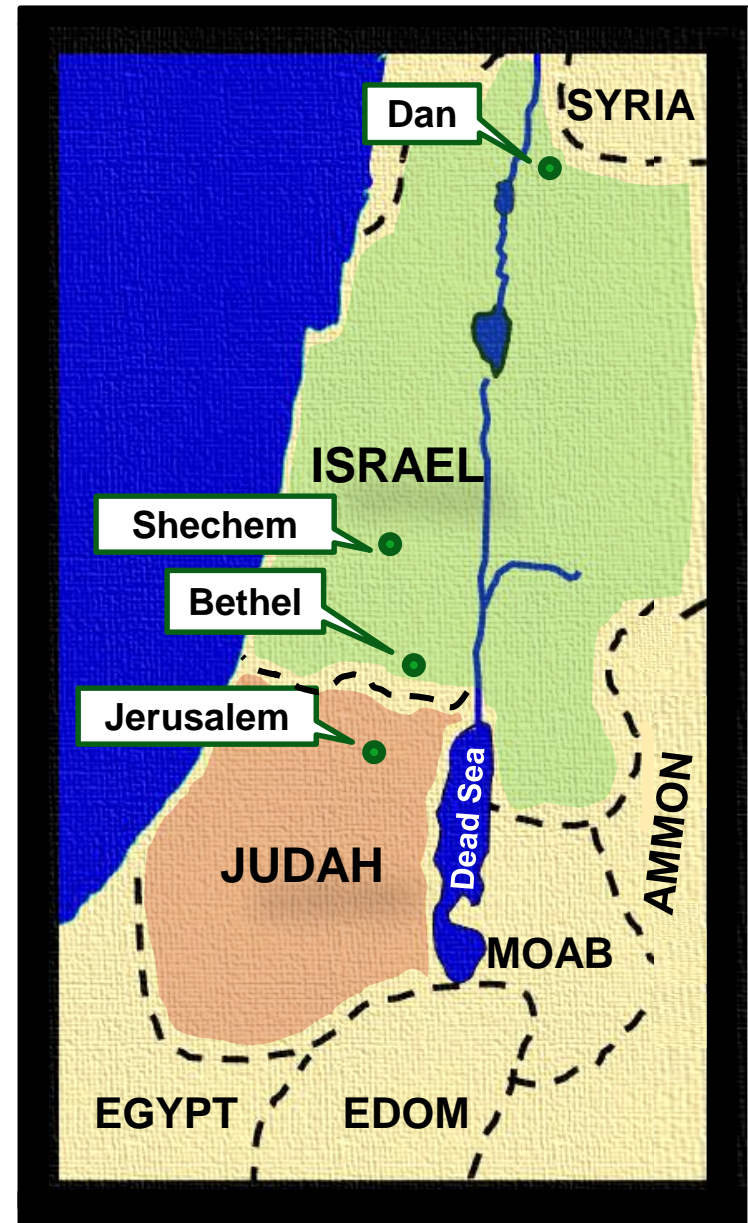


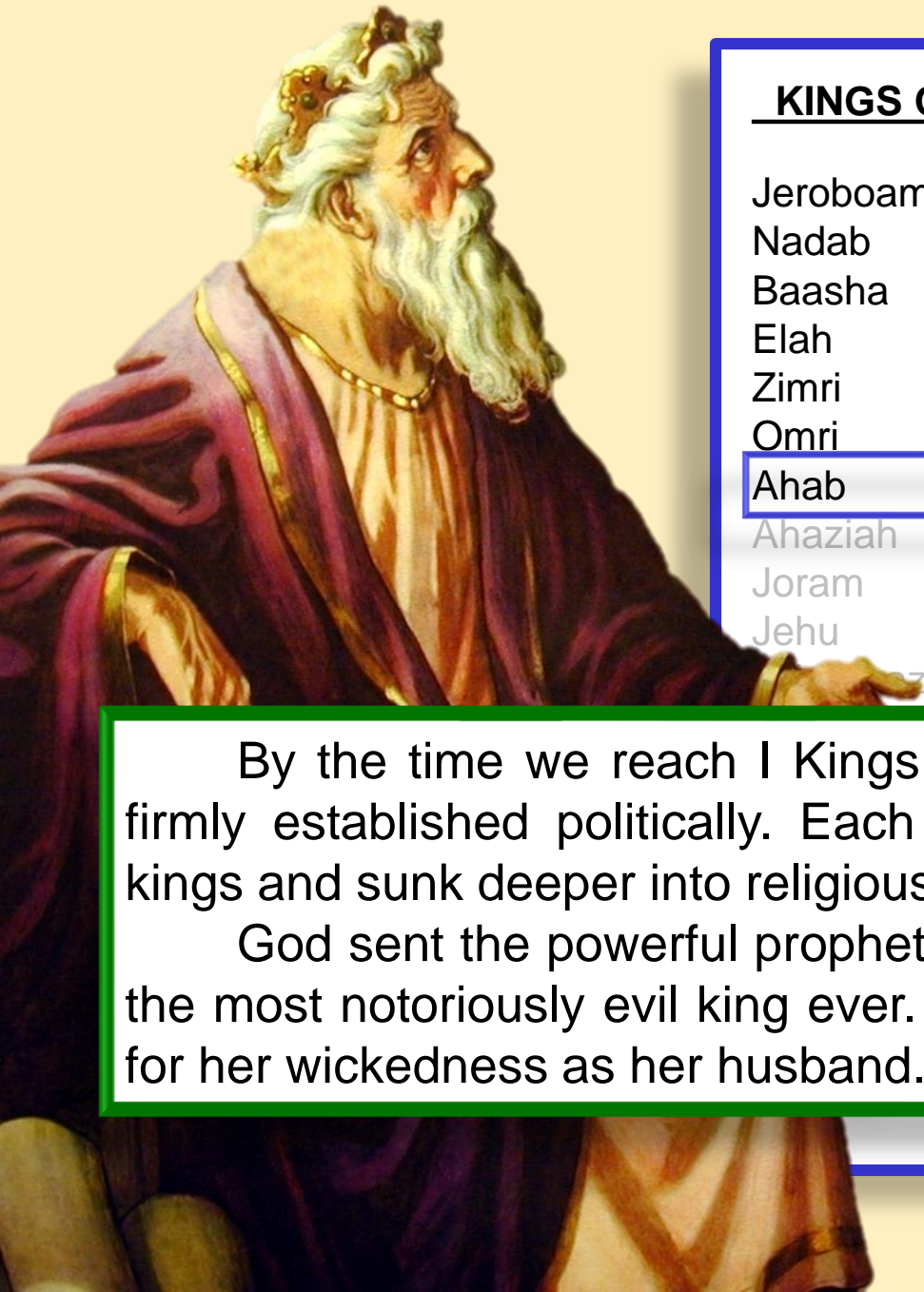
I Kings 11 & 12 give the details of the circumstances regarding the dividing of the Kingdom of Israel.

For a powerpoint on these chapters see:

**THE BIBLE VISUALIZED**  
the *Old Testament* flashdrive

(Available at [www.ethical-media.org](http://www.ethical-media.org)).





### KINGS OF ISRAEL

Jeroboam	975-954
Nadab	954-953
Baasha	953-930
Elah	930-929
Zimri	929
Omri	929-918
<b>Ahab</b>	<b>918-897</b>
Ahaziah	897-896
Joram	896-884
Jehu	884-856
7	856-841

### KINGS OF JUDAH

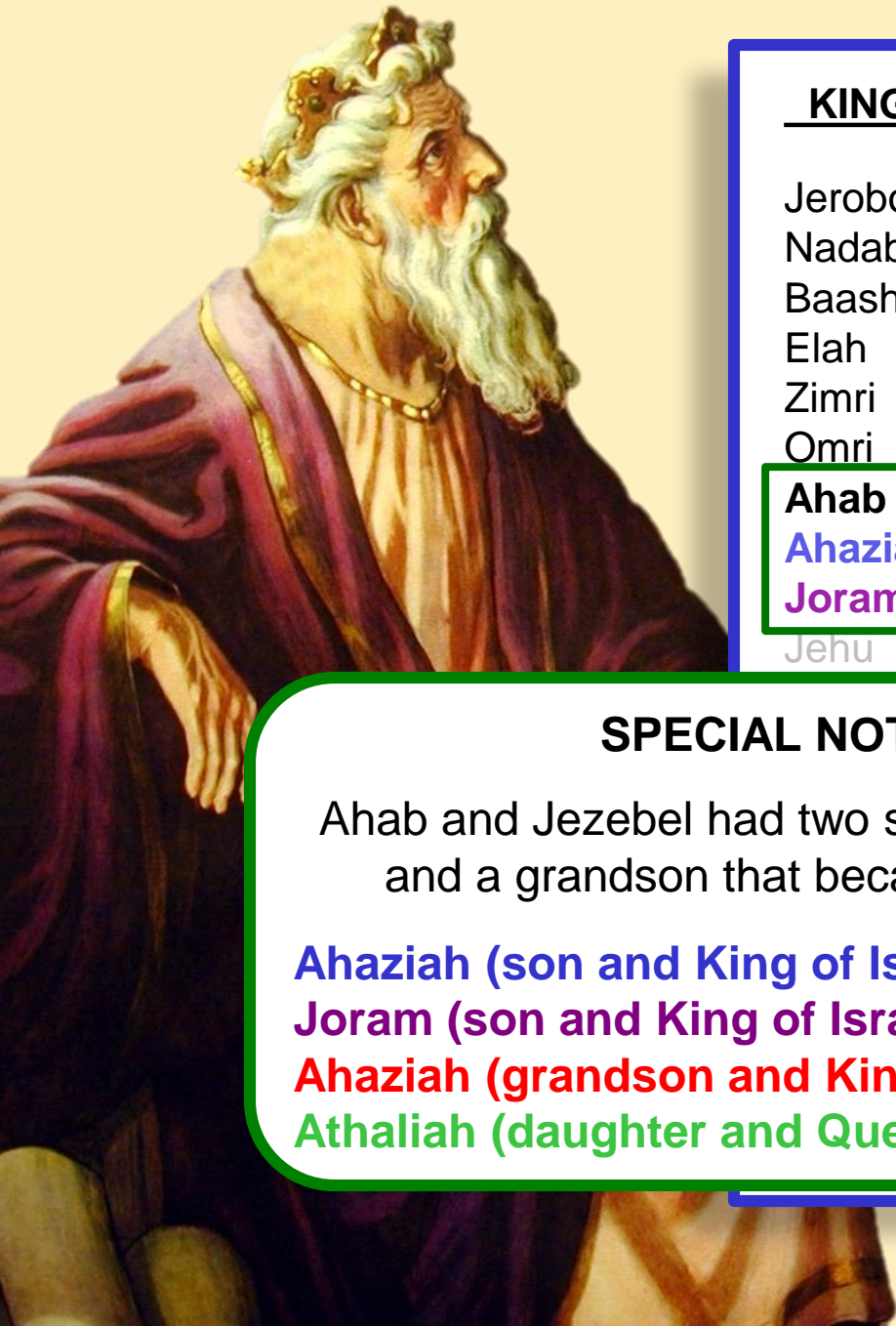
Rehoboam	975-958
Abijah	958-955
Asa	955-914
Jehoshaphat	914-892
Jehoram	892-884
Ahaziah	885
Athaliah	885-878
Joash	878-839
Amaziah	839-810
Uzziah	810-758
Jotham	758-742

By the time we reach I Kings Chapter 16 Israel and Judah are firmly established politically. Each had gone through several failed kings and sunk deeper into religious profanity.

God sent the powerful prophet Elijah to face King Ahab, possibly the most notoriously evil king ever. His wife Jezebel is as well known for her wickedness as her husband.

Zedekiah 599-588





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Uzziah	810-758
Jotham	758-742
Ahaz	742-726
Hezekiah	726-698
Manasseh	698-643
Amon	643-641
Jehoiachin	641-610
Zedekiah	610
Joashaz	610-599
Joiachim	599
Jedekiah	599-588

### **SPECIAL NOTE:**

Ahab and Jezebel had two sons, a daughter, and a grandson that became royalty—

**Ahaziah (son and King of Israel)**

**Joram (son and King of Israel)**

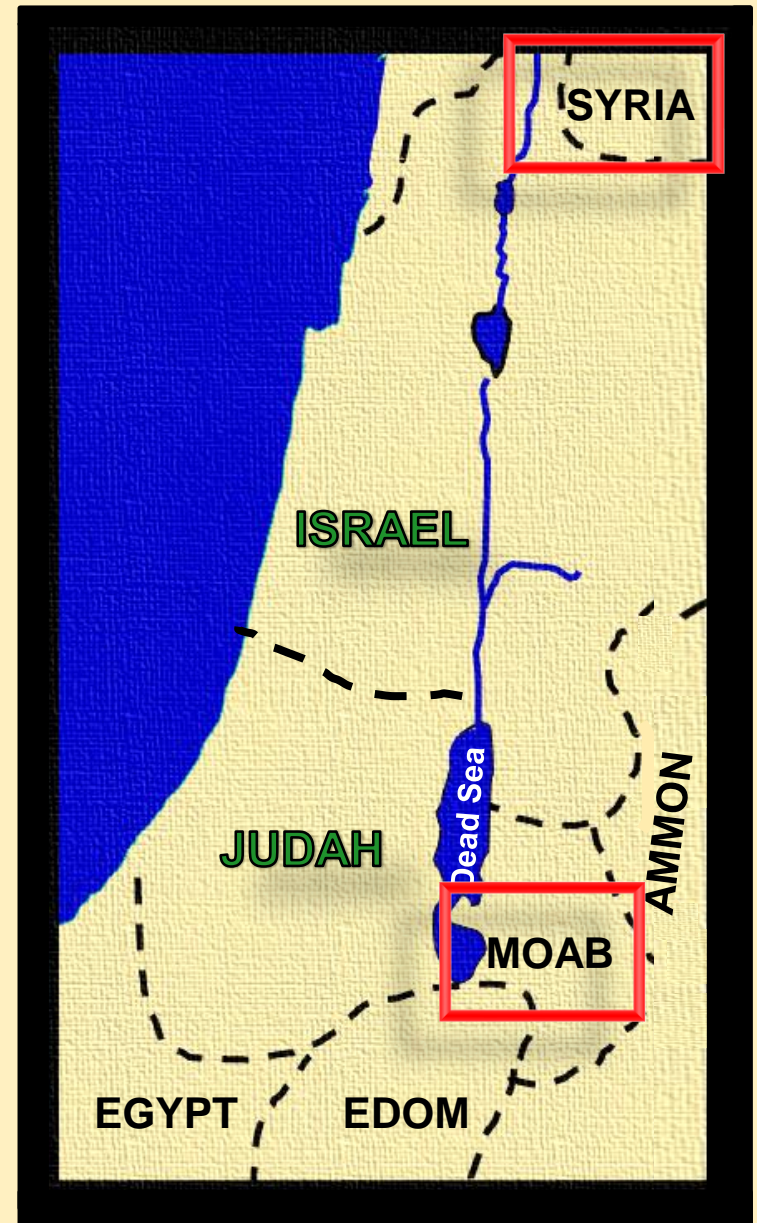
**Ahaziah (grandson and King of Judah)**

**Athaliah (daughter and Queen of Judah)**

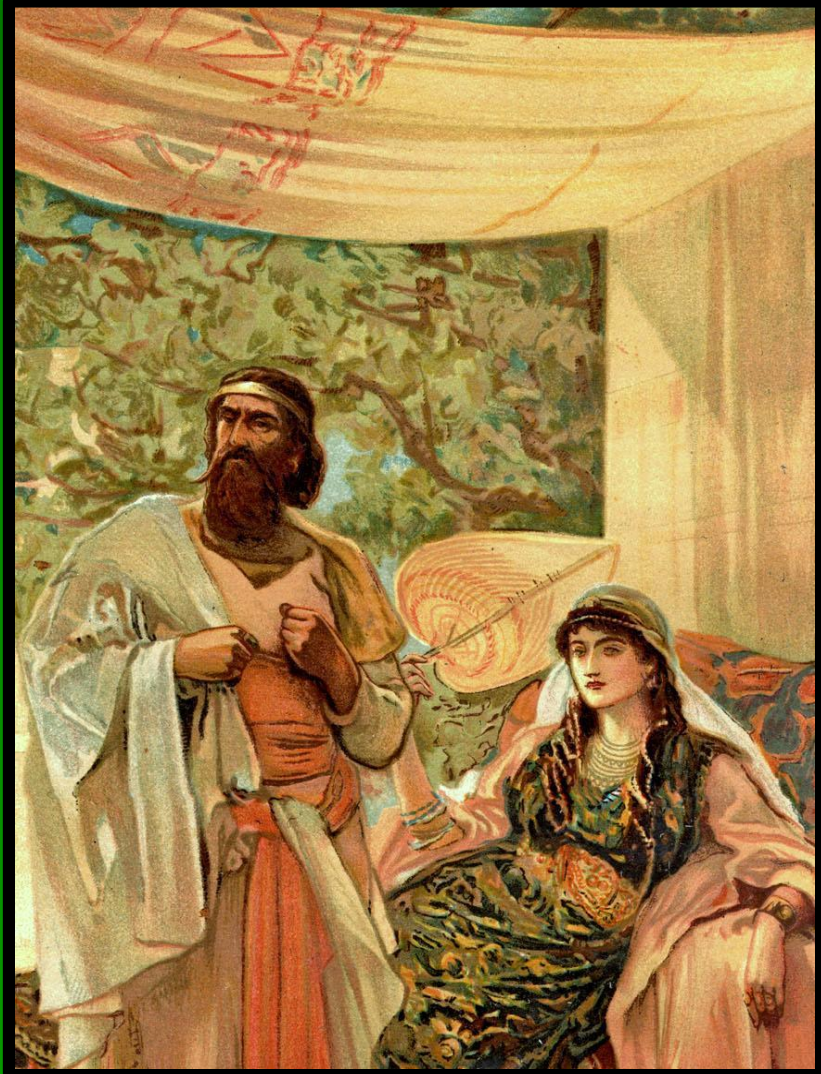
## Politically King Ahab

was one of the strongest kings of Israel. In his days Israel was at peace with Judah and received tribute from Moab.

He went into battle on three occasions against Benhadad, King of Syria. He was successful in the first two campaigns, but, he was defeated and mortally wounded in the third.

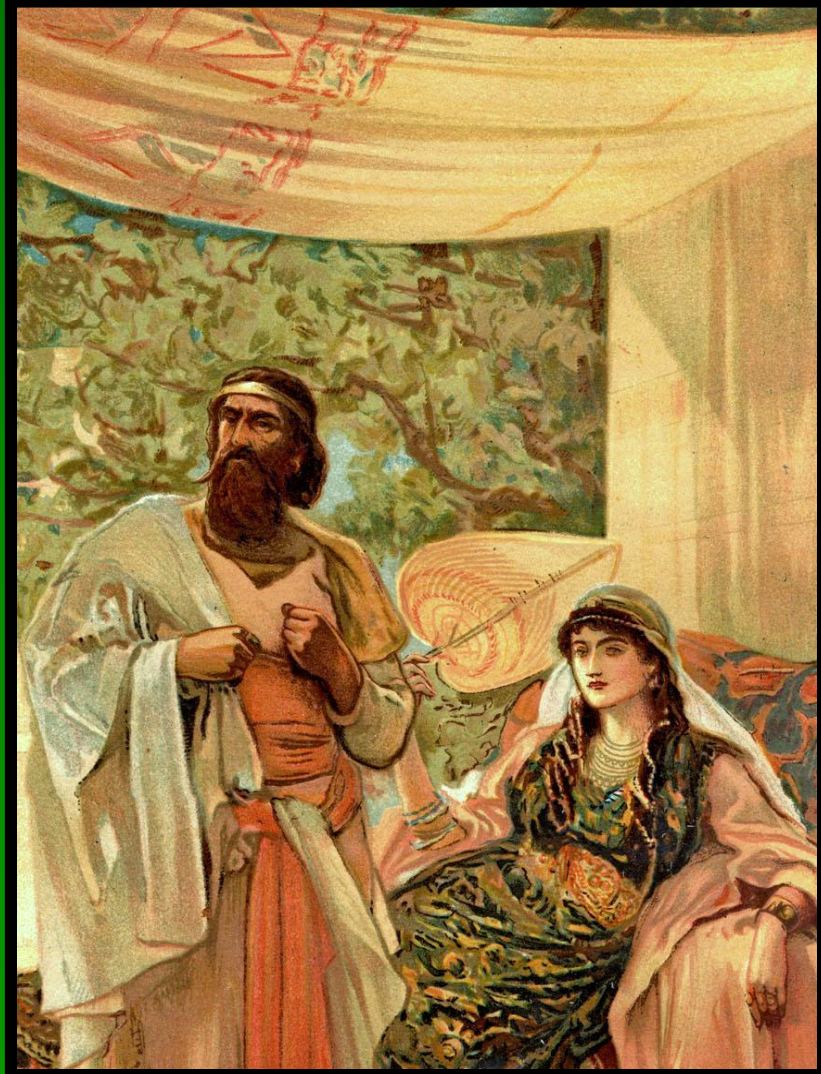


**We first  
read of this  
evil king in  
I Kings 16.**



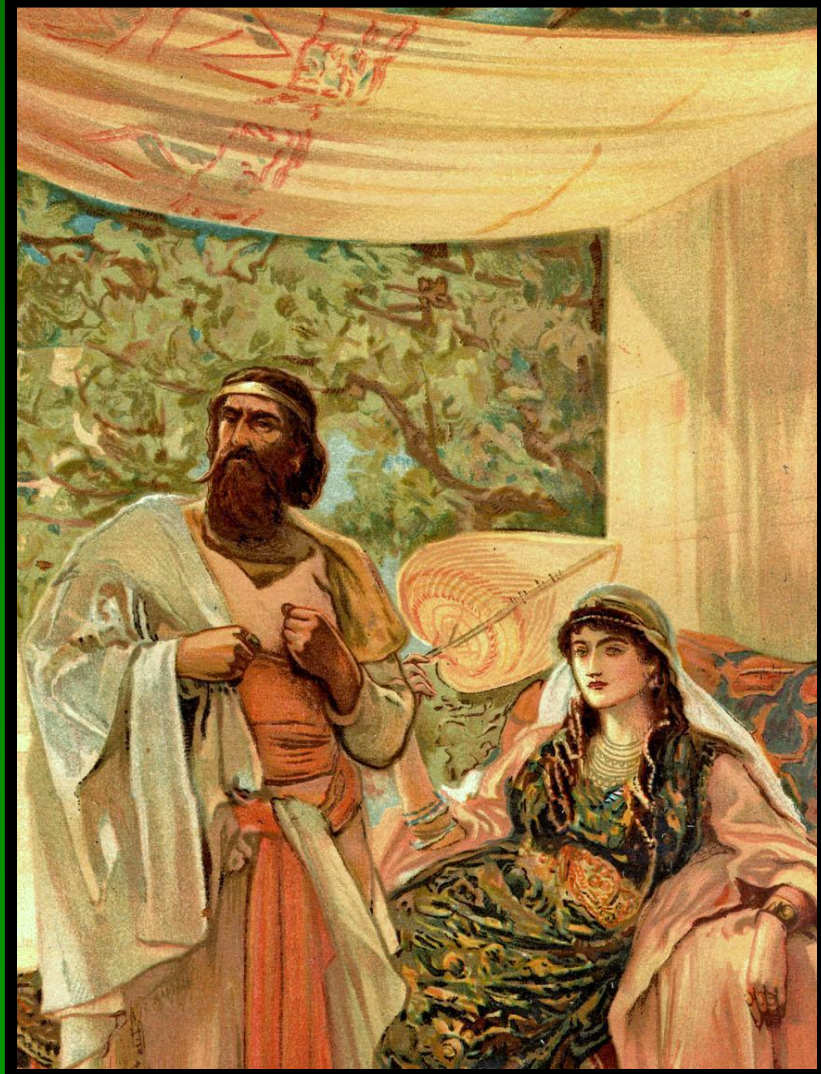
## 1 Kings 16

“<sup>29</sup>And in the thirty and eighth year of Asa king of Judah began Ahab the son of Omri to reign over Israel in Samaria twenty and two years. <sup>30</sup>And Ahab the son of Omri did evil in the sight of the LORD above all that were before him.”



## 1 Kings 16

“<sup>31</sup>And it came to pass, as if it had been a light thing for him to walk in the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, he took to wife Jezebel the daughter of Ethbaal king of the Zidonians, and went and served Baal, and worshipped him. <sup>32</sup>And he reared up an altar for Baal in the house of Baal, which he had built in Samaria.”



# ELIJAH

Elijah was God's answer to Ahab and Jezebel. God sent Elijah to rid the land of Baal worship.



## ELIJAH'S MIRACLES, WONDERS AND DEEDS OF MERCY

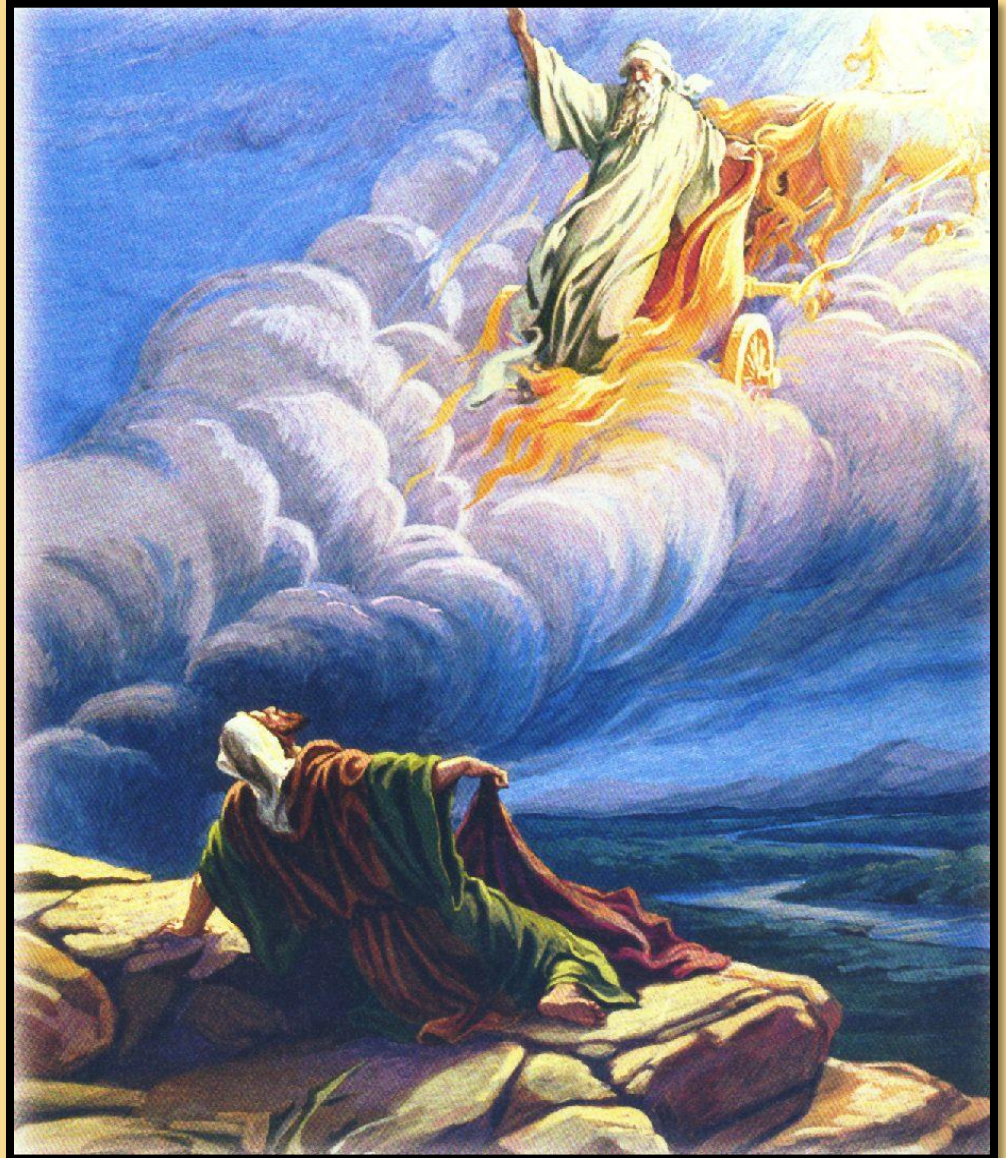
Three years of drought  
Fed by ravens  
Oil & meal (widow of Zarephath)  
Healed widow of Zarephath's son  
Fire from heaven on the altar  
Ran down from Mt. Carmel  
Fire from heaven on the 50  
Parting of Jordan  
Ascension in whirlwind



# ELISHA

When Elijah's ministry was nearing an end God called Elisha to continue his work.

Elijah did not die, but he was taken up in a chariot.





## ELISHA'S MIRACLES, WONDERS AND DEEDS OF MERCY

Parting of Jordan  
Healed spring of water  
42 children killed by 2 bears  
Miracle of water for 3 armies  
The widow's oil was increased  
The Shunammite's son raised  
Poisonous pottage healed  
Loaves of bread multiplied  
Naaman's leprosy healed  
Struck Gehazi with leprosy  
The axe head was made to swim  
Predicted Syrian's military moves  
Ring of fiery horses  
Struck the Syrian army with blindness  
Miracle of the arrows  
His bones raised the dead



# What is a prophet?

A spokesman for God. Prophets were sometimes called Seers because they could “see” into the future. The prophetic office was not hereditary as the priests office was. Each man received his call from God.

# Examples of Biblical prophets in every age . . .

Abraham was a patriarch and prophet (Gen. 20:7).

Noah prophesied the flood.

Joseph prophesied 7 years of plenty and 7 years of famine.

Moses and Aaron were prophets (Ex. 7:1, Num. 12:6 Deut. 34:10).

Gideon was a prophet (Judg. 6:8, 13).

Samuel was a prophet (1 Sam. 3:20).

Gad was a prophet for King David (1 Sam. 22:5).

Nathan was a prophet for King David (2 Sam. 7:2).

Ahijah was a prophet for Jeroboam (1 Kgs. 11:29).

Jehu was a prophet for King Baasha (1 Kgs. 16:7).

Elijah prophesied about the fall of the Northern Kingdom (1 Kgs.).

Elisha also prophesied about the fall of the Northern Kingdom (2 Kgs.).

Obed was a prophet for King Asa (2 Chron. 15:8).

Then of course there are the books of the prophets both Major and Minor.

Jeremiah and Ezekiel were priests and prophets.

Isaiah, Daniel, and Zephaniah were of royal blood.

Amos was also a farmer.

John The Baptist

Christ

The gift of prophecy was given by the laying on of hands of the apostles.

# Classification “major” and “minor” is based on the size of the books.

## **MAJOR PROPHETS**

Isaiah

Jeremiah

Lamentations

Ezekiel

Daniel

## **MINOR PROPHETS**

Hosea

Joel

Amos

Obadiah

Jonah

Micah

Nahum

Habakkuk

Zephaniah

Haggai

Zechariah

Malachi

## PROPHETS

Jonah  
Joel  
Amos  
Hosea  
Isaiah  
Micah  
Jeremiah  
Zephaniah  
Nahum  
Habakkuk  
Obadiah  
Daniel  
Ezekiel  
Haggai  
Zechariah  
Malachi

## CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER OF THE PROPHETS—

It is difficult to find two commentaries that agree on the chronological order of the prophets.

Even the dates of the kings of Israel and Judah can only be approximate due to overlapping reigns, associated sovereignty, intervals of anarchy, and parts of years counted as whole years.

Research for the arrangement of the dates in this presentation comes primarily from *Biblical Analysis Revised* by C.H. Woodroof and Arvil Weilbaker.



## THE MISSION OF THE PROPHETS—

They were to WARN the people that those who would not repent of idolatry would be destroyed.

They were to PROMISE that a remnant would be saved and that from this remnant would come the man, Christ Jesus, a descendant of David, who would sit on David's throne and establish a kingdom which would never be destroyed.



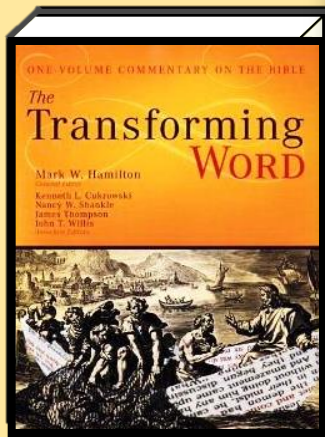
# Old Testament Messianic Prophecies

Many modern “*scholars*” are inclined to belittle the predictive element of the Old Testament prophets. Their criticism simply denies the inspiration of God’s word.

Bible prophets predicted historic events of their own day and events so far in the future that they may not have understood the full import of their words. No one who has studied the prophets can deny that the story of Christ, the establishment of His kingdom, and the spread of Christianity over the earth is pictured before hand, in minute detail, and in language that cannot refer to anything else in the history of the world. There is no greater proof of the inspiration of God’s word than prophecy and its fulfillment.



**Gary McDade**



# Old Testament Messianic Prophecies

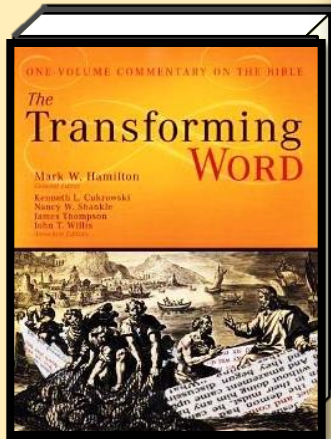
The cause of Christ has been betrayed by many in the so-called “Christian” schools associated with churches of Christ. In 2009 Abilene Christian University Press marshaled the *scholars* from “Christian” schools together and published a one volume commentary on the whole Bible which denies prophetic prophecy concerning Christ and the church of Christ! The title of their commentary is *The Transforming Word*.

The depth of the betrayal is so outlandish a quotation from the book in question is in order. In an introductory section called “Old Testament Prophecy” written by John T. Willis from Abilene Christian University it reads, “*There is no unequivocal specific prediction of the coming of Jesus Christ and/or the church in the Old Testament (p. 66).*”





**Gary McDade**



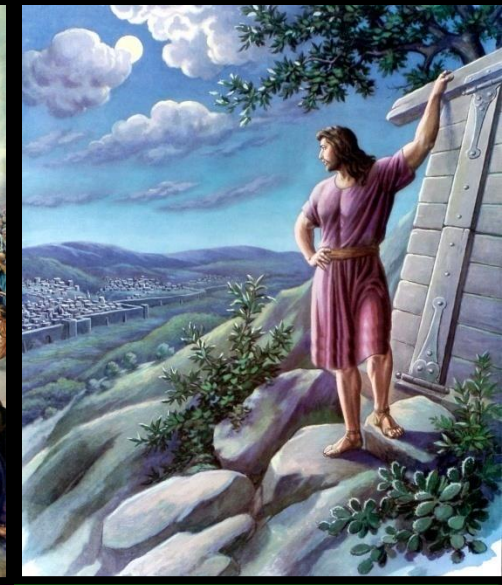
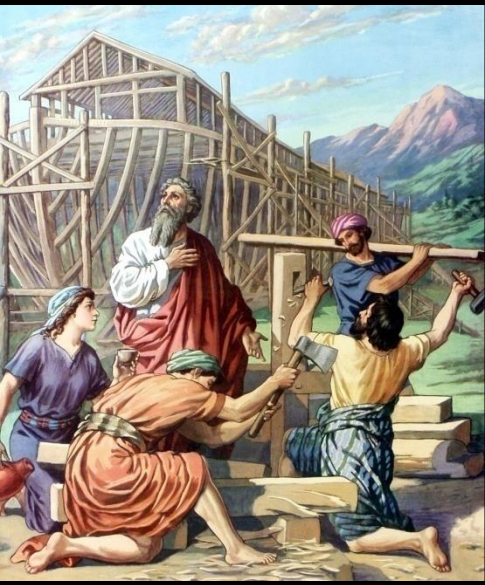
**For a full critique  
by McDade read  
his lecture on the  
Ethical Media  
website.**

You may ask, “How do the writers of this commentary explain the fulfillment of Old Testament prophecies regarding Christ and the church?” And, the answer is given in the next sentence from page 66 of *The Transforming Word*. Willis wrote, “*New Testament speakers reinterpreted and reapplied Old Testament texts to Christ and/or the church*” (p. 66).

We are asked to believe that Old Testament statements were not prophecies about Christ and/or the church, so New Testament speakers, including our Lord, manipulated through reinterpretation and reapplication the Old Testament scriptures applying them to their current situation! This is the most absurd idea I have encountered in nearly 40 years of preaching. The eighth century B.C. prophet Isaiah wrote that God was “Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure” (Isaiah 46:10).

The background is a stained glass design. It features a central horizontal yellow band. Above and below this band are sections of light brown wood-grain glass, separated by dark leaded lines. The overall pattern is symmetrical and geometric.

# Prophets and the Miraculous

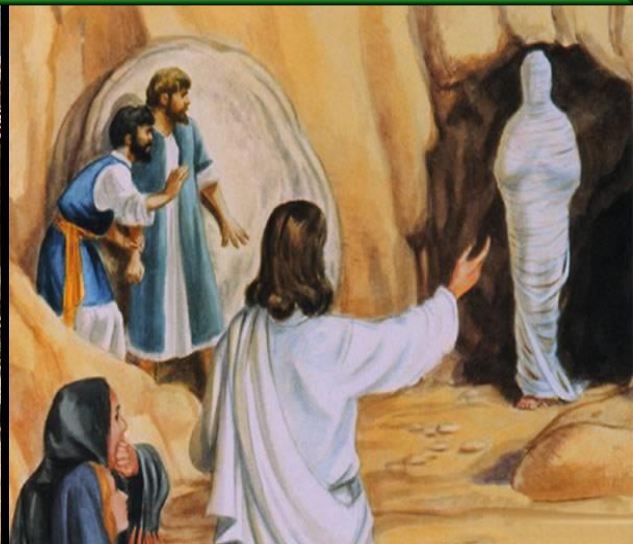


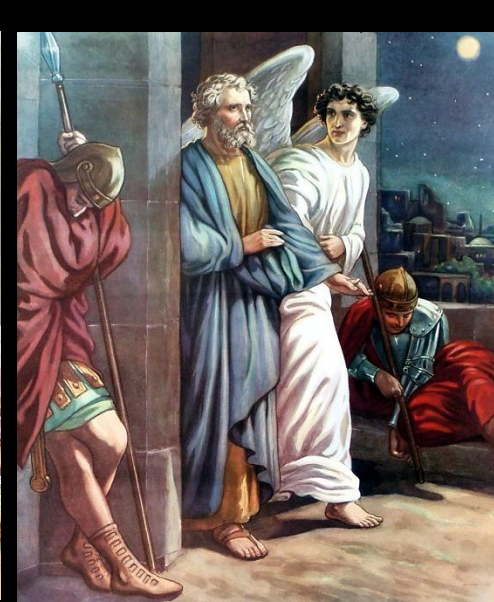
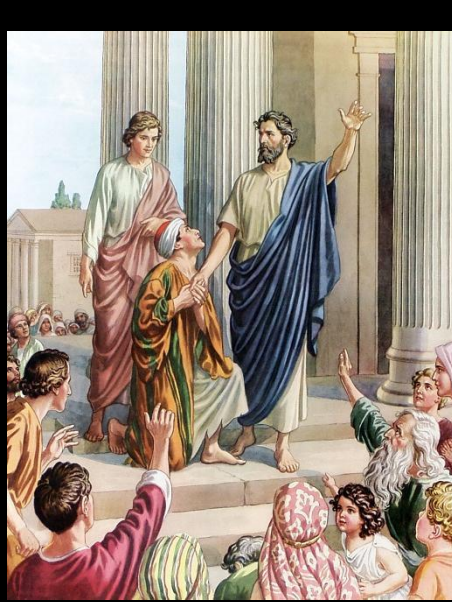
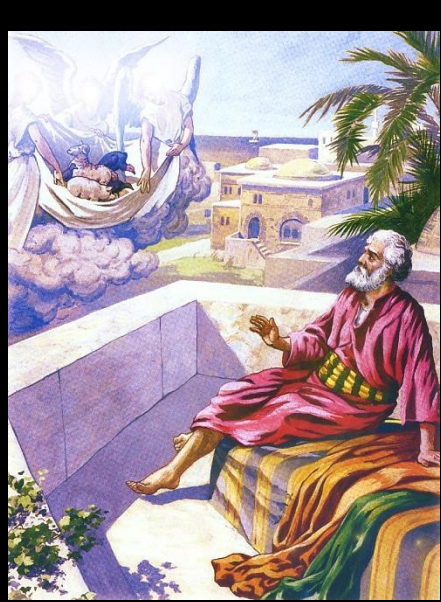
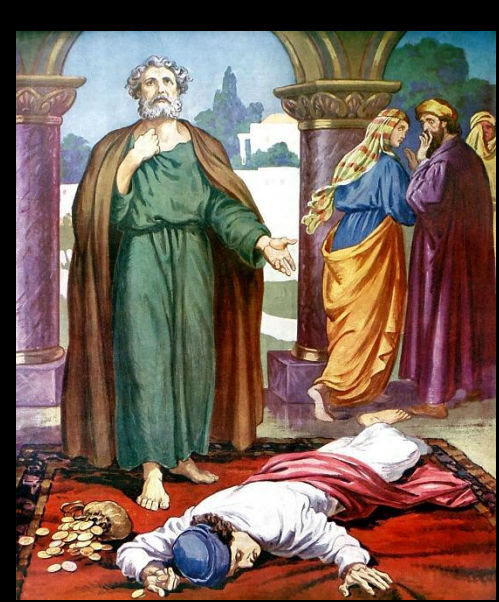
There were miracles in the Old Testament



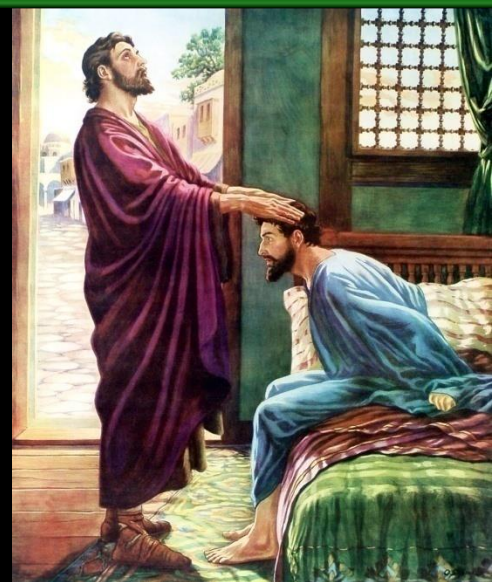


Christ did miracles.





There were miracles in the first century





## Comments From Gary McDade

The purpose of Old Testament miracles was to carry out God's purpose and confirm the words the prophets spoke. The miracles of Christ and the apostles also confirmed the words they spoke and wrote as inspired from God (John 14:11; Hebrews 2:3-4). Their purpose was fulfilled in the 1<sup>st</sup> century and the performance of miracles ceased.

1 Corinthians 12 addresses the nature and value of miraculous gifts to the early church, and Chapter 13 specifically foretold the ceasing of miraculous spiritual gifts and the need for them.

Today, the Holy Spirit continues to operate, but not miraculously as with for example Elijah and Elisha. The Spirit teaches, convinces, comforts, strengthens, and guides through the word he has brought into existence (2 Timothy 3:16-17).

The Holy Spirit dwells in each Christian after the same manner or in the same way as do the Father and the Son, that is, representatively through the word of God. As Paul wrote, "That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith" (Eph. 3:17).

**FATHER**

Dwells In Us	2 Cor. 6:16
Walks In Us	2 Cor. 6:16
We Dwell In Him	1 Jn. 4:15

**SON**

Dwells In us	Col. 1:27
Formed In Us	Gal. 4:19
We Dwell In Him	2 Cor. 5:17

**HOLY SPIRIT**

Dwells In Us	Rom. 8:11
Fills Us	Eph. 5:18
We Walk In The Spirit	Gal. 5:16

# Through the Word NOT Miracles

Ephesians 6:17 is very instructional in understanding the work of the Holy Spirit. It says, “And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.” Let’s notice now concerning the Holy Spirit that the work He does...He does through His word.

## The Work He Does

The New Birth	Jn. 3:5-8
Instructs	Neh. 9:20
Leads	Rom. 8:14
Strengthens	Eph. 3:16
Convicts	Jn. 16:8
Cleanses	1 Cor. 6:11
Comforts	Acts 9:31

## The Work He Does Through His Word

The New Birth	1 Pet. 1:22-23
Instructs	2 Tim. 3:16-17
Leads	Psa. 119:105
Strengthens	Acts 20:32
Convicts	Tit. 1:9
Cleanses	Jn. 15:3; Eph. 5:26
Comforts	1 Thess. 4:18





# THE MIRACULOUS AGE

The apostles were “**baptized in the Spirit,**” and only they had the power to lay on hands and bestow miraculous gifts such as speaking in tongues, healing, and extra knowledge (1 Corinthians 12:8-11).

In Acts 8 it is evident that Philip could not bestow miraculous gifts for he was not an apostle. It was necessary for the apostles Peter and John to physically be there to lay on hands.

# THE MIRACULOUS AGE

Christians with a miraculous gift could NOT pass on their ability. When the apostles died and everyone that had a spiritual gift had also died the miraculous age ended.



# THE MIRACULOUS AGE



A good understanding of this Bible subject is necessary to comprehend why there are no miracles today. Despite the fact that there is **NO EVIDENCE** many people continue to claim that miracles never ceased, and that we can expect a miracle in our lives.

# THE MIRACULOUS AGE



Wikimedia / Public Domain US Government

Modern medicine has saved and improved the lives of thousands of men and women who have lost limbs serving our country, but not one of them miraculously grew a new leg or hand. It is important not call something a miracle that is the answer to prayer through God's providence of natural means.

It weakens the faith of people and is deceitful to say something is a miracle that clearly is NOT.

# MIRACLES



When someone believes there are miracles today they are appalled if you do not accept their claim. They talk and talk about how God did miracles for them and others, but they do not and of course, cannot prove their claim.

If you call on them to defend their assertions they will accuse you of *not believing there are miracles in the Bible*. So, let's make it clear . . . **THERE ARE MANY MIRACLES IN THE BIBLE.** There just are not any miracles now.

The image features a central yellow rectangular panel with the text "The End" in a green, 3D-style font. This panel is framed by a dark border. Above and below the yellow panel are decorative sections with a stained glass aesthetic, consisting of diamond-shaped wooden patterns separated by dark lines, with a horizontal green band in the middle of each section.

**The End**