

## Forty-fifth Street Baptist Church Life-Groups



**Chapter 16** What if the U.S.A. had kings instead of presidents? Did you know that George Washington was asked to be king of America during the Revolutionary War? George Washington both as a Christian and as a praying man rejected the offer. He believed that there was only one King. A motto that was shouted often during the war was, “No king but King Jesus.”

God’s people needed a motto like that. “No king but King God.” The human kings got the nation into mounds of trouble. The nation split into two smaller, weaker nations and during the time of the divided kingdom there were 38 kings in all. Only five were good kings. The other 33 kings did evil in the eyes of the Lord. God sent **nine** prophets to the northern kingdom over a span of 208 years and the people refused to hear and obey.

- I. The Northern Kingdom, Israel, fell to the Assyrians in 722 B.C.
  - A. God warned his people of calamity. *2 Kings 17:13* There were no good kings in Israel.
  - B. The 10 tribes in the north are conquered and sent into exile by the Assyrians. They become known as “the lost tribes of Israel.” *2 Kings 17:18*  
God “removed them from his presence.”
  
- II. The Southern Kingdom, Judah, was ruled by both good and evil kings.
  - A. Hezekiah was a good king who trusted in God.
    1. Hezekiah, by putting his trust in God, defied the Assyrian king who conquered the northern kingdom. *2 Kings 18:19; 19:15-19*
    2. God himself destroyed the Assyrian army. *2 Kings 19:35-37*
  - B. Manasseh, Hezekiah’s son, was an evil king. *2 Kings 21*
    1. God sends Isaiah to tell Manasseh that God will use the Babylonians as his tool of judgment. *Isaiah 3.*
    2. Judah, while warned of exile, is promised that they will return to their homeland as a purified nation. *Isaiah 14*
  - C. God will keep his promise to bring the Messiah through Judah.
    1. Judah will not be disappointed. *Isaiah 49:23*
    2. Judah will be a blessing to the whole world. *Isaiah 49:29* This is fulfilled in Jesus.
  - D. Seven hundred years before Jesus, Isaiah provides a character sketch of the Messiah. *Isaiah 53*  
[read selections] Read *Isaiah 53:1-7* and *Isaiah 53:10-11*
    1. How could anyone miss this being fulfilled in Jesus?
    2. Seven hundred years before Jesus, Isaiah said, “This is the kind of Messiah you should be looking for.”

### Application:

- We have a simple challenge: to live the motto “No king but King Jesus!”
- Jesus exhorted us to seek God’s kingdom first, *Matthew 6:33*.
- The U.S.A. is a nation among nations. As a people we must seek God and obey God’s will.
- Sadly, the U.S.A. defies God in many ways, for example, denying the teaching of creation and intelligent design in public schools.
- Let’s pray to have Jesus on the throne of our lives and to live out the motto: *No king but King Jesus*