



PLAN & PURPOSE



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Making **SENSE** of **NONSENSE**

Sunday, July 10, 2022

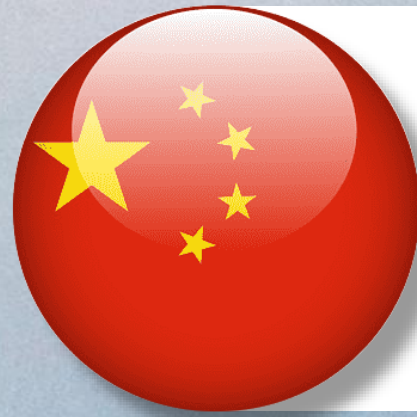




Ecclesiastes 1:9,10

9. The thing that hath been, it is that which shall be; and that which is done is that which shall be done: and there is no new thing under the sun.
10. Is there any thing whereof it may be said, See, this is new? it hath been already of old time, which was before us.





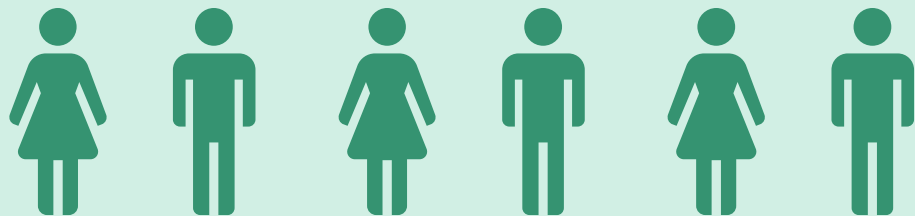
The Great Leap **FORWARD?**

1958–1962



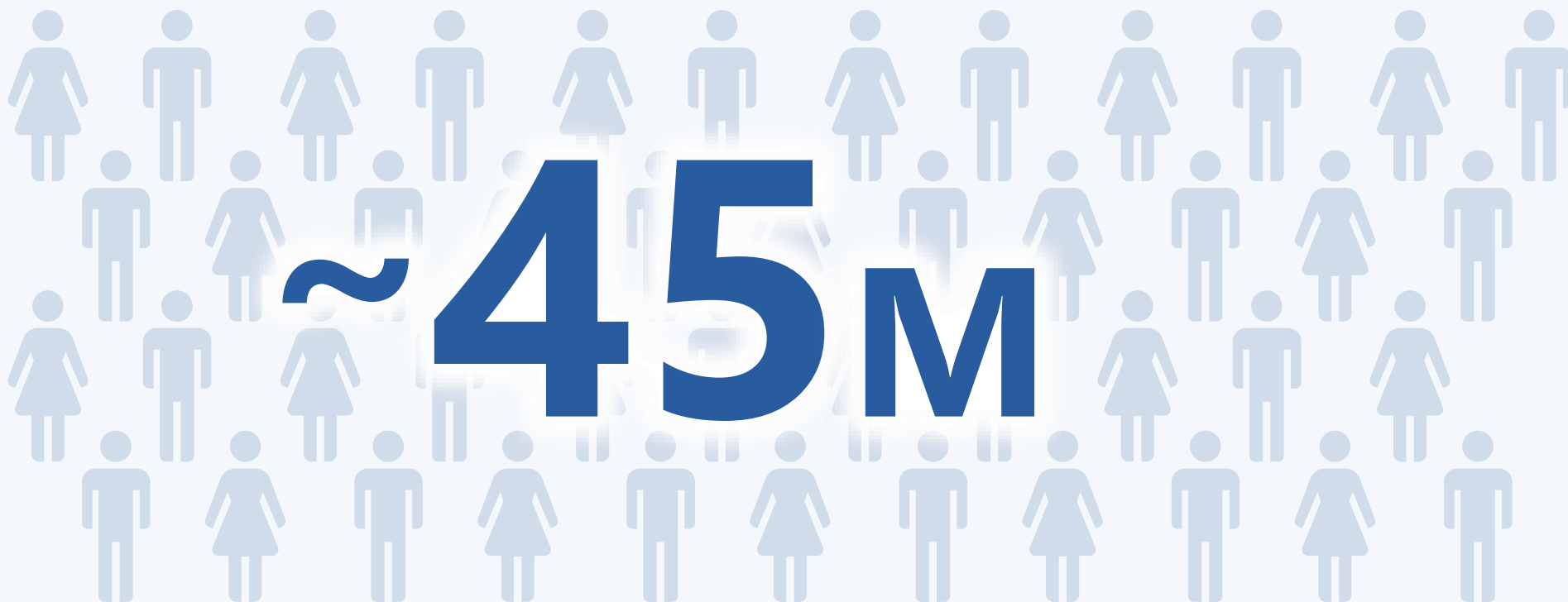
Mao Zedong's Folly

COVID Deaths



~6 Million

Deaths due to *The Great Leap Forward*



~45M



1 Kings
12:1-14

1 Kings 12:16

So when all Israel saw that the king hearkened not unto them, the people answered the king, saying, What portion have we in David? neither have we inheritance in the son of Jesse: to your tents, O Israel: now see to thine own house, David. So Israel departed unto their tents.



A Kingdom Divided

Matthew 12:25

And Jesus knew their thoughts, and said unto them, Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation; and every city or **house divided against itself shall not stand:**



1 Kings 14:30

And there was war between Rehoboam and Jeroboam all their days.



1 Kings 14:21–24

21. And Rehoboam the son of Solomon reigned in Judah. Rehoboam was forty and one years old when he began to reign, and he reigned seventeen years in Jerusalem, the city which the LORD did choose out of all the tribes of Israel, to put his name there. And his mother's name was Naamah an **Ammonitess**.
22. And Judah did evil in the sight of the LORD, and they provoked him to jealousy with their sins which they had committed, above all that their fathers had done.
23. For they also built them high places, and images, and groves, on every high hill, and under every green tree.
24. And there were also sodomites in the land: and they did according to all the **abominations** of the nations which the LORD cast out before the children of Israel.

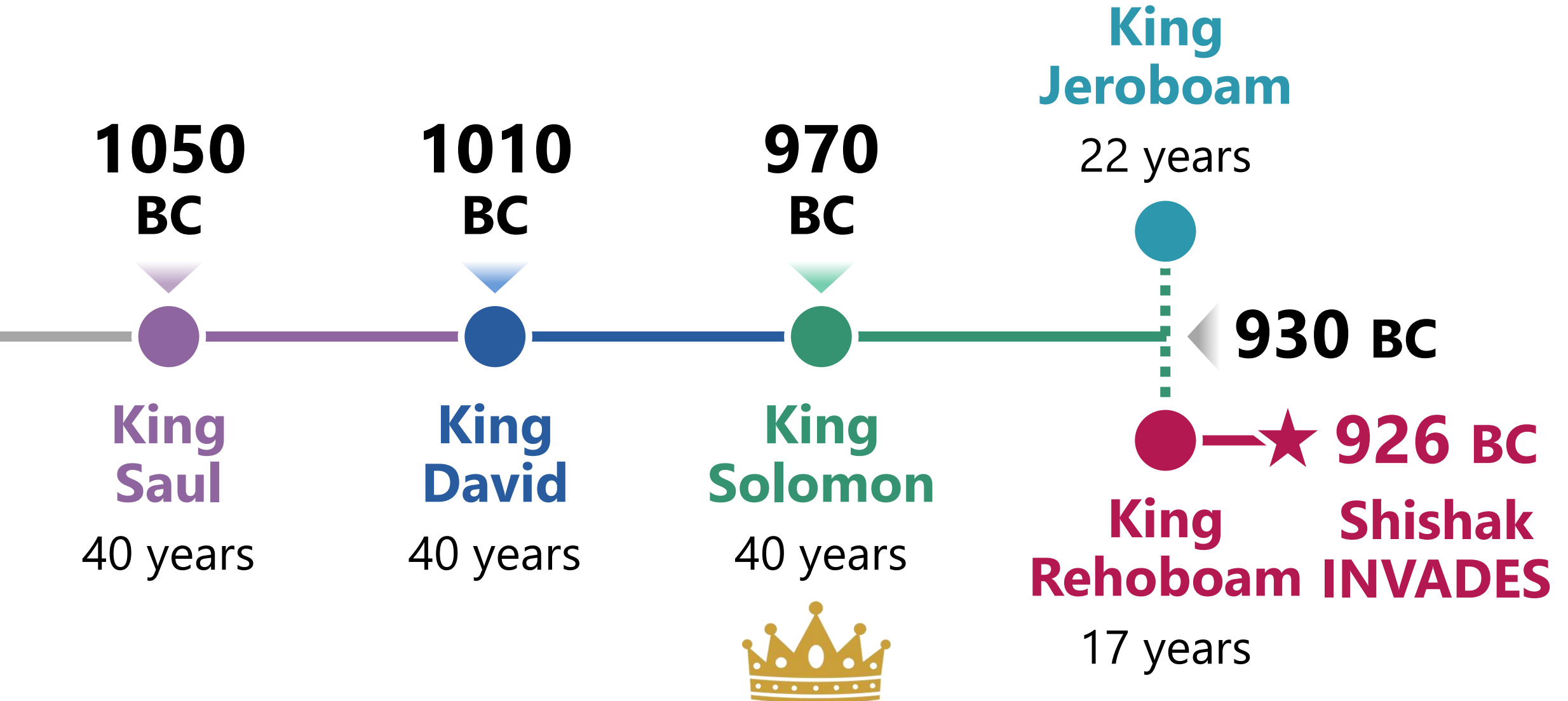
Molech, False god of the Ammonites



Leviticus 18:21,22

21. And thou shalt not let any of thy seed pass through the fire to Molech, neither shalt thou profane the name of thy God: I am the LORD.
22. Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it is abomination.

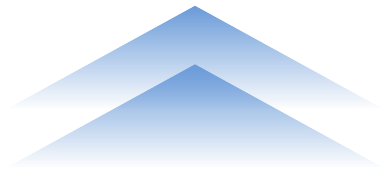
Timeline of the Early Kings of Israel



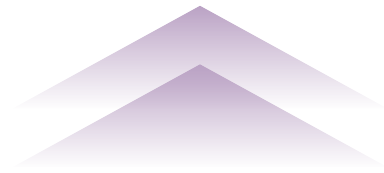
Israel's Golden Age Under King Solomon



PEACE



POWER

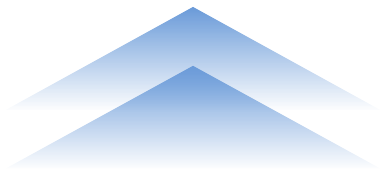


PROSPERITY





PEACE

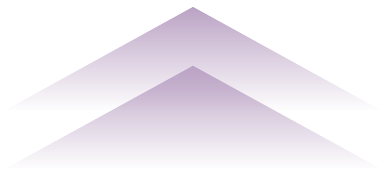


1 Kings 4:24,25

24. For he had dominion over all the region on this side the river, from Tiphseh even to Azzah, over all the kings on this side the river: and he had peace on all sides round about him.
25. And Judah and Israel dwelt safely, every man under his vine and under his fig tree, from Dan even to Beersheba, all the days of Solomon.



POWER



2 Chronicles 9:22,23

22. And king Solomon passed all the kings of the earth in riches and wisdom.
23. And all the kings of the earth sought the presence of Solomon, to hear his wisdom, that God had put in his heart.



PROSPERITY



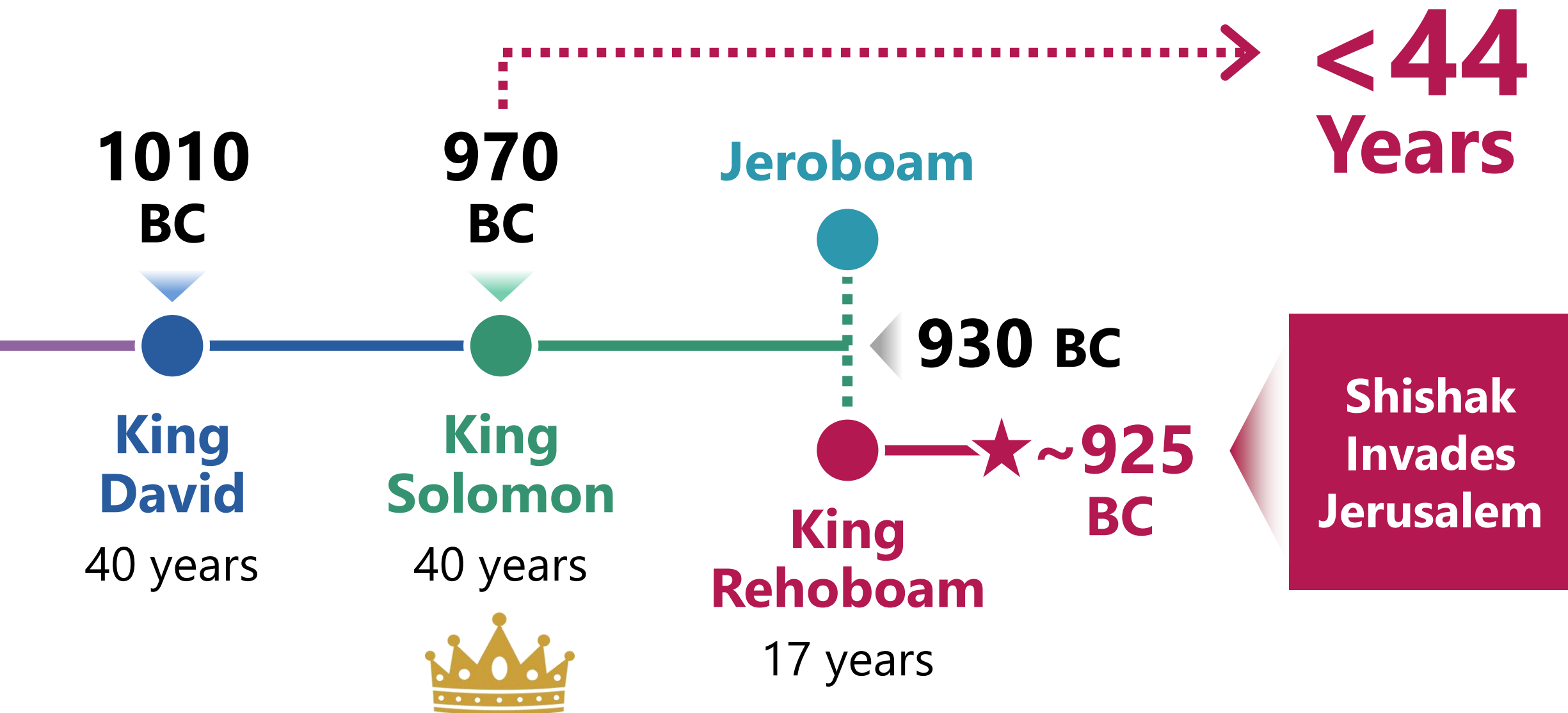
2 Chronicles 9:27

And the king made silver in Jerusalem as stones, and cedar trees made he as the sycomore trees that are in the low plains in abundance.

I Kings 14:25–28

25. And it came to pass in the fifth year of king Rehoboam, that Shishak king of Egypt came up against Jerusalem:
26. And he took away the treasures of the house of the LORD, and the treasures of the king's house; he even took away all: and he took away all the shields of gold which Solomon had made.
27. And king Rehoboam made in their stead brasen shields, and committed them unto the hands of the chief of the guard, which kept the door of the king's house.
28. And it was so, when the king went into the house of the LORD, that the guard bare them, and brought them back into the guard chamber.

Rapid Decline of Israel



1 Kings 12:15

Wherefore the king hearkened not unto the people; **for the cause was from the LORD**, that he might perform his saying, which the LORD spake by Ahijah the Shilonite unto Jeroboam the son of Nebat.

**The king's heart
is in the hand of
the LORD, as the
rivers of water:
he turneth it
whithersoever
he will.**



1 Kings 11:9–10

9. And the LORD was angry with Solomon, because his heart was turned from the LORD God of Israel, which had appeared unto him twice,
10. And had commanded him concerning this thing, that he should not go after other gods: but he kept not that which the LORD commanded.

1 Kings 11:11–13

11. Wherefore the LORD said unto Solomon, Forasmuch as this is done of thee, and thou hast not kept my covenant and my statutes, which I have commanded thee, I will surely rend the kingdom from thee, and will give it to thy servant.
12. Notwithstanding in thy days I will not do it for David thy father's sake: but I will rend it out of the hand of thy son.
13. Howbeit I will not rend away all the kingdom; but will give one tribe to thy son for David my servant's sake, and for Jerusalem's sake which I have chosen.



1 Kings
11:26-40



PLAN & PURPOSE

APPLICATION



Trust in God's Plan

Jeremiah 29:11

For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.



Trust in God's Promises

Numbers 23:19

God is not a man, that he should lie;
neither the son of man, that he should repent:
hath he said, and shall he not do it?
or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?

Look for the Unseen Hand

Proverbs 16:9

A man's heart
deviseth his way:
but the LORD
directeth his steps.



Joshua 24:15

And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.