

An ol' schoolmate of mine, Edwin R. Thiele, established, in his 1943 Chicago PhD, the present dating of the Hebrew kings. Please update any biblical materials you possess in light of the following lists....If you want to pursue the boring details, see his THE MYSTERIOUS NUMBERS OF THE HEBREW KINGS (Eerdmans/66) and A CHRONOLOGY OF THE HEBREW KINGS (Zondervan/77)....Evangelicals can rejoice in Ed's reestablishing respect for the accuracy of the biblical record in this matter. Even the evangelical-leaning Albright, pre-Thiele, had described the Bible here as "corrupt."....SOLUTION: "Judah employed the accession-year system from Rehoboam to Jehoshaphat, but then shifted to Israel's nonaccession-year system when, in a period of rapprochement between Judah and Israel, Jehoram the son of Jehoshaphat was married to...the daughter of Ahab and Jezebel (2 Kings 8:18)....In Israel the regnal year began with...Nisan...and in Judah ...with Tishri....This system of recording I have termed 'dual dating,' involving 'overlapping reigns.'" When "Assyria was devastating the land,...during those chaotic times the work of chronological recording was interrupted."--quotes from his Jan/78 (7th Day Adventist) MINISTRY mag., pp.22-26.

Who cares? What could seem farther from the price of bread and the tough task of finding work? Well, it's important to know what's going on in the world, given the fact that the biblical religion is, of all religions, the most "historical" (i.e., concerned about what's happening to people, and what resources they have). And in order to correlate the life of the biblical people with geo-political affairs, we've got to have our dates right vis-a-vis [among others] the Assyrian and Babylonian calendars.

DATES OF THE RULERS OF JUDAH AND ISRAEL

Judah		B.C.
Rehoboam		930-913
Abijam		913-910
Asa		910-869
Jehoshaphat	coregent	872-869
Jehoshaphat	total reign	872-848
Jehoram	coregent	853-848
Jehoram	total reign	853-841
Ahaziah		841
Athaliah		841-835
Joash		835-796
Amaziah		796-767
Azariah		
overlap with Amaziah		792-767
Azariah	total reign	792-740
Jotham	coregency	750-740
Jotham	official reign	750-735
Jotham	total years	750-732
Ahaz overlap with Jotham		735-732
Ahaz	official years	732-715
Hezekiah		715-686
Manasseh	coregent	697-686
Manasseh	total reign	697-642
Amon		642-640
Josiah		640-609
Jehoahaz		609
Jehoiakim		609-598
Jehoiachin		598-597
Zedekiah		597-586

Israel		B.C.
Jeroboam I		930-909
Nadab		909-908
Baasha		908-886
Elah		886-885
Zimri		885
Tibni		885-880
Omri		885-874
Ahab		874-853
Ahaziah		853-852
Joram		852-841
Jehu		841-814
Jehoahaz		814-798
Jehoash		798-782
Jeroboam II	coregency	793-782
Jeroboam II	total reign	793-753
Zachariah		753
Shallum		752
Menahem		752-742
Pekah		752-732
Pekahiah		742-740
Hoshea		732-723