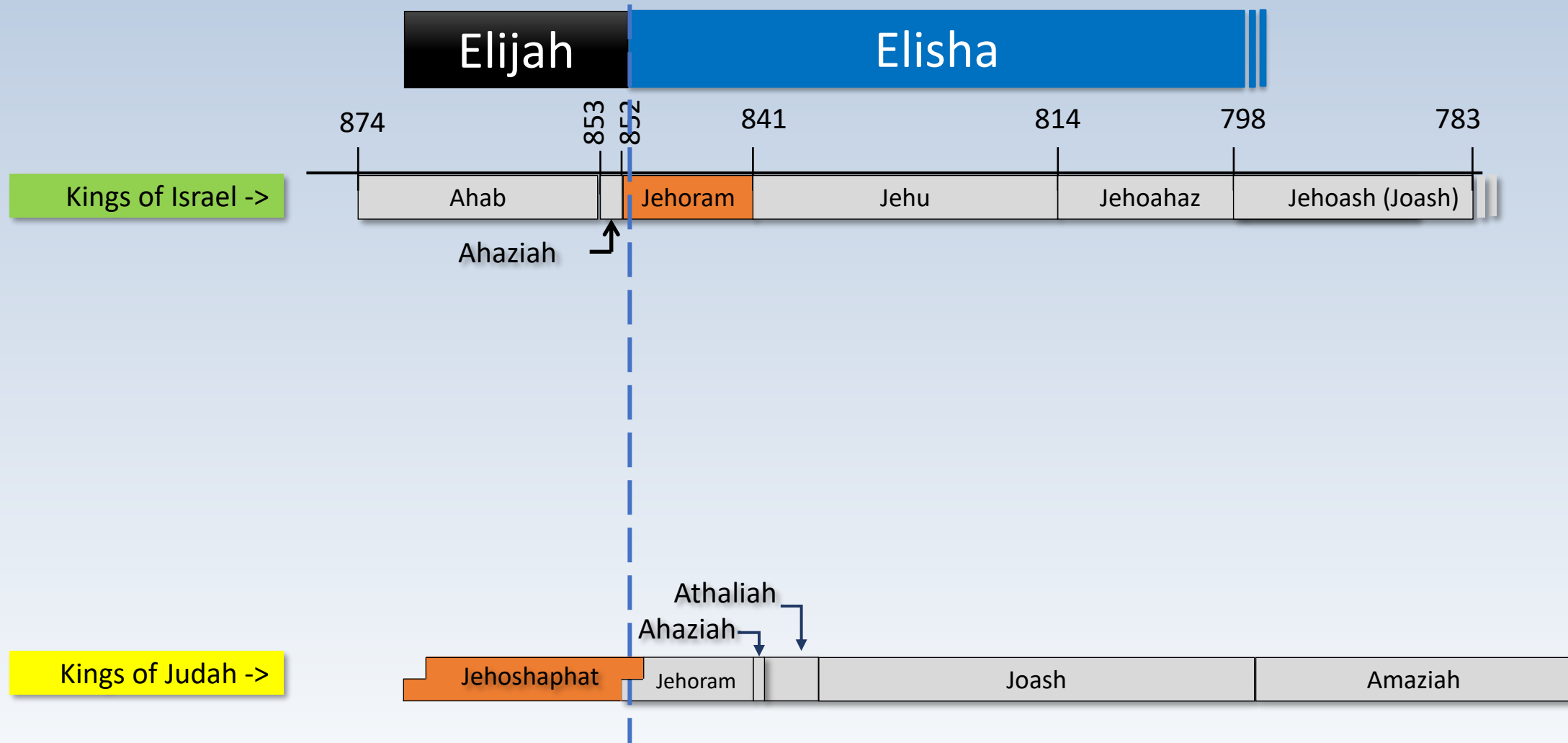


A painting depicting three men on camels in the foreground, leading a caravan through a desert landscape. The men are wearing yellow and white robes and head coverings, and are holding long poles. The camels are brown and have long manes. In the background, a large caravan of camels and people is visible, following a path through the desert. The landscape is arid, with rolling hills and a clear sky.

Victory by water and blood

Study 2

The timing of 2 Kings 3



The Moabite Stone



The inscription contains the following points of Biblical significance:

- “**Mesha**, son of Kemosh, **king of Moab** the Dibonite” (line 1)
- that Mesha “built... the temple of Baal Meon; and I established there [...] the **sheep of the land**” (lines 29-31).
- “Omri king of Israel had oppressed Moab” “And his son [Ahab] succeeded him, and he also said, I will oppress Moab. In my days he spoke, but I have triumphed over him and his house (by **refusing to pay tribute**)” (lines 5-7)
- “**house of David**” (line 31)
- “**Yahweh**” (lines 17-18). This is the earliest mention of Yahweh outside the Bible.
- **Kemosh**, mentioned 11 times . Chemosh is mentioned eight times in the Old Testament as the national god of the Moabites -Num. 21:29; Jgs. 11:24; 1 Kgs. 11:7, 33; 2 Kgs. 23:13; Jer. 48:7, 13, 46.
- A directive by Mesha to dig ditches - “I built Qeriho ... and I said to all the people ... **make yourself each a cistern in his house**; and I dug the ditches for Qeriho with prisoners of Israel (lines 24-25). Note: Nearly 100 cisterns were found at Dibon and in the surrounding area, possibly made in response to Mesha's directive.

The foolish ventures of Jehoshaphat

Jehoshaphat joined with Ahab in battle against the Syrians

2 Chron 18



Though warned by Micaiah the prophet (2 Chron 18:19), he was almost killed in battle, and afterwards rebuked by Jehu the seer (2 Chron 19:1-3)

Jehoshaphat joined with Ahaziah in ship building

2 Chron 20:35-37



His venture was condemned by Eliezer the prophet and thwarted by God (2 Chron 20:35-37)

Jehoshaphat joined with Jehoram in battle against the Moabites

2 Kings 3

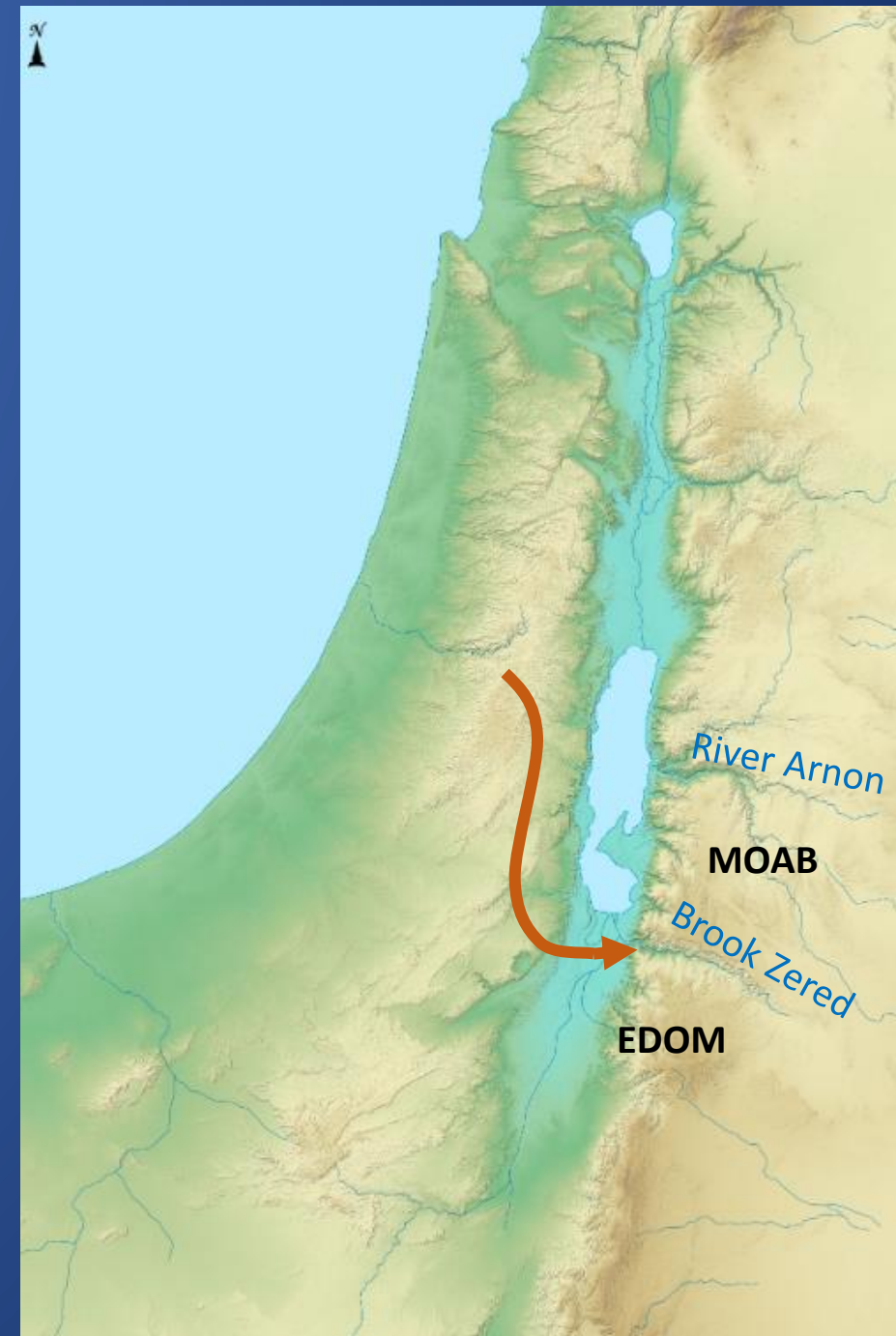
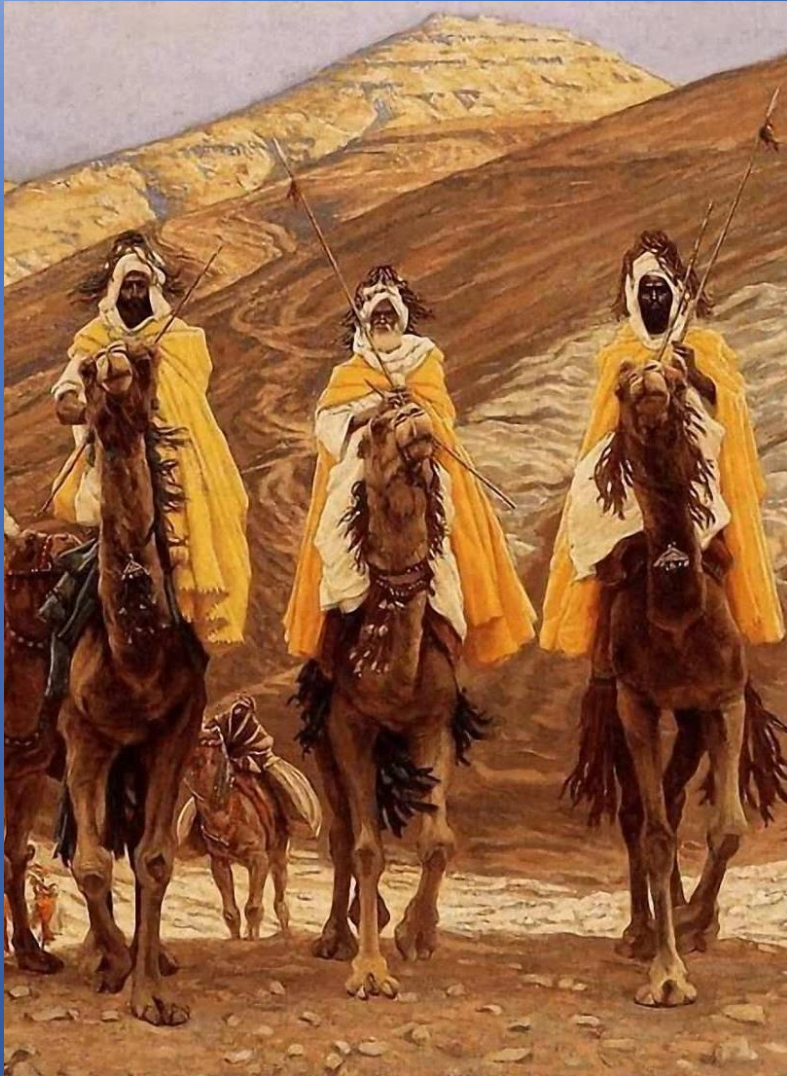


He and his army almost perished (2 Kings 3:10)

Lessons

- ‘Shouldest thou help the ungodly, and love them that hate Yahweh?’ 2 Chron. 19:2
- We need to become aware of our blind spots – Jehoshaphat wasn’t.

The journey of the kings



The sequence of events

- Day 1 – ditches were dug.
- Day 2 – in the morning when the minchah was offered, water came by the way of Edom then receded leaving only pools.
- Day 3+ – early in the morning the sun shone upon the pools of water.



Victory by water & blood



Deliverance will come to those who obey the man of God and make preparation to take in and believe his life giving words.

When the Sun of Righteousness arises, they will be seen to reflect the principles of Christ's sacrifice in their lives.

They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore.

Victory by water

Dig ditches ditches is the command of the man of God.

Jehoram was like the unjust steward 'who said within himself, What shall I do? for my lord taketh away from me the stewardship: I cannot dig; to beg I am ashamed'

Each person has to dig for themselves. How deep is the ditch we have dug? Are we setting aside adequate time for the readings, meditation, and prayer? Will the water in our earthen vessel sustain us for the battle of life?

We all have received of the water of life freely. Have we truly looked to the 'maker thereof' ?

Victory by blood

Are the principles of the sacrifice of Christ seen in our lives?

Are we able to say 'not my will but thy will be done'?