

Tonight's
passage -
theme -



2 Kings 15.8-31
collapsing ..

tumbling towers

See if you can match each of the different tower *names* to the correct *picture* below.

Tokyo Skytree

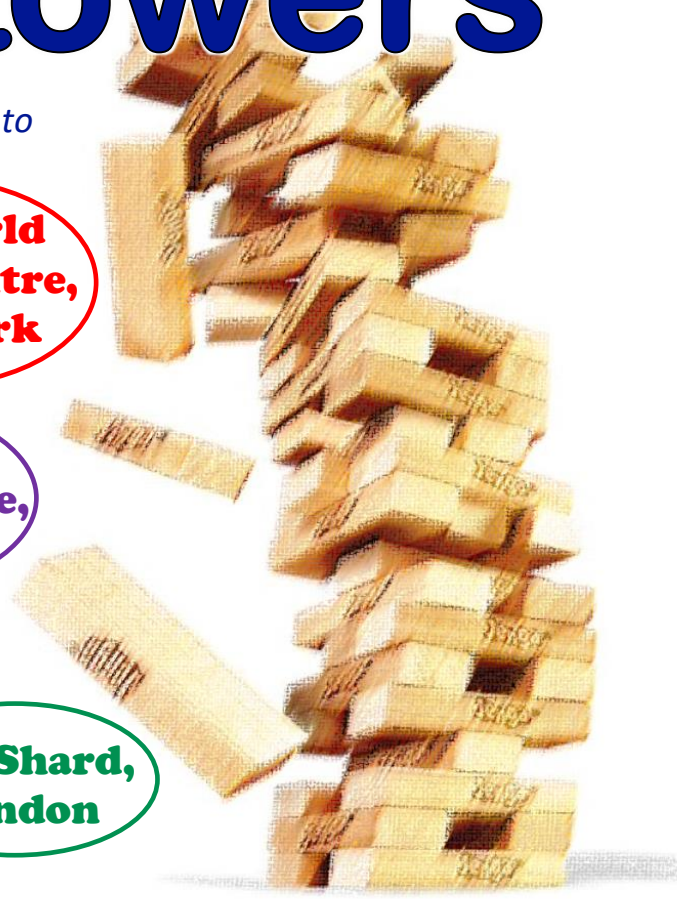
Tower of Babel

One World Trade Centre, New York

Burj Khalifa, Dubai

International Commerce Centre, Hong Kong

The Shard, London



answers on back page

The building of the **Tower of Babel** was a complete disaster!

You can read the story in verses 1-9 of Genesis 11. The people wanted to make a name for themselves rather than making much of the Lord. They were building on the wrong basis.

The foundations of a tall tower are the most important bit about the building: and if you get that wrong, the whole tower will eventually collapse!

Read
2 Kings 15
 verses 8-15

⁸In the thirty-eighth year of Azariah king of Judah, Zechariah son of Jeroboam became king of Israel in Samaria, and he reigned for six months. ⁹He did evil in the eyes of the Lord, as his predecessors had done. He did not turn away from the sins of Jeroboam son of Nebat, which he had caused Israel to commit.

¹⁰Shallum son of Jabesh conspired against Zechariah. He attacked him in front of the people, assassinated him and succeeded him as king. ¹¹The other events of Zechariah's reign are written in the book of the annals of the kings of Israel. ¹²So the word of the Lord spoken to Jehu was fulfilled: 'Your descendants will sit on the throne of Israel to the fourth generation.'

¹³Shallum son of Jabesh became king in the thirty-ninth year of Uzziah king of Judah, and he reigned in Samaria for one month. ¹⁴Then Menahem son of Gadi went from Tirzah up to Samaria. He attacked Shallum son of Jabesh in Samaria, assassinated him and succeeded him as king.

¹⁵The other events of Shallum's reign, and the conspiracy he led, are written in the book of the annals of the kings of Israel.

kings



start

falling

like dominoes

Can you remember from last week how many years the previous king (Jeroboam II) had reigned?

Have a look at 2 Kings 14.23 and write in the answer here.

__ years

Check out the kings who came after him and see how long (or rather how *short*) their reigns were!

NAME

HOW LONG?

Z _ _ _ _ _
 (see 2 Kings 15.8)

.....

S _ _ _ _ _
 (see 2 Kings 15.13)

.....

M _ _ _ _ _
 (see 2 Kings 15.17)

.....

P _ _ _ _ _
 (see 2 Kings 15.23)

.....

P _ _ _ _
 (see 2 Kings 15.27)

.....

Do the maths



Read

2 Kings 15. 17-26

¹⁷In the thirty-ninth year of Azariah king of Judah, Menahem son of Gadi became king of Israel, and he reigned in Samaria for ten years. ¹⁸He did evil in the eyes of the Lord. During his entire reign he did not turn away from the sins of Jeroboam son of Nebat, which he had caused Israel to commit.

¹⁹Then Pul king of Assyria invaded the land, and Menahem gave him a thousand talents of silver to gain his support and strengthen his own hold on the kingdom. ²⁰Menahem exacted this money from Israel. Every wealthy person had to contribute fifty shekels of silver to be given to the king of Assyria. So the king of Assyria withdrew and stayed in the land no longer.

²¹As for the other events of Menahem's reign, and all he did, are they not written in the book of the annals of the kings of Israel? ²²Menahem rested with his ancestors. And Pekahiah his son succeeded him as king.

²³In the fiftieth year of Azariah king of Judah, Pekahiah son of Menahem became king of Israel in Samaria, and he reigned for two years. ²⁴Pekahiah did evil in the eyes of the Lord. He did not turn away from the sins of Jeroboam son of Nebat, which he had caused Israel to commit. ²⁵One of his chief officers, Pekah son of Remaliah, conspired against him. Taking fifty men of Gilead with him, he assassinated Pekahiah, along with Argob and Arieah, in the citadel of the royal palace at Samaria. So Pekah killed Pekahiah and succeeded him as king.

²⁶The other events of Pekahiah's reign, and all he did, are written in the book of the annals of the kings of Israel.

A couple of maths questions for you!

1. Verses 8-26 mention the reigns of **how many** kings of Israel?

Your answer



2. How many years and months were covered by the reigns of the kings of Israel mentioned here?

Your answer

There's another sense, though, in which you need to 'do the maths'! You can see from the speed with which one king follows another that something was seriously wrong with the people of Israel

Read

2 Kings 15.

27-31

²⁷In the fifty-second year of Azariah king of Judah, Pekah son of Remaliah became king of Israel in Samaria, and he reigned for 20 years. ²⁸He did evil in the eyes of the Lord.

He did not turn away from the sins of Jeroboam son of Nebat, which he had caused Israel to commit.

²⁹In the time of Pekah king of Israel, Tiglath-Pileser king of Assyria came and took Ijon, Abel Beth Maakah, Janoah, Kedesh and Hazor. He took Gilead and Galilee, including all the land of Naphtali, and deported the people to Assyria. ³⁰Then Hoshea son of Elah conspired against Pekah son of Remaliah. He attacked and assassinated him, and then succeeded him as king in the twentieth year of Jotham son of Uzziah.

what went wrong?



You need to do a bit of detective work!

If you look back over all the verses you've read in this worksheet you'll see that there's **one** sentence that keeps cropping up!

This one!

Some more maths for you!

How many times does that sentence appear in the verses you've read?



Circle the correct number below

1 **2** **3** **4** **5** **6**

_____ What were _____

'the sins of Jeroboam'?

Read the story in
1 Kings 12.26-33

Jeroboam I was a rebel!

When King Solomon (the son of King David) died, his son Rehoboam became king. But Jeroboam led a rebellion: he set up an alternative kingdom. 10 of the 12 tribes of Israel supported him and so the 'rebel' kingdom got called 'Israel'.

Not only did he set up an alternative kingdom, however, rejecting the descendant of David, he also created an alternative religion with different worship centres.

He refused to do things God's way, and did things his own way. NOT A GOOD IDEA!



Think about what you've been learning in this worksheet. Speak to God about what you've learned.

Lord Jesus, the Bible can be really scary sometimes!

It's certainly scary to see how the people of Israel went wrong – and how their life as a people started to fall apart.

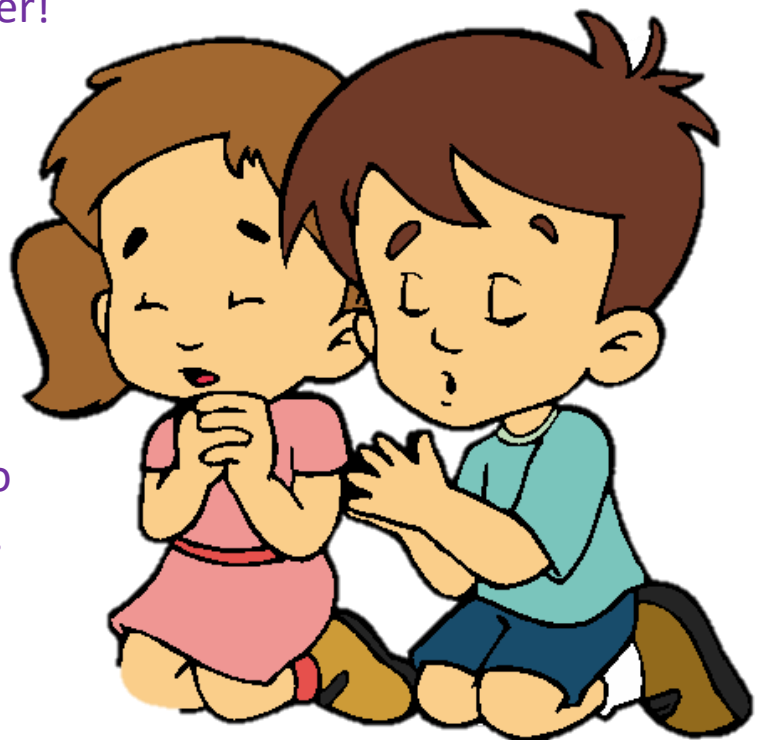
Thank You that in the Bible You tell us these things so that we can learn from them – and not make the same mistakes!

Please help me to be a good learner!

Help me not to think that I can cope fine by myself.

Help me to remember every day that I need You to guide me and to teach me and to give me strength.

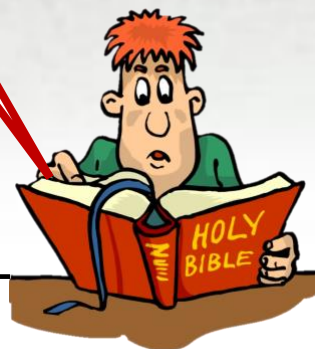
I want to be Your follower, Jesus.
Keep me safe each day – and keep me close to You always!



Today's verse for you to try and remember!

".. He did not turn away
from the sins of Jeroboam
son of Nebat, which he
had caused Israel to
commit"

2 Kings 15.^{9, 18, 24, 28}



A WORDSEARCH ..

Today's passage refers to *'The sins of Jeroboam son of Nebat'* many times!

This wordsearch (and the colour-in picture on the next page) relates to Jeroboam's sins.

A C I D O L A T R Y C B W K M L L N O P P B Z A
W H B W E B W F D J A Q M R Y K R I Q E D R H T
A O V A I O Q N B T Q J E N N T N J V E X N I S
G V R F R E O J I Y T P B U N K P I S N Y V R N
U S B S P S R M R P V T F E G Z L R O G V E P E
I L H D C H Z U X V H I I L Q E Y R E Z H H O X
U I V S A L T Y E B O D Y Y A H T Z P O O G W I
P I D A Z H Q O V M E W X M M H I E B V R P P L
W X X A X C I T O B G O R P E Z E O K M A O S E
Y U W H A L P J O I P Z D R T A A W L G D D M B
G H Q L R F L S A K B R N T S M M B J Q W Z E N
N Y V U A Y I J O H V T O A I A S X R E I G N M
E E L M H D W G T F R S E C N E U Q E S N O C E
S E Q N Z D L D V I A B W C L G A W T R E K E V
G L X D U C S T B E S I M O R P D H S S Z J P T
U Q A A Y L T E A V J E R O B O A M Q F V L C D
O V S J A W S P B G C E N I N Y F L O T M U T Y
U B H W N E U S Z L A A F S Y G Q D H S K V O N
C I S N G O D Y E Y T J V D U R C Y R U D R K A
A L I S C E U T F H A P R O P H E T P H E Q C S
R Q N G P M P O G L H I M Y A K T H P I W V Q T
C G U N O S K V I Q S O L O M O N K L R W E S Y
B I P I F V D M S P X Z B F Q K F U B S U J G C
M F J K Q T T A Z C I Q S D F C W R R M X D F X

REIGN	PROMISE	NORTHERN TRIBES	DYNASTY
SON	PROPHET	AHIJAH	RULE
SIN	CONSEQUENCES	ISRAEL	EXILE
WORSHIP	IDOLATRY	GOD	OBEY
DISOBEDIENT	EVIL	JEROBOAM	KINGS
PUNISH	CALVES	REHOBAM	SOLOMON

COLOUR IN THIS PICTURE

You can read the story of king Jeroboam I in 1 Kings 12.26-33 where the writer tells us how he made two golden calves and set up one in the north of the country and one in the south of the country: the people were to worship these calves instead of worshipping the Lord.



ANSWERS!

to the 'tumbling towers' on page 1



The Shard



Tokyo Skytree



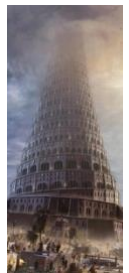
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Tower of Babel