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<sup>23</sup>In the fifteenth year of Amaziah the son of Joash, king of Judah, Jeroboam the son of Joash, king of Israel, became king in Samaria, *and reigned* forty-one years. <sup>24</sup>And he did evil in the sight of the LORD; he did not depart from all the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who had made Israel sin. <sup>25</sup>He restored the territory of Israel from the entrance of Hamath to the Sea of the Arabah, according to the word of the LORD God of Israel, which He had spoken through His servant Jonah the son of Amittai, the prophet who *was* from Gath Hopher. <sup>26</sup>For the LORD saw *that* the affliction of Israel *was* very bitter; and whether bond or free, there was no helper for Israel. <sup>27</sup>And the LORD did not say that He would blot out the name of Israel from under heaven; but He saved them by the hand of Jeroboam the son of Joash. <sup>28</sup>Now the rest of the acts of Jeroboam, and all that he did—his might, how he made war, and how he recaptured for Israel, from Damascus and Hamath, *what had belonged* to Judah—are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel? <sup>29</sup>So Jeroboam rested with his fathers, the kings of Israel. Then Zechariah his son reigned in his place.  
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### 1. Success of Jeroboam II

- a. Jer. II had a long reign of 41 years
  - a1. 11 years as co-regent with his father, Joash (793-782 BC)
  - a2. 30 years as sole ruler (782-753 BC)
- b. He reconquered all the territory that Israel had lost to Hazael of Syria
  - a1. Jer. even conquered Damascus
  - a2. Conquered land all the way to the Sea of Arabah (Dead Sea)
- c. Assyria had attacked Syria on its eastern border, weakening its defense in south against Israel
- d. Jer. extended Israel to the farthest reaches of David & Solomon's kingdom
- e. Jer. II's reign ends in 753 BC, just 31 years before Israel's exile

### 2. Wickedness flaunting grace

- a. Even though God was gracious to Israel for Abraham's sake, Jer. II did not cease from sacrificing to the Golden Calf of Jer. of Nebat
- b. He worshiped the Golden Calf & other idols
- c. Assyria had attacked Syria on its eastern border

- a1. Israel was able to invade Syria's weakened southern border & make inroads
- a2. Syria's weakness & not Israel's might allowed Jer. II to make gains
- d. Jer. II extended Israel to the furthest reaches of David's & Solomon's empire
- e. Jer. II's reign ended in 753 BC, just 31 years before the exile of Israel by the Assyrian conquest

### 2. Wickedness flaunting grace

- a. Even though God was gracious to Israel for Abraham's sake, Jer. II did not cease to worship the Golden Calves of Jer. of Nebat or other idols
- b. God was gracious in giving Jer. II a 41 year reign & many victories over his enemies, but these were not due to his righteousness (not sign of approval)

### 3. Last Chance

- a. Amos & Hosea ministered to Israel during Jer. II's reign, trying to bring Israel to repentance
- b. Hosea depicts Israel as an unfaithful wife, who refuses to repent & become faithful
  - a1. Like Gomer, Israel still wanders off
  - a2. God had not given up on Israel
  - a3. Finally, Hosea buys Gomer back for 15 shekels (1/2 the price of a slave) & 240 lb. of barley, after her lovers abandon her
  - a4. Gomer's 3 children: Jezreel (God revenges Jehu's blood-letting there), *No more mercy*, & *Not my people* (God disowns Israel)
  - a5. God will bring Israel back after a period of no Temple or Priests (Hosea 2)
  - a6. God still loves Israel
- c. Amos stated that Israel refused to repent
  - a1. God sent famines, plagues, blight, & pests
  - a2. God grieved over Israel
  - a3. Amos warned of impending judgment
  - a4. God took no pleasure in Israel's worship
  - a5. Israel will be destroyed, but then restored
- d. Through mercy, warnings, & judgment, God gave Israel a final chance to repent before its doom