

the names of the kings involved, from Jotham to Mennaseh. We will look at that period next time.

We were discussing number "3" and under that we discussed "a" Israel and Judah to about 735 and then we were just starting "b" from Jotham to Menasseh. Under that number "1" is the downfall of Israel. We are now at a point at which there is not a great deal told about Israel. The center of attention has ~~sw~~ shifted to Judah. Israel was in the very forefront of attention during a long period and there was far more about Israel than there was about Judah during the time of the great Baal crisis. The Baal crisis has been overcome but Israel has continued in the ways of Jeroboam. The ~~fall~~ Baal crisis which would have ~~been~~ rooted out belief in God from Judah as well as Israel has ~~ex~~ become a thing of the past. There was sporadic worship of Baal here and there but it was not a great menace any more. But there had come after the death of Elisha the effects of his revival doubtless continued for some period of time but was gradually replaced ~~by~~ in different secularisms forgetfulness of God. And so the interest is largely in Judah at this time. Consequently we do not have a great deal of detail about the history of Israel. They must have been very exciting days, that last ~~cent~~ century of Israel's history, days when the political currents and cross-currents were confused and conflicting, days in which it would have been very easy for people for a time to have thought that certainly they were about to be completely destroyed by the kingdom of Syria. And then for a time to think that they were going to completely conquer Syria and to be utterly superior to Judah for a time. There ups and downs and the Bible does not pay a great deal of attention to them. Now, however, a new menace has ^{appeared} ~~occurred~~ in the distance. Assyria which had already been a vital factor two hundred years before, but had not been very conspicuous for some time. Many of them had paid tribute to the king of Assyria and there had been a certain relationship between Israel and Assyria, a certain fear of Assyria, but Assyria had not been a great overwhelming menace until this immediate period.