

Wednesday Night, Survey Service: Week 31
2 Kings 12 – 22, John 13-16

2nd Kings 12: Joash struck down

Key Point:

We cannot expect to lean forever on the spiritual maturity of others because once the influence is gone, we are likely to fall prey to our weaknesses since the spiritual maturity we leaned on was not our own.

Key Verse - 2nd Kings 12:20 (NLT)

Joash's officers plotted against him and assassinated him at Beth-millo on the road to Silla.

2nd Kings 13: Elisha dies

Key Point:

God invites us to continue shooting against whatever opposes our walk with Him or could otherwise build our faith (temptation, lack of knowledge, ministry) so we must press into what God leads boldly.

Key Verse - 2nd Kings 13:20 (NLT)

Then Elisha died and was buried. Groups of Moabite raiders used to invade the land each spring.

2nd Kings 14: Amaziah's foolish war

Key Point:

Just because God gives you success in one area does not mean you should be presumptuous in another area – always inquire of the Lord no matter how successful you think you SHOULD be in any endeavor.

Key Verse - 2nd Kings 14:11 (NLT)

But Amaziah refused to listen, so King Jehoash of Israel mobilized his army against King Amaziah of Judah. The two armies drew up their battle lines at Beth-shemesh in Judah.

2nd Kings 15: Judah's kings do right

Key Point:

Everyone dies no matter how important they think they are in life so doing what is right before the Lord is by far more important than any ambition.

Key Verse - 2nd Kings 15:3 (NLT)

He did what was pleasing in the Lord's sight, just as his father, Amaziah, had done.

2nd Kings 16: Ahaz was bad

Key Point:

Just because the tools, techniques and principles of the world can bring apparent success does NOT mean we should imitate those things. Temporal “success” is a vanity.

Key Verse - 2nd Kings 16:2 (NLT)

Ahaz was twenty years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem sixteen years. He did not do what was pleasing in the sight of the Lord his God, as his ancestor David had done.

2nd Kings 17: Israel deported

Key Point:

When God brings judgement, he first brings warning – often many warnings over a long period – but if those warnings are rejected judgement will inevitably come.

Key Verse - 2nd Kings 17:18 (NLT)

Because the Lord was very angry with Israel, he swept them away from his presence. Only the tribe of Judah remained in the land.

2nd Kings 18: Hezekiah

Key Point:

A good thing can be turned into an idol if we look to IT to save us rather than to God. The question is “what are you trusting to guide and sustain you in life?” It is anything less than God, then your trust is misplaced.

Key Verse - 2nd Kings 18:13 (NLT)

In the fourteenth year of King Hezekiah’s reign, King Sennacherib of Assyria came to attack the fortified towns of Judah and conquered them.

2nd Kings 19: Sennacherib’s letter

Key Point:

God has chosen to act when we pray – because it is an act of humility and trust. Regardless of how dire the situation seems or how deceptively simple the issue may appear; we should pray about everything.

Key Verse - 2nd Kings 19:14 (NLT)

After Hezekiah received the letter from the messengers and read it, he went up to the Lord’s Temple and spread it out before the Lord.

2nd Kings 20: Hezekiah’s healing

Key Point:

There is as much temptation in success as there is in failure and the lure of what is desired. We must guard against pride, being ungrateful, misusing the gifts God gives, trusting in our assets and missing a chance to be about GOD’S kingdom rather than our own comfort.

Key Verse - 2nd Kings 20:8 (NLT)

Meanwhile, Hezekiah had said to Isaiah, “What sign will the Lord give to prove that he will heal me and that I will go to the Temple of the Lord three days from now?”

2nd Kings 21: Mad Manasseh

Key Point:

We are each responsible for our own behavior and choices. No one can hide freewill choices behind a good or a bad family background.

Key Verse - 2nd Kings 21:9 (NLT)

But the people refused to listen, and Manasseh led them to do even more evil than the pagan nations that the Lord had destroyed when the people of Israel entered the land.

2nd Kings 22: Hilkiyah finds the law

Key Point:

The justice of God may be delayed because of humility and tenderness of heart before Him.

Key Verse - 2nd Kings 22:8 (NLT)

Hilkiyah the high priest said to Shaphan the court secretary, “I have found the Book of the Law in the Lord’s Temple!” Then Hilkiyah gave the scroll to Shaphan, and he read it.

John 13: Feet and Fealty

Key Point:

We must humbly accept what Jesus has done for us because we cannot earn God's favor by any combination of works or ritual.

Key Verse - John 13:34 (NLT)

So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other.

John 14: One Way, One Help

Key Point:

The "greater" works that we should do are greater in scope of influence rather than greater in sensationalism. We are expected to spread His fame to the ends of the earth.

Key Verse - John 14:15 (NLT)

"If you love me, obey my commandments.

John 15: Vine, Branches & Who Hates You Brother

Key Point:

Following Jesus is about centering our lives in His words, in a heart-chosen loyalty to Him that is known to be genuine because this loyalty causes us to walk in His ways.

Key Verse - John 15:5 (NLT)

"Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing.

John 16: The Guide

Key Point:

Success and freedom from criticism are not signs that we have the truth or that we are right with God because the world rejects the truth about their condition that the Holy Spirit exposes. We can expect to be opposed.

Key Verse - Key Verse: John 16:13 (NLT)

When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own but will tell you what he has heard. He will tell you about the future.