

The Book of Second KINGS
Chapters 1- 3
“FROM ISRAEL TO BABYLON!”

Intro: The Book of Second KINGS is the history of the Kings of the Northern Kingdom (commonly known as Israel, also called Ephraim, its capitol Samaria) and the Southern Kingdom called Judah (Jerusalem is the capital). **Second KINGS** is a continued revelation of kings who do evil in the sight of the LORD, and those who did what was right in the sight of the LORD! Both kingdoms will end in destruction and deportation. The Northern Kingdom conquered and deported through the Assyrian Empire and years later the Southern Kingdom destroyed and deported by the Babylonian Empire. This historical lesson sheds light on the fact that personal, societal and national practice of sin will always invite God’s judgment.

> Chapter Outline:

Ch. 1 – 17- Israel & Judah – Israel deported to Assyria – Date: 853-722 B.C. (131 years)

Ch. 18 – 25- Judah – Judah deported to Babylonia – Date: 715-560 B.C. (155 years)

COMPARISON

1 KINGS

&

2 KINGS

- Opens with David King of Israel
- Solomon’s glory
- The temple built & consecrated
- Begins with blessings for obedience
- The growth of apostasy
- The united kingdom is divided

- Closes with Nebuchadnezzar, King of Babylonia
- Jehoiachin’s shame
- The temple violated and destroyed
- Ends with judgment for disobedience
- The consequences of apostasy
- The two kingdoms are destroyed

> Christ in Second KINGS: Elijah is a type of John the Baptist (see Matt. 11:14; 17:10-12; Luke 1:17), Elisha reminds us of Christ. Elijah generally lives apart from the people and stresses law, judgment, and repentance. Elisha lives among the people and emphasizes grace, life, and hope.

> Key Verses: 2 Kings 17:22-23- *For the children of Israel walked in all the sins of Jeroboam which he did; they did not depart from them, until the LORD removed Israel out of His sight, as He had said by all His servants the prophets. So Israel was carried away from their own land to Assyria, as it is to this day.*

2 Kings 23:27- *And the LORD said, "I will also remove Judah from My sight, as I have removed Israel, and will cast off this city Jerusalem which I have chosen, and the house of which I said, 'My name shall be there.' "*

Chapter 1- “The King’s Injury & Insult”

(v1-4) Elijah pronounces judgment on King Ahaziah (Northern Kingdom)

(v5-12) Elijah, the blazing prophet

(v13-15) Elijah, the merciful prophet

(v16-18) King Ahaziah dies

> *Baal-Zebub*, which means *"lord of the fly,"* was "the god of Ekron" (2 Kings 1:2-3,6,16) - the name under which Baal was worshiped at the Philistine city of Ekron. This god was worshiped as the producer of flies, and consequently as the god that was able to defend against this pest. In the New Testament, reference is made to Beelzebub, a heathen god considered the chief evil spirit by the Jewish people (Matthew 10:25; 12:27; Luke 11:18-19). The Pharisees called him "the ruler of the demons" (Matthew 12:24; Mark 3:22; Luke 11:15), and Jesus identified him with Satan. (from Nelson's Illustrated Bible Dictionary, Copyright © 1986, Thomas Nelson Publishers)

Chapter 2- “Elijah Hands Off To Elisha”

(v1-11) Elijah taken up in a whirlwind

(v12-22) Elisha follows in the footsteps of Elijah

(v23-25) Rebellious youths bear their judgment

Chapter 3- “Always Seek God’s Help”

(v1-5) The King of Moab defies Israel (Northern Kingdom)

(v6-15) Three Kings (Northern, Southern & Edom) seek war counsel from Elisha

(v16-27) Moab defeated (The king of Moab sacrificed his eldest son to the god Chemosh.

Chemosh (Judges 11:24; 2 Kings 23:13) was the national god of the Moabites and Ammonites. Like Molech, Chemosh was worshiped by the sacrifice of children as burnt offerings, but scholars believe it is incorrect to identify Chemosh directly with Molech. Solomon sanctified Chemosh as a part of his tolerance of pagan gods (1 Kings 11:7), but Josiah abolished its worship (2 Kings 23:13). Human sacrifice was made to Chemosh, according to 2 Kings 3:27, which reports that Mesha, king of Moab, offered his eldest son as a burnt offering on the wall of Kir Hareseth, the ancient capital of Moab. (from Nelson's Illustrated Bible Dictionary, Copyright © 1986, Thomas Nelson Publishers)