
2Kings

The book of **2Kings**, records how the ten northern tribes (Israel) and two southern tribes (Judah) continued to drift away from God while ignoring the prophets' warnings. Ultimately, both kingdoms were soundly defeated by enemy nations, deported from their lands, and held in captivity.

The northern ten tribes of Israel were taken into captivity in two phases (**2Kings 15:29**, **2Kings 18:11**) and the southern two tribes of Judah in three phases (**2Kings 24:2**, **2Kings 24:14**, **2Kings 25:11**).

Outline

2Kings 1-13	Ministry of Elisha
2Kings 14-17	Assyria Takes Israel (Samaria) Captive
2Kings 18-25	Babylon Takes Judah Captive

Elijah

Elijah, who ascended to heaven (**2Kings 2**), is important in end-times theology.

- The Jews believed Elijah would precede the Messiah (**Mat 17:10**).
- They wondered if John the Baptist was Elijah (**John 1:21**).
- Elijah met Jesus on the mount (**Mat 17:3**).
- Today, Jews leave an empty seat for Elijah at Passover dinner.

Personal Reflection and Application

Notice what Hezekiah did when he received a threatening letter from the Assyrians (**2Kings 19:14-19**). He spread the letter out before the Lord and prayed.

- When troubles come, before thinking of fixing things yourself, do you lay them out before God and ask for His guidance and protection?
- What will help you remember to seek God first?

Small Group Conversation Guide

King Manasseh did more evil than the Amorites [[2Kings 21:11](#)]. Sadly, some Christians, even leaders, behave more wickedly than non-believers. We are each accountable for our own behavior.

Discuss the challenges of showing proper submission to those in authority while being the person God wants you to be.

Leadership Principles from 2Kings

Obedient in Small Things

Naaman [[2Kgs 5](#)] was insulted when Elisha sent word that he should wash seven times in the Jordan to cure his leprosy. He expected that Elisha would ask him to perform some great feat. Sometimes we expect God to set a grand task before us when all He really wants is that we are obedient and faithful in the small things.

Think about the small areas in your life. Are you obedient and faithful in those?

Something to Find in Each Chapter

As you read through the book, it may help to have something to find in each chapter.
Try these:

01. How the third captain's approach to Elijah differed	02. What Elisha asked of his mentor, the prophet Elijah
03. Why Elisha said he spoke to Jehoram, king of Israel	04. What three miracles Elisha did for the two women
05. What Naaman the leper did not want to do	06. What Elisha's servant saw after God opened his eyes
07. Why the four lepers chose to surrender to the Syrians	08. How Hazael succeeded Ben-Hadad as king of Syria
09. How Queen Jezebel died	10. How King Jehu killed the priests of the false god Baal
11. Which three parties were part of Jehoida's covenant	12. What caused King Jehoash to do right in God's sight
13. What happened to the man buried in Elisha's tomb	14. Why King Amaziah spared the assassins' children
15. What King Azariah failed to do despite doing good	16. Where King Ahaz got ideas for his new altar / religion
17. Why the northern tribes of Israel were carried away	18. What King Hezekiah destroyed from Moses' day
19. What King Hezekiah did with the Assyrian letter	20. What sign God gave Hezekiah about his healing
21. Who the southern tribes of Judah were worse than	22. How King Josiah responded to hearing God's Word
23. How King Josiah turned to God more than any king	24. How God sent enemy nations to judge His people
25. How the southern tribe of Judah was carried away	