ALERT

Be Warned

2 Kings

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Warnings Help Us



Danger of death



SLIPPERY SURFACE

POISON

Warnings Help Us



Do you appreciate warnings? Many people don't.



Everyone Worships



EVERYONE worships SOMETHING



What is the best WARNING we can heed?



Background to 2 Kings



Deut. 28: Blessings & Curses

Your towns and your fields will be blessed (3)

Your children and your crops will be blessed (4)

Your fruit baskets and breadboards will be blessed (5)

Wherever you go and whatever you do, you will be blessed (6)

Your enemies will attack you from one direction, but they will scatter from you in seven! (7)

You will lend to many nations, but you will never need to borrow from them (12) Your towns and your fields will be cursed (16)

Your children and your crops will be cursed (17)

Your fruit baskets and breadboards will be cursed (18)

Wherever you go and whatever you do, you will be cursed (19)

You will attack your enemies from one direction, but you will scatter from them in seven! (25)

They will lend to money to you, but you will not lend to them (44)



Not heeding God's warnings would raise up enemies.





Handbook pg. 32-37

Let's Study Through Scripture

The Bible: Book by Book





1
Kingdoms2
Kingdoms3
Kingdoms4
Kingdoms1212SamuelSamuelKingsKings







What is the best WARNING we can heed?

We will see: 1. What God warns against and 2. What we should do about it.



Second Kings



Downfalls of the Kingdoms

Dr. Rick Griffith • Jordan Evangelical Theological Seminary • BibleStudyDownloads.org

I. God warns against worshipping other gods.



"You shall have no other gods before me" —*Exodus 20:3*— Downfalls in 2 Kings

God judged idolatry by destroying Israel (2 Kings 1–17).

Judah

Israel to Assyria 140

2 Kings 1

Downfalls of the Kingdoms 249					
Late Divided Kingdom			Surviving Kingdom		
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Chaps. 1–17			Chaps. 18–25		
Israel Exiled to Assyria			Judah Exiled to Babylon		
Ahaziah to Hoshea			Hezekiah to Zedekiah		
130 Years			163 Years		
(852-722 BC)			(722-560 BC)		
2 Bad Israel Kings & Elisha's Ministry 1:1–8:15					

1 Kings 22:51–2 Kings 8:15

2 Bad Israel Kings & Elisha's Ministry Ahaziah of Israel (853-852)

"Is it because there is no God in Israel for you to consult that you have sent messengers to consult Baal-Zebub, the god of Ekron?" "You will certainly die!" (1:16)



2 Kings 2

Elijah (1 Kings) & Elisha (2 Kings)



Elijah passes the mantle to Elisha



Elisha picks up Elijah's cloak and performs the 1st miracle (divided water of Jordan River)



Healing of the water

Chaps. 1–2

Elijah into heaven on a chariot of fire

2 Kings 3

Elijah & Elisha

Elijah means "The LORD is my God," as he confronted a king & priests of Baal. He lived apart & preached judgment & repentance.

Elisha means "God is salvation," as he lived among people, preferring the poor & outcast, and stressed hope & God's grace.

Defeat of Moab



The Desert of Edom was where Elisha provided water for Joram & Jehoshaphat to defeat Moab

2 Kings 4



Oil for widow

Son for Shunammite woman & restoration for son Ch 4



Elisha miraculously provided oil for a prophet's widow to pay her debts to show God's care for those who trust him despite the apostasy around them (4:1-7).

Elisha miraculously restored the Shunammite's boy to life years later to show **God's sovereignty** over Baal, to whom child sacrifice was offered in Israel (4:18-37).

Elisha miraculously multiplied 20 bread loaves to feed 100 men during a famine to show God's sovereignty over the powerless Baal, god of fertility and "lord of the earth" (4:42-44). 2 Kings 5
Naaman was a mighty Syrian commander and a leper (2 Kings 5)



A Captive's Compassion (2 Kings 5:3)

She had been captured in a raid, taken to a foreign country, and made a slave. Yet instead of bitterness, she showed compassion toward her master. She wanted him healed, and she believed her God would do it. God used this girl's tragedy to heal and convert her enemy—a wonderful example of love reaching out.

Miracles for Gentiles



Curing the Syrian general, Naaman, of leprosy shows God's concern wasn't limited to Israel

Warning for Believers



The leprosy of Naaman transferred to Elisha's servant Gehazi for thinking he was only God's hireling

2 Kings 5:26-27



The floating axe-head

More Miracles

Blinding of Syrians (right: Dothan, where Elisha & his servant saw the angel army)



Chariots of Fire (2 Kings 6:17)



Surrounded by an army, Elisha's servant cried, "What shall we do?" But when Elisha prayed, the servant could suddenly see that God's forces, invisible to everyone else, far outnumbered the enemy. The story offers a rare glimpse of the "invisible world" of supernatural forces. God has resources to help that we cannot see.

The Chariots of God



God's forces always outnumber Satan's



Elisha miraculously prophesied Samaria's rescue from a Syrian famine siege and God replied with food from the enemy camp to show that God provides food and protection, not Baal (6:24-7:20)

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Late Divided Kingdom 2 Kings 15–17

JUDAH Azariah/Uzziah

Jotham Ahaz

(52)

(16)

(16)

ISRAEL Zechariah X Shallum X Menahem Pekahiah X Pekah X Hoshea

(6 mths) (1 mth) (10) (2) (20) (10)



Jehu of Israel (841-814)

This is what the LORD says:

"I anoint you king over Israel."



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Jehu - King by a coup

- Murdered Joram & Joram's mother, Jezebel
- Murdered Ahaziah & relatives
- Purged the entire family of Ahab (70 sons, close friends, etc.)
- Demolished Baal worship
- Allowed golden calf worship to continue



God chose Jehu to purge Israel, but his violence went far beyond his original task. God condemned Jehu in Hosea 1:4.

Jehu's Slaughters (2 Kings 10:14)

KEY VERSE: 2 Samuel 7:12-13

209 **"For when you** (David) die, I will raise up one of your descendants, and I will make his kingdom strong. He is the one who will build a house—a temple—for my name. And I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever.'











Jehoiada Crowns Joash (2 Kings 11:12; 2 Chron. 23:11)





Athaliah Killed (2 Kings 11:15-16; 2 Chron. 23:14-15)



Faithful By A Thread

The Davidic rulers came down to only one man (three times!)

God still keeps His promises to those who worship Him today



Joash of Judah

- Became king at 7 years old
- "Did what was right in the eyes of the LORD all the years Jehoiada the priest instructed him"
- High places not removed, people continued to offer sacrifices and burn incense there
- Temple repaired
- Attacked by Hazael king of Aram; sent sacred objects, gifts and gold from the temple to Hazael in exchange for his withdrawal


Troublesome Neighbors (2 Kings 13:20)

Moab and Aram (Syria) were small kingdoms like Judah and Israel. **Sometimes they** fought against Israel or Judah, and sometimes they joined together to oppose a larger threat.

ILDERNESS



20 30

40

Troublesome Neighbors (2 Kings 13:20)

On the world scene, constant threats came from Egypt and Assyria. Assyria was the superpower before its empire declined. Later, Babylon became the superpower of the region.



Elisha's Last Prediction

Jehoash of Israel (798-782)

Experienced 3 victories over Aram (as Elisha predicted before his death)

2 Kings 13:10-25



Prophets of Israel (2 Kings 14:23)

Amos and Hosea prophesied in the beautiful city of Samaria. (Jonah also prophesied in Nineveh, the capital city of Assyria.)

Israel scoffed at these prophets' words of doom, but within 30 years all their predictions came true.

Expansion under Jeroboam II

"Jeroboam II recovered the territories of Israel between Lebo-hamath and the Dead Sea," just as the Lord, the God of Israel, had promised through Jonah son of Amittai, the prophet from Gath-hepher." (2 Kings 14:25 NLT). * Hebrew the sea of the Arabah







Influenced history

Founders of a dynasty



Late Divided Kingdom 2 Kings 15–17

JUDAH Azariah (Uzziah) (52)

Jotham Ahaz (16) (16) X Shallum
Menahem
Pekahiah
X Pekah
X Hoshea

Zechariah

ISRAEL

(6 mths) (1 mth) (10) (2) (20) (10)

Influenced history

Founders of a dynasty



Invasion

Assyria invaded in the reign of *PEKAH* of Israel (745-727) *Kings* 15



Assyrian Campaigns Against Israel & Judah

• The Assyrian invasions of the 8th century BC were the most traumatic political events in Israel's entire history.

 Assyria ruthlessly impaled corpses on stakes, severed heads, and skinned captives alive.





9.65.03d. 47

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Chart of OT Kings & Prophets

(John C. Whitcomb, 4th rev. ed., Winona Lake, IN: BMH Books, 1962, 1968, p. 2)-





Assyrian Campaigns Against Israel & Judah

The bloody military sieges on both Israel and Judah was profound. The prophets screamed out against their horror, while at the same time pled with the people to see God's hand in history, to recognize spiritual causes in the present punishment.







Invasions

Assyria invaded in the reign of **PEKAH** of Israel (745-727) HOŚHEA appealed to So of Egypt rather than pay tribute to Shalmaneser resulting in the FALL OF SAMARIA



Is God's Judgment Justified?

Israel's exile to Assyria came for rejecting the Law of God for idols, sacred stones, high places, Asherah poles, astrology, divination, sorcery and other practices of the nations (2 Kings 17)



Downfalls in 2 Kings

140

Israel to Assyria

Judah to Babylon

God judged idolatry by destroying Judah (2 Kings 18–25).

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Hezekiah

He became king at age 25 and ruled well for 29 years

2 Kings 18:2



Good Hezekiah & 2 Bad Judah Kings

Most righteous king

Removed idolatry

Obeyed, trusted & served God

2 Kings 18–20





Hezekiah's Greatest Test

The Assyrian army besieged Jerusalem in 701 BC

Hezekiah pled with the LORD for deliverance that:

"all kingdoms on earth may know that you alone are God"

Chaps. 18–20





Surviving Kingdom 2 Kings 18–25

JUDAH Hezekiah **Manasseh** Amon Josiah Jehoahaz Jehoiakim Jehoiachin 🗡 Zedekiah

(29)(55) (2)(31)(3 months) (11)(3 months) (11)



Influenced history



Evil Manasseh

Manasseh's evil reign of 55 years reinstituted all the pagan practices destroyed by Hezekiah his father which vindicated God's soon punishment of exile in Babylon for Judah

Zephaniah preached just after Manasseh filled both courts with idols





 Manasseh was taken to Babylon in chains

2 Chron 33:11-17

The Prayer of Manasseh



2 Chron 33:11-17
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Josiah



 At age 8, Josiah became the last of the good kings of Judah
2 Kings 22



• At age 26, Josiah initiated temple repairs that made a remarkable discovery

2 Kings 22:8

The "Book of the Law" motivated Josiah (2 Kings 22)

"Then Shaphan the scribe told the king, saying, 'Hilkiah the priest has given me a book.' And Shaphan read it before the king... when the king heard the words of the Law, that he tore his clothes" (2 Chron. 34:18-19).





- Reading the scroll led Josiah to action.
- He renewed the Mosaic Covenant and removed all pagan altars built by his grandfather Manasseh



9.65.03d.49



Deportation of Jehoiachin to Babylon

During Jehoiakim's reign, Nebuchadnezzar invaded Judah and Jehoiakim became his vassal for 3 years. But he changed his mind and rebelled against Babylon.

During his son Jehoiachin's reign, Nebuchadnezzar laid siege to Jerusalem and removed all the treasures from the temple and palace. He carried into exile 10,000 people, including Jehoiachin.

10,000 carried into exile LAM

in Babylonia

Jer 52:28f; Ezek 2:15; Ezra 2:59f; 8:17) return of exiles under Sheshbazzar & Zerubbabel (Ezra 1-2)

Jerusalem (Amman

Moody Atlas

return of exiles under Ezra (Ezra 8:31); under Nehemiah (Neh 1-3)



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A Kingdom Disappears (2 Kings 25:22)

Judah's final rebellion (under Zedekiah) against Babylon failed, resulting in an 18-month siege and the destruction of Jerusalem.

Survivors were taken away in the "Babylonian captivity," a tragic moment in Jewish history.

God spelled out the reasons for this disaster in 2 Kings 21:10-16 (read).







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II. Worship God alone so he doesn't discipline your idolatry.

Don't worship family

Crowns we wear today



Don't worship family Don't worship time Don't worship health Don't worship teachers

Crowns we wear today



What is the best WARNING we can heed?



Main Idea of 2 Kings

God warns against idolatry by showing us its horrible results.



2 Kings Summary Statement

The covenant disobedience and resultant downfalls of the kingdoms of Israel and Judah are contrasted with God's loyalty to the Davidic Covenant to remind Israel of the need to obey the Law-not repeat past mistakes.

What are you most tempted to worship instead of God?



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