

## 12. Second Book of Kings

1. Writer: Unknown. It records both Israel and Judah being taken into captivity and was written during the captivity. (See II Kings 17:23 *So Israel was carried away out of their own land to Assyria unto this day.*)
2. Time Period: The narrative continues from I Kings following the death of Ahab and goes through the next 300 years detailing the subsequent kings of both the nations of Israel and Judah until Israel is carried away captive by the Assyrians and eventually, 130 years later, Judah is carried away into captivity by the Babylonians.
3. Chapter by Chapter:

Chapter 1: Ahab's son, Ahizah (I7), is injured falling through a lattice and he sends messengers to ask Baal-zebub, (an idol found in the city of Ekron) if he would live. The prophet Elijah intercepts the messengers and tells them to tell Ahizah that is going to die. Displeased, Ahizah sends men to capture Elijah, but Elijah calls down fire from heaven to burn up two captains, each with their group of 50 men. A 3<sup>rd</sup> Captain of 50 men comes and pleads for Elijah to spare his life, and an angel reveals that Elijah may go with him safely. Elijah does go with him to see Ahizah and he declares that for inquiring from Baal-zebub, Ahizah shall surely die and he does die.

Chapter 2: Elijah and Elisha walk to Jericho and Elijah hits the river Jordan with his mantel (clothing/ wrap) and the water divide in two. Elijah asks what he can do for Elisha before he leaves him and Elisha requests a double portion of the spirit that was upon Elijah. Elijah tells him that if Elisha sees him leave it will happen; then a chariot of fire with horses of fire comes down carries Elijah to heaven in a whirlwind. Elisha sees him go and he receives the double portion, which is evidenced by him picking up the mantle of Elijah that had fallen and striking Jordan, which parted for him too. Elisha later heals the waters of the city of Jericho, which likely had been bad since Joshua cursed the first Jericho.

Chapter 3: After the death of Ahizah(I7), his brother, Jehoram (I8 a.k.a Joram) reigns 12 years and while he was an idolatrous king, he wasn't as bad as his parents Ahab and Jezebel. Jehoram makes a treaty with Jehoshaphat (J4) and together they with the king of Edom go to invade Moab, who had rebelled against Israel's rule over it after Ahab had died. During the journey the army ran out of water and the three kings seek out Elisha, who only speaks to them because Jehoshaphat (J4) is with them. Elisha prophesies a great victory against Moab through God filling the valley with water, but without any rain falling. God sends water through the land of Edom and fills the valley. As the sun rose, the Moabite looked at the red water and thought it was blood of the armies of Judah, Israel and Edom, who must have fought each other so they hastily come down to take the spoils and they are destroyed.

Chapter 4: God provides oil to the widow of prophet to pay her creditors to spare his sons from being taken as indentured servants. A barren woman of Shunem cares for Elisha when he travels in the area and God blesses her with a son. The son later dies, but God through Elisha restores him again. (This is the second example of a resurrection). With just 20 loaves of barley bread and corn in the husks, despite his servant's objection that it wasn't enough to feed the 100 men, Elisha feeds the multitude there were still left overs.

Chapter 5: Naaman, who is the top General over the whole army of the Syrian King, was a leper and his servant, a little Israelite girl who had been stolen by a Syrian raiding party, tells Naaman that there is a prophet in Israel that could heal him. The king of Syria sent a letter to the King Jehoram (I8) along with a present telling Jehoram to have Naaman's leprosy removed, which distresses Jehoram who thinks the Syrian king is just trying to pick a fight. Elisha sends word to the king to send Naaman unto to him so he would *know that there is a prophet in Israel*. Naaman and his

large company come and stand outside of Elisha's house, but rather than coming out, Elisha just sends a messenger to tell Naaman to go and dip himself in the river Jordan seven times. Naaman leaves in a huff, but his servants calm him down and he eventually complies and is healed. He tries to pay Elisha, who utterly refuses any gift, and Naaman departs. Gehazi, Elisha's servant, decides that he will take some of the gifts offered and chases after to get some and then lies about it to Elisha, but he ultimately receives Naaman's leprosy.

Chapter 6: Elisha performs a miracle by causing an iron axe head to float. Later after Elisha has informed Jehoram (I8) three different time of the Syrian king's plan to ambush him, the Syrian King decides that Elisha must be dealt with directly. He sends a band of men to capture him and they completely surround the city of Dothan. Elisha and his servant wake early and see the great host and the servant panics. Elisha says *Fear not: for they be with us are more than they that be with them* and prays that God will open the servant's eyes and then he is able see God's host: the horseman and chariots of fire surrounding the army of Syria. Elisha asks God to smite the band with blindness and then he leads them to Jehoram (I8) in Samaria as captives. After this the king of Syria, Ben-hadad, gathers his entire army and lays siege to Samaria. With no food getting into the city, people are reduced to eating dung and their own children.

Chapter 7 – Elisha declares that next day there shall be plenty in the city. Early the next morning before the break of day some lepers outside the city, who had decided that they'd rather surrender to the Syrians than starve to death, go to the Syrian camp and discover that all their stuff was there, but all the people were gone. God had scared them away with the noise that sounded like a great army of men. Thinking it is a trap, Jehoram, sends two of the five remaining horses left in the city and follows their tracks all the way to the river Jordan to make sure they'd really left and then the people poured out of the city to eat of the food in the abandoned camp.

Chapter 8 – Elisha tells the Shunamite Woman (See Chapter 4) that there is 7 years of famine coming and she needs to depart to find a place to wait it out. After the seven years, she returns to the land, but someone has taken her lands in her absence so she must petition the king, who had just heard the story from Gehazi about her son being restored to life by Elisha when she walked into the court. He gives her lands and all the fruits that had been produced thereon during the seven years of her absence.

Elisha travels to Damascus, a city of Syria, and the King Ben-hadad, who is sick, sends his servant, Hazael, to ask Elisha if he would recover. Elisha tells Hazael to tell Ben-hadad that he would recover, but Elisha also revealed that Ben-hadad shall surely die and that Hazael shall become king (Fulfillment of God's instruction to Elijah in I Kings 19:15). Hazael tells Ben-hadad that he would recover, but the very next day he takes a wet towel and smothers Ben-hadad so Hazael becomes king of Syria.

Jehoshaphat (J4) dies and his son, Jehoram(J5) reigns in Judah for eight years, but he engages in the same idolatry as Israel and even marries one of Ahab's (I6) daughters- Athaliah. Upon Jehoram's (J5) death, his son Ahaziah (J6) reigned for only one year, but he followed the evil of the house of Ahab. Ahaziah (J6) travels to the city of Jezreel to visit Jehoram (I8), who was sick.

Chapter 9 – Elisha sends a prophet to the city of Ramoth in Gilead to anoint Jehu as the king over Israel (Fulfillment of God's instruction to Elijah in I Kings 19:16) and to instruct Jehu to destroy the whole house of Ahab for their wickedness. Jehu and his followers quickly arise and travel to attack Jezebel and they killed Jehoram(I8) the grandson of Ahab on his father's side and the King of Judah, Ahaziah (J6), who was the grandson of Ahab through his mother's side. Jehu also instructed Jezebel, Ahab's wife to be tossed down from a tall tower and there the dogs ate most of her fulfilling the prophecy that Elijah had spoken- See I Kings 21:23.

Chapter 10 - Jehu (I9) fulfills the instructs to wipe out Ahab's house and causes the nobles in Samaria to behead Ahab's seventy descendants and he also destroys all the worshippers of Baal, but yet he still follows in Jeroboam's(I1) sins (golden calves). The Lord sent word to Jehu that for his

obedience in the matter of the house of Ahab and the followers of Baal, his children would reign as kings unto the 4<sup>th</sup> generation. Jehu (I9) reigns for 28 years after which, his son, Jehoahaz (I10) reigned.

Chapter 11 – When Athaliah, the mother of Ahaziah (J6) and daughter of Omri (I5), hears that Ahaziah is dead, she attempts to kill all the royal children and she rules as the Queen over Judah for 6 years. Just one of Ahaziah's sons survived, Joash (aka Jehoash) who was hidden by his aunt in the Temple for six years, until he secretly was made king of Judah at the age of seven with the help of Jehoiada, the Priest. At Jehoiada's direction, the people broke down the house Baal and Queen Athaliah (J7) was slain.

Chapter 12 - Joash (J8) does right and follows God during the time that Jehoiada the priest was alive and instructing him. He repairs the Temple, which had been neglected, but later in life he fears the Syrian King- Hazael so he sends all the hallowed (holy) vessel, gold and treasure from the house of God to Hazael to buy him off and prevent him from attacking Jerusalem. Joash is slain by a conspiracy of his own servants and his son, Amaziah (J9) becomes king.

Chapter 13 – Jehoahaz (I10), Jehu's son, reigns 17 years and does evil after the ways of Jeroboam(I1) so God delivers Israel into the hands of Hazael and his son, Benhadad, the kings of Syria. King Jehoahaz beseeches the Lord, who mercifully delivers Israel from the Syrians, but Israel's fighting forces are greatly diminished with a small army of 10,000-foot soldiers, 50 horsemen and just 10 chariots.

Upon Jehoahaz's (I10) death, his son, Jehoash (I11 aka Joash) began to reign, but he also did evil like Jeroboam (I1) during his 16-year reign. Jehoash (I11) visits Elisha on his death bed and shoots and smites the ground with arrows which pointed to God's deliverance from the Syrians, but only for three times. Elisha died and later a dead man who is quickly tossed into Elisha's sepulchre (grave) comes back to life upon touching the bones of Elisha.

# Chart of Kings No. 2

Total Years since 1st King	Length of Reign	Judah	Israel	Book	Prophets
40	40	Saul (40 Year Reign over Unified Kingdom See Act 13:21)		I Samuel & I Chronicles Ch. 10	Samuel
47	7	David (2 Samuel 2:11)	Ishbosheth: 2 Years (Saul's Son)		
80	33	David (33 Year Reign over Unified Kingdom See 1 Kings 2:11)		II Samuel & I Chronicles Ch. 11-29	Gad, Nathan
120	40	Solomon ( 40 Year Reign over Unified Kingdom See 1 Kings 11:42)	(David's Son)	I Kings Chapters 1-11	Ahijah, Iddo
140	20	J1. Rehoboam: 17 Years Reign (Son of Solomon) J2. Abijam: 3 Years- Rehoboam's Son	I1. Jeroboam: 22 Year Reign (Son of Nabat)		
181	41	J3. Asa: 41 Years Son of Abijam- reformed Israel (Died of Disease of Feet)	I2. Nadab 2 Years (Son of Jeroboam) I3. Baasha: 24 years (Slays Nadab) I4. Zimiri: 7 days (slays Baasha) I5. Omri: 12 years (slays Zimiri)	I Kings Chapters 12-22	Jehu
206	25	J4. Jehoshaphat: 25 Years Son of Asa (Joined in a alliance with Ahab)	I6. Ahab: 22 years (Son of Omri) I7. Ahaziah: 2 Years (Son of Ahab)		Elijah, Micaiah, Elisha
214	8	J5. Joram 8 Yrs (Son of Jehoshphat)	I8. Jehoram a.k.a. Joram: 12 Years (Son of Ahab) (Slain by Jehu)		
215	1	J6. Ahaziah 1 Yr (Son of Joram) Slain by Jehu			
222	7	J7. Queen Athaliah: 6 Yrs (Mother of Ahaziah and Daughter of I5. Omri)	I9. Jehu: 28 Years (God sent a prophet to anoint him to be king) Destroyed Ahab's Baal Idolatry but contined in Jeroboam's Golden Calf Idolatry	II Kings 1-13	Elisha
262	40	J8. Joash aka Jehoash: 40 Years (son of Ahaziah) Crowned at 7 Years Old, repaired the temple, slain by his servants	I10. Jehoahaz: 17 Yrs. (Son of Jehu)		