

The
SECOND BOOK OF KINGS 2 KINGS 1

King Abaziah sends to consult Baal Zebub;

Abaziah sends troops of fifty to arrest Elijah

CHAPTER 1

1 And Moab broke away from Israel after the death of Ahab.

2 And Ahaziah fell down through a lattice in his upper apartment that was in Samaria, and was worn *out*; and he sent messengers, and said to them, Walk, tread seeking from Baal Zebub², the god of Ekron, if I shall live over this calamity.

3 And the Messenger of Jehovah said to Elijah, the Tishbite, Rise, go up to meet the messengers of the king of Samaria, and speak to them, Is it because *there is no God in Israel*, that you walk to tread seeking an answer from Baal Zebub, the god of Ekron?

4 And so thus says Jehovah, You shall not come down from that bed on which you are gone up, because dying, you shall die. And Elijah walked.

5 And the messengers turned back to him, and he said to them, Why this, you are turned back?

6 And they said to him, A man came up to meet us, and said to us, Walk, turn again to the king who sent you, and speak to him, Thus says Jehovah, *Is it because there is no God in Israel*, that you send to tread seeking an answer from Baal Zebub, the god of Ekron? Therefore you shall not come down from that bed on which you are gone up, because dying, you shall die.

² **1:2 Baal Zebub**, Lord of the Fly, the main god of Ekron, a city of the Palestinians.

7 And he spoke to them, How would you judge the man who came up to meet you and spoke to you these words?

8 And they said to him, *He was* a man, a hairy lord,⁸ and girded with a girdle of leather about his loins; and he said, It is Elijah, the Tishbite.

9 And he sent to him a chief ruler of fifty and his fifty, and he went up to him; and behold, he sat on the head of a hill. And he spoke to him, Man of God, the king has spoken, Come down.

10 And Elijah answered, and spoke to the chief ruler of fifty, If I *am* a man of God, let fire descend from the heavens, and consume you and your fifty. And fire descended from the heavens, and consumed him and his fifty.

11 And he turned back, and sent to him another chief ruler of fifty and his fifty. And he answered, and spoke to him, Oh man of God, thus has the king said, Come down quickly.

12 And Elijah answered, and spoke to them, If I *am* a man of God, let fire descend from the heavens, and consume you and your fifty. And the fire of God descended from the heavens, and consumed him and his fifty.

⁸ **1:8 a man, a hairy lord**, *ish baal se'ar*. *Ish* is the word for man, and *baal* is the word for lord. *se'ar* is the word for hair. The KJV leaves out the word lord altogether, and reads a hairy man, but the Hebrew has, a man, a hairy lord. This most likely means that Elijah was dressed in the skin of some long haired animal with the leather turned to his skin and the hair showing on the outside of the garment, similar to what John the Baptist wore, who was the Elijah of the New Covenant.

13 And he turned again, and sent a chief ruler of a third fifty and his fifty. And the third chief ruler of fifty went up, and came, and bent down on his knees before Elijah, and stooped down asking grace from him, and spoke to him, Oh man of God, please, let my soul, and the soul of these fifty, your servants, be heavy in value in your eyes.

14 Behold, fire came down from the heavens, and consumed the two chief rulers of the former fifties and their fifties; and now let my soul be heavy in value in your eyes.

15 And the Messenger of Jehovah spoke to Elijah, Go down with him; do not be afraid of his face. And he rose, and went down with him to the king.

16 And he spoke to him, Thus says Jehovah, Because you have sent messengers to tread seeking an answer from Baal Zebub, the god of Ekron, *is it* because *there is* no God in Israel to tread seeking his word? So, you shall not come down from that bed on which you have gone up, because dying, you shall die.

17 And he died according to the word of Jehovah which Elijah had spoken, and Jehoram reigned in his place in the second year of Jehoram, the son of Jehoshaphat, king of Judah, because to him was no son.

18 And what is left of the words of Ahaziah which he did, *are* they not written in the book of the words of the days of the kings of Israel?

CHAPTER 2

1 And it was, Jehovah would take up Elijah into the heavens by a hurricane, and Elijah and Elisha went from Gilgal.

2 And Elijah said to Elisha, Sit down here, please, because Jehovah has sent me to Bethel. And Elisha said, *As* Jehovah lives and your soul lives I will not leave you. And they went down to Bethel.

3 And the sons of the prophets who were at Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, Do you know that Jehovah will take up your lord over your head today? And he said, Yes, I know; be quiet.

4 And Elijah said to him, Elisha, sit down here, please, because Jehovah has sent me to Jericho. And he said, *As* Jehovah lives and your soul lives I will not leave you. And they came to Jericho.

5 And the sons of the prophets who were at Jericho came near to Elisha, and said to him, Do you know that Jehovah will take up your lord over your head today? And he said, Yes, I know; be quiet.

6 And Elijah said to him, Sit down here, please, because Jehovah has sent me to Jordan. And he said, *As* Jehovah lives and your soul lives I will not leave you. And they two walked on.

7 And fifty men of the sons of the prophets walked, and stood opposite him afar off, and they two stood by Jordan.

8 And Elijah took his cloak, and folded it, and struck the waters, and they were split in two, here and there, and they two crossed over on desert ground.

9 And it was, they crossed over, and Elijah said to Elisha, Ask what I shall do for you before I am taken up from you. And Elisha said, please, let a double mouth of your spirit be upon me.

10 And he said, You have asked a hard thing; if you see me taken up from you, it shall be so to you; and if not, it shall not be.

11 And it was, they, walking, walked on, and spoke; and behold, there appeared a chariot of fire, and horses of fire, and separated between the two; and Elijah ascended by a hurricane into the heavens.

12 And Elisha saw, and he cried, My father, my father, the chariot of Israel, and its horsemen. And he saw him no more, and he seized his own clothes, and tore them into two rags.

13 And he raised up the cloak of Elijah that fell from him, and turned back, and stood by the lip of Jordan;

14 And he took the cloak of Elijah that fell from him, and struck the waters, and said, Where *is* Jehovah God of Elijah? Yes! And he struck the waters, and they were split in two, here, and there; and Elisha crossed over.

15 And the sons of the prophets who were in front of Jericho saw him, and they said, The spirit of Elijah rests on Elisha. And they came to meet him, and prostrated themselves to the earth before him.

16 And they said to him, Behold now, there are with your servants fifty sons of men of resources; let them walk, please, and search for your lord, lest the Spirit of Je-

hovah has lifted him up, and thrown him upon some mountain, or into some valley. And he said, You shall not send.

17 And they urged him until he paled in shame, and he said, Send! And they sent fifty men, and they searched three days, and did not find him.

18 And they turned back to him (and he had sat down at Jericho), and he said to them, Did I not say to you, Do not walk?

19 And the men of the city said to Elisha, Behold, please, the situation of this city *is* good, as my lord sees, and the water *is* bad, and the earth barren.

20 And he said, Bring me a new vial, and put salt in there. And they brought *it* to him.

21 And he went out to *where* the waters go out, and threw the salt in there, and said, Thus says Jehovah, I have healed these waters; there shall not be from there any more death or barrenness.

22 And the waters were healed to this day, according to the word of Elisha which he spoke.

23 And he went up from there to Bethel, and he was going up by the way; and there came out little children out of the city, and mocked him, and said to him, Go up, bald head! Go up, bald head!

24 And he turned back, and saw them, and made light of them in the name of Jehovah. And there came out two bears out of the woods, and tore of them forty-two children.

2 KINGS 3 *King Jehoram enlists King Jehoshaphat and the king of Edom to fight Moab with him; Elisha*

25 And he walked from there to Mount Carmel, and from there he returned to Samaria.

CHAPTER 3

1 And Jehoram, the son of Ahab, began to reign over Israel in Samaria the eighteenth year of Jehoshaphat, king of Judah, and reigned twelve years.

2 And he did evil in the eyes of Jehovah, although not like his father and his mother, and he took away the idolatrous columns of Baal that his father had made.

3 However he clung to the sins of Jeroboam, the son of Nebat, who caused Israel to sin; he did not turn away from them.

4 And Mesha, king of Moab, was a herdsman, and rendered to the king of Israel the wool of a hundred thousand lambs and a hundred thousand rams.

5 And it was, Ahab was dead, and the king of Moab rebelled against the king of Israel.

6 And king Jehoram went out of Samaria the same day, and visited all Israel.

7 And he walked, and sent to Jehoshaphat, king of Judah, saying, The king of Moab has rebelled against me; will you walk with me against Moab to battle? And he said, I will go up; *I am* as you *are*, my people as your people, and my horses as your horses.

8 And he said, Which way shall we go up? And he said, The way through the wilderness of Edom.

9 And the king of Israel walked, and the king of Judah, and the king of Edom; and they circled around the way seven days; and there was no water for the army and for the animals on foot.

10 And the king of Israel said, Alas! That Jehovah has called these three kings together, to give them into the hand of Moab!

11 And Jehoshaphat said, *Is there* not here a prophet of Jehovah, that we may tread seeking an answer from Jehovah by him? And one of the king of Israel's servants answered, and said, Here *is* Elisha, the son of Shaphat, who poured water on the hands of Elijah.

12 And Jehoshaphat said, The word of Jehovah is with him. And the king of Israel, and Jehoshaphat, and the king of Edom went down to him.

13 And Elisha said to the king of Israel, How shall I walk with you? Walk to the prophets of your father, and to the prophets of your mother. And the king of Israel said to him, No, because Jehovah has called these three kings together, to give them into the hand of Moab.

14 And Elisha said, Jehovah of hosts lives, before whose face I stand! Assuredly, were it not that I lift the face of Jehoshaphat, the king of Judah, I would not look toward you, nor see you.

15 And now bring me a minstrel. And it was, the minstrel played, and the hand of Jehovah was upon him.

16 And he said, Thus says Jehovah, Make in this stream dug ditches;

17 Because thus says Jehovah, You shall not see wind, and you shall not see rain; and that stream shall be filled with water, and you shall drink, you, and your livestock, and your animals.

18 And this is a light thing in the eyes of Jehovah, and he will give the Moabites into your hand.

19 And you shall strike every fortified city, and every choice city, and shall fell every good tree, and stop up all wells of water, and every good allotment of land you shall ruin with stones.

20 And it was in the dawn, the food offering was offered up, and behold, water came by the way of Edom, and the earth was filled with water.

21 And all the Moabites attentively heard that the kings had come up to devour against them, and they proclaimed an assembly of all who were able to gird on girdles *of armor*, and upward, and stood in the border.

22 And they loaded up early in the dawn, and the sun shined on the water, and the Moabites saw the water on the other side as red as blood;

23 And they said, This *is* blood! Destroyed! The kings are destroyed! And they have struck each man his neighbor; and now, Moab, to the spoil!

24 And they came to the camp of Israel, and the Israelites rose up, and struck the Moabites, and they fled before their face; and striking, they struck the Moabites.

25 And they pulled down the cities, and on every allotment of land every man threw his stone, and filled it; and they stopped up all the wells of water, and caused all the good trees to fall, until only stones were left in Kirharaseth; and the slingers surrounded it, and struck it.

26 And the king of Moab saw that the battle was too strong for him, and he took with him seven hundred men who drew swords, to break through even to the king of Edom; and they could not.

27 And he took his oldest son who should have reigned in his place, and offered him up for a burnt offering upon the wall. And there was great rage against Israel; and they pulled up from him, and turned back to their own land.

CHAPTER 4

1 And one woman of the wives of the sons of the prophets cried to Elisha, saying, Your servant. my husband, is dead; and you know by seeing that your servant feared Jehovah; and the creditor has come to take for himself my two children to be servants.

2 And Elisha said to her, What shall I do for you? Cause to stand out boldly to me what exists to you in the house? And she said, There is not any thing to your maid-servant in the house, except a flask of oil.

3 And he said, Walk outside; ask for yourself vessels of all your fellow residents, empty vessels, not a few.

2 KINGS 4 *God multiplies the oil of the prophet's widow; a woman provides a room for Elisha*

4 And you come in, and you shut the door upon yourself and upon your sons, and pour out into all those vessels, and that which is full you shall pull up.

5 And she walked from him, and shut the door upon her, and upon her sons; they brought *the vessels* to her, and she poured out.

6 And it was, the vessels were full, and she said to her son, Bring me another vessel. And he said to her, *There is* not another vessel. And the oil stood.

7 Then she came, and caused it to stand out boldly to the man of God. And he said, Walk, sell the oil, and make your debt complete, and you and your children live on the rest.

8 And it was on a day, that Elisha crossed over to Shunem, where was a great woman, and she fastened upon him to eat food. And it was, that as oft as he crossed by, he turned in there to eat food.

9 And she said to her husband, Behold now, I know by seeing that this is a holy man of God who crosses over by us continually.

10 Let us make a little loft, please, on the wall, and let us put for him there a bed, and a table, and a chair, and a lampstand; and it shall be, when he comes to us, he shall turn in there.

11 And it was on a day, and he came there, and he turned into the loft, and lay down there.

12 And he said to Gehazi, his servant, Call this Shunammite. And he called her, and she stood before his face.

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13 And he said to him, Please say to her, Behold, you have trembled before us with all this fear; what shall I do for you? Shall I speak for you to the king, or to the chief ruler of the host? And she said, I dwell among my own people.

14 And he said, What then is to be done for her? And Gehazi said, Verily to her is no child, and her husband is old.

15 And he said, Call her. And he had called her, and she stood in the door.

16 And he said, At this appointed time, according to the time of life, you shall embrace a son. And she said, No, my lord, man of God, do not lie to your maidservant.

17 And the woman conceived, and bore a son at that appointed time according to the time of life that Elisha had spoken to her.

18 And the child became large, and it was on a day, and he went out to his father to the reapers.

19 And he said to his father, My head! My head! And he said to a young man, Carry him to his mother.

20 And he carried him, and brought him to his mother, and he sat on her knees until noon, and died.

21 And she went up, and laid him on the bed of the man of God, and shut the door upon him, and went out.

22 And she called to her husband, and said, Send me, please, one of the young men, and one of the donkeys, and I will run to the man of God, and return.

23 And he said, Why will you walk to him today? *It is* not the new moon, and *it is* not the Sabbath. And she said, Peace.

24 And she bound a donkey, and said to her servant, Drive, and travel! Do not hold back riding for me unless I say to.

25 And she walked, and came to the man of God to Mount Carmel. And it was, the man of God saw her before him, and he said to Gehazi, his servant, Behold, that *is* the Shunammite;

26 Run now, please, to meet her, and say to her, Is there peace with you? Is there peace with your husband? Is there peace with the child? And she answered, Peace.

27 And when she came to the man of God to the hill, she seized him by the feet; and Gehazi came near to push her away. And the man of God said, Slack off, because her soul is bitter within her, and Jehovah has veiled it from me, and has not caused it to stand out boldly to me.

28 And she said, Did I request a son of my lord? Did I not say, Do not deceive me?

29 And he said to Gehazi, Gird up your loins, and take my staff in your hand, and walk; if there is any man, do not bless him; and if any blesses you, do not answer him; and put my staff upon the face of the young man.

30 And the mother of the young man said, *As* Jehovah lives, and your soul lives, I will not leave you. And he rose up, and walked after her.

31 And Gehazi crossed on before their face, and put the staff upon the face of the young man, and there was no voice, and no hearing. And he turned back to meet him, and caused it to stand out boldly to him, saying, The young man has not awakened.

32 And Elisha came into the house, and behold, the young man had died, laid out on his bed.

33 And he went in, and shut the door upon the two of them, and judged in prayer to Jehovah.

34 And he went up, and lay down upon the young man, and put his mouth upon his mouth, and his eyes upon his eyes, and his hands upon his hands, and he prostrated himself upon the young man; and the flesh of the young man became warm.

35 And he turned back, and walked in the house, back and forth, and went up, and prostrated himself upon him; and the young man sneezed seven times, and the young man opened his eyes.

36 And he called Gehazi, and said, Call this Shunammite. And he called her; and she came in to him, and he said, Take up your son.

37 And she went in, and fell at his feet, and prostrated herself to the earth, and took up her son, and went out.

38 And Elisha returned to Gilgal, and there was a famine in the land; and the sons of the prophets *were* sitting before his face; and he said to his servant, Put on the big pot, and boil soup for the sons of the prophets.

2 KINGS 5 *God through Elisha heals the soup and multiplies food; Naaman, the Syrian leper*

39 And one went out into the field to gather bright plants, and found a field vine, and gathered his garment full of field cucumbers, and came, and sliced them into the pot of soup, but they did not know by seeing *them*.

40 And they poured out for the men to eat. And it was, as they were eating of the soup, that they cried out, and said, Oh, man of God, *there is* death in the pot! And they could not eat *it*.

41 And he said, Then bring flour. And he threw *it* into the pot, and he said, Pour out for the people, that they may eat. And there was no evil word in the pot.

42 And a man came from Baal Shalisha, and brought the man of God food of the firstfruits, twenty loaves of barley and produce in a sack. And he said, Give to the people, and they will eat.

43 And his minister said, How shall I give this before the face of a hundred men? He said again, Give to the people, and they will eat, for thus says Jehovah, They shall eat, and there shall be some left over.

44 And he gave it before their face, and they ate, and some was left over, according to the word of Jehovah.

CHAPTER 5

1 And Naaman, chief ruler of the host of the king of Syria, was a great man before the face of his lord, and lifted his face, because by him Jehovah had given deliverance to Syria, and he was a mighty man of resources, a leper.

2 And the Syrians had gone out by armies, and had brought away a little girl captive out of the land of Israel, and she was before the face of Naaman's wife.

3 And she said to her mighty lady lord, Would that my lord *were* before the face of the prophet who is in Samaria, for he would remove from him his leprosy.

4 And one came, and caused it to stand out boldly to his lord, saying, Thus and thus spoke the little girl who *is* from the land of Israel.

5 And the king of Syria said, Walk, go, and I will send a letter to the king of Israel. And he walked, and took in his hand ten talents of silver, and six thousand pieces of gold, and ten changes of clothing.

6 And he brought the letter to the king of Israel, saying, And now this letter comes to you, behold, I have sent Naaman, my servant, to you, and you may remove from him his leprosy.

7 And it was, the king of Israel called out the letter, and he tore his clothes, and said, *Am* I God, to kill, and to make alive, that this *man* sends to me to remove from a man his leprosy? Because surely, know, please, and see that he is seeking to start something against me.

8 And it was, Elisha, the man of God, attentively heard that the king of Israel tore his clothes, and he sent to the king, saying, Why have you torn your clothes? Let him come now to me, and he shall know by seeing that there is a prophet in Israel.

9 And Naaman came with his horses and with his chariot, and stood at the door of the house of Elisha.

10 And Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, Walk, and wash in Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall turn back to you, and you shall be clean.

11 And Naaman burst out in rage, and walked away, and said, Behold, I said to myself, Coming out, he will come out to me, and stand, and call on the name of Jehovah, his God, and wave his hand back and forth over the place, and remove the leprosy.

12 *Are* not Abana and Pharpar, rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? May I not wash in them, and be clean? And he faced about, and walked away in a heat.

13 And his servants came near, and spoke to him, and said, My father, if the prophet had spoken to you some great word, would you not have done it? How much more then, since he says to you, Wash, and be clean?

14 And he went down, and plunged himself seven times in Jordan, according to the word of the man of God, and his flesh turned back like the flesh of a little child, and he was clean.

15 And he returned to the man of God, he and all his company, and came, and stood before his face; and he said, Behold, now I know that *there is* no God in all the earth, but in Israel; and now, please, take a blessing of your servant.

16 And he said, As Jehovah lives, before whose face I stand, I will take none. And he urged him to take it, and he refused.

17 And Naaman said, If not, please, let there be given to your servant a two mules load of earth, because your servant will not any more offer burnt offering, and sacrifice to other gods, only to Jehovah.

18 In this word Jehovah forgive your servant, that when my lord goes into the house of Rimmon to prostrate himself there, and he supports himself on my hand, and I prostrate myself in the house of Rimmon - when I prostrate myself in the house of Rimmon, Jehovah forgive, please, your servant in this word.

19 And he said to him, Walk in peace. And he walked from him a length of land.

20 And Gehazi, the servant of Elisha, the man of God, said, Behold, my lord has refused Naaman, this Syrian, in not taking from his hands what he brought, but, *as* Jehovah lives, I will run after him, and take something from him.

21 And Gehazi ran after Naaman. And Naaman saw him running after him, and he fell down from the chariot to meet him, and said, Peace?

22 And he said, Peace. My lord has sent me, saying, Behold, now this, two young men of the sons of the prophets have come to me from Mount Ephraim; give them, please, a talent of silver, and two changes of garments.

2 KINGS 6 *Gebazi sins and becomes a leper; the ax iron swims; Elisha and the Syrian army*

23 And Naaman said, Yield *assent*; take two talents. And he broke out upon him, and bound two talents of silver in two pouches, and two changes of garments, and gave *them* upon two of his servants; and they bore *them* before his face.

24 And he came to the mound, and he took *them* from their hand, and visited them in the house; and he sent the men away, and they walked.

25 And he went in, and stood before his lord. And Elisha said to him, Where, Gehazi? And he said, Your servant did not walk anywhere.

26 And he said to him, Did not my heart walk *with you*, when the man faced about from his chariot to meet you? *Is it* a time to take silver, and to take garments, and oliveyards, and vineyards, and flock animals, and cattle, and menservants, and maidservants?

27 And the leprosy of Naaman shall cling to you and to your seed forever. And he went out from his face a leper as snow.

CHAPTER 6

1 And the sons of the prophets said to Elisha, Behold now, the place where we dwell before your face is too narrow for us.

2 Let us walk, please, to Jordan, and take from there every man a beam, and let us make for us a place there where we may dwell. And he said, Walk.

3 And one said, Yield *assent*, please, and walk with your servants; and he said, I will walk.

4 And he walked with them, and they came to Jordan, and cut down trees.

5 And it was, one was felling a beam, and the *ax* iron fell into the water; and he cried, and said, Alas, lord! And it was borrowed!

6 And the man of God said, Where did it fall? And he showed him the place. And he chopped off a stick, and threw it in there, and the iron swam.

7 And he said, Raise it up to yourself. And he sent out his hand, and took it.

8 And the king of Syria was devouring against Israel, and took counsel with his servants, saying, In such and such a place my camp *shall be*.

9 And the man of God sent to the king of Israel, saying, Hedge yourself about from crossing over by such a place, because there the Syrians have come down.

10 And the king of Israel sent to the place which the man of God said to him and warned him of, and hedged himself about there, not once, nor twice.

11 And the heart of the king of Syria was troubled over this word; and he called his servants, and said to them, Will you not cause to stand out boldly to me which of us *is* for the king of Israel?

12 And one of his servants said, None, my lord, Oh king, because Elisha, the prophet who *is* in Israel, causes to stand out boldly to the king of Israel the words that you speak in your apartment.

13 And he said, Walk, and see where he *is*, and I will send, and take him. And it was caused to stand out boldly to him, saying, Behold, *he is* in Dothan.

14 And he sent there horses, and chariots, and great resources, and they came by night, and surrounded the city.

15 And the servant of the man of God rose early, and went out, and behold, resources surrounded the city, and horses, and chariots. And his servant said to him, Alas, my lord! How shall we do?

16 And he said, Do not fear, because they who *are* with us are more than they who *are* with them.

17 And Elisha judged in prayer, and said, Jehovah, please, open his eyes, and he will see. And Jehovah opened the eyes of the young man, and he saw; and behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire around Elisha.

18 And they came down to him, and Elisha judged in prayer to Jehovah, and said, Strike this people, please, with blindness. And he struck them with blindness according to the word of Elisha.

19 And Elisha said to them, This *is* not the way, and this *is* not the city; walk after me, and I will walk you to the man whom you seek. And he walked them to Samaria.

20 And it was, they came into Samaria, and Elisha said, Jehovah, open the eyes of these *men*, and they will see. And Jehovah opened their eyes, and they saw; and behold, *they were* in the midst of

Samaria.

21 And when he saw them the king of Israel said to Elisha, My father, shall I strike them? Shall I strike them?

22 And he said, You shall not strike them; would you strike those whom you have taken captive with your sword and with your bow? Put food and water before their face, and they will eat and drink, and walk to their lord.

23 And he purchased a great purchase for them, and they ate and drank; and he sent them away, and they walked to their lord. And the armies of Syria did not come any more into the land of Israel.

24 And it was after this, and Ben Hadad, king of Syria, gathered all his army, and went up, and besieged Samaria.

25 And there was a great famine in Samaria; and behold, they besieged it until a donkey's head went for eighty *pieces* of silver, and the fourth part of a dry measure of dove's dung for five *pieces* of silver.

26 And the king of Israel was crossing over upon the wall, and a woman cried to him, saying, Save *me*, my lord, Oh king.

27 And he said, If Jehovah does not save you, how shall I save you? Out of the threshingfloor, or out of the winepress?

28 And the king said to her, What *troubles* you? And she said, This woman said to me, Give your son, and we will eat him today, and we will eat my son tomorrow.

2 KINGS 7 *Famine in Samaria; Jehovah confuses the Syrians; Elisha prophesies; lepers find plenty*

29 And we boiled my son, and ate him, and I said to her on the day after, Give your son, and we will eat him; and she has hid her son.

30 And it was, the king attentively heard the words of the woman, and he tore his clothes; and he crossed over upon the wall, and the people looked, and behold, *he had* sackcloth upon his flesh within.

31 And he said, God do so, and more also to me, if the head of Elisha, the son of Shaphat, shall stand on him today.

32 And Elisha sat in his house, and the elders sat with him; and the king sent a man from before his face; but before the messenger came to him, he said to the elders, See how this son of a murderer has sent to take off my head? See, when the messenger comes, shut the door, and hold him at the door; *is* not the sound of his lord's feet behind him?

33 He was yet speaking with them, and behold, the messenger came down to him; and he said, Behold, this evil *is* of Jehovah; why should I wait for Jehovah any longer?

CHAPTER 7

1 And Elisha said, Hear the word of Jehovah; Thus says Jehovah, This time tomorrow a measure of fine flour *shall sell* for a shekel, and two measures of barley for a shekel in the gate of Samaria.

2 And the third level officer² on whose hand the king supported himself answered the man of God, and said, Behold, Jehovah is mak-

ing windows in the heavens? Shall this word be? And he said, Behold, you shall see it with your eyes, and you shall not eat from it.

3 And there were four leprous men at the entering in of the gate, and they said each man to his friend, Why do we sit here until we die?

4 If we say, We will enter into the city, then the famine is in the city, and we shall die there; and if we sit here, we also die. And now walk, and let us fall to the army of the Syrians; if they let us live, we shall live; and if they kill us, we shall but die.

5 And they rose up in the evening twilight breeze, to go to the camp of the Syrians, and they came to the outer extremity of the camp of Syria, and behold, *there was* no man there.

6 And Jehovah had caused the camp of the Syrians to hear a noise of chariots, a noise of horses, the noise of great resources, and they said, each man to his neighbor, Lo, the king of Israel has hired against us the kings of the Hittites and the kings of the Egyptians to come upon us.

7 And they rose, and fled in the evening twilight breeze, and left their tents, and their horses, and their donkeys, even the camp as it *was*, and fled for their souls.

8 And these lepers came to the outer extremity of the camp, and they went into one tent, and ate, and drank, and carried from there silver, and gold, and garments,

² 7:2 **third level officer**, a general of the third rank, that is the highest, above first, and second.

and walked, and hid *them*; and returned, and came into another tent, and carried from there, and walked, and hid *them*.

9 And they said, each man to his neighbor, We are not doing right; this day *is* a day of glad tidings, and we hedge about quietness; if we wait until the light of the dawn, evil will come upon us; and now walk, and we will go, and cause it to stand out boldly to the king's house.

10 And they came, and called to the porter of the city, and they caused it to stand out boldly to them, saying, We came to the camp of the Syrians, and behold, there was no man there, and no voice of man, but horses tied, and donkeys tied, and the tents as they *were*.

11 And he called the porters; and they caused it to stand out boldly to the king's house within.

12 And the king rose in the night, and said to his servants, I will now cause it to stand out boldly to you what the Syrians have done to us. They know by seeing that we *are* hungry, and they have gone out of the camp to hide themselves in the field, saying, When they come out of the city, we shall seize them alive, and go into the city.

13 And one of his servants answered, and said, Let some take, please, five of the horses that are left, which are left in the city (behold, they are as all the multitude of Israel that are left in it; behold, I say, they are even as all the multitude of the Israelites that are finished off), and we shall send, and see.

14 And they took two chariot horses, and the king sent after the camp of the Syrians, saying, Walk, and see.

15 And they walked after them to Jordan, and, lo, all the way was full of garments and vessels which the Syrians had thrown away in their hurrying in fear. And the messengers returned, and caused it to stand out boldly to the king.

16 And the people went out, and plundered the camp of the Syrians. And it was, a measure of fine flour *sold* for a shekel, and two measures of barley for a shekel, according to the word of Jehovah.

17 And the king visited over the gate the third officer on whose hand he supported himself, and the people trod upon him in the gate, and he died, what the man of God spoke, who spoke when the king came down to him.

18 And it was as the man of God had spoken to the king, saying, Two measures of barley for a shekel, and a measure of fine flour for a shekel, shall be this time tomorrow in the gate of Samaria,

19 And that third level officer answered the man of God, and said, And behold, Jehovah shall make windows in the heavens? Shall such a word be? And he said, Behold, you shall see it with your eyes, and you shall not eat from there.

20 And it was so to him, and the people trod upon him in the gate, and he died.

CHAPTER 8

1 And Elisha spoke to the woman, whose son he had brought back alive, saying, Rise, and walk, and your house, and lodge where you can lodge, because Jehovah has called for a famine, and also it shall come upon the land seven years.

2 And the woman rose, and did the word of the man of God; and she walked with her house, and lodged in the land of the Palestinians seven years.

3 And it was the end of seven years, and the woman returned out of the land of the Palestinians; and she went out to cry to the king for her house, and for her land.

4 And the king spoke with Gehazi, the servant of the man of God, saying, Tally up for me, please, all the great things that Elisha has done.

5 And it was, he was tallying up to the king how he had brought back alive from death, and behold, the woman whose son he had brought back alive cried to the king for her house and for her land. And Gehazi said, My lord, Oh king, this *is* the woman, and this is her son, whom Elisha brought back alive.

6 And the king asked the woman, and she tallied it up to him; and the king gave to her one officer, saying, Return all that was hers, and all the produce of the field since the day that she left the land, and until now.

7 And Elisha came to Damascus, and Ben Hadad, the king of Syria, was worn *out*; and it was caused to stand out boldly to him,

saying, The man of God has come here.

8 And the king said to Hazael, Take a present in your hand, and walk, meet the man of God, and tread seeking Jehovah by him, saying, Shall I live over this malady?

9 And Hazael walked to meet him, and took a present in his hand, and of every good thing of Damascus, a forty camels' load, and came, and stood before his face, and said, Your son, Ben Hadad, king of Syria, has sent me to you, saying, Shall I live over this malady?

10 And Elisha said to him, Walk, say to him, Living, you shall live, and Jehovah has showed me that dying, he shall die.

11 And he caused his face to stand firm, until he paled in shame, and the man of God wept.

12 And Hazael said, Why is my lord weeping? And he said, Because I know by seeing the evil that you will do to the children of Israel; you will send up in fire their fortified cities, and you will fatally strike with the sword their youth, and you will dash in pieces their sucking children, and you will rip open their women with child.

13 And Hazael said, Since when *is* your servant a dog, that he should do this great word? And Elisha said, Jehovah has showed me that you shall be king over Syria.

14 And he walked from Elisha, and came to his lord, who said to him, What did Elisha say to you? And he said, He said to me, Liv-

ing, you shall live.

15 And it was on the next day, and he took a coarse cloth, and plunged it in water, and spread it over his face, and he died; and Hazael reigned in his place.

16 And in the fifth year of Joram, the son of Ahab, king of Israel, and Jehoshaphat *being* king of Judah, Jehoram, the son of Jehoshaphat, king of Judah, began to reign.

17 He was a son of thirty-two years when he began to reign, and he reigned eight years in Jerusalem.

18 And he walked in the way of the kings of Israel, what the house of Ahab did, because the daughter of Ahab was his wife, and he did evil in the eyes of Jehovah.

19 And Jehovah did not breathe in agreement to destroy Judah on account of David, his servant, what he said to him, to give him a lamp to his children all days.

20 In his days Edom broke away from under the hand of Judah, and caused a king to reign over themselves.

21 And Joram crossed over to Zair, and all the chariots with him; and it was, he rose by night, and struck the Edomites who surrounded him, and the chief rulers of the chariots; and the people fled into their tents.

22 And Edom broke away from under the hand of Judah to this day. Then Libnah broke away at the same time.

23 And what is left of the words of Joram, and all that he did, *are* they not written in the book of the words of the days of the kings

of Judah?

24 And Joram lay down with his fathers, and was buried with his fathers in the city of David; and Ahaziah, his son, reigned in his place.

25 In the twelfth year of Joram, the son of Ahab, king of Israel, Ahaziah, the son of Jehoram, king of Judah, began to reign.

26 Ahaziah was a son of twenty-two years when he began to reign, and he reigned one year in Jerusalem; and his mother's name was Athaliah,²⁶ the daughter of Omri, king of Israel.

27 And he walked in the way of the house of Ahab, and did evil in the eyes of Jehovah, as the house of Ahab, because he was the son in law of the house of Ahab.

²⁶ **8:26 Athaliah**, the only woman ever to sit upon the throne of David. She was the granddaughter of Omri, and the daughter of Ahab and Jezebel, the most famous sinners ever to reign in Israel. 1 Kng 21- 2 Kng 9:37; Rev 2:20. She married Jehoram, the oldest son of good king Jehoshaphat of Judah, 2 Kng 8:18. She became queen of Judah when her husband Jehoram at age 32 became king of Judah, 1 Kng 22:50. Jehoram killed all of his younger brothers, who were favorable to Jehovah, no doubt prompted by his wife, Athaliah, who like her mother, Jezebel, practiced a fanatical loyalty to the Zidonian Baal, 2 Chr 21:4. Eight years later Jehoram died, and their son, Ahaziah, became king, 2 Kng 8:26. Ahaziah died within a year, and the only thing standing between her and the throne were her own grandchildren, whom Athaliah promptly killed, 2 Kng 11:2. Ahaziah's sister, Jehosheba, stole Athaliah's grandson Joash, and hid him six years in the house of Jehovah. Her husband was Jehoida, the great priest. They hid, and trained Joash six years in the house of Jehovah. Jehoida secretly cut a covenant with the leaders in Judah, anointed, and crowned Joash king, and executed Athaliah, 2 Kng 11:16, 20. She is called that wicked female in 2 Chr 24:7.

2 KINGS 9 *Abaziah and Joram war Syria; Elisha anoints Jehu, the destruction of house of Ahab*

28 And he walked with Joram, the son of Ahab, to the war against Hazael, king of Syria, in Ramoth Gilead, and the Syrians struck Joram.

29 And king Joram turned back to be healed in Jezreel of the blows with which the Syrians had struck him at Ramah when he devoured against Hazael, king of Syria. And Ahaziah, the son of Jehoram, king of Judah, went down to see Joram, the son of Ahab, in Jezreel, because he was worn *out*.

CHAPTER 9

1 And Elisha, the prophet, called one of the sons of the prophets, and said to him, Gird up your loins, and take this flask of oil in your hand, and walk to Ramoth Gilead;

2 And go there, and look there for Jehu, the son of Jehoshaphat, the son of Nimshi, and go in, and raise him up from the midst of his brothers, and carry him into an apartment;

3 And take the flask of oil, and pour it on his head, and say, Thus says Jehovah, I have anointed you king over Israel. And open the door, and flee, and do not wait.

4 And the young man, the young prophet, walked to Ramoth Gilead.

5 And he came, and behold, the chief rulers of the resources were sitting, and he said, With me *is* a word to you, Oh chief ruler. And Jehu said, To whom of all of us? And he said, To you, Oh, chief ruler.

6 And he rose, and went into the house; and he poured the oil on his head, and said to him, Thus says Jehovah God of Israel, I have anointed you king over the people of Jehovah, over Israel.

7 And you shall strike the house of Ahab, your lord, and I will avenge the blood of my servants, the prophets, and the blood of all the servants of Jehovah, at the hand of Jezebel.

8 And the whole house of Ahab shall be lost, and I will cut off from Ahab him who urinates against the wall, and him who is bound, and *him who* is left in Israel;

9 And I will give up the house of Ahab like the house of Jeroboam, the son of Nebat, and like the house of Baasha, the son of Ahijah;

10 And the dogs shall eat Jezebel in the allotment of Jezreel, and there shall be none to bury her. And he opened the door, and fled.

11 And Jehu came out to the servants of his lord, and one said to him, Peace? Why did this crazy one come to you? And he said to them, You know the man, and his uttering contemplation.

12 And they said, *That is* false; cause it to stand out boldly to us now. And he said, Thus and thus he said to me, saying, Thus says Jehovah, I have anointed you king over Israel.

13 And they flowed like liquid, and every man took his garment, and put it under him on the railings of the steps, and blew with trumpets, saying, Jehu is king.

14 And Jehu, the son of Jehoshaphat, the son of Nimshi, conspired against Joram. And Joram was hedging about Ramoth Gilead, he and all Israel, before the face of Hazeal, king of Syria.

15 And king Joram was returned to be healed in Jezreel of the blows with which the Syrians had struck him when he devoured against Hazeal, king of Syria. And Jehu said, If it is in your souls, let none go out escaping out of the city to walk to cause it to stand out boldly in Jezreel.

16 And Jehu rode in a chariot, and traveled to Jezreel, because Joram lay there. And Ahaziah, king of Judah, came down to see Joram.

17 And there stood a watchman on the tower in Jezreel, and he saw the multitude of Jehu as he came, and said, I see a multitude. And Joram said, Take a charioteer, and send to meet them, and say, Peace!

18 And one traveled riding a horse to meet him, and said, Thus says the king, Peace? And Jehu said, What have you to do with peace? You turn in behind me. And the watchman caused it to stand out boldly, saying, The messenger came to them, and he does not return.

19 And he sent out a second riding, and came to them, and said, Thus says the king, Peace? And Jehu said, What have you to do with peace? You turn in behind me.

20 And the watchman caused it to stand out boldly, saying, He came also to them, and does not return; and the driving is like the

driving of Jehu, the son of Nimshi, for he drives crazy.

21 And Joram said, Hitch up! And his chariot was hitched up. And Joram, king of Israel, and Ahaziah, king of Judah, went out, each man in his chariot, and they went out to meet Jehu, and met him in the allotment of Naboth, the Jezreelite.

22 And it was, Joram saw Jehu, and he said, Peace, Jehu? And he said, What peace, so long as the whoredoms of your mother, Jezebel, and her witchcrafts *are* many?

23 And Joram turned about his hands, and fled, and said to Ahaziah, *There is* treachery, Oh, Ahaziah!

24 And Jehu filled his hand with a bow, and struck Jehoram between his arms, and the arrow went through his heart, and he bent down on his knees in his chariot.

25 And he said to Bidkar, his third level officer, Take *him* up, and throw him in the allotment of the field of Naboth, the Jezreelite, because remember how that, when I and you were riding together after Ahab, his father, Jehovah laid on him this burden;²⁵

26 Surely I have seen yesterday the blood of Naboth, and the blood of his sons, says Jehovah, and I will make you complete²⁶ in

²⁵ **9:25 burden**, *massa*, the normal word for burden or load. It is used here the first time in the sense of a revelation laid on the heart of someone, an oracle, a prophecy. It is used regularly in this sense in the prophets; Isa 13:1; Jer 23:33; etc.

²⁶ **9:26 make you complete**, *shalam*, the word to make complete in peace. Whatever deed is done, it must be complete by its reap-

2 KINGS 10

Abaziah killed and buried in Jerusalem; Jehu executes Jezebel

this allotment, says Jehovah. And now lift *him*, and throw him into the allotment of ground, according to the word of Jehovah. 1 Kng 21:19,29

27 And Ahaziah, the king of Judah, saw this, and he fled by the way of the garden house. And Jehu ran after him, and said, Strike him also in the chariot in the ascent of Gur, which *is* by Ibleam; and he fled to Megiddo, and died there.

28 And his servants rode him in a chariot to Jerusalem, and buried him in his sepulcher with his fathers in the city of David.

29 And in the eleventh year of Joram, the son of Ahab, Ahaziah, began to reign over Judah.

30 And Jehu came to Jezreel, and Jezebel attentively heard; and she put paint around her eyes, and made her head beautiful, and leaned out at a window.

ing what was sown. No word or deed will be left hanging without its specific results. Here the sin of the father is visited upon the son, but only because the son also hated God as the father, Ex 20:5-6. Ahab had lied and murdered to obtain Naboth's land for a garden of pleasure and peace, but that was not the kind of seed he sowed. He sowed falsehood and death. God pronounced His vengeance upon Ahab, 1 Kng 21:19, but then God did not fulfill it upon Ahab because he bent his knees before the face of God toward the end of his life, 1 Kng 21:27-29. The vengeance was delayed to be fulfilled upon his son. It could have passed over his son Jehoram, if he had only bent his knees before the face of God, but he did not, and the deeds of Ahab were made complete in his son Jehoram because Jehoram did not bend the knee to God in the end of his life. All words and deeds must be complete. All sins and all deeds of righteousness must be complete. The deed must reap its results. All sins must have their fulfillment. Their fulfillment will be in your own life, or their fulfillment must be laid upon Jesus on the cross. For all who receive Jesus as our substitute, our sins are fulfilled, made complete, reaped, in the death of Jesus on the cross. That is why He is called our peace, Eph 2:14; Rom 5:1.

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31 And Jehu came in at the gate, and she said, *Was there* peace to Zimri, who fatally struck his lord?

32 And he lifted up his face to the window, and said, Who is with me? Who? And two or three eunuchs leaned out to him.

33 And he said, Throw her down, and they threw her down; and her blood spattered on the wall and on the horses, and he trod on her.

34 And he came in, and he ate and drank, and said, Visit now this cursed *woman*, and bury her, because she *is* a king's daughter.

35 And they walked to bury her, and they only found her skull, and the feet, and the palms of her hands.

36 And they returned, and caused it to stand out boldly to him, and he said, This *is* the word of Jehovah, which he spoke by the hand of his servant, Elijah, the Tishbite, saying, In the allotment of Jezreel dogs shall eat the flesh of Jezebel; 1 Kng 21:23

37 And the carcass of Jezebel shall be as manure upon the face of the field in the allotment of Jezreel, that they shall not say, This *is* Jezebel.

CHAPTER 10

1 And to Ahab *were* seventy sons in Samaria; and Jehu wrote letters, and sent to Samaria, to the chief rulers of Jezreel, the elders, and to them who brought up Ahab's children, saying,

2 And now this letter comes to you, and your lord's children *are* with you, and chariots, and horses,

and a fortified city, and armor *are* with you;

3 See the best and most righteous of your lord's sons, and put him on his father's throne, and devour for your lord's house.

4 And they were frightened, and said, Behold, two kings did not stand before his face, and how shall we stand?

5 And he who *was* over the house, and he who was over the city, and the elders, and those trusted, sent to Jehu, saying, We *are* your servants, and we will do all that you shall say to us; we will not make any king; do what is good in your eyes.

6 And he wrote to them a second letter, saying, If you *will be* mine, and if you will attentively hear my voice, take the heads of the men of your lord's sons, and come to me to Jezreel by this time tomorrow. And the king's sons, seventy men, *were* with the great ones of the city, who brought them up.

7 And it was, the letter came to them, and they took the king's sons, and slaughtered seventy men, and put their heads in baskets, and sent them to him in Jezreel.

8 And a messenger came, and caused it to stand out boldly to him, saying, They have brought the heads of the king's sons; and he said, Put them in two piles at the entrance of the gate until the dawn.

9 And it was the dawn, and he went out, and stood, and said to all the people, You *are* righteous; behold, I conspired against my lord, and fatally struck him, and who struck all these?

10 Know by seeing now that nothing shall fall to the earth of the word of Jehovah, which Jehovah spoke against the house of Ahab, and Jehovah has done what he spoke by the hand of his servant, Elijah.

11 And Jehu struck all who remained of the house of Ahab in Jezreel, and all his great men, and those knowing him, and his priests, until he did not leave him a survivor.

12 And he rose, and went, and walked to Samaria; he *was* at the shepherd house in the way,

13 And Jehu found the brothers of Ahaziah, king of Judah, and said, Who *are* you? And they said, We *are* the brothers of Ahaziah; and we go down to extend peace to the children of the king and the children of the queen.

14 And he said, Capture them alive; and they captured them alive, and slaughtered them at the pit of the house, forty-two men; and he did not leave a man of them.

15 And he walked from there, and he found Jehonadab, the son of Rechab, meeting him; and he knelt down with goodness to him, and said to him, Is your heart right, as my heart is with your heart? And Jehonadab said, It is! If it is, give me your hand! And he gave *him* his hand, and he took him up to him into the chariot.

16 And he said, Walk with me, and see my jealousy for Jehovah; and they caused him to ride in his chariot.

2 KINGS 10

Jehu calls a holy assembly to Baal and executes all the servants of Baal

17 And he came to Samaria, and he struck all who remained to Ahab in Samaria, until he had made him desolate, according to the word of Jehovah, which he spoke to Elijah.

18 And Jehu gathered all the people together, and said to them, Ahab served Baal a little; and Jehu shall serve him much.

19 And now call to me all the prophets of Baal, all his servants, and all his priests; do not fail to visit a man, because to me *is* a great sacrifice to Baal; all who fail to visit *the sacrifice* shall not live; and Jehu did *it* in deception, in order that he might cause the servants of Baal to be lost.

20 And Jehu said, *Call* a holy assembly for Baal. And they called *it*.

21 And Jehu sent through all Israel, and all the servants of Baal came, and there was not a man left who did not come; and they came into the house of Baal; and the house of Baal was full from one mouth to the other.

22 And he said to him who was over the wardrobe, Bring out garments for all the servants of Baal; and he brought them out garments.

23 And Jehu went, and Jehonadab, the son of Rechab, into the house of Baal, and said to the servants of Baal, Search, and see that none of the servants of Jehovah are here with you, but the servants of Baal only.

24 And they went in to make sacrifices and burnt offerings, and Jehu put eighty men outside, and

said, The man who lets any escape out of the men whom I have brought into your hands, *it shall be* his soul for his soul.

25 And it was, he ended making the burnt offering, and Jehu said to the runners, and to the third level officers, Go in, and strike them; do not let a man come out; and they struck them with the mouth of the sword; and the runners and the third level officers threw them out, and walked into the city of the house of Baal.

26 And they brought out the idolatrous columns out of the house of Baal, and burned them.

27 And they tore down the idolatrous columns of Baal, and tore down the house of Baal, and put it a sewer to *this* day.

28 And Jehu desolated Baal out of Israel.

29 However, Jehu did not turn from after the sins of Jeroboam, the son of Nebat, who caused Israel to sin by the golden calves that *were* in Bethel and that *were* in Dan.

30 And Jehovah said to Jehu, Because you have done good in doing right in my eyes, and have done all that was in my heart to the house of Ahab, sons to the fourth *generation* shall sit for you on the throne of Israel.

31 And Jehu did not hedge about to walk in the law of Jehovah God of Israel with all his heart; he did not turn from the sins of Jeroboam who caused Israel to sin.

32 In those days Jehovah began to cut off Israel, and Hazael struck them in all the borders of Israel,

Jehu dies; Athaliah, mother of Ahaziah, tries to kill her entire family; Jehoida saves Joash **2 KINGS 11**

33 From Jordan eastward, all the land of Gilead, the Gadites, and the Reubenites, and the Manassites, from Aroer, which is by the stream Arnon, and Gilead and Bashan.

34 And what is left of the words of Jehu, and all that he did, and all his might, *are* they not written in the book of the words of the days of the kings of Israel?

35 And Jehu lay down with his fathers, and they buried him in Samaria; and Jehoahaz, his son, reigned in his place.

36 And the days that Jehu reigned over Israel in Samaria *were* twenty-eight years.

CHAPTER 11

1 And Athaliah, the mother of Ahaziah, saw that her son was dead, and she rose and caused all the royal seed to be lost. Note 8:26

2 And Jehosheba, the daughter of king Joram, sister of Ahaziah, took Joash, the son of Ahaziah, and stole him from among the king's sons who were killed; and they hid him, him and his nurse, in a bed in an apartment from Athaliah, and he was not killed.

3 And he was with her hid in the house of Jehovah six years; and Athaliah reigned over the land.

4 And the seventh year Jehoiada sent and took the chief rulers over hundreds, with the bodyguards and the runners, and brought them to him into the house of Jehovah, and cut a covenant with them, and took an oath of them in the house of Jehovah, and let them see the king's son.

¹²**11:12 the testimony.** This was a copy of the Law or Testimony of God, the Bible writ-

5 And he commanded them, saying, This *is* the word that you shall do; a third of you shall go in on the Sabbath, and shall hedge about the guard duty of the king's house;

6 And a third *shall be* at the gate of Sur, and a third at the gate behind the runners; and you shall hedge about the guard duty of the house, a complete barrier.

7 And two hands of all of you shall go out on the Sabbath, and they shall hedge about the guard duty of the house of Jehovah about the king.

8 And you shall lock together around the king, every man with his weapons in his hand, and he who comes within the ranks, kill him, and you be with the king going out and coming in.

9 And the chief rulers over the hundreds did all that Jehoiada the priest commanded, and every man took his men who come in on the Sabbath with them who go out on the Sabbath, and came to Jehoiada the priest.

10 And the priest gave king David's spears and shields that were in the house of Jehovah to the chief rulers over hundreds.

11 And the runners stood, every man with his weapons in his hand, all around the king, from the right corner of the house to the left corner of the house, along by the altar, and the house.

12 And he brought out the king's son, and gave the crown upon him, and the testimony¹²; and

ten up to that point, as commanded by Moses in Deu 17:18-20.

2 KINGS 12 *The priest Jehoiada anoints Joash king and executes Athaliah; Joash plans to repair Temple*

they made him king, and anointed him; and they clapped their hands, and said, The king lives!

13 And Athaliah heard the noise of the runners and of the people, and she came to the people into the house of Jehovah.

14 And she looked, and behold, the king stood by a column, *which was* the judged practice, and the chief rulers and the trumpeters by the king; and all the people of the land rejoiced, and blew with trumpets; and Athaliah tore her clothes, and called out, Treason! Treason! Note 8:26

15 And Jehoiada, the priest, commanded the chief rulers of the hundreds, those visited over the resources, and said to them, Let her go out of the house past the ranks, and he who is after her put *her* to death with the sword, because the priest had said, Do not let her be put to death in the house of Jehovah.

16 And they laid hands on her, and she went by the way of the horses entrance to the king's house, and she was put to death there.

17 And Jehoiada cut a covenant between Jehovah and the king and the people, that they should be the people of Jehovah, and between the king and the people.

18 And all the people of the land went into the house of Baal, and tore it down; they well burst in pieces his altars and his images, and fatally struck Mattan, the priest of Baal, before the face of the altars, and the priest put those to visit over the house of Jehovah.

19 And he took the chief rulers over hundreds, and the bodyguards, and the runners, and all the people of the land, and they brought down the king from the house of Jehovah, and came by the way of the gate of the runners to the king's house; and he sat on the throne of the kings.

20 And all the people of the land rejoiced, and the city was at rest; and they put Athaliah to death with the sword at the king's house.

21 Jehoash was a son of seven years when he began to reign.

CHAPTER 12

1 In the seventh year of Jehu, Jehoash began to reign, and he reigned forty years in Jerusalem; and his mother's name was Zibiah of Beer Sheba.

2 And Jehoash did right in the eyes of Jehovah all his days in which Jehoiada, the priest, caused *the law* to flow to him.

3 Only the high places were not taken away; the people still sacrificed and burned perfumed incense in the high places.

4 And Jehoash said to the priests, All the silver of the sanctified things that is brought into the house of Jehovah, the silver of every one that crosses over, every soul, the silver of his valuation, all the silver that ascends into any man's heart to bring into the house of Jehovah,

5 The priests shall take it to themselves, every man of his acquaintances,⁵ and they shall repair the breaks of the house, wherever any break shall be found.

6 And it was in the twenty-third year of king Jehoash the priests had not repaired the breaks of the house.

7 And king Jehoash called for Jehoiada, the priest, and the priests, and said to them, Why do you not repair the breaks of the house? And now do not receive silver of your acquaintances, but give it for the breaks of the house.

8 And the priests consented to receive no more silver from the people, and not to repair the breaks of the house.

9 And Jehoiada, the priest, took one chest, and punctured a hole in its lid, and gave it at the side of the altar, on the right side, as a man comes into the house of Jehovah; and the priests who hedged about the door gave there all the silver that was brought into the house of Jehovah.

10 And it was, they saw that *there was* much silver in the chest, and the king's scribe and the great priest came up, and they bagged and weighed out the silver that was found in the house of Jehovah.

⁵ **12:5 acquaintances**, *makkar*, people that each priest personally knew. *Makkar* is found here and verse 7 only. Verse 8 reverts to the word people. Each priest was to raise silver (money) from those he knew to repair the house of Jehovah, which had been damaged apparently by the violent acts of Queen Athaliah. Years passed, and the repairs were not done. The priests were not accused of wrongfully taking silver given for the repairs, only of negligence from raising the silver, and doing the work. King Jehoash commanded the fund raising effort be stopped since the priests were ineffective in doing so. But the great priest, Jehoida, placed a special box at the entrance of the house of Jehovah for the collection of silver specifically for the repairs, and soon there was ample silver to employ skilled workers to do the work, verses 9-16.

11 And they gave the silver, weighed, into the hands of them who did the work, who were those visited over the house of Jehovah, and they brought it out to the wood workers and builders, who did the house of Jehovah,

12 And to masons, and stone cutters, and to erect timber, and cut stone to repair the breaks of the house of Jehovah, and for all that was brought out for the house to repair it.

13 However there were not made for the house of Jehovah bowls of silver, tongs, sprinkling basins, trumpets, any vessels of gold, or vessels of silver, of the silver brought into the house of Jehovah,

14 Because they gave that to those doing the work, and with it they repaired the house of Jehovah.

15 And they did not require a calculation from the men into whose hand they gave the silver to be given to those doing the work, because they dealt faithfully.

16 The trespass offering silver and sin offering silver were not brought into the house of Jehovah; it was the priests'.

17 At that time Hazael, king of Syria, went up, and devoured against Gath, and captured it; and Hazael set his face to go up to Jerusalem.

18 And Jehoash, king of Judah, took all the holy things that Jehoshaphat, and Jehoram, and Ahaziah, his fathers, kings of Judah, had sanctified, and his own holy things, and all the gold found in the

2 KINGS 13 *Joash dies; Amaziah reigns in Judah; Jehoahaz over Israel; delivered from Syria*

treasures of the house of Jehovah, and in the king's house, and sent it to Hazael, king of Syria; and he went up from Jerusalem.

19 And what is left of the words of Joash, and all that he did, *are* they not written in the book of the words of the days of the kings of Judah?

20 And his servants rose, and joined in a conspiracy, and struck Joash in the house of Millo, going down to Silla.

21 And Jozachar, the son of Shimeath, and Jehozabad, the son of Shomer, his servants, struck him, and he died; and they buried him with his fathers in the city of David; and Amaziah, his son, reigned in his place.

CHAPTER 13

1 In the year, the twenty-third year of Joash, the son of Ahaziah, king of Judah, Jehoahaz, the son of Jehu, began to reign over Israel in Samaria, *and reigned* seventeen years.

2 And he did evil in the eyes of Jehovah, and walked after the sins of Jeroboam, the son of Nebat, who caused Israel to sin; he did not turn away from them.

3 And the nostrils of Jehovah burned against Israel, and he gave them into the hand of Hazael, king of Syria, and into the hand of Ben Hadad, the son of Hazael, all *their* days.

4 And Jehoahaz rubbed the face of Jehovah, and Jehovah attentively heard him, because he saw the oppression of Israel, because the king of Syria oppressed them.

5 And Jehovah gave Israel a savior, and they went out from under the hand of the Syrians; and the children of Israel dwelt in their tents, as in times past.

6 Only they did not depart from the sins of the house of Jeroboam, who caused Israel to sin; they walked in them; and also the pole images stood in Samaria.

7 But he did not leave of the people to Jehoahaz but fifty horsemen, and ten chariots, and ten thousand footmen, because the king of Syria had caused them to be lost, and had put them like the dust by trampling on *them*.

8 And what is left of the words of Jehoahaz, and all that he did, and his might, *are* they not written in the book of the words of the days of the kings of Israel?

9 And Jehoahaz lay down with his fathers, and they buried him in Samaria; and Joash, his son, reigned in his place.

10 In the year, the thirty-seventh year of Joash, king of Judah, began Jehoash, the son of Jehoahaz, to reign over Israel in Samaria, *and reigned* sixteen years.

11 And he did evil in the eyes of Jehovah; he did not depart from all the sins of Jeroboam, the son of Nebat, who caused Israel to sin; he walked in them.

12 And what is left of the words of Joash, and all that he did, and his might with which he devoured against Amaziah, king of Judah, *are* they not written in the book of the words of the days of the kings of Israel?

13 And Joash lay down with his fathers, and Jeroboam sat upon his throne; and Joash was buried in Samaria with the kings of Israel.

14 And Elisha was worn *out* with his being worn *out* from which he died; and Joash, the king of Israel, came down to him, and wept over his face, and said, Oh, my father, my father, the chariot of Israel, and its horsemen.

15 And Elisha said to him, Take a bow and arrows. And he took for himself a bow and arrows.

16 And he said to the king of Israel, Place your hand upon the bow. And he placed his hand, and Elisha put his hands upon the king's hands.

17 And he said, Open the window eastward. And he opened *it*. And Elisha said, Cause *an arrow* to flow! And he caused *it* to flow. And he said, The arrow of Jehovah's salvation, and the arrow of salvation from Syria; and you shall strike the Syrians in Aphek until you have finished them.

18 And he said, Take the arrows, and he took *them*; and he said to the king of Israel, Strike the ground; and he struck three strikes, and stood still.

19 And the man of God was enraged with him, and said, You should have struck five or six strokes, then you would have struck Syria until you had finished it; and now you shall strike Syria *only* three strokes. 2 Kng 13:25

20 And Elisha died, and they buried him. And the armies of the Moabites came into the land at the coming in of the year.

21 And it was, they were burying a man, and behold, they saw an army; and they threw the man into the sepulcher of Elisha; and the man went in, and touched the bones of Elisha, and he came alive, and stood up on his feet.

22 And Hazael, king of Syria, oppressed Israel all the days of Jehoahaz.

23 And Jehovah stooped down in grace to them, and had compassion on them, and turned his face to them on account of his covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and did not breathe in agreement to destroy them, and he had not thrown them away from his face up to this time.

24 And Hazael, king of Syria, died, and Ben Hadad, his son, reigned in his place.

25 And Jehoash, the son of Jehoahaz, turned back and took the cities out of the hand of Ben Hadad, the son of Hazael, which he had taken out of the hand of Jehoahaz, his father, by war. Three times Joash struck him, and returned the cities of Israel. 2 Kng 13:19

CHAPTER 14

1 In the second year of Joash, son of Jehoahaz, king of Israel, Amaziah, the son of Joash, king of Judah, reigned.

2 He was a son of twenty-five years when he began to reign, and reigned twenty-nine years in Jerusalem; and his mother's name was Jehoaddan of Jerusalem.

2 KINGS 14 *The reign of Amaziah in Judah; Jehoash king of Israel plunders Jerusalem*

3 And he did right in the eyes of Jehovah, although not like David, his father; he did according to all that Joash, his father, did.

4 However, the high places were not taken away; as yet the people sacrificed and burned perfumed incense on the high places.

5 And it was, that the kingdom was strong in his hand, and he struck his servants who had struck the king, his father.

6 And the children of the those who struck *his father* he did not strike, according to what is written in the book of the law of Moses, where Jehovah commanded, saying, The fathers shall not be put to death for the children, and the children shall not be put to death for the fathers; but every man shall be put to death for his own sin. Deut 24:16

7 He struck ten thousand of Edom in the valley of salt, and captured Selah by war, and called the name of it Joktheel⁷ to this day.

8 At that time Amaziah sent messengers to Jehoash, the son of Jehoahaz, son of Jehu, king of Israel, saying, Walk, let us look one another in the face.

9 And Jehoash, the king of Israel, sent to Amaziah, king of Judah, saying, The thistle that *was* in Lebanon sent to the cedar that *was* in Lebanon, saying, Give your daughter to my son as wife; and there crossed by a living creature of the field that *was* in Lebanon, and trod down the thistle.

10 Striking, you have struck Edom, and your heart has lifted you up. Heavy glory! And you sit down in your house! And why should you scratch up evil, and fall, you and Judah with you?

11 And Amaziah would not attentively hear. And Jehoash, king of Israel, went up, and he and Amaziah, king of Judah, looked one another in the face at Beth Shemesh, which *belongs* to Judah.

12 And Judah was pushed back before the face of Israel, and they fled every man to their tents.

13 And Jehoash, king of Israel, captured Amaziah, king of Judah, the son of Jehoash, the son of Ahaziah, at Beth Shemesh, and came to Jerusalem, and broke down the wall of Jerusalem from the gate of Ephraim to the corner gate, four hundred cubits.

14 And he took all the gold and silver, and all the vessels found in the house of Jehovah, and in the treasures of the king's house, and hostages, and returned to Samaria.

15 And what is left of the words of Jehoash which he did, and his might, and how he devoured with Amaziah, king of Judah, *are* they not written in the book of the words of the days of the kings of Israel?

16 And Jehoash lay down with his fathers, and was buried in Samaria with the kings of Israel; and Jeroboam, his son, reigned in his place.

17 And Amaziah the son of Joash, king of Judah, lived after the death of Jehoash, son of Jehoahaz, king of Israel, fifteen years.

⁷ 14:7 **Joktheel**, Obedient to God.

18 And what is left of the words of Amaziah, *are* they not written in the book of the words of the days of the kings of Judah?

19 And they conspired a conspiracy against him in Jerusalem, and he fled to Lachish; and they sent after him to Lachish, and killed him there.

20 And they lifted him on horses, and he was buried at Jerusalem with his fathers in the city of David.

21 And all the people of Judah took Azariah - he *was* a son of sixteen years - and made him king after his father, Amaziah.

22 He built Elath, and returned it to Judah; afterwards the king lay down with his fathers.

23 In the year, the fifteenth year of Amaziah, the son of Joash, king of Judah, Jeroboam, the son of Joash, king of Israel began to reign in Samaria, *and reigned* forty-one years.

24 And he did evil in the eyes of Jehovah; he did not depart from all the sins of Jeroboam, the son of Nebat, who caused Israel to sin.

25 He returned the border of Israel from the entering of Hamath to the sea of the plain, according to the word of Jehovah God of Israel, what he spoke by the hand of his servant Jonah, the son of Amittai, the prophet, who was of Gath ha Chepher.^{2 5}

26 Because Jehovah saw the exceeding bitter affliction of Israel, and there were none bound, and

²⁵ 14:25 Jonah's date is determined by this passage to be during the days of Hosea and Amos and before Micah. **Gath ha Chepher** means Winepress of the Well.

none left, and none to surround Israel with help.

27 And Jehovah did not speak to blot out the name of Israel from under the heavens, and he saved them by the hand of Jeroboam, the son of Joash.

28 And what is left of the words of Jeroboam, and all that he did, and his might, how he devoured, and how he returned Damascus and Hamath of Judah to Israel, *are* they not written in the book of the words of the days of the kings of Israel?

29 And Jeroboam lay down with his fathers, with the kings of Israel, and Zachariah, his son, reigned in his place.

CHAPTER 15

1 In the year, the twenty-seventh year of Jeroboam, king of Israel, Azariah, son of Amaziah, king of Judah, began to reign.

2 He was a son of sixteen years when he began to reign, and he reigned fifty-two years in Jerusalem; and his mother's name was Jecholiah of Jerusalem.

3 And he did right in the eyes of Jehovah, according to all that his father, Amaziah, had done,

4 Although the high places were not removed; the people still sacrificed and burned perfumed incense on the high places.

5 And Jehovah touched the king, and he was a leper to the day of his death, and dwelt in a hospital; and Jotham, the king's son, was over the house, judging the people of the land.

2 KINGS 15 *Azariah dies; Zachariah reigns, Shallum, then Menahem in Israel; Assyria invades Israel*

6 And what is left of the words of Azariah, and all that he did, *are* they not written in the book of the words of the days of the kings of Judah?

7 And Azariah lay down with his fathers, and they buried him with his fathers in the city of David; and Jotham, his son, reigned in his place.

8 In the year, the thirty-eighth year of Azariah, king of Judah, Zachariah, the son of Jeroboam, reigned over Israel in Samaria six new moons.

9 And he did evil in the eyes of Jehovah, what his fathers had done; he did not depart from the sins of Jeroboam, the son of Nebat, who caused Israel to sin.

10 And Shallum, the son of Jabesh, conspired against him, and struck him before the people, and killed him, and reigned in his place.

11 And what is left of the words of Zachariah, behold, they are written in the book of the words of the days of the kings of Israel.

12 This was the word of Jehovah which he spoke to Jehu, saying, Your sons shall sit on the throne of Israel to the fourth *generation*; and so it was.

13 Shallum, the son of Jabesh, began to reign in the year, the thirty-ninth year of Uzziah, king of Judah, and he reigned a new moon of days in Samaria.

14 And Menahem, the son of Gadi, went up from Tirzah, and came to Samaria, and struck Shallum, the son of Jabesh, in Samaria, and killed him, and reigned in his place.

15 And what is left of the words of Shallum, and his conspiracy which he conspired, behold, they are written in the book of the words of the days of the kings of Israel.

16 At that time Menahem struck Tiphshah, and all who *were* there, and its borders from Tirzah, because they did not open *to him*, and he struck it; and all those with child he ripped open.

17 In the year, the thirty-ninth year of Azariah, king of Judah, Menahem, the son of Gadi, began to reign over Israel, *and reigned* ten years in Samaria.

18 And he did evil in the eyes of Jehovah; all his days he did not depart from the sins of Jeroboam, the son of Nebat, who caused Israel to sin.

19 And Pul, the king of Assyria, came against the land, and Menahem gave Pul a thousand talents of silver, that his hand might be with him to make the kingdom strong in his hand.

20 And Menahem caused the silver to go out of Israel, *from* all the mighty men of resources, of each man fifty shekels of silver, to give to the king of Assyria; and the king of Assyria turned back, and did not stand there in the land.

21 And what is left of the words of Menahem, and all that he did, *are* they not written in the book of the words of the days of the kings of Israel?

22 And Menahem lay down with his fathers; and Pekahiah, his son reigned, in his place.

Pekahiah reigns in Israel; Pekah kills him; Assyria invades; Hoshea kills Pekah; Jotham **2 KINGS 15**

23 In the year, the fiftieth year of Azariah, king of Judah, Pekahiah, the son of Menahem, began to reign over Israel in Samaria, *and reigned* two years.

24 And he did evil in the eyes of Jehovah; he did not depart from the sins of Jeroboam, the son of Nebat, who caused Israel to sin.

25 And Pekah, the son of Remaliah, his third level ruler, conspired against him, and struck him in Samaria, in the citadel of the king's house, with Argob and Arieah, and with him fifty men of the sons of Gilead; and he killed him, and reigned after him.

26 And what is left of the words of Pekahiah, and all that he did, behold, they are written in the book of the words of the days of the kings of Israel.

27 In the year, the fifty-second year of Azariah, king of Judah, Pekah, the son of Remaliah, began to reign over Israel in Samaria, and reigned twenty years.

28 And he did evil in the eyes of Jehovah; he did not depart from the sins of Jeroboam, the son of Nebat, who caused Israel to sin.

29 In the days of Pekah, king of Israel, Tiglath Pileser, king of Assyria, came, and took Ijon, and Abel Beth Maachah, and Jonoah, and Kedesh, and Hazor, and Gilead, and Galilee, all the land of Naphtali, and carried them as stripped captives to Assyria.

30 And Hoshea, the son of Elah, conspired a conspiracy against Pekah, the son of Remaliah, and struck him, and killed him, and reigned in his place, in the twentieth

year of Jotham, the son of Uzziah.

31 And what is left of the words of Pekah, and all that he did, behold, they are written in the book of the words of the days of the kings of Israel.

32 In the year, the second year of Pekah, the son of Remaliah, king of Israel, Jotham, the son of Uzziah, king of Judah, began to reign.

33 He was a son of twenty-five years when he began to reign, and he reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem; and his mother's name was Jerusha, the daughter of Zadok.

34 And he did right in the eyes of Jehovah; he did according to all that his father, Uzziah, had done.

35 However the high places were not removed; the people still sacrificed and burned perfumed incense in the high places; he built the upper gate of the house of Jehovah.

36 And what is left of the words of Jotham, and all that he did, *are* they not written in the book of the words of the days of the kings of Judah?

37 In those days Jehovah began to send against Judah Rezin, the king of Syria, and Pekah, the son of Remaliah.

38 And Jotham lay down with his fathers, and was buried with his fathers in the city of David, his father; and Ahaz, his son, reigned in his place.

CHAPTER 16

1 In the year, the seventeenth year of Pekah, the son of Remaliah, Ahaz, the son of Jotham, king of Judah, began to reign.

2 Ahaz was a son of twenty years when he began to reign, and reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem, and he did not do right in the eyes of Jehovah, his God, like David, his father.

3 And he walked in the way of the kings of Israel, and even made his son cross over through the fire, according to the abominations of the peoples whom Jehovah possessed from before the face of the children of Israel.

4 And he sacrificed, and burned perfumed incense in the high places, and on the hills, and under every green tree.

5 At that time Rezin, king of Syria, and Pekah, son of Remaliah, king of Israel, came up to Jerusalem to war, and they besieged against Ahaz, and could not devour him.

6 At that time Rezin, king of Syria, returned Elath to Syria, and plucked off the Jews from Elath; and the Syrians came to Elath, and dwelt there to this day.

7 And Ahaz sent messengers to Tiglath Pileser, king of Assyria, saying, *I am* your servant, and your son; come up, and save me out of the palm of the king of Syria, and out of the hand of the king of Israel, who rise up against me.

8 And Ahaz took the silver, and gold that was found in the house of Jehovah, and in the treasures of

the king's house, and sent a gift to the king of Assyria.

9 And the king of Assyria attentively heard him; and the king of Assyria went up against Damascus, and captured it, and carried the people as stripped captives to Kir, and killed Rezin.

10 And king Ahaz walked to Damascus to meet Tiglath Pileser, king of Assyria, and saw an altar that *was* at Damascus; and king Ahaz sent to Urijah, the priest, the likeness of the altar, and the structure of it, according to all its workmanship.

11 And Urijah, the priest, built an altar according to all that king Ahaz had sent from Damascus, so Urijah, the priest, made it ready when king Ahaz came from Damascus.

12 And the king came from Damascus, and the king saw the altar; and the king approached to the altar, and offered up on it.

13 And he burnt his burnt offering, and his food offering, and poured his drink offering, and sprinkled the blood of his peace offerings, upon the altar.

14 And he brought the brazen altar, which *was* before the face of Jehovah, from the face of the house, from between the altar and the house of Jehovah, and gave it on the north side of the altar.

15 And king Ahaz commanded Urijah, the priest, saying, Burn the morning burnt offering upon the great altar, and the evening food offering, and the king's burnt offering, and his food offering, with the burnt offering of all the people

of the land, and their food offering, and their drink offerings; and sprinkle upon it all the blood of the burnt offering, and all the blood of the sacrifice; and the brazen altar shall be for me to inquire.

16 And Urijah, the priest, did according to all that king Ahaz commanded.

17 And king Ahaz cut off the borders of the bases, and removed the washbowl from off them; and took down the sea from off the brazen oxen that *were* under it, and put it upon a pavement of stones.

18 And the covered way for the Sabbath that they built in the house, and the king's entry outside, he took from the house of Jehovah before the face of the king of Assyria.

19 And what is left of the words of Ahaz which he did, *are* they not written in the book of the words of the days of the kings of Judah?

20 And Ahaz lay down with his fathers, and was buried with his fathers in the city of David; and Hezekiah, his son, reigned in his place.

CHAPTER 17

1 In the year, the twelfth year of Ahaz, king of Judah, Hoshea, the son of Elah, began to reign in Samaria over Israel, *and reigned* nine years.

2 And he did evil in the eyes of Jehovah, but not as the kings of Israel who were before him.

3 Shalmaneser, king of Assyria, came up against him, and Hoshea became his servant, and

returned to him presents.

4 And the king of Assyria found conspiracy in Hoshea, for he had sent messengers to So, king of Egypt, and did not bring up any present to the king of Assyria, as year by year; and the king of Assyria shut him up, and bound him in the prison house.

5 And the king of Assyria came up throughout all the land, and went up to Samaria, and besieged against it three years.

6 In the ninth year of Hoshea, the king of Assyria captured Samaria and carried Israel as stripped captives into Assyria, and sat them down in Halah and in Habor by the river of Gozan and in the cities of the Medes.

7 And it was, that the children of Israel sinned against Jehovah, their God, who brought them up out of the land of Egypt, from under the hand of Pharaoh, king of Egypt, and feared other gods,

8 And walked in the enactments of the peoples, whom Jehovah possessed from before the face of the children of Israel, and of the kings of Israel, which they had made.

9 And the children of Israel did secretly those words that were not right against Jehovah, their God, and they built for themselves high places in all their cities, from the guard tower to the fortified city.

10 And they stationed for themselves idolatrous columns and pole images upon every high hill and under every green tree;

2 KINGS 17 *Israel's idolatry that caused their captivity to Assyria; Judah follows the same way*

11 And they burned perfumed incense there in all the high places, as the peoples whom Jehovah carried away as stripped captives before them, and did wicked words to provoke Jehovah;

12 And they served log idols, of which Jehovah had said to them, You shall not do this word.

13 And Jehovah testified against Israel and against Judah by the hand of all the prophets, all those who gazed at visions, saying, Turn back from your evil ways, and hedge about my commandments my enactments, according to all the law which I commanded your fathers, and which I sent to you by the hand of my servants, the prophets.

14 And they would not attentively hear, but hardened their necks, like the neck of their fathers, who did not believe Jehovah, their God.

15 And they despised his enactments, and his covenant that he cut with their fathers, and his testimonies which he testified against them; and they walked after vanity, and became vain, and went after the peoples who were around them, whom Jehovah had commanded them, that they should not do like them.

16 And they left all the laws of Jehovah, their God, and made for themselves molten images, two calves, and made pole images, and prostrated themselves to all the host of the heavens, and served Baal.

17 And they caused their sons, and their daughters to cross over through the fire, and seek to determine the future by magic scrolls and whispering spells, and sold themselves to do evil in the eyes of Jehovah to provoke him.

18 And Jehovah was exceedingly enraged with Israel, and removed them from his face; there was none left but the tribe of Judah only.

19 Also Judah did not hedge about the law of Jehovah, their God, and walked in the enactments of Israel which they made.

20 And Jehovah despised all the seed of Israel, and looked down with harshness upon them, and gave them into the hand of spoilers until he had thrown them from his face,

21 Because he tore Israel from the house of David, and they made Jeroboam, the son of Nebat, king; and Jeroboam drove Israel from after Jehovah, and caused them to sin a great sin.

22 And the children of Israel walked in all the sins of Jeroboam which he did; they did not depart from them,

23 Until Jehovah removed Israel from his face, what he spoke by the hand of all his servants the prophets. And Israel was carried away as stripped captives out of their own land to Assyria to this day.

24 And the king of Assyria brought *people* from Babylon, and from Cuthah, and from Ava, and from Hamath, and from Sepharvaim, and settled *them* in the cities of Samaria instead of the children of Israel; and they possessed

Samaria, and dwelt in its cities.

25 And it was, at the beginning of their dwelling there, that they did not fear Jehovah, and Jehovah sent lions among them; they were fatally attacking *some* of them.

26 And they said to the king of Assyria, saying, The Peoples whom you transported as stripped captives and settled in the cities of Samaria do not know the judged law of the God of the land; and he has sent lions among them, and behold, they are killing them, because they do not know the judged law of the God of the land.

27 And the king of Assyria commanded, saying, Let one of the priests whom you brought from there, walk there; and let them walk, and dwell there, and let him cause to flow to them the judged law of the God of the land.

28 And one of the priests whom they had carried away as a stripped captive from Samaria came, and dwelt in Bethel, and he was causing to flow to them how they should fear Jehovah.

29 And it was, every people made their gods, and deposited them in the houses of the high places which the Samaritans had made, every people in their cities where they dwelt there.

30 And the men of Babylon made Succoth Benoth, and the men of Cuth made Nergal, and the men of Hamath made Ashima,

31 And the Avites made Nibhaz and Tartak, and the Sepharvites burnt their children in fire to Adrammelech and Anammelech, the gods of

Sepharvaim.

32 And it was, they feared Jehovah, and made for themselves from their extremities priests of the high places; and they were doing so in the houses of the high places.

33 They feared Jehovah, and were serving their gods, after the judged law of the peoples whom they carried away as stripped captives from there.

34 To this day they do after the former judgments; they do not fear Jehovah, and they do not do after their enactments, and after their judgments, and after the law and commandment which Jehovah commanded the children of Jacob on whom he put the name Israel;

35 And Jehovah had cut a covenant with them, and commanded them, saying, You shall not fear other gods, and you shall not prostrate yourselves to them, and you shall not serve them, and you shall not sacrifice to them;

36 But Jehovah who brought you up out of the land of Egypt with great power and a stretched out arm, him you shall fear, and to him you shall prostrate yourselves, and to him you shall sacrifice.

37 And the enactments, and the judgments, and the law, and the commandment, which he wrote for you, you shall hedge about to do all days, and you shall not fear other gods.

38 And the covenant that I have cut with you, you shall not forget, and you shall not fear other gods.

2 KINGS 18

Hezekiah, king of Judah, seved Jehovah and removed the idols

39 But you shall fear Jehovah your God, and he will snatch you out of the hand of all those hating you.

40 And they did not attentively hear, but they did after their former judgments.

41 And it was, these peoples feared Jehovah, and were serving their carved idols, both their children, and their children's children; what their fathers did, they do to this day.

CHAPTER 18¹⁸

1 And it was, in the third year of Hoshea, son of Elah, king of Israel, Hezekiah, the son of Ahaz, king of Judah, began to reign.

2 He was a son of twenty-five years when he began to reign, and he reigned twenty-nine years in Jerusalem; and his mother's name *was* Abi, the daughter of Zachariah.

3 And he did right in the eyes of Jehovah, according to all that David, his father, did.

4 He removed the high places, and burst the idolatrous columns, and cut down the pole images, and broke in pieces the brazen serpent that Moses had made, because to those days the children of Israel burned incense to it, and he called it Nehushtan.⁴

5 He trusted Jehovah God of Israel, and none after him was like him among all the kings of Judah,

and who were before him.

6 And he clung to Jehovah, and did not depart from after him, and hedged about his commandments, which Jehovah commanded Moses.

7 And Jehovah was with him, and he was intelligently successful wherever he went out, and he rebelled against the king of Assyria, and did not serve him.

8 He struck the Palestinians, even to Gaza and its borders, from the guard tower to the fortified city.

9 And it was, in the fourth year of king Hezekiah - it was the seventh year of Hoshea, son of Elah, king of Israel - Shalmaneser, king of Assyria, came up against Samaria, and besieged it.

10 And at the end of three years they captured it; in the sixth year of Hezekiah - it *was* the ninth year of Hoshea, king of Israel - Samaria was captured.

11 And the king of Assyria carried away Israel as stripped captives to Assyria, and led them in Halah and in Habor *by* the river of Gozan, and in the cities of the Medes,

12 Because they did not attentively hear the voice of Jehovah, their God, but crossed over against his covenant, all that Moses, the servant of Jehovah, commanded, and would not attentively hear, and do.

13 And in the fourteenth year of king Hezekiah, Sennacherib, king of Assyria, came up against all the fortified cities of Judah, and captured them.

¹⁸ 2 Kings 18-19, the story of Jehovah's deliverance of Jerusalem from Assyria, is the only section found three places in the Bible except certain parts of the Gospels. This section is found also in 2 Chr 32 and Isa 36-37.

⁴ 18:4 *Nehushtan*, Bronze Serpent of the Desert.

14 And Hezekiah, king of Judah, sent to the king of Assyria to Lachish, saying, I have sinned; turn back from me; what you place upon me I will bear; and the king of Assyria put on Hezekiah, king of Judah, three hundred talents of silver, and thirty talents of gold.

15 And Hezekiah gave *him* all the silver that was found in the house of Jehovah, and in the treasures of the king's house.

16 At that time Hezekiah cut off *the gold* from the doors of the temple of Jehovah, and from the columns which Hezekiah, king of Judah, had sheeted over, and gave it to the king of Assyria.

17 And the king of Assyria sent the commander-in-chief, and the chief of the eunuchs, and chief butler from Lachish to king Hezekiah with great resources *against* Jerusalem. And they went up, and came to Jerusalem. And they went up, and they came, and stood by the conduit of the upper reservoir, which is in the highway of the field of the launderer.

18 And they called to the king, and there came out to them Eliakim, the son of Hilkiah, who *was* over the house, and Shebna, the scribe, and Joah, the son of Asaph, the recorder.

19 And the chief butler said to them, Please say to Hezekiah, Thus says the great king, the king of Assyria, What trust is this in which you have placed your trust?

20 You say (but *they are* vain words) *I have* counsel and might for the war. At this time, on whom

do you put your trust that you rebel against me?

21 At this time, behold, you put your trust upon the staff of this reed crushed to pieces, upon Egypt, on which a man takes hold, and it will go into his hand, and puncture it; so is Pharaoh, king of Egypt, to all who put their trust in him.

22 And when you say to me, We put our trust in Jehovah, our God - is that not he whose high places and whose altars Hezekiah has taken away, and has said to Judah and Jerusalem, Before this altar in Jerusalem you shall prostrate yourselves?²²

23 And now, please, give security with my lord, the king of Assyria, and I will give you two thousand horses, if you are able on your part to give riders on them.

24 And how will you turn back the face of one governor of the least of my lord's servants, and you put your trust upon Egypt for chariots, and for horsemen!

25 Am I now come up without Jehovah against this place to destroy it? Jehovah said to me, Go up against this land, and destroy it.

26 And Eliakim, the son of Hilkiah, and Shebna, and Joah said to the chief butler, Speak, please, to your servants Aramaic, because we hear it intelligently, and do not speak with us the Jewish language in the ears of the people who *are* on the wall.

²² 18:22 Rabshakah had misunderstood Hezekiah's revival in which he had torn down the many pagan altars and high places, and required the people in obedience to the Laws of Moses to worship Jehovah in Jerusalem at one central altar, Deut 12:13-14.

2 KINGS 19

The chief butler of the king of Assyria makes his speech to Hezekiah's men

27 And the chief butler said to them, Has my lord sent me to your lord, and to you, to speak these words? Has he not sent me to the men who sit on the wall, that they may eat their own dung, and drink their own urine with you?

28 And the chief butler stood, and called out with a loud voice in the Jewish language, and spoke, saying, Hear attentively the word of the great king, the king of Assyria;

29 Thus says the king, Do not let Hezekiah deceive you, because he shall not be able to snatch you out of his hand;

30 And do not let Hezekiah cause you to put your trust in Jehovah, saying, Snatching us out, Jehovah will snatch us out, and this city will not be given into the hand of the king of Assyria.

31 Do not attentively hear Hezekiah, because thus says the king of Assyria, Make *an agreement* with me by a blessing, and come out to me, and then you eat every man of his vine, and every man of his fig tree, and you drink every man the waters of his cistern,

32 Until I come and take you away to a land like your own land, a land of grain and grape juice, a land of food and vineyards, a land of olive oil and of honey, and you shall live, and not die; and do not attentively hear Hezekiah, because he prods you, saying, Jehovah will snatch us out.

33 Snatching out, has any of the gods of the peoples snatched his land out of the hand of the king of Assyria?

34 Where *are* the gods of Hamath and of Arpad? Where *are* the gods of Sepharvaim, Hena, and Ivah? Because, have they snatched Samaria out of my hand?

35 Who among all the gods of the countries have snatched their country out of my hand that Jehovah should snatch Jerusalem out of my hand?

36 And the people were silent, and did not answer him a word, because the king's command said, Do not answer him.

37 And Eliakim, the son of Hilkiyah, who was over the house, and Shebna, the scribe, and Joah, the son of Asaph, the recorder, came to Hezekiah *with their* clothes torn, and caused the words of the chief butler to stand out boldly to him.

CHAPTER 19

1 And it was, king Hezekiah attentively heard it, and he tore his clothes, and covered himself with sackcloth, and went into the house of Jehovah.

2 And he sent Eliakim, who *was* over the house, and Shebna, the scribe, and the elders of the priests, covered with sackcloth, to Isaiah, the prophet, the son of Amoz.

3 And they said to him, Thus says Hezekiah, This day *is* a day of distress, and rebuke, and scorn, because the children are come to birth, and there is no power to bring forth.

4 It may be, Jehovah, your God, will attentively hear all the words of the chief butler, whom the king of Assyria, his lord, has sent to reproach the living God, and will make right the words which Jehovah, your God, has attentively heard, and lift up your prayer for the remnant who are here.

5 And the servants of king Hezekiah came to Isaiah.

6 And Isaiah said to them, Thus you shall say to your lord, Thus says Jehovah, Do not fear the face⁶ of the words which you have attentively heard, with which the servants of the king of Assyria has blasphemed me.

7 Behold, I will give against him the Spirit, and he shall attentively hear a report, and shall turn back to his own land; and I will cause him to fall by the sword in his own land.

8 And the chief butler returned, and found the king of Assyria devouring against Libnah, because he had attentively heard that he had pulled up from Lachish.

⁶ **19:6** the face of the words, *paniyim*, the face. Note that words have faces. They frighten you, or give you faith, depending on the kind of words they are, and your reaction to them. These words of the chief butler had faces that were designed to strike fear in the hearts of Hezekiah and all Judah. Isaiah spoke words that had faces that gave faith to Hezekiah and Judah. You should hold up your shield of faith against the faces of the words that are fiery darts of the wicked one, Eph 6:16. You should receive all the words of Jehovah God in His Word because on their faces are faith, and power, and all good things. You should faithfully receive the faces of the words of the man of God who stands in the pulpit to preach His Word. You should send out from your mouth words with good faces that the Holy Spirit gives you to speak. Always remember, as you send out words, and as you receive words, all words have faces.

9 And he attentively heard of Tirhakah, king of Ethiopia, saying, Behold, he has come out to devour against you; and he again sent messengers to Hezekiah, saying,

10 Thus you shall speak to Hezekiah, king of Judah, saying, Do not let your God whom you trust deceive you, saying, Jerusalem shall not be given into the hand of the king of Assyria.

11 Behold, you have attentively heard what the kings of Assyria have done to all lands by devoting them *to destruction*, and shall you be snatched out!

12 Have the gods of the peoples snatched them out which my fathers have destroyed, Gozan, and Haran, and Rezep, and the children of Eden who *were* in Thelasar?

13 Where *is* the king of Hamath, and the king of Arpad, and the king of the city of Sepharvaim, of Hena, and Ivah?

14 And Hezekiah received the letter from the hand of the messengers, and called it out; and Hezekiah went up into the house of Jehovah, and spread it out before the face of Jehovah.

15 And Hezekiah judged in prayer before the face of Jehovah, and said, Oh, Jehovah, God of Israel, who dwells *above* the cherubs, you are he, the God, you alone, to all the kingdoms of the earth; you have made the heavens and earth.

16 Jehovah, spread out your ear, and hear attentively; Jehovah, open your eyes, and see, and attentively hear the words of

2 KINGS 19 *Hezekiah prays; Isaiah sends the word of Jehovah, The daughter of Zion has despised you*

Sennacherib, who has sent him to reproach the living God.

17 Truly, Jehovah, the kings of Assyria have destroyed the peoples and their lands,

18 And gave their gods to the fire, because they *were* no gods, but the work of men's hands, wood and stone, and they have caused them to be lost. Gal 4:8

19 And now, Jehovah, our God, please, save us out of his hand, and all the kingdoms of the earth shall know by seeing that you are Jehovah God, you alone.

20 And Isaiah, the son of Amoz, sent to Hezekiah, saying, Thus says Jehovah God of Israel, I have attentively heard what you have judged in prayer to me against Sennacherib, king of Assyria.

21 This *is* the word that Jehovah has spoken concerning him; The virgin daughter of Zion has despised you and mocked you; the daughter of Jerusalem has shaken her head at you.

22 Whom have you reproached and blasphemed? And against whom have you raised your voice and lifted up your eyes on high? Against the Holy One of Israel!

23 You have reproached the Lord by the hand of your messengers, and have said, With the abundance of my chariots I have ascended to the height of the mountains, to the flanks of Lebanon, and will cut down the tall cedar trees there, and the best cypress trees there; and I will enter into the most remote of his lodgings, the forest of its orchards.

24 I have dug, and have drunk strange waters, and with the sole of my feet I have dried up all the rivers of Egypt.

25 Have you not attentively heard long ago *that* I have done it, and of ancient days that I have formed it? Now I have come, and your fortified cities shall be laid waste in ruinous heaps.

26 And their short handed inhabitants prostrated themselves, and paled in shame; they were as the plant of the field, and as the tender green sprouts, as the grass on the housetops, and as blasted before it has grown up.

27 And I know by seeing your dwelling place, and your going out, and your coming in, and your agitation against me,

28 Because you are agitated against me, and your haughty self-confidence has ascended into my ears, and I will put my hook in your nose, and my bridle in your lips, and I will turn you back the way by which you came.

29 And this *shall be* a sign to you, You shall eat this year such things as grow of themselves, and in the second year that which sprouts of the same; and in the third year sow, and reap, and plant vineyards, and eat the fruits.

30 And the remnant that is escaped of the house of Judah shall yet again take root downward, and make fruit upward,

31 Because a remnant shall go out from Jerusalem, and they who escape out of Mount Zion; the zeal of Jehovah of hosts shall do this.

32 Therefore thus says Jehovah concerning the king of Assyria, He shall not come into this city, and he shall not cause an arrow to flow there, and shall not come before it with shield, and shall not mound up a mound against it.

33 By the way that he came, by the same he shall return, and shall not come into this city - an oracle of Jehovah.

34 And I will hedge about this city to save it for my own sake and for my servant, David's sake.

35 And it was that night, and the Messenger of Jehovah went out and struck in the camp of the Assyrians a hundred and eighty-five thousand; and they rose early in the dawn, and behold, *they were* all dead corpses.

36 And Sennacherib, king of Assyria, pulled up, and walked and returned, and dwelt at Nineveh.

37 And it was, he was prostrating himself in the house of Nisroch, his god, and Adrammelech and Sharezer, his sons, struck him with the sword; and they escaped into the land of Ararat. And Esarhaddon, his son, reigned in his place.

CHAPTER 20

1 In those days Hezekiah was worn *out ready* to die. And the prophet Isaiah, the son of Amoz, came to him, and said to him, Thus says Jehovah, Command your house, because you shall die, and not live.

2 And he turned his face to the wall, and judged in prayer to Jehovah, saying,

3 Oh please, Jehovah, remember now how I have walked before your face in truth, and with a heart complete in peace, and have done good in your eyes. And Hezekiah wept greatly.

4 And it was, Isaiah had not gone out into the middle courtyard, and the word of Jehovah came to him, saying,

5 Turn back, and say to Hezekiah, the commander of my people, Thus says Jehovah, the God of David, your father, I have attentively heard your prayer, I have seen your weeping; behold, I will heal you; on the third day you shall go up to the house of Jehovah.

6 And I will add to your days fifteen years, and I will snatch you and this city out of the palm of the king of Assyria; and I will hedge about this city for my own sake, and for my servant, David's sake.

7 And Isaiah said, Take a cake of figs. And they took, and put it on the inflamed ulcer, and he lived.

8 And Hezekiah said to Isaiah, What *shall be* the sign that Jehovah will heal me, and that I shall go up into the house of Jehovah the third day?

9 And Isaiah said, This sign *will be* to you from Jehovah, that Jehovah will do the word that he has spoken: the shadow shall walk forward ten degrees, or turn back ten degrees?

10 And Hezekiah said, It is a light thing for the shadow to go down ten degrees; no, but let the shadow return backward ten de-

2 KINGS 21 *The sundial turned back 10 degrees; Hezekiah shows all his treasures to men of Babylon grees.*

11 And Isaiah, the prophet, called to Jehovah, and he turned the shadow ten degrees backward, by which it had gone down in the dial of Ahaz.

12 At that time Berodach Baladan, the son of Baladan, king of Babylon, sent letters, and a present to Hezekiah, because he had attentively heard that Hezekiah had been worn *out*.

13 And Hezekiah attentively heard them, and showed them all the house of his precious things, the silver, and the gold, and the spices, and the good ointment, and the house of his weaponry, and all that was found in his treasures; there was not a word in his house, and in all his dominion, that Hezekiah did not show them.

14 And Isaiah, the prophet, came to king Hezekiah, and said to him, What did these men say, and from where did they come to you? And Hezekiah said, They came from a far country, from Babylon.

15 And he said, What have they seen in your house? And Hezekiah said, They have seen all that *is* in my house; there is not a word among my treasures that I have not caused them to see.

16 And Isaiah said to Hezekiah, Hear attentively the word of Jehovah.

17 Behold, the days come, and all that is in your house, and that which your fathers have stored up to this day, shall be lifted away to Babylon; not a word shall be left, says Jehovah.

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18 And they shall take away of your sons who shall go out of you, which you shall beget, and they shall be eunuchs in the palace of the king of Babylon.

19 And Hezekiah said to Isaiah, The word of Jehovah which you have spoken *is* good. And he said, *Is it* not good, if peace, and truth is in my days?

20 And what is left of the words of Hezekiah, and all his might, and how he made a reservoir and a conduit, and brought water into the city, are they not written in the book of the words of the days of the kings of Judah?

21 And Hezekiah lay down with his fathers, and Manasseh, his son, reigned in his place.

CHAPTER 21

1 Manasseh *was* a son of twelve years when he began to reign, and reigned fifty-five years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name *was* Hephzibah.

2 And he did evil in the eyes of Jehovah, after the abominations of the peoples, whom Jehovah possessed before the face of the children of Israel.

3 And he built again the high places which Hezekiah his father had caused to be lost, and he raised up altars for Baal, and made pole images, what Ahab, king of Israel did; and prostrated himself to all the host of the heavens, and served them.

4 And he built altars in the house of Jehovah, of which Jehovah said, In Jerusalem I will put my name.

5 And he built altars for all the host of the heavens in the two courts of the house of Jehovah.

6 And he crossed his son over through the fire, and practiced secret arts, and whispered spells, and dealt with those who channel, and occult false prophets; he did much evil in the eyes of Jehovah to provoke him. Note Deut 18:10

7 And he put a carved idol of the pole images that he had made in the house, of which Jehovah said to David, and to Solomon, his son, In this house, and in Jerusalem, which I have chosen out of all tribes of Israel, I will put my name forever; 1 Kng 9:3

8 And I will not cause the feet of Israel to wander any more out of the land which I gave their fathers, if only they will hedge about to do according to all that I have commanded them, and according to all the law that my servant Moses commanded them. 1 Sam 7:10. Deut 28. Lev 26.

9 And they did not attentively hear, and Manasseh caused them to stray to do more evil than the peoples whom Jehovah desolated before the face of the children of Israel.

10 And Jehovah spoke by the hand of his servants, the prophets, saying,

11 Because Manasseh, king of Judah, has done these abominations, and has done evil above all that the Amorites did who *were* before him, and has caused Judah also to sin with his log idols,

12 Therefore thus says Jehovah God of Israel, Behold, I bring evil upon Jerusalem and Judah, so that all who attentively hear it, both of his ears shall tingle.

13 And I will stretch over Jerusalem the line of Samaria, and the plummet of the house of Ahab, and I will wipe Jerusalem as one wipes a dish, wiping it, and turning it upon its face.

14 And I will thrust off the remnant of my inheritance, and give them into the hand of those hating them, and they shall become a prey and a spoil to all those hating them,

15 Because they have done evil in my eyes, and have provoked me since the day their fathers came out of Egypt even to this day.

16 Also Manasseh spilled very much innocent blood until he had filled Jerusalem from one mouth¹⁶ *of Jerusalem to the other* mouth, separate from his sin with which he caused Judah to sin in doing evil in the eyes of Jehovah.

17 And what is left of the words of Manasseh, and all that he did, and his sin that he sinned, *are* they not written in the book of the words of the days of the kings of Judah?

18 And Manasseh lay down with his fathers, and was buried in the garden of his own house, in the garden of Uzza; and Amon, his son, reigned in his place.

¹⁶ **21:16 from one mouth to the other.** The Hebrew is *peh laa peh*. *Peh* is the word for mouth. It literally says from the mouth to the mouth [of Jerusalem], from the one mouth of the city to the other mouth of the city. We say from one end to the other when making this statement.

2 KINGS 22 *The reign of Amon; the good reign of Josiah, finding the Bible in the Temple*

19 Amon *was* a son of twenty-two years when he began to reign, and he reigned two years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name *was* Meshullemeth, the daughter of Haruz of Jotbah.

20 And he did evil in the eyes of Jehovah, what his father, Manasseh, did.

21 And he walked in all the way that his father walked, and served the log idols that his father served, and prostrated himself to them;

22 And he left Jehovah God of his fathers, and did not walk in the way of Jehovah.

23 And the servants of Amon conspired against him, and killed the king in his own house.

24 And the people of the land struck all them who had conspired against king Amon, and the people of the land made Josiah, his son, king in his place.

25 And what is left of the words of Amon which he did, *are* they not written in the book of the words of the days of the kings of Judah?

26 And he was buried in his sepulcher in the garden of Uzza, and Josiah, his son, reigned in his place.

CHAPTER 22

1 Josiah *was* a son of eight years when he began to reign, and he reigned thirty-one years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name *was* Jedidah, the daughter of Adaiah of Boscath.

2 And he did right in the eyes of Jehovah, and walked in all the way of David, his father, and did not turn aside to the right hand, or to the left.

3 And it was, in the eighteenth year of king Josiah, the king sent Shaphan, the son of Azaliah, the son of Meshullam, the scribe, to the house of Jehovah, saying,

4 Go up to Hilkiah, the great priest, that he may total the silver which is brought into the house of Jehovah, which those who hedge about the door have gathered from the people;

5 And let them give it into the hand of the doers of the work, that have the oversight of the house of Jehovah, and let them give it to the doers of the work which *is* in the house of Jehovah, to make the breaks of the house strong,

6 To fabricators, and builders, and stone masons, and to erect timber, and cut stone to make the house strong.

7 However, there was no calculation with them of the silver given into their hand, because they dealt faithfully.

8 And Hilkiah, the great priest, said to Shaphan, the scribe, I have found the book of the law in the house of Jehovah. And Hilkiah gave the book to Shaphan, and he called it out.

9 And Shaphan, the scribe, came to the king, and the king returned word, and said, Your servants have poured out the silver that was found in the house, and have given it into the hand of them who do the work, who have the

oversight of the house of Jehovah.

10 And Shaphan, the scribe, caused it to stand out boldly to the king, saying, Hilkiah, the priest, has given me a book. And Shaphan called it out before the face of the king.

11 And it was, the king attentively heard the words of the book of the law, and he tore his clothes.

12 And the king commanded Hilkiah, the priest, and Ahikam, the son of Shaphan, and Achbor, the son of Michaiah, and Shaphan, the scribe, and Asahiah, a servant of the king's, saying,

13 Walk, tread seeking Jehovah for me, and for the people, and for all Judah, concerning the words of this book that is found, because the hot anger of Jehovah that is set on fire against us *is* great, because our fathers have not attentively heard the words of this book, to do according to all that which is written concerning us.

14 And Hilkiah, the priest, and Ahikam, and Achbor, and Shaphan, and Asahiah, walked to Huldah, the prophetess, the wife of Shallum, the son of Tikvah, the son of Harhas, the one who hedged about the wardrobe (and she dwelt in Jerusalem in the second *part of the city*), and they spoke with her.

15 And she said to them, Thus says Jehovah God of Israel, Say to the man who sent you to me,

16 Thus says Jehovah, Behold, I will bring evil upon this place, and upon its inhabitants, all the words of the book which the king of Judah has called out,

17 Because they have left me, and have burned perfumed incense to other gods, that they might provoke me with all the works of their hands; therefore my hot anger shall be set on fire against this place, and shall not be extinguished.

18 And to the king of Judah who sent you to tread seeking Jehovah, thus you shall say to him, Thus says Jehovah God of Israel, As to the words which you have heard:

19 Because your heart was tender, and you have bent your knees before the face of Jehovah when you attentively heard what I spoke against this place, and against its inhabitants, that they should become a desolation and a curse, and have torn your clothes, and wept before my face, I also have attentively heard *you*, says Jehovah.

20 Behold therefore, I will gather you to your fathers, and you shall be gathered into your grave in peace; and your eyes shall not see all the evil which I will bring upon this place. And they returned word to the king.

CHAPTER 23

1 And the king sent, and they gathered to him all the elders of Judah and of Jerusalem.

2 And the king went up into the house of Jehovah, and all the men of Judah, and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem with him, and the priests, and the prophets, and all the people, both small, and great; and he called out in their ears all the words of the book of the cov-

2 KINGS 23 *Josiah cuts a new covenant with Jehovah; they remove idolatry and perversion*

enent which was found in the house of Jehovah.

3 And the king stood by a column, and cut a covenant before the face of Jehovah to walk after Jehovah, and to hedge about his commandments, and his testimonies, and his enactments with all their heart and all their soul, to cause the words of this covenant that were written in this book to rise. And all the people stood to the covenant.

4 And the king commanded Hilkiah, the great priest, and the priests of the second order, and those who hedged about the door to bring out, out of the temple of Jehovah all the vessels that were made for Baal, and for the pole images, and for all the host of the heavens; and he burned them outside Jerusalem in the fields of Kidron, and carried the ashes of them to Bethel.

5 And he caused the idolatrous priests to cease, whom the kings of Judah had given to burn perfumed incense in the high places in the cities of Judah and around Jerusalem, them also who burned perfumed incense to Baal, to the sun, and to the moon, and to the signs of the Zodiac, and to all the host of the heavens.

6 And he brought out the pole images from the house of Jehovah, outside Jerusalem, to the stream Kidron, and burned them at the stream Kidron, and crushed them to powder, and threw the powder upon the graves of the children of the people.

7 And he tore down the houses of the male prostitutes, that were by the house of Jehovah, where the women wove houses for the pole images.

8 And he brought all the priests out of the cities of Judah, and defiled the high places where the priests had burned perfumed incense, from Geba to Beersheba, and tore down the high places of the gates that were in the entrance of the gate of Joshua, the chief ruler of the city, which were on a man's left hand at the gate of the city.

9 Of course, the priests of the high places did not come up to the altar of Jehovah in Jerusalem, but they did eat of the unleavened bread in the midst of their brothers.

10 And he defiled Topheth, which is in the valley of the children of Hinnom¹⁰ so that no man might cause his son or his daughter to cross over through the fire to Molech. *Lev 18:21*

11 And he caused to cease the horses that the kings of Judah had given to the sun, at the entering in of the house of Jehovah, by the room of Nathanmelech, the eu-

¹⁰ **23:10 valley of the children of Hinnom**, represents the hell or *gehenna* of the New Covenant. It became known also as Tophet, which means the place of burning. It is because good King Josiah changed this valley from a valley of sacrificing children in the fires to the idols of Molech, to the garbage dump of Jerusalem, that it became a picture of hell. Josiah defiled the area, and turned it into the garbage dump for the city of Jerusalem. The refuse from the city burned there day and night, and became a picture of those who through unbelief were unfit to enter heaven being burned in the fires of hell. Jesus uses the word *gehenna* 11 times to describe the everlasting fires of hell: Mt 5:22,29,30; 10:28; 18:9; 23:15,33. Mk 9:43,45,47. Lk 12:5. Also Jms 3:6.

nuch, who was in the attached apartments, and burned the chariots of the sun with fire.

12 And the king tore down the altars that were on the top of the second story room of Ahaz, which the kings of Judah had made, and the altars which Manasseh had made in the two courts of the house of Jehovah, and rushed them down from there, and threw their dust into the stream Kidron.

13 And the king defiled the high places that *were* upon the face of Jerusalem, which *were* on the right hand of the Mount of Corruption, which Solomon, the king of Israel, had built for Ashtoreth, the abomination¹³ of the Zidonians, and for Chemosh, the abomination of the Moabites, and for Milcom, the abomination of the children of Ammon.

14 And he burst in pieces the idolatrous columns, and cut down the pole images, and filled their places with the bones of men.

15 And also the altar that *was* at Bethel, the high place which Jeroboam, the son of Nebat, who caused Israel to sin, had made, he tore down both that altar and the high place, and burned the high place; he crushed it to powder, and burned the pole images.

16 And Josiah turned, and he saw the sepulchers that *were* there in the mount, and sent, and took the bones out of the sepulchers, and burned them upon the altar, and polluted it, according to the word of Jehovah which the man of God

¹³ **23:13 abomination**, *shiqquwt*, which means a disgusting, filthy idol. It is the same word each place it appears in this sentence.

called out, who called out these words.

17 And he said, What is this monument that I see? And the men of the city said to him, The sepulcher of the man of God who came from Judah, and called out these words that you have done against the altar of Bethel. ¹ Kng 13:2 [13:1-32]

18 And he said, Leave him; no man shall move his bones. And they caused his bones to escape with the bones of the prophet who came out of Samaria. ¹ Kng 13:1-32

19 And also Josiah took away all the houses of the high places that *were* in the cities of Samaria, which the kings of Israel had made to provoke Jehovah, and did to them according to all the acts that he had done in Bethel.

20 And he slaughtered all the priests of the high places that *were* there upon the altars, and burned men's bones upon them, and returned to Jerusalem.

21 And the king commanded all the people, saying, Do the Passover to Jehovah your God, as it is written in the book of this covenant.

22 Surely there was not done such a Passover from the days of the judges who judged Israel, even in all the days of the kings of Israel, and of the kings of Judah;

23 But in the eighteenth year of king Josiah this Passover was done to Jehovah in Jerusalem.

24 And Josiah also consumed those channeling, and the occult false prophets, and the family healing images, and the log idols, and all the abominations that were seen

2 KINGS 23 *God's anger not turned back; Josiah killed in battle against Pharaoh at Megiddo*

in the land of Judah and in Jerusalem, so that he might cause to rise the words of the law which were written in the book that Hilkiah the priest found in the house of Jehovah.

25 And there was not before him a king like him, who turned to Jehovah with all his heart, and with all his soul, and with all his strength, according to all the law of Moses; and after him there did not rise *any* like him.

26 However Jehovah did not turn from the great burning anger of his nostrils, with which his nostrils burned against Judah, because of all the provocations with which Manasseh had provoked him.

27 And Jehovah said, I will remove Judah also from before my face, as I have removed Israel, and will despise this city, Jerusalem, which I have chosen, and the house of which I said, My name shall be there.

28 And what is left of the words of Josiah, and all that he did, *are* they not written in the book of the words of the days of the kings of Judah?

29 In his days Pharaoh Nechoh, king of Egypt, went up against the king of Assyria to the Euphrates River, and king Josiah walked to meet him; and he killed him at Megiddo, when he saw him.

30 And his servants caused him to ride in a chariot dead from Megiddo, and brought him to Jerusalem, and buried him in his own sepulcher; and the people of the land took Jehoahaz, the son of Josiah, and anointed him, and made

him king in his father's place.

31 Jehoahaz *was* a son of twenty-three years when he began to reign, and he reigned three new moons in Jerusalem; and his mother's name was Hamutal, the daughter of Jeremiah of Libnah.

32 And he did evil in the eyes of Jehovah, according to all that his fathers had done.

33 And Pharaoh Nechoh fastened him in a yoke at Riblah in the land of Hamath, that he might not reign in Jerusalem, and gave the land under a tribute of a hundred talents of silver and a talent of gold.

34 And Pharaoh Nechoh made Eliakim, the son of Josiah, king after Josiah, his father, and turned his name around to Jehoiakim, and took Jehoahaz away; and he came to Egypt, and died there.

35 And Jehoiakim gave the silver and the gold to Pharaoh; also he arranged the land to give the silver according to the commandment of Pharaoh; he drove the silver and the gold from the people of the land, of every man according to his estimated valuation, to give it to Pharaoh Nechoh.

36 Jehoiakim *was* a son of twenty-five years when he began to reign, and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem; and his mother's name was Zebudah, the daughter of Pedaiah of Rumah.

37 And he did evil in the eyes of Jehovah, according to all that his fathers had done.

CHAPTER 24

1 In his days Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, came up, and Jehoiakim became his servant three years, and he turned back, and rebelled against him.

2 And Jehovah sent against him armies of the Chaldeans, and armies of the Syrians, and armies of the Moabites, and armies of the children of Ammon, and sent them against Judah to cause it to be lost, according to the word of Jehovah, which he spoke by his servants, the prophets.

3 Surely by the mouth of Jehovah it came upon Judah to remove *them* from his face for the sins of Manasseh, according to all that he did;

4 And also the innocent blood that he spilled, for he filled Jerusalem *with* innocent blood, and Jehovah did not breathe in agreement to forgive.

5 And what is left of the words of Jehoiakim, and all that he did, *are* they not written in the book of the words of the days of the kings of Judah?

6 And Jehoiakim lay down with his fathers, and Jehoiachin, his son, reigned in his place.

7 And the king of Egypt did not come again any more out of his land, because the king of Babylon had taken from the Stream of Egypt to the Euphrates River all that existed to the king of Egypt.

8 Jehoiachin *was* a son of eighteen years when he began to reign, and he reigned in Jerusalem three new moons. And his mother's name *was* Nehushta, the daughter

of Elnathan of Jerusalem.

9 And he did evil in the eyes of Jehovah, according to all that his father had done.

10 At that time the servants of Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, came up against Jerusalem, and the city came under siege.

11 And Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, came against the city, and his servants besieged it.

12 And Jehoiachin, the king of Judah, went out to the king of Babylon, he, and his mother, and his servants, and his princes, and his eunuchs, and the king of Babylon took him in the eighth year of his reign.

13 And he carried out from there all the treasures of the house of Jehovah, and the treasures of the king's house, and cut in pieces all the vessels of gold which Solomon, king of Israel, had made in the temple of Jehovah, what Jehovah had said.

14 And he carried away all Jerusalem as stripped captives, and all the chief rulers, and all the mighty men of resources, ten thousand stripped captives, and all the fabricators and smiths; none remained, except those of the people of the land dangling most in need.

15 And he carried away Jehoiachin as a stripped captive to Babylon, and the king's mother, and the king's wives, and his eunuchs, and the strong of the land; he walked them as stripped captives from Jerusalem to Babylon.

2 KINGS 25 *Nebuchadnezzar returns and burns the Temple and the city*

16 And all the men of resources, seven thousand, and fabricators and smiths, a thousand, all mighty to make war, even them the king of Babylon brought as stripped captives to Babylon.

17 And the king of Babylon caused Mattaniah, his father's brother, to reign in his place, and turned his name around to Zedekiah.

18 Zedekiah *was* a son of twenty-one years when he began to reign, and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name *was* Hamutal, the daughter of Jeremiah of Libnah.

19 And he did evil in the eyes of Jehovah, according to all that Jehoiakim had done,

20 Because the *burning* nostrils of Jehovah were against Jerusalem and Judah until he threw them from his face. And Zedekiah rebelled against the king of Babylon.

CHAPTER 25

1 And it was in the ninth year of his reign, in the tenth new moon, in the tenth of the new moon, Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, came, he and all his resources, against Jerusalem, and pitched against it; and they built battering towers against it all around.

2 And the city came under siege until the eleventh year of king Zedekiah.

3 And on the ninth of the fourth new moon the famine seized the city, and there was no food for the people of the land.

4 And the city was torn open, and all the men of war *fled* by night by the way of the gate between two walls, which is by the king's garden (and the Chaldeans *were* against the city all around), and the king walked the way toward the plain.

5 And the resources of the Chaldeans pursued after the king, and reached him in the plains of Jericho; and all his resources were forcibly scattered from him.

6 And they captured the king, and brought him up to the king of Babylon to Riblah; and they spoke judgment upon him.

7 And they slaughtered the sons of Zedekiah before his eyes, and blinded the eyes of Zedekiah, and bound him with bronze fetters, and brought him to Babylon.

8 And in the fifth new moon, on the seventh of the new moon - *it is* the nineteenth year of king Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon - Nebuzaradan, the ranking executioner, a servant of the king of Babylon, came to Jerusalem,

9 And he burned the house of Jehovah, and the king's house, and all the houses of Jerusalem, and every great house he burned with fire.

10 And all the resources of the Chaldeans with the ranking executioner tore down the walls of Jerusalem all around.

11 And what is left of the people left in the city, and those fallen away who fell away to the king of Babylon, with the remnant of the multitude, Nebuzaradan, the ranking executioner, carried away

as stripped captives.

12 And the ranking executioner left the poor of the land as vine dressers, and cultivators of the soil.

13 And the columns of bronze that *were* in the house of Jehovah, and the pedestals, and the brazen sea that *was* in the house of Jehovah, the Chaldeans burst, and carried the bronze of them to Babylon.

14 And they took away the pots, and the shovels, and the tongs, and the spoons, and all the vessels of bronze with which they ministered.

15 And the ranking executioner took away the firepans, and the sprinkling bowls which *were* of gold and of silver.

16 The two columns, one sea, and the pedestals which Solomon had made for the house of Jehovah - the bronze of all these vessels was not weighed.

17 The height of the one column was eighteen cubits, and the crown upon it *was* bronze; and the height of the crown *was* three cubits; and the wreath work, and pomegranates upon the crown all around, all of bronze; and the second column *was* like these with wreathed work.

18 And the ranking executioner took Seraiah, the head priest, and Zephaniah, second priest, and the three of those who hedged about the door,

19 And he took one eunuch out of the city, he who visited over the men of war, and five men of those who constantly saw the king's face, which were found in the city,

and the ruling scribe of the host, who mustered the people of the land, and sixty men of the people of the land found in the city;

20 And Nebuzaradan, the ranking executioner, took these, and walked them to the king of Babylon to Riblah;

21 And the king of Babylon struck them, and killed them at Riblah in the land of Hamath. And Judah was carried away as stripped captives out of their land.

22 And the people were left in the land of Judah, whom Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, left, and he caused Gedaliah, the son of Ahikam, the son of Shaphan, to visit officially over them.

23 And all the chief rulers of the resources, they and their men, attentively heard that the king of Babylon had caused Gedaliah to visit officially, and they came to Gedaliah to Mizpah, even Ishmael, the son of Nethaniah, and Johanan, the son of Careah, and Seraiah, the son of Tanhumeth, the Netophathite, and Jaazaniah, the son of a Maachathite, they and their men,

24 And Gedaliah swore to them and to their men, and said to them, Do not fear the servants of the Chaldeans; dwell in the land, and serve the king of Babylon, and it shall be well with you.

25 And it was, in the seventh new moon, Ishmael, the son of Nethaniah, the son of Elishama, of the royal seed, came, and ten men with him, and struck Gedaliah, and he died, and the Jews and the Chaldeans who were with him at

2 KINGS 25 *Some flee to Egypt; Nebuchadnezzar makes Jehoichin comfortable in Babylon Mizpah.*

26 And all the people, both small and great, and the chief rulers of the resources rose, and came to Egypt, because they feared the face of the Chaldeans.

27 And it was, in the thirty-seventh year of the captivity of Jehoiachin, king of Judah, in the twelfth new moon, on the twenty-seventh of the new moon, Evilmerodach, king of Babylon, in the year he began to reign, lifted up the head of Jehoiachin, king of Judah, out of the prison house;

28 And he spoke good to him, and gave his throne above the throne of the kings who *were* with him in Babylon;

29 And changed his prison garments, and he ate food continually before his face all the days of his life.

30 And his allowance was a continual allowance given him of the king, a daily word per day, all the days of his life.