

God's Masterwork, Volume Two
The Story of God's People — A Survey of Joshua – Esther
2 Kings: From Compromise to Captivity
A SURVEY OF 2 KINGS



The Heart of the Matter

Second Kings revolves around a principle of life that not even God violates: persistent sin may be forgiven, but its consequences cannot be erased. The book of 2 Kings plays out this truth on a national scale, as the newly divided nation of Israel faltered time and again in its commitment to God's plan for them. Where they were to be a light to the world, they instead wallowed in the darkness of the surrounding people. The few faithful followers of God during this time struggled against the tide of sin and rebellion. Nonetheless, they saw their nation fall to outside powers and watched their people—who knew better from the beginning—endure judgment. Let's trace Israel and Judah's slow slide into exile, asking ourselves along the way how we would react in the face of such a strong opposition to God's will and ways.



Discovering the Way

1. Background Information

Second Kings is a direct continuation of 1 Kings. The end of 1 Kings portrays the nation of Israel in dire circumstances due to their sin. Second Kings continues to trace that history until the inevitable judgment that came as a result of their rebellion against God.

2. From Bad to Worse

After beginning with a focus on the northern kingdom (chapters 1–10), 2 Kings divides its focus between north and south (11–17). Once the Assyrians forced the northern kingdom into exile, the book concludes with a focus on the southern kingdom until their exile to Babylon (18–25).

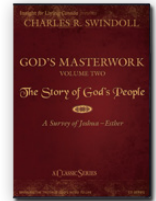


Starting Your Journey

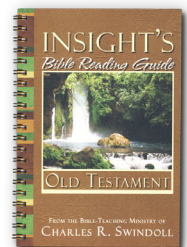
What if your nation is in its final days of stability or influence in its region or the world? Could it be that you will be called upon in your sphere of influence to be as a prophet of old, to speak the truth to those without hope?



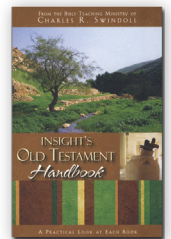
Tools for Digging Deeper



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of Joshua–Esther
by Charles R. Swindoll



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SECOND KINGS

	Northern Kingdom Israel	Both Kingdoms (Alternating)	Southern Kingdom Judah
	ISRAEL'S FALL TO ASSYRIA 722 BC		JUDAH'S FALL TO BABYLON 586 BC
	CHAPTERS 1-10	CHAPTERS 11-17	CHAPTERS 18-25
Northern Prophets	Elijah Elisha	Jonah Amos Hosea	
Southern Prophets		Obadiah Joel Micah Isaiah	Nahum Zephaniah Jeremiah Habakkuk
Northern Kings	Ahaziah to Hoshea		
Southern Kings		Jehoram to Zedekiah	
Key Chapters	17 and 25		
Theme	God is patient, but He does not allow persistent sin to go unpunished.		
Key Verses	17:22-23		
Christ in 2 Kings	Foreshadowed in the faithfulness of some Judean kings; seen in the healing ministry and compassion of Elisha		

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A CHART OF THE KINGS OF "ISRAEL" AND "JUDAH"

The Kingdom of "Israel" (NORTH)

Jeroboam
 Nadab
 Baasha
 Elah
 Zimri
 Omri
 Ahab
 Ahaziah
 Jehoram
 Jehu
 Jehoahaz
 Jehoash
 Jeroboam II
 Zachariah
 Shallum
 Manahem
 Pekahiah
 Pekah
 Hoshea

Assyrian
Captivity
(722 BC)

(All 19 northern sovereigns were evil.)

Civil War Begins
930 BC

Northern Prophets: Jonah, Amos, Hosea, (plus Elijah and Elisha)

Rehoboam
 Abijah
 *Asa
 *Jehoshaphat
 Jehoram
 Ahaziah
 Athaliah
 *Joash
 *Amaziah
 *Uzziah
 *Jotham
 Ahaz
 *Hezekiah
 Manasseh
 Amon
 *Josiah
 Jehoahaz
 Jehoiakim
 Jehoiachin
 Zedekiah

The Kingdom of "Judah" (SOUTH)

Babylonian
Captivity
(586 BC)

(*Of 20 sovereigns, only eight were good.)

Southern Prophets: Obadiah, Joel, Isaiah, Micah, Nahum,
Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Jeremiah

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