

# VIA EMMAUS: A CHRIST-CENTERED WALK THROUGH THE BIBLE

## 2 Kings: Redemptive History is a Royal Mess—Part 2 (16)

### OVERVIEW

#### Samuel and Kings

2 Kings is the second part of 1-2 Kings and the fourth part of Samuel & Kings  
Makes up the final section in the monarchy of Israel = Honest, Theological, and based on Deuteronomy  
Tells the tale of Israel's final defeat = Israel by Assyria (722 BC) and Judah by Babylon (586 BC)

#### People

1-2 Samuel-1 Kings Built on Key Figures: Samuel & Saul (1 Sam); David (2 Sam); Solomon (1 Kings)  
2 Kings Developed Through a Series of Kings: Over 30 and most are wicked  
The pervasive wickedness of the kings shows the unreliability of human leaders  
Hezekiah & Josiah stand out as exceptions to the rule and reinforce God's messianic promises

#### Place

Moved from Entrance into the Land (1 Samuel) to Exit from the Land (2 Kings 25)  
God's dwelling w/ Israel & Israel's possession of the land depends on Covenant loyalty (**Deut 28:15ff**)

#### Rule

Wickedness prevails in 2 Kings, with only rare exceptions  
The Word of God is a central theme in 1-2 Kings – *sadly it is often a theme that the characters reject*

### ELIJAH & ELISHA (1:1–10:36)

#### Elijah

2 Kings begins w/ Elijah's powerful ministry (**1:1-18**) – *Calling down fire and pronouncing judgment*  
- As in 1 Kings, his mission is to call the kings back to covenantal faithfulness (**1:15-16**)  
- Elijah is taken into heaven and Elisha receives his mantle (**2:9-12**)

#### Elisha

Like Elijah, Elisha calls Israel's kings to repent and return (**3:1ff; 6:24ff; 8:7ff**)  
Elisha receives a double portion (**2:9-12**) – *more miracles, more powerful, more merciful*  
Elisha : Elijah :: Joshua : Moses (**2:13-14; cf. 2:8**) – *This pair also prefigures the Baptist & Jesus*  
Miracles – *Elisha's improbable and supernatural miracles foreshadow the greater work of Jesus*

| <u>Elisha</u>  | <u>Jesus</u>   |
|--|--|
| ○ Multiplies food: oil ( <b>4:1-7</b> ); bread ( <b>4:42f</b> )<br>Purifies deadly stew ( <b>4:38f</b> ) | Feeds 5,000 + 4,000 (Matt 14:13-21; John 6:1-14)                               |
| ○ Healed Naaman of leprosy ( <b>5:1f</b> )   | Heals Lepers ( <b>Matt 8:1-4; 10:8; 11:5</b> )                                 |
| ○ Raises the dead ( <b>4:18f</b> )   | So Jesus ( <b>Lk 7:11-17; Jn 11:17-44; Rom 6:1-8</b> )                         |
| ○ Makes an axe-head float ( <b>6:1f</b> )  | Transforms Water ( <b>Jn 2:1-11</b> )<br>Walks on Water ( <b>Matt 14:22f</b> ) |
| ○ Shows the chariots of fire ( <b>6:8-23</b> )   | Opens blind eyes ( <b>John 9:35-41; 12:37-41</b> )                             |
| ○ Elisha's death results in life ( <b>13:20-21</b> )   | Jesus is the Resurrection & the Life   |

## **A ROYAL MESS (2 Kings 9:1-17:41)**

### **Jehu (9:1-10:36)**

*The only “good” king in Israel’s history – that is said with great qualification*

*Good: He is anointed to strike down the house of Ahab (9:6-7; 10:11-17)*

*Bad: He is not a qualified leader (10:28-31; cf. 1 Sam 9:16:17; 2 Sam 24:2-3)*

### **The Fall of Israel**

Joash (11:1–12:21) – Joash (J) repairs the temple; also compromises his trust in YHWH (12:17f)

Jehoahaz and Jehoash (13:1–25) – Jehoahaz repents and the Lord listens; Jehoash (I) made Israel sin

Amaziah, Jeroboam II, and Azariah (Uzziah) (14:1–15:7) - Civil War in Israel (14:12-15)

Israel's Last Days (15:8–31) – Zechariah, Shallum, Menahem, Pekahiah, Pekah

Jotham and Ahaz (15:32–16:20) – Ahaz “upgrades” the Temple in Jerusalem w/ fashions from Assyria

The End of Israel (17:1–41)

- Israel is dragged into exile by the Assyrians (17:6)
- The reason for the exile (17:7-18) – Covenant breaking and idolatry that goes back to Jeroboam

## **THE END OF JUDAH (18:1-25:30)**

### **Hezekiah (18:1–20:21; cf. Isaiah 36-39)**

Set in juxtaposition to Israel’s idolatry and demise (17:1-41)

Sennacherib attacks (18:1ff) – sieges Jerusalem but foolishly challenges Israel’s God

Turns to the Lord (19:14-19; 20:3) – *Demonstrates a heart of faith*

Foolishly allows Babylon into Jerusalem (20:12-15) and disregards Isaiah’s warning (20:19)

### **Manasseh (21:1-26)**

Worst of all the kings of Judah (21:1-9) – *Evangelist for idolatry*

Blamed for Israel’s exile (23:26; 24:3-4)

### **Josiah (22:1–23:30)**

Repairs the Temple (22:1-7)

Finds the Books of the Law (22:8-20) – responds with repentance and reform

Josiah’s Reforms (23:1-27)

Purifies Israel from Idols (23:4-20, 24-25) – *More than 14 actions vs. idols*

Renews Covenant (23:3, 21-23) – *“No Passover since the days of the judges”*

God’s Wrath Remains (23:26-30)

### **The Fall of Judah (23:28-25:30)**

Josiah dies in battle (23:28-30)

A quick demise – Jehoahaz, Jehoiakim, Jehoiachin, and Zedekiah (23:31-24:20)

Jerusalem Captured and Leaders Deported (24:10-17) – 597 BC

Jerusalem is razed (25:8-13) – 586 BC

*Judah’s exile is more than the competition of the nations – it is YHWH’s covenantal judgment*

There is a glimmer of hope left in 2 Kings 25:27-30 – *God’s promises will not fail*