

The Scriptures Summarized / Book 12 – II Kings

II Kings records the final 28 rulers of Israel and Judah during the Kingdom era. The book documents the sad moral, military and spiritual decline of both Hebrew nations. The Northern Kingdom is eventually defeated and exiled by the Assyrians. The Southern Kingdom of Judah outlasts Israel but is also eventually exiled to Babylon. This took place in 3 stages with the final climax being the destruction of Jerusalem including the Temple.

In **II Kings 17:1-23**, the divine indictment and spiritual summary of the entire period of both kingdoms is recorded. Pagan sins and stubbornness to repent when repeatedly warned were the cause of their catastrophe.

1. Ahaziah ruled Israel poorly for 2 years.
2. Joram ruled Israel for 12 years.
3. Jehoram ruled Judah poorly for 8 years.
4. Ahazia ruled Judah poorly for 1 year
5. Jehu ruled Israel poorly for 28 years
6. Athalia ruled Judah poorly for 6 years.
7. Joash ruled Judah both good and bad for 40 years.
8. Jehoahaz ruled Israel poorly for 17 years.
9. Jehoash ruled Israel poorly for 16 years.
10. Amaziah ruled Judah well for 29 years.
11. Jereboam ruled Israel poorly for 41 years.
12. Azariah (Uzziah) ruled Judah well for 52 years.
13. Zechariah ruled Israel poorly for 6 months.
14. Shallum ruled Israel poorly for 1 month.
15. Menahem ruled Israel poorly for 10 years.
16. Pekahiah ruled Israel poorly for 2 years.
17. Pekah ruled Israel poorly for 20 years.
18. Jotham ruled Judah poorly for 16 years.
19. Ahaz ruled Judah poorly for for 16 years.

20. Hoshea ruled Israel poorly for 9 years.
21. Hezekiah ruled Judah well for 29 years.
22. Manassah ruled Judah poorly for 55 years.
23. Amon ruled Judah poorly for 2 years.
24. Josiah ruled Judah well for 31 years.
25. Jehoiachaz ruled Judah poorly for 3 months.
26. Jehoiakim ruled Judah poorly for 11 years.
27. Jehoiachin ruled Judah poorly for 3 months.
28. Zedekiah ruled Judah poorly for 11 years

Prophetic exploits dominate much of the early chapters of this volume while continuing to document the administrations of these Jewish thrones. Special attention is given within this volume to the transition from Elijah's ministry to his protege Elisha.

II Kings 2:9 When they had crossed, (the Jordan River) Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me, what can I do for you before I am taken from you?" "Let me inherit a double portion of your spirit," Elisha replied.

10 "You have asked a difficult thing," Elijah said, "yet if you see me when I am taken from you, it will be yours—otherwise, it will not."

11 As they were walking along and talking together, suddenly a chariot of fire and horses of fire appeared and separated the two of them, and Elijah went up to heaven in a whirlwind.

Because of his devotion to his mentor and spiritual dedication, Elisha was granted the privilege of witnessing Elijah's supernatural exit from Earth to heaven without dying. Thus, Elisha inherited Elijah's mantle of spirit anointed leadership over the prophets.