

“Historical Books Of The Bible”
2 Kings 16-17
Wednesday March 1, 2017

2 Kings 17:6-13

Israel was free to make bad decisions, but they were not free to change the consequences of their decisions.

Proverbs 14:34

2 Kings 1-17 – Israel To Deportation To Assyria, 131 years, 853-722 BC.

1. 2 Kings 16:1-20 – Judah, A Compromising Nation

2. 2 Kings 17:1-41 – Israel, A Captive Nation

1. 2 Kings 16:1-20 – Judah, A Compromising Nation:

“Ahaz” – was the son of Jotham, a good king, and the father of Hezekiah, a very good king. But Ahaz himself was not a godly man or even a good man.

2 Kings 16:2-3

“But he walked in the way of the kings of Israel,” – Ahaz imitated the wicked kings of Israel and even the pagan practices of Assyria.

“even made his son pass through the fire,” – 2 Chronicles 28:3 says “children,” (plural) to a pagan god, Baal or Molech.

“according to the abominations of the nations whom the LORD had driven out from before the sons of Israel.” – A practice that was clearly prohibited in the Law of Moses, Leviticus 18:21; Deuteronomy 18:10.

Each Jewish son was to be redeemed by a sacrifice and therefore belonged to the Lord (Exodus 13; Numbers 18:14-16). How could a son who belonged to God be sacrificed to an idol?

2 Kings 16:4

Verses 5-9 – Political Compromise: 2 Kings 16:5.

Isaiah 7-9

“they besieged Ahaz, but could not overcome him.” – 2 Chronicles 28:5-8.

The Prophet Obed (Not the same as 2 Chronicles 15:8) pointed out 3 sins the army of Israel committed:

1. Israel was in a rage against the people of Judah and captured and killed them indiscriminately.
2. Israel planned to make slaves out of their own brothers and sisters, and this was contrary to God's law, Leviticus 25:39.
3. Israel showed no fear of the Lord and therefore were asking for Him to judge them, 2 Chronicles 28:9-11.

2 Kings 16:6-7

He rejected Isaiah's counsel to trust God, Isaiah 7:7-11.

"I am your servant and your son;" – a strange posture for a descendant of David to take before a pagan ruler.

2 Kings 16:8-9

Psalms 33:12

Verses 10-20 – Religious Compromise: 2 Kings 16:10-17.

Dismantled the furnishings from Solomon, 1 Kings 7:23-29.

2 Kings 16:18-20

2. 2 Kings 17:1-41 – Israel, A Captive Nation:

Verses 1-5 – Israel Lost Their King: 2 Kings 17:1 – Hoshea had assassinated Pekah and seized the throne of Israel, 2 Kings 15:29-31.

Hoshea was the last ruler of the Northern Kingdom of Israel, for in his day (722 B.C.), the Assyrians invaded the land, deported many of the citizens, and repopulated Israel with Gentile peoples from lands Assyria had conquered.

2 Kings 17:2-4

"so the king of Assyria shut him up and bound him in prison." – When Shalmaneser discovered the plot, he took Hoshea prisoner and left the throne of Israel empty.

2 Kings 17:5 – Internal water supply and food kept them safe for 3 years!

Verse 6 – Israel Lost Their Land: 2 Kings 17:6 – Upper Tigris-Euphrates Valley.

It was clearly stated in God's covenant with His people that their disobedience would bring defeat in war (Deuteronomy 28:25, 49-50, 52), oppression and slavery (Deuteronomy 28:29, 33, 48, 68), and captivity (Deuteronomy 28:36, 43, 63-68); and all of this happened to both Israel and Judah.

Verses 7-17 – Israel Disobeyed The Law: 2 Kings 17:7.

Reason's For Their Fall: They Worshipped Other gods, Adopted Religious Statutes; Israel Deliberately Ignored God's Prophets!

2 Kings 17:8-12

Started in private, then went full-blown public!

2 Kings 17:13-14

The Lord sent prophets who admonished and warned the people, but the people paid little attention.

2 Kings 17:15-16

In fact, they turned to idols and made a golden calf while Moses was communing with God on Mount Sinai, Exodus 32.

2 Kings 17:17

Verses 18-33 – Israel Angered The Lord: 2 Kings 17:18-19.

2 Kings 17:19

"but walked in the customs which Israel had introduced." – King Jereboam's false, manmade religion infected Judah.

2 Kings 17:20-25

The phrase "fear the Lord" means "to worship the Lord according to the Law of Moses."

"therefore the LORD sent lions among them which killed some of them." – Israel was out of the land but God still owned it.

2 Kings 17:26-27

You have the king of Assyria wanting to know the ways of the true God of Israel. You have Israel who knew them but did not want to follow the ways of the Lord!

2 Kings 17:28

But this priest went to Bethel, the site of one of the shrines dedicated to the golden calf!

2 Kings 17:29-33

Verses 34-41 – Israel Failed To Learn: 2 Kings 17:34-35

“The one thing we learn from history is that we don’t learn from history.”

2 Kings 17:36-41

Application:

Warren Wiersbe said, “The main message from this tragic chapter is that false worship leads to corrupt practices, and corrupt practices result in divine condemnation and judgment. Disobedient and compromising leaders—both kings and priests—failed to teach the people the Word of God, and as each new generation came along, the nation drifted further from the Lord. There came a day when God’s anger was displayed against His people, and that was the end of the political entity known as Israel, the Northern Kingdom.”