

BIBLE SYNTHESIS II
(Bible Survey)

Introduction to II Kings

1. Author: (See I Kings)

2. Addressees: (See I Kings)

3. Date:

(1) Of coverage: About 270 years, from Ahaziah of Israel through the Assyrian captivity of Israel, on to Zedekiah, the traitorous puppet king, and to the Babylonian captivity of Judah. From about 853 to 586 B.C. —1:1–2; 25:11 (add 25 years to include 25:27, i.e., to 560 B.C.)

(2) Of writing: (See I Kings)

4. Circumstances:

(1) To record the ministry of Elisha —2:15; 6:17; 13:20

(2) To record the persistent apostasy of Israel, and the Assyrian captivity —17:7–8, 18

(3) To record the persistent apostasy of Judah, and the Babylonian captivity —24:3–4, 19–20; 25:9–11

5. Relationship to Other Books:

(See I Kings)

6. Theme:

Apostasy and Judgment —3:2–3; 10:31; 17:6; 21:9, 21–22; 24:20

Note: I Kings records the *division* of the kingdom; II Kings records the *collapse* of the kingdom. Together, they begin with the King David in Jerusalem and they close with the king of Babylon. Order, obedience, and victory to confusion, disobedience, and defeat. From the godly King David to the idolatrous Nebuchadnezzar. Jerusalem, *the city of peace*, to Babylon, *the city of confusion*—the seat of idolatry.

7. Key Phrases:

(1) “Evil in the sight of the LORD” (or similar phrase) —21 times. —3:2; 8:18; etc.

(2) “The sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, which made Israel to sin” (or similar phrase) —13 times. —3:3; 10...29; etc.

8. Key Passages:

II Kings 17:22–23; 25:21

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OUTLINE OF II KINGS

Here, in II Kings, we have the two kingdoms continuing side by side—Israel in continual sin and apostasy, and Judah alternately in apostasy and revival—until both are taken into captivity.

1. Elijah’s Ministry Concluded **—II Kings 1:1 — 2:12**

(1) Elijah and the three companies of fifty —II Kings 1
(1:3, 10–12, 13–15)

(2) Elijah carried alive into heaven —II Kings 2:1–12
(2:1, 9–11)

2. Elisha’s Ministry **—II Kings 2:13 — 13:25**

(1) During the reign of Jehoram of Israel —II Kings 2:13 — 8:29
(3:1–3; 8:28–29)

(2) During the reign of Jehu of Israel —II Kings 9 — 10
(9:4–10; 10:11, 17)

(3) During reigns of Athaliah and Joash of Judah —II Kings 11 — 12

(4) During reigns of Jehoahaz and Joash of Israel —II Kings 13
(13:1–3, 10–11, 20)

3. From Elisha’s death to Israel’s captivity **—II Kings 14 — 17**

(1) Amaziah of Judah and Joash of Israel —II Kings 14:1–22
(14:3, 11–12, 17)

(2) Jeroboam II of Israel —II Kings 14:23–29
(14:23–24)

(3) Azariah (Uzziah) of Judah —II Kings 15:1–7
(15:3–5)

(4) Zachariah, Shallum, Menahem,
Pekahiah and Pekah of Israel —II Kings 15:8–31
(15:9–10, 18, 24, 28)

(5) Jotham of Judah —II Kings 15:32–38

(6) Ahaz of Judah —II Kings 16
(16:2–4, 10–13)

(7) Hoshea of Israel, and the Assyrian captivity —II Kings 17
(17:1–2, 5–6, 22–23, 24–25, 32–35)

4. Judah's History from Israel's Captivity to Judah's Captivity

—II Kings 18 — 25

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| (1) Good king Hezekiah
(18:1-7; 19:14-19; 20:1-3, 6, 13, 16-19) | —II Kings 18 — 20 |
| (2) Wicked kings Manasseh and Amon
(21:1-2, 19-20) | —II Kings 21 |
| (3) Good king Josiah
(22:1-2, 8, 10-11; 23:1-2, 21-23) | —II Kings 22:1 — 23:30 |
| (4) Wicked kings Jehoahaz, Jehoiakim,
and Jehoiachin | —II Kings 23:31 — 24:16 |
| (5) Wicked king Zedekiah, and the final deportation | —II Kings 24:17 — 25:30 |

