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# BOOK OVERVIEW

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## II Kings

**Author:** unknown, possibly Jeremiah

**Date:** unknown. (before the Babylonian captivity ended)

**Recipients:** possibly an historical record preserved for the Jews in exile.

**Key word:** King (340 times)

**Summary:** The history of the divided kingdom from the death of Ahab (Northern Kingdom) and Jehoshaphat (Southern Kingdom) into the Babylonian captivity. Israel (Northern Kingdom) went into captivity in 722 B.C. and Judah (Southern Kingdom) went into captivity in 586 B.C.

**Theme:** God's judgment upon His rebellious children.

**Key verses:** II Kings 17:7-8

**Notes:**

The book covers about 270 years, 856–586 B.C.

It describes the last days of Elijah and the ministry of Elisha. (II Kings 1–13)

Elijah taken to Heaven in a fiery chariot. (II Kings 2:11)

Judah had some kings that were good and some that were evil. All of Israel's kings were evil.

King Hezekiah had a tunnel bored through rock to provide water for besieged Jerusalem. (II Kings 20:20)

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