

Analysis of
2 KINGS

"THE PLUNGE INTO DISCIPLINARY EXILE"

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Analysis of SECOND KINGS
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2 KINGS

“THE PLUNGE INTO DISCIPLINARY EXILE”

“19 Also Judah did not keep the commandments of the Lord their God, but walked in the customs which Israel had introduced. 20 And the Lord rejected all the descendants of Israel and afflicted them and gave them into the hand of plunderers, until He had cast them out of His sight. . . . 22 And the sons of Israel walked in all the sins of Jeroboam which he did; they did not depart from them, 23 until the Lord removed Israel from His sight, as He spoke through all His servants the prophets. So Israel was carried away into exile from their own land to Assyria until this day.” 2 Kings 17:19-20, 22-23

A1 THE KINGS AND PROPHETS OF THE DIVIDED KINGDOMS OF ISRAEL AND JUDAH 1 - 17

B1 The Evil,¹ Two-Year Reign of Ahaziah ben Ahab as King of Israel (853-852 B. C.)² 1

C1 Ahaziah’s despatching of messengers to inquire of Baal-zebub as to whether he would recover from his illness 1:1-2

C2 The command from the angel of Yahweh to Elijah to tell Ahaziah his illness was fatal because of his idolatry 1:3-4

¹ The description of Ahaziah's reign actually begins in 1 Kings 22:51-53, where the evil assessment is assigned.

² The dating of the reign of kings is extremely difficult to students not acquainted with Middle-Eastern regnal dating methods in the first millennium before Christ. (1) In many cases there was a **coregency** -- for example, a son overlapping part of his father’s reign. (2) In addition, Israel and Judah had **different regnal years** for kings. “In Israel the years of the kings were reckoned from the month of Nisan in the spring, and in Judah they were reckoned from Tishri in the fall.” (Edwin R. Thiele, *A Chronology of the Hebrew Kings*, p. 14) (3) Furthermore, there are **differences in marking the first year of a king’s reign**. One method does not count a king’s first year of reign as the first year, but calls his second year the first year. This is called **accession-year** dating. The other method counts a king’s first year as his first year and his second as his second. This is called **nonaccession-year** dating. As Edwin R. Thiele explains:

A careful study of the numbers in Kings reveals that in Judah the accession-year system was employed from Rehoboam to Jehoshaphat inclusive; then the nonaccession-year system was employed from Jehoram to Joash; and with the next ruler, Amaziah, Judah went back to accession-year dating and employed that system to the end of its history. In Israel the nonaccession-year system was employed from Jeroboam to Jehoahaz inclusive. . . . With the next king, Jehoash, however, Israel adopted accession-year reckoning and continued to use it to the end of its history. This was done at the same time that Judah under Amaziah returned to accession-year reckoning. (Edwin R. Thiele, *A Chronology of the Hebrew Kings*, pp. 17, 19) Thiele comments, “...where the nonaccession-year method was used, the official length of reign of each ruler must be reduced by one year in order to equal the actual length.” (Edwin R. Thiele, *A Chronology of the Hebrew Kings*, p. 18) If one keeps in mind these three factors, a satisfactory harmonization can be made. The dating in this analysis is based on Thiele’s work. (Edwin R. Thiele, *A Chronology of the Hebrew Kings*, © 1977 by the Zondervan Corporation, Grand Rapids, Michigan, 93 pp.)

- C3 The messengers' conveyance of Elijah's death-prophecy to Ahaziah 1:5-8
- C4 The fiery liquidation of fifty soldiers sent to apprehend Elijah 1:9-10
- C5 The fiery liquidation of fifty more soldiers sent to apprehend Elijah 1:11-12
- C6 The safe-conduct escort of Elijah to King Ahaziah by a third group of fifty soldiers 1:13-15
- C7 Elijah's repetition of the previous prophecy: Ahaziah would die 1:16
- C8 The death and summary of Ahaziah 1:17-18
 - D1 The death of Ahaziah according to Yahweh's word 1:17
 - D2 The accession³ of Jehoram ben Ahab 1:17

B2 The Inauguration of the Prophetic Ministry of Elisha 2

- C1 The Passing of the Prophetic Mantle from Elijah to Elisha 2:1-12
 - D1 Elisha's accompaniment of Elijah to Bethel despite Elijah's suggestion 2:1-3
 - D2 Elisha's accompaniment of Elijah to Jericho 2:4-5
 - D3 Elisha's accompaniment of Elijah to the Jordan River 2:6-7
 - D4 Elijah's parting of the water with his mantle 2:8
 - D5 Elisha's request for a double portion of Elijah's spirit 2:9-10
 - D6 Elijah's ascension to heaven by a whirlwind 2:11-12

³ There is a double-dating of Jehoram ben Ahab's accession: here, in the second year of Jehoram ben Jehoshaphat, King of Judah; in 3:1, in the eighteenth year of Jehoshaphat, King of Judah. This ". . ." indicates a coregency with Jehoshaphat in Judah." (*Ryrie Study Bible*) In other words, apparently 3:1 marks the actual beginning of his reign, but he was under the supervision of Jehoshaphat of Judah. But in 1:17 his reign as sole regent begins, this in the second year of Jehoshaphat's son, Jehoram.

C2 The Confirmation of Elisha's Power 2:13-25

D1 Elisha's power at the Jordan River 2:13-18

E1 Elisha's parting of the water of the Jordan with Elijah's mantle 2:13-15

E2 The fruitless search of the sons of the Jericho prophets for Elijah 2:16-18

D2 Elisha's purifying of the spring water at Jericho 2:19-22

D3 Elisha's cursing of the sacrilegious teens from Bethel 2:23-25

B3 The Evil, Twelve-Year Reign⁴ of Jehoram (Joram) ben Ahab as King of Israel (852-841 B. C.) 3

C1 The introduction to the evil reign of King Jehoram ben Ahab 3:1-3

C2 The rebellion of Mesha, King of Moab against Israel 3:4-5

C3 King Jehoram's mustering his troops, allied with King Jehoshaphat of Judah and the king of Edom, against Moab 3:6-8

C4 The disastrous shortfall of water 3:9-10

C5 The kings' determination to consult with Elisha the prophet 3:11-12

C6 Elisha's rebuke of King Jehoram 3:13-14

C7 Elisha's prediction of Yahweh's provision of water and victory 3:15-19

C8 Yahweh's provision of water 3:20

C9 The Moabites' mistaken attack against the Israeli coalition 3:21-23

C10 The Israelis' defeat of Moab⁵ 3:24-27

⁴ 3:1 marks the actual beginning Jehoram ben Ahab's reign, but apparently as coregent under the supervision of Jehoshaphat of Judah (*Ryrie Study Bible*). 2 Kings 1:17 marked the beginning of his rule as sole regent of Israel in the second year of Jehoshaphat's son Jehoram. Note also that Jehoram was actually the brother of Ahaziah, both being sons of Ahab. Jehoram became king because Ahaziah had no son (2 Kings 1:17).

⁵ The abrupt closure of the battle evidently is explained in the following way: When Mesha was rebuffed in his attempt to kill the king of Edom, he retreated into Kir-hareseth and sacrificed his eldest son to his god, Chemosh. This so horrified the military of both Edom and Judah that they grew angry with Israel and abruptly

B4 The Continuation of Elisha's Ministry 4 - 8:15

- C1 Elisha's miraculous provision of oil for a destitute widow 4:1-7
- C2 Elisha's Ministry on Behalf of a Woman from Shunem 4:8-37
 - D1 The provision of a room for Elisha by a prominent woman from Shunem 4:8-10
 - D2 Elisha's miraculous provision of a son for her 4:11-17
 - D3 The death of her son 4:18-20
 - D4 The woman's travel to Elisha to pour out her trouble to him 4:21-28
 - D5 Gehazi's inability to resurrect the boy 4:29-31
 - D6 Elisha's raising of the lad from death 4:32-37
- C3 Elisha's remedy of the poisonous stew 4:38-41
- C4 Elisha's miraculous multiplication of bread 4:42-44
- C5 The Incident Concerning Naaman, the Syrian Captain 5
 - D1 Naaman's ⁶ departure to the King of Israel to obtain healing 5:1-7
 - D2 Naaman's healing after dipping himself seven times in the Jordan 5:8-14
 - D3 Elisha's refusal to accept payment for the healing 5:15-19
 - D4 Gehazi's inheritance of Naaman's leprosy as a judgment for his greed 5:20-27
- C6 Elisha's miraculous retrieval of a submerged axe head 6:1-7

returned to their own lands. (See Thomas L. Constable, *The Bible Knowledge Commentary*, I, 543.)

⁶ Observe that Naaman was a highly respected captain because Yahweh had given victory to Syria! All nations' successes are attributable to Yahweh's working out His master plan!

- C7 The Incident Concerning Elisha and the Syrian Army 6:8-23
 - D1 Elisha's warning the King of Israel of Syria's military ambushes 6:8-10
 - D2 Syria's military action against Elisha 6:11-14
 - D3 Yahweh's revelation to Elisha's servant of the heavenly army of fire protectively surrounding Elisha 6:15-17
 - D4 Yahweh's striking the Syrian soldiers with blindness at the prayer of Elisha 6:18
 - D5 Elisha's leading the blind Syrian soldiers to the king of Israel 6:19-20
 - D6 King Jehoram's [?] sparing the Syrian soldiers at the instruction of Elisha 6:21-23
- C8 The Prophetic ministry of Elisha in Connection with the Siege of Samaria 6:24 - 7:20
 - D1 The siege of Samaria by Ben-hadad, King of Syria 6:24
 - D2 The ghastly famine resulting from the siege 6:25-29
 - D3 The distraught king's vow to behead Elisha 6:30-31
 - D4 The king's messenger's pronouncement against Yahweh on account of the famine 6:32-33
 - D5 Elisha's prediction of famine-relief by the word of Yahweh 7:1
 - D6 The disbelief of a royal officer 7:2
 - D7 The decision of four leprous Israeli men to seek mercy from the Syrian camp 7:3-4
 - D8 Their joyful discovery of food and plunder in the vacated Syrian camp 7:5-8
 - D9 The report of the lepers to the Samaritan gatekeepers 7:9-11
 - D10 The skepticism of the king 7:12

- D11 The confirming search by the Israeli scouts 7:13-15
- D12 The prophecy-fulfilling famine relief 7:16-20
- C9 The Incident concerning the Rehabilitation of the Shunammite Woman 8:1-6
 - D1 Elisha's advising the Shunammite woman to flee to a foreign country to avoid a seven-year famine from Yahweh 8:1-2
 - D2 The Shunammite woman's plea for the restoration of her land 8:3-5
 - D3 The king's decree to restore her land 8:6
- C10 Elisha's Prophet Ministry in Connection with Syrian Royalty 8:7-15
 - D1 Ben-hadad's sending Hazael to inquire of Yahweh through Elisha as to whether he would recover from his sickness 8:7-9
 - D2 Elisha's reply to Hazael that Ben-hadad would indeed recover, but would die 8:10
 - D3 Elisha's sorrow because of Hazael's brutality against Israel 8:11-12
 - D4 Elisha's revelation of Hazael's kingship over Syria 8:13
 - D5 Hazael's assassination of Ben-hadad to gain the throne 8:14-15
- B5 The Evil, Eight-Year Reign of Jehoram ben Jehoshaphat, King of Judah (853-841 B. C.)⁷ 8:16-24 (cf. 2 Chron. 21:1-20)**
 - C1 The accession of evil Jehoram 8:16-19
 - C2 Edom's revolt against Judean rule 8:20-22
 - C3 The summary of Joram's reign 8:23-24
 - D1 Other documentation concerning Joram's rule 8:23
 - D2 Joram's death and burial; the accession of his son, Ahaziah 8:24

⁷ Jehoram ben Jehoshaphat of Judah reigned as coregent with his father from 853-848, and from 848-841 as sole regent. Apparently the latter figure is what the writer of Kings refers to with the figure of "eight years." (Edwin R. Thiele, *A Chronology of the Hebrew Kings*, p. 75.)

B6 The Evil, One-Year Reign of Ahaziah ben Jehoram as King of Judah (841 B. C.) 8:25-29 (also 9:27-29) (cf. 2 Chron. 22:1-9)

- C1 The introduction to Ahaziah's reign 8:25-27
- C2 Ahaziah's military alliance with Joram ben Ahab against Hazael, King of Syria 8:28
- C3 Ahaziah's visiting the wounded Joram, King of Israel 8:29

B7 The Partial-Reform,⁸ Twenty-Eight Year Reign of Jehu ben Jehoshaphat ben Nimshi as King of Israel (841-814 B. C.) 9 - 10

- C1 Jehu's bloody coup 9:1 - 10:17
 - D1 The prophetic anointing of Jehu ben Jehoshaphat ben Nimshi as king over Israel by a son of a prophet at the instruction of Elisha 9:1-10
 - D2 The military's proclamation of Jehu as king 9:11-13
 - D3 Jehu's departure for Jezreel 9:14-16
 - D4 Jehu's arrival at Jezreel 9:17-20
 - D5 Jehu's prophecy-fulfilling assassination of Joram, King of Israel in the vineyard of Naboth, the Jezreelite 9:21-26
 - D6 Jehu's liquidation of Ahaziah, King of Judah 9:27-29
 - E1 Jehu's assassination of Ahaziah, King of Judah 9:27-28
 - E2 Postscript: The date of Ahaziah's accession to the throne of Judah 9:29
 - D7 Jehu's prophecy-fulfilling assassination of Queen Jezebel 9:30-37
 - D8 Jehu's prophecy-fulfilling persuasion of the elders of Samaria to execute the seventy sons of Ahab 10:1-11

⁸ Whereas Jehu eradicated Baal worship, he persisted in maintaining the worship of the golden calves begun by Jeroboam ben Nebat.

- D9 Jehu's execution of 42 relatives of Ahaziah, King of Judah 10:12-14
- D10 Jehu's prophecy-fulfilling execution of all Ahab's relatives and associates in Samaria 10:15-17
- C2 Jehu's eradication of Baal-worship 10:18-28
 - D1 Jehu's summoning all the Baal-worshippers to Samaria under the pretense of worship 10:18-24
 - D2 Jehu's eradication of Baal-worship through execution and desecration 10:25-28
- C3 The spiritual evaluation of Jehu 10:29-31
 - D1 His persistence in the sin of Jeroboam ben Nebat: worshipping the golden calves 10:29
 - D2 Yahweh's promise to Jehu of a four-generation dynasty because of his faithfulness in executing judgment against the house of Ahab 10:30
 - D3 Jehu's failure to walk in Yahweh's law with reference to the sin of Jeroboam 10:31
- C4 God's judgmental invasion of Israel's territory through Hazael, King of Syria 10:32-33
- C5 The summary of Jehu's reign 10:34-36
- B8 The Evil, Six-Year Reign of Athaliah, Mother of Ahaziah, as Queen of Judah (841-835 B. C.) 11:1-16 (cf. 2 Chron. 22:10 - 23:15)**
 - C1 Athaliah's execution of Ahaziah's offspring⁹ 11:1
 - C2 Jehosheba's saving alive the infant Joash ben Ahaziah 11:2-3

⁹ Athaliah's son Ahaziah was only 23 years old when he was killed by Joab. Assuming Ahaziah would have been at least eighteen when he married, his oldest children would not have been more than five years old. Athaliah, herself called daughter (meaning grand-daughter?) of Omri, and daughter of Ahab (2 Kings 8:18), kings of Israel, was of royal blood. Her lust for power was so great she killed off all her grandchildren so she alone might enjoy power. She was the ultimate feminist!

C3 Jehoiada the priest's gaining the loyalty of the military to protect Joash 11:4-8

C4 The military's clandestine anointing of Joash to be king under the leadership of Jehoiada the priest 11:9-12

C5 The military's execution of the protesting Athaliah 11:13-16

B9 The Mostly-Righteous, Forty-Year Reign of Jehoash (Joash) ben Ahaziah as King of Judah (835-796 B. C.) 11:17 - 12:21 (cf. 2 Chron. 23:16 - 24:27)

C1 Jehoiada's successful establishment of a covenant with the people to serve Yahweh and eradicate Baal worship 11:17-18

C2 The joyful coronation of seven-year-old King Jehoash 11:19-21

C3 Jehoash's righteous reign under the tutelage of Jehoiada the priest 12:1-3

C4 Jehoash's authorization of the priests to repair the temple 12:4-5

C5 Jehoash's calling the priesthood into account for failure to repair the temple 12:6-8

C6 The financing of the repairing of the temple 12:9-16

C7 Jehoash's bribing Hazael of Syria to desist from his invasion of Jerusalem with treasures from the temple 12:17-18

C8 The summary of Joash's reign 12:19-21

D1 The parallel record in the book of Chronicles 12:19

D2 The conspiracy against and death of Joash 12:20-21

B10 The Evil, Seventeen-Year Reign of Jehoahaz ben Jehu as King of Israel (814-798 B. C.) 13:1-9

C1 The accession of Jehoahaz ben Jehu 13:1

C2 His evil reign 13:2

C3 Yahweh's angry giving of Israel to the domination of Syria 13:3

C4 Jehoahaz' successful entreaty of Yahweh 13:4

C5 Yahweh's giving to Israel a deliverer from Syria 13:5

C6 The continuing idolatry of Israel 13:6

C7 The pitiful state of Israel's military 13:7

C8 The summary of Jehoahaz' reign 13:8-9

B11 The Evil, Sixteen-Year Reign of Jehoash ben Jehoahaz as King of Israel (798-782 B. C.) 13:10-25 (cf. 2 Chron. 22:10 - 23:15)

C1 The accession and evil reign of Jehoash ben Jehoahaz over Israel 13:10-11

C2 The summary of the reign of Joash ben Jehoahaz 13:12-13

C3 The influence of Elisha on the reign of Jehoash 13:14-25

D1 Elisha's death-bed prediction of Israel's limited victories over Syria 13:14-19

D2 The death and resuscitative powers of Elisha 13:20-21

D3 Yahweh's gracious giving of three victories over Syria to Joash ben Jehoahaz in fulfillment of the prophecy of Elisha 13:22-25

B12 The Righteous, Twenty Nine-Year Reign of Amaziah ben Joash as King of Judah (796-767 B. C.) 14:1-22 (cf. 2 Chron. 25:1-28)

C1 The incompletely righteous reign of Amaziah 14:1-4

C2 His execution of the assassins of his father 14:5-6

C3 His military success against Edom 14:7

C4 His threatening of Jehoash, King of Israel 14:8-10

C5 Jehoash's decisive defeat of Amaziah 14:11-14

C6 Parenthetical: The summary and death of Jehoash ben Jehoahaz, King of Israel 14:15-16

C7 The summary of the reign of Amaziah 14:17-22

B13 The Evil, Forty One-Year Reign of Jeroboam ben Joash as King of Israel (793-753 B. C.)¹⁰ 14:23-29

- C1 The accession of Jeroboam ben Joash 14:23
- C2 His evil idolatry 14:24
- C3 His restoration of Israel's border's through the mercy of God 14:25-27
- C4 The summary of the reign of Jeroboam 14:28-29

B14 The Righteous, Fifty Two-Year Reign of Azariah (Uzziah) ben Amaziah as King of Judah (792-740 B. C.)¹¹ 15:1-7 (cf. 2 Chron. 26:1-23)

- C1 The accession of Azariah 15:1-2
- C2 The relative righteousness of Azariah's reign 15:3-4
- C3 Azariah's Divinely-sent leprosy 15:5
- C4 The summary of Azariah's reign 15:6-7

B15 The Evil, Six-Month Reign of Zechariah ben Jeroboam as King of Israel (753 B. C.) 15:8-12

- C1 The accession of Zechariah ben Jeroboam 15:8
- C2 The evil of Zechariah 15:9
- C3 The conspiracy of Shallum ben Jabesh against Zechariah 15:10
- C4 The summary of the reign of Zechariah 15:11-12

¹⁰ Jeroboam II was coregent with his father Jehoash from 793-782, and reigned as sole regent from 782-753. (Edwin R. Thiele, *A Chronology of the Hebrew Kings*, p. 75.) The writer of Kings has in mind the entire reign in his figure of 41 years.

¹¹ Azariah overlapped with his father Amaziah from 792-767, and reigned as sole regent from 767-740. (Edwin R. Thiele, *A Chronology of the Hebrew Kings*, p. 75.)

B16 The One-Month Reign of Shallum ben Jabesh as King of Israel (752 B. C.) 15:13-16

- C1 Shallum's one-month reign 15:13
- C2 Menahem ben Gadi's assassination of Shallum 15:14
- C3 The summary of the reign of Shallum 15:15
- C4 The violence of Menahem in cementing his coup 15:16

B17 The Evil, Ten-Year Reign of Menahem ben Gadi as King of Israel (752-742 B. C.) 15:17-22

- C1 The introduction to the reign of Menahem ben Gadi 15:17-18
 - D1 His accession year: The 39th year of Azariah, King of Judah 15:17
 - D2 His sin: His evil in Yahweh's sight in not departing from the false worship begun by Jeroboam ben Nebat 15:18
- C2 Menahem's exacting of tribute to pay off Pul, King of Assyria 15:19-20
- C3 The closure of Menahem's reign 15:21-22

B18 The Evil, Two-Year Reign of Pekahiah ben Menahem as King of Israel (742-740 B. C.) 15:23-26

- C1 Introduction: The evil of Pekahiah's reign 15:23-24
- C2 The assassination of Pekahiah by Pekah ben Remaliah 15:25
- C3 The closure of Pekahiah's reign 15:26

B19 The Evil, Twenty-Year Reign of Pekah ben Remaliah as King of Israel (752-732 B. C.)¹² 15:27-31

- C1 Introduction: The evil of Pekah's reign 15:27-28
- C2 The invasion of Tiglath-pileser, King of Assyria 15:29

¹² Pekah reigned in Gilead, in overlapping years with Menahem and apparently for two years with Pekahiah, from 752-740. His sole reign began in 740, extending to 732. Thus his total reign is correctly stated from 752 to 732. (Edwin R. Thiele, *A Chronology of the Hebrew Kings*, p. 78.)

C3 The assassination of Pekah by Hoshea ben Elah 15:30

C4 The closure of Pekah's reign 15:31

B20 The Righteous, Sixteen-Year Reign of Jotham ben Azariah (Uzziah) as King of Judah (750-735 B. C.)¹³ 15:32-38 (cf. 2 Chron. 27:1-9)

C1 The accession of Jotham 15:32-33

C2 The relatively righteous reign of Jotham 15:34-35

C3 The closure of Jotham's reign 15:36-38

D1 Other records of Jotham's reign 15:36

D2 The enemies of Judah during Jotham's reign 15:37

D3 The death, burial, and successor of Jotham 15:38

B21 The Evil, Sixteen-Reign of Ahaz ben Jotham as King of Judah (735-715 B. C.)¹⁴ 16 (cf. 2 Chron. 28:1-27)

C1 The accession of Ahaz 16:1-2a

C2 The evil character of Ahaz' reign 16:2b-4

C3 The war of Syria and Israel against Judah 16:5-6

C4 Ahaz' alliance upon Assyria to defeat Syria and Israel 16:7-9

C5 Ahaz' introduction of a false altar and sacrifices in the house of Yahweh 16:10-16

C6 Ahaz' further remodeling of temple worship in accommodation with the King of Assyria 16:17-18

C7 The closure of Ahaz' reign 16:19-20

¹³ Jotham's reign as coregent with Azariah was from 750-740; his official reign from 750-735; his total reign from 750-732. (Edwin R. Thiele, *A Chronology of the Hebrew Kings*, p. 75.)

¹⁴ Ahaz overlapped with Jotham from 735-732; his official reign was from 732-715, which latter figure tallies up to sixteen years mentioned in 2 Kings 16:2. (Edwin R. Thiele, *A Chronology of the Hebrew Kings*, p. 75.)

B22 The Evil, Nine-Year Reign of Hoshea ben Elah as King of Israel Ending in Defeat and Exile (732-723 B. C.) 17

- C1 Introduction: The accession and evil character of Hoshea's reign 17:1-2
- C2 The invasion of Assyria during the reign of Hoshea 17:3-6
- C3 The theological explanation for Assyria's successful invasion and capture of Israel 17:7-23
 - D1 Israel's perpetual idolatrous practices 17:7-17
 - D2 Yahweh's removal of Israel from His sight into captivity 17:18-23
- C4 The syncretistic resettlement of the land of Israel 17:24-41
 - D1 The King of Assyria's resettlement of Israel with foreigners 17:24
 - D2 Yahweh's killing of some settlers by lions because they did not know Him 17:25-26
 - D3 The Assyrian King's authorization of a priest to teach the new settlers in Israel the fear of Yahweh 17:27-28
 - D4 The settlers' syncretism of the fear of Yahweh with their own pagan worship 17:29-41

A2 THE KINGS OF THE SURVIVING KINGDOM OF JUDAH 18 - 25

B1 The Righteous, Twenty-Nine-Year Reign of Hezekiah ben Ahaz over Judah (715-686 B.C.) 18 - 20 (cf. 2 Chron. 29:1 - 32:33)

- C1 The accession of King Hezekiah 18:1-2
- C2 The over-view of the Hezekiah's righteous reign 18:3-8

- C3 The military threat of Assyria during Hezekiah's reign 18:9 - 19:37
 - D1 The defeat and exile of Israel by Shalmaneser, King of Assyria 18:9-12
 - D2 The invasion of Judah by Sennacherib, King of Assyria 18:13 - 19:34
 - E1 Sennacherib's seizure of Judah's fortified cities 18:13
 - E2 Hezekiah's payment of tribute to Sennacherib 18:14-16
 - E3 The Assyrian army's psychological warfare at the siege of Jerusalem 18:17-
 - F1 Rabshakeh's belittling of Hezekiah's confidence in either Egypt or Yahweh 18:17-25
 - F2 Rabshakeh's propaganda to the listening Jews to surrender 18:26-37
 - E4 The assurance of the prophet Isaiah ben Amoz to King Hezekiah of the departure and demise of the King of Assyria 19:1-7
 - E5 The threatening letter from Rabshakeh to Hezekiah 19:8-13
 - E6 The desperate prayer of Hezekiah to Yahweh in His house 19:14-19
 - E7 Isaiah's prophecy to Hezekiah of Yahweh's turning back the arrogant King Sennacherib 19:20-28
 - F1 The arrogance of Sennacherib 19:20-24
 - F2 The sovereignty of Yahweh 19:25-28
 - F3 The sign of Judean success 19:29-31
 - F4 The failure of the king of Assyria 19:32-33
 - F5 Yahweh's defence of the city 19:34

- D3 The doom of the Assyrians 19:35-37
 - E1 The death of 185,000 Assyrian troops at the hand of the angel of Yahweh 19:35
 - E2 The departure of King Sennacherib to Nineveh 19:36
 - E3 The assassination of Sennacherib 19:37
- C4 Hezekiah's illness and recovery 20:1-11
 - D1 The mortal illness of Hezekiah 20:1
 - D2 Hezekiah's sorrowful prayer 20:2-3
 - D3 Yahweh's promise through Isaiah the prophet to add fifteen years to Hezekiah's life 20:4-7
 - D4 The sign of the back-wards moving shadow 20:8-11
- C5 Hezekiah's encounter with the Babylonian envoys 20:12-19
 - D1 His foolish revealing of all his wealth to the Babylonians 20:12-15
 - D2 Isaiah's revelation of the coming exile of Judah 20:16-18
 - D3 Hezekiah's satisfaction that the evil would not occur during his lifetime 20:19
- C6 The closure of Hezekiah's reign 20:20-21
- B2 The Evil, Fifty Five-Year Reign of Manasseh ben Hezekiah as King of Judah (697-642 B. C.)¹⁵ 21:1-18 (cf. 2 Chron. 33:1-20)**
 - C1 The accession of Manasseh 21:1
 - C2 The evil perpetrated by Manasseh 21:2-9
 - C3 Yahweh's pronouncement of judgment upon Manasseh and Judah through His servants the prophets 21:10-15

¹⁵ Manasseh served as coregent with his father Hezekiah from 697-686 and as sole regent from 686-642. His total years match the 55 described in 2 Kings 21:1. (Edwin R. Thiele, *A Chronology of the Hebrew Kings*, p. 75.)

C4 Manasseh's bloodshed during his reign 21:16

C5 The closure of Manasseh's reign 21:17-18

B3 The Evil, Two-Year Reign of Amon ben Manasseh as King of Judah (642-640 B. C.) 21:19-26 (cf. 2 Chron. 33:21-25)

C1 The accession of Amon 21:19

C2 The evil perpetrated by Amon 21:20-22

C3 The assassination of Amon 21:23-24

C4 The closure of Amon's reign 21:25-26

B4 The Righteous, Thirty One-Year Reign of Josiah ben Amon as King of Judah (640-609 B. C.) 22:1 - 23:30 (cf. 2 Chron. 34:1 - 35:27)

C1 The introduction to the righteous reign of Josiah 22:1-2

C2 Josiah's instructions to begin repair of the house of the Lord 22:3-7

C3 Josiah's distress over the implications of the book of the law discovered in the house of Yahweh 22:8-13

C4 The foreboding response of Huldah the prophetess 22:14-20

D1 Inevitable judgment for Judah 22:14-17

D2 Yahweh's sparing of Josiah from judgment because of his humility 22:18-20

C5 The sweeping reforms of Josiah 23:1-28

D1 The foundation for reform: The public reading of the book of the law in the house of Yahweh 23:1-3

D2 Reforms in Jerusalem and Judah 23:4-14

D3 Reforms in Israel 23:15-20

D4 The celebration of the Passover 23:21-23

D5 The closure of the reforms 23:24-25

D6 The inevitability of judgment 23:26-28

C6 The closure of the reign of Josiah 23:28-30

B5 The Evil, Three-Month Reign of Jehoahaz ben Josiah (609 B. C.) 23:31-34
(cf. 2 Chron. 36:1-4)

C1 His accession at age twenty-three 23:31

C2 His evil reign 23:32

C3 Pharaoh Neco's imprisonment of Jehoahaz at Riblah 23:33

C4 Jehoahaz' exile to and death in Egypt 23:34

B6 The Evil, Eleven-Year, Puppet Reign of Eliakim (Jehoiakim) ben Josiah as King of Judah (609-598 B. C.) 23:34 - 24:7 (cf. 2 Chron. 36:5-8)

C1 The introduction to the reign of Jehoiakim 23:34-37

D1 Jehoiakim's puppet appointment 23:34

D2 His taxation of the people for tribute to Egypt 23:35

D3 His accession 23:36

D4 The evil reign of Jehoiakim 23:37

C2 The subjugation of Judah to other nations 24:1-4

D1 To Babylon 24:1

D2 To various other nations 24:2

D3 The reason for the subjugation 24:2-4

E1 To fulfill the word of Yahweh spoken by the prophets
24:2

E2 Because of the evil idolatries of Manasseh 24:3

E3 Because of Manasseh's shedding of innocent blood 24:4

C3 The closure of Jehoiakim's reign 24:5-7

B7 The Evil, Three-Month Reign of Jehoiachin¹⁶ ben Jehoiakim as King of Judah 24:8-17 (598-597 B. C.) (cf. 2 Chron. 36:9-10)

- C1 The accession of evil Jehoiachin 24:8-9
- C2 Nebuchadnezzar's taking Jehoiachin, his army, and all the upper class captive to Babylon 24:10-17

B8 The Evil, Eleven-Year Reign of Mattaniah (Zedekiah)¹⁷ ben Josiah as Puppet King of Judah (597-586 B. C.) 24:18 - 25:21 (cf. 2 Chron. 36:11-21)

- C1 Zedekiah's accession 24:18
- C2 The evil of Zedekiah 24:19
- C3 The rebellion of Zedekiah against Nebuchadnezzar 24:20
- C4 Nebuchadnezzar's siege of Jerusalem 25:1-3
- C5 The attempted escape of Zedekiah and his troops 25:4-5
- C6 The capture and humiliation of Zedekiah 25:6-7
 - D1 The capture and sentencing of Zedekiah 25:6
 - D2 The execution of Zedekiah's sons 25:7
 - D3 The blinding of Zedekiah 25:7
 - D4 The exile of Zedekiah to Babylon 25:7
- C7 The razing of Jerusalem 25:8-10
- C8 The exiling of Jewish citizens to Babylon 25:11-12
- C9 The Babylonians' confiscation of temple implements and ornaments 25:13-17
- C10 The Babylonians' execution of temple officials 25:18-21

¹⁶ Jehoiachin is also called Coniah (Jer. 22:24, 28; 37:1) and Jeconiah (1 Chr 3:16,17; Esther 2:6; Jer. 24:1; 27:20; 28:4; 29:2).

¹⁷ Zedekiah is said to be the uncle (lit., "his father's brother" - 2 Kings 24:17) of the young Jehoiachin (who was 18 when he began his reign of only three months and was then carried off to captivity -- 2 King 24:8-15). That would make Zedekiah a brother to Jehoiakim and also, then, son of Josiah (cf. 2 Kings 23:34).

B9 The Short-Lived Governorship of Gedaliah ben Ahikam (586 B. C.) 25:22-30

- C1 Nebuchadnezzar's appointment of Gedaliah ben Ahikam as governor of Judah 25:22-24
- C2 The assassination of Gedaliah by Ishmael ben Nethaniah of the royal family 25:25
- C3 The flight of the remaining Jewish people to Egypt 25:26
- C4 The release of Jehoiachin from prison by Evil-Merodach, King of Babylon 25:27-30

Analysis of SECOND KINGS

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