



Pastor's Bible Study

Becoming Disciples Through Bible Study

Week Thirty-Six 2 Kings 1 - 9

Review

Literary Period

The Divided Kingdom period of ancient Israel and Judah spanned from approximately 931 BCE to 586 BCE.

Review

All we have left to do is to get rid of Jezebel

Lecture Segment

2 Kings chapters 1 through 9 cover a significant period in the history of Israel and Judah, focusing on the prophetic ministries of Elijah and Elisha, as well as the political turmoil in both kingdoms. Here's a summary of these chapters:

Chapter 1

King Ahaziah of Israel falls ill after an accident and seeks advice from Baal-zebub, the false god of Ekron. This angers God, who sends Elijah to confront the king's messengers. Elijah prophesies that Ahaziah will die due to his lack of faith in the true God. When Ahaziah sends soldiers to arrest Elijah, the prophet calls down fire from heaven, consuming two groups of fifty men. Finally, Elijah meets with Ahaziah and reiterates the prophecy of his death, which comes to pass.

Chapter 2

This chapter marks the transition of prophetic authority from Elijah to Elisha. Elijah is taken up to heaven in a whirlwind, leaving Elisha as his successor. Elisha demonstrates his newly acquired prophetic powers by parting the Jordan River and performing other miracles.

Chapters 3-8

These chapters primarily focus on Elisha's prophetic ministry:



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- Elisha helps Israel defeat Moab in battle (Chapter 3)
- He performs various miracles, including multiplying a widow's oil and raising a Shunammite woman's son from the dead (Chapter 4)
- Elisha heals Naaman, the Aramean commander, of leprosy (Chapter 5)
- He performs more miracles and prophecies during conflicts with Aram (Chapters 6-7)
- Elisha predicts a seven-year famine and advises the Shunammite woman to leave the land (Chapter 8)

Chapter 9

This chapter describes the anointing of Jehu as king of Israel and the beginning of his violent purge:

- Elisha sends a prophet to anoint Jehu as the new king of Israel
- Jehu leads a coup against the current rulers, killing King Joram of Israel and King Ahaziah of Judah
- Jezebel, the notorious wife of former King Ahab, is thrown from a window and killed, fulfilling Elijah's earlier prophecy

Throughout these chapters, we see the ongoing struggle between the true worship of God and the influence of idolatry in Israel. The prophets Elijah and Elisha play crucial roles in calling the people and their leaders back to faithfulness to God, often through dramatic demonstrations of divine power.

Enjoy your Advent/Christmas Break

We will resume in the New Year

Read 2 Kings Chapters 9 through 17