

SECOND KINGS

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INTRODUCTION

1. Remember the division of Kings is artificial.
 2. DATE; Last event is exile/post exile...so completed about 560 B.C.
 3. Again remember that the historical importance is not political but religious.
 4. Covers the period of the “great oral prophets” such as Elijah, and Elisha, as well as literary prophets. Isaiah, Jeremiah, etc.
 5. THE WORK OF THE PROPHET WAS:
 - a. To instruct the people in the law.
 - b. To convey the direct will of God, mostly on occasions of great moments.
 - c. To forewarn and admonish rulers.
 - d. To embody in written form their instructions direct from God. ‘
 - e. To preserve a history of their times.
 - f. To counteract all idolatrous tendencies.
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“LESSONS” OF HISTORY

1. The righteousness, Justice and Loving-kindness of Jehovah.
 2. The welfare of God’s people depends upon their faithfulness to the covenant.
 3. The spirit of disobedience and rebellion cannot but incur upon the people the wrath of the Almighty.
 4. The work of the prophets was, among other things that could be enumerated, to call the people to return to God’s commandments.
 5. The historical narrative is most important, not for the political achievements, but for the moral truth it conveys.
 6. The commands of God have changed through the dispensations, but the principles of “Hear Me, Believe Me and Obey Me” have never changed.
 7. Someone has to be on constant guard, lest the people of God continually fall away.
 8. God intends for His people to be separated unto Himself as a holy people, loyal and obedient.
 9. Sin begets sin and causes both captivity and death.
 10. Human governments that have lost the direction from God will be conquered, captured and cast away.
 11. Divine governments succeed because of God’s purpose, persistence and power.
 12. When man loses his vision of God, he will have “degraded ideals, deadened Consciences and defeated purposes.
 13. No man can serve two masters. God Disciplines those He loves.
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Can't Serve Two Masters

- A. II Kings 1:6,16 "Is it because there is no God in Israel, that thou sendest to inquire of Baal-zebub, the god of Ekron?"
 - 1. Far too many people in the ranks of the Master are "spiritual schizophrenics."
 - 2. That is they live with a divided heart. (I Kings 18:21).
 - B. "No man can serve two masters" Jesus (Matt. 6:24).
 - 1. Jesus calls for men to make up their minds - between the devil and Christ - good and evil.
 - 2. We are the servant of the one to whom we commit ourselves. (Rom. 6:16)
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"Reasoning Without God"

- A. So many like Naaman "reason without God"
 - 1. He simply said "Behold I thought" (II Kings 5:11).
 - 2. True from time of Cain to our own day.
 - B. Man may "reason without God" in life, but God will "reason with him in death. (Romans 2:16; 14:10-12).
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Doing All God Commands

- A. God has always expected his people to do exactly as He stated.
 - 1. Noah — did "all" that God has commanded.
 - 2. Moses, and the Tabernacle...then the Temple.
 - 3. Many times in II Kings we find the word "all" or "all of the law".
 - B. Paul wrote the Corinthians that they could not "go beyond the things which are written (I Cor. 4:6)..
 - 1. Because that which is written is the very thing that will judge us. (John 12:48)
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Sin Brings Captivity & Death

- 1. "Every man shall die for his own sins" (II Kings 14:6).
 - 2. The message of Ezekiel (18:4,20).
 - 3. The history of Israel and Judah as covered in this book.
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Book Preserved Because ...

THEY LOST THE BOOK OF THE LAW (THE BIBLE)

- A. In II Kings 22:3-13, we read how the book of the Law was found.
1. Had a tremendous effect on the people and was the basis for Josiah's reforms.
 2. He destroyed the idols, and idolatrous priests.
- B. Lessons FROM ACCOUNT OF "FINDING THE LOST BOOK OF LAW"
1. The book was lost in the house of God. (22:8)
 - a. Today the "house of God" is the church (I Tim. 3:14,15).
 - b. Through carelessness we can lose the N.T. today. ‘
 - c. Have it...But don't know what is in it...Just as lost as was theirs.
 2. The book was unknown to the priests - religious leaders of the people (22:8).
 - a. God's will is that His preachers preach "The Word." (II Tim. 4:1-5).
 - b. Elders are to make sure the Bible is preached. ‘
 - c. Every Christian is duty bound to study (II Tim. 2:15).
 3. At first it was looked upon as "a book" (22:10)
 - a. As modernism would have us to look at Bible today.
 4. **God's own people were surprised when they read the book (22:11).**
 - a. People surprised when read what Bible says about: Baptism; the church; Lord's Supper....etc.
 - b. We too, are sometimes surprised when we read what it says about: Forsaking the assembly; personal teaching, helping the needy.
 5. We can, as Christians lose the Book when we:
 - a. Are too busy to read, study and meditate upon it.
 - b. Become self-satisfied with our knowledge of it.
 - c. Are dormant in our personal application of it.
 - d. Have failed to preach it all (Acts 20;16,27) and to do this we must study it.

THERE ARE NO SHORT CUTS
