

2 KINGS 12-17

WEEK IN REVIEW + FAMILY GUIDE

WEEK IN REVIEW

As we are journeying through the book of 2 Kings, we see a pattern. The scripture talks about a king and either says that the king did “what was right in the eyes of the Lord” or they did “what was evil in the eyes of the Lord.” These kings were only remembered by whether or not they did what God commanded them to do. That was the thing that mattered most about them. It didn’t matter whether or not they had a lot of money, success, popularity, comfort, or approval from people, but whether or not they followed God and obeyed His instructions. In the Northern Kingdom of Israel there were nineteen kings, and none of them were **righteous**. To be righteous means to be in right standing with God. In the Southern Kingdom of Judah, there were twenty kings, and eight of them were righteous.

In 2 Kings 17, we see a very important moment in the story of Scripture: the fall of the Northern Kingdom of Israel. Israel (the ten northern tribes) fell to the Assyrians in 722 BC, just as God had warned through the prophets (2 Kings 17:13). Chapter 17 gives us a summary of what all went wrong. It says, “When he tore Israel away from the house of David, they made Jeroboam son of Nebat their king. Jeroboam enticed Israel away from following the Lord and caused them to commit a great sin. The Israelites persisted in all the sins of Jeroboam and did not turn away from them until the Lord removed them from his presence, as he had warned through all his servants the prophets. So the people of Israel were taken from their homeland into exile in Assyria, and they are still there.” Jeroboam did not have the best legacy. The people continued in his sins which led them into God’s judgement in the form of **exile**. To be exiled means to be taken from your home to a foreign place.

In these chapters, we also see the death of Elisha, who was a prophet. Elisha served as a typology, or **type of Christ**. A type of Christ is someone whose actions or character in the Old Testament point to the actions or character of Jesus. Elisha was a shadow of the Savior to come. He fed the poor, healed lepers, gave sight to the blind, and raised the dead to life. All throughout the Old Testament we see glimpses of Jesus. We can find hope that even when the Israelites were in exile and God felt far, He was working all things together for good. This was all a part of His big rescue plan through Jesus!

FAMILY GUIDE

BIG IDEA:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Israel's sins led them to exile, but God is going to use it for good
KEY STORIES:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Jehoash's Reign ● Elisha Dies ● Ahaz's Compromise ● Fall of Israel
KEY VERSES:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 2 Kings 12:2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ "Joash did what was right in the eyes of the Lord all the years Jehoiada the priest instructed him." ● 2 Kings 14:4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ "The high places, however, were not removed; the people continued to offer sacrifices and burn incense there." ● 2 Kings 17:7 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ "All this took place because the Israelites had sinned against the Lord their God, who had brought them up out of Egypt from under the power of Pharaoh king of Egypt. They worshiped other gods." ● 2 Kings 17:18 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ "So the Lord was very angry with Israel and removed them from his presence. Only the tribe of Judah was left."
WORDS TO KNOW:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Righteous <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ To be in right relationship with God ● Exile <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ To be taken from your home to a foreign place ● Type of Christ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Someone whose actions or character in the Old Testament point to the actions or character of Jesus.

Reflection Questions

1.	If you were a king, would you be remembered for being a righteous or unrighteous king? Why?
2.	What was the name of the king that Israel consistently into the sins of?
3.	How does Elisha point to Christ?