

Interesting Facts About 2 Kings

AUTHOR: Unknown. Possibly Jeremiah or a group of prophets

TIME WRITTEN: The majority of 2 Kings was written prior to 586 B.C. However, chapters 24 & 25 were written after Jehoichin's release, perhaps about 550 B.C.

POSITION IN THE BIBLE:

- 12th Book in the Bible
- 12th Book in the Old Testament
- 7th of 12 books of History (Joshua - Esther)
- 54 Books to follow it.



CHAPTERS: 25

VERSES: 719

WORDS: 23,532

OBSERVATIONS ABOUT 2 KINGS:

- 2 Kings continues the drama begun in 1 Kings.
- The majority of 2 Kings was written before the Babylonian captivity. 17:34-35
- The last two chapters were written after the Babylonian captivity had ended.
- Time frames in 2 Kings:
 - Chapters 1-17 cover the 131 years from 853 B.C. (King Ahaziah) of Israel to 722 B.C., the Assyrian Captivity of Israel.
 - Chapters 18-25 cover the 155 years from the beginning of Hezekiah's reign in 715 B.C. to the release of Jehoiachin in Babylon in 560 B.C.
- Kingdom facts:
 - The United Kingdom of Israel lasted for 120 years (1053-933 B.C.)
 - The Northern Kingdom existed for 210 years (931-721 B.C.) before being taken captive by the Assyrians in

2 KINGS

721 B.C.

- The Southern Kingdom of Judah existed from 931-586 B.C., some 135 years longer than Israel, before entering Babylonian Captivity.
- The total kingdom period lasted some 467 years (1053-586 B.C.)
- The Northern Kingdom:
 - 19 kings reigned during its 210 year history.
 - 9 different dynasties (family lines) reigned.
 - All but one dynasty was created by murdering the previous king.
 - The character of each was bad.
 - Prophets in the Northern Kingdom of Israel:
 - Elijah | - Amos
 - Elisha | - Hosea
- The Southern Kingdom:
 - 20 kings reigned during its 345 year history.
 - 8 of the 20 kings had good character.
 - - Asa | - Uzziah
 - Jehoshaphat | - Jotham
 - Joash | - Hezekiah
 - Amaziah | - Josiah
 - Prophets in the Southern Kingdom of Judah:
 - Obadiah | - Nahum
 - Isaiah | - Zephaniah
 - Isaiah | - Jeremiah
 - Micah | - Habakkuk
- The Southern Kingdom kings were of one continuous dynasty (David) in spite of the efforts of Athaliah, Jezebel's daughter, to kill all the descendants of David. Only Joash survived.