

**DASV: 2 Kings****DASV: 2 Kings 1**

<sup>1</sup> Moab rebelled against Israel after the death of Ahab.

<sup>2</sup> Ahaziah fell through the lattice in his upper chamber in Samaria and hurt himself. He sent messengers, and said to them, "Go, inquire of Baal-zebub, the god of Ekron, whether I will recover from this injury."

<sup>3</sup> Now the angel of the LORD said to Elijah the Tishbite, "Get up, go to meet the messengers of the king of Samaria, and ask them, 'Is it because there is no God in Israel, that you are going to inquire of Baal-zebub, the god of Ekron?'"

<sup>4</sup> Now therefore this is what the LORD says, 'You will not leave the bed on which you are confined, but you will surely die.'" So Elijah went and did it.

<sup>5</sup> When the messengers returned to the king, he asked them, "Why have you returned?"

<sup>6</sup> They replied, "A man came up to us, and told us, 'Go back to the king who sent you, and tell him, "This is what the LORD says, 'Is it because there is no God in Israel, that you are sending to inquire of Baal-zebub, the god of Ekron? Therefore you will not leave the bed on which you are confined, but you will surely die.'"""

<sup>7</sup> The king asked them, "What did the man look like who came up to you and told you these things?"

<sup>8</sup> They answered, "He was a hairy man, with a leather belt around his waist." He surmised, "It is Elijah the Tishbite."

<sup>9</sup> So the king sent a captain of fifty with his fifty men to him. He went up to Elijah who was sitting on the top of the hill and told him, "O man of God, the king has ordered, 'Come down here.'"

<sup>10</sup> Elijah answered the captain of fifty, "If I am indeed a man of God, let fire come down from heaven, and consume you and your fifty men." Then fire came down from heaven, and consumed him and his fifty.

<sup>11</sup> Again Ahaziah sent to him another captain of fifty with his fifty men. He said to him, "O man of God, this is what the king has ordered, 'Come down quickly.'"

<sup>12</sup> Elijah replied, "If I am indeed a man of God, let fire come down from heaven, and consume you and your fifty men." Then the fire from God came down from heaven, and consumed him and his fifty.

<sup>13</sup> Again he sent a third captain with his fifty men. The third captain of fifty went up and fell on his knees before Elijah, and begged him, "O man of God, I beg you, let my life, and the life of these fifty servants of yours, be precious in your sight.

<sup>14</sup> Look, fire came down from heaven, and consumed the two previous captains of fifty with their fifties; but now may my life be precious in your sight."

<sup>15</sup> The angel of the LORD said to Elijah, "Go down with him. Do not be afraid of him." So he got up, and went down with him to the king.

<sup>16</sup> Elijah said to the king, "This is what the LORD says, 'Why did you send messengers to inquire of Baal-zebub, the god of Ekron; is it because there is no God in Israel to inquire of his word? Therefore you will not come down from the bed on which you are confined, but you will surely die.'"

<sup>17</sup> So Ahaziah died according to the word of the LORD that Elijah had spoken. Jehoram began to reign in his place in the second year of Jehoram the son of Jehoshaphat king of Judah, because Ahaziah had no son.

<sup>18</sup> Now the rest of the acts that Ahaziah did, are they not written in the scroll of the Annals of the Kings of Israel?

**DASV: 2 Kings 2**

<sup>1</sup> When the LORD was about to take Elijah up into heaven in a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha traveled from Gilgal.

<sup>2</sup> Elijah told Elisha, "Wait here, for the LORD has sent me to Bethel. Elisha responded, "As surely as the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel.

<sup>3</sup> The sons of the prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and asked him, "Do you know that the LORD will take your master away from you today?" He replied, "Yes, I know, be quiet about it."

<sup>4</sup> Then Elijah told him, "Elisha, wait here, for the LORD has sent me to Jericho." He responded, "As surely as the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went to Jericho.

<sup>5</sup> The sons of the prophets who were at Jericho approached Elisha, and asked him, "Do you know that the LORD will take your master away from you today?" He replied, "Yes, I know, be quiet about it."

<sup>6</sup> Then Elijah told him, "Wait here, for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan River." He responded, "As surely as the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went on together.

<sup>7</sup> Fifty men of the sons of the prophets also went and stood at a distance as the two of them stood by the Jordan River.

<sup>8</sup> Then Elijah took his cloak, rolled it up, and struck the water with it. The water split to the one side and other, so that they crossed over on dry ground.

<sup>9</sup> After they crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I can do for you before I am taken away from you." Elisha replied, "Let me inherit a double portion of your spirit."

<sup>10</sup> Elijah said, "What you've requested is difficult. If you see me when I am taken away from you, your request will be granted, but if not, it won't happen."

<sup>11</sup> As they continued walking on and talking, suddenly a chariot of fire and horses of fire appeared. They separated the two of them and Elijah went up in a whirlwind into heaven.

<sup>12</sup> When Elisha saw it, he cried out, "My father, my father. The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" That was the last Elisha saw of him. He grabbed hold of his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

<sup>13</sup> He picked up the cloak that had fallen from Elijah, and went back and stood on the bank of the Jordan River.

<sup>14</sup> Then he took the cloak of Elijah that had fallen from him, and struck the waters, and asked, "Where is the LORD, the God of Elijah?" When he hit the waters, they divided to the one side and the other, and Elisha crossed over.

<sup>15</sup> When the sons of the prophets who were at Jericho some way off saw him, they said, "The spirit of Elijah rests on Elisha." They came out to meet him, and bowed themselves to the ground before him.

<sup>16</sup> They said to him, "Look, there are fifty capable men with your servants. Please let them go, and look for your master, lest the Spirit of the LORD has taken him up, and thrown him on some mountain, or into some valley." But he said, "No, don't send them."

<sup>17</sup> They continued to pester him until he was ashamed to refuse. He said, "Send them." So they sent the fifty men, and they searched for three days, but did not find him.

<sup>18</sup> When they came back to him, while he was staying at Jericho, he said to them, "Didn't I tell you not to go?"

<sup>19</sup> The men of the town said to Elisha, "The location of the town is good, as my lord can see, but the water is bad, and the land unproductive."

<sup>20</sup> Then he said, "Bring me a new bowl, and put salt in it." So they brought it to him.

<sup>21</sup> Elisha went out to the spring and threw the salt into it, and said, "This is what the LORD says, 'I have purified these waters. No longer will death or infertility come from it.'"

<sup>22</sup> So the waters were purified to this day, just as Elisha had spoken.

<sup>23</sup> He went up from there to Bethel. As he was going up on the road, some boys came out of the town, and mocked him, heckling him, "Go up, baldy. Go up, baldy."

<sup>24</sup> He turned around and saw them, and cursed them in the name of the LORD. Then two female bears came out of the woods, and mauled forty-two of the boys.

<sup>25</sup> From there he went to Mount Carmel, and then he returned to Samaria.

**DASV: 2 Kings 3**

<sup>1</sup> Now Jehoram the son of Ahab began to reign over Israel in Samaria in the eighteenth year of Jehoshaphat king of Judah. He reigned twelve years.

<sup>2</sup> He did evil in the sight of the LORD, but not like his father and mother; for he put away the sacred pillar of Baal that his father had made.

<sup>3</sup> Nevertheless he embraced the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who led Israel to sin; he did not turn away from it.

<sup>4</sup> Now Mesha king of Moab was a sheep breeder. He paid 100,000 lambs, and the wool of 100,000 rams as tribute to the king of Israel.

<sup>5</sup> When Ahab died, the king of Moab rebelled against the king of Israel.

<sup>6</sup> So king Jehoram went out of Samaria at that time and mustered all Israel.

<sup>7</sup> He sent this request to Jehoshaphat the king of Judah, "The king of Moab has rebelled against me. Will you go with me against Moab to battle?" Jehoshaphat replied, "I will go up with you. I am as you are, my people as your people, my horses as your horses."

<sup>8</sup> Jehoshaphat asked, "Which way shall we go up?" Jehoram replied, "By the way of the wilderness of Edom."

<sup>9</sup> So the king of Israel set out along with the king of Judah and the king of Edom. They made a roundabout march of seven days, and there was no water either for the troops or for the animals that were with them.

<sup>10</sup> So the king of Israel said, "Unfortunately the LORD has called us three kings together to be delivered into the hand of Moab."

<sup>11</sup> But Jehoshaphat said, "Is there not here a prophet of the LORD, through whom we may inquire of the LORD?" One of the king of Israel's servants answered, "Elisha the son of Shaphat is here. He used to pour water on the hands of Elijah."

<sup>12</sup> So Jehoshaphat said, "The word of the LORD is with him." So the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat and the king of Edom went down to him.

<sup>13</sup> Elisha said to the king of Israel, "What do I have to do with you? Go to your father's and mother's prophets." But the king of Israel said to him, "No, for the LORD has called us three kings together to be delivered into the hand of Moab."

<sup>14</sup> Elisha said, "As the LORD of hosts lives, before whom I stand, surely, if were it not that I regard the presence of Jehoshaphat the king of Judah, I would not even look at or pay attention to you.

<sup>15</sup> But now bring me a musician." Now when the musician played, the hand of the LORD came on him.

<sup>16</sup> Then he said, "This is what the LORD says, 'Make this valley full of trenches.'

<sup>17</sup> For this is what the LORD says, 'You will not see wind or rain, yet this valley will be filled with water, and you will drink, both you, your cattle and your animals.'

<sup>18</sup> This is but a trivial matter in the sight of the LORD. He will also deliver the Moabites into your hand.

<sup>19</sup> You will conquer every fortified city, and every choice city. You will cut down every good tree, and stop up all the springs, and ruin every good piece of land with stones."

<sup>20</sup> The next day, about the time of the morning offering, all of a sudden water came running from the direction of Edom and the land was filled with water.

<sup>21</sup> Now when all the Moabites heard that the kings had come up to fight against them, they gathered themselves together, everyone old enough to put on armor stationed themselves at the border.

<sup>22</sup> They got up early in the morning, and the sun shone on the water. To the Moabites who were some distance away the water looked as red as blood.

<sup>23</sup> They concluded, "This is blood; the kings must have fought and destroyed each other. Now therefore, Moab, grab the plunder."

<sup>24</sup> When they came to the camp of Israel, the Israelites rose up and struck down the Moabites, so that they fled before them. They proceeded into their land striking down the Moabites.

<sup>25</sup> They pulled down their cities, and each man threw a stone on every good piece of land until it was covered. They stopped up all the springs, and cut down all the good trees. Only Kir-hareseth had its stones left intact, but the men with slings surrounded it and attacked it.

<sup>26</sup> When the king of Moab saw that he was losing the battle, he took with him 700 swordsmen, in an attempt to break through to the king of Edom; but they were unable to do so.

<sup>27</sup> Then he took his eldest son who should have reigned in his place, and offered him for a burnt offering upon the wall. There was great wrath against Israel, so they withdrew, and returned to their own land.

**DASV: 2 Kings 4**

<sup>1</sup> Now one of the wives of the sons of the prophets cried out to Elisha, "Your servant my husband is dead, and you know that your servant feared the LORD. The creditor has come to take away my two boys as slaves."

<sup>2</sup> Elisha asked her, "What can I do for you? Tell me, what do you have in the house?" She replied, "Your servant has nothing except a small jar of olive oil in the house."

<sup>3</sup> Then he said, "Go, borrow as many empty containers from your neighbors as you can."

<sup>4</sup> Go in shutting the door behind you and your sons. Then pour the oil into all those containers; and when each one is full set it aside."

<sup>5</sup> So she left him, and shut the door behind her and her sons. As they brought the containers to her, she kept pouring.

<sup>6</sup> When the containers were full, she said to her son, "Bring me another container." But he replied, "There are no more." Then the olive oil stopped flowing.

<sup>7</sup> When she came and told the man of God, he said, "Go, sell the olive oil, and pay your debt, and you and your sons can live on the rest."

<sup>8</sup> One day Elisha was passing by Shunem. There was a wealthy woman who lived there who invited him for a meal. So whenever he passed by, he would stop in for something to eat.

<sup>9</sup> She said to her husband, "Look, I'm certain that the man who regularly visits us is a holy man of God."

<sup>10</sup> Let's build a small upper room for him with a bed, table, chair and candlestick. Then whenever he visits us he will have a place to stay."

<sup>11</sup> One day when Elisha went there, he went up to the guestroom and laid down.

<sup>12</sup> He said to Gehazi his servant, "Call this Shunammite." So he called her and she stood before him.

<sup>13</sup> He said to Gehazi, "Tell her, you have gone to all this trouble for us; what can we do for you? Can we put in a good word for you to the king or the captain of the army?" She answered, "I'm well taken care of by my own people."

<sup>14</sup> Elisha asked, "What then can we do for her?" Gehazi replied, "Well, she has no son, and her husband is old."

<sup>15</sup> So Elisha said, "Call her." So he called her, and she stood at the door.

<sup>16</sup> He said, "At this time next year you will hold a son in your arms." She said, "No, my lord! O man of God, do not deceive your servant."

<sup>17</sup> But the woman conceived, and bore a son at that time the following year just as Elisha had told her.

<sup>18</sup> One day when the child had grown, he went out to his father who was with the reapers.

<sup>19</sup> He complained to his father, "My head, my head." His father said to his servant, "Carry him back to his mother."

<sup>20</sup> So the servant carried him, and brought him to his mother. The boy sat on her lap until noon, and then died.

<sup>21</sup> She went up and laid the boy on the bed of the man of God, and shut the door on him and left.

<sup>22</sup> She called her husband, and said, "Please send me one of the servants and one of the donkeys, so that I may go to the man of God quickly, then come back again."

<sup>23</sup> He said, "Why would you go to him today? It is not a new moon or Sabbath." She said, "It will be all right."

<sup>24</sup> Then she saddled a donkey, and said to her servant, "Hurry up, don't slow down unless I tell you to."

<sup>25</sup> So she went out and came to the man of God at Mount Carmel. When the man of God saw her in the distance, he said to Gehazi his servant, "Look, there's the Shunammite woman.

<sup>26</sup> Please run to meet her, and say to her, 'Is everything all right? Is your husband all right? Is the child well?'" Then she answered, "Everything is fine."

<sup>27</sup> When she came to the man of God at the mountain, she caught hold of his feet. Gehazi came near to push her away, but the man of God said, "Leave her alone, for she is deeply troubled; and the LORD has hidden it from me, and has not told me."

<sup>28</sup> Then she said, "Did I ask my lord for a son? Did I not say, 'Do not deceive me'?"

<sup>29</sup> Then Elisha told Gehazi, "Tuck your robes up, and take my staff in your hand, and go. If you meet anyone, do not greet him; and if anyone greets you, do not answer him. Lay my staff on the child's face."

<sup>30</sup> The mother of the child said, "As the LORD lives, and as you live, I will not leave you." So Elisha got up and followed her.

<sup>31</sup> Gehazi ran on ahead of them, and laid the staff on the child's face but there was no sound or sign of life. So Gehazi returned to meet Elisha and told him, "The child has not awakened."

<sup>32</sup> When Elisha arrived at the house, there was the child dead, lying on his bed.

<sup>33</sup> So he went in and shut the door on the two of them, and prayed to the LORD.

<sup>34</sup> He went up, and lay upon the child, putting his mouth on his mouth, his eyes upon his eyes and his hands upon his hands. As he stretched himself out on him, the flesh of the child became warm.

<sup>35</sup> Then Elisha got up and walked back and forth in the room. He again got on the bed and stretched himself out on him and the child sneezed seven times and opened his eyes.

<sup>36</sup> Elisha called Gehazi, and said, "Call this Shunammite." So he called her. When she came in, he said, "Take your son."

<sup>37</sup> She went in, fell at his feet and bowed herself to the ground. She took her son and left.

<sup>38</sup> Now when Elisha returned to Gilgal there was a famine in the land. The sons of the prophets were sitting before him, and he said to his servant, "Put the large pot on the fire, and boil stew for the sons of the prophets."

<sup>39</sup> One of them went out into the field to gather some herbs and found a wild vine. He picked a lap full of wild gourds from it, and came and cut them up into the pot of stew although no one knew what they were.

<sup>40</sup> So they dished up the stew for the men to eat. As they were eating from the stew, they cried out, "O man of God, there is death in the pot." They could not eat it.

<sup>41</sup> But Elisha said, "Then bring me some flour." He threw it into the pot. Then he said, "Dish it up for the people, so that they may eat." Then there was nothing harmful in the pot.

<sup>42</sup> A man came from Baal-shalishah, and brought the man of God from the firstfruits, twenty barley loaves and some fresh ears of grain in his sack. Elisha said, "Give it to the people, so that they may eat."

<sup>43</sup> His servant said, "How can I set this before a hundred men?" But he said, "Give it to the people, so that they may eat. For this is what the LORD says, 'They will eat, and have some leftover.'"

<sup>44</sup> So he set it before them, they ate, and there were leftovers, according to the word of the LORD.

**DASV: 2 Kings 5**

<sup>1</sup> Now Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Aram, was a great man and highly respected by his master, because through him the LORD had given victory to Aram. He was also a mighty warrior, but he had a skin disease.

<sup>2</sup> The Arameans had in one of their raids taken captive a young girl out of the land of Israel and she became a servant to Naaman's wife.

<sup>3</sup> She said to her mistress, "If only my lord could visit the prophet that is in Samaria. He would heal him of his skin disease."

<sup>4</sup> So Naaman went and told his master what the girl from the land of Israel had said to him.

<sup>5</sup> The king of Aram said, "Go now, and I will send a letter to the king of Israel." So he left, and brought with him 750 pounds of silver, and 150 pounds of gold, and ten sets of clothes.

<sup>6</sup> He presented the letter to the king of Israel, saying, "With this letter I have sent to you my servant Naaman, so that you may cure him of his skin disease."

<sup>7</sup> When the king of Israel finished reading the letter he tore his clothes and objected, "Am I God, to kill and to make alive? Why does this man ask me to cure a man of his skin disease? See how he is seeking to pick a fight with me."

<sup>8</sup> When Elisha, the man of God, heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, he sent to the king, saying, "Why have you torn your clothes? Send him to me, and he will know that there is a prophet in Israel."

<sup>9</sup> So Naaman came with his horses and chariots, and stood at the door of Elisha's house.

<sup>10</sup> Elisha sent a messenger to him saying, "Go and wash in the Jordan River seven times, and your flesh will be restored, and you will be clean."

<sup>11</sup> But Naaman was furious and left, complaining, "I expected that he would surely come out to meet me, stand and call on the name of the LORD his God, and wave his hand over the spot, and cure the disease.

<sup>12</sup> Are not the rivers of Damascus, the Abana and Pharpar, better than any of the waters in Israel? Could I not just wash in them and be cleansed?" So he turned and went away in a rage.

<sup>13</sup> His servants approached him and said, "My father, if the prophet had asked you to do some great thing, wouldn't you have done it? How much more then, when all he tells you is to 'Wash, and be clean'?"

<sup>14</sup> So he went down, and dipped himself seven times in the Jordan River, as the man of God had told him to. His skin became like the skin of a little child, and he was clean.

<sup>15</sup> He returned to the man of God, he and all his company, and came and stood before him. He said, "Now I know that there is no God in all the earth except in Israel. Please accept a present from your servant."

<sup>16</sup> But Elisha replied, "As the LORD lives, before whom I serve, I will not accept anything from you." Naaman urged him to take it, but Elisha still refused.

<sup>17</sup> Naaman said, "If not, please let your servant load up my two mules with dirt; for your servant will no longer offer burnt offerings or sacrifices to any other gods except the LORD.

<sup>18</sup> But may the LORD forgive your servant. When my master goes into the temple of Rimmon to worship there, and he leans on my arm, and I bow myself in the temple of Rimmon, may the LORD forgive your servant for this."

<sup>19</sup> So Elisha said to him, "Go in peace." But when he had traveled a little way,

<sup>20</sup> Gehazi, the servant of Elisha the man of God, thought, "My master has let this Aramean Naaman off too easily in not accepting from his hands that which he offered him. As the LORD lives, I will run after him, and get something out of him."

<sup>21</sup> So Gehazi went after Naaman. When Naaman saw him running after him, he got down from his chariot to meet him, and asked, "Is everything all right?"

<sup>22</sup> He replied, "Everything is fine. My master has sent me, saying, 'Two men of the sons of the prophets have come to me just now from the hill-country of Ephraim. Would you be kind enough to give them 75 pounds of silver and two sets of clothes.'"

<sup>23</sup> Naaman said, "Please accept 150 pounds of silver." He insisted and tied up two bags of silver along with two sets of clothes, and gave them to two of his servants who carried them for Gehazi.

<sup>24</sup> When he came to the citadel, he took the items from their hand, and stowed them away in the house. Then he dismissed the men and they left.

<sup>25</sup> But when he went in and stood before his master, Elisha asked him, "Where have you been, Gehazi?" He replied, "Your servant hasn't gone anywhere."

<sup>26</sup> Elisha said to him, "Didn't my heart go with you, when the man turned from his chariot to meet you? Is this the time to receive money and clothes, olive groves and vineyards, sheep and cattle and male and female servants?"

<sup>27</sup> Therefore Naaman's skin disease will cling to you, and to your descendants forever." Then Gehazi left his presence with his skin having become white as snow.

**DASV: 2 Kings 6**

<sup>1</sup> The sons of the prophets said to Elisha, "Look, the place we are living with you is too small for us.

<sup>2</sup> Please, let us go to the Jordan River, and each of us will get a log and make a place for us to live there." He replied, "Go ahead."

<sup>3</sup> One of them said, "Please, come with your servants." He replied, "I will."

<sup>4</sup> So he went with them. When they came to the Jordan, they began cutting down trees.

<sup>5</sup> But as one of them was cutting down a tree, the ax head fell into the water. He yelled, "Oh, my master, it was borrowed."

<sup>6</sup> The man of God said, "Where did it fall?" He showed him the place. Elisha cut down a stick, and threw it in at that spot, and made the iron ax head float.

<sup>7</sup> Then Elisha said, "Pick it up." So he reached out his hand and grabbed it.

<sup>8</sup> Now the king of Aram was at war with Israel so he consulted with his officers, saying, "We should set up camp in such and such a place."

<sup>9</sup> The man of God sent to the king of Israel, saying, "Beware that you don't pass by this place, because the Arameans are going down there."

<sup>10</sup> The king of Israel sent a message to the place the man of God told and warned him about. So several times he protected himself in such places.

<sup>11</sup> The heart of the king of Aram was very troubled over this. So he summoned his officers, and asked them, "Which of you has betrayed us to the king of Israel?"

<sup>12</sup> One of his officers said, "No, my lord, O king, but Elisha, the prophet who is in Israel, tells the king of Israel the very words you speak in your bedroom."

<sup>13</sup> So the king ordered, "Go and find out where he is, so that I may send troops and capture him." He was told, "Look, he is in Dothan."

<sup>14</sup> Therefore he sent horses, chariots and a large army there. They came at night and surrounded the city.

<sup>15</sup> When the servant of the man of God got up early, and went out, an army with horses and chariots was surrounding the city. His servant asked him, "Oh no, my master! What can we do now?"

<sup>16</sup> He replied, "Do not be afraid; for there are more with us than there are with them."

<sup>17</sup> Elisha prayed, and said, "LORD, I pray, open his eyes, so that he may see." The LORD opened the eyes of the young man, and he saw that the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.

<sup>18</sup> When they came down to him, Elisha prayed to the LORD, and said, "Please strike this people with blindness." So he struck them with blindness according to the word of Elisha.

<sup>19</sup> Then Elisha said to them, "This is the wrong way and the wrong city. Follow me, and I will bring you to the man whom you are seeking." Then he led them to Samaria.

<sup>20</sup> When they arrived at Samaria, Elisha prayed, "LORD, open the eyes of these men, that they may see." So the LORD opened their eyes, and they saw that they were in the middle of Samaria.

<sup>21</sup> When he saw them, the king of Israel asked Elisha, "My father, should I kill them? Should I kill them?"

<sup>22</sup> He answered, "No, do not kill them. Would you kill those you have taken captive with your sword and bow? Give them food and water, so they may eat and drink, and then return to their master."

<sup>23</sup> So he prepared a great feast for them, and after they had eaten and drunk, he sent them on their way, and they returned to their master. After that no more raiding parties from Aram entered the land of Israel.

<sup>24</sup> A while later, Benhadad king of Aram gathered his entire army, went up and besieged Samaria.

<sup>25</sup> There was a great famine in Samaria. They laid siege to it, until a donkey's head was sold for eighty pieces of silver, and a cup of dove's dung for five pieces of silver.

<sup>26</sup> As the king of Israel was passing by on the wall, a woman cried out to him, "Help, my lord, O king."

<sup>27</sup> He replied, "If the LORD does not help you, how can I help you? From the empty threshing floor or winepress?"

<sup>28</sup> The king asked her, "What is the problem?" She replied, "This woman said to me, 'Give up your son, let's eat him today, and tomorrow we will eat my son.'

<sup>29</sup> So we boiled my son, and ate him. The next day I said to her, 'Give up your son, so we may eat him,' and now she has hidden her son."

<sup>30</sup> When the king heard the words of the woman, he tore his clothes. As he was passing by on the wall, the people could see that he was wearing sackcloth next to his skin under his robe.

<sup>31</sup> Then he said, "God do so to me, and more also, if the head of Elisha the son of Shaphat stays on his shoulders today."

<sup>32</sup> But Elisha was sitting in his house, and the elders were sitting with him. The king sent a messenger but before the messenger arrived, Elisha said to the elders, "Are you not aware that this son of a murderer has sent someone to cut off my head? When the messenger arrives, shut the door and hold it closed against him. Is not the sound of his master's feet coming behind him?"

<sup>33</sup> Right then, while he was yet talking with them, the messenger arrived. He said, "This evil is from the LORD. Why should I wait for the LORD any longer?"

**DASV: 2 Kings 7**

<sup>1</sup> Then Elisha said, "Hear the word of the LORD: This is what the LORD says, 'Tomorrow about this time, five quarts of fine flour will be sold for a shekel, and ten quarts of barley for a shekel, in the gate of Samaria.'"

<sup>2</sup> Then the officer on whose arm the king leaned answered the man of God, "Even if the LORD should open the windows of heaven, could this really happen?" Elisha replied, "You will see it with your own eyes, but you will not eat any of it."

<sup>3</sup> Now there were four leprous men at the entrance of the gate. They said to each other, "Why should we just sit here until we die?"

<sup>4</sup> If we say, 'We will enter the city,' there is famine in the city, and we will starve to death there. If we sit here, we will die too. So come on, let's surrender to the Aramean army. If they spare our lives, we will live, and if they kill us, we would have died anyway."

<sup>5</sup> So they got up in the twilight to go to the camp of the Arameans. When they came to the edge of the Aramean camp, there was no one there.

<sup>6</sup> For the Lord had caused the Aramean army to hear the sound of chariots and horses, and the sound of a great army. They said to each other, "The king of Israel has hired the kings of the Hittites and the Egyptians to fight against us."

<sup>7</sup> So they got up and fled in the twilight, and left their tents, horses and donkeys. They left the camp just as it was and ran for their lives.

<sup>8</sup> When these lepers came to the edge of the camp, they went into one tent, and ate and drank, and carried off silver, gold, and clothes, and went and hid them. Then they came back, and entered into another tent, and carried off its spoils also, and went and hid them.

<sup>9</sup> Then they said to each other, "This isn't right. This day is a day of good news, and we haven't told anyone. If we wait until morning, we will be punished. So let's go and tell the royal palace."

<sup>10</sup> So they came and called out to the gatekeepers of the city. They told them, "We went to the camp of the Arameans, and there was no one there. The horses and donkeys were tied up, and the tents were left as they were, but there was not a sound from anyone there."

<sup>11</sup> Then the gatekeepers reported it to the royal palace.

<sup>12</sup> The king got up in the night, and said to his officers, "I will tell you what the Arameans have done to trick us. They know that we are starving; so they have left the camp and are hiding in the field, thinking, 'When they come out of the city, we will take them alive, and get into the city.'"

<sup>13</sup> One of his officials suggested, "Let some people take five of the horses still left in the city, their fate will be no different than the multitude of Israel who are left behind, they will be just like all the Israelites who are going to die anyway. Let us send them out and find out what's going on."

<sup>14</sup> They took two chariots with horses; and the king sent them after the Aramean army, saying, "Go and find out what's going on."

<sup>15</sup> They followed them as far as the Jordan River, all the way was littered with garments and equipment that the Arameans had thrown away in their haste. The messengers returned and told the king.

<sup>16</sup> Then the people went out and plundered the camp of the Arameans. So five quarts of fine flour was sold for a shekel, and ten quarts of barley for a shekel, just as the word of the LORD had said.

<sup>17</sup> The king put the commander on whose arm he leaned in charge of the city gate. The people trampled him to death in the city gate, just as the man of God had predicted, who spoke when the king came down to him.

<sup>18</sup> The man of God told the king, "Tomorrow about this time in the gate of Samaria ten quarts of barley will be sold for a shekel, and a five quarts of fine flour for a shekel."

<sup>19</sup> For that officer had said to the man of God, "Even if the LORD should open the windows of heaven, how could such a thing be?" Elisha replied, "You will see it with your own eyes, but you will not eat any of it."

<sup>20</sup> So this is precisely what happened to him. The people trampled him to death in the city gate.

**DASV: 2 Kings 8**

<sup>1</sup> Now Elisha had spoken to the woman, whose son he had restored to life, saying, "You and your family should go to live somewhere else, for the LORD has called for a famine on the land that will last for seven years."

<sup>2</sup> The woman did as the man of God had said. She and her family settled in the land of the Philistines for seven years.

<sup>3</sup> At the end of seven years, the woman returned from the land of the Philistines. She went to appeal to the king to get her house and her land back.

<sup>4</sup> Now the king was talking with Gehazi the servant of the man of God, saying, "Tell me, all the great things that Elisha has done."

<sup>5</sup> As he was telling the king about how Elisha had restored to life one who was dead, the woman whose son he had brought back to life, appealed to the king for her house and her land. So Gehazi said, "My lord, O king, this is the woman, and this is her son, whom Elisha brought back to life."

<sup>6</sup> When the king asked the woman about it, she told him what had happened. So the king assigned a certain officer to her, saying, "Give back everything that was hers, along with all the produce of the field since the day that she left the land until now."

<sup>7</sup> Elisha went to Damascus, while Benhadad the king of Aram was sick. He was told, "The man of God has come here."

<sup>8</sup> The king said to Hazael, "Take a present in your hand, and go, meet the man of God, and inquire of the LORD through him, 'Will I recover from this sickness?'"

<sup>9</sup> So Hazael went to meet him, and took presents with him, from all the good things of Damascus loaded on forty camels. He came and stood before him, and said, "Your son Benhadad king of Aram has sent me to you, asking, 'Will I recover from this sickness?'"

<sup>10</sup> Elisha said to him, "Go tell him, 'You will surely recover,' but the LORD has revealed to me that he will surely die."

<sup>11</sup> Elisha looked straight at Hazael staring at him until Hazael became embarrassed. Then the man of God wept.

<sup>12</sup> So Hazael asked, "Why are you crying my lord?" Elisha replied, "Because I know the evil that you will do to the children of Israel. You will set their fortresses on fire, kill their young men with the sword, dash their little ones in pieces, and rip open their pregnant women."

<sup>13</sup> But Hazael said, "But how could your servant, who is merely an insignificant dog, do this great thing?" Elisha answered, "The LORD has revealed to me that you will be king over Aram."

<sup>14</sup> Then Hazael left Elisha, came to his master, who asked him, "What did Elisha tell you?" Hazael answered, "He told me that you would surely recover."

<sup>15</sup> But the next day, Hazael took a blanket, soaked it in water and spread it on his face, so that he died. Then Hazael reigned in his place.

<sup>16</sup> In the fifth year of Joram the son of Ahab king of Israel, Jehoram the son of Jehoshaphat king of Judah began to reign.

<sup>17</sup> He was thirty-two years old when he became king and he reigned eight years in Jerusalem.

<sup>18</sup> He walked in the way of the kings of Israel, just as the house of Ahab did for he had married the daughter of Ahab. He did what was evil in the sight of the LORD.

<sup>19</sup> But the LORD would not destroy Judah, for David his servant's sake, as he had promised to give a lamp to him and his descendants forever.

<sup>20</sup> In his days Edom revolted against the hand of Judah, and set up their own king.

<sup>21</sup> Then Jehoram [also called Joram] passed over to Zair with all his chariots. He got up at night and struck down the Edomites who had surrounded him and his chariot commanders; but his troops fled back home.

<sup>22</sup> So Edom revolted against the rule of Judah to this day. The town of Libnah also revolted at that same time.

<sup>23</sup> The rest of the acts of Jehoram, and all that he did, are they not written in the scroll of the Annals of the Kings of Judah?

<sup>24</sup> Jehoram slept with his fathers, and was buried with his fathers in the city of David. Then Ahaziah his son reigned in his place.

<sup>25</sup> In the twelfth year of Joram the son of Ahab king of Israel, Ahaziah the son of Jehoram king of Judah began to reign.

<sup>26</sup> Ahaziah was twenty-two years old when he became king and he reigned one year in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Athaliah the granddaughter of Omri king of Israel.

<sup>27</sup> He walked in the way of the house of Ahab. He did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, as the house of Ahab had done, for he was related by marriage to the house of Ahab.

<sup>28</sup> He went with Joram the son of Ahab to fight against Hazael king of Aram at Ramoth Gilead. Now the Arameans wounded Joram.

<sup>29</sup> King Joram returned to recover in Jezreel from the wounds the Arameans had inflicted on him at Ramah, when he fought against Hazael king of Aram. Then Ahaziah the son of Jehoram king of Judah went down to see Joram the son of Ahab in Jezreel, because he was wounded.

**DASV: 2 Kings 9**

<sup>1</sup> Elisha the prophet called one of the sons of the prophets, and said to him, "Tuck your cloak up into your belt, and quickly take this flask of olive oil in your hand, and go to Ramoth Gilead.

<sup>2</sup> When you arrive there, look for Jehu the son of Jehoshaphat the son of Nimshi, and go in and get him away from his companions, and bring him to a private inner chamber.

<sup>3</sup> Take the flask of olive oil, pour it on his head, and say, "This is what the LORD says, 'I have anointed you king over Israel.'" Then open the door, and get out of there quickly.

<sup>4</sup> So the young servant of the prophet went to Ramoth Gilead.

<sup>5</sup> When he arrived, the army officers were sitting around. He announced, "I have a message for you, commander." Jehu asked, "For which one of us?" He replied, "For you, commander."

<sup>6</sup> So he got up and went into the house. Then the prophet poured the olive oil on his head, and said to him, "This is what the LORD says, the God of Israel, 'I have anointed you king over the LORD's people, Israel.

<sup>7</sup> You will strike down the house of Ahab your master, so that I may avenge the blood of my servants the prophets, and the blood of all the servants of the LORD shed by Jezebel.

<sup>8</sup> For the whole house of Ahab will perish, and I will cut off from Ahab every male child, slave or free that is left anywhere in Israel.

<sup>9</sup> I will make the house of Ahab like the house of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, and like the house of Baasha the son of Ahijah.

<sup>10</sup> The dogs will eat Jezebel in the parcel of land in Jezreel, and no one will bury her.'" Then he opened the door, and fled.

<sup>11</sup> When Jehu returned to his master's officers, one of them asked him, "Is everything all right? Why did this madman want to talk to you?" Jehu replied, "You know what type of person he is and the types of things they usually say."

<sup>12</sup> They said, "That isn't true, come on tell us." So he said, "This is what he said to me, 'This is what the LORD says, 'I have anointed you king over Israel.'""

<sup>13</sup> Then each of them quickly took off his cloak and spread them under Jehu's feet on the stairs. They blew the trumpet, shouting, "Jehu is king."

<sup>14</sup> So Jehu the son of Jehoshaphat the son of Nimshi conspired against Joram. Now Joram and all Israel were guarding Ramoth Gilead against Hazeal king of Aram.

<sup>15</sup> But king Joram had returned to recover in Jezreel from the wounds the Arameans had given him, when he fought with Hazeal king of Aram. Jehu said, "If this is what you want, then don't let anyone escape from the city, to report it in Jezreel."

<sup>16</sup> So Jehu rode in a chariot, and went to Jezreel, where Joram lay wounded and Ahaziah king of Judah had come down to see Joram.

<sup>17</sup> Now the watchman was standing on the tower in Jezreel, and he spotted the troops of Jehu as he came, and announced, "I see troops." Joram said, "Send a horseman to meet them, and let him ask, 'Are you coming in peace?'"

<sup>18</sup> So a horsemen rode out to meet Jehu, and said, "This is what the king says, 'Are you coming in peace?'" Jehu replied, "What have you to do with peace? Fall in behind me." The watchman reported, "The messenger came to them, but he isn't coming back."

<sup>19</sup> So the king sent out a second rider, who came to them, and asked, "This is what the king says, 'Are you coming in peace?'" Jehu replied, "What have you to do with peace? Fall in behind me."

<sup>20</sup> The watchman reported, "He came to them but he isn't coming back either. The driving is like the driving of Jehu the son of Nimshi; for he drives like a maniac."

<sup>21</sup> Joram said, "Make ready." So they got his chariot ready. Then Joram king of Israel and Ahaziah king of Judah went out, each in his chariot, to meet Jehu. They met him in the portion of land belonging to Naboth the Jezreelite.

<sup>22</sup> When Joram saw Jehu, he asked, "Have you come in peace, Jehu?" He answered, "What peace can there be, as long as the idolatry and witchcraft of your mother Jezebel continue?"

<sup>23</sup> Then Joram turned his chariot around and fled. He warned Ahaziah, "It's treason, Ahaziah."

<sup>24</sup> Jehu drew his bow with his full strength, and shot Joram between the shoulders. The arrow went straight through his heart, and he sank down in his chariot.

<sup>25</sup> Then Jehu ordered Bidkar, his officer, "Pick him up, and throw him into the portion of the field belonging to Naboth the Jezreelite. Remember when you and I rode together behind Ahab his father, that the LORD made this pronouncement of judgment on him.

<sup>26</sup> 'Surely I have seen the blood of Naboth, and the blood of his sons yesterday,' says the LORD. I will repay you on this plot of ground' says the LORD. Now therefore pick him up and throw him into the plot of ground, in accordance with the word of the LORD."

<sup>27</sup> But when Ahaziah the king of Judah saw this, he fled by the way of Beth-haggan. Jehu chased after him, and said, "Shoot him too." So they shot him in the chariot at the ascent of Gur, near Ibleam. He fled to Megiddo, and died there.

<sup>28</sup> His servants took him in a chariot to Jerusalem, and buried him in his tomb with his fathers in the city of David.

<sup>29</sup> Ahaziah began to reign over Judah in the eleventh year of Joram the son of Ahab.

<sup>30</sup> When Jehu came to Jezreel, Jezebel heard it, so she painted her eyes, and fixed her hair, and looked out the window.

<sup>31</sup> As Jehu entered in the city gate, she said, "Have you come in peace, Zimri, your master's murderer?"

<sup>32</sup> He lifted up his face to the window, and shouted, "Who is on my side? Who?" Two or three eunuchs were looking out at him.

<sup>33</sup> He ordered, "Throw her down." So they threw her down, and some of her blood was splattered on the wall, and on the horses as Jehu trampled her under their hooves.

<sup>34</sup> When he had come in, he ate and drank, and he said, "Take care of this cursed woman, and bury her; for she is a king's daughter."

<sup>35</sup> They went to bury her but found only her skull, feet and the palms of her hands.

<sup>36</sup> When they came back and told him, he said, "This is the word of the LORD, which he spoke through his servant Elijah the Tishbite, saying, 'In the plot of ground in Jezreel dogs will devour the flesh of Jezebel.'

<sup>37</sup> Jezebel's corpse will be as dung on the face of the ground in the territory of Jezreel, so that no one will say, "This is Jezebel.'"

**DASV: 2 Kings 10**

<sup>1</sup> Now Ahab had seventy sons living in Samaria. Jehu wrote letters, and sent them to Samaria, to the rulers of Jezreel, the elders, and to the guardians who brought up the sons of Ahab, saying,

<sup>2</sup> "Since your master's sons are with you, and there are at your disposal chariots and horses, a fortified city, and weapons, as soon as this letter arrives

<sup>3</sup> select the best and ablest of your master's sons, and set him on his father's throne, and fight for your master's house."

<sup>4</sup> But they were absolutely terrified, and said, "Look, two kings could not stand against him, how then can we?"

<sup>5</sup> So the overseer of the palace, mayor of the city, the elders, and those guardians of the king's children, sent this message to Jehu, "We are your servants, and will do whatever you tell us. We will not make anyone king. Do whatever you think best."

<sup>6</sup> Then he wrote a letter the second time to them, saying, "If you are on my side, and if you will obey my voice, then take the heads of your master's sons, and come to me in Jezreel by this time tomorrow." Now the seventy king's sons were with the leading men of the city who brought them up.

<sup>7</sup> When the letter came to them, they took the king's sons, and killed all seventy of them, and put their heads in baskets, and sent them to Jehu at Jezreel.

<sup>8</sup> A messenger came and told him, "They have brought the heads of the king's sons." Jehu ordered, "Stack them into two heaps at the entrance of the city gate until morning."

<sup>9</sup> In the morning, he went out and stood there, and told all the people, "You are innocent. It was I who conspired against my master, and killed him; but who struck down all these?"

<sup>10</sup> Know now that not one of the LORD's words which the LORD spoke concerning the house of Ahab will fall to the earth unfulfilled. The LORD has done exactly what he promised through his servant Elijah."

<sup>11</sup> So Jehu struck down all who remained of the house of Ahab in Jezreel, and all his leading officials, his close friends and his priests. He left no survivors.

<sup>12</sup> Then he got up and left to go to Samaria. On the way, while he was at Beth-eked of the shepherds,

<sup>13</sup> Jehu met with the relatives of Ahaziah king of Judah, and asked, "Who are you?" They answered, "We are relatives of Ahaziah. We have come down to visit the sons of the king and the queen mother."

<sup>14</sup> So he ordered, "Take them alive." So they captured them alive, and killed all forty-two of them at the well of Beth-eked. He left no survivors.

<sup>15</sup> When he left there, he met Jehonadab the son of Rechab who was coming to meet him. He saluted him, and said to him, "Is your heart as loyal to me, as my heart is loyal to you?" Jehonadab answered, "I am." "If you are," Jehu said, "give me your hand." So he gave him his hand, and he helped him up into the chariot.

<sup>16</sup> Then he said, "Come with me, and see my zeal for the LORD." So they had him ride along in his chariot.

<sup>17</sup> When he came to Samaria, he struck down all who remained from Ahab's family in Samaria; he totally destroyed them, according to the word of the LORD that he spoke to Elijah.

<sup>18</sup> Jehu gathered all the people together, and told them, "Ahab served Baal a little, but Jehu will serve him a lot.

<sup>19</sup> Now therefore assemble before me all the prophets of Baal, along with all his worshippers and priests. Make sure none of them are missing for I am offering a great sacrifice to Baal. Whoever fails to come will not live." But Jehu was deceiving them so that he might destroy the worshippers of Baal.

<sup>20</sup> Then Jehu announced, "Consecrate a solemn assembly for Baal." So they proclaimed it.

<sup>21</sup> Then Jehu sent messengers throughout all Israel, and all the worshippers of Baal came; so that there was no one left who did not come. They entered the temple of Baal; and the temple of Baal was filled from one end to the other.

<sup>22</sup> Jehu said to the keeper of the wardrobe, "Bring out the ceremonial robes for all the worshippers of Baal." So he brought out robes for them.

<sup>23</sup> Then Jehu and Jehonadab the son of Rechab entered the temple of Baal. He announced to the worshippers of Baal, "Look around and make sure that none of the servants of the LORD are here with you, but only the worshippers of Baal."

<sup>24</sup> They went in to offer sacrifices and burnt offerings. Now Jehu had stationed eighty men outside, and said, "If any of the men whom I bring into your hands escape, you will pay for his life with your own life."

<sup>25</sup> As soon as he had made an end of offering the burnt offering, Jehu ordered the guard and commanders, "Go in, and kill them. Let none of them escape." So they struck them down with the edge of the sword; and the guard and commanders threw them out. Then they went into the inner citadel of the temple of Baal.

<sup>26</sup> They ripped out the pillars that were in the temple of Baal, and burned them.

<sup>27</sup> They demolished the pillar of Baal, and broke down the temple of Baal, and made it a public toilet to this day.

<sup>28</sup> This is how Jehu wiped out Baal worship from Israel.

<sup>29</sup> However, Jehu did not turn away from the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, by which he led Israel to sin--the golden calves that were in Bethel and Dan.

<sup>30</sup> The LORD said to Jehu, "Because you have done well in accomplishing what is right in my eyes, and have done to the house of Ahab according to all that was in my heart, your sons will sit on the throne of Israel to the fourth generation."

<sup>31</sup> But Jehu was not careful to walk in the law of the LORD, the God of Israel, with all his heart. He did not turn away from the sins of Jeroboam, by which he led Israel to sin.

<sup>32</sup> In those days the LORD began to reduce Israel's territory. Hazael defeated them throughout all the territory of Israel

<sup>33</sup> east of the Jordan River including all the land of Gilead, the Gadites, the Reubenites, and the Manassites, from Aroer, which is by the Arnon gorge, as far as Gilead and Bashan.

<sup>34</sup> Now the rest of the acts of Jehu, and all that he did, and all his might, are they not written in the scroll of the Annals of the Kings of Israel?

<sup>35</sup> Jehu slept with his fathers, and they buried him in Samaria. Then Jehoahaz his son reigned in his place.

<sup>36</sup> Jehu reigned twenty-eight years over Israel in Samaria.

**DASV: 2 Kings 11**

<sup>1</sup> Now when Athaliah the mother of Ahaziah saw that her son was dead, she set out to destroy all the royal family.

<sup>2</sup> But Jehosheba, the daughter of king Joram and sister of Ahaziah, took Joash the son of Ahaziah, and slipped him away from the rest of the king's sons who were killed. She hid him and his nurse in the bedroom. They hid him from Athaliah, so he was not killed.

<sup>3</sup> He was hidden by her in the temple of the LORD for six years while Athaliah herself reigned over the land.

<sup>4</sup> In the seventh year, Jehoiada sent and brought the captains over hundreds of the Carites and the palace guard, and brought them to him in the temple of the LORD. He made a covenant with them, and made them take an oath in the temple of the LORD, then he showed them the king's son.

<sup>5</sup> He commanded them, saying, "This is what you must do. A third of you who are on duty on the Sabbath, will be guardians over the king's palace.

<sup>6</sup> A third of you will stand guard at the Sur Gate and another third at the gate behind the royal guard. This is how you will take turns guarding the palace.

<sup>7</sup> The other two units, that go off duty on the Sabbath, will keep guard of the temple of the LORD to protect the king.

<sup>8</sup> You must surround the king and every man must have his weapon in his hand. Whoever approaches your ranks is to be killed. Stick with the king whenever he goes out, and whenever he comes in."

<sup>9</sup> So the captains over hundreds did exactly as Jehoiada the priest commanded. They took all their men who were on duty on the Sabbath, along with those who were off duty on the Sabbath, and came to Jehoiada the priest.

<sup>10</sup> The priest gave to the captains over hundreds the spears and shields that had been king David's, which were in the temple of the LORD.

<sup>11</sup> The guards stood, each man with his weapon in his hand. They lined up from the south side of the temple to the north side, around the altar and the temple, surrounding the king.

<sup>12</sup> Then he brought out the king's son, and put the crown on him, and presented to him the covenant. They installed him as king, anointed him, and clapped their hands, proclaiming, "Long live the king."

<sup>13</sup> When Athaliah heard the noise of the guard and the people, she came to the people at the temple of the LORD.

<sup>14</sup> She looked, and there was the king standing by the pillar, as was the custom, with the captains and the trumpeters beside the king. All the people of the land rejoiced and blew trumpets. Then Athaliah tore her clothes, and screamed, "Treason! treason!"

<sup>15</sup> Jehoiada the priest commanded the captains of hundreds that were set over the host, and said to them, "Bring her out between the guards and anyone who follows her strike down with the sword." For the priest said, "Don't allow her to be killed in the house of the LORD."

<sup>16</sup> So they seized her and took her to the king's palace by the way the horses enter, and there she was put to death.

<sup>17</sup> Now Jehoiada made a covenant between the LORD, the king and the people, that they should be the LORD's people. He also made a covenant between the king and the people.

<sup>18</sup> All the people of the land went to the temple of Baal, and tore it down. They smashed his altars and his images they broke in pieces. They slew Mattan, the priest of Baal, in front of the altars. Then the priest posted guards at the LORD's temple.

<sup>19</sup> He took the captains over hundreds, the Carites, the guard, and all the people of the land and they brought down the king from the LORD's temple. They entered by the way of the gate of the guards into the king's palace. He took his seat on the royal throne.

<sup>20</sup> So all the people of the land rejoiced, and the city was quiet after they struck down Athaliah with the sword at the king's palace.

<sup>21</sup> Joash was seven years old when he began to reign.

**DASV: 2 Kings 12**

<sup>1</sup> Joash [also called Jehoash] began to reign in the seventh year of Jehu, and he reigned forty years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Zibiah of Beersheba.

<sup>2</sup> Joash did what was right in the eyes of the LORD all his days because Jehoiada the priest instructed him.

<sup>3</sup> Nevertheless the high places were not taken away; the people still sacrificed and burned incense on the high places.

<sup>4</sup> Joash said to the priests, "All the money for the sacred offerings brought into the temple of the LORD, including the money collected for the census tax, the money received from personal vows and all the money brought voluntarily to the temple of the LORD,

<sup>5</sup> let the priests take some from each of those donating and use it to repair whatever damage to the temple is found.

<sup>6</sup> But by the twenty-third year of king Joash, the priests still had not made the repairs on the temple.

<sup>7</sup> Then king Joash summoned Jehoiada the priest and the other priests, and asked them, "Why haven't you repaired the damage to the temple? Now therefore do not take any more money from your donors for yourselves, but use it to pay for repairing the damage to the temple."

<sup>8</sup> So the priests consented that they would not take any more money from the people, nor would they themselves repair the damage to the temple.

<sup>9</sup> But Jehoiada the priest took a chest and bored a hole in its lid. He set it beside the altar, on the right side as one enters the house of the LORD. The priests who guarded the entrance put in it all the money that was brought into the temple of the LORD.

<sup>10</sup> When they saw that there was a lot of money in the chest, the king's scribe and the high priest came up, counted the money that was found in the temple of the LORD and put it in bags.

<sup>11</sup> They gave the money that was weighed out to the construction supervisors, who had the oversight of the temple of the LORD. They hired the carpenters and the builders, who worked on the temple of the LORD,

<sup>12</sup> along with the masons and the stonecutters. They bought timber and cut stone to repair the damage to the temple of the LORD, as well as paid for any other expenses required to repair the temple.

<sup>13</sup> But the money brought to the temple of the LORD was not used for cups of silver, wick trimmers, basins, trumpets, or any other articles of silver or gold.

<sup>14</sup> It was paid to those who did the work and with it repaired the temple of the LORD.

<sup>15</sup> They did not ask for an accounting of the supervisors into whose hand they had delivered the money to give to those who did the work; for they were honest.

<sup>16</sup> The money for the trespass offerings, and the money for the sin offerings, was not brought into the temple of the LORD; it was the priests'.

<sup>17</sup> Then Hazael king of Aram went up, fought against Gath and captured it. Hazael then decided to go up against Jerusalem.

<sup>18</sup> So Joash king of Judah took all the sacred objects that Jehoshaphat, Jehoram and Ahaziah, his fathers, kings of Judah, had consecrated, and his own sacred items, and all the gold that was found in the treasuries of the temple of the LORD, and the king's palace, and sent it to Hazael king of Aram, who then withdrew from Jerusalem.

<sup>19</sup> Now the rest of the acts of Joash, and all that he did, are they not written in the scroll of the Annals of the Kings of Judah?

<sup>20</sup> His officials conspired against him and assassinated Joash at Beth Millo, on the road that goes down to Silla.

<sup>21</sup> It was Jozacar the son of Shimeath and Jehozabad the son of Shomer, his servants, who struck him down so that he died. He was buried with his fathers in the city of David and Amaziah his son reigned in his place.

**DASV: 2 Kings 13**

<sup>1</sup> Jehoahaz the son of Jehu began to reign over Israel in Samaria in the twenty-third year of Joash the son of Ahaziah, king of Judah. He reigned seventeen years.

<sup>2</sup> He did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, and followed the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, by which he led Israel to sin; he did not turn from them.

<sup>3</sup> The anger of the LORD was kindled against Israel, so he repeatedly handed them over to the hand of Hazael king of Aram, and Ben Hadad the son of Hazael.

<sup>4</sup> But Jehoahaz sought the LORD's help, and the LORD listened to him; for he saw the oppression of Israel and how the king of Aram was oppressing them.

<sup>5</sup> The LORD gave Israel a deliverer, so they got out from under the domination of the Arameans. Then the Israelites lived in their homes as before.

<sup>6</sup> Nevertheless they did not turn away from the sins of the house of Jeroboam, by which he led Israel to sin, but walked in them. The Asherah pole also remained in Samaria.

<sup>7</sup> So Jehoahaz was left with an army of only 50 horsemen, 10 chariots and 10,000 foot soldiers. The king of Aram destroyed them and trampled them like the dust at threshing time.

<sup>8</sup> Now the rest of the acts of Jehoahaz, and all that he did, and his might, are they not written in the scroll of the Annals of the Kings of Israel?

<sup>9</sup> Jehoahaz slept with his fathers; and they buried him in Samaria. Then Jehoash his son reigned in his place.

<sup>10</sup> Jehoash the son of Jehoahaz began to reign over Israel in Samaria in the thirty-seventh year of Joash king of Judah. He reigned sixteen years.

<sup>11</sup> He did what was evil in the sight of the LORD. He did not turn from all the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, by which he led Israel to sin; but he walked in them.

<sup>12</sup> Now the rest of the acts of Jehoash, and all that he did, and his might and how he fought against Amaziah king of Judah, are they not written in the scroll of the Annals of the Kings of Israel?

<sup>13</sup> Jehoash slept with his fathers, and Jeroboam sat on his throne. Jehoash was buried in Samaria with the kings of Israel.

<sup>14</sup> Now Elisha had fallen sick with the illness by which he would ultimately die. Jehoash the king of Israel came down to visit him, and wept over him, and said, "My father, my father, the chariots of Israel and its horsemen!"

<sup>15</sup> Elisha told him, "Get a bow and arrows," so he got a bow and arrows.

<sup>16</sup> Then he said to the king of Israel, "Draw the bow with your hand," so he drew the bow with his hand. Then Elisha laid his hands on the king's hands.

<sup>17</sup> He said, "Open the window to the east," so he opened it. Then Elisha said, "Shoot," so he shot. He said, "This is the LORD's arrow of victory, even the arrow of victory over Aram. For you will defeat the Arameans in Aphek, till you have consumed them."

<sup>18</sup> Then Elisha said, "Take the arrows," so he took them. Then he said to the king of Israel, "Strike the ground with them," so he struck three times and stopped.

<sup>19</sup> The man of God was angry with him, and said, "You should have struck five or six times then you would have struck Aram until you had totally destroyed it. But now you will strike Aram only three times."

<sup>20</sup> Then Elisha died, and they buried him. Now the Moabite raiding parties invaded the land in the spring of the year.

<sup>21</sup> As they were burying a man, they spied a raiding party. So they threw the man into the tomb of Elisha. As soon as the man touched the bones of Elisha, he came to life and stood up on his feet.

<sup>22</sup> Hazael king of Aram oppressed Israel all the days of Jehoahaz.

<sup>23</sup> But the LORD was gracious to them, had compassion on them and he turned his favor toward them because of his covenant with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. To this day he has not destroyed them or banished them from his presence.

<sup>24</sup> Hazael king of Aram died and Ben Hadad his son reigned in his place.

<sup>25</sup> Then Jehoash the son of Jehoahaz took back from the hand of Ben Hadad the son of Hazael the towns he had taken in battle from the hand of Jehoahaz his father. Three times Jehoash defeated him and recovered the towns of Israel.

**DASV: 2 Kings 14**

<sup>1</sup> Amaziah the son of Joash king of Judah began to reign in the second year of Jehoash son of Jehoahaz king of Israel.

<sup>2</sup> He was twenty-five years old when he became king. He reigned twenty-nine years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Jehoaddin from Jerusalem.

<sup>3</sup> He did that which was right in the eyes of the LORD, yet not like his father David. He did all the things that Joash his father had done.

<sup>4</sup> But the high places were not removed; the people still sacrificed and burned incense on the high places.

<sup>5</sup> As soon as Amaziah had firmly gained control of the kingdom, he killed the servants who had murdered his father the king.

<sup>6</sup> He did not put to death the children of the murderers; according to what is written in the scroll of the law of Moses, where the LORD commanded, "The fathers should not be put to death for the children, nor the children be put to death for the fathers; but every person must be put to death only for his own sin."

<sup>7</sup> He killed 10,000 Edomites in the Valley of Salt and captured Sela in battle. He renamed it Joktheel, as it is called to this day.

<sup>8</sup> Then Amaziah sent messengers to Jehoash, the son of Jehoahaz son of Jehu, king of Israel, saying, "Come, let's meet face to face in battle."

<sup>9</sup> Jehoash the king of Israel sent to Amaziah king of Judah, saying, "The thistle that was in Lebanon sent to the cedar that was in Lebanon, saying, 'Give your daughter to my son to wife.' Then a wild animal passed by that was in Lebanon, and trampled down the thistle.

<sup>10</sup> You have indeed defeated Edom, but now your heart has lifted you up. Be content with your glory and stay in your palace. Why do you want to stir up trouble which will only result in your own demise and Judah's as well?"

<sup>11</sup> But Amaziah would not listen. So Jehoash king of Israel attacked and he and Amaziah king of Judah faced off at Beth Shemesh, which belongs to Judah.

<sup>12</sup> Judah was defeated before Israel and everyone fled back home.

<sup>13</sup> Jehoash king of Israel captured Amaziah king of Judah, the son of Joash the son of Ahaziah, at Beth Shemesh. He then went to Jerusalem, and broke down 600 feet of the wall of Jerusalem from the Gate of Ephraim to the Corner Gate.

<sup>14</sup> Jehoash carried off all the gold and silver, all the vessels that were found in the temple of the LORD and in the treasuries of the king's palace, as well as some hostages, and returned to Samaria.

<sup>15</sup> Now the rest of the acts that Jehoash did, and his might, and how he fought with Amaziah king of Judah, are they not written in the scroll of the Annals of the Kings of Israel?

<sup>16</sup> Jehoash slept with his fathers, and was buried in Samaria with the kings of Israel. Then Jeroboam his son reigned in his place.

<sup>17</sup> Amaziah the son of Joash king of Judah lived after the death of Jehoash son of Jehoahaz king of Israel fifteen years.

<sup>18</sup> Now the rest of the acts of Amaziah, are they not written in the scroll of the Annals of the Kings of Judah?

<sup>19</sup> There was a conspiracy against him in Jerusalem so he fled to Lachish. But they sent after him to Lachish and killed him there.

<sup>20</sup> His body was carried back by horse and he was buried at Jerusalem with his fathers in the city of David.

<sup>21</sup> All the people of Judah took Azariah, who was sixteen years old, and made him king in the place of his father Amaziah.

<sup>22</sup> He rebuilt Elath, and restored it to Judah, after Amaziah slept with his fathers.

<sup>23</sup> Jeroboam the son of Jehoash king of Israel began to reign in Samaria in the fifteenth year of Amaziah the son of Joash king of Judah. He reigned forty-one years.

<sup>24</sup> He did what was evil in the sight of the LORD. He did not turn away from all the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, by which he led Israel to sin.

<sup>25</sup> He restored the border of Israel from Lebo Hamath to the Sea of the Arabah [Dead Sea], according to the word of the LORD, the God of Israel, spoken by his servant Jonah the son of Amittai, the prophet from Gath-hepher.

<sup>26</sup> For the LORD saw the bitter affliction of Israel, for there was no one left, slave or free, to help Israel.

<sup>27</sup> The LORD had promised that he would not blot out the name of Israel from under heaven, so he saved them by the hand of Jeroboam the son of Jehoash.

<sup>28</sup> Now the rest of the acts of Jeroboam, and all that he did, and his might, how he fought and recovered Damascus and Hamath, which had belonged to Judah, are they not written in the scroll of the Annals of the Kings of Israel?

<sup>29</sup> Jeroboam slept with his fathers, the kings of Israel. Zechariah his son reigned in his place.

**DASV: 2 Kings 15**

<sup>1</sup> Azariah son of Amaziah king of Judah began to reign in the twenty-seventh year of Jeroboam king of Israel.

<sup>2</sup> He was sixteen years old when he began to reign. He reigned fifty-two years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Jecoliah from Jerusalem.

<sup>3</sup> He did what was right in the eyes of the LORD, just as his father Amaziah had done.

<sup>4</sup> But the high places were not taken away, the people still sacrificed and burned incense on the high places.

<sup>5</sup> The LORD struck the king with leprosy which he suffered with to the day of his death. He lived in a separate house, while Jotham, the king's son, was in charge of the palace, governing the people of the land.

<sup>6</sup> Now the rest of the acts of Azariah, and all that he did, are they not written in the scroll of the Annals of the Kings of Judah?

<sup>7</sup> Azariah slept with his fathers, and they buried him with his fathers in the city of David. Jotham his son reigned in his place.

<sup>8</sup> Zechariah the son of Jeroboam began to reign over Israel in Samaria six months in the thirty-eighth year of Azariah king of Judah.

<sup>9</sup> He did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, as his fathers had done. He did not turn away from the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, by which he led Israel to sin.

<sup>10</sup> Now Shallum the son of Jabesh conspired against him, and struck him down in front of the people, killed him and reigned in his place.

<sup>11</sup> Now the rest of the acts of Zechariah are written in the scroll of the Annals of the Kings of Israel.

<sup>12</sup> This fulfilled the word of the LORD which he promised Jehu, "Your sons will sit on the throne of Israel to the fourth generation." That is exactly what happened.

<sup>13</sup> Shallum the son of Jabesh began to reign in the thirty-ninth year of Uzziah king of Judah. He reigned for one month in Samaria.

<sup>14</sup> Menahem the son of Gadi went up from Tirzah, came to Samaria, and attacked Shallum the son of Jabesh in Samaria. Menahem slew him and reigned in his place.

<sup>15</sup> Now the rest of the acts of Shallum, and the conspiracy he devised, they are written in the scroll of the Annals of the Kings of Israel.

<sup>16</sup> Then Menahem came from Tirzah and destroyed Tiphshah and all who were in it, along with its surrounding territory, because they would not open it to him. Therefore he attacked it and ripped open all the pregnant women living there.

<sup>17</sup> Menahem the son of Gadi began to reign over Israel in the thirty-ninth year of Azariah king of Judah. He reigned ten years in Samaria.

<sup>18</sup> He did what was evil in the sight of the LORD. All his days he did not turn from the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, by which he led Israel to sin.

<sup>19</sup> Pul the king of Assyria invaded the land. Menahem gave Pul thirty-seven tons of silver, to gain his support and sanction his control of the kingdom.

<sup>20</sup> Menahem exacted the money of Israel by taxing the wealthy, fifty shekels of silver from each one, which he then paid to the king of Assyria. So the king of Assyria withdrew, and did not remain in the land.

<sup>21</sup> Now the rest of the acts of Menahem, and all that he did, are they not written in the scroll of the Annals of the Kings of Israel?

<sup>22</sup> Menahem slept with his fathers, and Pekahiah his son reigned in his place.

<sup>23</sup> Pekahiah the son of Menahem began to reign over Israel in Samaria in the fiftieth year of Azariah king of Judah. He reigned for two years.

<sup>24</sup> He did what was evil in the sight of the LORD. He did not turn from the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, by which he led Israel to sin.

<sup>25</sup> Pekah the son of Remaliah, his captain, conspired against him, and with fifty men from Gilead he struck him down in the citadel of the king's palace in Samaria, along with Argob and Arieah. Pekah assassinated him and reigned in his place.

<sup>26</sup> Now the rest of the acts of Pekahiah, and all that he did, they are written in the scroll of the Annals of the Kings of Israel.

<sup>27</sup> Pekah the son of Remaliah began to reign over Israel in Samaria in the fifty-second year of Azariah king of Judah. He reigned twenty years.

<sup>28</sup> He did what was evil in the sight of the LORD. He did not turn from the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, by which he led Israel to sin.

<sup>29</sup> In the days of Pekah king of Israel, Tiglath-pileser king of Assyria came and captured Ijon, Abel-beth-maacah, Janoah, Kedesh, Hazor, as well as the regions of Gilead, Galilee, and all the land of Naphtali. He carried them captive to Assyria.

<sup>30</sup> Hoshea the son of Elah conspired against Pekah the son of Remaliah, assassinated him and reigned in his place, in the twentieth year of Jotham the son of Uzziah.

<sup>31</sup> Now the rest of the acts of Pekah, and all that he did, they are written in the scroll of the Annals of the Kings of Israel.

<sup>32</sup> Jotham the son of Uzziah king of Judah began to reign in the second year of Pekah the son of Remaliah king of Israel.

<sup>33</sup> He was twenty-five years old when he began to reign. He reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Jerusha the daughter of Zadok.

<sup>34</sup> He did what was right in the eyes of the LORD, just as his father Uzziah had done.

<sup>35</sup> But the high places were not removed. The people still sacrificed and burned incense on the high places. He built the Upper Gate at the temple of the LORD.

<sup>36</sup> The rest of the acts of Jotham, and all that he did, are they not written in the scroll of the Annals of the kings of Judah?

<sup>37</sup> In those days the LORD began to send Rezin the king of Aram, and Pekah the son of Remaliah against Judah.

<sup>38</sup> Jotham slept with his fathers, and was buried with them in the city of David his father. Ahaz his son reigned in his place.

**DASV: 2 Kings 16**

<sup>1</sup> Ahaz the son of Jotham king of Judah began to reign in the seventeenth year of Pekah the son of Remaliah.

<sup>2</sup> Ahaz was twenty years old when he began to reign. He reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem and he did not do what was right in the eyes of the LORD his God, like David his father.

<sup>3</sup> Instead he walked in the way of the kings of Israel. He even made his son to pass through the fire, following the detestable practices of the nations whom the LORD drove out before the Israelites.

<sup>4</sup> He sacrificed and burned incense on the high places, on the hills and under every green tree.

<sup>5</sup> Then Rezin king of Aram and Pekah son of Remaliah king of Israel came up to attack Jerusalem. They besieged Ahaz, but could not conquer him.

<sup>6</sup> At that time, Rezin king of Aram recovered Elath for Aram, and drove the Jews from Elath. The Arameans came to Elath, and live there to this day.

<sup>7</sup> So Ahaz sent messengers to Tiglath-pileser king of Assyria, saying, "I am your servant and your son. Come up, and rescue me from the hand of the king of Aram, and from the hand of the king of Israel, who are attacking me."

<sup>8</sup> Then Ahaz took the silver and gold that was found in the temple of the LORD, and in the treasuries of the king's palace, and sent it as a present to the king of Assyria.

<sup>9</sup> The king of Assyria agreed with his request and the king of Assyria attacked Damascus, and took it. He carried its people away captive to Kir, and killed Rezin.

<sup>10</sup> King Ahaz went to Damascus to meet Tiglath-pileser king of Assyria. There he saw the altar that was at Damascus, so King Ahaz sent to Uriah the priest a drawing of the altar and its design, giving the exact details needed for building it.

<sup>11</sup> So Uriah the priest built the altar according to all the plans King Ahaz had sent from Damascus. Uriah the priest built it before King Ahaz returned from Damascus.

<sup>12</sup> When the king returned from Damascus and saw the altar, the king approached the altar and offered sacrifices on it.

<sup>13</sup> He burned his burnt offering and his grain offering, and poured out his drink offering, and sprinkled the blood of his peace offerings on the altar.

<sup>14</sup> The bronze altar which was before the LORD, he removed from the front of the temple, from between his altar and the temple of the LORD, and put it on the north side of his altar.

<sup>15</sup> King Ahaz ordered Uriah the priest, "On the large altar burn the morning burnt offering and the evening grain offering, and the king's burnt offering, and his grain offering, along with the burnt offering for all the people of the land, and their grain offering, and their drink offerings. Sprinkle all the blood of the burnt offering and all the blood of the sacrifice on it. The bronze altar shall be my personal altar to inquire by.

<sup>16</sup> So Uriah the priest did everything that King Ahaz commanded.

<sup>17</sup> King Ahaz cut off the frames and removed the basins from the portable stands. He took down the Sea from the bronze oxen that were under it, and put it on the stone pavement.

<sup>18</sup> He also removed the covered canopy used on the Sabbath that they had built inside the palace, and the king's special outside entry to the temple of the LORD, because of the king of Assyria.

<sup>19</sup> Now the rest of the acts which Ahaz did, are they not written in the scroll of the Annals of the Kings of Judah?

<sup>20</sup> Ahaz slept with his fathers, and was buried with them in the city of David. Hezekiah his son reigned in his place.

**DASV: 2 Kings 17**

<sup>1</sup> Hoshea the son of Elah began to reign in Samaria over Israel in the twelfth year of Ahaz king of Judah. He reigned for nine years.

<sup>2</sup> He did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, yet not as badly as the kings of Israel who were before him.

<sup>3</sup> Shalmaneser king of Assyria came up against him and Hoshea became his vassal, and paid him tribute.

<sup>4</sup> The king of Assyria found out that Hoshea was plotting against him for Hoshea had sent messengers to So king of Egypt, and did not pay his annual tribute to the king of Assyria. Therefore the king of Assyria arrested him and locked him up in prison.

<sup>5</sup> Then the king of Assyria marched throughout all the land, and went up to Samaria, and besieged it for three years.

<sup>6</sup> In the ninth year of Hoshea, the king of Assyria took Samaria and deported the Israelites to Assyria. He resettled them in Halah, and along the Habor River, the river by Gozan, and in the cities of the Medes.

<sup>7</sup> This happened because the Israelites had sinned against the LORD their God, who brought them up out of the land of Egypt from under the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt, where they had worshipped other gods;

<sup>8</sup> and walked in the customs of the nations whom the LORD had driven out before the Israelites, and in the practices the kings of Israel had introduced.

<sup>9</sup> The Israelites secretly did things that were not right against the LORD their God. They built high places in all their towns, from the watchtower to the fortified walled city.

<sup>10</sup> They set up sacred pillars and Asherah poles on every high hill and under every green tree.

<sup>11</sup> There they burned incense on all the high places, as did the nations whom the LORD carried away before them. They did wicked things that provoked the LORD to anger.

<sup>12</sup> They served idols, although the LORD had told them, "You must not do this."

<sup>13</sup> Yet the LORD warned Israel and Judah through every prophet and seer, saying, "Turn from your evil ways. Obey my commandments and my statutes, according to the entire law I commanded your forefathers that I sent to you by my servants the prophets."

<sup>14</sup> But they still would not listen, but were as stubborn as their forefathers had been, who did not believe in the LORD their God.

<sup>15</sup> They rejected his statutes and his covenant that he made with their forefathers, as well as his warnings by which he warned them. They pursued worthless idols, and became worthless themselves by following the practices of the nations that surrounded them, concerning whom the LORD had ordered that they should not do like them.

<sup>16</sup> But they abandoned all the commandments of the LORD their God, and made cast metal images of two calves, an Asherah pole, and worshipped all the hosts of heaven, and served Baal.

<sup>17</sup> They caused their sons and their daughters to pass through the fire, and used divination and sorcery. They sold themselves to do what was evil in the sight of the LORD provoking him to anger.

<sup>18</sup> Therefore the LORD was very angry with Israel, and removed them out of his sight. The only tribe left was Judah.

<sup>19</sup> Judah also refused to keep the commandments of the LORD their God, but walked in the practices Israel had introduced.

<sup>20</sup> So the LORD rejected all the descendants of Israel, afflicted them and delivered them into the hands of those who plundered them, until he had thrown them out of his sight.

<sup>21</sup> He tore Israel from the house of David. They made Jeroboam the son of Nebat king and Jeroboam drove Israel from following the LORD, and made them commit a great sin.

<sup>22</sup> The Israelites walked in all the sins that Jeroboam committed. They did not depart from them

<sup>23</sup> until the LORD removed Israel out of his sight, as he spoke by all his servants the prophets. So Israel was exiled from their own land to Assyria to this day.

<sup>24</sup> The king of Assyria brought foreigners from Babylon, Cuthah, Avva, Hamath and Sepharvaim, and placed them in the cities of Samaria to replace the Israelites. They took possession of Samaria and lived in its towns.

<sup>25</sup> So it was when they first settled there, that they did not worship the LORD, therefore the LORD sent lions among them, which killed some of them.

<sup>26</sup> The king of Assyria was told, "The nations you have carried away, and resettled in the towns of Samaria, do not know the law of the god of the land, so he has sent lions among them, and they are killing them, because they do not know the law of the god of the land.

<sup>27</sup> Then the king of Assyria commanded, "Send back one of the priests whom you have deported from there and let them go and live there. Let him teach them the law of the god of the land."

<sup>28</sup> So one of the priests whom they had carried away from Samaria came back and lived in Bethel; and taught them how they should worship the LORD.

<sup>29</sup> But the residents from every nation made gods of their own, and put them in the shrines on the high places that the Samaritans had made, every national group did this in the towns where they were resettled.

<sup>30</sup> The people of Babylon made Succoth Benoth, the people of Cuth made Nergal, the people of Hamath made Ashima,

<sup>31</sup> the Avvites made Nibhaz and Tartak, and the Sepharvites burned their children in the fire to Adrammelech and Anammelech, the gods of Sepharvaim.

<sup>32</sup> So they worshipped the LORD, and appointed from among themselves priests for the high places, who sacrificed for them in the shrines on the high places.

<sup>33</sup> They worshipped the LORD, and served their own gods, after the manner of the nations among whom they had been deported.

<sup>34</sup> To this day they still practice their previous religious rituals. They did not worship the LORD nor did they obey the statutes, regulations, law or the commandment that the LORD commanded the children of Jacob, whom he named Israel.

<sup>35</sup> The LORD had made a covenant, and commanded them, "Do not worship other gods, bow down to them, serve them or sacrifice to them.

<sup>36</sup> But worship the LORD, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt with great power and with an outstretched arm. Bow down and offer sacrifices to him.

<sup>37</sup> Carefully observe forever all the statutes, regulations, laws and the commandments, he wrote for you. Do not worship other gods.

<sup>38</sup> You must not forget the covenant that I have made with you. Do not worship other gods.

<sup>39</sup> But worship the LORD your God and he will deliver you out of the hand of all your enemies."

<sup>40</sup> They refused to listen, but persisted in their previous practices.

<sup>41</sup> So these nations worshipped the LORD, and served their carved idols. Their children likewise, and their children's children, as their fathers did, and this is what they do to this day.

**DASV: 2 Kings 18**

<sup>1</sup> Hezekiah the son of Ahaz king of Judah began to reign in the third year of Hoshea son of Elah king of Israel.

<sup>2</sup> He was twenty-five years old when he became king and he reigned twenty-nine years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Abi the daughter of Zechariah.

<sup>3</sup> He did what was right in the eyes of the LORD, just as David his father had done.

<sup>4</sup> He removed the high places, broke down the sacred pillars, and cut down the Asherah poles. He broke in pieces the bronze serpent that Moses had made because up to that time the Israelites had burned incense to it, and it was called Nehushtan.

<sup>5</sup> He trusted in the LORD, the God of Israel, so that after him there was no one like him among all the kings of Judah, or among those who were before him.

<sup>6</sup> For he remained loyal to the LORD. He did not depart from following him, but kept the commandments the LORD had given Moses.

<sup>7</sup> So the LORD was with him. He was successful in everything he attempted. He rebelled against the king of Assyria, and refused to serve him.

<sup>8</sup> He defeated the Philistines as far as Gaza and its borders, from the watchtower to the fortified city.

<sup>9</sup> In the fourth year of king Hezekiah, which was the seventh year of Hoshea son of Elah king of Israel, Shalmaneser king of Assyria came up against Samaria and besieged it.

<sup>10</sup> At the end of three years they captured it. In the sixth year of Hezekiah, which was the ninth year of Hoshea king of Israel, Samaria was captured.

<sup>11</sup> The king of Assyria deported Israel to Assyria, and put them in Halah, and along the Habor River, the river by Gozan, and in the cities of the Medes.

<sup>12</sup> This happened because they had not obeyed the voice of the LORD their God, but violated his covenant, even all that Moses the servant of the LORD had commanded. They refused to listen to or obey it.

<sup>13</sup> Now in the fourteenth year of king Hezekiah, Sennacherib king of Assyria came up against all the fortified cities of Judah, and captured them.

<sup>14</sup> Hezekiah king of Judah sent a message to the king of Assyria at Lachish, saying, "I have done wrong. Withdraw from me and whatever you impose on me I will pay it." The king of Assyria demanded from Hezekiah king of Judah eleven tons of silver and one ton of gold.

<sup>15</sup> Hezekiah gave him all the silver that was found in the house of the LORD and in the treasuries of the king's palace.

<sup>16</sup> At that time Hezekiah stripped off the gold from the doors of the temple of the LORD, and from the pillars that Hezekiah king of Judah had overlaid, and gave it to the king of Assyria.

<sup>17</sup> The king of Assyria sent his commander-in-chief, his field commander and his chief adviser with a great army from Lachish to king Hezekiah in Jerusalem. They came up to

Jerusalem and stood by the aqueduct of the Upper Pool, which is by road to the field where clothes are washed.

<sup>18</sup> When they had summoned king Hezekiah, Eliakim the son of Hilkiah, who was over the palace, Shebna the scribe and Joah the son of Asaph the recorder came out to meet them.

<sup>19</sup> The chief adviser said to them, "Tell Hezekiah, 'This is what the great king, the king of Assyria says, 'What is the source of your confidence?

<sup>20</sup> Do you think that you have a strategy or strength for war? In whom are you trusting, that you have rebelled against me?

<sup>21</sup> Now look, you are depending on Egypt that staff that splinters like a reed whenever someone leans on it. Its splinters pierce into one's hand. This is what Pharaoh king of Egypt is like to anyone who trusts on him.

<sup>22</sup> But if you tell me, 'We trust in the LORD our God.' Isn't he the one whose high places and whose altars Hezekiah has torn down, and told Judah and Jerusalem, 'You must worship before this altar in Jerusalem'?

<sup>23</sup> Now therefore, strike a deal with my master the king of Assyria: I will give you two thousand horses, if you are even able to find enough riders for them.

<sup>24</sup> How then can you repulse a single captain who is the least of my master's officials, and put your trust in Egypt for chariots and horsemen?

<sup>25</sup> Furthermore, am I not attacking this place to destroy it without LORD's direction? The LORD told me, 'Go up against this land, and destroy it.'"

<sup>26</sup> Then Eliakim the son of Hilkiah, Shebna, and Joah, said to the chief adviser, "Please speak, to your servants in Aramaic for we understand it. Do not speak to us in Hebrew, within the hearing of the people who are on the wall."

<sup>27</sup> But the chief adviser said to them, "Has my master sent me just to speak these words to you and your master? Has he not sent me to the people who sit on the wall, who are doomed with you to eat their own excrement and to drink their own urine?"

<sup>28</sup> Then the chief adviser stood, and cried with a loud voice in Hebrew, saying, "Listen to the word of the great king, the king of Assyria.

<sup>29</sup> This is what the king says, 'Let not Hezekiah deceive you for he will not be able to rescue you from my hand.

<sup>30</sup> Do not let Hezekiah convince you to trust in the LORD, by saying, "The LORD will surely rescue us, and this city will not be given into the hand of the king of Assyria."

<sup>31</sup> Don't listen to Hezekiah. For this is what the king of Assyria says, 'Make your peace with me, and surrender to me then everyone will eat from his own vine, and from his own fig tree, and will drink from the waters of his own cistern.

<sup>32</sup> Then I will come and take you away to a land like your own land, a land of grain and new wine, a land of bread and vineyards, a land of olive trees and of honey, so that you may live, and not die. Do not listen to Hezekiah, when he tries to persuade you, saying, "The LORD will rescue us."

<sup>33</sup> Have any of the gods of the other nations ever rescued their land out of the hand of the king of Assyria?

<sup>34</sup> Where are the gods of Hamath and of Arpad? Where are the gods of Sepharvaim, Hena and Ivvah? Have they rescued Samaria out of my hand?

<sup>35</sup> Who among all the gods of the various countries has rescued their country out of my hand, that the LORD should be able to rescue Jerusalem out of my hand?"

<sup>36</sup> But the people were silent, and did not answer him a word for the king had ordered, "Do not answer him."

<sup>37</sup> Then Eliakim the son of Hilkiah, who was in charge of the palace, and Shebna the scribe, and Joah the son of Asaph the recorder, returned to Hezekiah with their clothes torn, and told him the words of the Assyrian chief adviser.

**DASV: 2 Kings 19**

<sup>1</sup> When king Hezekiah heard it, he tore his clothes, and put on sackcloth, and went into the temple of the LORD.

<sup>2</sup> He sent Eliakim, who was in charge of the palace, and Shebna the scribe, and the leading priests, clothed with sackcloth, to Isaiah the prophet the son of Amoz.

<sup>3</sup> They said to him, "This is what Hezekiah says, 'This is a day of trouble, insults and humiliation; like when children are ready to be born, but there is no strength to bring them out.

<sup>4</sup> It may be the LORD your God will hear all the words of the chief adviser, whom his master the king of Assyria sent to mock the living God. When the LORD your God hears maybe he will punish them. Therefore pray for the remnant that is left.'"

<sup>5</sup> So the servants of king Hezekiah came to Isaiah.

<sup>6</sup> Isaiah said to them, "This is what you shall tell your master, 'This is what the LORD says, "Do not be not afraid of the words that you have heard, by which the servants of the king of Assyria have blasphemed me.

<sup>7</sup> I will put a spirit in him, so he will hear a rumor, and will return to his own land. I will cause him to be killed by the sword in his own land.'"

<sup>8</sup> So the chief adviser returned, and found the king of Assyria fighting against Libnah; for he heard that the king had left Lachish.

<sup>9</sup> When he heard the report concerning Tirhakah king of Ethiopia, "He is come out to fight against you," he sent messengers again to Hezekiah, saying,

<sup>10</sup> "Tell Hezekiah king of Judah, 'Let not your God in whom you trust deceive you, saying, 'Jerusalem will not be given into the hand of the king of Assyria.'

<sup>11</sup> Look, you have heard what the kings of Assyria have done to all lands, by totally destroying them and you think you will be delivered?

<sup>12</sup> Have the gods of the nations my forefather destroyed rescued them--Gozan, Haran, Rezepth, and the people of Eden that were in Tel-assar?

<sup>13</sup> Where is the king of Hamath, the king of Arpad, the king of the city of Sepharvaim, Hena, or Ivvah?"

<sup>14</sup> Hezekiah received the letter from the hand of the messengers and read it. Then Hezekiah went up to the temple of the LORD and spread it before the LORD.

<sup>15</sup> Hezekiah prayed before the LORD, "O LORD, the God of Israel, who sits enthroned between the cherubim. You are God alone of all the kingdoms of the earth. You have made heaven and earth.

<sup>16</sup> Incline your ear, O LORD, and listen. Open your eyes, O LORD, and see. Hear the words of Sennacherib, which he has sent to mock the living God.

<sup>17</sup> It is true, O LORD, the kings of Assyria have laid waste the nations and their lands.

<sup>18</sup> They have cast their gods into the fire; for they were not real gods, but wood and stone crafted by men's hands. Therefore they were destroyed.

<sup>19</sup> Now therefore, O LORD our God, I beg you, save us out of his hand, so that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that you LORD are God alone."

<sup>20</sup> Then Isaiah the son of Amoz sent to Hezekiah, saying, "This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says, 'I have heard your prayer against Sennacherib king of Assyria.

<sup>21</sup> This is the word that the LORD has spoken concerning him: 'The virgin daughter of Zion despises and laughs at you. The daughter of Jerusalem shakes her head in contempt as you flee.

<sup>22</sup> Whom have you mocked and blasphemed? Against whom have you raised your voice and lifted up your eyes in arrogance? It was against the Holy One of Israel.

<sup>23</sup> By your messengers you have mocked the Lord, and have said, 'With my many chariots I have conquered the height of the mountains, to the remote parts of Lebanon. I have cut down its tallest cedars, and its finest cypress trees. I have entered its farthest lodging place, its thickest forest.

<sup>24</sup> I dug wells and drank foreign waters, and with the soles of my feet I dried up all the rivers of Egypt.'

<sup>25</sup> Haven't you heard how I did it long ago, and determined it in ancient times? Now I have made it happen, so that you would smash fortified cities into heaps of rubble.

<sup>26</sup> Their inhabitants are drained of strength, they are dismayed and confused. They are scorched like the grass of the field, green vegetables, grass on the rooftops, and like grain before it has time to grow up.

<sup>27</sup> But I know your sitting down, your going out and coming in, and your raging against me.

<sup>28</sup> Because you rage against me, and because your arrogance has come up to my ears, therefore will I put my hook in your nose, and my bridle in your mouth, and I will lead you back the way you came.

<sup>29</sup> This will be the sign for you, Hezekiah: 'You will eat this year that which grows by itself, and in the second year that which grows up on its own you'll eat. In the third year sow, reap and plant vineyards and eat their fruit.

<sup>30</sup> Then the surviving remnant of the house of Judah will again take root downward, and produce fruit upward.

<sup>31</sup> A remnant will go out of Jerusalem, and from Mount Zion survivors will escape. The zeal of the LORD will do this.'

<sup>32</sup> Therefore this is what the LORD says concerning the king of Assyria, 'He will not come to this city, shoot an arrow here, come before it with a shield, or build a siege ramp against it.

<sup>33</sup> He will go back by the same way he came. He will not come to this city,' says the LORD.

<sup>34</sup> For I will defend this city to save it, for my own sake, and for the sake of my servant David."

<sup>35</sup> So it happened that night, that the angel of the LORD went out, and killed 185,000 in the camp of the Assyrians. When men got up early in the morning, there were all the dead bodies.

<sup>36</sup> So Sennacherib king of Assyria withdrew, returned home and lived at Nineveh.

<sup>37</sup> One day when he was worshipping in the temple of his god Nisroch, Adrammelech and Sharezer assassinated him with the sword. They escaped into the land of Ararat. His son Esarhaddon reigned in his place.

**DASV: 2 Kings 20**

<sup>1</sup> In those days Hezekiah became sick to the point of death. Isaiah the prophet the son of Amoz came to him, and said, "This is what the LORD says, 'Set your house in order, for you are about to die; you will not recover.'"

<sup>2</sup> Then Hezekiah turned his face to the wall, and prayed to the LORD, saying,

<sup>3</sup> "Remember, O LORD, I entreat you, how I have walked before you in truth with a perfect heart, and have done what was good in your sight." Then Hezekiah wept bitterly.

<sup>4</sup> Before Isaiah had left the middle courtyard, the word of the LORD came to him, saying,

<sup>5</sup> "Go back, and tell Hezekiah the leader of my people, 'This is what the LORD says, the God of David your father, 'I have heard your prayer; I have seen your tears. I will heal you. In three days you will go up to the temple of the LORD.

<sup>6</sup> I will add fifteen years to your life and will rescue you and this city out of the hand of the king of Assyria. I will defend this city for my own sake, and for my servant David's sake.'"

<sup>7</sup> Then Isaiah said, "Bring here a fig poultice." So they took and spread it on the boil, and he recovered.

<sup>8</sup> Hezekiah asked Isaiah, "What will be the sign that the LORD will heal me, and that I will go up to the temple of the LORD on the third day?"

<sup>9</sup> Isaiah replied, "This will be your sign from the LORD, that the LORD will in fact do the thing that he has promised. Do you want the shadow to go forward ten steps, or to go backward ten steps?"

<sup>10</sup> Hezekiah answered, "It is simple for the shadow to lengthen ten steps. Rather, let the shadow move backward ten steps."

<sup>11</sup> Isaiah the prophet called to the LORD; and he made the shadow move ten steps backward, after it had gone down on the stairway of Ahaz.

<sup>12</sup> At that time Merodach-baladan the son of Baladan, king of Babylon, sent letters and a present to Hezekiah because he had heard that Hezekiah had been sick.

<sup>13</sup> Hezekiah welcomed them, and showed them all the treasury with its cache of silver, gold, spices, and precious olive oil, and his armory, and everything that was found in his royal treasuries. There was nothing in his palace or in all his kingdom, that Hezekiah did not show them.

<sup>14</sup> Then Isaiah the prophet came to king Hezekiah, and asked him, "What did these men say? Where did they come from?" Hezekiah replied, "They have come from a far country, from Babylon."

<sup>15</sup> Isaiah asked, "What have they seen in your palace?" Hezekiah answered, "They have seen everything in my palace. There is nothing in my treasuries that I did not show them."

<sup>16</sup> Then Isaiah said to Hezekiah, "Hear the word of the LORD:

<sup>17</sup> 'The time is coming, when all that is in your palace, and that which your fathers have stored up to this day, will be carried to Babylon. Nothing will be left,' says the LORD.

<sup>18</sup> Some of your own sons, whom you will father, will be taken away and will become eunuchs in the palace of the king of Babylon."

<sup>19</sup> Then Hezekiah replied to Isaiah, "The word of the LORD you have spoken is good." For he thought, "At least there will be peace and security in my days."

<sup>20</sup> Now the rest of the acts of Hezekiah, and all his might, including how he built a pool, and a tunnel to bring water into the city, are they not written in the scroll of the Annals of the kings of Judah?

<sup>21</sup> Hezekiah slept with his fathers, and Manasseh his son reigned in his place.

**DASV: 2 Kings 21**

<sup>1</sup> Manasseh was twelve years old when he began to reign. He reigned fifty-five years in Jerusalem and his mother's name was Hephzibah.

<sup>2</sup> He did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, after the detestable practices of the nations whom the LORD drove out before the Israelites.

<sup>3</sup> He rebuilt the high places Hezekiah his father had destroyed. He set up altars for Baal, and made an Asherah pole like Ahab king of Israel had done, and worshipped all the hosts of heaven, and served them.

<sup>4</sup> He built altars in the temple of the LORD, concerning which the LORD said, "In Jerusalem will I put my name."

<sup>5</sup> He built altars for all the host of heaven in the two courtyards of the temple of the LORD.

<sup>6</sup> He made his son to pass through the fire, practiced sorcery, used enchantments, and consulted with those who conjure up spirits and psychics. He did much evil in the sight of the LORD, provoking him to anger.

<sup>7</sup> He set the carved image of Asherah, that he had made, in the temple of which the LORD said to David and his son Solomon, "I will put my name forever in this temple and in Jerusalem, which I have chosen out of all the tribes of Israel.

<sup>8</sup> I will not cause the feet of Israel to wander any more out of the land that I gave their forefathers, if only they will be careful to do all that I have commanded them, and all the law that my servant Moses commanded them."

<sup>9</sup> But they did not listen. Manasseh enticed them to do more evil than the nations the LORD had destroyed before the Israelites.

<sup>10</sup> The LORD said through his servants the prophets,

<sup>11</sup> "Because Manasseh king of Judah has done these terrible sins, and has done more wickedness than all that the Amorites did before him, and has caused Judah to sin with his idols.

<sup>12</sup> Therefore this is what the LORD, the God of Israel says, 'I am about to bring such disaster on Jerusalem and Judah, that everyone who hears about it, both of his ears will ring.

<sup>13</sup> I will stretch over Jerusalem the measuring line of Samaria, and the plumb line of the house of Ahab. I will wipe Jerusalem as clean as a man wipes a dish, wiping it and turning it upside down.

<sup>14</sup> I will reject even the surviving remnant of my inheritance, and deliver them into the hand of their enemies. They will be looted and plundered by all their enemies

<sup>15</sup> because they have done what was evil in my sight, and have provoked me to anger, since the day their forefathers came out of Egypt, even to this day."

<sup>16</sup> Moreover Manasseh shed so much innocent blood that he filled Jerusalem from one end to the other, besides his sin by which he made Judah commit by doing what was evil in the sight of the LORD.

<sup>17</sup> Now the rest of the acts of Manasseh, and all that he did, and his sin that he committed, are they not written in the scroll of the Annals of the Kings of Judah?

<sup>18</sup> Manasseh slept with his fathers, and was buried in his own palace garden, the garden of Uzza. Amon his son reigned in his place.

<sup>19</sup> Amon was twenty-two years old when he began to reign. He reigned two years in Jerusalem, and his mother's name was Meshullemeth the daughter of Haruz of Jotbah.

<sup>20</sup> He did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, as his father Manasseh had done.

<sup>21</sup> He walked in all the ways that his father walked in, and served the idols his father had served and worshipped.

<sup>22</sup> He abandoned the LORD, the God of his forefathers, and did not walk in the way of the LORD.

<sup>23</sup> The servants of Amon conspired against him, and killed the king in his own palace.

<sup>24</sup> But the people of the land killed all those who conspired against king Amon and the people of the land made his son Josiah king in his place.

<sup>25</sup> Now the rest of the acts that Amon did, are they not written in the scroll of the Annals of the Kings of Judah?

<sup>26</sup> He was buried in his tomb in the garden of Uzza and Josiah his son reigned in his place.

**DASV: 2 Kings 22**

<sup>1</sup> Josiah was eight years old when he began to reign. He reigned thirty-one years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Jedidah the daughter of Adaiah of Bozkath.

<sup>2</sup> He did what was right in the eyes of the LORD, and walked in all the way of David his father, and did not turn aside to the right or to the left.

<sup>3</sup> In the eighteenth year of king Josiah, the king sent the scribe Shaphan, the son of Azaliah the son of Meshullam, to the temple of the LORD, saying,

<sup>4</sup> "Go up to Hilkiyah the high priest, have him count the total amount of money brought into the temple of the LORD, that the gatekeepers have collected from the people.

<sup>5</sup> Let them give it to the foremen who have the oversight of the temple of the LORD. Let them give it as wages to the workmen who do the repairs on the temple of LORD,

<sup>6</sup> to the carpenters, builders and masons; and for buying timber and cut stone to repair the temple.

<sup>7</sup> But do not keep an account of the money with the supervisors that is delivered into their hand; for they are honest."

<sup>8</sup> Hilkiyah the high priest said to Shaphan the scribe, "I have found the scroll of the law in the temple of the LORD." Hilkiyah delivered the scroll to Shaphan, and he read it.

<sup>9</sup> Then Shaphan the scribe came to the king and reported, "Your servants have paid out the money that was found in the temple, and have delivered it into the hand of the foremen who have the oversight of the temple of the LORD."

<sup>10</sup> Shaphan the scribe told the king, "Hilkiyah the priest has delivered a scroll to me." Then Shaphan read it out loud to the king.

<sup>11</sup> When the king heard the words of the scroll of the law, he tore his clothes.

<sup>12</sup> The king commanded Hilkiyah the priest, Ahikam the son of Shaphan, and Achbor the son of Micaiah, Shaphan the scribe, and Asaiah the king's servant, saying,

<sup>13</sup> "Go, inquire of the LORD for me, the people and all Judah, concerning the words of this scroll that has been discovered. For great is the wrath of the LORD that has been kindled against us, because our fathers have not obeyed the words of this scroll, to do all that is prescribed for us to do."

<sup>14</sup> So Hilkiyah the priest, Ahikam, Achbor, Shaphan and Asaiah went to Huldah the prophetess, the wife of Shallum the son of Tikvah, the son of Harhas, keeper of the wardrobe; she lived in Jerusalem in the Misneh Quarter where they consulted with her.

<sup>15</sup> She said to them, "This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: 'Tell the man you sent to me,

<sup>16</sup> "This is what the LORD says, 'I am about to bring disaster on this place, and on its inhabitants, according to all the words of the scroll which the king of Judah has read.

<sup>17</sup> Because they have forsaken me, and have burned incense to other gods, provoking me to anger with all the work of their hands; therefore my wrath will be kindled against this place, and it will not be quenched.'"

<sup>18</sup> But to the king of Judah, who sent you to inquire of the LORD, tell him, 'This is what the LORD, the God of Israel says concerning words you have heard,

<sup>19</sup> "because your heart was sensitive and you humbled yourself before the LORD, when you heard what I spoke against this place and against its inhabitants, that they should become a desolation and a curse, and have torn your clothes and wept before me; I also have heard you," says the LORD.

<sup>20</sup> Therefore, I will gather you to your fathers, and you will be gathered to your grave in peace. You will not witness all the disaster I will bring on this place.'" Then they brought back the message to the king.

**DASV: 2 Kings 23**

<sup>1</sup> Then the king summoned all the elders of Judah and Jerusalem.

<sup>2</sup> The king went up to the temple of the LORD, with all the people of Judah, all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the priests, the prophets and all the people, both small and great. He read in their hearing all the words of the scroll of the covenant that was found in the temple of the LORD.

<sup>3</sup> The king stood by the pillar and renewed the covenant before the LORD, pledging to follow the LORD by keeping his commandments, testimonies and his statutes, with all his heart and soul, to perform the words of this covenant that were written in this scroll. All the people confirmed the covenant.

<sup>4</sup> Then the king commanded Hilkiah the high priest, the priests of the second rank, and the guardians of the temple gate, to take out from the temple of the LORD all the items made for Baal, Asherah and all the hosts of heaven. He burned them outside of Jerusalem in the fields of the Kidron Valley, and carried their ashes to Bethel.

<sup>5</sup> He eliminated the idolatrous priests, whom the kings of Judah had ordained to burn incense on the high places in the towns of Judah and even around Jerusalem including those who burned incense to Baal, and to the sun, moon, planets and to all the hosts of heaven.

<sup>6</sup> He brought the Asherah pole from the temple of the LORD, outside Jerusalem and burned it in the Kidron Valley. It was then ground to dust and its dust scattered on the graves of the common people.

<sup>7</sup> He broke down the houses of the male shrine prostitutes, that were in the house of the LORD, where the women were weaving for the Asherah.

<sup>8</sup> He brought all the priests out of the towns of Judah, and defiled the high places where the priests had made offerings, from Geba to Beersheba. He tore down the high places of the gates that were at the entrance of the Gate of Joshua, the city governor, which were on the left side of the city gate.

<sup>9</sup> While the priests of the high places did not come up to the altar of the LORD in Jerusalem, they did eat unleavened bread along with their fellow priests.

<sup>10</sup> He defiled Topheth, which is in the Valley of Ben Hinnom, so that no one could burn his son or his daughter as a offering to Molech.

<sup>11</sup> He removed the horses that the kings of Judah had put at the entrance of the temple of the LORD in dedication to the sun. They were kept near the quarters of Nathan-melech the eunuch, that was in the precincts. Josiah burned the chariots of the sun with fire.

<sup>12</sup> Josiah also tore down the altars that were on the roof of the upper chamber of Ahaz, that the kings of Judah had made and the altars that Manasseh had made in the two courtyards of the temple of the LORD. He smashed them and threw their dust into the Kidron Valley.

<sup>13</sup> Josiah also defiled the high places that were east of Jerusalem, to the south of the Mount of Corruption, which Solomon the king of Israel had built for Ashtoreth the

abomination of the Sidonians, for Chemosh the abomination of Moab and for Milcom the abomination of the Ammonites.

<sup>14</sup> He broke the pillars in pieces and cut down the Asherah pole desecrating them by covering them with human bones.

<sup>15</sup> Furthermore he tore down the altar that was at Bethel, the high place built by Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who led Israel to sin--the altar and the high place. He burned the high place and ground it to dust, and burned the Asherah pole.

<sup>16</sup> As Josiah turned, he noticed the tombs that were there on the hill. So he sent and took the bones out of those tombs and burned them on the altar and defiled it, just as the word of the LORD the man of God had predicted.

<sup>17</sup> Then he said, "What is that monument I see?" The men of the town told him, "It is the tomb of the man of God who came from Judah and predicted these things that you have done against the altar of Bethel."

<sup>18</sup> He said, "Leave it alone. Let no one move his bones." So they let his bones alone, along with the bones of the prophet who came out of Samaria.

<sup>19</sup> Josiah also removed all the shrines of the high places that were in the cities of Samaria, which the kings of Israel had made, provoking the LORD to anger. He did to them just as he had done at Bethel.

<sup>20</sup> Josiah sacrificed all the priests of the high places who were there on the altars and burned human bones on them. Then he returned to Jerusalem.

<sup>21</sup> The king commanded all the people, "Keep the Passover to the LORD your God, as it is written in this scroll of the covenant."

<sup>22</sup> Surely there had not been such a Passover celebration from the days when the judges led Israel, or in all the days of the kings of Israel or the kings of Judah.

<sup>23</sup> This Passover was celebrated to the LORD in Jerusalem in the eighteenth year of king Josiah.

<sup>24</sup> Josiah also removed the mediums and psychics, the household gods, the idols and all the abominations that were seen in the land of Judah and Jerusalem so that he might fulfill the words of the law which were written in the scroll that Hilkiah the priest found in the temple of the LORD.

<sup>25</sup> There was no king like him before or after who turned to the LORD with all his heart, all his soul and with all his might, following all the law of Moses.

<sup>26</sup> Still the LORD did not turn from the fierceness of his great wrath, by which his anger was kindled against Judah, because of all the evil things Manasseh had provoked him with.

<sup>27</sup> The LORD said, "I will remove Judah out of my sight, just as I have removed Israel. I will reject this city that I have chosen, even Jerusalem, and the temple of which I said, 'My name will be there.'"

<sup>28</sup> Now the rest of the acts of Josiah, and all that he did, are they not written in the scroll of the Annals of the Kings of Judah?

<sup>29</sup> In his days Pharaoh Neco king of Egypt went up to the Euphrates River to help the king of Assyria. King Josiah marched out against him, but when Pharaoh Neco met him, he killed him at Megiddo.

<sup>30</sup> His servants carried him dead in a chariot from Megiddo, brought him to Jerusalem, and buried him in his own tomb. The people of the land took Jehoahaz the son of Josiah, and anointed him, and made him king in place of his father.

<sup>31</sup> Jehoahaz was twenty-three years old when he began to reign. He reigned three months in Jerusalem and his mother's name was Hamutal the daughter of Jeremiah of Libnah.

<sup>32</sup> He did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, just as all his forefathers had done.

<sup>33</sup> Pharaoh Neco put him in chains at Riblah in the land of Hamath, so that he might not reign in Jerusalem. He imposed a tax of 7,500 pounds of silver and 75 pounds of gold.

<sup>34</sup> Pharaoh Neco made Eliakim the son of Josiah king in the place of Josiah his father, and changed his name to Jehoiakim. But he deported Jehoahaz to Egypt and he died there.

<sup>35</sup> Jehoiakim gave the silver and gold to Pharaoh but he taxed the land in order to get the money to meet the demands of Pharaoh. He exacted the silver and gold from the people of the land each one according to his valuation, to give it to Pharaoh Neco.

<sup>36</sup> Jehoiakim was twenty-five years old when he began to reign. He reigned eleven years in Jerusalem and his mother's name was Zebidah the daughter of Pedaiah from Rumah.

<sup>37</sup> He did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, just as all his forefathers had done.

**DASV: 2 Kings 24**

<sup>1</sup> In Jehoiakim's days, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came up, and Jehoiakim became his servant three years, then he turned and rebelled against him.

<sup>2</sup> The LORD sent raiding bands from the Chaldeans, Arameans, Moabites and Ammonites, against Judah to destroy it, according to the word of the LORD that he spoke through his servants the prophets.

<sup>3</sup> Surely these troubles happened to Judah at the command of the LORD, to remove them out of his sight, because of the sins Manasseh had done,

<sup>4</sup> and also because of the innocent blood that he shed. For he filled Jerusalem with innocent blood and the LORD was unwilling to pardon it.

<sup>5</sup> Now the rest of the acts of Jehoiakim, and all that he did, are they not written in the scroll of the Annals of the Kings of Judah?

<sup>6</sup> So Jehoiakim slept with his fathers, and Jehoiachin his son reigned in his place.

<sup>7</sup> The king of Egypt did not come again out of his land, for the king of Babylon had captured from the Brook of Egypt to the Euphrates River, everything that belonged to the king of Egypt.

<sup>8</sup> Jehoiachin was eighteen years old when he began to reign. He reigned in Jerusalem three months and his mother's name was Nehushta the daughter of Elnathan from Jerusalem.

<sup>9</sup> He did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, just as his father had done.

<sup>10</sup> At that time the servants of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came up to Jerusalem and besieged the city.

<sup>11</sup> Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came to the city, while his servants were besieging it.

<sup>12</sup> Then Jehoiachin the king of Judah surrendered to the king of Babylon, he, his mother, his servants, his nobles and his palace officials. The king of Babylon took him prisoner in the eighth year of his reign.

<sup>13</sup> Nebuchadnezzar carried off all the treasures of the temple of the LORD, and the treasures of the king's palace, and cut in pieces all the vessels of gold Solomon king of Israel had made in the temple of the LORD, just as the LORD had predicted.

<sup>14</sup> He carried off all Jerusalem, all the officials, and all the warriors, including 10,000 captives, including all the craftsmen and the artisans. No one was left except the poorest people of the land.

<sup>15</sup> He carried off Jehoiachin to Babylon, the king's mother, the king's wives, his officers, and the chief men of the land. They were deported into captivity from Jerusalem to Babylon.

<sup>16</sup> He also deported all the men of valor, 7,000, and the craftsmen and the artisans, 1,000, all of them strong and fit for war. These were the ones the king of Babylon brought captive to Babylon.

<sup>17</sup> The king of Babylon made Mattaniah, Jehoiachin's uncle, king in his place, and changed his name to Zedekiah.

<sup>18</sup> Zedekiah was twenty-one years old when he began to reign. He reigned eleven years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Hamutal the daughter of Jeremiah of Libnah.

<sup>19</sup> He did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, just as Jehoiakim had done.

<sup>20</sup> Because of the anger of the LORD these things happened in Jerusalem and Judah, until he finally cast them out of his presence. Zedekiah rebelled against the king of Babylon.

**DASV: 2 Kings 25**

<sup>1</sup> Now in the ninth year of Zedekiah's reign, on the tenth day of the tenth month, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came with all his army and laid siege to Jerusalem. They built siege ramps all around it.

<sup>2</sup> So the city was besieged until the eleventh year of king Zedekiah.

<sup>3</sup> On the ninth day of the fourth month the famine was so severe in the city that there was no food left for the people of the land.

<sup>4</sup> Then a breach was made in the city wall, and all the men of war fled at night through the gate between the two walls by the king's garden though the Babylonians had the city totally surrounded. They fled toward the Arabah.

<sup>5</sup> But the Babylonian army pursued the king, and overtook him in the plains of Jericho. All his army scattered deserting him.

<sup>6</sup> When they captured the king, they took him up to the king of Babylon at Riblah where they rendered judgment on him.

<sup>7</sup> They slaughtered the sons of Zedekiah before his eyes, then put out Zedekiah's eyes, bound him in chains and deported him to Babylon.

<sup>8</sup> Now on the seventh day of the fifth month, in the nineteenth year of king Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, Nebuzaradan, the captain of the royal guard, a servant of the king of Babylon, came to Jerusalem.

<sup>9</sup> He burned the temple of the LORD and the king's palace and all the houses of Jerusalem. He burned down every great house.

<sup>10</sup> Then the entire Babylonian army who were with the captain of the guard, broke down the walls that surrounded Jerusalem.

<sup>11</sup> The survivors who were left in the city, and those who deserted to the king of Babylon along with the rest of the people, Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard carried into exile.

<sup>12</sup> But the captain of the guard left some of the poorest people of the land to be vinedressers and farmers.

<sup>13</sup> The pillars of bronze that were in the temple of the LORD, and the movable water stands and the bronze Sea that were in the temple of the LORD the Babylonians broke into pieces and carried off the bronze to Babylon.

<sup>14</sup> They also took the pots, shovels, lamp snuffers, incense dishes and all the bronze utensils used in service of the temple.

<sup>15</sup> The captain of the guard also carried off the censers and the basins made of silver and gold.

<sup>16</sup> The two pillars, the one Sea, and the movable water stands which Solomon had made for the temple of the LORD, the bronze from all these vessels was beyond being weighed.

<sup>17</sup> The height of the one pillar was twenty-seven feet. The bronze capital on top of it was four and a half feet tall, with bronze latticework and pomegranates decorating the capital all around it. The second pillar had the same latticework.

<sup>18</sup> The captain of the guard took Seraiah the chief priest, and Zephaniah the second priest, and the three gatekeepers.

<sup>19</sup> He took out of the city an officer who was in charge over the men of war, five of the king's advisers who were found in the city; and the scribe of the captain of the army, who oversaw the drafting of the people of the land; and sixty other people of the land who were found in the city.

<sup>20</sup> Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard took them and brought them to the king of Babylon at Riblah.

<sup>21</sup> Then the king of Babylon had them put to death at Riblah in the land of Hamath. So Judah was carried into exile from its land.

<sup>22</sup> King Nebuchadnezzar appointed Gedaliah the son of Ahikam, the son of Shapan as governor over the people who were left in the land of Judah.

<sup>23</sup> Now when all the commanders of the army and their men, heard that the king of Babylon had appointed Gedaliah governor, they came to Gedaliah at Mizpah. They were Ishmael the son of Nethaniah, Johanan the son of Kareah, Seraiah the son of Tanhumeth the Netophathite, and Jaazaniah the son of the Maacathite along with their men.

<sup>24</sup> Gedaliah swore to them and their men, "Do not be afraid because of the Babylonian officials. Live in the land and serve the king of Babylon, and it will go well for you."

<sup>25</sup> But in the seventh month, Ishmael the son of Nethaniah, the son of Elishama, of the royal family came with ten men and killed Gedaliah, along with the Jews and the Babylonians who were with him at Mizpah.

<sup>26</sup> Then all the people, both small and great, along with the commanders of the army, fled to Egypt, because they were afraid of the Babylonians.

<sup>27</sup> In the thirty-seventh year of the captivity of Jehoiachin king of Judah, on the twenty-seventh day of the twelfth month, Evil-merodach king of Babylon, in the year that he began to reign, released Jehoiachin king of Judah from prison.

<sup>28</sup> He spoke kindly to him and set his throne above the throne of the other kings who were exiled with him in Babylon.

<sup>29</sup> So Jehoiachin changed out of his prison clothes and ate daily with the king for the rest of his life.

<sup>30</sup> For his allowance there was a regular daily portion given to him by the king as long as he lived.