

# 2 KINGS 17 vs 1

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The first and second books of the kings originally were one book, which Jewish tradition credits to the prophet Jeremiah. The subject follows the successes and failures of the kings of both Judah and Israel. This second book of kings follows the decline of **Israel** leading up to their captivity in Aram; and 170 years later, to the decline of **Judah** leading up to their captivity in Babylon.

Hoshea, king of Judah,

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

<sup>2</sup> And **he did evil in the sight of the Lord**, but not as the kings of **Israel** that were before him.

<sup>3</sup> Shalmaneser king of Assyria came up against him; and Hoshea became his servant, and paid him tribute. / well that was quick; it is clear, the king was a loser.

<sup>4</sup> But the king of Assyria found conspiracy in Hoshea: for he sent messengers to So king of Egypt, and offered no tribute to the king of Assyria, as he had done year by year: so the king of Assyria shut him up, and locked him in prison.

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

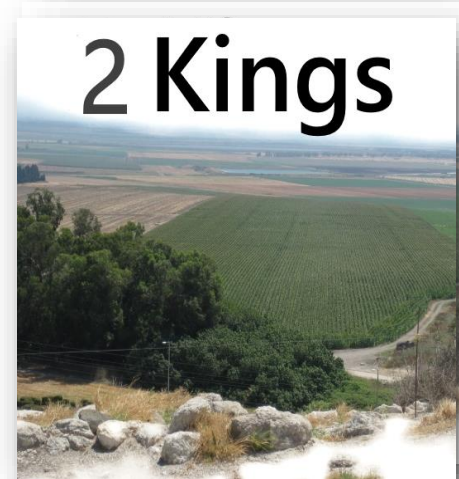
<sup>6</sup> In the ninth year of Hoshea, the king of Assyria **took Samaria, and exiled Israel to Assyria**, and settled them in Halah and in Habor on the river of Gozan, and in the cities of the Medes. / and settled Israel in a buffer zone between Assyria and Babylon.

<sup>7</sup> For so it was, that the children of **Israel** had sinned against the Lord their God, who brought them up from the land of Egypt, from under the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt, and they had feared other demon gods, / **they practiced demon worship**,

<sup>8</sup> and walked in the evil customs of the nations, whom the Lord threw out from before the children of **Israel**, and of the kings of **Israel**, which they had made.

<sup>9</sup> And the children of **Israel** did things secretly which were not right against the Lord their God, and they built their high places in all their cities, from watchtower to fortified city / or so they thought what they did was secret. / **demon worship**

<sup>10</sup> And they set up for their sacred poles and Asherim in the groves on every high hill, and under every green tree: / hocus pocus places to worship demons were not removed. **demon worship**



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<sup>11</sup> and there they burnt incense on all the high places, as the nations did whom the Lord carried away to exile before them; **and did evil provoking the Lord to anger:**

<sup>12</sup> and they served idols, though the Lord said, You will not do this thing. / demon worship

<sup>13</sup> Yet the Lord warned **Israel** and **Judah**, through all His prophets, and all His seers, saying, Turn from your evil ways, and keep My instructions and My statutes, according to all the law which I instructed your fathers; that I sent you by My servants the prophets.

<sup>14</sup> Despite all that, they did not listen, but stiffened their neck, like their fathers, **who did not believe the Lord their God.**

<sup>15</sup> And they rejected His statutes, and His covenant that He made with their fathers, and His warnings which He advised against them; yet they followed vanity, and became vain, going after the nations that surrounded them, concerning what the Lord instructed them, that they not do like them. / demon worship

The worship of demons,

<sup>16</sup> And they discarded all the instructions of the Lord their God, and made them molten images, even two calves, and made a grove, and worshipped all the host of heaven, and served Baal. / so, they went bat shit crazy; and their own innocent children were not safe:

<sup>17</sup> And they caused their sons and their daughters to pass through the fire, and used divination and enchantments, **and sold themselves to do evil in the sight of the Lord, provoking Him.** / demon worship

Paul said: [The gentile nations sacrifice not to God, but to demons.](#) 1 Corinthians 10

<sup>18</sup> **So the Lord was very angry with Israel, and removed them from His sight: none was left but only the tribe of Judah.** / God was ensuring Messiah would come.

<sup>19</sup> Also **Judah** did not keep the instructions of the Lord their God, but walked in the manmade, artificial decrees of **Israel**. / which is why God separated the two distinct houses.

<sup>20</sup> **And the Lord rejected all the lineages of Israel,** and afflicted them, and delivered them into the hand of pillagers, until He threw them out of His sight.

<sup>21</sup> **For He ripped Israel from the house of David;** and they made Jeroboam the son of Nebat king: and Jeroboam drove **Israel** from following the Lord, and made them greatly sin. / demon worship

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<sup>22</sup> For the children of **Israel** walked in all the sins of Jeroboam which he did; they did not abandon them; / demon worship.

<sup>23</sup> until the Lord removed **Israel** from His sight, as He said by all His servants the prophets. So **Israel** was taken away from their own land to Assyria, to this day.

The resettlement of Israel,

<sup>24</sup> And the king of Assyria brought men from Babylon, Cuthah, Ava, Hamath (between Aleppo and Damascus), and Sepharvaim, and settled them in the cities of Samaria in the place of the children of Israel: and they possessed Samaria, and lived in its cities.

<sup>25</sup> And as newcomers began to live there, they did not fear the Lord: so the Lord sent lions among them, and killed some of them.

<sup>26</sup> For this reason they spoke to the king of Assyria, saying, The nations that you removed, and put in the cities of Samaria, do not know the ways of the God of the land: so He sent lions among them, and Look, they killed them, because they do not know the ways of the God of the land.

<sup>27</sup> Then the king of Assyria instructed, saying, Take one of the priests who you exiled from there; and let him go and live there, and teach them the ways of the God of the land.

<sup>28</sup> Then one of the priests who they took from Samaria came and lived in Bethel, and taught them how they should fear the Lord.

<sup>29</sup> Yet every nation made demon gods of their own, and put them in the houses of the high places that the Samaritans made, every nation in the cities where they lived. / demon worship

<sup>30</sup> And the men of Babylon made Succoth-benoth, the men of Cuth made Nergal, the men of Hamath made Ashima, / the cities of Samaria became the garbage dump of demon worship.

<sup>31</sup> and the Avites made Nibhaz and Tartak; and those of Sephar burnt their children in fire to Adrammelech and Anammelech -- the demon gods of Sepharvaim. / demon worship

<sup>32</sup> So they also feared the Lord, and appointed among themselves priests of the high places, who sacrificed for them in the houses of the high places. / demonic confusion

<sup>33</sup> They feared the Lord, and served their own demon gods, according to the ways of the nations from whom they were exiled from there. / demon worship

<sup>34</sup> To this day they do after their previous ways: they do not fear the Lord, nor do they follow their statutes, or their ordinances, or the law and instruction that the Lord instructed the children of Jacob, whom He named **Israel**: / demon worship.

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<sup>35</sup> with whom the Lord had made a covenant, and charged them, saying, You will not fear other demon gods, nor bow yourselves to them, nor serve them, nor sacrifice to them:

<sup>36</sup> **but the Lord, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt with great power and an outstretched arm, you will fear Him, and worship Him, and sacrifice to Him.**

<sup>37</sup> And the statutes, and the ordinances, and the law, and the instruction, that He wrote for you, you will observe to do forever; you will not fear other demon gods.

<sup>38</sup> And you will not forget the covenant I made with you; nor will you fear other demon gods.

<sup>39</sup> But the Lord your God you will fear; and He will deliver you from the hand of all your enemies.

<sup>40</sup> **Yet they did not listen, but they did after their previous customs.** / demon worship

<sup>41</sup> **So as these nations feared the Lord,** they also served their graven images, both their children and their grandchildren: as their fathers did, so they do to this day. / definitely, they held one banged up, faulty world view... full of hocus pocus fears.

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