

2 KINGS 22 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.

King Josiah reforms Judah, repairing the temple,

¹ Josiah was eight years old when he began to reign, and he reigned thirty-one years in Jerusalem. And the name of his mother was Jedidah, the daughter of Adaiah of Bozkath.

² And he did what was right in the sight 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.

³ Now it happened in the eighteenth year of King Josiah, that the king sent Shaphan the son of Azaliah, the son of Meshullam, the scribe, to the House of the LORD, saying,

⁴ Go up to Hilkiyah the high priest, that he may count the silver brought into the House of the LORD, which the doorkeepers have gathered from the people:

⁵ And let them deliver it into the hand of the workmen, who have the oversight of the House of the LORD: and let them give it to the workmen who are in the House of the LORD, to repair the damages of the House,

⁶ to the carpenters, builders, and masons; and for buying timber and cut stones to repair the House.

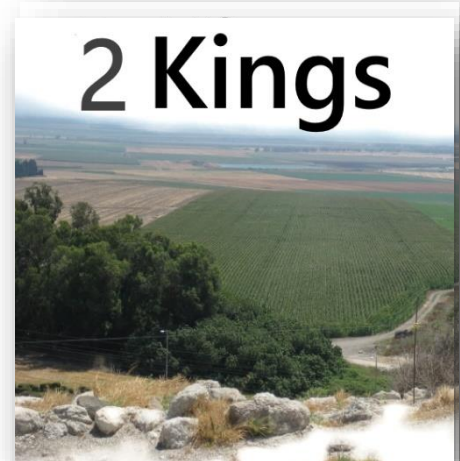
⁷ Only, no accounting will be made with them for the money delivered into their hand, because they deal faithfully.

The instruction of God is recovered,

⁸ And Hilkiyah the high priest said to Shaphan the scribe, I have found the book of the law in the House of the LORD / tragically, in most houses of the Lord in our genius 21st century, the instruction of God has again been lost and is difficult to find.

And Hilkiyah gave the book to Shaphan, and he read it.

⁹ And Shaphan the scribe came to the king, and brought the king word again, and said,



Your servants have gathered the money that was found in the House, and have delivered it into the hand of those who do the work, who have the oversight of the House of the LORD.

¹⁰ And Shaphan the scribe showed the king, saying, Hilkiah the priest has delivered to me a book. And Shaphan read it before the king.

¹¹ **And when the king heard the words of the book of the law, that he ripped his clothes** / when he heard the instruction of God, he knew it was the word of God, and was stunned.

¹² And the king instructed Hilkiah the priest, and Ahikam the son of Shaphan, and Achbor the son of Michaiah, and Shaphan the scribe, and Asahiah a servant of the king, saying,

¹³ Go, inquire of the LORD for me, and for the people, and for all **Judah**, concerning the words of this book that is found: for great is the anger of the LORD that is ignited against us, **because our fathers have not listened to the words of this book**, to do according to all that is written concerning us.

¹⁴ So Hilkiah the priest, and Ahikam, and Achbor, and Shaphan, and Asahiah, went to **Huldah the prophetess**, the wife of Willum the son of Tikvah, the son of Harhas, keeper of the wardrobe; - now she lived in Jerusalem in the second district, and they spoke with her.

¹⁵ She said to them, Thus says the LORD God of **Israel**, Tell the man who sent you to me,

¹⁶ Thus says the LORD, Behold, I will bring evil on this place, and on its inhabitants, all the words of the book that the king of **Judah** has read:

¹⁷ because they have abandoned Me, and have burned incense to other gods, to provoke My anger with all the works of their hands; so My anger will be ignited against this place, and will not be quenched.

¹⁸ But to the king of **Judah** who sent you to enquire of the LORD, thus you will say to him, Thus says the LORD, the God of **Israel**, concerning the words that you have heard;

¹⁹ because your heart was tender, and you have 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 ripped your clothes, and wept before Me; I also have heard you, says the LORD.

²⁰ So behold, I will gather you to your fathers, **and you will go to your grave in peace**; and your eyes will not see all the evil which I will bring on this place. And they brought the king word again.

God of Wonders