

The Second Book of Kings

Introduction – Chapter 4

Author and Date

Who does Jewish rabbinic scholarship consider as the author of the second book of Kings and when was the book completed?

Title

How did the Greek Septuagint treat the books of Kings?

Place in the Canon

Where does the book of Second Kings fit in the Hebrew Canon and the Christian Canon?

Structure

What is the threefold structure of the book of Second Kings?

Genre and Purpose

What is the literary genre and purpose of Second Kings?

Content and Themes

What is the main theme of Second Kings?

Christian Perspective

What are the personalities and themes in 2 Kings that figure prominently from a Christian perspective?

Read (1:1-2) Who is Ahaziah? (Note 1:2)

Read (1:5-8) What kind of dress does a prophet wear? (Note 1:8)

Read (1:9-10) What happens when Elijah calls down fire? (Note 1:10)

How do chapters 2 – 8 relate to the prophet Elisha (Note 2:1-8:15)

Read (2:3) Who are the “sons of the prophets”? (Note 2:3)

Read (2:6-8) How do the actions of Elijah imitate that of Moses? (Note 2:8)

Read (2:9) What is a “double share”? (Note 2:9)

Read (2:10-11) How is Elijah taken up to heaven? (Note 2:11)

How does the parting of the water parallel that action done by Moses? (Note 2:14)

Read (2:19-22) How was the water made wholesome? (Note 2:21)

Read (2:22-25) Who are the small boys? (Note 2:23)

Read (3:4-8) Where is Moab located? (Note 3:5)

Read (3:9) Who comprised the coalition army to subdue Moab? (Note 3:9)

Read (3:10-20) What is Elisha's first response to the request for help? (Note 3:13)

Is the water miracle performed by Elisha greater than that performed by Elijah?
(Note 3:17)

Read (4:1-7) How did poverty lead to slavery in the ancient Near East? (Note 4:1)

How does the miracle of the oil mitigate the problem of poverty? (Note 4:2)

Read (4:6-17) What was the importance of a biological heir in the ancient Near East? (Note 4:16)

Read (4:32-37) What is the result of the intercessory prayer made by Elisha? (Note 4:32-37)

Read (4:42-44) How does the multiplication of the barley loaves prefigure the feeding of the 5,000 by Jesus? (Note 4:42)

What are Elijah and Elisha most remembered for? ***See Chart Elijah and Elisha***