

FINAL STUDY NOTES – 2 Kings Chapters 1-3! 3/9-10/2026

CLASSROOM LOCATION AND ZOOM – SIGN IN INFORMATION:

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NOTE WE WILL CONTINUE TO NEED A PASSCODE TO JOIN THE ONLINE (ZOOM) STUDY!

MONDAY 7 PM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 PM PACIFIC DAYLIGHT SAVINGS Time (US and Canada)
THE MONDAY NIGHT STUDY WILL BE MEETING ON ZOOM ONLY UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE!
MEETING ID - 878 5864 4763 Passcode: 087484

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One tap mobile: +16699006833,87858644763# US (San Jose) +13462487799,87858644763# US (Houston)

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TUESDAY 7 AM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 AM PACIFIC DAYLIGHT SAVINGS Time (US and Canada).

TUES MORNING MTG PLACE: 1201 KEY WEST, CORONA DEL MAR (shown as 1201 KW, Corona del Mar, CA 92625) on Global Positioning System (GPS) in automobiles. For driving directions, suggest using (waze.com/live map) or *MapQuest* (mapquest.com), AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!

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OPENING PRAYER

II Kings is really a continuation of *I Kings* of the deterioration of the Kingdom of Israel, A historical book with a message, giving us an insight or a revelation of the end of willful disobedience against God's word and the end of rebellion. God is communicating something very important. We can say this warning applies to us as Christians in a place of willful disobedience or rebellion against God's commandments, leads to a captivity today, a bondage today, that is just as great as any Assyrian or Babylonian captivity, and it is the captivity of sin.

2 KINGS – Chapter 1 – God Judges Ahaziah – (vs. 1-18); Chapter 2 – Elijah Ascends to Heaven– (vs. 1-18); Elisha Performs Miracles – (vs. 19-25); Chapter 3 - Moab Rebels Against Israel – (vs. 1-27).

Elijah Denounces Ahaziah

2Ki 1:1 Moab rebelled against Israel after the death of Ahab.

- **Now Moab at this time was a vassal state to the northern kingdom of Israel.** They had been conquered and defeated by them. As a result, they paid tribute in the form of wool and other things on an annual basis in order to enrich the kingdom of Israel. In the ancient world when one king would die, vassal nations would then test the resolve of the incoming king to hold on to that vassal state and whether they were willing to fight a war in order to do that.
- **Moab looked at Ahaziah and considered him to be weaker than his father.** They looked at this as an opportunity to throw off this dominion that was over them. In the late 1800's archeologists discovered what

was called the Moabite stone, which had inscriptions upon it concerning Mesha, the king of Moab who rebelled against Ahaziah, telling of the victories, and of the delivery of the Moabite cities.

- We often hear, “Well this, this confirms the Bible.” Nothing confirms the Bible; it does not need confirmation. **The Bible is the word of God; it stands as such.** These other things that they find do not confirm the Bible. The Bible confirms them! You can test the accuracy of these other records, according to the Bible, and rather than the other way around.
- **Are we thoroughly steadfast in knowing that the Bible is not only true, it is truth itself! (Psa 119:160) The entirety of Your word is truth, And every one of Your righteous judgments endures forever. (Joh 17:17) Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.**

2Ki 1:2 Now Ahaziah fell through the lattice of his upper room in Samaria, and was injured; so he sent messengers and said to them, "Go, inquire of Baal-Zebub, the god of Ekron, whether I shall recover from this injury."

- Ahaziah's physical condition was grave. He sent messengers to Ekron, this Philistine city, to inquire from an oracle there, as to whether or not he was going to survive this injury when he fell through the lattice. He does not turn to the God of Israel, he turns to Baal-Zebub, which means the Lord of the Flies. Remember, we become like the god we worship! Also, to Jesus (*Mar 3:22*) *And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem said, "He has Beelzebub," and "By the ruler of the demons He casts out demons."*

2Ki 1:3-4 But the angel of the LORD said to Elijah the Tishbite, "Arise, go up to meet the messengers of the king of Samaria, and say to them, 'Is it because there is no God in Israel that you are going to inquire of Baal-Zebub, the god of Ekron?' [4] Now therefore, thus says the LORD: 'You shall not come down from the bed to which you have gone up, but you shall surely die.' " So Elijah departed.

- Why would the king send to inquire from Ekron? Is it because there is no God in Israel? They did not worship Jehovah any more in Israel. He was rejected. Is that why they have to send to Baal-Zebub, to find out what is going to happen? You go back and tell him that Jehovah declares that he is not going to get off the bed. He is going to die! (*Deu 13:6,9*) *"If your brother, the son of your mother, your son or your daughter, the wife of your bosom, or your friend who is as your own soul, secretly entices you, saying, 'Let us go and serve other gods,' which you have not known, neither you nor your fathers, [9] but you shall surely kill him; your hand shall be first against him to put him to death, and afterward the hand of all the people.*
- **When we are sick, how prone are we to seek first medical doctors before seeking God? May we remember what the wicked King Ahaziah did here. He did not seek our Lord, but sought the worldly Egyptian god, Baal-Zebub, the lord of the flies!**

2Ki 1:5-6 And when the messengers returned to him, he said to them, "Why have you come back?" [6] So they said to him, "A man came up to meet us, and said to us, 'Go, return to the king who sent you, and say to him, 'Thus says the LORD: 'Is it because there is no God in Israel that you are sending to inquire of Baal-Zebub, the god of Ekron? Therefore you shall not come down from the bed to which you have gone up, but you shall surely die.'

- The implication is that if he had sought the Lord, he could have perhaps been healed, but because he did not seek the Lord, he was going to die.

2Ki 1:7-10 Then he said to them (messengers), "What kind of man was it (what did he look like?) who came up to meet you and told you these words?" [8] So they answered him, "A hairy man wearing a leather belt around his waist (rugged, beard, long hair)." And he said, "It is Elijah the Tishbite." [9] Then the king sent to him a captain of fifty with his fifty men. So he went up to him; and there he was, sitting on the top of a hill. And he spoke to him: "Man of God, the king has said, 'Come down!'" [10] So Elijah answered and said to the captain of fifty, "If I am a man of God, then let fire come down from heaven and consume you and your fifty men." And fire came down from heaven and consumed him and his fifty.

- Jesus called the brothers James and John, the Sons of Thunder, because at one time, they wanted to call down fire on the Samaritans. (*Luk 9:54*) *And when His disciples James and John saw this, they said, "Lord, do You want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them, just as Elijah did?"*
- That was Elijah, but that was for his time, but you know the law came by Moses, grace, and truth came by Jesus Christ. For Elijah's day it was a thing that was acceptable and proper, but not for us today. We are not to go around crispering people because we do not like the way they talk to us or look at us!

2Ki 1:11-14 Then he sent to him another captain of fifty with his fifty men. And he answered and said to him: "Man of God, thus has the king said, 'Come down quickly (more arrogant than the first)!' " [12] So Elijah answered

and said to them, "If I am a man of God, let fire come down from heaven and consume you and your fifty men." And the fire of God came down from heaven and consumed him and his fifty. [13] Again, he sent a third captain of fifty with his fifty men. And the third captain of fifty went up, and came and fell on his knees before Elijah, and pleaded with him, and said to him: "Man of God, please let my life and the life of these fifty servants of yours be precious in your sight. [14] Look, fire has come down from heaven and burned up the first two captains of fifties with their fifties. But let my life now be precious in your sight."

- You know I am a family man, and my family needs me, and you know I am here on orders.

2Ki 1:15 And the angel of the LORD said to Elijah, "Go down with him; do not be afraid of him." So he arose and went down with him to the king.

- The angel of the LORD is guiding Elijah. The angel was the one that sent him to meet the messengers who were heading for Ekron. Now, with this captain, the angel says, "Go down with him; do not be afraid of him, because I the LORD, will be with you.

2Ki 1:16-17 Then he said to him, "Thus says the LORD: 'Because you have sent 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 shall not come down from the bed to which you have gone up, but you shall surely die.' " [17] So Ahaziah died according to the word of the LORD which Elijah had spoken. Because he had no son, Jehoram became king in his place, in the second year of Jehoram the son of Jehoshaphat, king of Judah.

- Notice there are two King Jehorams, reigning at the same time! The one is a son of Ahab, reigning in the north and Jehoram, the son of Jehoshaphat, reigning in the south.
- King Jehoram of the north was not the son of Ahaziah but was also a son of Ahab. Ahaziah did not have any children yet, he was still a young man. He was cut off. Jehoram was Ahaziah's younger brother who then began to reign over Israel, at the same time as Jehoram was reigning in Judah.

2Ki 1:18 Now the rest of the acts of Ahaziah which he did, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel?

Elijah Taken to Heaven

2Ki 2:1 And it came to pass, when the LORD was about to take up Elijah into heaven by a whirlwind, that Elijah went with Elisha from Gilgal.

- If God told you that only have one day left here on earth, what difference would it make on your day? Well, I do this and I do that and do this and that. The interesting thing about Elijah is he just proceeds to do what he had planned to do all along. He just continues the ministry that God had called him to. No big special change in plan. He had intended to go to visit, encouraging the schools of the prophets in Gilgal, Bethel, and Jericho. So, this is what he does!
- Probably the best prepared person for the Rapture is the person who could honestly say as with Elijah. If the LORD came, telling me that tomorrow I am going to take you home, I would not do anything different today than what I had planned for the day!
- If there is a jarring difference between what I have planned for the day and then what I would do if I knew this information, then there is probably some re-adjustment of priorities that needs to occur.
- It is a beautiful example Elijah gives us here. He basically said, no, I am in the middle of God's will. I am doing what He's told me to do. He takes me home today, up into heaven. He will catch me just the way I want Him to catch me. I like that! Now Elijah's going to put Elisha through a little bit of a test, to test his commitment to becoming the prophet in Israel to follow him.
- **How prepared am I for the Rapture? Am I watching, working, and waiting every day to the point that even if the LORD tells me that tomorrow I will be taking you home, that my schedule today would stay the same as it has been every other day in the past?**

2Ki 2:2 Then Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here, please, for the LORD has sent me on to Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the LORD lives, and as your soul lives, I will not leave you!" So they went down to Bethel.

- If you look at your bible map, you will find that Gilgal is on the upper plains, and as they moved towards Bethel, they are moving down towards the area of Jericho. Coming down the valley that leads into Jericho, and to the Jordan River.

2Ki 2:3 Now the sons of the prophets who were at Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that the LORD will take away your master (Elijah) from over you today?" And he (Elisha) said, "Yes, I know; keep silent!"

- **Elijah had a premonition of his death. He knew he was going to be caught up to heaven.** The time had come when he was to be caught up. Elijah said to Elisha, “Stay here son, I’m going to go down to Bethel; for the LORD has called me down there.” Elisha said, “As the LORD lives, I’ll go with you.” They came to Bethel. The LORD had spoken to the prophets there of Elijah’s pending departure. “Don’t you know your master is going to be taken from you today?” Elisha knew it. “I know it,” he said, “Hold your peace. It is all right, I know these things.”
- **Sometimes through circumstances you know that your time is short.** Paul the apostle, writing to Timothy, knew from the circumstances, having been re-arrested by Nero, wrote (**2Ti 4:6b-8**) *The time of my departure is at hand. [7] I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. [8] Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.*
- **Now there are certain truths that we need to be constantly reminded about.** It is not that we do not know these things, it seems that we sort of neglect truth, or we drift away from it. The bible says, “Let us take the more earnest heed to the things that we have heard, lest at any time we should drift away.” It is possible for a person to drift away from truths that we know. Peter said, (**2Pe 1:12-15**) *For this reason I will not be negligent to remind you always of these things, though you know and are established in the present truth. [13] Yes, I think it is right, as long as I am in this tent, to stir you up by reminding you, [14] knowing that shortly I must put off my tent, just as our Lord Jesus Christ showed me. [15] Moreover I will be careful to ensure that you always have a reminder of these things after my decease.*

2Ki 2:4-7 Then Elijah said to him, "Elisha, stay here, please, for the LORD has sent me on to Jericho." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as your soul lives, I will not leave you!" So they came to Jericho. [5] Now the sons of the prophets who were at Jericho came to Elisha and said to him, "Do you know that the LORD will take away your master from over you today?" So he answered, "Yes, I know; keep silent!" (Elisha already knew, too sacred to discuss, just leave it in God’s hands. Would I have kept silent?") [6] Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here, please, for the LORD has sent me on to the Jordan." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as your soul lives, I will not leave you!" So the two of them went on. [7] And fifty men of the sons of the prophets went and stood facing them at a distance, while the two of them stood by the Jordan.

- Notice how twice Elisha remains silent to the men but responds to Elijah! A great application here. Silent to men and yes to our Master. The sons of the prophets followed them from a distance and watched them as they came to the Jordan river.

2Ki 2:8 Now Elijah took his mantle, rolled it up, and struck the water; and it was divided this way and that, so that the two of them crossed over on dry ground.

- His mantle was a leather cloak that he hung over his shoulders, and he rolled it up.
- God stopped the flow of the Jordan, much as He did at the time that Joshua came into the promised land. God stopped the Jordan river. Similarly, He parted the Red Sea at the time of the Exodus.

2Ki 2:9-10 And so it was, when they had crossed over, that Elijah said to Elisha, "Ask! What may I do for you, before I am taken away from you?" Elisha said, "Please let a double portion of your spirit be upon me." [10] So he said, "You have asked a hard thing. Nevertheless, if you see me when I am taken from you, it shall be so for you; but if not, it shall not be so."

- Many commentators believe that what he was asking was for the first-born son’s inheritance. For the first-born son received a double portion over the other brothers, of the father’s inheritance. Elisha was asking for the inheritance of the first born. “A double portion of your spirit to be upon me.” When you look at Elijah, and all that he had accomplished, it was quite a request at that! He said, “If you see me when I am taken up, it will happen. If you do not, it will not.”
- **Put yourself in Elisha’s position when Elijah said to him, "Ask! What may I do for you, before I am taken away from you?" What would you have asked for? Would it have been that huge request for a double portion of Elijah’s spirit to be upon you?**

2Ki 2:11 Then it happened, as they continued on and talked, that suddenly a chariot of fire appeared with horses of fire, and separated the two of them; and Elijah went up by a whirlwind (storm) into heaven.

- It was a storm that came, and he went on up by a whirlwind into heaven. The Bible tells us that three people were taken up. Enoch who “Walked with God, and was not, for God took him.” He was translated, without seeing death. Elijah, taken up into heaven in the sight of Elisha. Of course, Jesus Christ, taken up into heaven, in the sight of His disciples.

2Ki 2:12 *And Elisha saw it, and he cried out, "My father, my father, the chariot of Israel and its horsemen!" So he saw him no more. And he took hold of his own clothes and tore them into two pieces. [*

- Elisha, as God's prophet, was more powerful in the defense and guidance of Israel than all the king's chariots and horsemen.

2Ki 2:13 *He also took up the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and went back and stood by the bank of the Jordan.*

- Elisha watched Elijah until he went out of sight, as the LORD took him up into heaven. Then taking the mantle that fell, as Elijah ascended, he came back to the Jordan River.
- **Have I taken up the mantle that my Lord has for me? Is it still lying partially on the ground? How about you? How wholehearted is my obedience out of love to Him?**

2Ki 2:14 *Then he took the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and struck the water, and said, "Where is the LORD God of Elijah?" And when he also had struck the water, it was divided this way and that; and Elisha crossed over.*

- This was God's affirmation upon his life and upon his ministry, that he was the one to take the place of Elijah, as the prophet to the nation of Israel. God was confirming the beginning of his ministry. These young prophets were sitting over there, still watching.
- The question, "Where is the God of Elijah? Where is the God who demonstrates Himself in power before the people?" The God who stopped the heavens that it did not rain. The God who sent the fire from heaven. The God who fed the prophet, the God who raised the dead! "Where is the God of Elijah?" **Do I ever ask, "Where is the LORD God of Elijah?"**
- Today, as we look at the conditions of the church, the conditions of the world, we are prone to ask the same question. "Where is the God of Elijah?" Where is the power? Where are the dynamics of the Spirit?
- It is extremely difficult in this culture and society, to really be as spiritual as God would have us to be. Most of us are more deeply involved in the material things of this world, than God would have us to be. That is the cause of the weakness of the church, as far as the demonstration of spiritual power. God is the same.

Elisha Succeeds Elijah

2Ki 2:15 *Now when the sons of the prophets who were from Jericho saw him, they said, "The spirit of Elijah rests on Elisha." And they came to meet him, and bowed to the ground before him.*

- They saw the waters part and the power of God was upon this man Elisha, and they came and bowed down.

2Ki 2:16 *Then they said to him, "Look now, there are fifty strong men with your servants. Please let them go and search for your master, lest perhaps the Spirit of the LORD has taken him up and cast him upon some mountain or into some valley." And he said, "You shall not send anyone."*

- These sons of the prophets thought that the Lord had probably caught him up, but maybe He had dumped him on a mountain top, or in a valley or something. "Maybe he's fallen." They probably could see him from a distance, going up. But figured that he may have fallen again to the earth. They said, you know, "Let fifty of us go out and search for him." Elisha says there is no need to look for Elijah, you will not find him, but they kept insisting.
- Now, they already had the word of the LORD, that He was going to take him up into heaven. They are doubting the word of God in this. Elisha said, "You shall not send anyone." Do not waste your time. He is in heaven.

2Ki 2:17-19 *But when they urged him till he was ashamed, he said, "Send them!" Therefore they sent fifty men, and they searched for three days but did not find him. [18] And when they came back to him, for he had stayed in Jericho, he said to them, "Did I not say to you, 'Do not go?'" [19] Then the men of the city said to Elisha, "Please notice, the situation of this city is pleasant, as my lord sees; but the water is bad, and the ground barren."*

- The Jordan valley is about 1,200 feet below sea level, there at Jericho. There are many springs of water that come out of the ground, but most of them are too salty for drinking, nor can you irrigate with them, because of the high salt content. There was this one spring at Jericho, and the water was brackish. They came to Elisha and they said, "Jericho is a great place to live. Everything will grow here, but this water is bad."

2Ki 2:20-21 *And he (Elisha) said, "Bring me a new bowl, and put salt in it." So they brought it to him. [21] Then he went out to the source of the water, and cast in the salt there, and said, "Thus says the LORD: 'I have healed this water; from it there shall be no more death or barrenness.'"*

- **Salt is a symbol of purifying.** Jesus said to His disciples, “You are the salt of the earth,” talking about the purifying effect. In areas where there was no refrigeration, salt was used to preserve the meat. You cut up your meat, and the bacteria immediately sets in, so they would salt it down, killing the surface bacteria.

2Ki 2:22 *So the water remains healed to this day, according to the word of Elisha which he spoke.*

- **Today, right across the street from the Tel of Jericho, you can go to Elisha’s spring.** It is still a very healthy spring. A good flow of water comes out, and it tastes good even till this day. That spring was healed, the water is not brackish, it is very palatable, and in the area below where the water flows, is just a beautiful, verdant garden area.

2Ki 2:23-25 *Then he went up from there to Bethel; and as he was going up the road, some youths (teenagers, not little children) from the city and mocked him, and said to him, "Go up, you baldhead! Go up, you baldhead!" [24] So he turned around and looked at them, and pronounced a curse on them in the name of the LORD. And two female bears came out of the woods and mauled forty-two of the youths. [25] Then he went from there to Mount Carmel, and from there he returned to Samaria.*

- They were mocking Elisha, bringing his bald head to attention. He took care of them! Be careful of what you say!

Moab Rebels Against Israel

2Ki 3:1 *Now Jehoram the son of Ahab became king over Israel at Samaria in the eighteenth year of Jehoshaphat king of Judah, and reigned twelve years.*

- **After the wicked King Ahab died, his older son Ahaziah began to reign** in his place. Ahaziah was as wicked as his father, having a short-lived reign of only two years, and he died. Because Ahaziah had no children, no sons, his brother, Jehoram, the second son of Ahab began to reign.

2Ki 3:2-3 *And he did evil in the sight of the LORD (as did all the kings of the northern kingdom), but not like his father and mother; for he put away the sacred pillar of Baal that his father had made. [3] Nevertheless he persisted in the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who had made Israel sin; he did not depart from them.*

- **Jeroboam had put the altars in Bethel, and in Dan, and made the golden calves** there when he began to reign, telling the people that they were the gods that brought them out of Israel, out of Egypt. During that period, Jehoram began to reign.

2Ki 3:4-7 *Now Mesha king of Moab was a sheep breeder, and he regularly paid the king of Israel one hundred thousand lambs and the wool of one hundred thousand rams. [5] But it happened, when Ahab died, that the king of Moab rebelled (getting tired of paying tribute) against the king of Israel. [6] So King Jehoram went out of Samaria at that time and mustered all Israel (attacking, taking some of the cities of Israel). [7] Then he went and sent to Jehoshaphat king of Judah, saying, "The king of Moab has rebelled against me. Will you go with me to fight against Moab?" And he said, "I will go up; I am as you are, my people as your people, my horses as your horses."*

- **Unholy alliances: A continuing weakness of Jehoshaphat.** who had twice previously made unfortunate alliances with kings of Israel—once with Ahab (*1Ki 22:29*) and once with Ahaziah (*2Ch 20:35*). You would think that Jehoshaphat would have learned, but now the son of Ahab, Jehoram is inviting him to go to battle.
- **They were united together, the two families by marriage.** Jehoshaphat’s son Jehoram had married Athaliah, Ahab and Jezebel’s daughter. He felt some pressure to align with this evil king in this military expedition. Jehoshaphat should have prayed right then and unless the LORD said to go, he should have said, “No!”

2Ki 3:8 *Then he said, "Which way shall we go up?" And he answered, "By way of the Wilderness of Edom."*

- **The route that they have chosen, is a route that goes around south** of the Dead Sea, crossing the plain on the southern end of the Dead Sea, and coming up through Edom, and attacking Moab then from the south. It is a long, circuitous route that they were taking. However, in so doing they also picked up the king of Edom with their troops. Now you have three nations, Judah, Israel, and Edom, coming against Moab from the south.

2Ki 3:9 *So the king of Israel went with the king of Judah and the king of Edom, and they marched on that roundabout route seven days; and there was no water for the army, nor for the animals that followed them.*

- **They went on around on a seven-day, thirty-seven-mile wilderness journey.** There was no water. There is a little stream that generally has water, down in that southern end, but it apparently was dry, so then they were in really desperate straits without water having that many men down there with their animals,.

2Ki 3:10 *And the king of Israel said, "Alas! For the LORD has called these three kings together to deliver them into the hand of Moab."*

- It looks like Moab is going to take us, rather than us wiping Moab out! It looks like we are going to be destroyed.

2Ki 3:11 *But Jehoshaphat said, "Is there no prophet of the LORD here, that we may inquire of the LORD by him?" So one of the servants of the king of Israel answered and said, "Elisha the son of Shaphat is here, who poured water on the hands of Elijah."*

- **Jehoshaphat was seeking to inquire of the LORD.** His only problem was that he did not keep the best company. He was always running around with these guys from the north. But again, we see that same characteristic in Jehoshaphat. It is a bad characteristic in a child of God of deciding first and then praying or seeking the LORD, relating of what to do.
- **The best and right order is to pray, to seek the Lord and then do what it is that He tells us to do.** We talked about that a couple of weeks ago. As we look again at Jehoshaphat can I say, "Yes, that's a conquered area in my life!"
- **If we sit here tonight and are still making decisions before praying, we need to take advantage of Jehoshaphat's experiences in making unholy alliances and making decisions without praying. He was a good king; this was a weakness he never really addressed in the way that he should. Pray first, and then do what God tells us to do.**

2Ki 3:12-15 *And 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. [13] Then Elisha said to the king of Israel, "What have I to do with you? Go to the prophets of your father and the prophets of your mother." But the king of Israel said to him, "No, for the LORD has called these three kings together to deliver them into the hand of Moab." [14] And Elisha said, "As the LORD of hosts lives, before whom I stand, surely were it not that I regard the presence of Jehoshaphat king of Judah, I would not look at you, nor see you. [15] But now bring me a musician." Then it happened, when the musician played, that the hand of the LORD came upon him.*

- There seems to be a connection between the music, and the anointing of God upon the prophet. As was often the case in those days; a prophet would have them play music. Today music remains an important part of our worship. It sort of opens the door for the working of the Spirit within our hearts. We sort of prepare our hearts to receive the word of God, and that is why we always begin our services with the time of music.

2Ki 3:16-17 *And he said, "Thus says the LORD: 'Make this valley full of ditches.' [17] For thus says the LORD: You shall not see wind, nor shall you see rain; yet that valley shall be filled with water, so that you, your cattle, and your animals may drink.'*

- **This was and still is a common occurrence down in this particular valley.** The area is twelve hundred feet below sea level. It is in this deep, rift called the Syro-African rift. The lowest spot on the face of the earth, outside of the ocean floors. At times, you can be down there, and it will be a beautiful, sunny day down by the Dead Sea. **These dry wadis will suddenly just be filled with water.** You will get a flash flood, and cars and buses have been washed into these wadis, in these flash floods. It is not uncommon.

2Ki 3:18-22 *And this is a simple matter in the sight of the LORD; He will also deliver the Moabites into your hand. [19] Also you shall attack every fortified city and every choice city, and shall cut down every good tree, and stop up every spring of water, and ruin every good piece of land with stones." [20] Now it happened in the morning, when the grain offering was offered, that suddenly water came by way of Edom, and the land was filled with water. [21] And when all the Moabites heard that the kings had come up to fight against them, all who were able to bear arms and older were gathered; and they stood at the border. (They were ready for this clash.) [22] Then they rose up early in the morning, and the sun was shining on the water; and the Moabites saw the water on the other side as red as blood.*

- **In the morning, when the sun rises, the reddishness of the sun is reflected off the water,** appearing like a valley full of blood. The Moabites immediately assumed, "The three kings had a big fight last night, all of the armies that had come together, squabbling among themselves, and they wiped out each other. Let us attack them quickly, and we will wipe out the remnants."

2Ki 3:23-25 *And they said, "This is blood; the kings have surely struck swords and have killed one another; now therefore, Moab, to the spoil!" (They came expecting to spoil them)." [24] So when they came to the camp of Israel, Israel rose up and attacked the Moabites, so that they fled before them; and they entered their land, killing the Moabites. [25] Then they destroyed the cities, and each man threw a stone on every good piece of land and filled it; and they stopped up all the springs of water and cut down all the good trees. But they left the stones of Kir Haraseth intact. However the slingers surrounded and attacked it.*

- **The one city they were not able to take was this fortress of Kir Haraseth.** It is positioned on a hill that makes it extremely difficult to capture. The three kings did not take the city, it would have cost too many lives.
- **The king of the Moabites and the people had fled to the city.** So, these guys, *each man threw a stone on every good piece of land and filled it; and they stopped up all the springs of water and cut down all the good trees.* But they did not try to take the city.

2Ki 3:26 *And when the king of Moab saw that the battle was too fierce for him, he took with him seven hundred men who drew swords, to break through to the king of Edom, but they could not.*

- They decided that **“Well, at least we will get one of them.** We will try and get the king of Edom.” They could not break through the ranks.

2Ki 3:27 *Then he (Meshah) took his eldest son who would have reigned in his place, and offered him as a burnt offering upon the wall; and there was great indignation against Israel. So they departed from him and returned to their own land.*

- It was so repulsive, so repugnant to the Israelites, that they departed from him, and returned to their own land. If Israel was so deeply moved in this case, why was she not shocked enough to forsake her own idolatry? But idolatry continued in Israel and in Judah.

SUMMARY -

- **Are we thoroughly steadfast in knowing that the Bible is not only true, it is truth itself! (Psa 119:160) The entirety of Your word is truth, And every one of Your righteous judgments endures forever. (Joh 17:17) Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.**
- **How prone are we when sick, to seek first medical doctors before seeking God?** May we remember what the wicked King Ahaziah did here. He did not seek our Lord but sought the worldly Baal-Zebub!
- **How prepared am I for the Rapture?** Am I watching, working, and waiting every day to the point that even if the LORD tells me that tomorrow I will be taking you home. Would my schedule today stay the same as it has been every other day in the past?
- **Put yourself in Elisha’s position when Elijah said to him, “Ask! What may I do for you, before I am taken away from you?”** What would you have asked for? Would it have been that huge request for a double portion of Elijah’s spirit to be upon you?
- **Have I taken up the mantle that my Lord has for me?** Is it still lying partially on the ground? How about you? How wholehearted is my obedience out of love to Him?
- **If we sit here tonight and are still making decisions before praying,** we need to take advantage of Jehosaphat’s experiences in making unholy alliances and making decisions without praying. He was a good king; this was a weakness he never really addressed in the way that he should. Pray first, and then do what God tells us to do!
- **He is faithful!** He will deliver you!

2Ki 3:18 *And this is a simple matter in the sight of the LORD; He will also deliver the Moabites into your hand.*

HE IS ABLE TO DELIVER THEE – William Ogden (1:49/1:52)

’Tis the grandest theme through the ages rung; ’Tis the grandest theme for a mortal tongue;

’Tis the grandest theme that the world e’er sung, “Our God is able to deliver thee.”

Refrain: He is able to deliver thee, He is able to deliver thee;

Though by sin oppressed, go to Him for rest; “Our God is able to deliver thee.”

’Tis the grandest theme in the earth or main; ’Tis the grandest theme for a mortal strain;

’Tis the grandest theme, tell the world again, “Our God is able to deliver thee.” (Refrain)

’Tis the grandest theme, let the tidings roll, To the guilty heart, to the sinful soul;

Look to God in faith, He will make thee whole, “Our God is able to deliver thee.” (Refrain)

CLOSING PRAYER

NEXT WEEK: Study II Kings, Chapters 4-5