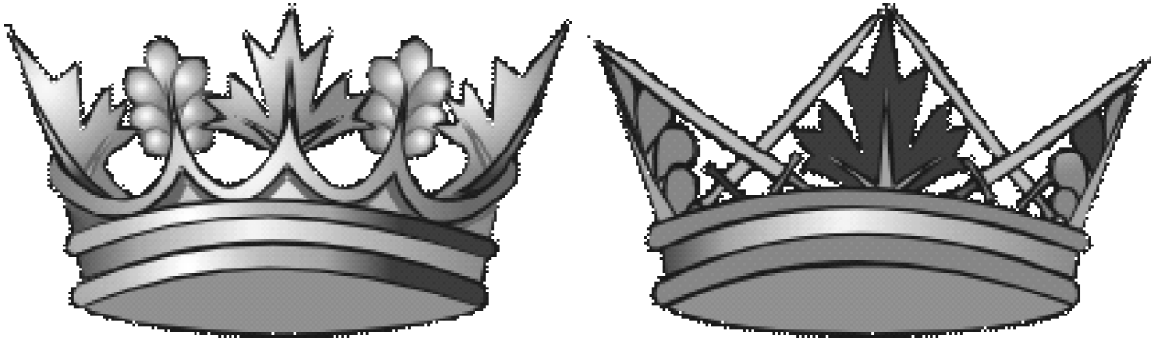


Early Prophets, Book 6
The Second Book of
Kings
(II Kings)



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II Kings

Chapter 1

1. Then Moab rebelled against Israel after the death of Ahab.
2. And Ahaziah fell down through a lattice in his upper chamber that was in Samaria, and was sick; and he sent messengers, and said to them, Go, inquire of Baal-Zebub, the god of Ekron, whether I shall recover from this disease.
3. 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 not because there is not a God in Israel, that you go to inquire of Baal-Zebub, the god of Ekron?
4. And therefore thus said the Lord, You shall not come down from that bed on which you have gone up, but shall surely die. And Elijah departed.
5. And when the messengers turned back to him, he said to them, Why have you now turned back?

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6. And they said to him, There came a man up to meet us, and said to us, Go, turn back to the king who sent you, and say to him, Thus said the Lord, Is it not because there is not a God in Israel, that you send to inquire of Baal-Zebub the god of Ekron? Therefore you shall not come down from that bed on which you have gone up, but shall surely die.

7. And he said to them, What kind of a man was he who came up to meet you, and told you these words?

8. And they answered him, He was a hairy man, and with a girdle of leather about his loins. And he said, It is Elijah the Tishbite.

9. Then the king sent to him a captain of fifty with his fifty. And he went up to him; and, behold, he sat on the top of a hill. And he spoke to him, You man of God, the king had said, Come down.

10. And 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. And

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there came down fire from heaven, and consumed him and his fifty.

11. Again he sent to him another captain of fifty with his fifty. And he answered and said to him, O man of God, thus had the king said, Come down quickly.

12. And 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. And the fire of God came down from heaven, and consumed him and his fifty.

13. And he sent again a captain of the third fifty with his fifty. 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, O man of God, I beg you, let my life, and the life of these fifty your servants, be precious in your sight.

14. Behold, there came fire down from heaven, and burned up the two captains of the former fifties with their fifties; therefore let my life now be precious in your sight.

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15. And the angel of the Lord said to Elijah, Go down with him; be not afraid of him. And he arose, and went down with him to the king.

16. And he said to him, Thus said the Lord, Because you have sent messengers to inquire of Baal-Zebub the god of Ekron, is it not because there is no God in Israel to inquire of his word? therefore you shall not come down off that bed on which you have gone up, but shall surely die.

17. And he died according to the word of the Lord which Elijah had spoken. And Jehoram reigned in his place in the second year of Jehoram the son of Jehoshaphat king of Judah; because he had no son.

18. And 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?

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Chapter 2

1. And it came to pass, when the Lord would take up Elijah into heaven by a whirlwind, that Elijah went with Elisha from Gilgal.

2. And Elijah said to Elisha, Remain here, I beg you; for the Lord has sent me to Beth-El. And Elisha said to him, As the Lord lives, and as your soul lives, I will not leave you. And they went down to Beth-El.

3. And the sons of the prophets who were at Beth-El came out to Elisha, and said to him, Do you know that the Lord will take away your master from your head today? And he said, Yes, I know it; hold your peace.

4. And Elijah said to him, Elisha, remain here, I beg you; for the Lord has sent me to Jericho. And he said, As the Lord lives, and as your soul lives, I will not leave you. And they came to Jericho.

5. And 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 your head

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today? And he answered, Yes, I know it; hold you your peace.

6. And Elijah said to him, Remain here, I beg you; for the Lord has sent me to Jordan. And he said, As the Lord lives, and as your soul lives, I will not leave you. And the two went on.

7. And fifty men of the sons of the prophets went, and stood to look from far away; and the two stood by Jordan.

8. And Elijah took his mantle, and wrapped it together, and struck the waters, and they parted to one side and to the other, so that the two went over dry ground.

9. And it came to pass, when they were gone over, that Elijah said to Elisha, Ask what I shall do for you, before I am taken away from you. And Elisha said, I beg you, let a double portion of your spirit be upon me.

10. And he said, You have asked a difficult thing; nevertheless, if you see me when I am taken from

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you, it shall be so to you; but if not, it shall not be so.

11. And it came to pass, as they still went on, and talked, that, behold, there appeared a chariot of fire, and horses of fire, and separated them one from the other; and Elijah went up by a whirlwind to heaven.

12. And Elisha saw it, and he cried, My father, my father, the chariot of Israel, and its horsemen. And he saw him no more; and he took hold of his own clothes, and tore them in two pieces.

13. He took up also the mantle of Elijah that fell from him, and went back, and stood by the bank of Jordan;

14. And he took the mantle of Elijah that fell from him, and struck the waters, and said, Where is the Lord God of Elijah? and when he also had struck the waters, they parted to one side and to the other; and Elisha went over.

15. And when the sons of the prophets who were in Jericho saw him, they said, The spirit of Elijah does rest on Elisha. And they came to meet him, and

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bowed to the ground before him.

16. And they said to him, Behold now, there are with your servants fifty strong men; let them go, we beg you, and seek your master; lest perhaps the spirit of the Lord has taken him up, and cast him upon some mountain, or in some valley. And he said, you shall not send.

17. And when they urged him till he was ashamed, he said, Send. They sent therefore fifty men; and they sought three days, but found him not.

18. And when they came again to him, for he remained at Jericho, he said to them, Did I not say to you, Go not?

19. And the men of the city said to Elisha, Behold, we beg you, the situation of this city is pleasant, as our lord sees; but the water is bad, and the ground barren.

20. And he said, Bring me a new jar, and put salt in it. And they brought it to him.

21. And he went forth to the spring of the waters, and

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cast the salt in there, and said, Thus said the Lord, I have healed these waters; there shall not be from there any more death or miscarriage.

22. And the waters were healed until this day, according to the saying of Elisha which he spoke.

23. And he went up from there to Beth-El; and as he was going up by the way, there came out little children from the city, and mocked him, and said to him, Go up, you bald head; go up, you bald head.

24. And he turned back, and looked on them, and cursed them in the name of the Lord. And there came out two female bears from the wood, and tore forty two children of them.

25. And he went from there to Mount Carmel, and from there he returned to Samaria.

Chapter 3

1. And Jehoram the son of Ahab began to reign over Israel in Samaria the eighteenth year of Jehoshaphat

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king of Judah, and reigned twelve years.

2. And he did evil in the sight of the Lord; but not like his father, or like his mother; for he put away the image of Baal that his father had made.

3. Nevertheless he held fast to the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, which made Israel sin; he departed not from that.

4. And Mesha king of Moab was a sheep breeder, and delivered to the king of Israel a hundred thousand lambs, and a hundred thousand rams, with the wool.

5. But it came to pass, when Ahab was dead, that the king of Moab rebelled against the king of Israel.

6. And king Jehoram went from Samaria the same time, and mustered all Israel.

7. And he went and sent to Jehoshaphat the king of Judah, saying, The king of Moab had rebelled against me; will you go with me against Moab to battle? And he said, I will go up; I am as you are, my people as your people, and my horses as your horses.

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8. And he said, Which way shall we go up? And he answered, The way through the wilderness of Edom.

9. And the king of Israel went, and the king of Judah, and the king of Edom; and they made a circuit of seven days' journey; and there was no water for the camp, and for the cattle that followed them.

10. And the king of Israel said, Alas! that the Lord had called these three kings together, to deliver them to the hand of Moab!

11. But Jehoshaphat said, Is there not here a prophet of the Lord, that we may inquire of the Lord by him? And one of the king of Israel's servants answered and said, Here is Elisha the son of Shaphat, which poured water on the hands of Elijah.

12. And Jehoshaphat said, The word of the Lord is with him. And the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat and the king of Edom went down to him.

13. And Elisha said to the king of Israel, What have I to do with you? go to the prophets of your father, and to the prophets of your mother. And the king of

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Israel said to him, No; for the Lord has called these three kings together, to deliver them to 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 the king of Judah, I would not look toward you, nor see you.

15. But now bring me a minstrel. And it came to pass, when the minstrel played, that the hand of the Lord came upon him.

16. And he said, Thus said the Lord, Make this valley full of ditches.

17. For thus said the Lord, you shall not see wind, neither shall you see rain; yet that valley shall be filled with water, that you may drink, both you, and your cattle, and your beasts.

18. And this is but a light thing in the sight of the Lord; he will deliver the Moabites also to your hand.

19. And you shall strike every fortified city, and every choice city, and shall fell every good tree, and stop

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all wells of water, and mar every good piece of land with stones.

20. And it came to pass in the morning, when the meal offering was offered, that, behold, there came water by the way of Edom, and the country was filled with water.

21. And when all the Moabites heard that the kings came to fight against them, they gathered all who were able to put on armor, and upward, and stood in the border.

22. And they rose up early in the morning, and the sun shone upon the water, and the Moabites saw the water on the other side as red as blood;

23. And they said, This is blood; the kings have fought together, and they have struck one another; now therefore, Moab, to the plunder.

24. And when they came to the camp of Israel, Israel rose up and defeated the Moabites, so that they fled before them; but they went forward striking the Moabites.

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25. And they beat down the cities, and on every good piece of land cast every man his stone, and filled it; and they stopped all the wells of water, and felled all the good trees; only in Kir-Haraseth left they its stones; and the slingers surrounded it, and struck it.

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

27. Then he took his eldest son who should have reigned in his place, and offered him for a burnt offering upon the wall. And there was great indignation upon Israel; and they departed from him, and returned to their own land.

Chapter 4

1. And there cried a certain woman of the wives of the sons of the prophets to Elisha, saying, Your servant my husband is dead; and you know that your servant feared the Lord; and the creditor has come to take to

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him my two sons to be slaves.

2. And Elisha said to her, What shall I do for you? tell me, what have you in the house? And she said, Your maidservant had not any thing in the house, save a jar of oil.

3. Then he said, Go outside, borrow utensils from all your neighbors, empty utensils; borrow not a few.

4. And when you come in, you shall close the door upon you and upon your sons, and shall pour out into all those utensils, and you shall set aside that which is full.

5. And she went from him, and closed the door upon her and upon her sons, who brought the utensils to her; and she poured out.

6. And it came to pass, when the utensils were full, that she said to her son, Bring me yet a utensil. And he said to her, There is not any utensil more. And the oil stopped flowing.

7. Then she came and told the man of God. And he said, Go, sell the oil, and pay your debt, and live you

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and your children of the rest.

8. And it happened one day, that Elisha passed to Shunem, where there was a wealthy woman; and she urged him to eat bread. And so it was, that whenever he passed by, he turned in there to eat bread.

9. And she said to her husband, Behold now, I perceive that this is a holy man of God, who passes by us continually.

10. Let us make a little chamber, I beg you, on the wall; and let us set for him there a bed, and a table, and a stool, and a lampstand; and it shall be, when he comes to us, that he shall turn in there.

11. And it happened one day, that he came there, and he turned into the chamber, and lay there.

12. And he said to Gehazi his servant, Call this Shunemmite. And when he had called her, she stood before him.

13. And he said to him, Say now to her, Behold, you have been careful to take all this trouble for us. What

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is to be done for you? Would you be spoken for to the king, or to the captain of the army? And she answered, I live among my own people.

14. And he said, What then is to be done for her? And Gehazi answered, Truly she has no child, and her husband is old.

15. And he said, Call her. And when he had called her, she stood in the door.

16. And he said, About this season, in the coming year, you shall embrace a son. And she said, No, my lord, you man of God, do not lie to your maidservant.

17. And the woman conceived, and bore a son at that season that Elisha had said to her, in the following year.

18. And when the child was grown, he fell one day, when he went out to his father to the reapers.

19. And he said to his father, My head, my head. And he said to a lad, Carry him to his mother.

20. And when he had taken him, and brought him to his

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mother, he sat on her knees till noon, and then died.

21. And she went up, and laid him on the bed of the man of God, and closed the door upon him, and went out.

22. And she called to her husband, and said, Send me, I beg you, one of the young men, and one of the asses, that I may run to the man of God, and come again.

23. And he said, Why will you go to him today? it is neither new moon, nor sabbath. And she said, It shall be well.

24. Then she saddled an ass, and said to her servant, Drive, and go forward; do not slacken the pace, unless I bid you.

25. And she went and came to the man of God to Mount Carmel. And it came to pass, when the man of God saw her far away, that he said to Gehazi his servant, Behold, yonder is that Shunemmite;

26. Run now, I beg you, to meet her, and say to her, Is it well with you? Is it well with your husband? Is it

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well with the child? And she answered, It is well.

27. And when she came to the man of God to the hill, she caught him by the feet; but Gehazi came near to thrust her away. And the man of God said, Let her alone; for her soul is grieved inside her; and the Lord hid it from me, and did not tell me.

28. Then she said, Did I ask my lord for a son? Did I not say, Do not deceive me?

29. Then he said to Gehazi, Gird up your loins, and take my staff in your hand, and go your way; if you meet any man, greet him not; and if any greets you, do not answer him back; and lay my staff upon the face of the child.

30. And the mother of the child said, As the Lord lives, and as your soul lives, I will not leave you. And he arose, and followed her.

31. And Gehazi passed on before them, and laid the staff upon the face of the child; but there was neither voice, nor sound. Therefore he went back to meet him, and told him, saying, The child is not awakened.

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32. And when Elisha came into the house, behold, the child was dead, and laid upon his bed.

33. He went in therefore, and closed the door upon the two of them, and prayed to the Lord.

34. And he went up, and lay upon the child, and put his mouth upon his mouth, and his eyes upon his eyes, and his hands upon his hands; and he stretched himself upon the child; and the flesh of the child became warm.

35. Then he returned, and walked in the house to and fro; and went up, and stretched himself upon him; and the child sneezed seven times, and the child opened his eyes.

36. And he called Gehazi, and said, Call this Shunemmite. And he called her. And when she came to him, he said, Take up your son.

37. Then she went in, and fell at his feet, and bowed to the ground, and took up her son, and went out.

38. And Elisha came again to Gilgal; and there was a famine in the land; and the sons of the prophets

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were sitting before him; and he said to his servant, Set on the great pot, and boil a pottage for the sons of the prophets.

39. And one went out to the field to gather herbs, and found a wild vine, and gathered of it his lap full of wild gourds, and came and sliced them into the pot of pottage; and they knew not what they were.

40. And they poured out for the men to eat. And it came to pass, as they were eating of the pottage, that they cried out, and said, O you man of God, there is death in the pot. And they could not eat of it.

41. But he said, Then bring meal. And he cast it into the pot; and he said, Pour out for the people, that they may eat. And there was no harm in the pot.

42. And there came a man from Baal-Shalisha, and brought the man of God bread of the first fruits, twenty loaves of barley, and fresh ears of grain in its husk. And he said, Give to the people, that they may eat.

43. And his servant said, What, should I set this before

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a hundred men? He said again, Give the people, that they may eat; for thus said the Lord, They shall eat, and shall leave of it.

44. And he set it before them, and they ate, and left of it, according to the word of the Lord.

Chapter 5

1. And Naaman, captain of the army of the king of Aram, was a great man with his master, and highly esteemed, because by him the Lord had given deliverance to Aram; he was also a mighty man in valor, but he was a leper.

2. And the Arameans had gone out in raiding parties, and had brought captive from the land of Israel a little girl; and she waited on Naaman's wife.

3. And she said to her mistress, Would God my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! for he would heal him of his leprosy.

4. And one went in, and told his lord, saying, Thus

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and thus said the maid who is from the land of Israel.

5. And the king of Aram said, Go to, go, and I will send a letter to the king of Israel. And he departed, and took with him ten talents of silver, and six thousand pieces of gold, and ten changes of garments.

6. And he brought the letter to the king of Israel, saying, And when this letter reaches you, know that I have sent Naaman my servant to you, that you may cure him of his leprosy.

7. And it came to pass, when the king of Israel read the letter, that he tore his clothes, and said, Am I God, to kill and to make alive, that this man sends me a man to cure him of his leprosy? Only consider, I beg you, how he seeks a quarrel with me.

8. And it was so, 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? Let him come now to me, and he shall know that there is a prophet in Israel.

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9. And Naaman came with his horses and with his chariot, and stood at the door of the house of Elisha.

10. And Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, Go and wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall come back to you, and you shall be clean.

11. But Naaman was angry, and went away, and said, Behold, I thought, He will surely come out to me, and stand, and call on the name of the Lord his God, and wave his hand over the place, and cure the leper.

12. Are not Amana and Pharpar, rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? May I not wash in them, and be clean? And he turned and went away in a rage.

13. And his servants came near, and spoke to him, and said, My father, if the prophet had bid you do some great thing, would you not have done it? How much rather then, when he said to you, Wash, and be clean?

14. So he went down, and dipped himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the saying of the man of

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God; and his flesh was restored like the flesh of a little child, and he was clean.

15. And he returned to the man of God, he and all his company, and came, and stood before him; and he said, Behold, now I know that there is no God in all the earth, but in Israel; now therefore, I beg you, take a blessing of your servant.

16. But he said, As the Lord lives, before whom I stand, I will receive none. And he urged him to take it; but he refused.

17. And Naaman said, If not, let then, I beg you, be given to your servant two mules' burden of earth? for your servant will henceforth offer neither burnt offering nor sacrifice to other gods, but to the Lord.

18. In this thing the Lord pardon your servant, that when my master goes to the house of Rimmon to worship there, and he leans on my hand, and I bow myself in the house of Rimmon; when I bow down myself in the house of Rimmon, the Lord pardon your servant in this thing.

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19. And he said to him, Go in peace. And when he departed from him a short distance.

20. Gehazi, the servant of Elisha the man of God, said, Behold, my master had spared Naaman this Aramean, in not receiving at his hands that which he brought; but, as the Lord lives, I will run after him, and take something from him.

21. And Gehazi followed after Naaman. And when Naaman saw him running after him, he alighted down from the chariot to meet him, and said, Is all well?

22. And he said, All is well. My master had sent me, saying, Behold, just now came to me from Mount Ephraim two young men of the sons of the prophets; give them, I beg you, a talent of silver, and two changes of garments.

23. And Naaman said, Be pleased to accept two talents. And he urged him, and tied two talents of silver in two bags, with two changes of garments, and laid them upon two of his servants; and they

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carried them before him.

24. And when he came to the hill, he took them from their hand, and he put them in the house; and he let the men go, and they departed.

25. But he went in, and stood before his master. And Elisha said to him, Where do you come from, Gehazi? And he said, Your servant went nowhere.

26. And he said to him, Went not my heart with you, when the man turned back from his chariot to meet you? Is it a time to receive money, and to receive garments, and olive orchards, and vineyards, and sheep, and oxen, and menservants, and maidservants?

27. The leprosy therefore of Naaman shall cleave to you, and to your seed forever. And he went out from his presence a leper as white as snow.

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Chapter 6

1. And the sons of the prophets said to Elisha, Behold now, the place where we live with you is too small for us.
2. Let us go, we beg you, to the Jordan, and take there every man a log, and let us make us a place there, where we may live. And he answered, Go.
3. And one said, Be pleased, I beg you, to go with your servants. And he answered, I will go.
4. And he went with them. And when they came to the Jordan, they cut down trees.
5. But as one was felling a log, the ax head fell to the water; and he cried, and said, Alas, master! for it was borrowed.
6. And the man of God said, Where did it fall? And he showed him the place. And he cut down a stick, and threw it in there; and made the iron float.
7. And he said, Take it up to you. And he put out his hand, and took it.

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8. Then the king of Aram fought against Israel, and took counsel with his servants, saying, In such and such a place shall be my camp.

9. And the man of God sent to the king of Israel, saying, Beware that you pass not such a place; for there the Arameans have come down.

10. And the king of Israel sent to the place which the man of God told him and warned him of, and saved himself there, not once nor twice.

11. Therefore the heart of the king of Aram was very troubled for this thing; and he called his servants, and said to them, Will you not show me which of us is for the king of Israel?

12. And one of his servants said, None, my lord, O king; but Elisha, the prophet who is in Israel, tells the king of Israel the words that you speak in your bed chamber.

13. And he said, Go and spy where he is, that I may send and bring him. And it was told him, saying, Behold, he is in Dothan.

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14. Therefore sent he there horses, and chariots, and a great army; and they came by night, and surrounded the city.

15. And the servant of the man of God had risen early, and gone out, and behold, an army surrounded the city both with horses and chariots. And his servant said to him, Alas, my master! What shall we do?

16. And he answered, Fear not; for those who are with us are more than those who are with them.

17. And Elisha prayed, and said, Lord, I pray you, open his eyes, that he may see. And the Lord opened the eyes of the young man; and he saw; and, behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire around Elisha.

18. And when they came down to him, Elisha prayed to the Lord, and said, Strike this people, I pray you, with blindness. And he struck them with blindness according to the word of Elisha.

19. And Elisha said to them, This is not the way, nor is this the city; follow me, and I will bring you to the

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man whom you seek. And he led them to Samaria.

20. And it came to pass, when they came to Samaria, that Elisha said, Lord, open the eyes of these men, that they may see. And the Lord opened their eyes, and they saw; and, behold, they were in the midst of Samaria.

21. And the king of Israel said to Elisha, when he saw them, My father, shall I strike them? shall I strike them?

22. And he answered, You shall not strike them. Would you strike those whom you have taken captive with your sword and with your bow? Place bread and water before them, that they may eat and drink, and go to their master.

23. And he prepared a great feast for them; and when they had eaten and drunk, he sent them away, and they went to their master. And the bands of Aram came no more to the land of Israel.

24. And it came to pass after this, that Ben-Hadad king of Aram gathered all his army, and went up, and

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besieged Samaria.

25. And there was a great famine in Samaria; and, behold, they besieged it, until an ass's head was sold for eighty pieces of silver, and the fourth part of a qab of dove's dung for five pieces of silver.

26. And as the king of Israel was passing by upon the wall, there cried a woman to him, saying, Help, my lord, O king.

27. And he said, If the Lord does not help you, from where shall I help you? From the threshing floor, or from the wine press?

28. And the king said to her, What ails you? And she answered, This woman said to me, Give your son, that we may eat him today, and we will eat my son tomorrow.

29. And we boiled my son, and ate him; and I said to her on the next day, Give your son, that we may eat him; and she had hid her son.

30. And it came to pass, when the king heard the words of the woman, that he tore his clothes; and he

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passed by upon the wall, and the people looked, and, behold, he had sackcloth inside upon his flesh.

31. Then he said, God do so and more also to me, if the head of Elisha the son of Shaphat shall stand on him this day.

32. But Elisha sat in his house, and the elders sat with him; and the king sent a man from before him; but before the messenger came to him, he said to the elders, Do you see you how this son of a murderer has sent to take away my head? Look, when the messenger comes, close the door and hold him fast at the door. Is not the sound of his master's feet behind him?

33. And while he still talked with them, behold, the messenger came down to him; and he said, Behold, this evil is of the Lord. Why should I wait for the Lord any longer?

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Chapter 7

1. Then Elisha said, Hear the word of the Lord; Thus said the Lord, Tomorrow about this time shall a measure of fine flour be sold for a shekel, and two measures of barley for a shekel, in the gate of Samaria.

2. Then a lord on whose hand the king leaned answered the man of God, and said, Behold, if the Lord would make windows in heaven, might this thing be? And he said, Behold, you shall see it with your eyes, but shall not eat of it.

3. And there were four leprous men at the entrance of the gate; and they said one to another, Why should we sit here until we die?

4. If we say, We will enter into the city, then the famine is in the city, and we shall die there; and if we sit still here, we die also. And therefore come, and let us go over to the camp of the Arameans; if they save us alive, we shall live; and if they kill us, we shall but die.

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5. And they rose up in the twilight, to go to the camp of the Arameans; and when they came to the outer edge of the camp of Aram, behold, there was no man there.

6. For the Lord had made the camp of the Arameans hear a noise of chariots, and a noise of horses, the noise of a great army; and they said one to another, Lo, the king of Israel has hired against us the kings of the Hittites, and the kings of the Egyptians, to come upon us.

7. Therefore they arose and fled in the twilight, and left their tents, and their horses, and their asses, even the camp as it was, and fled for their life.

8. And when these lepers came to the outer edge of the camp, they went into one tent, and ate and drank, and carried from there silver, and gold, and garments, and went and hid it; and returned, and entered into another tent, and carried there also, and went and hid it.

9. Then they said one to another, We do not well; this

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day is a day of good news, and we hold our peace; if we remain till the morning light, punishment will come upon us; now therefore come, that we may go and tell the king's household.

10. And they came and called to the gatekeepers of the city; and they told them, saying, We came to the camp of the Arameans, and, behold, there was no man there, nor voice of man, but horses tied, and asses tied, and the tents as they were.

11. And he called the gatekeepers; and they told it to the king's house inside.

12. And the king arose in the night, and said to his servants, I will now tell you what the Arameans have done to us. They know that we are hungry; therefore they are gone from the camp to hide themselves in the field, saying, When they come from the city, we shall catch them alive, and get into the city.

13. And one of his servants answered and said, Let some take, I beg you, five of the horses that remain, which are left in the city, behold, they are as all the multitude of Israel that are left in it; behold, I say,

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they are even as all the multitude of the Israelites that have perished; and let us send and see.

14. They took therefore two chariot horses; and the king sent after the camp of the Arameans, saying, Go and see.

15. And they went after them to the Jordan; and, lo, all the way was full of garments and utensils, which the Arameans had cast away in their haste. And the messengers returned, and told the king.

16. And the people went out, and plundered the tents of the Arameans. And a measure of fine flour was sold for a shekel, and two measures of barley for a shekel, according to the word of the Lord.

17. And the king appointed the lord on whose hand he leaned to be in charge of the gate; and the people trampled upon him in the gate, and he died, as the man of God had said, who spoke when the king came down to him.

18. And it came to pass as the man of God had spoken to the king, saying, Two measures of barley

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for a shekel, and a measure of fine flour for a shekel, shall be tomorrow about this time in the gate of Samaria;

19. And that lord answered the man of God, and said, And, behold, if the Lord should make windows in heaven, might such a thing be? And he said, Behold, you shall see it with your eyes, but shall not eat of it.

20. And so it happened to him; for the people trampled upon him in the gate, and he died.

Chapter 8

1. Then spoke Elisha to the woman, whose son he had restored to life, saying, Arise, and go you and your household, and sojourn wherever you can sojourn; for the Lord has called for a famine; and it shall also come upon the land seven years.

2. And the woman arose, and did after the saying of the man of God; and she went with her household, and sojourned in the land of the Philistines seven years.

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3. And it came to pass at the seven years' end, that the woman returned from the land of the Philistines; and she went out to cry to the king for her house and for her land.

4. And the king talked with Gehazi the servant of the man of God, saying, Tell me, I beg you, all the great things that Elisha has done.

5. And it came to pass, as he was telling the king how he had restored a dead body to life, that, behold, the woman, whose son he had restored to life, cried to the king for her house and for her land. And Gehazi said, My lord, O king, this is the woman, and this is her son, whom Elisha restored to life.

6. And when the king asked the woman, she told him. And the king appointed to her a certain officer, saying, Restore all that was hers, and all the fruits of the field since the day that she left the land, even until now.

7. And Elisha came to Damascus; and Ben-Hadad the king of Aram was sick; and it was told him,

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saying, The man of God has come here.

8. And the king said to Hazael, Take a gift in your hand, and go, meet the man of God, and inquire of the Lord by him, saying, Shall I recover of this disease?

9. And Hazael went to meet him, and took gifts with him, of every good thing of Damascus, forty camels' burden, and came and stood before him, and said, Your son Ben-Hadad king of Aram has sent me to you, saying, Shall I recover of this disease?

10. And Elisha said to him, Go, say to him, You may certainly recover; but the Lord has told me that he shall surely die.

11. And he fixed his gaze steadfastly, until he was ashamed; and the man of God wept.

12. And Hazael said, Why does my lord weep? And he answered, Because I know the evil that you will do to the people of Israel; their fortresses will you set on fire, and their young men will you kill with the sword, and will dash their children, and rip up their women

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with child.

13. And Hazael said, But what is your servant, who is but a dog, that he should do this great thing? And Elisha answered, The Lord has told me that you shall be king over Aram.

14. And he departed from Elisha, and came to his master; who said to him, What did Elisha say to you? And he answered, He told me that you should surely recover.

15. And it came to pass on the next day, that he took a thick cloth, and dipped it in water, and spread it on his face, so that he died; and Hazael reigned in his place.

16. And in the fifth year of Joram the son of Ahab king of Israel, Jehoshaphat being then king of Judah, Jehoram the son of Jehoshaphat king of Judah began to reign.

17. Thirty two years old was he when he began to reign; and he reigned eight years in Jerusalem.

18. And he walked in the way of the kings of Israel, as

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did the house of Ahab; for the daughter of Ahab was his wife; and he did evil in the sight of the Lord.

19. Yet the Lord would not destroy Judah for David his servant's sake, as he promised him to give to him and to his children a lamp for all time.

20. In his days Edom revolted from under the hand of Judah, and set up a king over themselves.

21. And Joram went over to Zair, and all the chariots with him; and he rose by night, and defeated the Edomites who surrounded him, and the captains of the chariots; and the people fled to their tents.

22. Yet Edom revolted from under the hand of Judah to this day. Then Libnah revolted at the same time.

23. And the rest of the acts of Joram, and all that he did, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Judah?

24. And Joram slept with his fathers, and was buried with his fathers in the city of David; and Ahaziah his son reigned in his place.

25. In the twelfth year of Joram the son of Ahab king

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of Israel Ahaziah the son of Jehoram king of Judah began to reign.

26. Twenty two years old was Ahaziah when he began to reign; and he reigned one year in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Athaliah, the daughter of Omri king of Israel.

27. And he walked in the way of the house of Ahab, and did evil in the sight of the Lord, as did the house of Ahab; for he was the son-in-law of the house of Ahab.

28. And he went with Joram the son of Ahab to war against Hazael king of Aram in Ramoth-Gilead; and the Arameans wounded Joram.

29. And king Joram went back to be healed in Jezreel of the wounds which the Arameans had given him at Ramah, when he fought against Hazael king of Aram. And Ahaziah the son of Jehoram king of Judah went down to see Joram the son of Ahab in Jezreel, because he was sick.

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Chapter 9

1. And Elisha the prophet called one of the sons of the prophets, and said to him, Gird up your loins, and take this flask of oil in your hand, and go to Ramoth-Gilead;

2. And when you come there, look out there Jehu the son of Jehoshaphat the son of Nimshi, and go in, and make him arise up from among his brothers, and take him to an inner chamber;

3. Then take the flask of oil, and pour it on his head, and say, Thus said the Lord, I have anointed you king over Israel. Then open the door, and flee, and do not wait.

4. And the young man, namely the young man, the prophet, went to Ramoth-Gilead.

5. And when he came, behold, the captains of the army were sitting; and he said, I have an errand to you, O captain. And Jehu said, To which of us? And he said, To you, O captain.

6. And he arose, and went into the house; and he

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poured the oil on his head, and said to him, Thus said the Lord God of Israel, I have anointed you king over the people of the Lord, over Israel.

7. And you shall strike the house of Ahab your master, that I may avenge the blood of my servants the prophets, and the blood of all the servants of the Lord, at the hand of Jezebel.

8. For the whole house of Ahab shall perish; and I will cut off from Ahab any who pisses against the wall, and he who is shut up and left in Israel;

9. And 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;

10. And the dogs shall eat Jezebel in the territory of Jezreel, and there shall be none to bury her. And he opened the door, and fled.

11. Then Jehu came out to the servants of his lord; and one said to him, Is all well? Why did this madman come to you? And he said to them, you know the man, and his way of talking.

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12. And they said, That is not true; tell us now. And he said, Thus and thus he spoke to me, saying, Thus said the Lord, I have anointed you king over Israel.

13. Then they hurried, and took every man his garment, and put it under him on the top of the stairs, and blew with the shofar, saying, Jehu is king!

14. And Jehu the son of Jehoshaphat the son of Nimshi conspired against Joram. And Joram was guarding Ramoth-Gilead, he and all Israel, because of Hazael king of Aram.

15. But king Joram had returned to be healed in Jezreel of the wounds which the Arameans had given him, when he fought with Hazael king of Aram. And Jehu said, If this is your mind, then let none go out nor escape from the city to go to tell it in Jezreel.

16. And Jehu rode in a chariot, and went to Jezreel; for Joram lay there. And Ahaziah king of Judah came down to see Joram.

17. And there stood a watchman on the tower in Jezreel, and he spied the company of Jehu as he

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came, and said, I see a company. And Joram said, Take a horseman, and send to meet them, and let him say, Is it peace?

18. And there went one on horseback to meet him, and said, Thus said the king, Is it peace? And Jehu said, What have you to do with peace? Turn behind me. And the watchman told, saying, The messenger came to them, but he does not return.

19. Then he sent out a second on horseback, which came to them, and said, Thus said the king, Is it peace? And Jehu answered, What have you to do with peace? Turn behind me.

20. And the watchman told, saying, He came to them, and does not return; and the driving is like the driving of Jehu the son of Nimshi; for he drives furiously.

21. And Joram said, Make ready. And his chariot was made ready. And Joram king of Israel and Ahaziah king of Judah went out, each in his chariot, and they went out against Jehu, and met him in the property

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of Naboth the Jezreelite.

22. And it came to pass, when Joram saw Jehu, that he said, Is it peace, Jehu? And he answered, What peace, so long as the harlotries of your mother Jezebel and her witchcrafts are so many?

23. And Joram turned his hands, and fled, and said to Ahaziah, Treachery, O Ahaziah!

24. And Jehu drew a bow with his full strength, and struck Jehoram between his arms, and the arrow pierced his heart, and he sank down in his chariot.

25. Then said Jehu to Bidkar his captain, Take up, and throw him in the plot of ground of the field of Naboth the Jezreelite; for remember how, when I and you rode together after Ahab his father, the Lord pronounced this burden upon him;

26. Surely I have seen yesterday the blood of Naboth, and the blood of his sons, said the Lord; and I will requite you in this plot, said the Lord. And therefore take him and throw him in the plot of ground, according to the word of the Lord.

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27. But when Ahaziah the king of Judah saw this, he fled by the way of the garden house. And Jehu followed after him, and said, Strike him also in the chariot. And they did so at the ascent to Gur, which is by Ibleam. And he fled to Megiddo, and died there.

28. And his servants carried him in a chariot to Jerusalem, and buried him in his sepulcher with his fathers in the city of David.

29. And in the eleventh year of Joram the son of Ahab began Ahaziah to reign over Judah.

30. And when Jehu came to Jezreel, Jezebel heard of it; and she painted her face, and adorned her head, and looked out from a window.

31. And as Jehu entered the gate, she said, Is it peace, you Zimri, who murdered his master?

32. And he lifted up his face to the window, and said, Who is on my side? Who? And there looked out to him two or three eunuchs.

33. And he said, Throw her down. And they threw her down; and some of her blood was sprinkled on the

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wall, and on the horses; and he trampled her under foot.

34. And when he came in, he ate and drank, and said, Go, see now this cursed woman, and bury her; for she is a king's daughter.

35. And they went to bury her; but they found no more of her than the skull, and the feet, and the palms of her hands.

36. And they returned, and told him. And he said, This is the word of the Lord, which he spoke by his servant Elijah the Tishbite, saying, In the territory of Jezreel shall dogs eat the flesh of Jezebel;

37. And the carcass of Jezebel shall be as dung upon the face of the field in the territory of Jezreel; so that they shall not say, This is Jezebel.

Chapter 10

1. And Ahab had seventy sons in Samaria. And Jehu wrote letters, and sent to Samaria, to the rulers of Jezreel, to the elders, and to those who brought up

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Ahab's children, saying,

2. And as soon as this letter comes to you, seeing your master's sons are with you, and there are with you chariots and horses, a fortified city also, and armor;

3. Select the best and fittest of your master's sons, and set him on his father's throne, and fight for your master's house.

4. But they were very much afraid, and said, Behold, two kings could not stand before him; how then shall we stand?

5. And he who was over the house, and he over was over the city, the elders also, and the guardians of the children, sent to Jehu, saying, We are your servants, and will do all that you shall bid us; we will not make any king; do that which is good in your eyes.

6. Then he wrote a letter a second time to them, saying, If you are mine, and if you will listen to my voice, take the heads of your master's sons, and

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come to me to Jezreel by tomorrow this time. And the king's sons, being seventy persons, were with the notables of the city, who were bringing them up.

7. And it came to pass, when the letter came to them, that they took the king's sons, and slew seventy persons, and put their heads in baskets, and sent them to him to Jezreel.

8. And there came a messenger, and told him, saying, They have brought the heads of the king's sons. And he said, Lay them in two heaps at the entrance of the gate until the morning.

9. And it came to pass in the morning, that he went out, and stood, and said to all the people, You are just men; behold, I conspired against my master, and killed him; but who killed all these?

10. Know now that there shall fall to the earth nothing of the word of the Lord, which the Lord spoke concerning the house of Ahab; for the Lord has done that which he spoke by his servant Elijah.

11. And Jehu killed all who remained of the house of

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Ahab in Jezreel, and all his great men, and his kinfolks, and his priests, until he left him none remaining.

12. And he arose and departed, and came to Samaria. And as he was at the shepherd's meeting house in the way,

13. Jehu met with the brothers of Ahaziah king of Judah, and said, Who are you? And they answered, We are the brothers of Ahaziah; and we go down to greet the sons of the king and the sons of the queen.

14. And he said, Take them alive. And they took them alive, and killed them at the pit of the meeting house, forty two men; and he did not leave any of them.

15. And when he had departed from there, he came across Jehonadab the son of Rechab coming to meet him; and he greeted him, and said to him, Is your heart right, as my heart is with your heart? And Jehonadab answered, It is. If it is, give me your hand. And he gave him his hand; and he took him up to him into the chariot.

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16. And he said, Come with me, and see my zeal for the Lord. And they made him ride in his chariot.

17. And when he came to Samaria, he killed all who remained to Ahab in Samaria, till he had destroyed him, according to the saying of the Lord, which he spoke to Elijah.

18. And Jehu gathered all the people together, and said to them, Ahab served Baal a little; but Jehu shall serve him much.

19. And therefore call to me all the prophets of Baal, all his servants, and all his priests; let none be missing; for I have a great sacrifice to make to Baal; whoever shall be missing, he shall not live. But Jehu did it with cunning in order to destroy the worshippers of Baal.

20. And Jehu said, Proclaim a solemn assembly for Baal. And they proclaimed it.

21. And Jehu sent through all Israel; and all the worshippers of Baal came, so that there was not a man left who did not come. And they came to the

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house of Baal; and the house of Baal was full from one end to the other.

22. And he said to him who was in charge of the wardrobe, Bring out garments for all the worshippers of Baal. And he brought them out garments.

23. And Jehu went, and Jehonadab the son of Rechab, to the house of Baal, and said to the worshippers of Baal, Search, and look that none of the servants of the Lord should be here with you, but the worshippers of Baal only.

24. And when they went in to offer sacrifices and burnt offerings, Jehu stationed eighty men outside, and said, If any of the men whom I have brought into your hands escape, he who lets him go, his life shall be for the life of him.

25. And it came to pass, as soon as he had finished offering the burnt offering, that Jehu said to the guard and to the captains, Go in, and kill them; let none come out. And they struck them with the edge of the sword; and the guard and the captains threw

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them out, and went to the city of the house of Baal.

26. And they brought out the images from the house of Baal, and burned them.

27. And they broke down the pillar of Baal, and broke down the house of Baal, and made it a latrine to this day.

28. Thus Jehu destroyed Baal from Israel.

29. But from the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel sin, Jehu departed not from after them, namely, the golden calves who were in Beth-El, and who were in Dan.

30. And the Lord said to Jehu, Because you have done well in doing that which is right in my eyes, and have done to the house of Ahab according to all that was in my heart, your sons of the fourth generation shall sit on the throne of Israel.

31. But Jehu did not take heed to walk in the Torah of the Lord God of Israel with all his heart; for he did not depart from the sins of Jeroboam, who made Israel sin.

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32. In those days the Lord began to cut off parts of Israel; and Hazael struck them in all the borders of Israel;

33. From the Jordan eastward, all the land of Gilead, the Gadites, and the Reubenites, and the Manassites, from Aroer, which is by the river Arnon, and Gilead and Bashan.

34. And the rest of the acts of Jehu, and all that he did, and all his might, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Israel?

35. And Jehu slept with his fathers; and they buried him in Samaria. And Jehoahaz his son reigned in his place.

36. And the time that Jehu reigned over Israel in Samaria was twenty eight years.

Chapter 11

1. And when Athaliah the mother of Ahaziah saw that her son was dead, she arose and destroyed all the

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royal seed.

2. But Jehosheba, the daughter of king Joram, sister of Ahaziah, took Joash the son of Ahaziah, and stole him from among the king's sons who were killed; and they hid him, him and his nurse, in the bed chamber, from Athaliah, so that he was not killed.

3. And he was with her hidden in the house of the Lord six years. And Athaliah reigned over the land.

4. And the seventh year Jehoiada sent and brought the rulers over hundreds of the Kari, with the runners, and brought them to him to the house of the Lord, and made a covenant with them, and took an oath from them in the house of the Lord, and showed them the king's son.

5. And he commanded them, saying, This is the thing that you shall do; A third part of you who enter in on the sabbath shall guard the king's house;

6. And a third part shall be at the Gate of Sur; and a third part at the gate behind the runners; so shall you guard the house, as a defense.

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7. And the two parts of you who go forth on the sabbath, they shall guard the house of the Lord around the king.

8. And you shall surround the king, every man with his weapons in his hand; and he who comes inside the ranks, let him be killed; and be with the king when he goes out and when he comes in.

9. And the captains over the hundreds did according to all that Jehoiada the priest commanded; and they took every man his men that were to come in on the sabbath, with those who should go out on the sabbath, and came to Jehoiada the priest.

10. And to the captains over hundreds the priest gave king David's spears and shields, who were in the temple of the Lord.

11. And the guard stood, every man with his weapons in his hand, around the king, from the right corner of the temple to the left corner of the temple, along by the altar and the temple.

12. And he brought out the king's son, and placed the

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crown upon him, and gave him the testimony; and they proclaimed him king, and anointed him; and they clapped their hands, and said, Long live the king!

13. And when Athaliah heard the noise of the guard and of the people, she came to the people in the temple of the Lord.

14. And when she looked, behold, the king stood by a pillar, as the custom was, and the princes and the trumpeters by the king, and all the people of the land rejoiced, and blew with trumpets; and Athaliah tore her clothes, and cried, Treason, Treason!

15. But Jehoiada the priest commanded the captains of the hundreds, the officers of the army, and said to them, Bring her out between the ranks; and he who follows her kill with the sword. For the priest had said, Let her not be killed in the house of the Lord.

16. And they laid hands on her; and she went by the way by which the horses came to the king's house; and there she was killed.

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17. And Jehoiada made a covenant between the Lord and the king and the people, that they should be the Lord's people; also between the king and the people.

18. And all the people of the land went to the house of Baal, and broke it down; his altars and his images broke they in pieces thoroughly, and killed Mattan the priest of Baal before the altars. And the priest appointed officers over the house of the Lord.

19. And he took the rulers over hundreds, and the captains, and the guard, and all the people of the land; and they brought down the king from the house of the Lord, and came by the way of the Gate of the Guard to the king's house. And he sat on the throne of the kings.

20. And all the people of the land rejoiced, and the city was quiet; and they killed Athaliah with the sword in the king's house.

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Chapter 12

1. Seven years old was Jehoash when he began to reign.
2. In the seventh year of Jehu Jehoash began to reign; and forty years reigned he in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Zibiah of Beersheba.
3. And Jehoash did that which was right in the sight of the Lord all his days because Jehoiada the priest instructed him.
4. But the high places were not taken away; the people still sacrificed and burned incense in the high places.
5. And Jehoash said to the priests, All the money of the consecrated things that is brought to the house of the Lord, the money of persons, for which each man is assessed, and the money that any man is prompted by his heart to bring to the house of the Lord,
6. Let the priests take it to them, every man from his acquaintance; and let them repair the breaches of

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the house, wherever any breach shall be found.

7. But it was so, that in the twenty third year of king Jehoash the priests had not repaired the breaches of the house.

8. Then king Jehoash called for Jehoiada the priest, and the other priests, and said to them, Why do you not repair the breaches of the house? Now therefore receive no more money from your acquaintances, but deliver it for the breaches of the house.

9. And the priests agreed to receive no more money from the people, nor to repair the breaches of the house.

10. But Jehoiada the priest took a chest, and bored a hole in its lid, and set it beside the altar, on the right side as one comes into the house of the Lord; and the priests who guarded the door put in there all the money that was brought to the house of the Lord.

11. And it was so, when they saw that there was much money in the chest, that the king's scribe and the high priest came up, and they counted and tied up in

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bags the money that was found in the house of the Lord.

12. And they gave the money, that was counted, to the hands of the workmen, who supervised the house of the Lord; and they paid it out to the carpenters and builders, who worked upon the house of the Lord.

13. And to the masons, and the stone cutters, and to buy timber and quarried stones to repair the breaches of the house of the Lord, and for all that was laid out for the house to repair it.

14. But there were not made for the house of the Lord bowls of silver, snuffers, basins, trumpets, any utensils of gold, or utensils of silver, from the money that was brought to the house of the Lord;

15. But they gave that to the workmen, and repaired with it the house of the Lord.

16. And they did not ask an accounting from the men into whose hand they delivered the money to be paid to the workmen; for they dealt in good faith.

17. The money for guilt offerings and the money for

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sin offerings was not brought to the house of the Lord; it was delivered to the priests'.>

18. Then Hazael king of Aram went up, and fought against Gath, and took it; and Hazael set his face to go up to Jerusalem.

19. And Jehoash king of Judah took all the consecrated things that Jehoshaphat, and Jehoram, and Ahaziah, his fathers, kings of Judah, had consecrated, and his own consecrated things, and all the gold that was found in the treasures of the house of the Lord, and in the king's house, and sent it to Hazael king of Aram; and he went away from Jerusalem.

20. And the rest of the acts of Joash, and all that he did, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Judah?

21. And his servants arose, and conspired, and killed Joash in the house of Millo, on the way that goes down to Silla.

22. For Jozachar the son of Shimeath, and Jehozabad

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the son of Shomer, his servants, struck him, and he died; and they buried him with his fathers in the city of David; and Amaziah his son reigned in his place.

Chapter 13

1. In the twenty third year of Joash the son of Ahaziah king of Judah Jehoahaz the son of Jehu began to reign over Israel in Samaria, and he reigned seventeen years.

2. And he did that which was evil in the sight of the Lord, and followed the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, which made Israel sin; he did not depart from them;

3. And the anger of the Lord was kindled against Israel, and he delivered them to the hand of Hazael king of Aram, and to the hand of Ben-Hadad the son of Hazael, all their days.

4. And Jehoahaz prayed to the Lord, and the Lord listened to him; for he saw the oppression of Israel, because the king of Aram oppressed them.

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5. And the Lord gave Israel a savior, so that they went out from under the hand of the Arameans; and the people of Israel lived in their tents, as formerly.

6. Nevertheless they departed not from the sins of the house of Jeroboam, who made Israel sin, but walked in them; and there remained the Ashera also in Samaria.

7. And there was not left to Jehoahaz an army of more than fifty horsemen, and ten chariots, and ten thousand foot soldiers; for the king of Aram had destroyed them, and had made them like the dust at threshing.

8. And the rest of the acts of Jehoahaz, and all that he did, and his might, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Israel?

9. And Jehoahaz slept with his fathers; and they buried him in Samaria; and Joash his son reigned in his place.

10. In the thirty seventh year of Joash king of Judah began Jehoash the son of Jehoahaz to reign over

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Israel in Samaria, and he reigned sixteen years.

11. And he did that which was evil in the sight of the Lord; he departed not from all the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel sin; but he walked in them.

12. And the rest of the acts of Joash, and all that he did, and his might with which he fought against Amaziah king of Judah, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Israel?

13. And Joash slept with his fathers; and Jeroboam sat upon his throne; and Joash was buried in Samaria with the kings of Israel.

14. And Elisha had fallen ill with the sickness of which he died. And Joash the king of Israel came down to him, and wept over his face, and said, O my father, my father, the chariot of Israel, and its horsemen.

15. And Elisha said to him, Take a bow and arrows. And he took for himself a bow and arrows.

16. And he said to the king of Israel, Put your hand upon the bow. And he put his hand upon it; and

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Elisha put his hands upon the king's hands.

17. And he said, Open the window eastward. And he opened it. Then Elisha said, Shoot. And he shot. And he said, The arrow of the Lord's deliverance, and the arrow of deliverance from Aram; for you shall strike the Arameans in Aphek, till you have consumed them.

18. And he said, Take the arrows. And he took them. And he said to the king of Israel, Strike upon the ground. And he struck three times, and stopped.

19. And the man of God was angry with him, and said, You should have struck five or six times; then you would have struck Aram till they had been consumed; whereas now you shall strike Aram only three times.

20. And Elisha died, and they buried him. And the bands of the Moabites invaded the land at the coming in of the year.

21. And it came to pass, as they were burying a man, that, behold, they spied a band of men; and they

II Kings

cast the man into the sepulcher of Elisha; and when the man was let down, and touched the bones of Elisha, he revived, and stood up on his feet.

22. But Hazael king of Aram oppressed Israel all the days of Jehoahaz.

23. And the Lord was gracious to them, and had compassion on them, and turned towards them, because of his covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and would not destroy them, neither has he till now cast them away from his presence.

24. And Hazael king of Aram died; and Ben-Hadad his son reigned in his place.

25. And Jehoash the son of Jehoahaz took again from the hand of Ben-Hadad the son of Hazael the cities, which he had taken from the hand of Jehoahaz his father by war. Three times did Joash beat him, and recovered the cities of Israel.

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Chapter 14

1. In the second year of Joash son of Jehoahaz king of Israel reigned Amaziah the son of Joash king of Judah.
2. He was twenty five years old when he began to reign, and he reigned twenty nine years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Jehoaddan of Jerusalem.
3. And he did that which was right in the sight of the Lord, yet not like David his father; he did according to all things as Joash his father did.
4. But the high places were not taken away; the people still sacrificed and burned incense on the high places.
5. And it came to pass, as soon as the kingdom was confirmed in his hand, that he killed his servants who had killed the king his father.
6. But the children of the murderers he did not kill; according to that which is written in the book of the Torah of Moses, because the Lord commanded,

II Kings

saying, The fathers shall not be put to death for the children, nor the children be put to death for the fathers; but every man shall be put to death for his own sin.

7. He killed of Edom in the valley of salt ten thousand, and took Sela by war, and called the name of it Yoktehel to this day.

8. Then Amaziah sent messengers to Jehoash, the son of Jehoahaz son of Jehu, king of Israel, saying, Come, let us look one another in the face.

9. And 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 for a wife; and there passed by a wild beast that was in Lebanon, and trampled down the thistle.

10. You have indeed defeated Edom, and your heart has lifted you up; keep your glory, and remain at home; for why should you provoke trouble, that you should fall, you, and Judah with you?

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11. But Amaziah would not hear. Therefore Jehoash king of Israel went up; and he and Amaziah king of Judah looked one another in the face at Beth-Shemesh, which belongs to Judah.

12. And Judah was defeated by Israel; and they fled every man to their tents.

13. And Jehoash king of Israel took Amaziah king of Judah, the son of Jehoash the son of Ahaziah, at Beth-Shemesh, and came to Jerusalem, and broke down the wall of Jerusalem from the Gate of Ephraim to the Corner Gate, four hundred cubits.

14. And he took all the gold and silver, and all the utensils that were found in the house of the Lord, and in the treasures of the king's house, and hostages, and returned to Samaria.

15. And the rest of the acts of Jehoash which he did, and his might, and how he fought with Amaziah king of Judah, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Israel?

16. And Jehoash slept with his fathers, and was buried

II Kings

in Samaria with the kings of Israel; and Jeroboam his son reigned in his place.

17. And Amaziah the son of Joash king of Judah lived after the death of Jehoash son of Jehoahaz king of Israel fifteen years.

18. And the rest of the acts of Amaziah, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Judah?

19. And they made a conspiracy against him in Jerusalem; and he fled to Lachish; but they sent after him to Lachish, and killed him there.

20. And they brought him on horses; and he was buried at Jerusalem with his fathers in the city of David.

21. And all the people of Judah took Azariah, who was sixteen years old, and made him king instead of his father Amaziah.

22. He built Elath, and restored it to Judah, after that the king slept with his fathers.

23. In the fifteenth year of Amaziah the son of Joash

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king of Judah Jeroboam the son of Joash king of Israel began to reign in Samaria, and reigned forty one years.

24. And he did that which was evil in the sight of the Lord; he departed not from all the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel sin.

25. He restored the border of Israel from the entrance of Hamath to the sea of the Arabah, according to the word of the Lord God of Israel, which he spoke by the hand of his servant Jonah, the son of Amittai, the prophet, which was of Gath-Hepher.

26. For the Lord saw the affliction of Israel, that it was very bitter; for there was not any shut up, nor any left free, nor any helper for Israel.

27. And the Lord did not say that he would blot out the name of Israel from under heaven; but he saved them by the hand of Jeroboam the son of Joash.

28. And the rest of the acts of Jeroboam, and all that he did, and his might, how he fought, and how he recovered Damascus, and Hamath, which had

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belonged to Judah, for Israel, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Israel?

29. And Jeroboam slept with his fathers, with the kings of Israel; and Zechariah his son reigned in his place.

Chapter 15

1. In the twenty seventh year of Jeroboam king of Israel began Azariah son of Amaziah king of Judah to reign.

2. Sixteen years old was he when he began to reign, and he reigned fifty two years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Jecoliah of Jerusalem.

3. And he did that which was right in the sight of the Lord, according to all that his father Amaziah had done;

4. Save that the high places were not removed; the people sacrificed and burned incense still on the high places.

5. And the Lord struck the king, so that he was a leper

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to the day of his death, and lived in a separate house. And Jotham the king's son was over the house, judging the people of the land.

6. And the rest of the acts of Azariah, and all that he did, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Judah?

7. And Azariah slept with his fathers; and they buried him with his fathers in the city of David; and Jotham his son reigned in his place.

8. In the thirty eighth year of Azariah king of Judah did Zechariah the son of Jeroboam reign over Israel in Samaria six months.

9. And he did that which was evil in the sight of the Lord, as his fathers had done; he departed not from the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel sin.

10. And Shallum the son of Jabesh conspired against him, and struck him before the people, and killed him, and reigned in his place.

11. And the rest of the acts of Zechariah, behold, they

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are written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Israel.

12. This was the word of the Lord which he spoke to Jehu, saying, Your sons shall sit on the throne of Israel to the fourth generation. And so it came to pass.

13. Shallum the son of Jabesh began to reign in the thirty ninth year of Uzziah king of Judah; and he reigned a full month in Samaria.

14. For Menahem the son of Gadi went up from Tirzah, and came to Samaria, and struck Shallum the son of Jabesh in Samaria, and killed him, and reigned in his place.

15. And the rest of the acts of Shallum, and his conspiracy which he made, behold, they are written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Israel.

16. Then Menahem struck Tiphseh, and all who were there, and its borders from Tirzah; because they opened not to him, therefore he struck it; and all the women there who were with child he ripped up.

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17. In the thirty ninth year of Azariah king of Judah began Menahem the son of Gadi to reign over Israel, and reigned ten years in Samaria.

18. And he did that which was evil in the sight of the Lord; he departed not all his days from the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel sin.

19. And Pul the king of Assyria came against the land; and Menahem gave Pul a thousand talents of silver, that his hand might be with him to confirm the kingdom in his hand.

20. And Menahem exacted the money of Israel, from all the mighty men of wealth, from each man fifty shekels of silver, to give to the king of Assyria. And the king of Assyria turned back, and did not remain in the land.

21. And the rest of the acts of Menahem, and all that he did, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Israel?

22. And Menahem slept with his fathers; and Pekahiah his son reigned in his place.

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23. In the fiftieth year of Azariah king of Judah Pekahiah the son of Menahem began to reign over Israel in Samaria, and reigned two years.

24. And he did that which was evil in the sight of the Lord; he departed not from the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel sin.

25. But Pekah the son of Remaliah, a captain of his, conspired against him, and struck him in Samaria, in the palace of the king's house, by Argob and Arieah, and with him fifty men of the Gileadites; and he killed him, and reigned in his place.

26. And the rest of the acts of Pekahiah, and all that he did, behold, they are written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Israel.

27. In the fifty second year of Azariah king of Judah Pekah the son of Remaliah began to reign over Israel in Samaria, and he reigned twenty years.

28. And he did that which was evil in the sight of the Lord; he departed not from the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel sin.

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29. In the days of Pekah king of Israel came Tiglath-Pileser king of Assyria, and took Iyon, and Abel-Beth-Maachah, and Janoah, and Kedesh, and Hazor, and Gilead, and Galilee, all the land of Naphtali, and carried them captive to Assyria.

30. And Hoshea the son of Elah made a conspiracy against Pekah the son of Remaliah, and struck him, and killed him, and reigned in his place, in the twentieth year of Jotham the son of Uzziah.

31. And the rest of the acts of Pekah, and all that he did, behold, they are written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Israel.

32. In the second year of Pekah the son of Remaliah king of Israel began Jotham the son of Uzziah king of Judah to reign.

33. Twenty five years old was he when he began to reign, and he reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Jerushah, the daughter of Zadok.

34. And he did that which was right in the sight of the

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Lord; he did according to all that his father Uzziah had done.

35. But the high places were not removed; the people sacrificed and burned incense still in the high places. He built the higher gate of the house of the Lord.

36. And the rest of the acts of Jotham, and all that he did, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Judah?

37. In those days the Lord began to send against Judah Rezin the king of Aram, and Pekah the son of Remaliah.

38. And Jotham slept with his fathers, and was buried with his fathers in the city of David his father; and Ahaz his son reigned in his place.

Chapter 16

1. In the seventeenth year of Pekah the son of Remaliah Ahaz the son of Jotham king of Judah began to reign.

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2. Twenty years old was Ahaz when he began to reign, and he reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem, and did not do that which was right in the sight of the Lord his God, like David his father.

3. But he walked in the way of the kings of Israel, and he even made his son pass through the fire, according to the abominations of the nations, whom the Lord cast out from before the people of Israel.

4. And he sacrificed and burned incense in the high places, and on the hills, and under every green tree.

5. Then Rezin king of Aram and Pekah son of Remaliah king of Israel came up to Jerusalem to war; and they besieged Ahaz, but could not overcome him.

6. At that time Rezin king of Aram recovered Elath for Aram, and drove the men of Judah from Elath; and the Arameans came to Elath, and lived there to this day.

7. And Ahaz sent messengers to Tiglath-Pileser king of Assyria, saying, I am your servant and your son;

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come up, and save me from the hand of the king of Aram, and from the hand of the king of Israel, who rise up against me.

8. And Ahaz took the silver and gold that was found in the house of the Lord, and in the treasures of the king's house, and sent it as a gift to the king of Assyria.

9. And the king of Assyria listened to him; for the king of Assyria went up against Damascus, and took it, and carried its people captive to Kir, and killed Rezin.

10. And king Ahaz went to Damascus to meet Tiglath-Pileser king of Assyria, and saw an altar that was at Damascus; and king Ahaz sent to Uriah the priest the model of the altar, and its pattern, according to all its workmanship.

11. And Uriah the priest built an altar according to all that king Ahaz had sent from Damascus; so Uriah the priest made it before king Ahaz came from Damascus.

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12. And when the king came from Damascus, the king saw the altar; and the king approached to the altar, and offered on it.

13. And he burned his burnt offering and his meal offering, and poured his drink offering, and sprinkled the blood of his peace offerings, upon the altar.

14. And he brought also the bronze altar, which was before the Lord, from the front of the house, from between the altar and the house of the Lord, and put it on the north side of the altar.

15. And king Ahaz commanded Uriah the priest, saying, Upon the great altar burn the morning burnt offering, and the evening meal offering, and the king's burnt sacrifice, and his meal offering, with the burnt offering of all the people of the land, and their meal offering, and their drink offerings; and sprinkle upon it all the blood of the burnt offering, and all the blood of the sacrifice; and the bronze altar shall be for me to inquire by.

16. Thus did Uriah the priest, according to all that king

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Ahaz commanded.

17. And king Ahaz cut off the borders of the bases, and removed the basin from off them; and took down the sea from off the bronze oxen that were under it, and put it upon a pavement of stones.

18. And the covered passage for the sabbath that they had built in the house, and the king's outer entrance, he turned from the house of the Lord, because of the king of Assyria.

19. And the rest of the acts of Ahaz which he did, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Judah?

20. And Ahaz slept with his fathers, and was buried with his fathers in the city of David; and Hezekiah his son reigned in his place.

Chapter 17

1. In the twelfth year of Ahaz king of Judah began Hoshea the son of Elah to reign in Samaria over

II Kings

Israel nine years.

2. And he did that which was evil in the sight of the Lord, but not as the kings of Israel who were before him.

3. Against him came up Shalmaneser king of Assyria; and Hoshea became his vassal, and paid him tribute.

4. And the king of Assyria found treachery in Hoshea; for he had sent messengers to So, king of Egypt, and brought no tribute to the king of Assyria, as he had done year by year; therefore the king of Assyria shut him up, and bound him in prison.

5. Then the king of Assyria came up throughout all the land, and went up to Samaria, and besieged it three years.

6. In the ninth year of Hoshea the king of Assyria took Samaria, and carried Israel away to Assyria, and placed them in Halah and in Habor by the river of Gozan, and in the cities of the Medes.

7. For so it was, that the people of Israel had sinned

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against the Lord their God, who had brought them up from the land of Egypt, from under the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt, and had feared other gods,

8. And walked in the statutes of the nations, whom the Lord cast out from before the people of Israel, and of the kings of Israel, which they practiced.

9. And the people of Israel did secretly those things that were not right against the Lord their God, and they built for themselves high places in all their cities, from the watchtower to the fortified city.

10. And they set up for themselves pillars and Asherim in every high hill, and under every green tree;

11. And there they burned incense in all the high places, as did the nations whom the Lord carried away before them; and did wicked things to provoke the Lord to anger;

12. For they served idols, about which the Lord had said to them, you shall not do this thing.

13. Then the Lord warned Israel, and Judah, by all the prophets, and by all the seers, saying, Turn from

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your evil ways, and keep my commandments and my statutes, according to all the Torah which I commanded your fathers, and which I sent to you by my servants the prophets.

14. However they would not hear, but hardened their necks, like the neck of their fathers, who did not believe in the Lord their God.

15. And they rejected his statutes, and his covenant that he made with their fathers, and his testimonies with which he warned them; and they followed vanity, and became vain, and went after the nations that were around them, concerning whom the Lord had charged them, that they should not do like them.

16. And they left all the commandments of the Lord their God, and made them molten images, two calves, and made an Ashera, and worshipped all the host of heaven, and served Baal.

17. And they made their sons and their daughters pass through the fire, and used divination and enchantments, and sold themselves to do evil in the

II Kings

sight of the Lord, to provoke him to anger.

18. Therefore the Lord was very angry with Israel, and removed them from his sight; there was none left but the tribe of Judah only.

19. Also Judah kept not the commandments of the Lord their God, but walked in the statutes of Israel which they practiced.

20. And the Lord rejected all the seed of Israel, and afflicted them, and delivered them to the hand of plunderers, until he had cast them from his sight.

21. For he tore 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 sin a great sin.

22. For the people of Israel walked in all the sins of Jeroboam which he did; they departed not from them;

23. Until the Lord removed Israel from his sight, as he had said by all his servants the prophets. And Israel was carried away from their own land to Assyria to

II Kings

this day.

24. And the king of Assyria brought men from Babylon, and from Cuthah, and from Ava, and from Hamath, and from Sepharvaim, and placed them in the cities of Samaria instead of the people of Israel; and they took possession of Samaria, and lived in its cities.

25. And so it was at the beginning of their living there, that they feared not the Lord; therefore the Lord sent lions among them, which killed some of them.

26. And they spoke to the king of Assyria, saying, The nations which you have removed, and placed in the cities of Samaria, know not the customs of the God of the land; therefore he has sent lions among them, and, behold, they kill them, because they know not the customs of the God of the land.

27. Then the king of Assyria commanded, saying, Take there one of the priests whom you brought from there; and let them go and live there, and let him teach them the customs of the God of the land.

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28. Then one of the priests whom they had carried away from Samaria came and lived in Beth-El, and taught them how they should fear the Lord.

29. But every nation made gods of their own, and put them in the houses of the high places which the Samaritans had made, every nation in their cities where they lived.

30. And the men of Babylon made Succoth-Benoth, and the men of Cuth made Nergal, and the men of Hamath made Ashima,

31. And the Avites made Nibhaz and Tartak, and the Sepharvites burned their sons in fire to Adrammelech and Anammelech, the gods of Sepharvaim.

32. And they feared the Lord, and appointed from among themselves all sorts of people as priests of the high places, who sacrificed for them in the houses of the high places.

33. They feared the Lord, and served their own gods, according to the customs of the nations from among

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whom they had been carried away.

34. To this day they do according to their former customs; they do not fear the Lord, nor do they follow the statutes, or the ordinances, or the Torah and commandment which the Lord commanded the children of Jacob, whom he named Israel;

35. With whom the Lord had made a covenant, and charged them, saying, You shall not fear other gods, nor bow yourselves to them, nor serve them, nor sacrifice to them;

36. But the Lord, who brought you up from the land of Egypt with great power and a stretched out arm, him shall you fear, and him shall you worship, and to him shall you do sacrifice.

37. And the statutes, and the ordinances, and the Torah, and the commandment, which he wrote for you, you shall be careful to do for all time; and you shall not fear other gods.

38. And the covenant that I have made with you you shall not forget; nor shall you fear other gods.

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39. But the Lord your God you shall fear; and he shall save you from the hand of all your enemies.

40. But they did not listen, but did according to their former customs.

41. And these nations feared the Lord, and served their carved idols, both their children, and their grandchildren; as did their fathers, so do they to this day.

Chapter 18

1. And it came to pass in the third year of Hoshea son of Elah king of Israel, that Hezekiah the son of Ahaz king of Judah began to reign.

2. Twenty five years old was he when he began to reign; and he reigned twenty nine years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Abi, the daughter of Zechariah.

3. And he did that which was right in the sight of the Lord, according to all that David his father did.

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4. He removed the high places, and broke the images, and cut down the Ashera, and broke in pieces the bronze serpent that Moses had made, for in those days the people of Israel burned incense to it; and he called it Nehushtan.

5. He trusted in the Lord God of Israel; so that after him was none like him among all the kings of Judah, nor any who were before him.

6. For he held fast to the Lord, and departed not from following him, but kept his commandments, which the Lord commanded Moses.

7. And the Lord was with him; and he prospered wherever he went forth; and he rebelled against the king of Assyria, and served him not.

8. He struck the Philistines, as far as Gaza, and its borders, from the watchtower to the fortified city.

9. And it came to pass in the fourth year of king Hezekiah, which was the seventh year of Hoshea son of Elah king of Israel, that Shalmaneser king of Assyria came up against Samaria, and besieged it.

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10. And at the end of three years they took it; in the sixth year of Hezekiah, that is the ninth year of Hoshea king of Israel, Samaria was taken.

11. And the king of Assyria carried away Israel to Assyria, and put them in Halah and in Habor by the river of Gozan, and in the cities of the Medes;

12. Because they obeyed not the voice of the Lord their God, but transgressed his covenant, and all that Moses the servant of the Lord commanded, and would not hear them, nor do them.

13. And in the fourteenth year of king Hezekiah Sennacherib king of Assyria came up against all the fortified cities of Judah, and took them.

14. And Hezekiah king of Judah sent to the king of Assyria to Lachish, saying, I have offended; withdraw from me; that which you put on me will I bear. And the king of Assyria imposed on Hezekiah king of Judah three hundred talents of silver and thirty talents of gold.

15. And Hezekiah gave him all the silver that was

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found in the house of the Lord, and in the treasures of the king's house.

16. At that time did Hezekiah cut off the gold from the doors of the temple of the Lord, and from the pillars which Hezekiah king of Judah had overlaid, and gave it to the king of Assyria.

17. And the king of Assyria sent Tartan and Rabsaris and Rabshakeh from Lachish to king Hezekiah with a great army against Jerusalem. And they went up and came to Jerusalem. And when they came up, they came and stood by the aqueduct of the upper pool, which is in the highway of the washer's field.

18. And when they had called to the king, there came out to them Eliakim the son of Hilkiah, who was over the household, and Shebna the scribe, and Joah the son of Asaph the recorder.

19. And Rabshakeh said to them, Speak now to Hezekiah, Thus said the great king, the king of Assyria, What confidence is this in which you trust?

20. You say, A mere word with the lips will serve as

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counsel and strength for the war. And on whom do you trust, that you rebel against me?

21. And, behold, you trust upon the staff of this broken reed, upon Egypt, on which if a man leans, it will go into his hand, and pierce it; so is Pharaoh king of Egypt to all who trust on him.

22. But if you say to me, We trust in the Lord our God; is not that he, whose high places and whose altars Hezekiah had taken away, and has said to Judah and Jerusalem, you shall worship before this altar in Jerusalem?

23. And therefore, I beg you, make a wager with my lord the king of Assyria, and I will deliver to you two thousand horses, if you are able on your part to set riders upon them.

24. How then will you turn away the face of one officer of the least of my master's servants, and put your trust on Egypt for chariots and for horsemen?

25. Am I now come up without the Lord against this place to destroy it? The Lord said to me, Go up

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against this land, and destroy it.

26. Then said Eliakim the son of Hilkiah, and Shebna, and Joah, to Rabshakeh, Speak, I beg you, to your servants in the Aramean language; for we understand it; and talk not with us in the language of Judah in the hearing of the people who are on the wall.

27. But Rabshakeh said to them, Has my master sent me to your master, and to you, to speak these words? has he not sent me to the men who sit on the wall, that they may eat their own dung, and drink their own piss with you?

28. Then Rabshakeh stood and cried with a loud voice in the language of Judah, and spoke, saying, Hear the word of the great king, the king of Assyria;

29. Thus said the king, Let not Hezekiah deceive you; for he shall not be able to save you from his hand;

30. Nor let Hezekiah make you trust in the Lord, saying, The Lord will surely save us, and this city shall not be delivered to the hand of the king of Assyria.

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31. Do not listen to Hezekiah; for thus said the king of Assyria, Make an agreement with me and come out to me, and then eat every man from his own vine, and every one from his fig tree, and drink every one the waters of his cistern;

32. Until I come and take you away to a land like your own land, a land of grain and wine, a land of bread and vineyards, a land of oil olive and of honey, that you may live, and not die; and listen not to Hezekiah, when he misleads you, saying, The Lord will save us.

33. Had any of the gods of the nations saved at all his land from the hand of the king of Assyria?

34. Where are the gods of Hamath, and of Arpad? Where are the gods of Sepharvaim, Hena, and Ivah? Have they saved Samaria from my hand?

35. Who among all the gods of the countries, have saved their country from my hand, that the Lord should save Jerusalem from my hand?

36. But the people held their peace, and answered

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him not a word; for the king's commandment was Do not answer him.

37. Then came Eliakim the son of Hilkiah, who was over the household, and Shebna the scribe, and Joah the son of Asaph the recorder, to Hezekiah with their clothes torn, and told him the words of Rabshakeh.

Chapter 19

1. And it came to pass, when king Hezekiah heard it, that he tore his clothes, and covered himself with sackcloth, and went into the house of the Lord.

2. And he sent Eliakim, who was over the household, and Shebna the scribe, and the elders of the priests, covered with sackcloth, to Isaiah the prophet the son of Amoz.

3. And they said to him, Thus said Hezekiah, This day is a day of trouble, and of reviling, and blasphemy; for the children have come to the birth, and there is not strength to bring them forth.

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4. It may be the Lord your God will hear all the words of Rabshakeh, whom the king of Assyria his master has sent to taunt the living God; and will revile with words which the Lord your God had heard; therefore lift up your prayer for the remnant who are left.

5. And the servants of king Hezekiah came to Isaiah.

6. And Isaiah said to them, Thus shall you say to your master, Thus said the Lord, Be not afraid of the words which you have heard, with which the servants of the king of Assyria have blasphemed me.

7. Behold, I will send a blast upon him, and he shall hear a rumor, and shall return to his own land; and I will cause him to fall by the sword in his own land.

8. And Rabshakeh returned, and found the king of Assyria fighting against Libnah; for he had heard that he had departed from Lachish.

9. And when he heard say of Tirhakah king of Ethiopia, Behold, he has come out to fight against you; he sent messengers again to Hezekiah, saying,

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10. Thus shall you speak to Hezekiah king of Judah, saying, Let not your God in whom you trust deceive you, saying, Jerusalem shall not be delivered to the hand of the king of Assyria.

11. Behold, you have heard what the kings of Assyria have done to all lands, by destroying them completely; and shall you be saved?

12. Have the gods of the nations saved those whom my fathers have destroyed; as Gozan, and Haran, and Rezeph, and the people of Eden who were in Telasar?

13. Where is the king of Hamath, and the king of Arpad, and the king of the city of Sepharvaim, of Hena, and Ivah?

14. And Hezekiah received the letters from the hand of the messengers, and read them; and Hezekiah went up to the house of the Lord, and spread them before the Lord.

15. And Hezekiah prayed before the Lord, and said, O Lord God of Israel, who dwells between the kerubim,

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you are the God, you alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth; you have made heaven and earth.

16. Lord, bend your ear, and hear; open, Lord, your eyes, and see; and hear the words of Sennacherib, who has sent him to taunt the living God.

17. Of a truth, Lord, the kings of Assyria have destroyed the nations and their lands,

18. And have thrown their gods into the fire; for they were no gods, but the work of men's hands, wood and stone; therefore they have destroyed them.

19. And therefore, O Lord our God, I beseech you, save us from his hand, that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that you are the Lord God, you only.

20. Then Isaiah the son of Amoz sent to Hezekiah, saying, Thus said the Lord God of Israel, That which you have prayed to me against Sennacherib king of Assyria I have heard.

21. This is the word that the Lord has spoken concerning him; The virgin the daughter of Zion despises you, and laughs at you with scorn; the

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daughter of Jerusalem has shaken her head at you.

22. Whom have you taunted and blasphemed? and against whom have you exalted your voice, and lifted up your eyes on high? Against the Holy One of Israel.

23. By your messengers you have taunted the Lord, and have said, With the multitude of my chariots I have come up to the height of the mountains, to the sides of Lebanon, and will cut down their tall cedar trees, and their choice cypresses; and I will enter into its farthest lodges, and into the forest of his Carmel.

24. I have dug and drunk strange waters, and with the sole of my feet have I dried up all the canals of Mazon.

25. Have you not heard long ago how I have done it, and of ancient times that I have formed it? Now have I brought it to pass, that fortified cities should be laid waste into ruinous heaps.

26. Therefore their inhabitants were of small power,

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they were dismayed and confounded; they were as the grass of the field, and as the green herb, as the grass on the house tops, and as grain blasted before it has grown up.

27. But I know your abode, and your going out, and your coming in, and your rage against me.

28. Because your rage against me and your arrogance has come into my ears, therefore I will put my hook in your nose, and my bridle in your lips, and I will turn you back by the way by which you came.

29. And this shall be a sign to you, you shall eat this year such things as grow of themselves, and in the second year that which springs of the same; and in the third year sow, and reap, and plant vineyards, and eat their fruits.

30. And the remnant that is escaped of the house of Judah shall yet again take root downward, and bear fruit upward.

31. For from Jerusalem shall go out a remnant, and they who escape from Mount Zion; the zeal of the

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Lord of hosts shall do this.

32. Therefore thus said the Lord concerning the king of Assyria, He shall not come to this city, nor shoot an arrow there, nor come before it with shield, nor cast up a mound against it.

33. By the way that he came, by the same shall he return, and shall not come into this city, said the Lord.

34. For I will defend this city, to save it, for my own sake, and for my servant David's sake.

35. And it came to pass that night, that the angel of the Lord went out, and struck in the camp of the Assyrians a hundred and eighty five thousand; and when they arose early in the morning, behold, they were all dead corpses.

36. And Sennacherib king of Assyria departed, and went and returned, and lived in Nineveh.

37. And it came to pass, as he was worshipping in the house of Nisroch his god, that Adrammelech and Sharezer his sons struck him with the sword and

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they escaped to the land of Ararat. And Esar-Haddon his son reigned in his place.

Chapter 20

1. In those days was Hezekiah mortally ill. And the prophet Isaiah the son of Amoz came to him, and said to him, Thus said the Lord, Set your house in order; for you shall die, and not live.

2. Then he turned his face to the wall, and prayed to the Lord, saying,

3. I beseech you, O Lord, remember now how I have walked before you in truth and with a perfect heart, and have done that which is good in your sight. And Hezekiah wept bitterly.

4. And it came to pass, before Isaiah was gone out to the middle court that the word of the Lord came to him, saying,

5. Turn back, and tell Hezekiah the prince of my people, Thus said the Lord, the God of David your father, I have heard your prayer, I have seen your

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tears; behold, I will heal you; on the third day you shall go up to the house of the Lord.

6. And I will add to your days fifteen years; and I will save you and this city from the hand of the king of Assyria; and I will defend this city for my own sake, and for my servant David's sake.

7. And Isaiah said, Take a cake of figs. And they took and laid it on the boil, and he recovered.

8. And Hezekiah said to Isaiah, What shall be the sign that the Lord will heal me, and that I shall go up to the house of the Lord the third day?

9. And Isaiah said, This sign shall you have of the Lord, that the Lord will do the thing that he has spoken; shall the shadow go forward ten degrees, or go back ten degrees?

10. And Hezekiah answered, It is easy for the shadow to go down ten degrees; no, but let the shadow go back ten degrees.

11. And Isaiah the prophet cried to the Lord; and he brought the shadow ten degrees backward, by which

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it had gone down in the dial of Ahaz.

12. At that time Berodach-Baladan, the son of Baladan, king of Babylon, sent letters and a gift to Hezekiah; for he had heard that Hezekiah had been sick.

13. And Hezekiah listened to them, and showed them all the house of his treasures, the silver, and the gold, and the spices, and the precious ointment, and all the house of his armor, and all that was found in his treasures; there was nothing in his house, nor in all his dominion, that Hezekiah showed them not.

14. Then came Isaiah the prophet to king Hezekiah, and said to him, What said these men? and from where came they to you? And Hezekiah said, They have come from a far country, from Babylon.

15. And he said, What have they seen in your house? And Hezekiah answered, All the things that are in my house have they seen; there is nothing among my treasures that I did not show them.

16. And Isaiah said to Hezekiah, Hear the word of

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the Lord.

17. Behold, the days will come, that all that is in your house, and that which your fathers have laid up in store to this day, shall be carried to Babylon; nothing shall be left, said the Lord.

18. And of your sons that shall issue from you, which you shall father, shall they take away; and they shall be eunuchs in the palace of the king of Babylon.

19. Then said Hezekiah to Isaiah, Good is the word of the Lord which you have spoken. And he said, Is it not good, if peace and truth are in my days?

20. And the rest of the acts of Hezekiah, and all his might, and how he made a pool, and an aqueduct, and brought water to the city, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Judah?

21. And Hezekiah slept with his fathers; and Manasseh his son reigned in his place.

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Chapter 21

1. Manasseh was twelve years old when he began to reign, and reigned fifty five years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Hephzibah.

2. And he did that which was evil in the sight of the Lord, after the abominations of the nations, whom the Lord cast out before the people of Israel.

3. For he built up again the high places which Hezekiah his father had destroyed; and he erected altars for Baal, and made an Ashera, as did Ahab king of Israel; and worshipped all the host of heaven, and served them.

4. And he built altars in the house of the Lord, of which the Lord said, In Jerusalem will I put my name.

5. And he built altars for all the host of heaven in the two courts of the house of the Lord.

6. And he made his son pass through the fire, and practiced soothsaying, and used enchantments, and dealt with mediums and wizards; he did much

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wickedness in the sight of the Lord, to provoke him to anger.

7. And he set a carved idol of the Ashera that he had made in the house, of which the Lord said to David, and to Solomon his son, In this house, and in Jerusalem, which I have chosen from all tribes of Israel, will I put my name forever;

8. Neither will I make the feet of Israel move any more from the land which I gave to their fathers; only if they will observe to do according to all that I have commanded them, and according to all the Torah that my servant Moses commanded them.

9. But they listened not; and Manasseh seduced them to do more evil than did the nations whom the Lord destroyed before the people of Israel.

10. And the Lord spoke by his servants the prophets, saying,

11. Because Manasseh king of Judah has done these abominations, and has done more wickedly than the Amorites did, who were before him, and had made

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Judah also sin with his idols;

12. Therefore thus said the Lord God of Israel, Behold, I am bringing such evil upon Jerusalem and Judah, that whoever hears of it, both his ears shall tingle.

13. And I will stretch over Jerusalem the measuring line of Samaria, and the plummet of the house of Ahab; and I will wipe Jerusalem as a man wipes a dish, wiping it, and turning it upside down.

14. And I will forsake the remnant of my inheritance, and deliver them to the hand of their enemies; and they shall become a prey and a plunder to all their enemies;

15. Because they have done that which was evil in my sight, and have provoked me to anger, since the day their fathers came out of Egypt, even to this day.

16. Moreover Manasseh shed much innocent blood, till he had filled Jerusalem from one end to another; besides his sin with which he made Judah sin, in doing that which was evil in the sight of the Lord.

17. And the rest of the acts of Manasseh, and all that

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he did, and his sin that he sinned, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Judah?

18. And Manasseh slept with his fathers, and was buried in the garden of his own house, in the garden of Uzza; and Amon his son reigned in his place.

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

20. And he did that which was evil in the sight of the Lord, as his father Manasseh did.

21. And he walked in all the ways that his father walked in, and served the idols that his father served, and worshipped them;

22. And he forsook the Lord God of his fathers, and walked not in the way of the Lord.

23. And the servants of Amon conspired against him, and killed the king in his own house.

24. And the people of the land killed all those who had

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conspired against king Amon; and the people of the land made Josiah his son king in his place.

25. And the rest of the acts of Amon which he did, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Judah?

26. And he was buried in his sepulcher in the garden of Uzza; and Josiah his son reigned in his place.

Chapter 22

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

2. And he did that which was right in the sight of the Lord, and walked in all the ways of David his father, and turned not aside to the right hand or to the left.

3. And it came to pass in the eighteenth year of king Josiah, that the king sent Shaphan the son of Azaliah, the son of Meshullam, the scribe, to the

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house of the Lord, saying,

4. Go up to Hilkiah the high priest, that he may count the silver which is brought to the house of the Lord, which the gatekeepers have gathered from the people;

5. And let them deliver it to the hand of the workmen, who supervise the house of the Lord; and let them give it to workers who are in the house of the Lord, to repair the breaches of the house,

6. To carpenters, and to builders, and to masons, and to buy timber and quarried stone to repair the house.

7. But there was no account made with them of the money that was delivered to their hand, because they dealt in good faith.

8. And Hilkiah the high priest said to Shaphan the scribe, I have found the book of the Torah in the house of the Lord. And Hilkiah 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

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have gathered the money that was found in the house, and have delivered it to the hand of the workmen, who supervise the house of the Lord.

10. And Shaphan the scribe told the king, saying, Hilkiyah the priest has delivered me a book. And Shaphan read it before the king.

11. And it came to pass, when the king had heard the words of the book of the Torah, that he tore his clothes.

12. And the king commanded Hilkiyah the priest, and Ahikam the son of Shaphan, and Achbor the son of Michaiah, and Shaphan the scribe, and Asaiah a servant of the king's, saying,

13. Go, inquire of the Lord for me, and for the people, and for all Judah, concerning the words of this book that was found; for great is the anger of the Lord that is kindled against us, because our fathers have not listened to the words of this book, to do according to all that which is written concerning us.

14. And Hilkiyah the priest, and Ahikam, and Achbor,

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and 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 second quarter; and they talked with her.

15. And she said to them, Thus said the Lord God of Israel, Tell the man who sent you to me,

16. Thus said the Lord, Behold, I will bring evil upon this place, and upon its inhabitants, all the words of the book which the king of Judah has read;

17. Because they have forsaken me, and have burned incense to other gods, that they might provoke me to anger with all the works of their hands; therefore my anger shall be kindled against this place, and shall not be quenched.

18. But to the king of Judah who sent you to inquire of the Lord, thus shall you say to him, Thus said the Lord God of Israel, Concerning the words which you have heard;

19. Because your heart was tender, and you have

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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, said the Lord.

20. Behold therefore, I will gather you to your fathers, and you shall be gathered to your grave in peace; and your eyes shall not see all the evil which I will bring upon this place. And they brought back word to the king.

Chapter 23

1. And the king sent, and they gathered to him all the elders of Judah and of Jerusalem.

2. And the king went up to the house of the Lord, and all the men of Judah and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem with him, and the priests, and the prophets, and all the people, both small and great; and he read in their hearing all the words of the book of the covenant which had been found in the house

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of the Lord.

3. And the king stood by a pillar, and made a covenant before the Lord, to walk after the Lord, and to keep his commandments and his testimonies and his statutes with all their heart and all their soul, to perform the words of this covenant that were written in this book. And all the people stood to the covenant.

4. And the king commanded Hilkiah the high priest, and the priests of the second order, and the gatekeepers, to bring out from the temple of the Lord all the utensils that were made for Baal, and for the Ashera, and for all the host of heaven; and he burned them outside Jerusalem in the fields of Kidron, and carried their ashes to Beth-El.

5. And he deposed the idolatrous priests, whom the kings of Judah had ordained to burn incense in the high places in the cities of Judah, and in the places around Jerusalem; also those who burned incense to Baal, to the sun, and to the moon, and to the constellations, and to all the host of heaven.

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6. And he brought out the Ashera from the house of the Lord, outside Jerusalem, to the brook Kidron, and burned it at the brook Kidron, and stamped it small to dust, and cast its dust upon the graves of the common people.

7. And he broke down the houses of the male cult prostitutes, that were by the house of the Lord, where the women wove covering for the Ashera.

8. And he brought all the priests from the cities of Judah, and defiled the high places where the priests had burned incense, from Geba to Beersheba, and broke down the high places of the gates that were in the entrance of the gate of Joshua the governor of the city, which were on a man's left hand at the gate of the city.

9. Nevertheless the priests of the high places came not up to the altar of the Lord in Jerusalem, but they ate of the unleavened bread among their brothers.

10. And he defiled the Tophet, which is in the valley of Ben Hinnom, that no man might make his son or his

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daughter to pass through the fire to Molech.

11. And he took away the horses that the kings of Judah had given to the sun, at the entrance of the house of the Lord, by the chamber of Nathan-Melech the chamberlain, which was in the suburbs, and burned the chariots of the sun with fire.

12. And the altars that were on the top of the upper chamber of Ahaz, which the kings of Judah had made, and the altars which Manasseh had made in the two courts of the house of the Lord, did the king beat down, and broke them down from there, and cast the dust of them into the brook Kidron.

13. And the high places that were before Jerusalem, which were on the right hand of the mount of corruption, which Solomon the king of Israel had built for Ashtoreth the abomination of the Sidonians, and for Kemosh the abomination of the Moabites, and for Milcom the abomination of the Ammonites, did the king defile.

14. And he broke in pieces the images, and cut down the Asherim, and filled their places with the

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bones of men.

15. Moreover the altar that was at Beth-El, and the high place which Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel sin, had made, both that altar and the high place he broke down, and burned the high place, and stamped it small to powder, and burned the Ashera.

16. And as Josiah turned himself, he spied the sepulchers that were there in the mount, and sent, and took the bones from the sepulchers, and burned them upon the altar, and polluted it, according to the word of the Lord which the man of God proclaimed, who proclaimed these words.

17. Then he said, What monument is that that I see? And the men of the city told him, It is the sepulcher of the man of God, which came from Judah, and proclaimed these things that you have done against the altar of Beth-El.

18. And he said, Let him alone; let no man move his bones. And they let his bones alone, with the bones

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of the prophet who came from Samaria.

19. And all the houses also of the high places that were in the cities of Samaria, which the kings of Israel had made to provoke the Lord to anger, Josiah took away, and did to them according to all the acts that he had done in Beth-El.

20. And he killed all the priests of the high places who were there upon the altars, and burned men's bones upon them, and returned to Jerusalem.

21. And the king commanded all the people, saying, Keep the Passover to the Lord your God, as it is written in the book of this covenant.

22. Surely there was not celebrated such a Passover from the days of the judges that judged Israel, nor in all the days of the kings of Israel, nor of the kings of Judah;

23. But in the eighteenth year of king Josiah, when this Passover was celebrated to the Lord in Jerusalem.

24. Moreover the mediums, and the wizards, and the

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images, and the idols, and all the abominations that were seen in the land of Judah and in Jerusalem, did Josiah put away, that he might perform the words of the Torah which were written in the book that Hilkiyah the priest found in the house of the Lord.

25. And like him was there no king before him, that turned to the Lord with all his heart, and with all his soul, and with all his might, according to all the Torah of Moses; neither after him arose there any like him.

26. However the Lord turned not from the fierceness of his great wrath, with which his anger was kindled against Judah, because of all the provocations that Manasseh had provoked him with.

27. And the Lord said, I will remove Judah also from my sight, as I have removed Israel, and will cast off this city Jerusalem which I have chosen, and the house of which I said, My name shall be there.

28. And the rest of the acts of Josiah, and all that he did, are they not written in the Book of the

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Chronicles of the Kings of Judah?

29. In his days Pharaoh Necho king of Egypt went up against the king of Assyria to the river Euphrates; and king Josiah went against him; and he killed him at Megiddo, when he saw him.

30. And his servants carried him dead in a chariot from Megiddo, and brought him to Jerusalem, and buried him in his own sepulcher. And the people of the land took Jehoahaz the son of Josiah, and anointed him, and made him king in his father's place.

31. Jehoahaz was twenty three years old when he began to reign; and he reigned three months in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Hamutal, the daughter of Jeremiah of Libnah.

32. And he did that which was evil in the sight of the Lord, according to all that his fathers had done.

33. And Pharaoh Necho put him in bonds at Riblah in the land of Hamath, that he might not reign in Jerusalem; and put the land to a tribute of a hundred

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talents of silver, and a talent of gold.

34. And Pharaoh Necho made Eliakim the son of Josiah king in place of Josiah his father, and turned his name to Jehoiakim, and took Jehoahaz away; and he came to Egypt, and died there.

35. And Jehoiakim gave the silver and the gold to Pharaoh; but he taxed the land to give the money according to the commandment of Pharaoh; he exacted the silver and the gold of the people of the land, of every one according to his taxation, to give it to Pharaoh Necho.

36. Jehoiakim was twenty five years old when he began to reign; and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Zebudah, the daughter of Pedaiah of Rumah.

37. And he did that which was evil in the sight of the Lord, according to all that his fathers had done.

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Chapter 24

1. In his days Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came up, and Jehoiakim became his vassal three years; then he turned and rebelled against him.
2. And the Lord sent against him bands of the Chaldeans, and bands of the Arameans, and bands of the Moabites, and bands of the Ammonites, and sent them against Judah to destroy it, according to the word of the Lord, which he spoke by his servants the prophets.
3. Surely at the commandment of the Lord came this upon Judah, to remove them from his sight, for the sins of Manasseh, according to all that he did;
4. And also for the innocent blood that he shed; for he filled Jerusalem with innocent blood; which the Lord would not pardon.
5. And the rest of the acts of Jehoiakim, and all that he did, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Judah?
6. And Jehoiakim slept with his fathers; and

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Jehoiachin his son reigned in his place.

7. And the king of Egypt came not again any more from his land; for the king of Babylon had taken from the river of Egypt to the river Euphrates all that belonged to the king of Egypt.

8. Jehoiachin was eighteen years old when he began to reign, and he reigned in Jerusalem three months. And his mother's name was Nehushta, the daughter of Elnathan of Jerusalem.

9. And he did that which was evil in the sight of the Lord, according to all that his father had done.

10. At that time the servants of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came up against Jerusalem, and the city was besieged.

11. And Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came against the city, and his servants besieged it.

12. And Jehoiachin the king of Judah went out to the king of Babylon, he, and his mother, and his servants, and his princes, and his officers; and the king of Babylon took him in the eighth year of his reign.

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13. And he carried out from there all the treasures of the house of the Lord, and the treasures of the king's house, and cut in pieces all the utensils of gold which Solomon king of Israel had made in the temple of the Lord, as the Lord had said.

14. And he carried away all Jerusalem, and all the princes, and all the mighty men of valor, ten thousand captives, and all the craftsmen and smiths; none remained, save the poorest sort of the people of the land.

15. And he carried away Jehoiachin to Babylon, and the king's mother, and the king's wives, and his officers, and the mighty of the land, those he carried into captivity from Jerusalem to Babylon.

16. And all the men of might, seven thousand, and craftsmen and smiths a thousand, all who were strong and apt for war, even them the king of Babylon brought captive to Babylon.

17. And the king of Babylon made Mattaniah his father's brother king in his place, and changed his

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name to Zedekiah.

18. Zedekiah was twenty one years old when he began to reign, and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Hamutal, the daughter of Jeremiah of Libnah.

19. And he did that which was evil in the sight of the Lord, according to all that Jehoiakim had done.

20. For through the anger of the Lord it came to pass in Jerusalem and Judah, until he had cast them out from his presence, that Zedekiah rebelled against the king of Babylon.

Chapter 25

1. And it came to pass in the ninth year of his reign, in the tenth month, in the tenth day of the month, that Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came, he, and all his army, against Jerusalem, and camped against it; and they built a siege wall around against it.

2. And the city was besieged until the eleventh year of

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king Zedekiah.

3. And on the ninth day of the fourth month the famine prevailed in the city, and there was no bread for the people of the land.

4. And the city was broken up, and all the men of war fled by night by the way of the gate between two walls, which is by the king's garden; and the Chaldeans were against the city surrounding it; and the king went the way toward the Arabah.

5. And the army of the Chaldeans pursued after the king, and overtook him in the plains of Jericho; and all his army were scattered from him.

6. And they took the king, and brought him to the king of Babylon to Riblah; and they gave judgment upon him.

7. And they killed the sons of Zedekiah before his eyes, and put out the eyes of Zedekiah, and bound him with fetters of bronze, and carried him to Babylon.

8. And in the fifth month, on the seventh day of the

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month, which is the nineteenth year of king Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, came Nebuzaradan, captain of the guard, a servant of the king of Babylon, to Jerusalem;

9. And he burned the house of the Lord, and the king's house, and all the houses of Jerusalem, and every great man's house burned he with fire.

10. And all the army of the Chaldeans, who were with the captain of the guard, broke down the walls around Jerusalem.

11. And the rest of the people who were left in the city, and the fugitives who fell to the king of Babylon, with the remnant of the multitude, did Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard carry away.

12. But the captain of the guard left of the poor of the land to be vinedressers and field workers.

13. And the pillars of bronze that were in the house of the Lord, and the bases, and the bronze sea that was in the house of the Lord, the Chaldeans broke in pieces, and carried the bronze of them to Babylon.

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14. And the pans, and the shovels, and the snuffers, and the spoons, and all the utensils of bronze with which they ministered, took they away.

15. And the firepans, and the basins, and such things as were of gold, in gold, and of silver, in silver, the captain of the guard took away.

16. The two pillars, one sea, and the bases which Solomon had made for the house of the Lord; the bronze of all these utensils beyond weight.

17. The height of one pillar was eighteen cubits, and the capital upon it was bronze; and the height of the capital three cubits; and the network, and pomegranates upon the capital around it, all of bronze; and the second pillar had the like, with the network.

18. And the captain of the guard took Seraiah the chief priest, and Zephaniah the second priest, and the three gatekeepers;

19. And from the city he took an officer who was set over the men of war, and five men of those who

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were in the king's presence, who were found in the city, and the scribe of the commander of the army, who mustered the people of the land, and sixty men of the people of the land who were found in the city;

20. And Nebuzaradan captain of the guard took these, and brought them to the king of Babylon to Riblah;

21. And the king of Babylon struck them, and killed them at Riblah in the land of Hamath. And Judah was carried away from their land.

22. And as for the people who remained in the land of Judah, whom Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon had left, over them he made Gedaliah the son of Ahikam, the son of Shaphan, ruler.

23. And when all the captains of the armies, they and their men, heard that the king of Babylon had made Gedaliah governor, there came to Gedaliah to Mizpah, Ishmael the son of Nethaniah, and Johanan the son of Careah, and Seraiah the son of Tanhumeth the Netophathite, and Jaazaniah the son of a Maachathite, they and their men.

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24. And Gedaliah swore to them, and to their men, and said to them, Do not fear to be the servants of the Chaldeans; live in the land, and serve the king of Babylon; and it shall be well with you.

25. But it came to pass in the seventh month, that Ishmael the son of Nethaniah, the son of Elishama, of royal seed, came, and ten men with him, and struck Gedaliah, and he died, and the men of Judah and the Chaldeans who were with him at Mizpah.

26. And all the people, both small and great, and the captains of the armies, arose, and came to Egypt; for they were afraid of the Chaldeans.

27. And it came to pass in the thirty seventh year of the captivity of Jehoiachin king of Judah, in the twelfth month, on the twenty seventh day of the month, that Evil-Merodach king of Babylon in the year that he began to reign lifted up the head of Jehoiachin king of Judah from prison;

28. And he spoke kindly to him, and set his throne above the throne of the kings who were with him in

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Babylon;

29. And changed his prison garments; and he ate bread continually before him all the days of his life.

30. And his allowance was a continual allowance given to him by the king, a daily portion for every day, all the days of his life.