

After Darkness, Light

August 17, 2025

2 Kings 25; 2 Chronicles 36:22-23

Dwight Custis

Outline

- | | | |
|------|--|-------------------------|
| I. | Kingdom Divided: Kings of Israel and Judah | 1 Kings 11 - 2 Kings 13 |
| II. | Israel's Destruction and Exile | 2 Kings 14-17 |
| III. | Judah's Destruction and Exile | 2 Kings 18-25 |

Book Theme Verse: 2 Kings 17:13 -¹³Yet the LORD warned Israel and Judah through all His prophets and every seer, saying, "Turn from your evil ways and keep My commandments, My statutes according to all the law which I commanded your fathers, and which I sent to you through My servants the prophets."

Lesson Theme Statement: After twenty-two years of four wicked Kings, the LORD God finally turned the Southern Kingdom of Judah over to Babylonian captivity. However, in the end, He made it clear that the eternal regal line of David remained in tact.

Passage Key Verse: 2 Kings 25:29 - ²⁹Jehoiachin changed his prison clothes and had his meals in the king's presence regularly all the days of his life

I. The Rise of Zedekiah to the Southern Kingdom Monarchy - 2 Kings 24:17-20

1. Zedekiah was appointed King of Judah by the _____ - v. 17
2. Zedekiah was in rebellion against the _____ - v.19
3. Zedekiah was in rebellion against the _____ - v. 20

II. The End of the Southern Kingdom Under Zedekiah - 2 Kings 25:1-7

1. In the ninth year of Zedekiah's reign, Nebuchadnezzar and his army returned to Jerusalem and built a _____ around the city - v. 1-2
2. After two years of the siege, there was a _____ among the Jerusalem residents - v. 3
3. When the city was broken into by the Chaldeans, _____ and _____ fled the city at night - v. 4-5
4. King Zedekiah and his sons were _____ by the Babylonian army near the plains of Jericho and taken to King Nebuchadnezzar at Riblah - v. 6
5. King Nebuchadnezzar _____ Zedekiah's sons before his eyes, _____ the eyes of Zedekiah and then _____ Zedekiah to life in Babylon prison - v. 7

III. The Destruction of Jerusalem and the exile of the people - 2 Kings 25:8-12

1. Nebuzaradan, the captain of the bodyguard burned all the significant houses of Jerusalem which included the _____ and the _____ - v. 8-9
2. The Chaldean army broke down _____ around Jerusalem - v. 10
3. Nebuzaradan _____ the majority of the remaining people to Babylon leaving only the very _____ in the land - v. 11-12

IV. The Plundering of the temple - 2 Kings 25:13-21

1. The Chaldeans _____ the temple for its _____ - v. 13-17
2. Nebuzaradan, Babylonian captain of the guard, _____ key temple leaders, key army leaders and 60 citizens and brought them to the king of Babylon at Riblah where they were _____ - v. 18-21

V. The Final Rebellion of the Remaining Remnant - 2 Kings 25:22-26

1. Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon appointed Gedaliah, a _____, who advised the remaining people to _____ in the land and _____ the king of Babylon so that it would be _____ with them - v. 22-24
2. Instead of heeding Gedaliah's advice, the people rose up and _____ Gedaliah and the Jews and Chaldeans who were with him - v. 25
3. Then the rebellious people fled to _____ because they were afraid of the Chaldeans - v. 26

VI. After Darkness, Light - 2 Kings 25:27-30

1. After King Nebuchadnezzar's _____, his son Evil-merodach became king for about _____ - v. 27
2. For _____, Jehoiachin king of Judah had remained in a Babylonian prison - v. 27
3. In the first year of Evil-merodach's reign, he brought Jehoiachin out of _____ and gave him _____ for the rest of his _____ - v. 27b-30

Philip Ryken - "Even that is not the end of the story, because the story never ends. With the fulfillment of God's royal promises in Jesus Christ, our hope rises, and rises again. Think of Christ's first coming as 3 Kings—the sequel to the Old Testament story of Judah and Israel. Then think of His second coming as 4 Kings—the book we are still waiting to read. Through faith in Jesus Christ, we are part of that everlasting story. By the grace of God, we are not blinded by sin or lost in spiritual exile. No, we are safe in the city of God, under the strong protection of David's royal Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ. Long live the King!"