

"On the Way" 365 Bible Reading Plan

II KINGS 25

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Hezekiah had asked for an extension in his life. God granted him fifteen more years of life. During that extension, a couple of things happened that are notable. First, Hezekiah made one of the biggest mistakes of his life in granting the Chaldeans/Babylonians access to see all the riches of the great Temple that Solomon had built.

Second, during those fifteen years, his son, Manasseh, was born. During the days of Manasseh, Israel hit rock bottom into sinfulness. Manasseh even offered his son on the altar of Chemosh/Molech in the southern valley of Gai Ben Hinnom. The Scriptures say that Manasseh **"paid no attention (to the commands of Torah) and seduced them to do more evil than the nations whom the LORD had destroyed before the children of Israel."** (II Kings 21:9)

Judgement upon the house of Judah was set. God had told Moses to tell the sons of Israel that he would take them out of the land of promise if they did evil in His sight and did not repent. God was so merciful and longsuffering in dealing with His beloved people, but God will not postpone judgement forever. Repentance postpones judgment. There were days of revival and national renewal under King Josiah, but after his death, things went from bad to worse and God said, "that is enough!"

Nebuchadnezzar had taken care of the Assyrians at the Battle of Carchemish after destroying Nineveh, their capital. He came to Jerusalem. He dealt with the Egyptians and then destroyed Jerusalem after a two- and half-year siege. He destroyed and leveled the beautiful temple of Solomon and took away all the treasures. The Commander in Chief also took the huge bronze pillars of the temple and broke them in pieces and carried them away to Babylon along with the utensils, vessels, and all the valued instruments of worship that were made for worship of the true and living God. These vessels would show up again in the book of Daniel at Belshazzar's feast (Daniel 5). Belshazzar made the grave mistake of thinking because God allowed his people to experience judgment, that He had forsaken them. He discovered a difference as he mocked the God of the Jews by asking for the sacred vessels to be used to "Rub into the face of the Jewish people." God took his kingdom that night and he lost his life to Cyrus the Persian.

Prayer and Action Steps

God rules and overrules. He loves you and cares for you. He cares so much that He will not allow you live anyway you please. If you have strayed from God, go to Him immediately in prayer and repentance. He will forgive you. May your life be Jesus. Amen

Date _____ Scripture _____

- Read the chapter. If you have time, read it again.
- Highlight, underline or circle the Key Verse or Verses of the chapter.
- Ask yourself these questions as you read through the chapter.

Is this historical narrative, analogy, metaphor, allegory, or some other element of speech or communicating truth?

Does the passage teach a Biblical Precept; that is, tells you something to be, do or act? _____

What is the Context? Old Testament? New Testament? What is the writer speaking or writing about? To whom is he writing?

Are there principles in this chapter that if followed, would require me to change my attitudes or actions? _____

Is this a clear passage of Scripture (can only be interpreted one way)? Or could the passage be interpreted legitimately, in two or more ways, according to grammar and context?

Does the passage give a Biblical Pattern that is followed here and other places in the Bible? _____
