

{12} II Kings

(4) And the king of Assyria found conspiracy in Hoshea: because he had sent messengers to So king of Egypt, and brought no present 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 into Assyria {3406 A.H./C-636 B.C.},^b and placed them in Halah and in Habor *by* the river of Gozan, and in the cities of the Medes.

(7) Because, the children of Israel had sinned against the LORD {Jehovah} their God, Who had brought them up out of the land of Egypt, from under the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt, and had served other gods,

(8) And walked in the laws of the ungodly nations, whom the LORD {Jehovah} had cast out from before the children of Israel, and of the kings of Israel, which they had made.

(9) And the children of Israel secretly did *those* things that *were* not right against the LORD {Jehovah} their God, and they built for themselves high places {to worship idols} in all their cities, from the tower of the watchmen to the fenced city.

(10) And they setup for themselves images and groves in every high hill, and under every green tree:

(11) And there they burnt incense in all the high places, as the ungodly nations *did* whom the LORD {Jehovah} carried away before them; and did wicked things to provoke the LORD {Jehovah} to anger:

(12) Because they served idols, which the LORD {Jehovah} had said to them, **You shall not do these things.**

(13) Yet the LORD {Jehovah} testified against Israel, and against Judah, by all the prophets, *and by* all the seers, saying, **Turn from your evil ways, and keep My commandments and My laws, according to all the law which I commanded your forefathers, and which I sent to you by My servants the prophets.**

(14) Nevertheless they would not listen, but hardened their necks, like the necks of their forefathers, who did not believe in the LORD {Jehovah} their God.

(15) And they rejected His laws, and His covenant that He had made with their forefathers, and His testimonies which He testified against them; and they followed vanity, and became vain, and went after the ungodly nations who *were* all around them, *concerning* whom the LORD {Jehovah} had charged them, that they should not do like them.

17:6b – ninth year of Hoshea - [3406 A.H./C- 636 B.C.] - end of the Northern Kingdom of Israel - 35th year of Isaiah's ministry - 263 years after death of Solomon. 114 years before captivity of the southern kingdom of Judah

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(16) And they left all the commandments of the LORD {Jehovah} their God, and made for themselves molten images, *even* two calves, and made a grove, and worshiped all the host of heaven, and served Baal.

(17) And they caused their sons and their daughters to pass through the fire, and used divination and enchantments, and sold themselves to do evil in the sight of the LORD {Jehovah}, to provoke Him to anger.

(18) Therefore the LORD {Jehovah} was very angry with Israel, and removed them out of His sight: there was none left but the tribe of Judah only.^c

(19) Also Judah did not keep the commandments of the LORD {Jehovah} their God, but walked in the laws of Israel which they made.

(20) And the LORD {Jehovah} rejected all the descendants of Israel, and afflicted them, and delivered them into the hand of spoilers, until He had cast them out of His sight.

(21) Because 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 {Jehovah}, and caused them to sin a great sin.

(22) Because the children of Israel walked in all the sins of Jeroboam which he did; they did not depart from them;

(23) Until the LORD {Jehovah} removed Israel out of His sight, as He had said by all His servants the prophets. So Israel was carried away out of their own land to Assyria to 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 children of Israel: and they possessed Samaria, and lived in its cities.

(25) And so it was at the beginning of their living there, *that* they did not honor the LORD {Jehovah}: therefore the LORD {Jehovah} sent lions among them, which killed *some* of them.

(26) Therefore they spoke to the king of Assyria, saying, The nations which you have removed, and placed in the cities of Samaria, do not know the ways of the God of the land: therefore He has sent lions among them, and, indeed, they kill them, because they do not know the ways of the God of the land.

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

(28) Then one of the priests whom they had carried away from Samaria came and lived in Bethel, and taught them how they should honor the LORD {Jehovah}.

17:18c – Judah only – actually the tribe of Benjamin was counted with the tribe of Judah as southern Kingdom of Judah