

# 2 KINGS

**AUTHOR:**

1 & 2 Kings were originally one book, so just as with 1 Kings, there is no clearly defined author of the book 2 Kings.

**DATE:**

By examining the last statements within 2 Kings one can conclude that the author of 1 & 2 Kings lived and wrote during the period of Israel's exile (586 - 539 BC)

**AUDIENCE:**

This book was written to continue telling the History of the Hebrew people. 1 Kings was written for the exiled Jews living in Babylon.

**CONTEXT:**

Babylon has conquered Israel and the Hebrew people have been taken into captivity. Those that aren't captured are living in exile. The temple has been destroyed and the king is captured. The Hebrew people are extremely discouraged.

**PURPOSE:**

Prior to Israel's exile their faith was built on God's promises of 1) His choice of Jerusalem as His dwelling place and 2) his promise to David of a lasting kingdom. Now that the people live without Jerusalem or a King their faith is shaken. Kings explains the exile and the destruction of Judah in a way that can restore the Israelites' faith and answer their questions.

