



# **ELIJAH & ELISHA**

## **Lessons In Faith**



**LESSON 8**

The background of the slide is a stained glass pattern. It features a central horizontal band of yellow glass. Above and below this band are sections of light brown or tan glass, separated by dark, thick leaded glass lines. The pattern is symmetrical and geometric, with the central yellow band being the most prominent feature.

**II KINGS 3:1-27**



**Ditches of Water Look Like Blood**

The background of the slide is a stained glass pattern. It features a central horizontal band of yellow, flanked by two horizontal bands of green. The top and bottom sections are filled with a repeating diamond or lozenge pattern in shades of tan and light brown, separated by dark, black lines representing the leaded glass joints.

# **THE POLITICAL SITUATION OF ISRAEL AND JUDAH**

**During the Reign of King Jehoshaphat**



Moab stopped paying tribute and rebelled against Israel immediately upon the death of King Ahab. His son Ahaziah was the next king.



## THE DEATH OF AHAZIAH

The tribute which the king of Moab had been paying to Ahab was a considerable amount of revenue for Israel, yet the loss of it was ignored as King Ahaziah sat still in sloth and ease and finally died from injuries, when he fell through a lattice in his upper chamber.

### KINGS OF ISRAEL

Jeroboam	975-954
Nadab	954-953
Baasha	953-930
Elah	930-929
Zimri	929
Omri	929-918
Ahab	918-897
Ahaziah	897-896
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Jehu	884-856
Jehoahaz	856-841
Joash	841-825
Jeroboam II	825-784
Zechariah	773
Shallum	772
Menahem	772-762
Pekahiah	762-760
Pekah	760-740
Hoshea	730-721

### KINGS OF JUDAH

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Abijah	958-955
Asa	955-914
Jehoshaphat	914-892
Jehoram	892-884
Ahaziah	885
Athaliah	885-878
Joash	878-839
Amaziah	839-810
Uzziah	810-758
Jotham	758-742
Ahaz	742-726
Hezekiah	726-698
Manasseh	698-643
Amon	643-641
Josiah	641-610
Jehoahaz	610
Jehoiakim	610-599
Jehoiachin	599
Zedekiah	599-588

Ahaziah's brother Joram (also spelled Jehoram) was the next king of Israel. **Jehoshaphat** was still king in Judah.

King Jehoram/Joram no sooner got the scepter in one hand than he took the sword in the other against Moab to demand tribute.

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Jehoram King of Israel  
convinced  
**Jehoshaphat King of Judah**  
to join him against Moab.  
So Judah and Israel united  
against Moab, a common  
enemy. God was not pleased  
that King Jehoshaphat was  
associating with the evil king  
of Israel.



In contrast to the former kings of Judah, **Jehoshaphat** saw greater benefit in an alliance with Israel than in civil war. The political union was cemented by the marriage of **Jehoram**, son of Jehoshaphat, to **Athaliah** daughter of **Ahab** and Jezebel.

King **Ahaziah** was **Jehoram** and **Athaliah's** son. They named him after Athaliah's brother, the king of Israel that died from falling through a lattice.

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### KINGS OF JUDAH

Rehoboam	933-916
Abijah	915-913
Asa	912-872
Jehoshaphat	874-850
Jehoram	850-843
<b>Ahaziah</b>	<b>843</b>
<b>Athaliah</b>	<b>843-837</b>
Joash	843-803
Amaziah	803-775
Uzziah	787-735

### **GENEALOGY:**


Ahab and Jezebel had a daughter, two sons, and a grandson that became royalty.

Ahaziah their son, King of Israel

Joram their son, King of Israel

Ahaziah their grandson, King of Judah

Athaliah their daughter, Queen of Judah



**God was angry with  
King Jehoshaphat  
when he compromised.**

2 Chronicles 19

“2. . . Jehu the son of Hanani the seer went out to meet him, and said to king Jehoshaphat, Shouldest thou help the ungodly, and love them that hate the LORD? therefore is wrath upon thee from before the LORD.”

# COMPROMISES OF JEHOSHAPHAT

COMPROMISE: He allowed his son to marry Ahab's daughter.

COMPROMISE: He ignored the message of the prophet Micaiah.

COMPROMISE: He united with Ahab to war against Syria.

COMPROMISE: He joined Ahaziah king of Israel to make ships.

COMPROMISE: He joined Jehoram in the war against Moab.

The background of the image is a stained glass pattern. It features a central horizontal band of yellow, flanked by two horizontal bands of green. The top and bottom sections are filled with a light brown or tan color, separated by black lines that form a diamond or lozenge shape. The text is centered within the yellow band.

**AND NOW THE TEXT . . .**

## 2 Kings 3

“<sup>1</sup>Now **Jehoram** the son of Ahab began to reign over Israel in Samaria the eighteenth year of **Jehoshaphat king of Judah**, and reigned twelve years. <sup>2</sup>And he wrought evil in the sight of the LORD; but not like his father, and like his mother: for he put away the image of Baal that his father had made. <sup>3</sup>Nevertheless he cleaved unto the sins of **Jeroboam** the son of Nebat, which made Israel to sin; he departed not therefrom.”

### KINGS OF ISRAEL

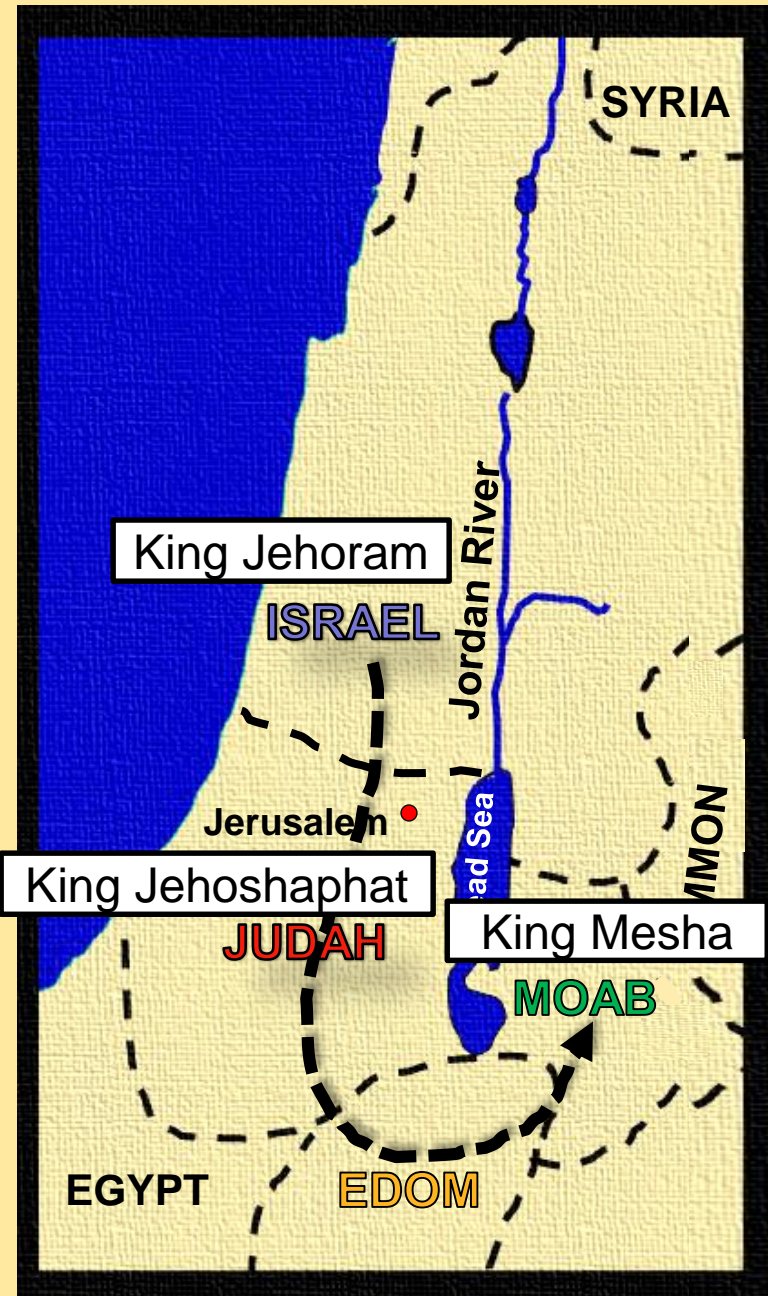
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## 2 Kings 3

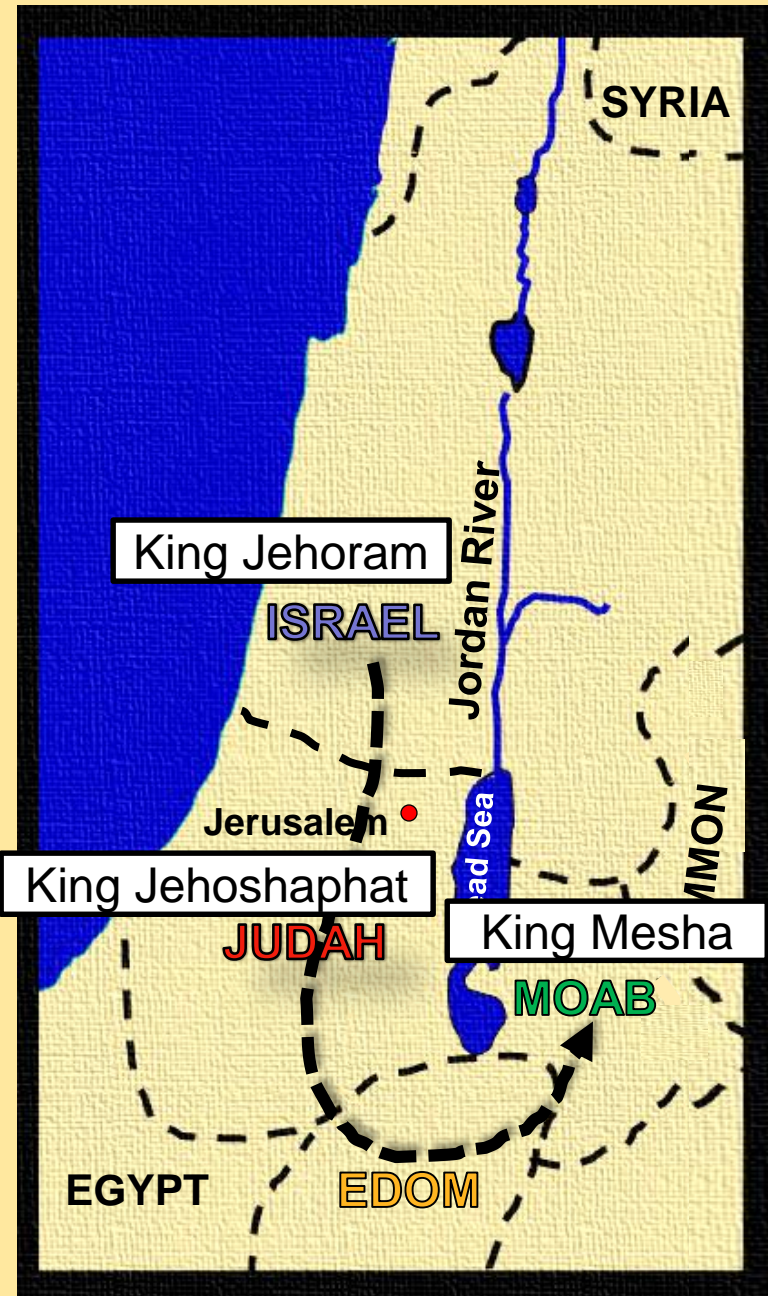
<sup>4</sup>“And Mesha king of Moab was a sheepmaster, and rendered unto the king of Israel an hundred thousand lambs, and an hundred thousand rams, with the wool.  
<sup>5</sup>But it came to pass, when Ahab was dead, that the king of Moab rebelled against the king of Israel.”





## 2 Kings 3

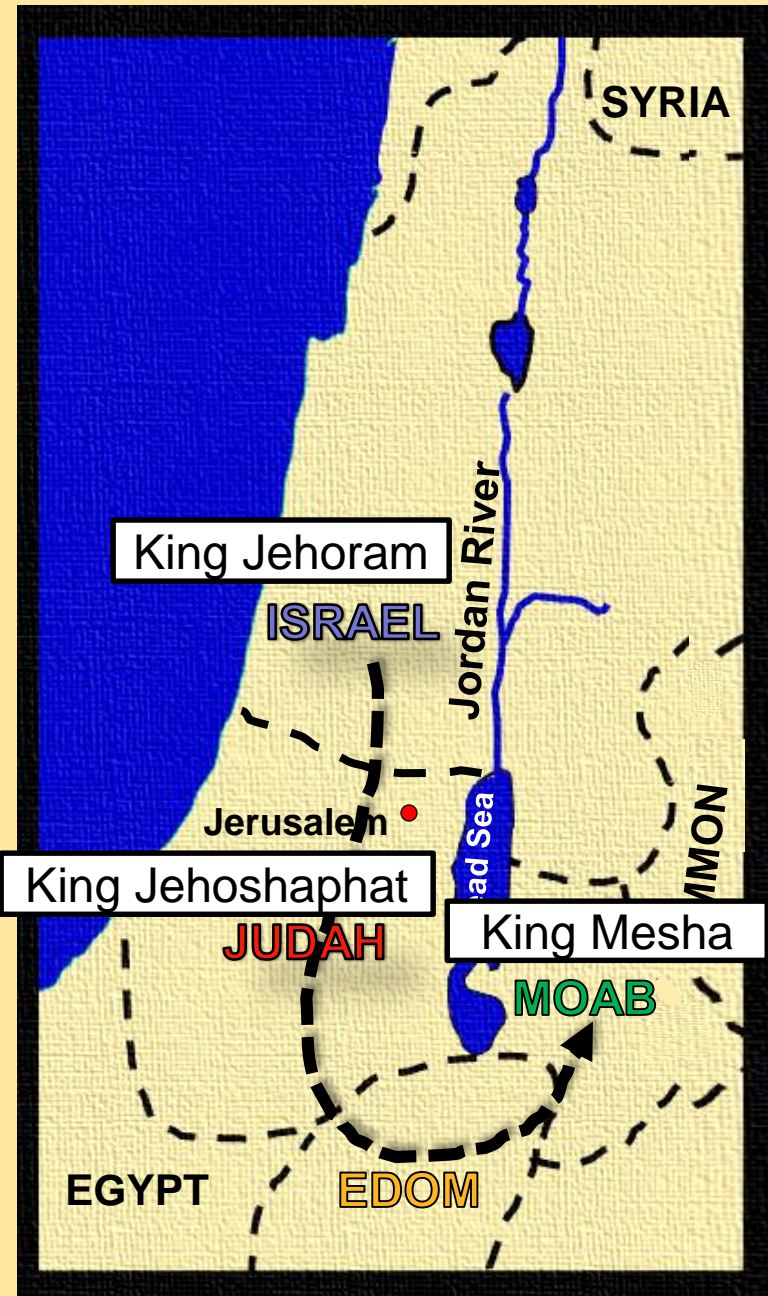
“<sup>6</sup>And king Jehoram went out of Samaria the same time, and numbered all Israel. <sup>7</sup>And he went and sent to Jehoshaphat the king of Judah, saying, The king of Moab hath rebelled against me: wilt thou go with me against Moab to battle? And he said, I will go up: I am as thou art, my people as thy people, and my horses as thy horses. <sup>8</sup>And he said, Which way shall we go up? And he answered, The way through the wilderness of Edom.”



## 2 Kings 3:8

Jehoram king of Israel consulted Jehoshaphat king of Judah as a confidant. He took the advice of Jehoshaphat, who had more wisdom and experience than himself.

Jehoshaphat advised that they should not march against Moab the nearest way over Jordan, but go around through the wilderness of Edom that they might take the king of Edom (who paid taxes to Judah) and his forces along with them.



## 2 Kings 3

“<sup>9</sup>So the king of Israel went, and the king of Judah, and the king of Edom: and they fetched a compass of seven days’ journey: and there was no water for the host, and for the cattle that followed them.”

them,”  
cattle that followed  
for the host, and for the  
and there was no water



## 2 Kings 3

“<sup>10</sup>And the king of Israel said, Alas! that the LORD hath called these three kings together, to deliver them into the hand of Moab!”

Before the armies saw the face of an enemy they were all in danger of perishing for want of water. Jehoram king of Israel was immoral and an idolator, so his reaction to their problem was to blame God. **But the entire expedition was his idea!**



## 2 Kings 3

“<sup>11</sup>But Jehoshaphat said, Is there not here a prophet of the LORD, that we may enquire 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.”



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It would have been better if Jehoshaphat had asked for a prophet BEFORE they began. Of course he may have rejected the prophecy if it wasn’t what he wanted to hear just as he along with King Ahab rejected the prophecy of Micaiah when they were going against Syria.



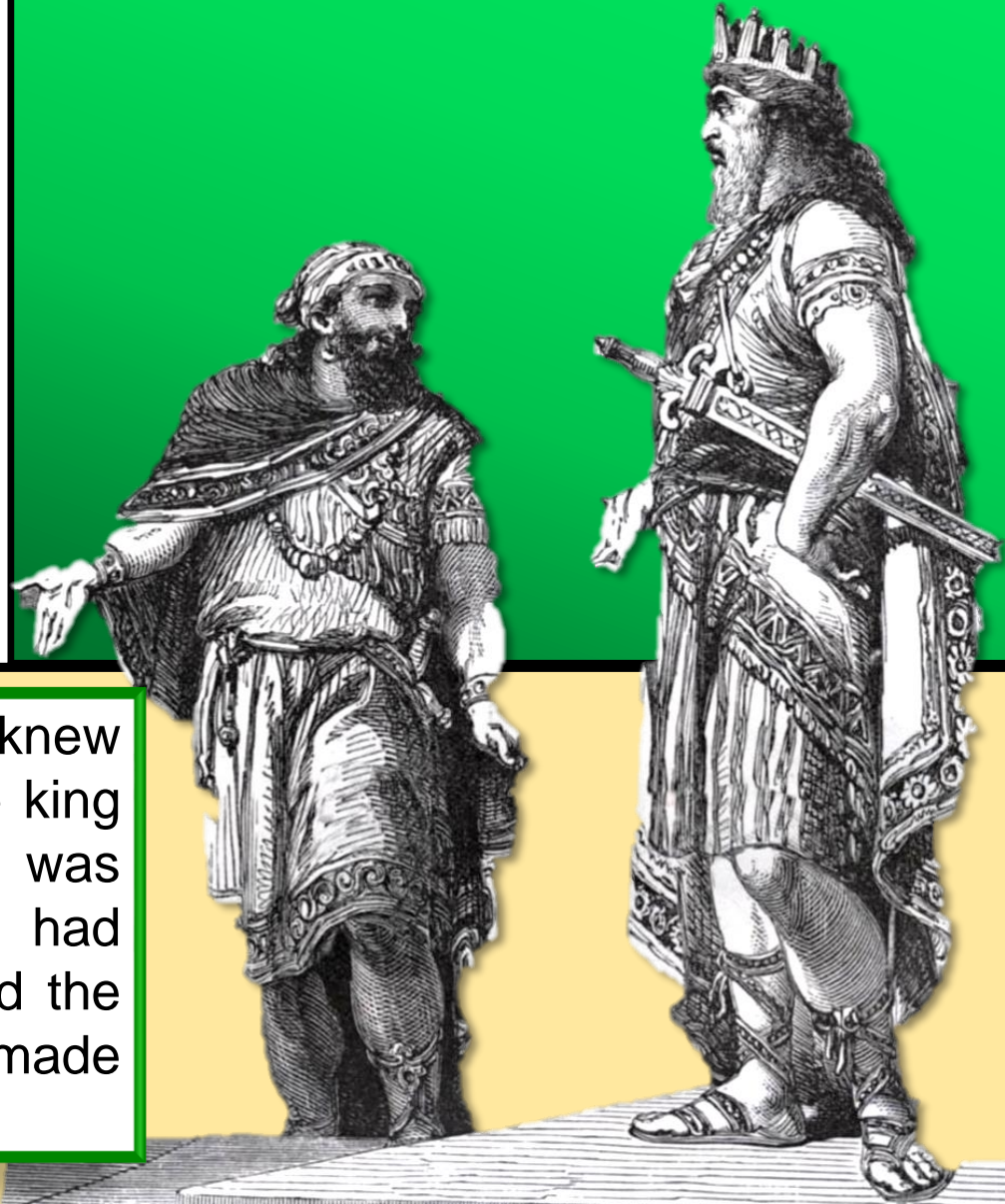
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A servant of the king of Israel knew of Elisha being there when the king himself did not. Probably it was such a servant as Obadiah had been to Ahab, one that feared the Lord; to such a one Elisha made himself known, not to the kings.



## 2 Kings 3

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We may suppose it was by special direction from heaven that Elisha attended the war.

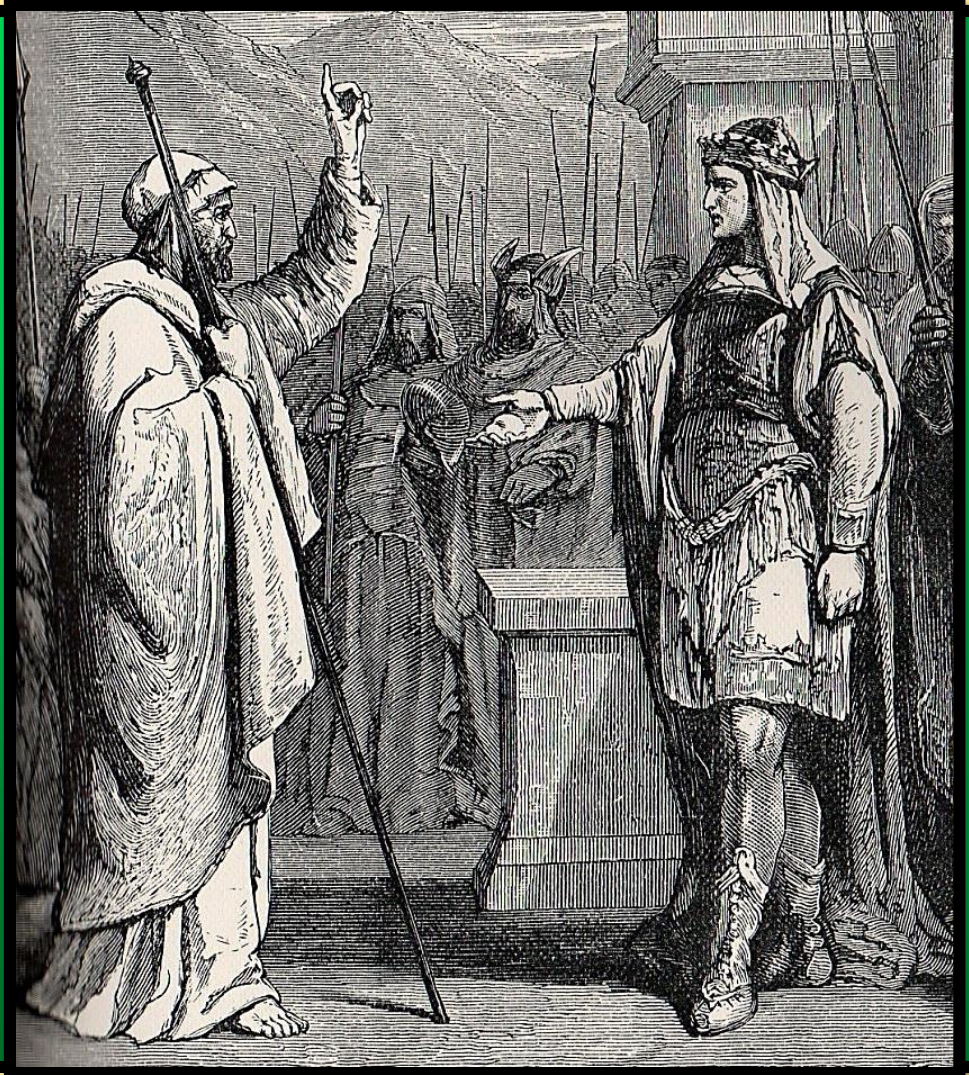




## 2 Kings 3

“<sup>12</sup>And Jehoshaphat said, The word of the LORD is with him. So the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat and the king of Edom went down to him. <sup>13</sup>And Elisha said unto the king of Israel,

What have I to do with thee? get thee to the prophets of thy father, and to the prophets of thy mother . . .”



## 2 Kings 3

“13. . . And the king of Israel said unto him,

Nay: for the LORD hath called these three kings together, to deliver them into the hand of Moab.

<sup>14</sup>And Elisha said,

As the LORD of hosts liveth, before whom I stand, surely, were it not that I regard the presence of Jehoshaphat the king of Judah, I would not look toward thee, nor see thee.”



Elisha told the King to his face that his wickedness made him to not even want to look at him!

But Elisha said he complied because of the King of Judah . . . (obviously, for all the good things Jehoshaphat had done for Judah.)

## 2 Kings 3

“<sup>15</sup>But now bring me a minstrel. And it came to pass, when the minstrel played, that the hand of the LORD came upon him.”



To be before such wicked kings as the King of Israel and the King of Edom upset Elisha to the extent that he had to compose himself to receive instructions from God.

He called for a musician, and the hand of the Lord came upon him, and he gave them assurance that they would speedily be supplied with water.



## 2 Kings 3

“<sup>16</sup>And he said,

Thus saith the LORD, Make this valley full of ditches. <sup>17</sup>For thus saith the LORD, Ye shall not see wind, neither shall ye see rain; yet that valley shall be filled with water, that ye may drink, both ye, and your cattle, and your beasts.”



## 2 Kings 3

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They were to demonstrate their faith by obedience and humility. These three kings were to have their three armies dig ditches. Three powerful armies with gleaming brass armor had to use their equipment for war to dig in the dry earth; three armies that had gone without water for long enough to turn to God for help; thirsty men using their powerful stallions to help plow up ditches rather than carry them into battle.

## 2 Kings 3

“<sup>18</sup>And this is but a light thing in the sight of the LORD: he will deliver the Moabites also into your hand. <sup>19</sup>And ye shall smite every fenced city, and every choice city, and shall fell every good tree, and stop all wells of water, and mar every good piece of land with stones. <sup>20</sup>And it came to pass in the morning, when the meat offering was offered, that, behold, there came water by the way of Edom, and the country was filled with water.”

## 2 Kings 3

“<sup>21</sup>And when all the Moabites heard that the kings were come up to fight against them, they gathered all that were able to put on armour, and upward, and stood in the border. <sup>22</sup>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. <sup>23</sup>And they said, This is blood: the kings are surely slain, and they have smitten one another: now therefore, Moab, to the spoil.”



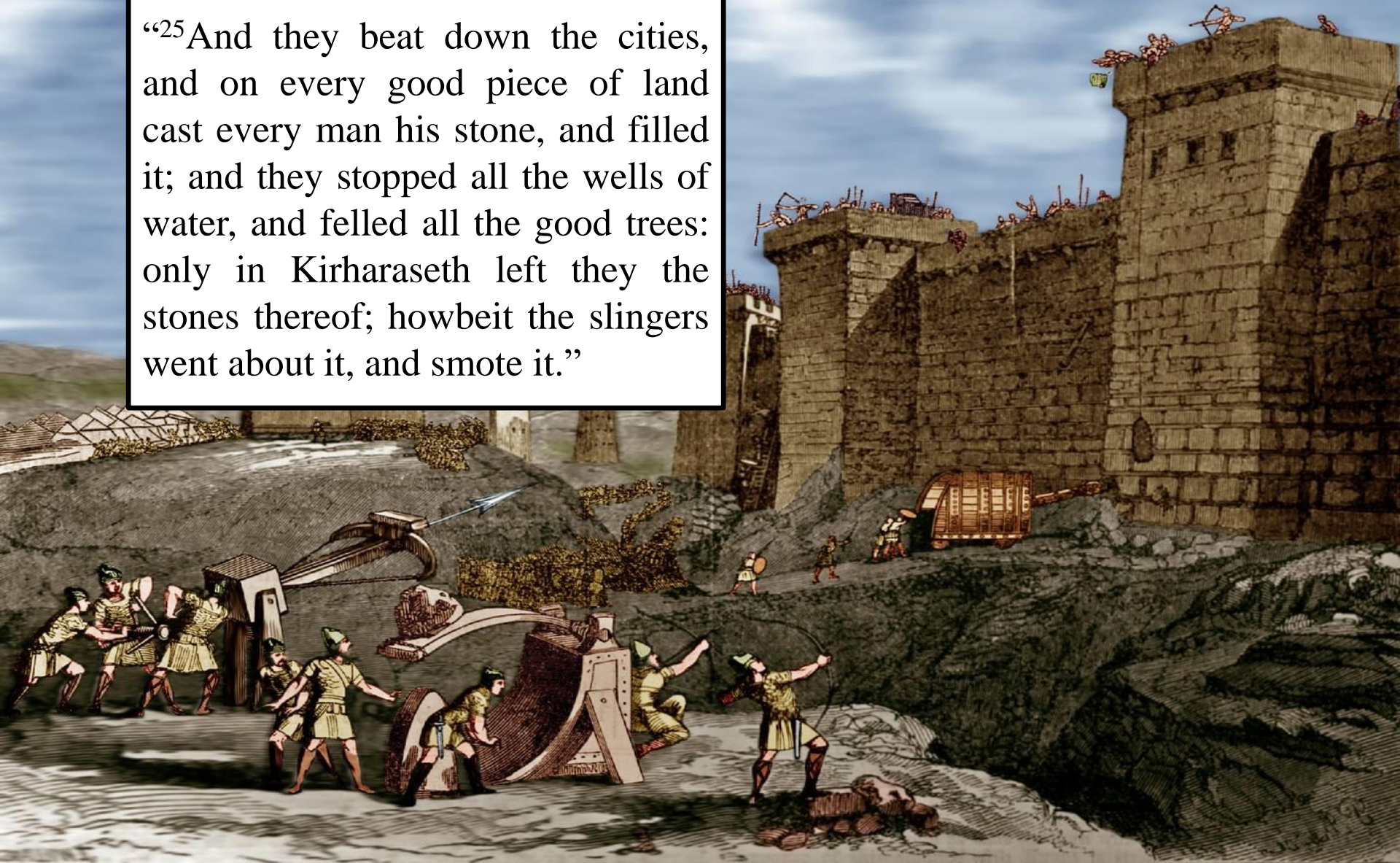
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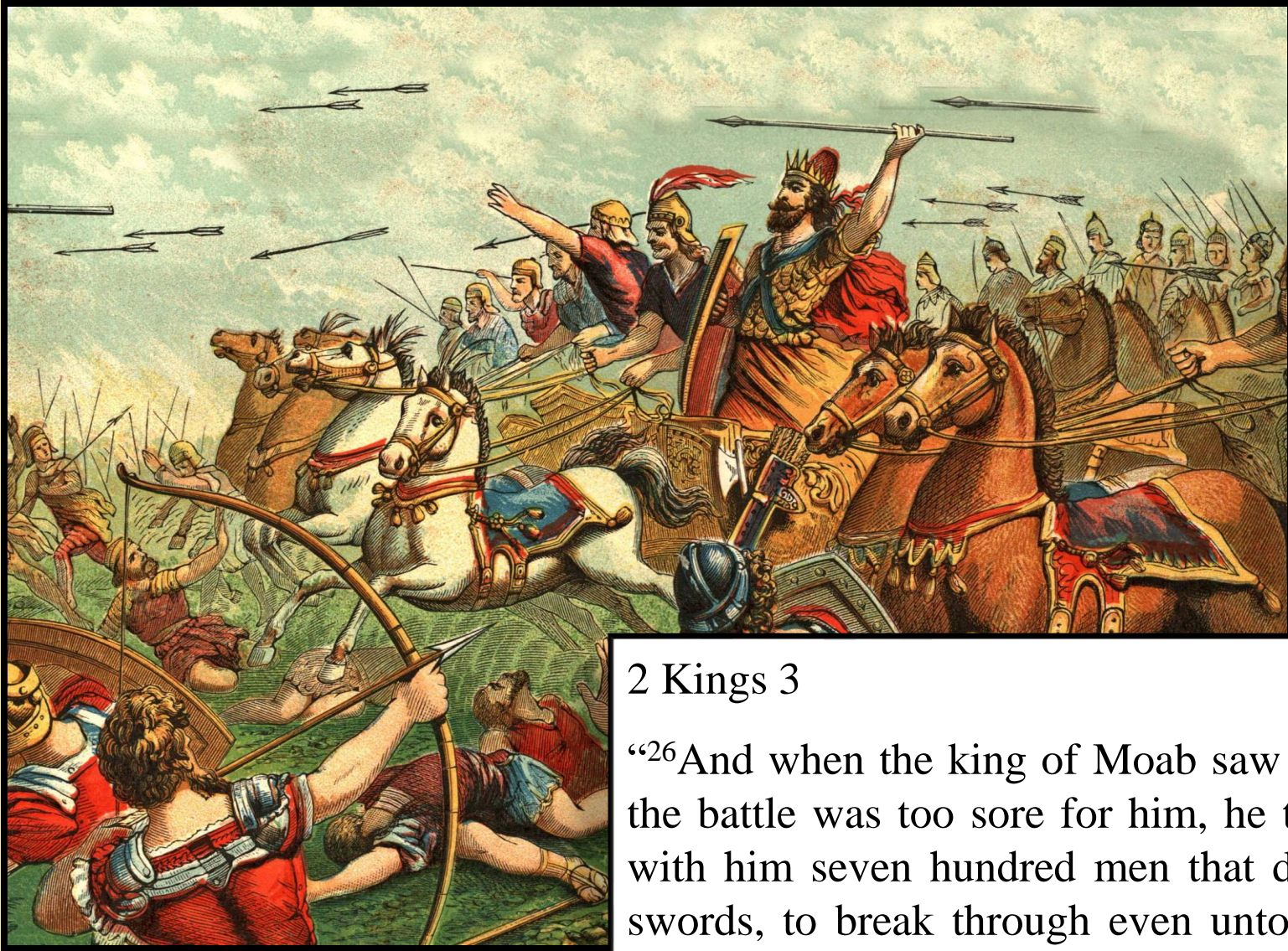
“<sup>24</sup>And when they came to the camp of Israel, the Israelites rose up and smote the Moabites, so that they fled before them: but they went forward smiting the Moabites, even in their country.”



## 2 Kings 3

“<sup>25</sup>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 Kirharaseth left they the stones thereof; howbeit the slingers went about it, and smote it.”



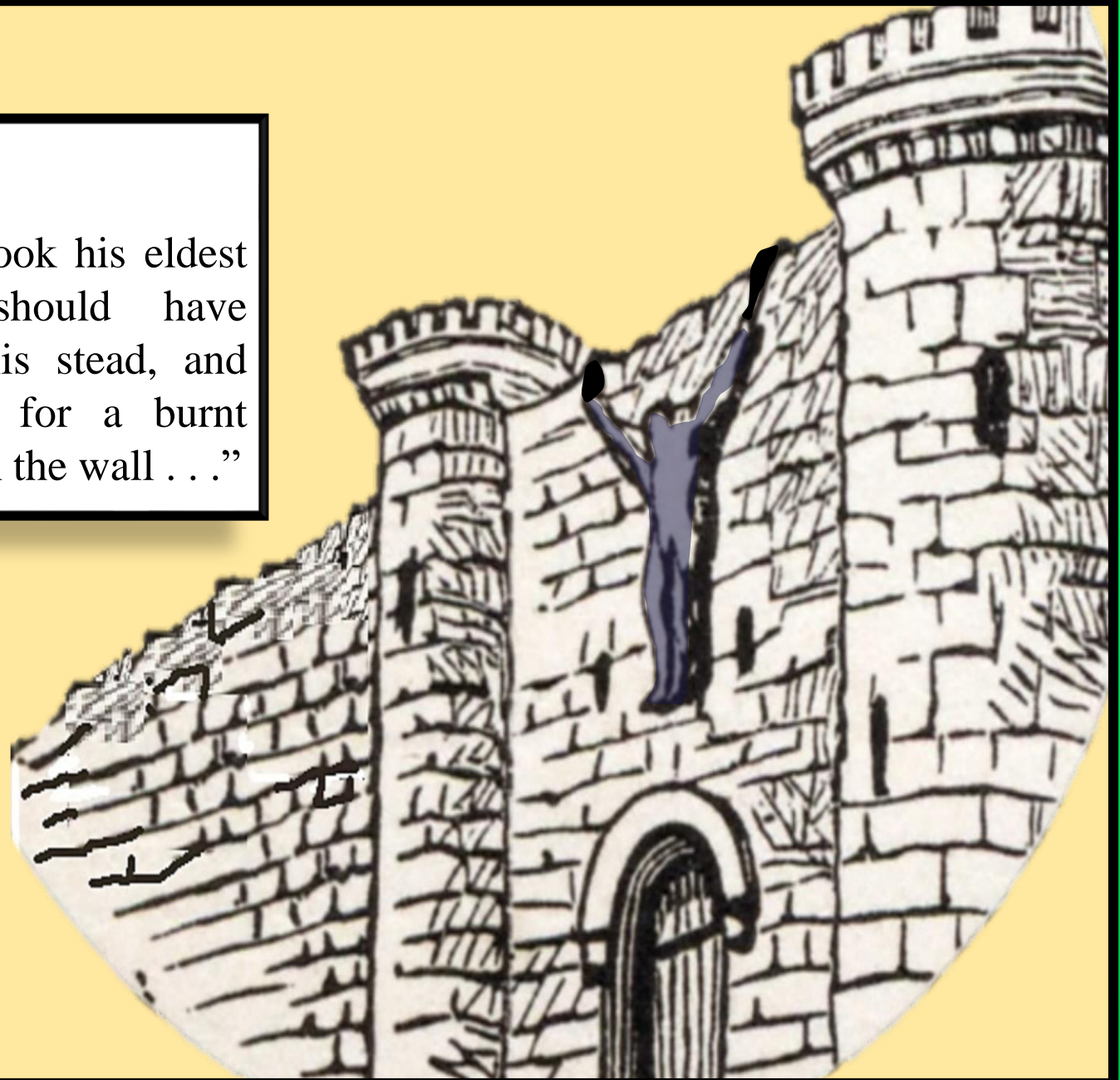


## 2 Kings 3

“<sup>26</sup>And when the king of Moab saw that the battle was too sore for him, he took with him seven hundred men that drew swords, to break through even unto the king of Edom: but they could not.”

## 2 Kings 3

“<sup>27</sup>Then he took his eldest son that should have reigned in his stead, and offered him for a burnt offering upon the wall . . .”

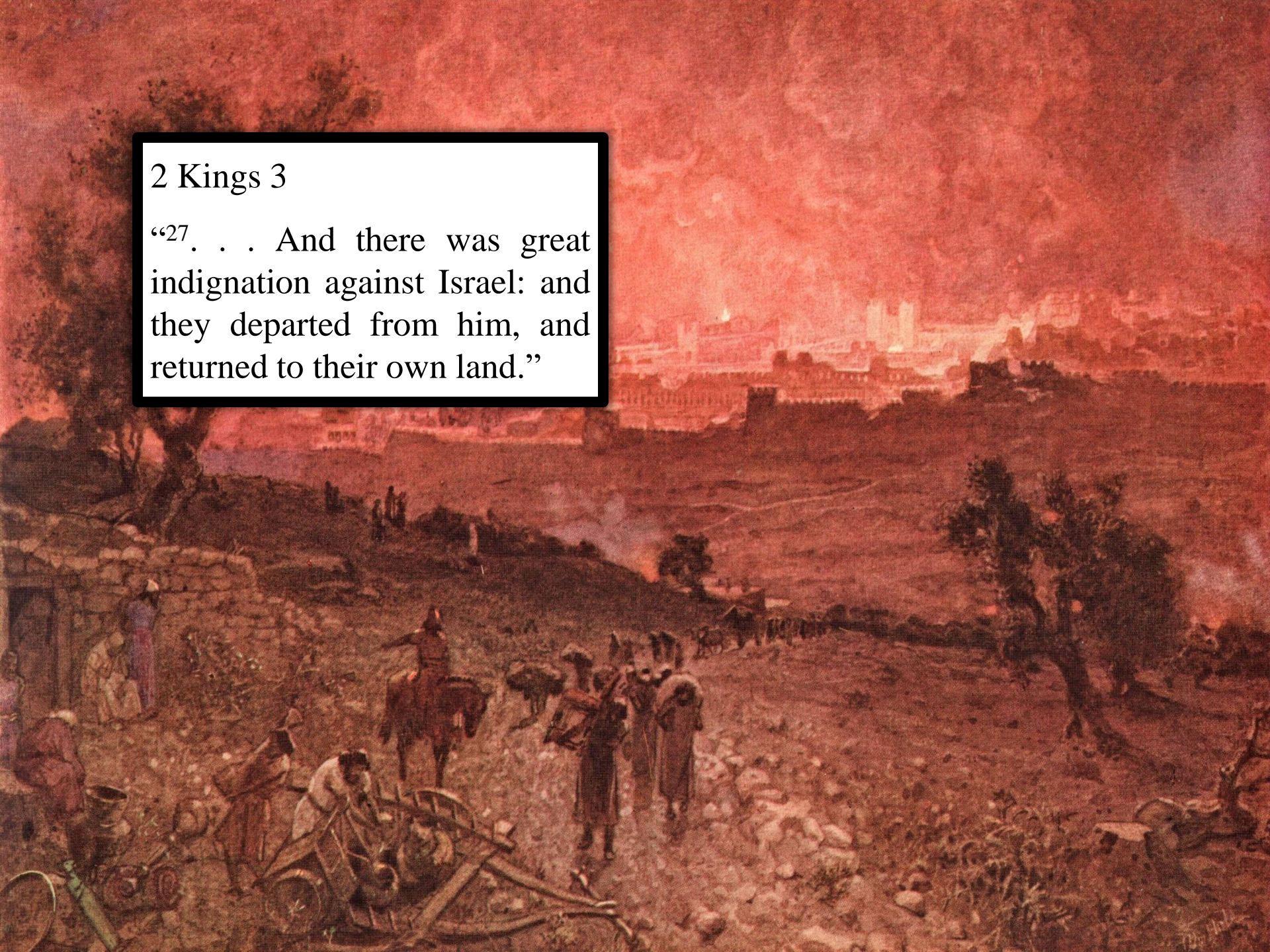




**The King of Moab  
BURNED HIS  
OWN SON  
to show his  
submission to  
Israel and Judah.**

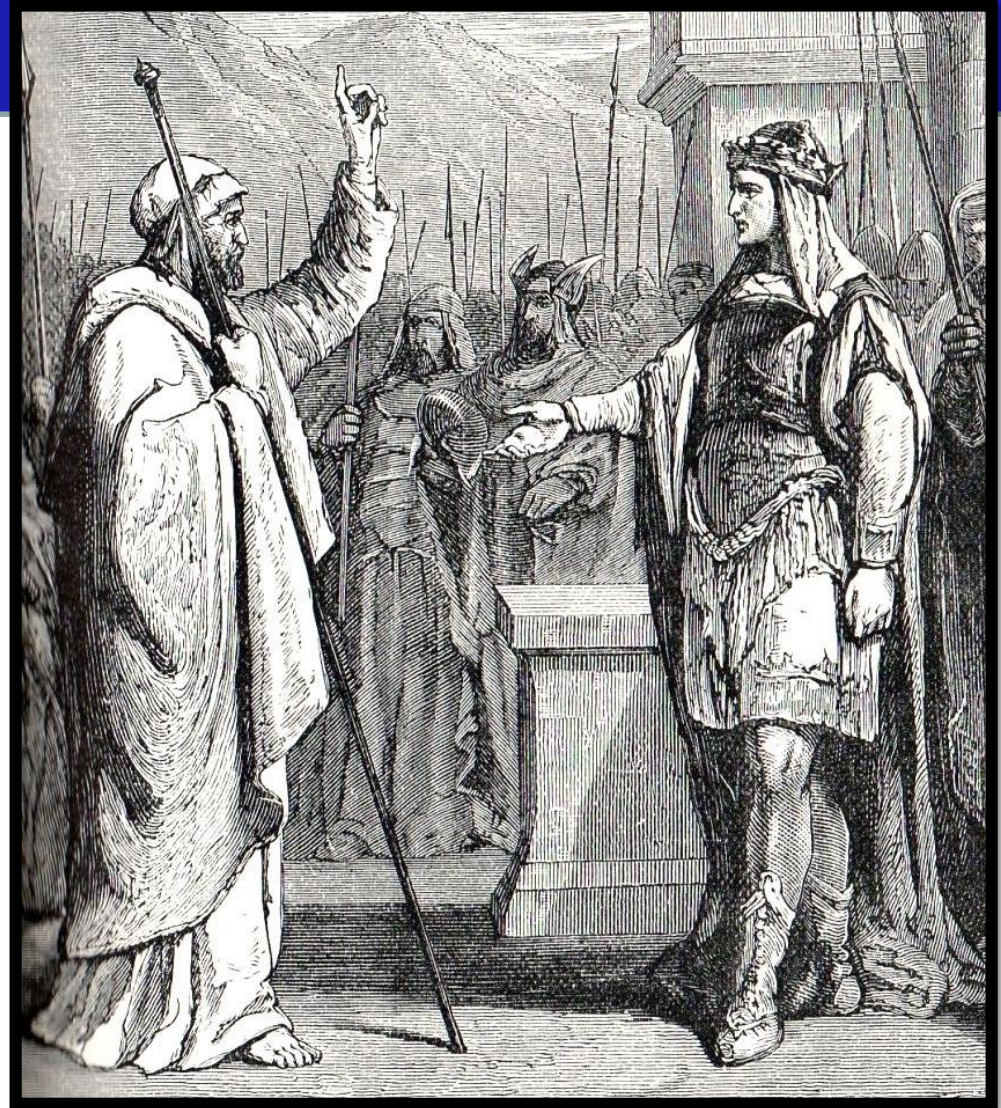
## 2 Kings 3

“<sup>27</sup>. . . And there was great indignation against Israel: and they departed from him, and returned to their own land.”



# Archeology And The Bible

The subjection of Moabites to Israel is verified by a famous archaeological find called the **Mesha Stele** or more commonly known as the **Moabite Stone**.



# Archeology And The Bible

**THE MOABITE STONE** is inscribed using the Phoenician alphabet. It tells how Chemos, the god of Moab, had been angry with his people and had allowed them to be subjugated to Israel.

**THE MOABITE STONE** provides valuable information on the Moabite language and the political relationship between Moab and Israel. It is the earliest extensive extra-biblical reference to Israel and the God of Israel.





# Archeology And The Bible

**THE MOABITE STONE** was discovered in 1868 by Frederick Augustus Klein in the land of Moab among the ruins of Dibon east of the Dead Sea.



# THE MOABITE STONE

This monument which up to that time had escaped injury was unfortunately broken into many pieces by the local people when they became suspicious because of the great interest shown by Europeans in it's value.

Thinking that it must contain gold, they heated it over a fire and then broke it into many pieces by pouring cold water on the red-hot stone.



# Archeology And The Bible

What remained of it has been put together again and can now be seen in the Louvre in Paris. Many details not mentioned in the scriptural record are found on this stone monument of King Mesha.



The Louvre in Paris

The background is a stained glass window with a central yellow banner. The window is composed of several panes: two large diamond-shaped panes at the top and bottom, two horizontal rectangular panes in the middle, and two smaller diamond-shaped panes at the bottom corners. The panes are filled with light brown wood-grain patterns, and the leaded glass lines are black. A central yellow banner with a black border is positioned horizontally across the middle of the window.

**THE END**