

Mark Tough – Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2019  
2 Kings 23:31-25:30 – Tragedy and hope

1) 2 Kings 23:31-25:30 focuses on the expected fall of Judah and Jerusalem

*a) Judah had 4 Kings during this period*

Jehoahaz (23:31-34) – 3 months (taken captive to Egypt)

Jehoiakim (23:34-24:6) – 11 years (died of natural causes)

Jehoiachin (24:6-15) – 3 months (taken captive to Babylon)

Zedekiah (24:17-25:7) – 11 years (taken captive to Babylon)

*b) There were 3 deportations of Judean people to Babylon during this period*

i) In 605BC during the reign of Jehoiakim

2 Kings 24:1a  
cf. Daniel 1:1-4

ii) In 597BC during the reign of Johoiachin

2 Kings 24:14-16

iii) In 587/586BC during the reign of Zedekiah

2 Kings 25:11-12

*c) The small remnant left behind in Judah ended up fleeing to Egypt*

2 Kings 25:22

2 Kings 25:25-26

*d) Jerusalem and the temple were destroyed by the Babylonians*

2 Kings 25:8-10

2) The fall of Judah and Jerusalem was a tragedy

A tragedy is a drama or literary work in which the main character is brought to ruin or suffers extreme sorrow, especially as a consequence of a tragic flaw, moral weakness, or inability to cope with unfavorable circumstances.

2 Peter 1:5-11

3) The tragic ending of 2 Kings is not a sign that God's promises had failed

2 Kings 25:27-30