

EVER WONDERED WHY THE JUDGMENT OF THE LORD GOD UPON OLD TESTAMENT ISRAEL WAS SO SEVERE?

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The LORD God allowed the king of Assyria to scatter the citizens of Northern Israel; or Samaria!

This accomplishes the prophecy for the Northern Kingdom God gave Elijah the prophet in 1 Kings 19:15 through 19:19! But the full declaration (or other half) of this prophecy, which apply to Judah of Israel is not yet for another one hundred thirty six (136) to one hundred forty (140) years!

2Ki 17:5 Then the king of Assyria came up throughout all the land, and went up to Samaria, and besieged it three (3) years (*so that nothing came out or went in, except they allowed it!*).

2Ki 17:6 In the ninth (9th) year of Hoshea the king of Assyria took Samaria, and carried Israel (*citizens and possessions*) away into Assyria, and placed them in Halah and in Habor *by* the river of Gozan, and in the cities of the Medes.

These verses (1 Kings 17:7 through 17:41) are the reasons the LORD God of Israel; the God of Creation allowed the disintegration of Samaria of Israel!

2Ki 17:7 For so it was, that the children of Israel had sinned against the LORD their God, which had brought them up out of the land of Egypt, from under the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt, and had feared (*and worshipped*) other gods,

2Ki 17:8 And walked in the statutes of the heathen (*or those without the true God of Creation*), whom (*the heathens,*) the LORD cast out from before the children of Israel, and of the kings of Israel, which they (*the people of Israel*) had made (*to reign over them*).

2Ki 17:9 And the children of Israel did secretly those things that were not right against the LORD their God (*as was commanded by Moses*), and they built them high places in all their cities, from the tower of the watchmen to the fenced city.

2Ki 17:10 And they set them up images and groves (*of false gods and idol sanctuaries*) in every high hill, and under every green tree:

2Ki 17:11 And there they burnt incense in all the high places, as did the heathen whom the LORD carried away before them; and wrought wicked things to provoke the LORD to anger:

2Ki 17:12 For they served idols (*and false gods*), whereof the LORD had said unto them, Ye shall not do this thing.

2Ki 17:13 Yet the LORD testified against Israel, and against Judah, by all the prophets, and by all the seers, saying, Turn ye from your evil ways, and keep my commandments and my statutes, according to all the law which I commanded your fathers, and which I sent to you by my servants the prophets.

2Ki 17:14 Notwithstanding they would not hear, but hardened their necks, like to the neck of their fathers, that did not believe in the LORD their God.

2Ki 17:15 And they rejected his statutes (*law\ ordinances\ commandments*), and his covenant that he made with their fathers, and his testimonies which he testified against them; and they followed vanity (*or uselessness*), and became vain (*useless*

to God and themselves), and went after the heathen that were round about them, concerning whom the LORD had charged them, that they should not do like them.

2Ki 17:16 And they left all the commandments of the LORD their God, and made them molten images, even two calves (*according to 1 Kings 12:25 through 12:33*), and made a grove, and worshiped all the host of heaven, and served Baal (*brought into tribes by Jezebel, Ahab's wife*).

2Ki 17:17 And they caused their sons and their daughters to pass through the fire (*human sacrifice?*), and used divination and enchantments, and sold themselves to do evil in the sight of the LORD, to provoke him to anger.

The Southern Kingdom of Israel; Judah at Jerusalem, remains a nation at this time, but they are also in much disobedience toward the LORD God of their fathers!

2Ki 17:18 Therefore the LORD was very angry with Israel (*of Samaria*), and removed them out of his sight: there was none left but the tribe of Judah only.

2Ki 17:19 Also Judah kept not the commandments of the LORD their God, but walked in the statutes of Israel (*their sister nation*) which they made (*meaning they abandoned the statues of God provided through Moses!*).

2Ki 17:20 And the LORD rejected all the seed of Israel (*Samaria*), and afflicted them, and delivered them into the hand of spoilers, until he had cast them out of his sight.

2Ki 17:21 For he rent Israel from the house of David (*which is Judah*); and they made Jeroboam the son of Nebat king: and Jeroboam drave Israel from following the LORD, and made them sin a great sin (*according to 1 Kings 12:25 through 12:33. They added even more sin when Ahab ruled with the heathen Baal worshipper, Jezebel!*).

2Ki 17:22 For the children of Israel walked in all the sins of Jeroboam which he did; they departed not from them;

2Ki 17:23 Until the LORD removed Israel out of his sight, as he had said by all his servants the prophets. So was Israel carried away out of their own land to Assyria unto this day.

The King of Assyria also relocated citizens from other nations into Samaria of Israel!

2Ki 17:24 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 (*or in place*) of the children of Israel: and they possessed Samaria, and dwelt in the cities thereof.

2Ki 17:25 And *so* it was at the beginning of their (*foreign, or heathen citizens*) dwelling there, *that* they feared not the LORD (*God of Israel*): therefore the LORD sent lions among them, which slew *some* of them.

2Ki 17:26 Wherefore they spake to the king of Assyria, saying, The nations which thou hast removed, and placed in the cities of Samaria, know not the manner of the God of the land: therefore he hath sent lions among them, and, behold, they (*the lions*) slay them, because they know not the manner of the God of the land.

And so the Assyrians returned at least one (1) priest to Samaria, which were of Israeli descent!

- 2Ki 17:27 Then the king of Assyria commanded, saying, Carry thither one of the priests whom ye brought from thence; and let them go and dwell there, and let him teach them the manner of the God of the land.
- 2Ki 17:28 Then one of the priests whom they had carried away from Samaria came and dwelt in Bethel, and taught them how they should fear the LORD (*God of Israel*).
- 2Ki 17:29 Howbeit every nation made gods of their own, and put *them* in the houses (*or temples*) of the high places which the Samaritans had made, every nation in their cities wherein they dwelt.
- 2Ki 17:30 And the men of Babylon made Succothbenoth (*a place of their false god worship*), and the men of Cuth made Nergal (*a place of their false god worship*), and the men of Hamath made Ashima (*a place of their false god worship*),
- 2Ki 17:31 And the Avites made Nibhaz and Tartak (*places of their false god worship*) , and the Sepharvites (*heathens*) burnt their children in fire to Adrammelech (*one of the false god they worshipped*) and Anammelech, the (*false*) gods of Sepharvaim.
- 2Ki 17:32 So they feared the LORD (*God of Israel along side all their false gods?*), and made unto themselves of the lowest of (*citizens among*) them priests of the high places, which sacrificed for them in the houses (*temples*) of the high places.
- 2Ki 17:33 They feared the LORD (*God of Israel?*), and served their own gods, after the manner of the nations whom they carried away from thence.

But they did not fear the LORD God of Israel according to the Commandments and statutes of Moses, but made up their own to walk before Him?

Of course yours truly do not believe they were accepted of the LORD God of Israel in this, "their vain and useless folly"!

- 2Ki 17:34 Unto this day they do after the former manners: they fear not the LORD, neither do they after their statutes, or after their ordinances, or after the law and commandment which the LORD commanded the children of Jacob, whom he named Israel;
- 2Ki 17:35 With whom the LORD had made a covenant, and charged them, saying, Ye shall not fear other gods, nor bow yourselves to them, nor serve them, nor sacrifice to them:
- 2Ki 17:36 But the LORD, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt with great power and a stretched out arm, him shall ye fear, and him shall ye worship, and to him shall ye do sacrifice.
- 2Ki 17:37 And the statutes, and the ordinances, and the law, and the commandment, which he wrote for you, ye shall observe to do for evermore; and ye shall not fear other gods.
- 2Ki 17:38 And the covenant that I have made with you ye shall not forget; neither shall ye fear (*and worship*) other gods.
- 2Ki 17:39 But the LORD your God ye shall fear; and he shall deliver you out of the hand of all your enemies.
- 2Ki 17:40 Howbeit they did not hearken, but they did after their former manner.
- 2Ki 17:41 So these nations feared the LORD, and served their graven images, both their children, and their children's children: as did their fathers, so do they unto this day (***At the time of His visitation the Lord Jesus Christ did not forget to extend the offer of deliverance to Samaria! Refer to the New Testament Book of John Chapter 4).***

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