

TRUTH TO TELL

The Book of Kings in its Hebrew dress has a striking Postscript that estimates there are 1534 spoken sentences in the two Books. I have counted 500 such sentences in the second book which would count higher than that number of sentences in Hebrew.

The Postscript also contains a beautiful text “I will be a wall of fire about her and I will be for glory in her midst” In Jeremiah 15.20 **the prophet** who probably wrote Kings is to be a “brazen wall” that Israel cannot break down or break through. The Postscript speaks rather of the LORD who is a “wall of fire” or Glory as in the desert by night during the 40 years of wandering. So God would protect the nation through its dark days in the future.

The Postscript goes on to speak of Messiah as gathering Israel and as being Messiah in their midst. This joy of Jeremiah expressed in Jeremiah 14.9 would be more fully experienced in the golden era of Messiah’s kingdom. In Psalm 46.5 the Psalmist has the same concept of security when the LORD is central. During the theocratic period the great corpus of words recorded in Kings attests the fact of God in Action “in the midst”.

The book of 2 Kings opens with Elijah calling down fire from heaven and concludes with Jerusalem in flames (25.8-17) yet in Babylon itself the LORD of fiery protection stirred and commanded the heart of Nebuchadnezzar as Daniel’s three friends walked unscathed in the fire because One like the Son of God stood with them. The LORD continued to be “in the midst” of His people and none of the words of the prophets fell to the ground.

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A BIBLE COMPANION