

# 2 Kings 21:12

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Therefore thus saith the LORD God of Israel, Behold, I am bringing such evil upon Jerusalem and Judah, that whosoever heareth of it, both his ears shall tingle.

## Analysis

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**Therefore thus saith the LORD God of Israel, Behold, I am bringing such evil upon Jerusalem and Judah, that whosoever heareth of it, both his ears shall tingle.**

This verse contributes to the overall theme of chapter 21: Unprecedented wickedness brings irreversible judgment. The divine name emphasizes Yahweh's covenant relationship with Israel and His sovereign control over historical events. In Judah's later history, we see both genuine reforms and deep-rooted corruption, revealing that external religious activity cannot substitute for heart transformation.

The narrative demonstrates God's justice in judging covenant unfaithfulness while maintaining His ultimate purposes for redemption.

## Historical Context

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**Historical Setting:** 2 Kings 21 takes place during the final century of Judah's existence, 7th century BCE, including Manasseh and Josiah's reigns. The chapter's theme (Manasseh and Amon's Evil Reigns) reflects the historical reality of the worst apostasy under Manasseh followed by the most thorough reforms under Josiah, demonstrating that external righteousness cannot reverse God's determined judgment. Archaeological evidence from this period includes royal

inscriptions, administrative documents, and material culture that corroborate the biblical account while providing additional context for understanding the political and social dynamics at work.

## Related Passages

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**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

## Study Questions

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1. How does this verse contribute to understanding the theological message of 2 Kings 21 regarding unprecedented wickedness brings irreversible judgment?
2. What does this passage reveal about God's character, particularly His justice, mercy, and faithfulness to covenant promises?
3. In what practical ways should this text shape contemporary Christian thinking about faithfulness, worship, and obedience to God?

## Interlinear Text

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הִנְנִי	יְשׁוּעָא ל	אֱלֹהֵי י	יְהוָה	אָמַר	כֹּה	לְכִי
H2005	H3478	H430	H3068	H559	H3541	H3651
	of Israel	God	the LORD	Therefore thus saith		
כָּל	אֲשֶׁר	וְיְהוּדָה	יְרוּשָׁלַם	עַל	כָּעֵה	בְּיָמַי
H3605	H834	H3063	H3389	H5921	H7451	H935
	and Judah	upon Jerusalem	such evil	Behold I am bringing		
אֲזַנָּיו:	שְׁתֵּי י	תִצַּלְנָה	שֶׁמֶעַ יוֹ			
H241	H8147	H6750	H8085			
his ears	of it both	shall tingle	that whosoever heareth			

## Additional Cross-References

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**Jeremiah 19:3** (Evil): And say, Hear ye the word of the LORD, O kings of Judah, and inhabitants of Jerusalem; Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Behold, I will bring evil upon this place, the which whosoever heareth, his ears shall tingle.

**1 Samuel 3:11** (References Lord): And the LORD said to Samuel, Behold, I will do a thing in Israel, at which both the ears of every one that heareth it shall tingle.

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