

# 2 Kings 22:16

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Thus saith the LORD, Behold, I will bring evil upon this place, and upon the inhabitants thereof, even all the words of the book which the king of Judah hath read:

## Analysis

---

**Thus saith the LORD, Behold, I will bring evil upon this place, and upon the inhabitants thereof, even all the words of the book which the king of Judah hath read:**

This verse contributes to the overall theme of chapter 22: Rediscovery of God's word brings renewal. The divine name emphasizes Yahweh's covenant relationship with Israel and His sovereign control over historical events. The reference to kingship reminds readers that all human authority is subordinate to God's ultimate kingship. 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

---

**Historical Setting:** 2 Kings 22 takes place during the final century of Judah's existence, 7th century BCE, including Manasseh and Josiah's reigns. The chapter's theme (Josiah's Reform Begins) 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

---

**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

## Study Questions

---

1. How does this verse contribute to understanding the theological message of 2 Kings 22 regarding rediscovery of God's word brings renewal?
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

---

כֹּה	אָמַר	יְהוָה	הִנֵּנִי	יָבִיא	רָעָה	אֵל
H3541	Thus saith	the LORD	H2005	Behold I will bring	evil	H413
	H559	H3068		H935	H7451	
הַמָּקוֹם	הַזֶּה	וְעַל	יֹשְׁבֵי	כָל	אֶת	
upon this place	H2088	H5921	and upon the inhabitants	H853	H3605	
	H4725		H3427			
דְּבָרֵי	הַסֵּפֶר	אֲשֶׁר	קָרָא	מֶלֶךְ	יְהוּדָה	
thereof even all the words	of the book	H834	hath read	which the king	of Judah	
H1697	H5612		H7121	H4428	H3063	

## Additional Cross-References

---

**Joshua 23:15** (Evil): Therefore it shall come to pass, that as all good things are come upon you, which the LORD your God promised you; so shall the LORD bring upon you all evil things, until he have destroyed you from off this good land which the LORD your God hath given you.

---

From KJV Study • [kjevstudy.org](http://kjevstudy.org)