

## **On Guard**

### ***2 Kings 17:6-23***

#### **Introduction:**

- A. There are moments in time that are forever memorable because of the impact they have on peoples' lives. This chapter of your lives is one of those moments.
- B. You are excited and ready to go. Ready to conquer whatever lies before you. You have been taught, educated and trained. You feel as though you are ready for anything.
- C. Although you are ready to conquer the world and everything that gets in the way of you reaching your dreams, remember you must be on guard, especially regarding your spiritual life.

#### **A Blessed Nation**

- A. From the beginning, Israel was God's chosen nation of people (Gen. 12:1-3).
- B. God was Israel's shield and sword (Deut. 33:29).

#### **A Tragic Downfall**

- A. The fall of the Northern Kingdom (Israel) was a result of its spiritual failure.
- B. They owed their entire existence as a nation to God.
- C. Yet, because of their spiritual failure, God became angry with Israel and removed them from His sight (v. 18).

#### **Reasons for Israel's Captivity**

- A. They adopted the evil practices of surrounding nations (vs. 7-12).
- B. They failed to listen (vs. 13-15)
- C. They rejected the Word of the Lord (v. 13).
- D. They allied themselves with the enemy instead of trusting their God (vs. 3-6).

#### **Conclusion:**

- A. You are in the midst of an exciting time with lots of changes.
- B. Don't be like the nation of Israel and forget how blessed you are and waste what you know and have been taught by those who love you.
- C. It's not enough to declare our faith in God, we must demonstrate our faith by the way we live and conduct ourselves.