WORKSHEET # 2: 2 Kings 17-18 (Contextual Analysis)

1. In two columns, write out the text of 2 Kings 17:1-6 and 18:9-12 in Hebrew, in such a way as to show the parallels. (Use of a color highlighter can help to show some parallels more clearly.) (10 pts)

2. What is anomalous about the inclusion of 18:9-12 in its present location? (2 pts)

3. Why do you think it is included here? Consider your answer carefully, especially referring to 18:1-8. (4 pts)

4. Read 2 Kings 18:5 and compare it to 2 Kings 23:25. How can these statements be reconciled? Be specific. What help does 1 Kings 3:12 offer here? (4 pts)

5. Extra Credit (not required, but to be done only after Nos. 1-4 are completed): Look at the syntax of 18:5-6 in Hebrew. What does the word order where the verbs bth and dbq are used indicate about emphasis and grammatical priorities in these verses? You should consult a grammar or syntax book on this (e.g., R. J. Williams, Hebrew Syntax; B. K. Waltke and M. O’Connor, Introduction to Biblical Hebrew Syntax), checking under indexes for “word order” or something similar. (20 pts)