

17 – ATHALIAH & JEHOASH (2 KINGS 11:1-12:21; 2 CHRONICLES 22:10-24:27)

I. Athaliah (2 Kings 11:1-21; 2 Chronicles 22:10-23:21)

A. Athaliah Seizes the Throne of Judah (2 Kings 11:1-3; 2 Chronicles 22:10-12)

- Upon hearing that Ahaziah was killed with his brothers, Athaliah seized the throne.
- Athaliah solidified her control by killing all the remaining heirs to the throne of David.
- However, Jehosheba, Ahaziah's sister, took his son Jehoash and hid him from Athaliah.
- Jehoash was hidden with his nurse in the Temple for six years, while Athaliah ruled Judah.

B. Jehoiada's Conspiracy (2 Kings 11:4-8; 2 Chronicles 23:1-7)

- In the seventh year after Athaliah seized the throne, Jehoiada brought troops into the Temple.
- Jehoiada, the High Priest, took an oath from the troops and showed them the king's son.
- The troops were divided into three groups and charged with protecting the king's son.
- These troops were to kill anyone who came near to the king's son.

C. Jehoash Made King (2 Kings 11:9-12; 2 Chronicles 23:8-12)

- The High Priest gave the troops the spears and shields belonging to King David.
- These troops surrounded the king's son with their swords drawn.
- They brought out the king's son, crowned him and gave him the Testimony.
- They made Jehoash king, anointed him and proclaimed "Long live the king!"

D. Athaliah is Executed (2 Kings 11:13-16; 2 Chronicles 23:12-15)

- Because of the commotion at the coronation, Athaliah went to the Temple.
- When she saw the king standing by the Pillar as custom called for, she cried out treason.
- The High Priest ordered her to be taken out of the Temple.
- They were to execute her and any who followed her.

E. The Covenant Renewed (2 Kings 11:17-20; 2 Chronicles 23:16-21)

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- The High Priest established a covenant between the Lord, the king and the people.
- This covenant called for them to be the Lord's people.
- The people then went to the temple of Baal and tore it down.
- The people destroyed its altars and killed Mattan, the priest of Baal between the altars.
- The troops then escorted the king to the palace and he was seated on the throne of kings.
- The people rejoiced and Jehoash became king over Judah when he was seven years old.

II. Jehoash (2 Kings 12:1-21; 2 Chronicles 24:1-27)

A. Jehoash's Good Deeds (2 Kings 12:1-3)

- In the seventh year of Jehu's reign as King of Israel, Jehoash became king and reigned 40 years.
- While Jehoiada was the High Priest, Jehoash did what was right in the sight of the Lord.
- However, the high places were not taken down and the people continued to burn incense there.

B. Temple Restoration (2 Kings 12:4-16; 2 Chronicles 24:1-16)

- Jehoash instructed the priests to take certain funds from the Temple for its repairs.
- By the twenty-third year of Jehoash's reign, the priests had not made the repairs.
- Jehoash confronted the High Priest and the other priests about not using the money for repairs.
- He commanded the priests to stop gathering money and start using what they have.
- The priests agreed to separate money for the repairs from the money for regular temple service.
- The High Priest placed a chest for repair collections beside the altar.
- The money collected was then given to the craftsman who were making the repairs.
- After the repairs were made, the remaining money was taken and made into Temple articles.
- Jehoiada the High Priest grew very old and died at the age of 130.
- Being highly regarded, they buried Jehoiada among the kings in Jerusalem.

C. Jehoash's Ransom for Hazael (2 Kings 12:17-18)

- After Hazael of Syria fought against Gath and took it, he turned his attention to Jerusalem.

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- Jehoash gave Hazael the sacred things belonging to himself and his fathers.
- When Hazael received the ransom from Judah, he went away from Jerusalem.

D. Jehoash's Decline and Death (2 Kings 12:19-21; 2 Chronicles 24:17-27)

- After Jehoiada's death, Jehoash began to listen to the leaders of Judah.
- They led Judah to abandon the Lord and served wooden images and idols.
- Because of their idolatry, the Lord's wrath came upon Judah and he sent prophets to them.
- The prophets would testify against Judah, but they would not listen.
- The Spirit of the Lord came upon Zechariah, son of Jehoiada, and he spoke to Judah.
- The Lord asked why they transgressed the Law so that they do not prosper.
- They are not prospering because they have forsaken the Lord and he has forsaken them.
- The leaders conspired against Zechariah and he was stoned at the king's command.
- Jehoash did not remember the kindness of Jehoiada and killed his son.
- Zechariah proclaimed "The Lord look on it and repay!" as he died.
- The next year, Syria invaded Judah, killed her leaders and took away great plunder.
- The Lord allowed Syria to do great harm to Judah even though they were greatly outnumbered.
- When Syria withdrew, they left Jehoash wounded.
- The writer of Kings lists where the details of Jehoash's reign are recorded.
- Jehoash's servants formed a conspiracy against him and murdered him.
- The chronicler records that two conspirators were an Ammonite and a Moabite.
- Jehoash was buried in Jerusalem but not with his fathers.
- When Jehoash was murdered, his son Amaziah became King of Judah.