

THE LATER REIGN OF JOSIAH

2 Kings 23:1-30, 2 Chronicles 34:29 – 35:27

We have seen now Josiah's seeking the Lord while he was young led to his waging war against all that pertained to idol-worship, and his repairing of the Lord's house. This in turn led to the discovery of God's Word, which he read and heeded. See now what took place in the days following this discovery:

A. Josiah's Third Great Project: Read 2 Kings 23:1-3, 2 Chronicles 24:29-32

1. Notice the five groups of people the king gathered into the temple: 2
Chronicles 34:20a. What did he do after this? 2 Chronicles 34:30b

2. What did he then make a *covenant* (agreement) with God to do? 2
Chronicles
a. 34:31b _____
b. 34:31c _____
c. 34:31d _____
3. What did he cause all who were present to do? 2 Chronicles 34:3a, 2 Kings 23:3

4. What happened in the days which followed? 2 Chronicles 34:32b, 33b

B. Josiah's Fourth Great Project: Read 2 Kings 23:4-20, 24, 2 Chronicles 34:33

1. What did the king next destroy? 2 Kings 23:4-20, 24a
 - a. 4 (Middle of verse) _____
 - b. 5a _____
 - c. 6a _____
 - d. 7 _____
 - e. 8 _____
 - f. 10 _____
 - g. 11a, c _____
 - h. 12 _____
 - i. 13 _____
 - j. 14 _____
 - k. 15 _____
 - l. 19 _____
 - m. 20 _____
 - n. 24a _____
2. Notice why he did all this? 2 Kings 23:24b

C. Josiah's Fifth Great Project: Read 2 Kings 23:21-23, 2 Chronicles 35:1-19

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1. What did the king next command is people to do? 2 Kings 23:21

2. Notice all who gave animals for this feast: 2 Chronicles 35:7-9. How long did it take the priests to prepare all these? 2 Chronicles 35:14 (two words)

3. How did this passover compare with all others since the days of Samuel? 2
Chronicles 35:18

D. The End of Josiah's Reign: Read 2 Kings 23:28-30, 2 Chronicles 35:26-27, 20-25

1. What did Josiah do when the king of Egypt came to fight against Carchemish? 2
Chronicles 35:20b

2. What two things happened to him because of this? 2 Chronicles 35:23-24

3. Who was among those who mourned for him? 2 Chronicles 35:25a

QUESTIONS FOR ME TO THINK ABOUT:

1. Could the good that Judah did under Josiah make up for the evil she had done under Manasseh? 2 Kings 23:25-27

2. Can I continue in evil-doing now, and expect to make up for it later?

JEHOAHAZ, JEHOIAKIM AND JEHOIACHIN, SIXTEENTH THROUGH EIGHTEENTH KINGS OF JUDAH 2 Kings 23:31 – 24:17; 2 Chronicles 34:1-10

With God's judgment upon Judah already having been pronounced, all that remained for the kings who followed Josiah was the expectation of that judgment being carried out. Read how this began to happen in the days of Josiah's sons and grandson:

A. Jehoahaz, Sixteenth King of Judah: Read 2 Kings 23:31-34, 2 Chronicles 36:1-4:

1. How long did Jehoahaz reign over Judah? 2 Kings 23:31b

2. What king of king was he? 2 Kings 23:32

3. What brought his reign to an end? 2 Kings 23:33a-b

4. What eventually happened to him? 2 Kings 23:34c-e

5. What else did Pharaoh do to Judah at this time? 2 Kings 23:33c-d

6. Whom did Pharaoh then make king? 2 Kings 23:34a-b

B. Jehoiakim, Seventeen King of Judah: Read 2 Kings 23:35 – 24:7, 2
Chronicles 26:5-8:

1. How long did Jehoiakim reign over Judah? 2 Kings 23:36b

2. What king of king was he? 2 Kings 23:37 (See Jeremiah 36:1-26)

3. What did he have to do in the early year of his reign? 2 Kings 23:35a

4. How did he get the money to do this? 2 Kings 23:35b-e

5. Who else came against Jehoiakim in the third year of his reign? 2 Kings 24:1a, Daniel 1:1

6. What two things did he take to Babylon at this time?

a. Daniel 1:2, 2 Chronicles 36:7 _____

b. Daniel 1:3-4 _____

7. Notice that four other groups came against Jehoiakim also: 2 Kings 24:2a-d.

8. List four distinct statements as to why this evil came upon Judah: 2 Kings 24:

a. 2f-h _____

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- b. 3a _____
c. 3b _____
d. 3c, 4 _____

9. After three year of serving Nebuchadnezzar king of Bablyon, what did Jehoiakim do? 2 Kings 24:1c

10. What did Nebuchadnezzar then do to Jehoiakim? 2 Chronicles 26:6b-c

11. Yet where did Jehoiakim die? 2 Kings 24:6, Jeremiah 22:18-19

12. Did the king of Egypt bother Judah any more? 2 Kings 24:7a

13. Why? 2 Kings 24:7b

14. After Jehoiakim's death, who became king? 2 Kings 24:6

C. Jehoiachin, Eighteen King of Judah: Read 2 Kings 24:8-17; 2 Chronicles 36:9, 10

1. How long did Jehoiachin reign over Judah? 2 Kings 24:8 _____

2. What kind of king was he? 2 Kings 24:9

3. What happened to end his reign? 2 Kings 24:10-12

4. Summarize briefly what was carried to Babylon at this time: 2 Kings 24:13-16

a. 13 _____

b. 14a-e _____

c. 15 _____

d. 16 _____

5. Who then was made king? 2 Kings 24:17

QUESTIONS FOR ME TO THINK ABOUT:

1. What brought such terrible judgment upon Judah? Could anything have stopped it?

2. Has God's judgment been pronounced upon ME? If so, can I stop it? If not, what can I do to avoid it? (See Hebrews 10:26-31)

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ZEDEKIAH, NINETEENTH KING OF JUDAH
2 Kings 24:18 – 25:21; Jeremiah 52:1-27; 2 Chronicles 36:11-20a

In the first 11 ½ years following Josiah's death, two of his sons and one grandson ruled over Judah. Now see what happened in the next few years, as a third son of Josiah ruled:

A. Zedekiah's Early Reign: Read 2 Kings 24:18-20, Jeremiah 52:1-3; 2 Chronicles 36:11-16:

1. How long did Zedekiah reign in Jerusalem? 2 Kings 24:18b

2. What kind of king was he? 2 Kings 24:19

3. What special sins was he guilty of? 2 Chronicles 36:12b, 13c, d
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
4. What two things did the chief of the priests and the people do during his reign?
 - a. 2 Chronicles 36:14a _____
 - b. 2 Chronicles 36:14a _____
5. What did God do because of His great compassion on the people and on His dwelling-place? 2 Chronicles 36:15

6. Yet in what three ways did the people respond? 2 Chronicles 36:16a, b, c

7. What finally happened? 2 Chronicles 36:16d-e

8. Because of this, what did Zedekiah then do? 2 King 24:20a, c

9. What made this such a terrible thing to do? 2 Chronicles 36:13a-b

B. Zedekiah's Later Reign: Read 2 Kings 25:1-7, Jeremiah 39:1-7, 52:4-11, 2 Chronicles 36:17a:

1. What happened toward the end of Zedekiah's ninth year as king? 2 Kings 25:1, 2 Chronicles 36:17a

2. How long did this siege continue? 2 Kings 25:2-3a

3. What condition existed in the city by this time? 2 Kings 25:3

4. What did God, through Jeremiah, advise Zedekiah to do? Jeremiah 38:17-23

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5. When he refused, and a breach was made in the city (Jeremiah 39:2-3), what did all the men of war and the king do? 2 Kings 25:4

6. What two things did the enemy then do? 2 Kings 25:5a, b

7. What happened to all Zedekiah's army? 2 Kings 25:5c

8. To whom was the king taken for judgment? 2 Kings 25:6 (Locate the place to which he was taken: Jeremiah 52:9)

9. What four things did they then do to Zedekiah? 2 Kings 25:7a, b, c-d, Jeremiah 52:11d

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

d. _____

C. Later Events: Read 2 Kings 25:8-21, Jeremiah 39:8-10, 52:12-27,
2 Chronicles 36:17b-20a:

1. About a month after Zedekiah's capture, who came to Jerusalem? 2 Kings 25:8

2. What terrible things did he and his men do there? 2 Kings 25:9-15

a. 9 _____

b. 10 _____

c. 11 _____

d. 13, 16-17 _____

e. 14-15 _____

3. Then what was done with the chief priest, 11 other officials, and 60 other men?
2 Kings 25:18-21

QUESTIONS FOR ME TO THINK ABOUT:

1. Why did such terrible destruction come to Judah and Jerusalem? What was God's attitude toward Zedekiah right up through the siege? **2 Chronicles 36:15-16**

2. Am I proud and rebellious against God? Is He still sending messages to me to try to get me to repent and turn to Him? How have I responded to His words, and His messengers? How does God feel toward me because of my responses?

EVENTS AMONG THE REMNANT LEFT IN JUDAH
2 Kings 25:12, 22-26; Jeremiah 39:10 - 44:30

Although most of the people of Judah had been carried captive to Babylon, a very few remained in Judah. Read now to see who they were, and what happened to them:

A. The People Who Were Left: Read 2 Kings 25:12, 22-24; Jer. 39:10-14, 40:1-12

1. Who were left in Judah after the others were carried captive? 2 Kings 25:12a; Jeremiah 39:10a-c

2. What were they expected to be there? 2 Kings 25:12; Jeremiah 39:10d

3. Whom did Nebuchadnezzar make their ruler? 2 Kings 25:22

4. Who was loosed from among those who were chained to go into Babylon as captives? Jeremiah 39:11, 12, 40:1-4a

5. What choice was given to him? Jeremiah 40:4b-5

6. What choice did he make? Jeremiah 40:6, 39:13-14

7. What two groups then came and joined those left under Gedaliah's care?
 - a. Jeremiah 40:7, 8; 2 Kings 25:23 _____
 - b. Jeremiah 40:11-12 _____
8. What did Gedaliah promise if they would stay in the land and serve the king of Babylon? Jer. 40:9, 10

B. An Incident Among the People: Read 2 Kings 25:25-26; Jeremiah 40:13-41:18

1. What did Johanan and the other captains warn Gedaliah that Ishmael, one of Judah's captains, had been sent to do? Jeremiah 40:13, 14b

2. What was Gedaliah's response to this warning? Jer. 40:14c

3. Nevertheless, what happened after Gedaliah had ruled only about two months? 2 Kings 25:25, Jer. 41:1-3

4. What happened the second day after this? Jer. 41:4-9

5. What did Ishmael plan to do with the rest of the people in Mizpah? Jer. 41:10

6. But what happened to prevent this? Jer. 41:11-15

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7. What did the rest of the people plan to do because of their fear of the Chaldeans? Jer. 41:16-18
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C. God's Messages to the People: Read Jeremiah 41 -44:

1. Before carrying out their plans, what did the people ask Jeremiah to do? Jer. 42:1-3

2. What did they promise they would do, regardless of what God's will might be? Jer. 42:4-6

3. What did God advise them to do? Jeremiah 42:7-12

4. What did He warn would happen to them if they went to Egypt? Jer. 42:13-22

5. When the people heard Jeremiah's message, what did the leaders say he was doing? Jer. 43:1-3

6. Therefore, what did they do? Jer. 43:4-7

7. Who did the Lord say would conquer Egypt? Jer. 43:8-13

8. Of what terrible sin were the people guilty after arriving in Egypt? Jeremiah 44:1-10 (see 8)

9. Although God through Jeremiah warned them of this, what was their response? Jer. 44:11-19 (see 17)

10. Therefore, what did God say would happen to all but a very few of them? Jer 44:20-30 (see 27-28)

QUESTIONS For Me To Think About:

1. Were the remnant of Judah any different from the others? Was God Just in pronouncing judgment upon them? Could He justly have done anything else?

2. Has God told Me not to do anything? Do I stubbornly insist that I will do it anyway? How does God feel about this? What will He do? Is this what I want?