

WELCOME TO THE HAGERSTOWN CHURCH OF CHRIST

If you are visiting with us would you please fill out a Welcome Card and leave it on the seat beside you? Thank You.

Our prayer is that as we worship together we will draw closer to God and each other.

Deuteronomy 32:3 (GW) I will proclaim the name of the LORD. Give our God the greatness he deserves!

Never Give Up!

Lessons from the life of King Joash

2 Kings 11:1 — 12:21

2 Chr 22:1 — 24:27

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Divided Kingdom 1

Judah (south, Jerusalem) Israel (north, Samaria)

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| • Rehoboam 17yrs | • Jeroboam |
| • Abijam (Abijah) 3yrs | • Nadab 2yrs |
| • Asa (Asaph) 41yrs | • Baasha 24yrs |
| • ~ | • Elah 2yrs |
| • ~ | • Zimri 7days |
| • ~ | • Omri 12yrs and Tibni (6?) |
| • Jehoshaphat 25yrs | • Ahab 22yrs |
| • ~ | • ~ |
| • Jehoram (Joram) 8yrs – | • Ahaziah 2yrs |
| • Ahaziah 1yr | • Jehoram (Joram) 12yrs |

Divided Kingdom 2

Judah (south, Jerusalem) Israel (north, Samaria)

- **Athaliah** 6yrs as queen
 - Daughter of **Ahab** and **Jezebel**
 - Wife of **Jehoram**
 - Mother of **Ahaziah**, and was his counselor of wickedness!
 - When **Ahaziah** was killed by Jehu, she destroyed the royal family, her **grandchildren!** She tried to kill all **Ahaziah's** brothers (2K 11:1f; 2Chr 22:10f)
 - Made herself **queen**
- **Jehu** 28yrs
 - Jehu anointed king by son of **Elisha** over Israel (2K 9:1f)
 - Jehu kills both **King Joram** (Israel) and **King Ahaziah** (Judah) who was visiting Joram (2K 9:24, 27)
 - Jehu has **Jezebel** executed (2K 9:30f)
 - Jehu orders killing of **Ahab's 70 sons** (2K 10:1f)
 - Jehu strikes down the prophets of Baal 2K 10:18f)

Joash or Jehoash

- “Yahweh bestows”, “man of Yahweh”; “Jehovah-given”
 - Son of King Ahaziah
 - Mother was Zibiah of Beersheba
- **Jehoshabeath** (Joash’s aunt)
 - Daughter of the King Jehoram
 - Sister to Ahaziah
 - Wife of **Jehoiada** the high priest
 - Rescued **Joash** the son of Ahaziah and hid him from **Athaliah** for 6 years (didn’t she realize she didn’t kill one of her grandsons?)

A Great Start

- **Jehoiada** the high priest gathered loyal guards, armed with the spears and shields of David (2K 11:4-12; 2Chr 23:1-11)
- **Jehoiada** killed Athaliah (2K 11:13-16; 2Chr 23:12-15, 21)
- **Jehoiada** tore down the temple of Baal, including altars and images, killed Mattan the priest of Baal (2K 11:17-18; 2Chr 16-17)
- **Jehoiada** anointed Joash as king in Judah at 7 years old (2K 11:19-21; 2Chr 23:18-20)

More Accomplishments

- **Jehoash** gave directions to repair the temple (2K 12:4-5; 2Chr 24:4-5)
- After 23 years the temple hadn't been repaired, so **Jehoash** took action (2K 12:6-16; 2Chr 24:6-13)
 - Set up separate treasury to pay for the repairs
 - Maintained stewardship of the collection
 - Hired contractors, who could be trusted, to do the work
- Made utensils, dishes, and vessels for the house of the Lord (2Chr 24:14)
- Regularly offered burnt offerings in the house of the Lord (2Chr 24:14)
- **Jehoiada** grew old and died at 130 years (2K 12:4-5; 2Chr 24:16-17)

Poor Second Half!

Joash did well more than halfway through his 40 year reign, but...

- Joash listened to the Princes of Judah (2Chr 24:17)
- Abandoned the house of the Lord (2Chr 24:18)
- Served the Asherim and the idols (2Chr 24:18)
- Didn't listen to the prophets (2Chr 24:19)
- Stoned (murdered) Zechariah, the son of Jehoiada the priest (2Chr 24:20-21)
- Did not remember the kindness that Jehoiada, Zechariah's father, showed him (2Chr 24:22)
- Tried to buy peace with Syrians by giving away the sacred gifts from the **house of the Lord** (2K 12:17-18)

Failed Finish!

- Injured by the Syrians (2Chr 24:23-25a)
 - “Though the army of the Syrians had come with few men, the LORD delivered into their hand a very great army, because **Judah had forsaken the LORD**, the God of their fathers. **Thus they executed judgment on Joash.**” (2 Chr. 24:24 ESVi)
- Assassinated in his bed (2K 12:20-21; 2Chr 24:25-27)
 - “When they had departed from him, leaving him severely wounded, his servants conspired against him because of the **blood of the son of Jehoiada the priest**, and killed him on his bed.” (2 Chr. 24:25a ESVi)
- Was not buried in the tombs of the Kings (2K 12:21; 2Chr 24:25b)
- Was not included in the genealogy of Jesus (Mt 1:8)

What Is Your Epitaph?

- “And Jehoash did what was right in the eyes of the LORD all his days, **because Jehoiada the priest instructed him.**” Nevertheless, the high places were not taken away; the people continued to sacrifice and make offerings on the high places.” (2 Kings 12:2-3 ESVi)
- “And Joash did what was right in the eyes of the LORD **all the days of Jehoiada the priest.**” (2 Chr. 24:2 ESVi)
- “So he died, and they buried him in the city of David, but **they did not bury him in the tombs of the kings.**” (2 Chr. 24:25b ESVi)

What Can We Learn?

- **Begin with the end in mind** (your Epitaph), **then execute daily**
- **Don't forget kindness shown to you or good examples**
- **Find (and keep) good mentors and teachers, encouragement from fellow warriors**
- **It matters what you do** — Matthew 21:28-32 (two sons—say no, but do vs. say yes, but not do)
- **Do not become lukewarm** — Revelation 3:15-17
- **Keep your first love** — Revelation 2:4-5
- **Run the race (to completion), don't give up halfway through**
 - **2 Tim 4:7** “I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.”
 - **Hebrew 12:1** “Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,”
- **It matters how you finish!**

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