

2 Chronicles 22:1-12 **Wicked Reign of Ahaziah & Athaliah over Judah**

Ahaziah Reigns in Judah

(2 Kings 8:25-29; 9:14-16,27-29)

1 Then the inhabitants of Jerusalem made Ahaziah his youngest son king in his place, for the raiders who came with the Arabians into the camp had killed all the older sons. So Ahaziah the son of Jehoram, king of Judah, reigned.

2 Ahaziah was forty-two years old when he became king, and he reigned one year in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Athaliah the granddaughter of Omri.

3 He also walked in the ways of the house of Ahab, for his mother advised him to do wickedly.

4 Therefore he did evil in the sight of Yahweh (the Lord), like the house of Ahab; for they were his counselors after the death of his father, to his destruction.

5 He also followed their advice, and went with Jehoram the son of Ahab king of Israel to war against Hazael king of Syria at Ramoth Gilead; and the Syrians wounded Joram.

6 Then he returned to Jezreel to recover from the wounds which he had received at Ramah, when he fought against Hazael king of Syria. And Azariah the son of Jehoram, king of Judah, went down to see Jehoram the son of Ahab in Jezreel, because he was sick.

7 His going to Joram was Elohiym (God's) occasion for Ahaziah's downfall; for when he arrived, he went out with Jehoram against Jehu the son of Nimshi, whom Yahweh (the Lord) had anointed to cut off the house of Ahab.

8 And it happened, when Jehu was executing judgment on the house of Ahab, and found the princes of Judah and the sons of Ahaziah's brothers who served Ahaziah, that he killed them.

9 Then he searched for Ahaziah; and they caught him (he was hiding in Samaria), and brought him to Jehu. When they had killed him, they buried him, "because," they said, "he is the son of Jehoshaphat, who sought Yahweh (the Lord) with all his heart."

So the house of Ahaziah had no one to assume power over the kingdom.

Athaliah Reigns in Judah

(2 Kings 11:1-3)

10 Now when Athaliah the mother of Ahaziah saw that her son was dead, she arose and destroyed all the royal heirs of the house of Judah.

11 But Jehoshabeath, the daughter of the king, took Joash the son of Ahaziah, and stole him away from among the king's sons who were being murdered, and put him and his nurse in a bedroom. So Jehoshabeath, the daughter of King Jehoram, the wife of Jehoiada the priest (for she was the sister of Ahaziah), hid him from Athaliah so that she did not kill him.

12 And he was hidden with them in Beit Elohiym (the house of God) for six years, while Athaliah reigned over the land.

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Facts Revealed:

- ✧ After the death of Jehoram the wicked son of Jehoshaphat king of Judah, the people of Jerusalem made Ahaziah his youngest son king of Judah. [2 Chronicles 22:1]
- ✧ Jehoram had killed all his brothers the sons of Jehoshaphat when he became king. [2 Chronicles 21:4]

- ✧ The raiders who came into the land killed all the sons of Jehoram except for Ahaziah his youngest son. [2 Chronicles 22:1]
 - ✧ Ahaziah reigned one year in Jerusalem, his mother was Athaliah the granddaughter of Omri. [2 Chronicles 22:2]
 - ✧ Omri was a king of Israel doing evil in the sight of Yahweh. [1 Kings 16:25, 2 Kings 8:26]
 - ✧ Ahaziah did evil in the sight of Yahweh following the ways of Ahab because he followed the counsel of his mother and of the house of Ahab to his own destruction. [2 Chronicles 22:3-4]
 - ✧ Ahaziah went with Jehoram king of Israel to war against the Syrians where Joram (Jehoram) was wounded and returned to Jezreel to recover. [2 Chronicles 22:5-6]
 - ✧ Ahaziah son of Jehoram king of Judah went to see Jehoram son of Ahab king of Israel in Jezreel because he was sick. [2 Chronicles 22:6]
 - ✧ **Elohiym used this occasion to cause the downfall of Ahaziah.** [2 Chronicles 22:2-7]
 - ✧ Yahweh had anointed Jehu son of Nimshi to cut off the house of Ahab. [2 Chronicles 22:7, 2 Kings 9:1-10]
- (It is interesting that many of the people of Israel had the same name as people of Judah).
- ✧ And it happened, when Jehu was executing judgment on the house of Ahab, and found the princes of Judah and the sons of Ahaziah's brothers who served Ahaziah, that he killed them. Then he searched for Ahaziah; and they caught him (he was hiding in Samaria), and brought him to Jehu. When they had killed him, they buried him, "because," they said, "**he is the son of Jehoshaphat, who sought Yahweh (the Lord) with all his heart.**" So the house of Ahaziah had no one to assume power over the kingdom. [2 Chronicles 22:8-10, 2 Kings 9:1-37, 10:1-28]
 - ✧ Yahweh directed the timing and the setting to accomplish His intended judgment against the wickedness of Ahaziah & Judah. [2 Chronicles 22:3-7]
 - ✧ Those who buried Ahaziah acknowledged that; "**he is the son of Jehoshaphat, who sought Yahweh (the Lord) with all his heart.**" [2 Chronicles 22:9]

Athaliah Reigns in Judah (2 Kings 11:1-3)

- ✧ Now when Athaliah the mother of Ahaziah saw that her son was dead, she arose and destroyed all the royal heirs of the house of Judah. But Jehoshabeath, the daughter of the king, took Joash the son of Ahaziah, and stole him away from among the king's sons who were being murdered, and put him and his nurse in a bedroom. So Jehoshabeath, the daughter of King Jehoram, the wife of Jehoiada the priest (for she was the sister of Ahaziah), hid him from Athaliah so that she did not kill him. And he was hidden with them in Beit Elohiym (the house of God) for six years, while Athaliah reigned over the land. [2 Chronicles 22:10-12]
- ✧ When Ahaziah died, his mother Athaliah destroyed all the royal heirs of Judah. [2 Chronicles 22:10]
- ✧ However, Jehoshabeath the sister of Ahaziah who was married to Jehoiada the Priest hid Joash the youngest son from Athaliah in the House of Elohiym for six years while Athaliah reigned over the land of Judah. [2 Chronicles 22:11-12]