

2 Kings 13:10-25 **Jehoash (Joash) King of Israel – Death of Elisha**

Jehoash Reigns in Israel

10 In the thirty-seventh year of Joash king of Judah, Jehoash the son of Jehoahaz became king over Israel in Samaria, and reigned sixteen years.

11 And he did evil in the sight of the Lord. He did not depart from all the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel sin, but walked in them.

12 Now the rest of the acts of Joash, all that he did, and his might with which he fought against Amaziah king of Judah, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel?

13 So Joash rested with his fathers. Then Jeroboam sat on his throne. And Joash was buried in Samaria with the kings of Israel.

Death of Elisha

14 Elisha had become sick with the illness of which he would die. Then Joash the king of Israel came down to him, and wept over his face, and said, "O my father, my father, the chariots of Israel and their horsemen!"

15 And Elisha said to him, "Take a bow and some arrows." So he took himself a bow and some arrows.

16 Then he said to the king of Israel, "Put your hand on the bow." So he put his hand on it, and Elisha put his hands on the king's hands.

17 And he said, "Open the east window"; and he opened it. Then Elisha said, "Shoot"; and he shot. And he said, "The arrow of the Lord's deliverance and the arrow of deliverance from Syria; for you must strike the Syrians at Aphek till you have destroyed them."

18 Then he said, "Take the arrows"; so he took them. And he said to the king of Israel, "Strike the ground"; so he struck three times, and stopped.

19 And the man of God was angry with him, and said, "You should have struck five or six times; then you would have struck Syria till you had destroyed it! But now you will strike Syria only three times."

20 Then Elisha died, and they buried him. And the raiding bands from Moab invaded the land in the spring of the year.

21 So it was, as they were burying a man, that suddenly they spied a band of raiders; and they put the man in the tomb of Elisha; and when the man was let down and touched the bones of Elisha, he revived and stood on his feet.

Israel Recaptures Cities from Syria

22 And Hazael king of Syria oppressed Israel all the days of Jehoahaz. 23 But the Lord was gracious to them, had compassion on them, and regarded them, because of His covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and would not yet destroy them or cast them from His presence.

24 Now Hazael king of Syria died. Then Ben-Hadad his son reigned in his place. 25 And Jehoash the son of Jehoahaz recaptured from the hand of Ben-Hadad, the son of Hazael, the cities which he had taken out of the hand of Jehoahaz his father by war. Three times Joash defeated him and recaptured the cities of Israel.

Facts Revealed:

Jehoash Reigns in Israel [2 Kings 13:10-13]

- ✧ In the thirty-seventh year of Joash king of Judah, Jehoash the son of Jehoahaz became king over Israel in Samaria, and reigned sixteen years. [2 Kings 13:10]
He did evil in the sight of the Lord. He did not depart from all the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel sin, but walked in them. [2 Kings 13:11]
- ✧ This is the standard refrain regarding the kings of Israel from the time of Jeroboam to the destruction of Israel by the Assyrians, they were never able to give up their idolatry to return to Yahweh the true God of Israel.
- ✧ How like the world today, when a government turns away from God to follow ways devised by their secular leaders and educators, the end result is the same. The wrath of God is inevitable, and this time it will result in the Great Tribulation.
- ✧ The Lord Jesus is coming soon to purge the earth of all evil and to set up His Kingdom. [Isaiah 1:24-28, 29:20-21, Ezekiel 20:33-39, Zephaniah 3:8-9, Malachi 3:1-5, 4:1, Matthew 13:40-43]
- ✧ Now the rest of the acts of Joash, all that he did, and his might with which he fought against Amaziah king of Judah, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel? [2 Kings 13:12, 2 Chronicles 25:17-24]
- ✧ So Joash rested with his fathers. Then Jeroboam sat on his throne. And Joash was buried in Samaria with the kings of Israel. [2 Kings 13:13]

Death of Elisha – Instructions against Syria [2 Kings 13:14-21]

- ✧ Elisha had become sick with the illness of which he would die. Then Joash the king of Israel came down to him, and wept over his face, and said, "O my father, my father, the chariots of Israel and their horsemen!" [2 Kings 13:14]
- ✧ Even though Joash was evil and persisted in following the idolatrous practices of Israel since the days of Jeroboam, still he had respect for the aging Prophet Elisha and came to him and wept over him when he was sick and dying.
- ✧ Elisha still had the strength to advise Joash king of Israel concerning Syria. [2 Kings 13:15-19]
- ✧ The test is a test of zeal and commitment to defeat the Syrian enemy.
- ✧ Some times three is not enough, he should have struck with the arrows 5 or 6 times to finish the job.
- ✧ God granted him victory according to his zeal and commitment, and the Syrians were not fully defeated. It is strange to see today how the Syrians are still a thorn in the side of Israel because of it.
- ✧ Then Elisha died, and they buried him. And the raiding bands from Moab invaded the land in the spring of the year.
So it was, as they were burying a man, that suddenly they spied a band of raiders; and they put the man in the tomb of Elisha; and when the man was let down and touched the bones of Elisha, he revived and stood on his feet. [2 Kings 13:20-21]
- ✧ Elisha had requested a double portion of the spirit of Elijah, and received the same as evidenced by the residual power in his bones after his burial. [2 Kings 2:9]

Israel Recaptures Cities from Syria [2 Kings 13:22-25]

- ✧ Hazael king of Syria oppressed Israel all the days of Jehoahaz. [2 Kings 13:22, 8:7 - 13:3]
- ✧ But the Lord was gracious to Israel, had compassion on them, and regarded them, because of His covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and would not yet destroy them or cast them from His presence. [2 Kings 13:23]

- ✧ Because of His love and covenant with righteous forefathers, God delayed the destruction of disobedient Israel for hundreds of years, yet destruction finally came according to the Word of God proving that "The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance." [[2 Peter 3:9](#)]
- ✧ The same is true today, God is delaying His wrath because of our righteous forefathers, but we dare not abuse the grace and mercy of God, because Judgment day is coming upon a world that has for the most part turned its back on the living God.
- ✧ Hazael king of Syria died. Then Ben-Hadad his son reigned in his place. [[2 Kings 13:24](#)]
- ✧ Jehoash the son of Jehoahaz recaptured from the hand of Ben-Hadad, the son of Hazael, the cities which he had taken out of the hand of Jehoahaz his father by war. Three times Joash defeated him and recaptured the cities of Israel.