

2 Kings 23:31-37 **Jehoahaz, Eliakim (Jehoiakim) – Wicked Kings of Judah**

The Reign and Captivity of Jehoahaz [2 Kings 23:31-34, 2 Chron 36:1-4]

31 Jehoahaz was twenty-three years old when he became king, and he reigned three months in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Hamutal the daughter of Jeremiah of Libnah.

32 And he did evil in the sight of the Lord, according to all that his fathers had done.

33 Now Pharaoh Necho put him in prison at Riblah in the land of Hamath, that he might not reign in Jerusalem; and he imposed on the land a tribute of one hundred talents of silver and a talent of gold.

34 Then Pharaoh Necho made Eliakim the son of Josiah king in place of his father Josiah, and changed his name to Jehoiakim. And Pharaoh took Jehoahaz and went to Egypt, and he died there.

Jehoiakim Reigns in Judah [2 Kings 23:35-37, 2 Chron 36:5-8]

35 So Jehoiakim gave the silver and gold to Pharaoh; but he taxed the land to give money according to the command of Pharaoh; he exacted the silver and gold from the people of the land, from every one according to his assessment, to give it to Pharaoh Necho.

36 Jehoiakim was twenty-five years old when he became king, and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Zebudah the daughter of Pedaiiah of Rumah.

37 And he did evil in the sight of the Lord, according to all that his fathers had done.

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Facts Revealed:

- ✧ Evil behavior of predecessors is very difficult to eradicate from later generations as was seen in Israel when all the kings that followed Jeroboam who built the golden calves at Dan and Bethel, leading the Children of Israel of the Northern Kingdom into sins they never forsook. These evil sins became tradition for the people and were not ended until Israel was carried away by the Assyrians and scattered among the Northern and Eastern nations. [1 Kings 12:25-33, 13:33-34] This was the common comment pertaining to all but the last of the kings of Israel through the books of first and second Kings until Israel was carried away by the Assyrians, "He did not depart from all the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who had made Israel sin." The last king of Israel did not have the golden calves because they were carried away by the Assyrians [2 Kings 18:12, 2 Kings 13:11]
- ✧ Now, because the southern kingdom of Judah has been influenced for evil by Ahaz and Manasseh, they also find it difficult to turn away from the evil traditions of their past, and are traveling down the road to destruction in spite of the brief time of 31 years under the reign of Josiah the last godly king.

The Reign and Captivity of Jehoahaz [2 Kings 23:31-34, 2 Chron 36:1-4]

✧ Jehoahaz (son of Josiah) was king of Judah only three months before he was carried away to Egypt by Pharaoh Necho and imprisoned at Riblah where he died. [2 Kings 23:31-33]

✧ Pharaoh Necho also imposed a tax on the land of Judah of 100 talents of silver and a talent of gold. [2 Kings 23:33]

✧ Eliakim his brother (also son of Josiah) was made king of Judah by Pharaoh Necho who changed his name to Jehoiakim. [2 Kings 23:34]

Jehoiakim Reigns in Judah [2 Kings 23:35-37, 2 Chron 36:5-8]

- ✧ Jehoiakim was a puppet king serving Pharaoh Necho by collecting taxes from Judah and giving it to Pharaoh of Egypt. He became king of Judah at age 25 and reigned 11 years doing evil in the sight of the Lord according to the traditions of the wicked kings who were before him. [2 Kings 23:35-37]
- ✧ Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon carried Jehoiakim to Babylon in bronze shackles along with some of the articles from the Temple of Yahweh. Jehoiachin his son became king of Judah in place of his father Jehoiakim. [2 Chronicles 36:5-8]