

2 Kings 24:1-20 **Babylonian oppression begins – Last 2 kings of Judah**

Judah Overrun by Enemies

¹ In his days Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came up, and Jehoiakim became his vassal for three years. Then he turned and rebelled against him.

² And the Lord sent against him raiding bands of Chaldeans, bands of Syrians, bands of Moabites, and bands of the people of Ammon; He sent them against Judah to destroy it, according to the word of the Lord which He had spoken by His servants the prophets.

³ Surely at the commandment of the Lord this came upon Judah, to remove them from His sight because of the sins of Manasseh, according to all that he had done, ⁴ and also because of the innocent blood that he had shed; for he had filled Jerusalem with innocent blood, which the Lord would not pardon.

⁵ Now the rest of the acts of Jehoiakim, and all that he did, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah?

⁶ So Jehoiakim rested with his fathers. Then Jehoiachin his son reigned in his place.

⁷ And the king of Egypt did not come out of his land anymore, for the king of Babylon had taken all that belonged to the king of Egypt from the Brook of Egypt to the River Euphrates.

The Reign and Captivity of Jehoiachin (2 Chron 36:9,10)

⁸ Jehoiachin was eighteen years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem three months. His mother's name was Nehushta the daughter of Elnathan of Jerusalem. ⁹ And he did evil in the sight of the Lord, according to all that his father had done.

¹⁰ At that time the servants of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came up against Jerusalem, and the city was besieged. ¹¹ And Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came against the city, as his servants were besieging it.

¹² Then Jehoiachin king of Judah, his mother, his servants, his princes, and his officers went out to the king of Babylon; and the king of Babylon, in the eighth year of his reign, took him prisoner.

The Captivity of Jerusalem

¹³ And he carried out from there all the treasures of the house of the Lord and the treasures of the king's house, and he cut in pieces all the articles of gold which Solomon king of Israel had made in the temple of the Lord, as the Lord had said.

¹⁴ Also he carried into captivity all Jerusalem: all the captains and all the mighty men of valor, ten thousand captives, and all the craftsmen and smiths. None remained except the poorest people of the land.

¹⁵ And he carried Jehoiachin captive to Babylon. The king's mother, the king's wives, his officers, and the mighty of the land he carried into captivity from Jerusalem to Babylon. ¹⁶ All the valiant men, seven thousand, and craftsmen and smiths, one thousand, all who were strong and fit for war, these the king of Babylon brought captive to Babylon.

Zedekiah Reigns in Judah (2 Chron 36:11-14; Jer 52:1-3)

¹⁷ Then the king of Babylon made Mattaniah, Jehoiachin's uncle, king in his place, and changed his name to Zedekiah.

¹⁸ Zedekiah was twenty-one years old when he became king, and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Hamutal the daughter of Jeremiah of Libnah.

¹⁹ He also did evil in the sight of the Lord, according to all that Jehoiakim had done.

20 For because of the anger of the Lord this happened in Jerusalem and Judah, that He finally cast them out from His presence. Then Zedekiah rebelled against the king of Babylon.
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Facts Revealed:

Babylonian Oppression begins

- ✧ Jehoiakim (Eliakim) was made king of Judah by Pharaoh Necho king of Egypt and he served Pharaoh by collecting taxes from Judah and giving them to Pharaoh. [2 Kings 23:35-37]
- ✧ Jehoiakim became vassal of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon for three years when Babylon took all the land from Egypt from the Brook of Egypt to the Euphrates River and the king of Egypt did not come into Judah any more, then he rebelled against the king of Babylon. [2 Kings 24:1, 7]
- ✧ Because he did evil in the sight of Yahweh according to the ways of the evil kings before him, specifically the sins of Manasseh, The Lord sent raiding bands against Judah from Chaldea, Syria, Moab, and Ammon just as He had warned by His servants the Prophets.
The purpose was to remove Judah from His sight as He had done to Israel because of the sins of Manasseh and the innocent blood he had shed in Jerusalem which Yahweh would not pardon. [2 Kings 24:2-4]
 - ◇ Shedding of innocent blood defiles the land and brings the wrath of God. [Numbers 35:33]
- ✧ The rest of the acts of Jehoiakim are written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah. [2 Kings 24:5-7, 2 Chronicles 36:5-8]
- ✧ Jehoiachin reigned in his father's place. [2 Kings 24:6]

The Reign and Captivity of Jehoiachin [2 Kings 24:8-12] (2 Chron 36:9,10)

- ✧ Jehoiachin was eighteen years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem three months. His mother's name was Nehushta the daughter of Elnathan of Jerusalem.
And he did evil in the sight of the Lord, according to all that his father had done. [2 Kings 24:8-9]
 - ◇ When raised with wickedness it is very difficult for the next generation to return to righteousness.
- ✧ In the eighth year of his reign Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon laid siege to Jerusalem and Jehoiachin king of Judah, his mother, his servants and officers went out to him and were taken prisoner. [2 Kings 24:10-12]

The Captivity of Jerusalem

- ✧ Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon carried to Babylon all the treasures of the house of Yahweh and of the king's house, all the military officers, the mighty men of valor, and all the craftsmen and smiths, this included the king's mother, the king's wives, his officers, and the mighty of the land, leaving only the poorest of the people in the land. [2 Kings 24:13-16]

Zedekiah Reigns in Judah [2 Kings 24:17-20] (2 Chronicles 36:11-14, Jeremiah 52:1-3)

- ✧ Then the king of Babylon made Mattaniah, Jehoiachin's uncle, king in his place, and changed his name to Zedekiah. [2 Kings 24:17]
- ✧ Zedekiah was twenty-one years old when he became king, and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Hamutal the daughter of Jeremiah of Libnah.
He also did evil in the sight of the Lord, according to all that Jehoiakim had done. [2 Kings 24:18-19]
- ✧ All this happened in Jerusalem and Judah because of the anger of the Lord, He finally cast them out from His presence.
Then Zedekiah rebelled against the king of Babylon [2 Kings 24:20]