

The Death of Jotham [Judah] (732t BC)

2 Kings 15:36–38	2 Chronicles 27:7–9
<p>36 Now the rest of the acts of Jotham and all that he did, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Judah?</p> <p>37 In those days the LORD began to send Rezin king of Aram and Pekah the son of Remaliah against Judah.</p> <p>38 And Jotham slept with his fathers, and he was buried with his fathers in the city of David his father; and Ahaz his son became king in his place.</p>	<p>7 Now the rest of the acts of Jotham, even all his wars and his acts, behold, they are written in the Book of the Kings of Israel and Judah.</p> <p>8 He was twenty-five years old when he became king, and he reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem.</p> <p>9 And Jotham slept with his fathers, and they buried him in the city of David; and Ahaz his son became king in his place.</p>

Ahaz [Judah] Compounds His Idolatry (732 BC)

2 Kings 16:10–18	2 Chronicles 28:22–25
<p>10 Now King Ahaz went to Damascus to meet Tiglath-pileser king of Assyria, and saw the altar which <i>was</i> at Damascus; and King Ahaz sent to Urijah the priest the pattern of the altar and its model, according to all its workmanship.</p> <p>11 So Urijah the priest built an altar; according to all that King Ahaz had sent from Damascus, thus Urijah the priest made <i>it</i>, before the coming of King Ahaz from Damascus.</p> <p>12 When the king came from Damascus, the king saw the altar; then the king approached the altar and went up to it,</p> <p>13 and burned his burnt offering and his meal offering, and poured his drink offering and sprinkled the blood of his peace offerings on the altar.</p> <p>14 The bronze altar, which <i>was</i> before the LORD, he brought from the front of the house, from between <i>his</i> altar and the house of the LORD, and he put it on the north side of <i>his</i> altar.</p> <p>15 Then King Ahaz commanded Urijah the priest, saying, “Upon the great altar burn the morning burnt offering and the evening meal offering and the king’s burnt offering and his meal offering, with the burnt offering of all the people of the land and their meal</p>	<p>22 Now in the time of his distress this same King Ahaz became yet more unfaithful to the LORD.</p> <p>23 For he sacrificed to the gods of Damascus which had defeated him,</p> <p>and said, “Because the gods of the kings of Aram helped them, I will sacrifice to them that they may help me.” But they became the downfall of him and all Israel.</p>

offering and their drink offerings; and sprinkle on it all the blood of the burnt offering and all the blood of the sacrifice. But the bronze altar shall be for me to inquire *by*.”

16 So Urijah the priest did according to all that King Ahaz commanded.

17 Then King Ahaz cut off the borders of the stands, and removed the laver from them; he also took down the sea from the bronze oxen which were under it and put it on a pavement of stone.

18 The covered way for the sabbath which they had built in the house, and the outer entry of the king, he removed from the house of the LORD because of the king of Assyria.

24 Moreover, when Ahaz gathered together the utensils of the house of God, he cut the utensils of the house of God in pieces;

and he closed the doors of the house of the LORD and made altars for himself in every corner of Jerusalem.

25 In every city of Judah he made high places to burn incense to other gods, and provoked the LORD, the God of his fathers, to anger.

Isaiah's Prophecy to Judah—The Righteous King (c. 730 BC)

Isaiah 8:18–12:6

Isaiah Addresses His Followers

8:18 Behold, I and the children whom the LORD has given me are for signs and wonders in Israel from the LORD of hosts, who dwells on Mount Zion. [[Heb 2:13](#)]

19 When they say to you, “Consult the mediums and the spiritists who whisper and mutter,” should not a people consult their God? *Should they consult* the dead on behalf of the living?

20 To the law and to the testimony! If they do not speak according to this word, it is because they have no dawn.

21 They will pass through the land hard-pressed and famished, and it will turn out that when they are hungry, they will be enraged and curse their king and their God as they face upward.

22 Then they will look to the earth, and behold, distress and darkness, the gloom of anguish; and *they will be* driven away into darkness.

The Reign of a Righteous King—The Messiah and the Millennium

9:1 But there will be no *more* gloom for her who was in anguish; in earlier times He treated the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali with contempt, but later on He shall make *it* glorious, by the way of the sea, on the other side of Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles.

2 The people who walk in darkness
Will see a great light;
Those who live in a dark land,
The light will shine on them. [[Matt 4:14–16](#)]

3 You shall multiply the nation,
You shall increase their gladness;
They will be glad in Your presence
As with the gladness of harvest,

As men rejoice when they divide the spoil.

- 4 For You shall break the yoke of their burden and the staff on their shoulders,
The rod of their oppressor, as at the battle of Midian.
- 5 For every boot of the booted warrior in the *battle* tumult,
And cloak rolled in blood, will be for burning, fuel for the fire.
- 6 For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us;
And the government will rest on His shoulders;
And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.
- 7 There will be no end to the increase of *His* government or of peace,
On the throne of David and over his kingdom,
To establish it and to uphold it with justice and righteousness
From then on and forevermore.
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will accomplish this.

God's Wrath against Proud Israel

- 8 The Lord sends a message against Jacob,
And it falls on Israel.
- 9 And all the people know *it*,
That is, Ephraim and the inhabitants of Samaria,
Asserting in pride and in arrogance of heart:
- 10 "The bricks have fallen down,
But we will rebuild with smooth stones;
The sycamores have been cut down,
But we will replace *them* with cedars."
- 11 Therefore the LORD raises against them adversaries from Rezin
And spurs their enemies on,
- 12 The Arameans on the east and the Philistines on the west;
And they devour Israel with gaping jaws.
In *spite of* all this, His anger does not turn away
And His hand is still stretched out.

God's Wrath against Unrepentant Leaders

- 13 Yet the people do not turn back to Him who struck them,
Nor do they seek the LORD of hosts.
- 14 So the LORD cuts off head and tail from Israel,
Both palm branch and bulrush in a single day.
- 15 The head is the elder and honorable man,
And the prophet who teaches falsehood is the tail.
- 16 For those who guide this people are leading *them* astray;
And those who are guided by them are brought to confusion.
- 17 Therefore the Lord does not take pleasure in their young men,
Nor does He have pity on their orphans or their widows;
For every one of them is godless and an evildoer,
And every mouth is speaking foolishness.
In *spite of* all this, His anger does not turn away
And His hand is still stretched out.

God's Destruction of the Nation

- 18 For wickedness burns like a fire;
It consumes briars and thorns;
It even sets the thickets of the forest aflame
And they roll upward in a column of smoke.
- 19 By the fury of the LORD of hosts the land is burned up,
And the people are like fuel for the fire;
No man spares his brother.
- 20 They slice off *what is* on the right hand but *still* are hungry,
And they eat *what is* on the left hand but they are not satisfied;
Each of them eats the flesh of his own arm.
- 21 Manasseh *devours* Ephraim, and Ephraim Manasseh,
And together they are against Judah.
In *spite of* all this, His anger does not turn away
And His hand is still stretched out.

Lament: Judah's Oppression Will Lead to Its Demise

- 10:1 Woe to those who enact evil statutes
And to those who constantly record unjust decisions,
- 2 So as to deprive the needy of justice
And rob the poor of My people of *their* rights,
So that widows may be their spoil
And that they may plunder the orphans.
- 3 Now what will you do in the day of punishment,
And in the devastation which will come from afar?
To whom will you flee for help?
And where will you leave your wealth?
- 4 Nothing *remains* but to crouch among the captives
Or fall among the slain.
In *spite of* all this, His anger does not turn away
And His hand is still stretched out.

God Will Judge Assyria for Its Pride

- 5 Woe to Assyria, the rod of My anger
And the staff in whose hands is My indignation,
- 6 I send it against a godless nation
And commission it against the people of My fury
To capture booty and to seize plunder,
And to trample them down like mud in the streets.
- 7 Yet it does not so intend,
Nor does it plan so in its heart,
But rather it is its purpose to destroy
And to cut off many nations.
- 8 For it says, "Are not my princes all kings?
9 "Is not Calno like Carchemish,
Or Hamath like Arpad,
Or Samaria like Damascus?"
- 10 "As my hand has reached to the kingdoms of the idols,
Whose graven images *were* greater than those of Jerusalem and Samaria,

- 11 Shall I not do to Jerusalem and her images
Just as I have done to Samaria and her idols?" [cf. [2 Kgs 18:33–35](#)]
- 12 So it will be that when the Lord has completed all His work on Mount Zion and on Jerusalem, *He will say*,
"I will punish the fruit of the arrogant heart of the king of Assyria and the pomp of his haughtiness."
13 For he has said,
- "By the power of my hand and by my wisdom I did *this*,
For I have understanding;
And I removed the boundaries of the peoples
And plundered their treasures,
And like a mighty man I brought down *their* inhabitants,
- 14 And my hand reached to the riches of the peoples like a nest,
And as one gathers abandoned eggs, I gathered all the earth;
And there was not one that flapped its wing or opened *its* beak or chirped."
- 15 Is the axe to boast itself over the one who chops with it?
Is the saw to exalt itself over the one who wields it?
That would be like a club wielding those who lift it,
Or like a rod lifting *him who* is not wood.
- 16 Therefore the Lord, the GOD of hosts, will send a wasting disease among his stout warriors;
And under his glory a fire will be kindled like a burning flame.
- 17 And the light of Israel will become a fire and his Holy One a flame,
And it will burn and devour his thorns and his briars in a single day.
- 18 And He will destroy the glory of his forest and of his fruitful garden, both soul and body,
And it will be as when a sick man wastes away.
- 19 And the rest of the trees of his forest will be so small in number
That a child could write them down.

God Will Save a Remnant

- 20 Now in that day the remnant of Israel, and those of the house of Jacob who have escaped, will never again rely on the one who struck them, but will truly rely on the LORD, the Holy One of Israel.
- 21 A remnant will return, the remnant of Jacob, to the mighty God.
- 22 For though your people, O Israel, may be like the sand of the sea,
Only a remnant within them will return;
A destruction is determined, overflowing with righteousness. [[Rom 9:27](#)]
- 23 For a complete destruction, one that is decreed, the Lord GOD of hosts will execute in the midst of the whole land.
- 24 Therefore thus says the Lord GOD of hosts, "O My people who dwell in Zion, do not fear the Assyrian who strikes you with the rod and lifts up his staff against you, the way Egypt *did*."
- 25 "For in a very little while My indignation *against you* will be spent and My anger *will be directed* to their destruction."
- 26 The LORD of hosts will arouse a scourge against him like the slaughter of Midian at the rock of Oreb; and His staff will be over the sea and He will lift it up the way *He did* in Egypt.
- 27 So it will be in that day, that his burden will be removed from your shoulders and his yoke from your neck, and the yoke will be broken because of fatness.

Invading Assyrians Will Be Cut Off

- 28 He has come against Aiath,
He has passed through Migron;
At Michmash he deposited his baggage.
- 29 They have gone through the pass, *saying*,
“Geba will be our lodging place.”
Ramah is terrified, and Gibeah of Saul has fled away.
- 30 Cry aloud with your voice, O daughter of Gallim!
Pay attention, Laishah *and* wretched Anathoth!
- 31 Madmenah has fled.
The inhabitants of Gebim have sought refuge.
- 32 Yet today he will halt at Nob;
He shakes his fist at the mountain of the daughter of Zion, the hill of Jerusalem.
- 33 Behold, the Lord, the GOD of hosts, will lop off the boughs with a terrible crash;
Those also who are tall in stature will be cut down
And those who are lofty will be abased.
- 34 He will cut down the thickets of the forest with an iron *axe*,
And Lebanon will fall by the Mighty One.

Millennium: The Just and Peaceful Millennial Reign of a Davidic Branch

- 11:1 Then a shoot will spring from the stem of Jesse,
And a branch from his roots will bear fruit.
- 2 The Spirit of the LORD will rest on Him,
The spirit of wisdom and understanding,
The spirit of counsel and strength,
The spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.
- 3 And He will delight in the fear of the LORD,
And He will not judge by what His eyes see,
Nor make a decision by what His ears hear;
- 4 But with righteousness He will judge the poor,
And decide with fairness for the afflicted of the earth;
And He will strike the earth with the rod of His mouth,
And with the breath of His lips He will slay the wicked.
- 5 Also righteousness will be the belt about His loins,
And faithfulness the belt about His waist.
- 6 And the wolf will dwell with the lamb,
And the leopard will lie down with the young goat,
And the calf and the young lion and the fatling together;
And a little boy will lead them.
- 7 Also the cow and the bear will graze,
Their young will lie down together,
And the lion will eat straw like the ox.
- 8 The nursing child will play by the hole of the cobra,
And the weaned child will put his hand on the viper’s den.
- 9 They will not hurt or destroy in all My holy mountain,
For the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD
As the waters cover the sea.

Millennium: The Gathering of the Nations to God

- 10 Then in that day
The nations will resort to the root of Jesse,
Who will stand as a signal for the peoples;
And His resting place will be glorious. [[Rom 15:12](#)]
- 11 Then it will happen on that day that the Lord
Will again recover the second time with His hand
The remnant of His people, who will remain,
From Assyria, Egypt, Pathros, Cush, Elam, Shinar, Hamath,
And from the islands of the sea.
- 12 And He will lift up a standard for the nations
And assemble the banished ones of Israel,
And will gather the dispersed of Judah
From the four corners of the earth.
- 13 Then the jealousy of Ephraim will depart,
And those who harass Judah will be cut off;
Ephraim will not be jealous of Judah,
And Judah will not harass Ephraim.
- 14 They will swoop down on the slopes of the Philistines on the west;
Together they will plunder the sons of the east;
They will possess Edom and Moab,
And the sons of Ammon will be subject to them.
- 15 And the LORD will utterly destroy
The tongue of the Sea of Egypt;
And He will wave His hand over the River
With His scorching wind;
And He will strike it into seven streams
And make *men* walk over dry-shod.
- 16 And there will be a highway from Assyria
For the remnant of His people who will be left,
Just as there was for Israel
In the day that they came up out of the land of Egypt.

Millennium: A Song of Trust in God

- 12:1 Then you will say on that day,
“I will give thanks to You, O LORD;
For although You were angry with me,
Your anger is turned away,
And You comfort me.
- 2 “Behold, God is my salvation,
I will trust and not be afraid;
For the LORD GOD is my strength and song,
And He has become my salvation.”
- 3 Therefore you will joyously draw water
From the springs of salvation.
- 4 And in that day you will say,
“Give thanks to the LORD, call on His name.
Make known His deeds among the peoples;
Make *them* remember that His name is exalted.”

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| 5 | Praise the LORD in song, for He has done excellent things;
Let this be known throughout the earth. |
| 6 | Cry aloud and shout for joy, O inhabitant of Zion,
For great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel. |

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