

The Death of Josiah (Tammuz [July] 609 BC)

2 Kings 23:28–30	2 Chronicles 35:20–36:1
<p>29 In his days, Pharaoh Neco, king of Egypt, went up against the king of Assyria at the Euphrates River. King Josiah went to meet him,</p> <p>and he killed him at Megiddo as soon as he saw him.</p> <p>30a So his servants drove him dead in a chariot from Megiddo, and they brought him to Jerusalem and buried him in his tomb.</p> <p>28 The remainder of the acts of Josiah and all that he did, <i>are</i> they not written on the scroll of the events of the days of the kings of Judah?</p> <p>30b Then the people of the land took Jehoahaz the son of Josiah and anointed him and made him king in place of his father.</p>	<p>35:20 After all of this that Josiah had prepared <i>for</i> the temple, Neco the king of Egypt went up to make war at Carchemish on the Euphrates, and Josiah went up to meet him.</p> <p>21 And he sent messengers to him, saying, “What is there between us, O king of Judah? <i>I am</i> not against you yourself this day, but against the house making war against me. And God has commanded me to make haste. Stop <i>opposing</i> God, who <i>is</i> with me that he will not destroy you.”</p> <p>22 But Josiah did not turn his face from him, but he disguised himself to fight with him. He did not listen to the words of Neco from the mouth of God, and he went out to fight in the plain of Megiddo.</p> <p>23 And the archers shot King Josiah, and the king said to his servants, “Take me away, for I am badly wounded.”</p> <p>24 So his servants took him out of the chariot and transported him in his second chariot and brought him to Jerusalem. And he died and was buried in the burial sites of his ancestors. And all Judah and Jerusalem mourned over Josiah.</p> <p>25 And Jeremiah uttered a lament for Josiah, and all the male and female singers have spoken in their laments about Josiah to this day. And they made them a requirement in Israel, and behold, they are written in the laments.</p> <p>26 Now the remainder of the words of Josiah and his loyal love <i>for</i> what is written in the law of Yahweh</p> <p>27 and his words, <i>from</i> the first <i>to</i> the last, behold, they are written in the scroll of the kings of Israel and Judah.</p> <p>36:1 And the people of the land took Jehoahaz the son of Josiah and made him king in place of his father in Jerusalem.</p>

Jehoahaz, Josiah’s Son, Assumes the Throne of Judah (Tammuz [July] 609 BC)

2 Kings 23:31–32	2 Chronicles 36:2
<p>31 Jehoahaz was twenty-three years old when he became king, and he reigned three months in Jerusalem. The name of his mother <i>was</i> Hamutal the daughter of Jeremiah from Libnah.</p> <p>32 He did evil in the eyes of Yahweh according to all his ancestors had done.</p>	<p>2 Jehoahaz <i>was</i> twenty-three years old when he began to reign, and he reigned three months in Jerusalem.</p>

Pharaoh Necho II Exiles Jehoahaz to Egypt (Tishri [October] 609 BC)

2 Kings 23:33–35	2 Chronicles 36:3–4
<p>33 Then Pharaoh Neco confined him at Riblah in the land of Hamath, from reigning in Jerusalem, and imposed a levy on the land of a hundred talents of silver and a talent of gold.</p> <p>34 Then Pharaoh Neco made Eliakim the son of Josiah king in place of Josiah his father, and he changed his name to Jehoiakim. Then he took Jehoahaz and brought <i>him</i> to Egypt, and he died there.</p>	<p>3 Then the king of Egypt deposed him in Jerusalem and laid a tribute upon the land <i>of</i> one hundred talents of silver and one talent of gold.</p> <p>4 And the king of Egypt made Eliakim his brother king over Judah and Jerusalem, and he changed his name to Jehoiakim. But Neco took Jehoahaz his brother and brought him to Egypt.</p>

35 The silver and the gold Jehoiakim gave to Pharaoh; however, he taxed the land to give the silver to meet the demands of Pharaoh. Each according to assessment, he exacted *payment* of the silver and the gold from the people of the land to give to Pharaoh Neco.

Jehoiakim, Jehoahaz's Brother, Assumes the Throne of Judah (Tishri [October] 609 BC)

2 Kings 23:36–37

2 Chronicles 36:5

36 Jehoiakim was twenty-five years old when he became king, and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem.
The name of his mother *was* Zebudah, the daughter of Pedaiiah from Rumah.
37 He did evil in the eyes of Yahweh according to all that his ancestors had done.

5 Jehoiakim *was* twenty-five years old when he began to reign, and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem.

And he did evil in the eyes of Yahweh his God.

Jeremiah's Prophecy to Judah—A Tale of Three Kings (609/608 BC)

Jeremiah 22

A Message for King Jehoiakim and Jerusalem

1 Thus says Yahweh: "Go down *to* the house of the king of Judah and you must speak this word there.

2 And you must say, 'Hear the word of Yahweh, O king of Judah, who sits on the throne of David, you, and your servants, and your people who enter through these gates.

3 Thus says Yahweh, "Act *with* justice and righteousness, and deliver *the* one who has been seized from the hand of *the* oppressor. And you must not oppress *the* immigrant, *the* orphan, and *the* widow. And you must not shed innocent blood in this place.

4 And if you indeed obey this word, then kings who sit for David on his throne will enter through the gates of this house, riding in chariots and on horses, he, and his servants, and his people.

5 But if you do not obey these words, I swear by myself," declares Yahweh, "that this house will become a site of ruins." "

6 For thus says Yahweh concerning the house of the king of Judah,

"You *are like* Gilead to me,
like the head of the Lebanon.
Surely I will make you a desert,
like cities *that* are not inhabited.

7 And I will consecrate against you destroyers,
everyone with his weapons,
and they will cut down your choicest cedars,
and cast *them* on the fire.

8 And many nations will pass by this city and they will say each one to his neighbor, 'Why has Yahweh done in this manner to this great city?'

9 Then they will answer, 'Because they abandoned the covenant of Yahweh their God, and bowed down in worship to other gods, and served them.'"

Judgment on Shallum (Jehoahaz)

10 You must not weep for *the* dead person [Josiah],
and you must not show sympathy for him.
Weep bitterly for the one who goes away, [Jehoahaz].
for he will not return, or see the land of his birth again.

11 For thus says Yahweh concerning Shallum, the son of Josiah, the king of Judah, who reigned as king in place of Josiah his father, who went out from this place: "He will not return here again.

12 But in *the* place where they have deported him, there he will die, and he will not see this land again.

Judgment on Jehoiakim

13 Woe *to the one who* builds his house without righteousness,
and his upper rooms without justice.
His fellow countryman, he works for nothing,

and he does not give to him his wages.

- 14 Who says ‘I will build for myself
a spacious house with large upper rooms,’
and he cuts windows for it,
and *it is* paneled with cedar,
and he paints *it* with vermilion.
- 15 Do you reign as king because you *are* competing in cedar?
Did not your father eat and drink,
and he did justice and righteousness,
then it was well with him?
- 16 He judged *the* legal cause of *the* needy and *the* poor,
and then it was well.
Is that not what it means to know me?” declares Yahweh.
- 17 “But there is nothing *in* your eyes and your heart
except your unlawful gain,
and on shedding the blood of the innocent,
and on committing oppression and extortion.”

18 Therefore thus says Yahweh concerning Jehoiakim, the son of Josiah, the king of Judah:

“They will not lament for him,
‘Alas, my brother,’ or ‘Alas, sister.’
They will not lament for him,
‘Alas, lord,’ or ‘alas, his majesty.’

- 19 He will be buried *with* the burial of a donkey.
He will be dragged away and thrown outside the gates of Jerusalem.

The Consequences of Jerusalem’s Disobedience

- 20 Go up *to* Lebanon and cry out,
and in Bashan lift up your voice,
and cry out from Abarim,
for all your lovers are shattered.
- 21 I spoke to you in the times you were secure,
and you said, ‘I will not listen!’
This *was* your way from your youth,
for you have not obeyed my voice.
- 22 All your shepherds will shepherd *the* wind,
and your lovers will go into captivity.
Yes, then you will be ashamed and humiliated
because of all your wickedness.
- 23 Inhabitants of Lebanon,
nestled among the cedars,
how you will groan when labor pains come to you,
fear and pain as the *woman who* gives birth.

The Future Fate of Jeconiah (Jehoiachin)

- 24 “As I live,” declares Yahweh, “surely if Coniah, the son of Jehoiakim, the king of Judah, were *the* seal on my right hand, surely from there I would wrench you off.
- 25 And I would give you into the hand of those who seek your life, and into the hand of those from whom you *are* frightened by their presence, and into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar, the king of Babylon, and into the hand of the Chaldeans.
- 26 And I will throw you and your mother who gave birth to you to another country where you were not born, and there you will die.
- 27 As for the land to which they are longing to return, they will not return.
- 28 *Is* this man Coniah a despised, shattered vessel?
Or a vessel *in which* there is no delight?
Why are he and his offspring thrown far,
and cast away to the land that they do not know?”

29 O land, land, land, hear the word of Yahweh.

30 Thus says Yahweh:

“Record this man *as* childless,
a man *who* will not succeed in his days,
for no man from his offspring will succeed *him*,
sitting on the throne of David and ruling again in Judah.”

Jeremiah’s Prophecy to Judah—Promise of a Better Day (609/608 BC)

Jeremiah 23:1–8

Wicked Shepherds and Their Fate

1 “Woe *to the* shepherds who destroy and scatter the flock of my pasture,” declares Yahweh.

2 Therefore thus says Yahweh, the God of Israel concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people, “You yourselves have scattered my flock, and you have driven them away, and you do not attend to them. Look, I *will* punish you *for* the evil of your deeds,” declares Yahweh.

The Coming Righteous King—Jesus

3 “Then I myself will gather together the remnant of my flock from all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their grazing place, and they will be fruitful, and they will become numerous.

4 And I will raise up over them shepherds, and they will shepherd them, and they will no longer fear, and they will not be dismayed, and they will not be missing,” declares Yahweh.

5 “Look, days *are* coming,” declares Yahweh,
“when I will raise up for David a righteous branch,
and he will reign *as* king, and he will achieve success,
and he will do justice and righteousness in the land.

6 In his days Judah will be saved,
and Israel will dwell in safety,
and this *is* his name *by* which he will be called:
‘Yahweh *is* our righteousness.’

7 “Therefore look, days *are* coming,” declares Yahweh, “when they will no longer say, ‘As Yahweh lives, who led up the Israelites from the land of Egypt,’

8 but ‘As Yahweh lives, who led up, and who brought the offspring of the house of Israel from *the* land *of the* north and from all the lands where he had driven them.’ Then they will live in their land.”

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