

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

2 Kings 23:28–30	2 Chronicles 35:20–36:1
<p>29 In his days</p> <p>Pharaoh Neco king of Egypt went up to the king of Assyria to the river Euphrates. And King Josiah went to meet him,</p> <p>and when <i>Pharaoh Neco</i> saw him he killed him at Megiddo.</p> <p>30a His servants drove his body in a chariot from Megiddo, and brought him to Jerusalem and buried him in his own tomb.</p> <p>28 Now the rest of the acts of Josiah</p> <p>and all that he did, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles 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 this, when Josiah had set the temple in order, Neco king of Egypt came up to make war at Carchemish on the Euphrates, and Josiah went out to engage him.</p> <p>21 But Neco sent messengers to him, saying, “What have we to do with each other, O King of Judah? <i>I am not coming</i> against you today but against the house with which I am at war, and God has ordered me to hurry. Stop for your own sake from <i>interfering with</i> God who is with me, so that He will not destroy you.”</p> <p>22 However, Josiah would not turn away from him, but disguised himself in order to make war with him; nor did he listen to the words of Neco from the mouth of God, but came to make war on the plain of Megiddo.</p> <p>23 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 carried him in the second chariot which he had, and brought him to Jerusalem where he died and was buried in the tombs of his fathers. All Judah and Jerusalem mourned for Josiah.</p> <p>25 Then Jeremiah chanted a lament for Josiah. And all the male and female singers speak about Josiah in their lamentations to this day. And they made them an ordinance in Israel; behold, they are also written in the Lamentations.</p> <p>26 Now the rest of the acts of Josiah and his deeds of devotion as written in the law of the LORD,</p> <p>27 and his acts, first to last, behold, they are written in the Book of the Kings of Israel and Judah.</p> <p>36:1 Then the people of the land took Joahaz 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; and his mother’s name was Hamutal the daughter of Jeremiah of Libnah.</p> <p>32 He did evil in the sight of the LORD, according to all that his fathers had done.</p>	<p>2 Joahaz was twenty-three years old when he became king, 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 Pharaoh Neco imprisoned him at Riblah in the land of Hamath, that he might not reign in Jerusalem; and he imposed on the land a fine of one hundred talents of silver and a talent of gold.</p> <p>34 Pharaoh Neco made Eliakim the son of Josiah king in the place of Josiah his father, and changed his name to Jehoiakim. But he took Jehoahaz away and brought <i>him</i> to Egypt,</p>	<p>3 Then the king of Egypt</p> <p>deposed him at Jerusalem, and imposed on the land a fine of one hundred talents of silver and one talent of gold.</p> <p>4 The king of Egypt made Eliakim his brother king over Judah and Jerusalem, and changed his name to Jehoiakim. But Neco took Joahaz his brother and brought him to Egypt.</p>

and he died there.
 35 So Jehoiakim gave the silver and gold to Pharaoh, but he taxed the land in order to give the money at the command of Pharaoh. He exacted the silver and gold from the people of the land, each according to his valuation, to give it 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; and his mother's name *was* Zebidah the daughter of Pedaiiah of Rumah.
 37 He did evil in the sight of the LORD, according to all that his fathers had done.

5 Jehoiakim was twenty-five years old when he became king, and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem;
 and he did evil in the sight of the LORD 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 the LORD, "Go down to the house of the king of Judah, and there speak this word
 2 and say, 'Hear the word of the LORD, O king of Judah, who sits on David's throne, you and your servants and your people who enter these gates.
 3 Thus says the LORD, "Do justice and righteousness, and deliver the one who has been robbed from the power of *his* oppressor. Also do not mistreat *or* do violence to the stranger, the orphan, or the widow; and do not shed innocent blood in this place.
 4 For if you men will indeed perform this thing, then kings will enter the gates of this house, sitting in David's place on his throne, riding in chariots and on horses, *even the king* himself and his servants and his people.
 5 But if you will not obey these words, I swear by Myself," declares the LORD, "that this house will become a desolation.""
 6 For thus says the LORD concerning the house of the king of Judah:

"You are *like* Gilead to Me,
Like the summit of Lebanon;
 Yet most assuredly I will make you like a wilderness,
Like cities which are not inhabited.

7 For I will set apart destroyers against you,
 Each with his weapons;
 And they will cut down your choicest cedars
 And throw *them* on the fire.

8 "Many nations will pass by this city; and they will say to one another, 'Why has the LORD done thus to this great city?'
 9 Then they will answer, 'Because they forsook the covenant of the LORD their God and bowed down to other gods and served them.'"

Judgment on Shallum (Jehoahaz)

10 Do not weep for the dead or mourn for him, [Josiah]
But weep continually for the one who goes away; [Jehoahaz].
 For he will never return
 Or see his native land.

11 For thus says the LORD in regard to Shallum the son of Josiah, king of Judah, who became king in the place of Josiah his father, who went forth from this place, "He will never return there;
 12 but in the place where they led him captive, there he will die and not see this land again.

Judgment on Jehoiakim

13 Woe to him who builds his house without righteousness
 And his upper rooms without justice,
 Who uses his neighbor's services without pay
 And does not give him his wages,

- 14 Who says, 'I will build myself a roomy house
With spacious upper rooms,
And cut out its windows,
Paneling *it* with cedar and painting *it* bright red.'
- 15 "Do you become a king because you are competing in cedar?
Did not your father eat and drink
And do justice and righteousness?
Then it was well with him.
- 16 "He pled the cause of the afflicted and needy;
Then it was well.
Is not that what it means to know Me?"
Declares the LORD.
- 17 "But your eyes and your heart
Are *intent* only upon your own dishonest gain,
And on shedding innocent blood
And on practicing oppression and extortion."
- 18 Therefore thus says the LORD in regard to Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, king of Judah,

"They will not lament for him:
'Alas, my brother!' or, 'Alas, sister!'
They will not lament for him:
'Alas for the master!' or, 'Alas for his splendor!'
- 19 "He will be buried with a donkey's burial,
Dragged off and thrown out beyond the gates of Jerusalem.

The Consequences of Jerusalem's Disobedience

- 20 "Go up to Lebanon and cry out,
And lift up your voice in Bashan;
Cry out also from Abarim,
For all your lovers have been crushed.
- 21 "I spoke to you in your prosperity;
But you said, 'I will not listen!'
This has been your practice from your youth,
That you have not obeyed My voice.
- 22 "The wind will sweep away all your shepherds,
And your lovers will go into captivity;
Then you will surely be ashamed and humiliated
Because of all your wickedness.
- 23 "You who dwell in Lebanon,
Nested in the cedars,
How you will groan when pangs come upon you,
Pain like a woman in childbirth!

The Future Fate of Jeconiah (Jehoiachin)

- 24 "As I live," declares the LORD, "even though Coniah the son of Jehoiakim king of Judah were a signet *ring* on My right hand, yet I would pull you off;
- 25 and I will give you over into the hand of those who are seeking your life, yes, into the hand of those whom you dread, even into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon and into the hand of the Chaldeans.
- 26 I will hurl you and your mother who bore you into another country where you were not born, and there you will die.
- 27 But as for the land to which they desire to return, they will not return to it.
- 28 "Is this man Coniah a despised, shattered jar?
Or is he an undesirable vessel?
Why have he and his descendants been hurled out
And cast into a land that they had not known?
- 29 "O land, land, land,
Hear the word of the LORD!

30 “Thus says the LORD,

‘Write this man down childless,
A man who will not prosper in his days;
For no man of his descendants will prosper
Sitting on the throne of David
Or 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 are destroying and scattering the sheep of My pasture!” declares the LORD.

2 Therefore thus says the LORD God of Israel concerning the shepherds who are tending My people: “You have scattered My flock and driven them away, and have not attended to them; behold, I am about to attend to you for the evil of your deeds,” declares the LORD.

The Coming Righteous King—Jesus

3 “Then I Myself will gather the remnant of My flock out of all the countries where I have driven them and bring them back to their pasture, and they will be fruitful and multiply.

4 I will also raise up shepherds over them and they will tend them; and they will not be afraid any longer, nor be terrified, nor will any be missing,” declares the LORD.

5 “Behold, *the* days are coming,” declares the LORD,
“When I will raise up for David a righteous Branch;
And He will reign as king and act wisely
And do justice and righteousness in the land.

6 “In His days Judah will be saved,
And Israel will dwell securely;
And this is His name by which He will be called,
‘The LORD our righteousness.’

7 “Therefore behold, *the* days are coming,” declares the LORD, “when they will no longer say, ‘As the LORD lives, who brought up the sons of Israel from the land of Egypt,’

8 but, ‘As the LORD lives, who brought up and led back the descendants of the household of Israel from *the* north land and from all the countries where I had driven them.’ Then they will live on their own soil.”

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