

Joash [Judah] Commissions the Levites to Repair the Temple (c. 820 BC)

2 Kings 12:4–5

2 Chronicles 24:4–5

4 Jehoash said to the priests,

“I place at your disposal all the consecrated silver that has been brought to the LORD’s temple, including the silver collected from the census tax, the silver received from those who have made vows, and all the silver that people have voluntarily contributed to the LORD’s temple.

5 The priests should receive the silver they need from the treasurers and repair any damage to the temple they discover.”

4 Joash was determined to repair the LORD’s temple.

5 He assembled the priests and Levites and ordered them, “Go out to the cities of Judah and collect the annual quota of silver from all Israel for repairs on the temple of your God.

Be quick about it!” But the Levites delayed.

The Temple is Finally Repaired (814t BC)

2 Kings 12:6–16

2 Chronicles 24:6–14

6 By the twenty-third year of King Jehoash’s reign the priests had still not repaired the damage to the temple.

7 So King Jehoash summoned Jehoiada the priest along with the other priests, and said to them, “Why have you not repaired the damage to the temple?

Now, take no more silver from your treasurers unless you intend to use it to repair the damage.”

8 The priests agreed not to collect silver from the people and relieved themselves of personal responsibility for the temple repairs.

9 Jehoiada the priest took a chest and drilled a hole in its lid. He placed it on the right side of the altar near the entrance of the LORD’s temple. The priests who guarded the entrance would put into it all the silver brought to the LORD’s temple.

10 When they saw the chest was full of silver, the royal secretary and the high priest

counted the silver that had been brought to the LORD’s temple and bagged it up.

11 They would then hand over the silver that had been weighed to the construction foremen assigned to the LORD’s temple. They hired carpenters and builders to work on the LORD’s temple, 12 as well as masons and stonecutters.

6 So the king summoned Jehoiada the chief priest, and said to him,

“Why have you not made the Levites collect from Judah and Jerusalem the tax authorized by Moses the LORD’s servant and by the assembly of Israel at the tent containing the tablets of the law?”

7 (Wicked Athaliah and her sons had broken into God’s temple and used all the holy items of the LORD’s temple in their worship of the Baals.)

8 The king ordered a chest to be made and placed outside the gate of the LORD’s temple.

9 An edict was sent throughout Judah and Jerusalem requiring the people to bring to the LORD the tax that Moses, God’s servant, imposed on Israel in the wilderness.

10 All the officials and all the people gladly brought their silver and threw it into the chest until it was full.

11 Whenever the Levites brought the chest to the royal accountant and they saw there was a lot of silver, the royal scribe and the accountant of the high priest emptied the chest and then took it back to its place.

They went through this routine every day and collected a large amount of silver.

12 The king and Jehoiada gave it to the construction foremen assigned to the LORD’s temple. They hired carpenters and craftsmen to repair the LORD’s temple, as well as those skilled in working with iron and bronze to restore the LORD’s temple.

They bought wood and chiseled stone to repair the damage to the LORD's temple and also paid for all the other expenses.
 13 The silver brought to the LORD's temple was not used for silver bowls, trimming shears, basins, trumpets, or any kind of gold or silver implements.
 14 It was handed over to the foremen who used it to repair the LORD's temple.
 15 They did not audit the treasurers who disbursed the funds to the foremen, for they were honest.
 16 (The silver collected in conjunction with reparation offerings and sin offerings was not brought to the LORD's temple; it belonged to the priests.)

13 They worked hard and made the repairs. They followed the measurements specified for God's temple and restored it.
 14 When they were finished, they brought the rest of the silver to the king and Jehoiada. They used it to make items for the LORD's temple, including items used in the temple service and for burnt sacrifices, pans, and various other gold and silver items. Throughout Jehoiada's lifetime, burnt sacrifices were offered regularly in the LORD's temple.

The Death of Jehu [Israel] (814n BC)

2 Kings 10:34–36

34 The rest of the events of Jehu's reign, including all his accomplishments and successes, are recorded in the scroll called the Annals of the Kings of Israel.
 35 Jehu passed away and was buried in Samaria. His son Jehoahaz replaced him as king.
 36 Jehu reigned over Israel for twenty-eight years in Samaria.

Jehoahaz, Jehu's Son, Assumes the Throne of Israel (814n BC)

2 Kings 13:1–2

1 In the twenty-third year of the reign of Judah's King Joash son of Ahaziah, Jehu's son Jehoahaz became king over Israel. He reigned in Samaria for seventeen years.
 2 He did evil in the sight of the LORD. He continued in the sinful ways of Jeroboam son of Nebat who had encouraged Israel to sin; he did not repudiate those sins.

Hazael [Syria] Oppresses Israel (c. 810–800 BC)

2 Kings 13:3–5

3 The LORD was furious with Israel and handed them over to King Hazael of Syria and to Hazael's son Ben Hadad for many years.
 4 Jehoahaz asked for the LORD's mercy and the LORD responded favorably, for he saw that Israel was oppressed by the king of Syria.
 5 The LORD provided a deliverer for Israel and they were freed from Syria's power. The Israelites once more lived in security.

The Death of Jehoiada and Joash's [Judah] Apostasy (c. 800 BC)

2 Chronicles 24:15–19

15 Jehoiada grew old and died at the age of 130.
 16 He was buried in the City of David with the kings, because he had accomplished good in Israel and for God and his temple.
 17 After Jehoiada died, the officials of Judah visited the king and declared their loyalty to him. The king listened to their advice.
 18 They abandoned the temple of the LORD God of their ancestors, and worshiped the Asherah poles and idols. Because of this sinful activity, God was angry with Judah and Jerusalem.
 19 The LORD sent prophets among them to lead them back to him. They warned the people, but they would not pay attention.

The Death of Jehoahaz [Israel] (798n BC)

2 Kings 13:6–9

6 But they did not repudiate the sinful ways of the family of Jeroboam, who encouraged Israel to sin; they continued in those sins. There was even an Asherah pole standing in Samaria.

7 Jehoahaz had no army left except for fifty horsemen, ten chariots, and 10,000 foot soldiers. The king of Syria had destroyed his troops and trampled on them like dust.

8 The rest of the events of Jehoahaz's reign, including all his accomplishments and successes, are recorded in the scroll called the Annals of the Kings of Israel.

9 Jehoahaz passed away and was buried in Samaria. His son Joash replaced him as king.

Jehoash, Jehoahaz's Son, Assumes the Throne of Israel (798n BC)

2 Kings 13:10–11

10 In the thirty-seventh year of King Joash's reign over Judah, Jehoahaz's son Jehoash became king over Israel. He reigned in Samaria for sixteen years.

11 He did evil in the sight of the LORD. He did not repudiate the sinful ways of Jeroboam son of Nebat who encouraged Israel to sin; he continued in those sins.

Joash [Judah] Murders Jehoiada's Son Zechariah (797t BC)

2 Chronicles 24:20–22

20 God's Spirit energized Zechariah son of Jehoiada the priest. He stood up before the people and said to them, "This is what God says: 'Why are you violating the commands of the LORD? You will not be prosperous! Because you have rejected the LORD, he has rejected you!'"

21 They plotted against him and by royal decree stoned him to death in the courtyard of the LORD's temple. [[Matt 23:35](#); [Luke 11:51](#)]

22 King Joash disregarded the loyalty his father Jehoiada had shown him and killed Jehoiada's son. As Zechariah was dying, he said, "May the LORD take notice and seek vengeance!"

The Death of Joash [Judah] (797t BC)

2 Kings 12:17–21

17 At that time King Hazael of Syria attacked Gath and captured it. Hazael then decided to attack Jerusalem.

18 King Jehoash of Judah collected all the sacred items that his ancestors Jehoshaphat, Jehoram, and Ahaziah, kings of Judah, had consecrated, as well as his own sacred items and all the gold that could be found in the treasuries of the LORD's temple and the royal palace.

He sent it all to King Hazael of Syria, who then withdrew from Jerusalem.

19 The rest of the events of Joash's reign, including all his accomplishments, are recorded in the scroll called the Annals of the Kings of Judah.

20 His servants conspired against him

and murdered Joash at Beth-Millo, on the road that goes down to Silla.

2 Chronicles 24:23–27

23 At the beginning of the year the Syrian army attacked Joash and invaded Judah and Jerusalem. They wiped out all the leaders of the people

and sent all the plunder they gathered to the king of Damascus.

24 Even though the invading Syrian army was relatively weak, the LORD handed over to them Judah's very large army, for the people of Judah had abandoned the LORD God of their ancestors. The Syrians gave Joash what he deserved.

25 When they withdrew, they left Joash badly wounded.

His servants plotted against him because of what he had done to the son of Jehoiada the priest. They murdered him on his bed.

Thus he died and was buried in the City of David,

<p>21 His servants Jozabad son of Shimeath and Jehozabad son of Shomer murdered him. He was buried with his ancestors in the city of David.</p> <p>His son Amaziah replaced him as king.</p>	<p>but not in the tombs of the kings.</p> <p>26 The conspirators were Zabad son of Shimeath (an Ammonite woman) and Jehozabad son of Shimrith (a Moabite woman).</p> <p>27 The list of Joash's sons, the many prophetic oracles pertaining to him, and the account of his building project on God's temple are included in the record of the Scroll of the Kings.</p> <p>His son Amaziah replaced him as king.</p>
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Chronological Notes

- 1) Merrill insists that “the Aramean invasion which set the stage for Joash’s death cannot be the same as the campaign under Hazael which is described in 2 Kings 12:17–18, for Hazael died in 801 and Joash lived on until 796. Besides, the two accounts share virtually nothing except the common foe. For example, only 2 Kings records the detail that Jerusalem would have fallen had not Joash bought off the Aramean king by emptying the temple treasury.”¹ However, most scholars see 2 Kings 12:17–18 and 2 Chronicles 24:23–24 as describing the same event.²

¹ Eugene H. Merrill, *Kingdom of Priests*, 364–65. Davis sides with Merrill (Dale R. Davis, *2 Kings: The Power and the Fury*, 184 n. 8.)

² Keil & Delitzsch, *Commentary on the Old Testament*, vol. 3, p. 264.