

THE REIGN OF ATHALIAH IN JUDAH  
(2 Kings 11:1-16)

- I. Athaliah the USURPER (2 Kings 11:1-3)
  - A. Her IDENTITY
    - 1. DAUGHTER of Ahab
    - 2. WIFE of Jehoram, son of Jehoshaphat
    - 3. MOTHER of Ahaziah
  - B. Her TREACHERY
    - 1. DESTROYED the royal “SEED”
    - 2. REIGNED over the kingdom (11:3b)
  - C. Her NEMESIS, Jehosheba, SISTER of Ahaziah
    - 1. Learned of Athaliah’s AMBITION
    - 2. RESCUED Ahaziah’s son JOASH
    - 3. Kept him HIDDEN and PROTECTED for SIX YEARS
- II. Jehoiada the FAITHFUL (2 Kings 11:4-16)
  - A. Jehoiada “STRENGTHENED himself” (2 Chron. 23:1)
  - B. He established SUPPORT for the rightful KING
    - 1. Secured the ALLEGIANCE of the ROYAL BODYGUARDS and the TEMPLE personnel
    - 2. Swore the LEVITES and the Judean ELDERS to LOYALTY to the true king (2 Chron. 23:2-3)

- C. He implemented his PLAN to RESTORE the crown
  - 1. One third of the relief would guard the PALACE
  - 2. One third of the relief would guard the approach to the Temple from the CITY
  - 3. One third of the relief would guard the avenue connecting the PALACE to the TEMPLE (cf. 2 Kings 11:19).
  - 4. The guards being RELIEVED would enter the TEMPLE
- D. He PRESENTED Joash as KING
  - 1. Led him to the APPOINTED SPOT
  - 2. Placed a CROWN on his head in a public ceremony
  - 3. Presented him with a copy of “the TESTIMONY”
  - 4. ANOINTED him as KING of Judah
- E. RESPONSE to the coronation of Joash
  - 1. The crowd APPROVED with ENTHUSIASM
  - 2. Athaliah screamed “TREASON! TREASON!”
- F. The EXECUTION of Athaliah
  - 1. Jehoiada refused to KILL her in the TEMPLE
  - 2. He had her executed at the HORSES’ entrance to the PALACE

### III. Lessons

- A. The FOLLY of MARRIAGE to an UNBELIEVER
- B. The typical FURY of God’s ENEMIES
- C. The huge SIGNIFICANCE of UNSUNG servants
- D. The SUBVERSIVE presence of CHRIST’S kingdom