

JUDAH'S RUSH TO RUIN

(2 Kings 23:31 – 24:17)

- I. The Reign of JEHOAHAZ (2 Kings 23:31-34)
 - A. The general SUMMARY (23:31; cf. 1 Chron. 3:15)
 - 1. He became king at age TWENTY-THREE
 - 2. His reign lasted THREE MONTHS
 - B. His CHARACTER (23:32)
 - 1. His reign is described as “EVIL”
 - 2. His reign is compared to “ALL that his FATHERS had done”
 - C. His REMOVAL (23:33-34)
 - 1. He was TAKEN FROM THE THRONE by Pharaoh Neco
 - 2. Neco charged the nation a FINE of 100 talents of silver and one of gold
 - 3. He died sometime later as a PRISONER in EGYPT
- II. Jehoiakim and EGYPT (2 Kings 23:34-37)
 - A. He was PLACED ON THE THRONE by Pharaoh Neco (23:34)
 - B. He levied a heavy TAX to pay the FINE (23:35)
 - C. He became king at age TWENTY-FIVE and reigned ELEVEN YEARS (23:26)
 - D. His reign is described as “EVIL” (23:27)
 - 1. He paid for a new PALACE through extortion and murder (Jer. 22:13-18)
 - 2. He threatened and/or killed TRUTHFUL PROPHETS (Jer. 26:1-24)

3. He despised the PROPHETIC WORD (Jer. 36:20-26)

III. Jehoiakim and BABYLON (24:1-7)

A. Jehoiakim became a SERVANT of BAYLON for 3 years (24:1a; cf. Daniel 1:1)

B. Then Jehoiakim REBELLED against Babylonian rule (24:1b-4)

1. Jerusalem was ATTACKED by a coalition led by “CHALDEANS”

2. This was the LORD’S doing as PUNISHMENT

3. “The LORD WOULD NOT FORGIVE”

C. Jehoiakim DIED shortly before NEBUCHADNEZZAR arrived

IV. The Reign of JEHOIACHIN (2 Kings 24:8-17)

A. The SUMMARY of his reign (24:8)

1. He became king at the age of EIGHTEEN

2. His reign lasted for THREE MONTHS

B. The CHARACTER of his reign was EVIL (24:9)

C. The SURRENDER of his reign (24:10-17)

1. He surrendered HIMSELF, his MOTHER, and his COURT to Nebuchadnezzar (24:10-12)

2. Nebuchadnezzar looted the TEMPLE and the PALACE (24:13)

3. Nebuchadnezzar also took TEN THOUSAND CAPTIVES (24:14-16)

4. Nebuchadnezzar installed ZEDEKIAH as king (24:17)

V. Lessons

A. Holiness and uprightness can be FASCINATING, but evil is “SHEER TEDIUM”

B. God is always FAITHFUL to His Word