

2 Chronicles 24

King James Version (KJV)

24 Joash was seven years old when he began to reign, and he reigned forty years in Jerusalem. His mother's name also was Zibiah of Beersheba. (Zibiah means- a deer or antelope)

²And Joash did that which was right in the sight of the LORD all the days of Jehoiada the priest. (Jehoiada was his counselor and advisor. He kept Joash in line. After he died, things went south in Judah)

³And Jehoiada took for him two wives; and he begat sons and daughters. (He took 2 wives for Joash, not for himself. He wanted to re-start the lineage of the king. Athaliah had murdered them all but one - Joash)

⁴And it came to pass after this, that Joash was minded to repair the house of the LORD. (By now, Joash was about 30 years old)

⁵And he gathered together the priests and the Levites, and said to them, Go out unto the cities of Judah, and gather of all Israel money to repair the house of your God from year to year, and see that ye hasten the matter. Howbeit the Levites hastened it not. (Either people weren't giving money, or the priests were stealing the donations)

⁶And the king called for Jehoiada the chief, and said unto him, Why hast thou not required of the Levites to bring in out of Judah and out of Jerusalem the collection, according to the commandment of Moses the servant of the LORD, and of the congregation of Israel, for the tabernacle of witness? (Jehoiada the chief = Jehoiada the high priest)

⁷For the sons of Athaliah, that wicked woman, had broken up the house of God; and also all the dedicated things of the house of the LORD did they bestow upon Baalim. (These items were now defiled. They needed to forge new items for the house of God)

⁸And at the king's commandment they made a chest, and set it without at the gate of the house of the LORD. 2Kings-12:8-10 (The king is making sure that the people will contribute directly to the temple)

⁹And they made a proclamation through Judah and Jerusalem, to bring in to the LORD the collection that Moses the servant of God laid upon Israel in the wilderness.

¹⁰ And all the princes and all the people rejoiced, and brought in, and cast into the chest, until they had made an end. (God appreciates a willing and cheerful donation to advance the Word)

¹¹ Now it came to pass, that at what time the chest was brought unto the king's office by the hand of the Levites, and when they saw that there was much money, the king's scribe and the high priest's officer came and emptied the chest, and took it, and carried it to his place again. Thus they did day by day, and gathered money in abundance. 2Kings-12:10 (Two were assigned to empty the chest and store the silver. It is always good judgment to assign more than one person where sums of money are involved)

¹² And the king and Jehoiada gave it to such as did the work of the service of the house of the LORD, and hired masons and carpenters to repair the house of the LORD, and also such as wrought iron and brass to mend the house of the LORD. (The temple had fallen into much disrepair over the years, because of the Baal worshippers)

¹³ So the workmen wrought, and the work was perfected by them, and they set the house of God in his state, and strengthened it.

¹⁴ And when they had finished it, they brought the rest of the money before the king and Jehoiada, whereof were made vessels for the house of the LORD, even vessels to minister, and to offer withal, and spoons, and vessels of gold and silver. And they offered burnt offerings in the house of the LORD continually all the days of Jehoiada. (The morning, evening and holiday offerings as stated by the Law of Moses)

¹⁵ But Jehoiada waxed old, and was full of days when he died; an hundred and thirty years old was he when he died. (He was born during the reign of Solomon. He lived through 6 kings of Judah. He was very old for the time, when he died)

¹⁶ And they buried him in the city of David among the kings, because he had done good in Israel, both toward God, and toward his house. (It was a great honor for a high priest to be buried with the kings)

¹⁷ Now after the death of Jehoiada came the princes of Judah, and made obeisance to the king. Then the king hearkened unto them. (They are asking to re-institute idolatry in Jerusalem)

¹⁸ And they left the house of the LORD God of their fathers, and served groves and idols: and wrath came upon Judah and Jerusalem for this their trespass. (It didn't take long for Joash and the people to revert to idol worship, after Jehoiada died)

¹⁹ Yet he sent prophets to them, to bring them again unto the LORD; and they testified against them: but they would not give ear. (God tried to turn them back to righteousness but they refused to obey) Exodus-34:14

²⁰ And the Spirit of God came upon Zechariah the son of Jehoiada the priest, which stood above the people, and said unto them, Thus saith God, Why transgress ye the commandments of the LORD, that ye cannot prosper? because ye have forsaken the LORD, he hath also forsaken you. (Zechariah was first cousin to Joash the king)

²¹ And they conspired against him, and stoned him with stones at the commandment of the king in the court of the house of the LORD. (Murder of a prophet, ordered by the king; he killed his own cousin, a priest)

(Jehoiada saved Joash's life and made him king. He advised him well all through his reign while he lived. In return Joash murdered his son)

²² Thus Joash the king remembered not the kindness which Jehoiada his father had done to him, but slew his son. And when he died, he said, The LORD look upon it, and require it. (he = Zechariah) (See Luke-11:49-52 to learn who did the stoning. It was the Kenites)

²³ And it came to pass at the end of the year, that the host of Syria came up against him: and they came to Judah and Jerusalem, and destroyed all the princes of the people from among the people, and sent all the spoil of them unto the king of Damascus. 2Kings-12:18 (Haziel didn't take the spoil; Joash gave it to them to buy peace. You cannot buy peace) (The princes that were destroyed were those that met with Joash and asked to return to idolatry)

²⁴ For the army of the Syrians came with a small company of men, and the LORD delivered a very great host into their hand, because they had forsaken the LORD God of their fathers. So they executed judgment against Joash. (God judged them for their evil. A small invading force from Syria was able to defeat the large armies of Judah)

Leviticus-26:8 & 36-37 (If you obey God's commandments - And five of you shall chase an hundred, and an hundred of you shall put ten thousand to flight: and your enemies shall fall before you by the sword. If you don't – the sound of a shaken leaf will set you to flight)

²⁵ And when they were departed from him, (for they left him in great diseases,) his own servants conspired against him for the blood of the sons of Jehoiada the priest, and slew him on his bed, and he died: and they buried him in the city of David, but they buried him not in the sepulchres of the kings. (they = the Syrians; diseases = wounds) (No royal funeral for Joash; he died in disgrace)

²⁶ And these are they that conspired against him; Zabad the son of Shimeath an Ammonitess, and Jehozabad the son of Shimrith a Moabitess. (These were descendants of Lot)

²⁷ Now concerning his sons, and the greatness of the burdens laid upon him, and the repairing of the house of God, behold, they are written in the story of the book of the kings. And Amaziah his son reigned in his stead.