

LESSONS THIS QUARTER

- 1) 05 Dec..... 1Kings 1-4..... What Money Can't Buy
- 2) 12 Dec..... 1Kings 5-9a..... Why Prayer Deserves Priority
- 3) 19 Dec..... Mat 1-2..... Worship the King of Kings
- 4) 26 Dec..... 1Kings 9b-11..... Where Compromise Takes You
- 5) 02 Jan..... 1Kings 12-16a..... Anatomy of a Grave Decision
- 6) 09 Jan..... 1Kings 16b-22..... A Hill on Which to Stand
- 7) 16 Jan..... 2Kings 21-23..... Building a Culture for Life
- 8) 23 Jan..... 2Kings 1-5..... Sick of Greed?
- 9) 30 Jan..... 2Kings 6-8..... Right Not to Remain Silent
- 10) 06 Feb..... 2Kings 9-10..... Danger! Unbridled Passion
- 11) 13 Feb..... 2Kings 11-17..... U-Turn Here – and Now!
- 12) 20 Feb..... 2Kings 18-20..... Got to Have Hope
- 13) 27 Feb..... 2Kings 23-25..... **Keep Hope Alive**

INTRODUCTION

- Babylon captures Judah. There were 3 major deportations
 - 1. 605 BC – Daniel and other Jewish elite
 - 2. 597 BC – King Jehoiachin and the prophet Ezekiel
 - 3. 587 BC – Remaining Jewish leaders and the wealthy
- King Josiah, a very good king, came to the throne when he was 8 years old and was killed in battle by Egypt's Pharaoh Neco when he was 39 years old
 - ♦ King Josiah had 4 sons (see 1Chron 3:15), and 3 of them became kings of Judah:
 - 1. Son #4 – Shallum (aka Jehoahaz) was 23 yrs old, but was only on the throne for 3 months before being removed by Pharaoh Neco
 - 2. Son #2 – Jehoiakim (aka Eliakim) was 25 yrs old when Neco put him on the throne & he reigned 11 yrs
 - 3. Son #3 – Mattaniah (aka Zedekiah) was 21 when the king of Babylon made him king and he reigned 11 yrs
 - ♦ Josiah was a young teen of no more than 14 when he started having his children, and Josiah became one of the best kings of Judah – though his kids were not as good
 - **Moral of the story** – Don't judge too harshly those who have kids very young in life. Like King Josiah, they still have potential to do great things for God

Passage	Comments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • vv17-20. Josiah's 3rd son, Mattaniah (Zedekiah) assumes the throne and does stupid things - but it is in line with the Lord's will to complete the destruction of Jerusalem and Judah
25:1-30	<p>Nebuchadnezzar Captures Jerusalem</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • vv6-7. Zedekiah is captured and the last thing he sees before he is blinded is the death of his sons • vv9-10. Not only did Babylon plunder the town, burn down the Temple and the King's house, but they also demolished the walls. The walls would later be rebuilt by Nehemiah around 445 BC • vv18-21. All the religious, military and political leaders were rounded up & killed (Hitler, Saddam and other despots employed the same tactics) • vv27-30. Hope remains. The next king of Babylon, Evil-merodach, showed kindness to Judah's king Jehoiachin

CONCLUSION/APPLICATIONS:

- God warned His people from Day 1, but they refused to have Him as their God. His judgment was completed for this time period – Israel and Judah were captured, almost annihilated and dispersed outside their homeland
- God would rather bless than judge – so we should seek to remain faithful to Him all our days
- Final judgment is coming according to Revelations. So we need to prepare by warning, witnessing, and living for God

SUPPORTING PASSAGES

- Ex 34:7** "keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, by no means clearing the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children..."
- Isa 5:4** What more could have been done to My vineyard that I have not done in it?
- Isa 27:11** ...for [they are] a people of no understanding; therefore He who made them will not have mercy on them

NEXT WEEK: Philipians 1. God finishes what He starts

Passage	Comments
2Kings 23:31-37	<p>Josiah's Bad Boys, Jehoahaz & Jehoiakim</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ I must leave [my legacy] to the man who will come after me, and who knows whether he will be wise or a fool?Ecc 2:18-19 • King Jehoahaz only reigned 3 months. Just enough time to tick off Egypt's Pharaoh Neco • King Jehoiakim (Eliakim) is so bad he burns Jeremiah's scrollJer 36
24:1-20	<p>Babylon Captures Jerusalem and Deports Jews</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • vv3-4. God's intent is to remove the Jews from their homeland because of the sins of Manasseh – and "<u>the Lord will not forgive</u>"SAY WHAT? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Don't the mercies of God last forever? They do, but His mercies may take a different form (discipline) to remove sin from His land and to try to change the heart of His people ... Ex 34:7 ♦ Isn't God always ready to pardon? Absolutely – when His people are truly ready to repent ♦ Can't God do something else? What more can be done? Isa 5:4; 27:11 • vv8-16. King Jehoiachin, Jehoiakim's son, surrenders to the king of Babylon along with Jerusalem's "men of valor" and top craftsmen

