

LESSONS THIS QUARTER

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| 1) 05 June | 1Kings 01-04 | Granted |
| 2) 12 June | 1Kings 05-08 | Repentance |
| 3) 19 June | 1Kings 09-11 | Compromised |
| 4) 26 June | 1Kings 12-14 | Divided |
| 5) 03 July | 1Kings 15-16 | Return |
| 6) 10 July | 1Kings 17-18 | Proven |
| 7) 17 July | 1Kings 19-22 | Hope |
| 8) 24 July | 2Kings 01-05 | God Heals |
| 9) 31 July | 2Kings 06-08 | God Provides |
| 10) 07 Aug | 2Kings 09-12 | God Honors |
| 11) 14 Aug | 2Kings 13-17 | God Judges |
| 12) 21 Aug | 2Kings 18-21 | God Hears |
| 13) 28 Aug | 2Kings 22-25 | God Moves |

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
 - ♦ 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 own 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 |
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| 2Kings 22:1-20 | <p>Josiah, a Good King, Receives God's Word</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Josiah was king at 8 yrs old and sought God • v8. His decree to fix up the temple led to the discovery of "the book of the law" • vv13-23. Josiah had the priests "inquire of the Lord" for more details about the judgments promised to Israel for disobedience <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Jeremiah and Zephaniah were prophets during Josiah's reign, but apparently were not in town ♦ Huldah, the prophetess, confirms God's judgment, but it will come after Josiah's death ♦ A woman prophetess is a rarity in Scripture (Miriam - Ex 15:20, Deborah - Jud 4:4, Hannah - 1Sam 2, Nodiah - Neh 6:14; Elisabeth & Mary - Luke 1:41-55, Anna - Luke 2; and Philip's daughters - Acts 21:9) ♦ The office of prophets/prophetesses ceased along with the Apostles after the of the church was establishedEph 2:20 ♦ How do we or should we inquire of the Lord in our day & age? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Pray? <input type="checkbox"/> Ask the Pastor or other spiritually mature folks? <input type="checkbox"/> Read God's word? <input type="checkbox"/> Other? |
| 23:1-30 | <p>Josiah Sparks a Revival</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • vv5-7. Josiah cleaned house and removed male cult prostitutes from God's temple complex • v10, 20, 22, 24. He also stopped child sacrifice, slaughtered the idolatrous priests, removed mediums, & restored temple worship • v26-27. "However, the Lord did not turn from His fierce wrath" because of Manasseh's wickedness. God wiped out Israel and will soon wipe out Jerusalem, Judah, and His temple <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Wait a Sec! Doesn't the Bible state God forgives when people repent? The Bible also states that God's mercy doesn't last forever – Today is the day of salvation, not tomorrow! ♦ God refused to forgive His own people for unrepentant rebellion and atrocities..... Ex 23:21; Josh 24:19; 2King 24:4; & Mat 6:15 ♦ ...and there comes a time when God's mercy is expended and only wrath remains..... Gen 6:3; 2Kings 22:16-17; Rev |

| Passage | Comments |
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| 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 • 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 "<i>the Lord will not forgive</i>" <p>SAY WHAT?</p> <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 • 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. Nehemiah would later rebuild the walls 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

- [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: Amos 1-2. Amos shows that war atrocities invoke God-inflicted consequences on a national scale, which are still applicable today.

