

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

- First and 2nd Kings seem to go easier on the Judean kings since they do not record more of the gory details and sinful behavior reported in 1st and 2nd Chronicles
- Some kings start off well (e.g., Solomon, Jehoash, Azariah), but they lose focus and corrupt themselvesWHY?

Passage	Comments
2Kings 11:1-21	<p>Judah ruled by Queen Athaliah for 6 years</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Athaliah was Ahab's daughter, & she had to have the support of Judah's military to seize power • It baffles us why a grandmother would want to murder all of her grandkids just to have power • The Bible sheds some light on the wicked. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ They are wicked from birth Ps 58:3 ♦ They do not think through the consequences of their actions Lam 1:9 ♦ They develop a seared conscience 1Tim 4:2
12:1-21	<p>Athaliah's 7 yr old g'son, Jehoash, Becomes King</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thanks to the help of Athaliah's daughter or step-daughter, Jehosheba, Jehoash is hidden for 6 yrs • Jehosheba (or Jehoshabeath) was married to a priest, Jehoiada cf 2Chron 22:11 • Jehosheba is a great success story – she overcame her dysfunctional family by apparently seeking after God, marrying a godly man, and was used by God to rescue the bloodline of Christ • vv1-3. Jehoash (aka Joash) is faithful to the Lord – AS LONG AS JEHOIADA WAS ALIVE! <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ 2Chron 24:15-22 depicts the evil Jehoash does, including killing Jehoiada's son, Zechariah ♦ After 40 years, Jehoash is assassinated
13:1-25	<p>Elisha Dies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • vv5-6. God sends a deliverer, but the Jews revert back to their sinful ways just like a pig heads back to wallow in the mud after being washed • What should the Jews have done to permanently turn things around for God? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Stop sinning, start obeying..... Eph 4:28 • vv14-20. Elisha gives K. Joash the opportunity to destroy Aram (Syrians). All he had to do was strike the ground 5-6x. But he only struck it 3x. • Though Joash (King of Israel, not Judah) did the prophet's bidding, it was without any zeal or fervor; and probably without any earnest belief in the usefulness of what he was doing..... Jer 48:10 • v21. Elisha's Last Miracle. A dead man comes to life when his corpse touches the bones of Elisha

Passage	Comments
14:1-29	<p>Judah's King Amaziah Serves God Faithfully</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • vv8-14. Amaziah, a godly king, has some success on the battlefield, but gets cocky and takes on the more powerful king of Israel, and gets whipped • Amaziah, like his dad, Joash, is assassinated
15:1-38	<p>Azariah (Uzziah) and Jotham also Serve God</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • vv1-5. Azariah did right in the sight of the Lord, yet the Lord strikes him with leprosy – but WHY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ 2Chron 26:16-21 records how he pridefully sacrificed in the temple, so God struck him • Jotham assumed Judah's throne and 2Chron records more details of his successful battles
16:1-20	<p>Ahaz Sells Off Judah's Treasures to Buy Peace</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • vv1-3. Ahaz sacrificed his first born son • This son should have been the next ruler of Judah and the forebear of Christ, and not Hezekiah • God is mighty enough to work around man's sin • vv7-9. Ahaz sent the remaining silver & gold to bribe the king of Assyria to attack Israel instead
17:1-41	<p>Assyria Captures Samaria</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • vv5-7. It took 3 years to capture Samaria. • vv6,24. Israel is disbursed to other nations, and other nations resettled in Israel – This is where animosity started between Jews & Samaritans • Fortunately, Israel and Judah will be reunited in the future Ezek 37:19; Zech 10:6

CONCLUSION/APPLICATIONS:

- God is going to accomplish His will for His people whether they like it or not, and whether they follow Him or not. He finishes what He starts.....Phil 1:6
- It is the same with us. Why fight God? Choose to follow Him in all things and position yourself to be blessed
- Let's stay on course and finish strong

APPLICABLE PASSAGES:

Jer 48:10 "Cursed is he who does the work of the LORD with slackness, and cursed is he who keeps back his sword from bloodshed. [ESV]"

NEXT WEEK: 2Kings 18-20. King Hezekiah, with Isaiah's help, holds steady for God under heavy persecution

