

10/2/11

2Kings 24-25

The reign of king Josiah with his revival and reforms were a breath of fresh air to the nation, but the people's superficial commitment wave way to evil once again.

His son Jehoahaz only reigned for three months, doing evil in the sight of the Lord and Pharaoh took him to Egypt where he died.

Pharaoh made Eliakim, the other son of Josiah king in his place, changing his name to Jehoiakim and put him under tribute, doing evil for 11 years on the throne.

So Jehoiakim is presently on the throne, as we begin chapter twenty-four of Second Kings.

Jeremiah prophesied in the reign of the four last kings of Judah, as he began his ministry in the 13th year of Josiah, 626 B.C. and he warned the people about going into captivity for forty years.

1. Josiah. reigned from 640-608 B.C. (Jeremiah was called in 626 B.C.) 2Kings 22:1-2
2. Jehoahaz, was the son of Josiah. who reigned in 608 B.C (three months) 2Kings 23:31-33
3. Jehoiakim, was also the son of Josiah, he reigned from 608-597 B.C. (His name was

Eliakim, but Pharaoh Necho changed it) 2Kings 24:5-9

4. Jehoiachin, son of Jehoiakim. 597 B.C. (His other name is Coniah or Jeconiah, reigned for three months) 2Kings 24:8

5. Zedekiah, son of Josiah, uncle to Jehoiakim and Jehoiachin. 597-586 B.C. (name Mattaniah, changed by Nebuchadnezzar)

24:1-9 The reign of Jehoiakim.

24:1-4 The judgment of God over Jehoiakim.

* The parallel passage. 2Chron. 36:6-7

- 1) Jehoiakim became his vassal *for* three years, paying tribute to Nebuchadnezzar for three years, then rebelled. vs. 1
* 608-597 B.C.
 - a) 605B.C. Nabopolassar and his son Nebuchadnezzar have attacked Egyptian at Charchemish and defeated them.
 - b) Nabopolassar's death in 605 delayed Babylon's march to the land of Israel Egypt.
 - c) In 601 B.C. Nebuchadnezzar was defeated in a major battle with Egyptians, which is believed the reason for Jehoiakim rebelling against Babylon.
- 2) God in judgment sent against raiding bands of Chaldeans, Syrians, Moabites,

of the people of Ammon, to destroy Judah, as declared by His servants the prophets. vs. 2

- 3) This is repeated for emphasis that it was God's doing, due to the sins of Manasseh and the innocent blood that filled Jerusalem. vs. 3-4

24:5-9 The summary statement of Jehoiakim and his successor, Jehoiachin.

* The parallel passage. 2Chron. 36:8-9

- 1) The supplementary information of Jehoiakim are recorded in the chronicles of the kings of Judah. 2Chron. 36
- 2) Jehoiakim died and was buried 597 B.C., then Jehoiachin his son reigned in his place. vs. 6
- 3) Historical information is given that the king of Egypt no longer came to aid Judah, he had been conquered by Nebuchadnezzar, controlling the land from the Brook of Egypt to the River Euphrates. vs. 4
- 4) The particulars of Jehoiachin's reign. vs. 8
 - a) He was eighteen years old when he became king. vs. 8a
 - b) He reigned in Jerusalem three months 597 B.C. vs. 8b

c) His mother's name *was* Nehushta the daughter of Elnathan of Jerusalem. vs. 8d

- 5) The commentary of his reign was that he did evil in the sight of the LORD, as all his father had done. vs. 9

24:10-16 The first deportation to Babylon.

* The parallel passage. 2Chron. 36:10

- 1) At that time the servants of Nebuchadnezzar, as well as himself came up against Jerusalem, and the city was besieged. vs. 10-11
 - a) This 597 B.C. Jehoiachin's other name is Coniah or Jeconiah, reigned for three months) 2Kings 24:8, Jer. 22:28, 37:1
 - b) Jeconiah was in the lineage of Joseph to the throne of David, but Jeconiah was cured being childless to sit on the throne, so the genealogy of Luke goes through Mary also in the line of the throne of David through Nathan. Jer. 33:30, Matt. 1:11-16, Lk. 3:31
- 2) Jehoiachin, his mother, his servants, his princes, and his officers went out to the king of Babylon and he took them prisoners; and the king of Babylon, in the eighth year of his reign, took him prisoner. vs. 12

- 3) Some of the treasures of the Temple were carried away, as prophesied by the Lord. vs. 13
- 4) He took many captives back to Babylon: all the captains and all the mighty men of valor, ten thousand captives, and all the craftsmen and smiths, leaving only the poorest people of the land. vs. 14
- 5) The affirmation of taking Jehoiachin, his mother, his wives, officers, and the mighty of the land he carried into captivity from Jerusalem to Babylon. vs. 15
- 6) Other captives included all the valiant men, seven thousand, and craftsmen and smiths, one thousand, all the strong fit for war, the king of Babylon brought captive to Babylon. vs. 16
 - a) Daniel, Ezekiel were taken in the second siege, in 597 B.C. coinciding with the ascension of Zedekiah to the throne.
 - b) Daniel and Ezekiel were two of the ten-thousand captives, the cream of the crop. 2Kings 24:11-18

24:17-20 The reign of Zedekiah.

- * The parallel passage. 2Chron. 36:10-16
- 1) Nebuchadnezzar set Zedekiah on the throne to replace his nephew Jehoiachin, the son Jehhoiakim, so he was his uncle,

- the son of Josiah, but his real name was Mattaniah. vs. 17
- 2) Zedekiah was 21 years old when he became king, and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem, whose mother's name was Hamutal the daughter of Jeremiah of Libnah. vs. 18
 - 3) He did evil in the sight of the LORD, as all that Jehoiakim had done. vs. 19
 - 4) All that was happening was the anger of the LORD on Jerusalem and Judah, finally casting them out from His presence and Zedekiah rebelled against the king of Babylon. vs. 20

25:1-30 **The fall of Jerusalem.**

25:1-7 The besieging of Jerusalem.

* The parallel passage. 2Chron. 36:1-4

25:1-3 The conditions of the city were sever.

- 1) Nebuchadnezzar, came with all his army to encamp against Jerusalem and they built a siege wall against it all around. vs. 1

* The date is the 10th of January of 588 B. C. Jer. 39:1, 52:4-16, Ezk. 24:1, 2Chron. 36:11-12

- 2) The siege on the city lasted till the eleventh year of King Zedekiah. vs. 2

3) The siege of the city resulted in famine. vs. 3

a) Eighteen months later the date is given, the 9th of July 586 B.C. Jer. 39:2

* The evil of the nation began with Solomon and only got worse, 971-586 .C. , 384 years.

b) The famine became severe in the city, cannibalism took place. Jer. 52:6, Lam. 4:9-10

25:4-7 The capture of King Zedekiah. vs. 4-7

1) The wall of Jerusalem had been penetrated. vs. 4

a) Their defenses were compromise. vs. 4a

b) The king and his armed guard fled the city by night by the confluence of the Kidron and Hinnom Valleys. vs. 4b-c

c) Their dare was risky, the Chaldeans were encamped all around against the city. vs. 4d-e

2) The situation led to the apprehending of Zedekiah. vs. 5

a) The Babylonians chased after Zedekiah. vs. 5a

b) The Babylonians caught up to Zedekiah by Jericho vs. 5b

c) The Babylonians chased off Zedekiah's soldiers. vs. 5c

3) The proclamation of judgment over Zedekiah. vs. 6-7

a) The Babylonians transported Zedekiah to Nebuchadnezzar at Riblah. vs. 6a

1)) Riblah also had served as the headquarters of Pharaoh Necho in 609 in his campaign to assist Assyria against Babylon, about 150 miles north of Jerusalem. 2Kings 23:33

2)) Riblah was the ancient Syrian town on the Orontes River about ten miles south of Kadeh, at the crossing of the highways between Egypt and Mesopotamia, a very strategic location militarily as Nebuchadnezzar's headquarters.

b) The Babylonians tried Zedekiah pronouncing judgment on him." vs. 6b

1)) He had swore allegiance to Babylon.

2)) He rebelled against Babylon, trusting Egypt, the arm of flesh.

3)) Jeremiah prophesied that Zedekiah would see Nebuchadnezzar face to face and he would not escape. Jer. 32:34, 34:2-3

c) The Babylonians took their revenge on Zedekiah, killing his son before his eyes, then putting them out. vs. 7

- 1)) They didn't just execute his son before his eyes, but literally, slaughtered them.
- 2))They humiliated Zedekiah and made him defenseless, "put out the eyes of Zedekiah." vs. 7b
- 3) They took him as a captured prisoner.
* Ezekiel gave a sign prophesy about the escape of Zedekiah through the wall, his capture and that he would be taken to Babylon, but not see and die there. Ezk. 12:11-14

25:8-21 The occupying and sacking of Jerusalem.

* The parallel passage. 2Chron. 36:17-21,
Jer. 39:8-10

25:8-12 *The demolishing of the city.* vs. 8-12

- 2) The princes of the king of Babylon sat in the middle of the gate. Jer. 39:3
- 1) The operation dealt with the clean-up of the city. vs. 8
 - a) The date was roughly one month later, "And in the fifth month, on the seventh day of the month, July 586 B.C. vs. 8a-b
 - b) The date is cross dated, "which was the nineteenth year of King

Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon." vs. 8c, Jer. 52:12

- c) The officer is named, "Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard, a servant of the king of Babylon, came to Jerusalem." vs. 8d-e
* His name means "he who has given seed", the captain of the guard, the body guard or literally "the chief butcher", the field marshal who was the chief executioner.
- 2) The operation dealt with the prominent structures of the city. vs. 9-10
 - a) The places of greatest authority and reverence were first, the Temple and the kings house. vs. 9a
 - 1)) The temple indicating the gods of Babylon were greater.
 - 2)) The Kings house indicating Nebuchadnezzar was greater than Zedekiah.
 - b) The houses of the wealthy citizen followed, burnt with fire." vs. 9b-c
* We have seen the discovery in the city of Ophel, of the burning in the days of Zedekiah!
 - c) The remaining walls to protect the city came next. vs. 10
* The city would have not defenses.
- 3) The operation dealt with the deportation of the population. vs. 11-12

- a) The people of Judah were taken captive to Babylon. vs. 11
- b. The people of Judah left in the land were the poor to work the land for Babylon. vs. 12

25:13-17 *The looting of the temple.*

- 1) The large furnishings were prepared for transport to Babylon by cutting them down to smaller measures. vs. 13
- 2) The smaller items were left intact. vs. 14-15
- 3) The particular details of the pillars and bronze Sea. vs. 16-17
 - a) The two pillars were named Jachin and Boaz. 1Kings 7:21
 - b) The Sea was of cast bronze, six inches thick, 15 feet in diameter, a circumference of 45 feet by 7 1/2 feet deep, holding about 10,000 gallons of water and very ornate. 1Kings. 7:23-26
- b) The size of the pillars was 27 feet, a cubic being 18 inches. vs. 17
 - 1) Jachin means, He, Yahweh will establish, referring to the Kingdom.
 - 2) Boaz means in Him is strength, referring to maintain the Kingdom.

25:18-21 *The capture and removal of some prominent individuals by Nebuzaradan.*

- 1) Those of the temple. vs. 18
 - a) To remove spiritual instruction to the people.
 - b) But God had sent Daniel ahead and Ezekiel, who would stand against the false prophets.
- 2) Those of military and advisers of the king. vs. 19a-c
 - * Once again removing authority and leadership to minimize rebellion among the people.
- 3) Those hiding in the city. vs. 19d
 - a) Those in fear of their lives.
 - b) Those isolated through the horror of the overtaking of the city.
- 4) All of these were transported to the king of Babylon. vs. 20-21
 - a) Nebusaradan took them to Nebuchadnezzar's headquarters at Riblah. vs. 20
 - b) Nebuchadnezzar executed them. vs. 21a
 - c) Judah went into her 70 year captivity. vs. 21b
 - * Jeremiah give the number of people. Jer. 52:28-31

25:22-26 *The appointed governor over Jerusalem.*

25:22-26 The appointment of Gedaliah as governor of Jerusalem. vs. 22-26

1) Gedaliah became a vassal to Babylon and his name means “Yahweh is great”. vs. 22

a. Nebuchadnezzar made Gedaliah the son of Ahikam, the son of Shaphan, governor. vs. 22a

1) Gedaliah’s Father Ahikam had been an important person in the court of Jehoiakim and a friend of Jeremiah. Jer. 26:24, 2Kings 22:12, 14

2) His grandfather Shaphan had been the secretary of Josiah . 2Kings 22:3, 10

3) His uncle Gemariah and his cousin Micaiah had been involved in the event of Baruch’s reading o Jeremiah’s first scroll and helped in protecting both of them. Jer. 36:11, 25

b. Gedaliah’s responsibility was to govern over the people who remained in the land of Judah, that Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon had left. vs. 22a-b

* Jeremiah, himself had come to Gedaliah after he was released by

Nebuzaradan and allowed to remain in the land. Jer. 40:4-5

2. Gedaliah was visited by some captains. vs. 23

a) These were guerilla band hidden during the siege of Jerusalem. vs. 23
* Gives greater details of this account. Jer. 40:7-12

b) Mizpah was about four and one-half miles northwest of Jerusalem.

3) Gedaliah attempted to persuade them they were safe, if they submitted to Babylon. vs. 24

4) Gedaliah was assassinated by some of the leaders. vs. 25

* He was warned by Johanan about the plot of Ishmael to assassinate him, but he and volunteered to kill him, but he did not believe it. Jer. 40:13-16

5) The leaders took all the people to Egypt. vs. 26

a) The details of the flight to Egypt, forcing Jeremiah to go and Baruch are recorded. Jer. 41-42

b) Like all the kings of Israel and Judah affected the direction and judgment of the nation, so do leader of nations today!

25:27-30 The treatment of Jehoiachin in Babylon.

- 1) Jehoiachin was set free from his imprisonment in Babylon. vs. 27
 - a) This took place in the thirty-seventh year of the captivity. vs. 27a
 - b) In the twelfth month, the twenty-seventh *day* of the month, *that* Evil-Merodach king of Babylon, in the first year of his reign, 561 B.C. vs. 27b-d
 - c) He released Jehoiachin king of Judah from prison. vs. 27e
- 2) He spoke kindly to Jehoiachin, giving him a more prominent seat than the other kings with him in Babylon. vs. 28
- 3) Jehoiachin changed from his prison garments, and he ate bread regularly before the king all the days of his life. vs. 29
- 4) H was provided with a regular daily ration by the king all the days of his life. vs. 30