

# SAVING CHRISTMAS

## 2 Kings 11

### FROM PASTOR MARK

What are godly people to think when evil *seems* to triumph? Jehu, anointed by Elisha's student, destroyed Baalism in the Northern Kingdom; but he was condemned for the way that he did it (Hosea 1:4-5). Now, 2 Kings 11 brought a dark day for the Southern Kingdom, Judah as evil *seemed* to prevail and unseat God's plan.

#### I. THE ASSAULT ON GOD'S PLAN (11:1)

##### A. How did we get there? (11:1a)

1. The Mistake of Godly King Jehoshaphat (1 Kings 22:44, 2 Chron. 18:1, 2 K. 8:18, 2 Cor. 6:14)
2. A "perfect storm" set the stage for the near destruction of David's line (2 Chron. 21:1-4, 16-17; 2 Kings 10:12-14)

##### B. Why was this so serious? (11:2a; Genesis 3:15; 2 Sam. 7:16, Ps. 89:36, Ps. 2:1-4).

#### II. THE QUIETNESS OF GOD'S PLAN (11:2-11)

##### A. God's Quiet Heroes (11:2-3; 1 Cor. 1:26-38)

##### B. God's Courageous Heroes (11:4-11)

##### C. What were the other godly in Judah to think?

#### III. THE UNFOLDING OF GOD'S PLAN (11:12-19)

##### A. Installation of the Rightful King (1:12; Dt. 17:18-20)

##### B. Judgment of the Evil Ruler (1:13-16)

##### C. Commitment to God (1:17-19)

1. Comprehensive Commitment (17, 19)
2. Holy Commitment (18)

#### IV. THE TRIUMPH OF GOD'S PLAN (11:20-21)

##### A. Joy and Peace (11:20)

##### B. The Line of David Preserved (11:21; Mt. 1:1, Luke 1:30-33)

#### GOD'S PLAN WILL TRIUMPH:

1. For this Dark World...
2. For your Personal Life...

**TO READ FOR NEXT TIME**—2 Kings 12, *The Reign of Joah (Jehoash)*

#### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR NOVEMBER 26, 2023

1. What are godly people to think when they can't see how God's plan for this world will triumph? What situations in our world today make it tough to see?
2. Read Genesis 3:15, 2 Samuel 7:16, and Matthew 1:1. Why was it so serious to the plan of God if the royal line of David had been destroyed? How did the survival of the boy Joah save Christmas?

3. Read 2 Kings 11:2-3. How does the quiet courage of the little known lady Jehoshebah make her such a hero for a). preserving life, b). for resisting evil, and c). for saving the plan of God?
4. How does the triumph of God's plan in 2 Kings 11 encourage you when dark times come?
5. Share any God-sightings from your Thanksgiving Week.
6. How could you share Jesus this Christmas Season or who could you invite to church for Christmas services? Pray for these.