

A Wasted and EVIL Life ~ 2 Chronicles 21-23

→ Scripture Reading - 2 Chronicles 21:1, 4, 5-6, 20

INTRODUCTION

→ Time Line of the Kings

Death of Jehoshaphat ~ 2 Chronicles 21:1-20

¹ When Jehoshaphat died, he was buried with his ancestors in the City of David. Then his son Jehoram became the next king. ² Jehoram's brothers—the other sons of Jehoshaphat—were Azariah, Jehiel, Zechariah, Azariahu, Michael, and Shephatiah; ALL these were the sons of Jehoshaphat king of Judah. ³ Their father had given each of them valuable gifts of silver, gold, and costly items, and also some of Judah's fortified towns. However, he designated Jehoram as the NEXT KING because he was the oldest.

⁴ But when Jehoram had become solidly established as king, he killed ALL his brothers and some of the other leaders of Judah. ⁵ Jehoram was thirty-two years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem eight years.

⁶ But Jehoram followed the example of the kings of Israel and was AS wicked as King Ahab, for he had married one of Ahab's daughters. So Jehoram did what was EVIL in the LORD's sight. ⁷ But the LORD did not want to destroy David's dynasty, for HE had made a covenant with David and promised that his descendants would continue to rule, shining like a lamp forever.

¹² Then Elijah the prophet wrote Jehoram this letter: "This is what the LORD, the God of your ancestor David, says: You have NOT followed the good example of your father, Jehoshaphat, or your grandfather King Asa of Judah. ¹³ Instead, you have been as evil as the kings of Israel.

¹⁴ So now the LORD is about to strike you, your people, your children, your wives, and all that is yours with a heavy blow.

¹⁵ You yourself will suffer with a severe intestinal disease that will get worse each day until your bowels come out."

²⁰ Jehoram was thirty-two years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem eight years. NO ONE was sorry when he died. They buried him in the City of David, but NOT in the royal cemetery.

IMPLICATION

²⁰ Jehoram was thirty-two years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem eight years. NO ONE was sorry when he died.

2 Timothy 4:5 - 7 (NLT) ⁵ But you should keep a clear mind in every situation. Don't be afraid of suffering for the Lord. Work at telling others the Good News, and fully carry out the ministry God has given you.

⁶ As for me, my life has already been poured out as an offering to God. The time of my death is near. ⁷ I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, and I have remained faithful.

Ahaziah and Athaliah ~ 2 Chronicles 22:1-9

¹ Then the people of Jerusalem made Ahaziah, Jehoram's youngest son, their next king, since the marauding bands who came with the Arabs had killed ALL the older sons. So Ahaziah son of Jehoram reigned as king of Judah. ² Ahaziah was twenty-two years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem ONE YEAR. His mother was Athaliah, a granddaughter of King Omri. ³ Ahaziah also followed the evil example of King Ahab's family, for his mother encouraged him in doing wrong. ⁴ He did what was EVIL in the LORD's sight, just as Ahab's family had done. They even became his advisers after the death of his father, and they led him to ruin. (NLT)

⁹ ... Ahaziah was given a decent burial because the people said, He was the grandson of Jehoshaphat - a man who sought the LORD with all his heart." But NONE of the surviving members of Ahaziah's family was CAPABLE of ruling the kingdom. (NLT)

IMPLICATION

³ Ahaziah also followed the evil example of King Ahab's family, for his mother encouraged him in doing wrong. ⁴ He did what was EVIL in the LORD's sight

→We are Impacted and Influenced by people and things that we FOCUS on

1 Corinthians 15:33 (ESV) Do not be deceived: BAD company ruins good morals.

Colossians 3:2-3 (NET) Keep thinking about things above, not things on the earth, ³ for you have died and your life is hidden with Christ IN God.

² Set your minds on things above... (NIV) ² Think about the things of heaven... (NLT)

Athaliah's EVIL Reign ~ 2 Chronicles 22:9-11

⁹ ... Ahaziah was given a decent burial because the people said, He was the grandson of Jehoshaphat - a man who sought the LORD with all his heart. But NONE of the surviving members of Ahaziah's family was Capable of Ruling the kingdom. (NLT)

¹⁰ When Athaliah, the mother of King Ahaziah of Judah, learned that her son was dead, she began to destroy the rest of Judah's royal family.

¹¹ But Ahaziah's Sister Jehosheba, the daughter of King Jehoram, took Ahaziah's infant son, Joash, and stole him away from among the rest of the king's children, who were about to be killed... (NLT)

TAKE AWAY ??

Two little lines I heard one day, Traveling along life's busy way;
Bringing conviction to my heart, And from my mind would not depart;
Only one life, 'twill soon be past, Only what's done for Christ will last.

Only one life, the still small voice, Gently pleads for a better choice
Bidding me selfish aims to leave, And to God's holy will to cleave;
Only one life, 'twill soon be past, Only what's done for Christ will last.

When this bright world would tempt me sore, When Satan would a victory score;
When self would seek to have its way, Then help me Lord with joy to say;
Only one life, 'twill soon be past, Only what's done for Christ will last.

Give me Father, a purpose deep, In joy or sorrow Thy word to keep;
Faithful and true what e'er the strife, Pleasing Thee in my daily life;
Only one life, 'twill soon be past, Only what's done for Christ will last.

Oh let my love with fervor burn, And from the world now let me turn;
Living for Thee, and Thee alone, Bringing Thee pleasure on Thy throne;
Only one life, 'twill soon be past, Only what's done for Christ will last.

Only one life, yes only one, Now let me say, "Thy will be done";
And when at last I'll hear the call, I know I'll say "twas worth it all";
Only one life, 'twill soon be past, Only what's done for Christ will last.