

Royal Lessons for Life

Josiah and Jehoahaz

(Judah)

Josiah's Biography

- Josiah was a good king, beginning his reign at age 8 and reigning for 31 years – II Kings 22:1-2, II Chronicles 34:1-2
- In the 8th year of his reign, he begins to seek God and purges the land of idolatry – II Chronicles 34:3-7
- In the 18th year of his reign, he repairs the Temple – II Kings 22:3-7, II Chronicles 34:8-13.
- During these repairs, a copy of the Mosaic Law is discovered and read to the king – II Kings 22:8-11, II Chronicles 34:14-19
 - Fearing God's judgment for their disobedience to the Law, he consults the prophetess Huldah. She tells them that judgment is stayed for now. – II Kings 22:12-20, II Chronicles 34:20-28
 - The Law is read to the people – II Kings 23:1-3, II Chronicles 34:29-32
 - He leads a second campaign to purge idolatry from the land – II Kings 23:4-20
 - He defiled the altar at Bethel as prophesied 350 years earlier in I Kings 13:2
 - They celebrate the Passover – II Kings 23:21-27, II Chronicles 35:1-19
- Pharaoh Necho II embarked on a campaign to aid Assyria as Babylon was destroying that kingdom. Josiah tried to stop Necho at Megiddo and was killed in battle – II Kings 23:28-30, II Chronicles 35:20-27
- He was the last good king of Israel, and was succeeded by his son Jehoahaz – II Kings 23:30, II Chronicles 36:1

Jehoahaz's Biography

- Jehoahaz is 23 years old when he begins to reign and reigns for 3 months – II Kings 23:31-32, II Chronicles 36:1-2
 - He is called Shallum ("retribution") in Jeremiah 22:11 and I Chronicles 3:15
- Necho places Judah under tribute, takes Jehoahaz prisoner, and places his brother Jehoiakim on the throne – II Kings 23:33-34, II Chronicles 36:3-4
- Jehoahaz dies in Egypt – Jeremiah 22:10-12, II Kings 23:34, II Chronicles 36:4

Lessons from the Lives of Josiah and Jehoahaz

- The revival under Josiah is a wonderful example of the power of God's Word – Isaiah 55:11, Hebrews 4:12
- Jehoahaz is a warning to not act hastily and seize what is not ours – Proverbs 19:2