



— LINEAGE OF THE KING —

Jehoshaphat was the father of Jehoram, Jehoram was the father [ancestor] of Uzziah, Uzziah was the father of Jotham, Jotham was the father of Ahaz

Matthew 1:8-9

Lesson 12

FIRST DAY: Review and Overview

1. What was the greatest lesson you received from the life of King Jehoshaphat?
2. Simply being in the bloodline of faith does not make you a child of faith. John the Baptist warned the people of Israel against this false assumption. *Therefore bear fruits worthy of repentance, and do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I say to you that God is able to raise up children to Abraham from these stones.* Those who desire to be in the lineage of faith must make a personal and conscious decision to believe in and follow Jesus Christ.

Matthew purposely excludes the descendants of King Jehoram to the fourth generation. Most scholars believe this is due to the fact that Jehoram married the wicked Athaliah, daughter of the idolatrous King Ahab of Israel. Because Ahaziah, Jehoash, and King Amaziah chose the idolatry of King Ahab rather than to acknowledge the God of Israel, their names were not reckoned in the genealogy of faith. Matthew moved directly from Jehoram to Uzziah, who after four wicked kings, chose to do *what was right in the sight of the LORD*. He co-reigned for a time with his son Jotham. Jotham was followed by Ahaz who made a fateful choice to turn away from God. Every person must be *diligent to make his/her call and election sure* in Jesus (2 Peter 1:10). Make note of strengths and weaknesses you see in each of the kings below:

- a. 2 Chronicles 21:1-7
 - b. 2 Chronicles 26:1-5, 18-21
 - c. 2 Chronicles 27:1-2, 6
 - d. 2 Chronicles 28:1-4, 21-22
3. Take a moment to make your *call and election sure* by preparing your ways before the LORD.

So Jotham became mighty, because he prepared his ways before the LORD his God.

2 Chronicles 27:6

SECOND DAY: Read 2 Chronicles 21

1. After *Jehoshaphat rested with his fathers*, his son Jehoram *reigned in his place* (2 Chronicles 21:1). What do you learn about Jehoram and his *brothers* from 2 Chronicles 21:2-3?
 - a. Remark on Jehoram's actions toward his family from 2 Chronicles 21:4.
2. Jehoram became king when he was 32 years old *and he reigned eight years*. Comment on his reign from 2 Chronicles 21:5-6.
 - a. Link this with 2 Chronicles 18:1. What do you see?
3. In spite of Jehoram's sin, what did God do? 2 Chronicles 21:7
 - a. What does this convey to you about God?
4. Use 2 Chronicles 21:8-17 to briefly note the following conflicts in Jehoram's reign:
 - a. Edom (verses 8-10)
 - b. Libnah (verse 10)
 - c. Philistines and Arabians (verses 16-17)
 - (1) From 2 Chronicles 21:10b-11 identify the spiritual cause of Jehoram's conflicts.
5. How did God warn Jehoram? 2 Chronicles 21:12a
 - a. What evil had Jehoram done? 2 Chronicles 21:12b-13
 - b. What would be the consequences of his evil? 2 Chronicles 21:14-15
 - c. Remark on the fulfillment of this word in 2 Chronicles 21:17-19.
6. Comment on Jehoram's end. 2 Chronicles 21:20
7. What warning do you receive from the reign of Jehoram?

THIRD DAY: Read 2 Chronicles 26

1. Uzziah became king when he was 16 years old *and he reigned fifty-two years in Jerusalem* (2 Chronicles 26:1, 3). Remark on his legacy from 2 Chronicles 26:4-5.

2. Use 2 Chronicles 26:2, 6-15 to highlight aspects of Uzziah's reign:
 - a. his battles (verses 6-8)

 - b. his building projects and improvements (verses 2, 9-10)

 - c. his armies and weaponry (verses 11-15)
 - (1) From 2 Chronicles 26:15b record the reason for Uzziah's success.

3. What happened to Uzziah as a result of his success? 2 Chronicles 26:16a
 - a. Link this with Proverbs 16:18 and share your thoughts.

 - b. Contrast Uzziah's strength with Paul's statement in 2 Corinthians 12:9. What do you see?

4. Summarize the events of 2 Chronicles 26:16-20.
 - a. Why do you think Uzziah presumed to do this?

5. Record the disastrous consequences of Uzziah's sin from 2 Chronicles 26:21.

6. Note the difference between Uzziah's early and latter reign. What do you see?

FOURTH DAY: Read 2 Chronicles 27

1. According to 2 Chronicles 26:21–23, what did Uzziah’s son Jotham do after his father became a *leper*?

2. What commentary is given about Jotham’s reign in 2 Chronicles 27:1–2?
 - a. What do you find most interesting about this?

3. Use 2 Chronicles 27:3–5 to document the following from Jotham’s reign:
 - a. his building projects (verses 3–4)

 - b. his war with the Ammonites (verse 5)

4. From 2 Chronicles 27:6 identify and comment on how Jotham *became mighty*.
 - a. Use the following Scriptures to share how you can prepare your *ways before the LORD*:
 - (1) Psalm 119:15, 59

 - (2) Proverbs 3:5–6

 - (3) Matthew 7:24–25

 - (4) 2 Timothy 2:15

5. The summation of Jotham’s reign is written in 2 Chronicles 27:7–9. Compare and contrast his reign with that of his father, Uzziah. What do you see?

FIFTH DAY: Taken from 2 Chronicles 28, Isaiah 7:1-17

1. Ahaz the son of Jotham *reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem*. Observe and remark on his legacy from 2 Chronicles 28:1-4.
2. As a result of Ahaz's sin, God brought great conflict into his reign. Identify this conflict from Isaiah 7:1-2.
 - a. In spite of impending war, what was the prophet Isaiah sent to tell Ahaz? Isaiah 7:3-7
 - (1) What was the prophet's warning to Ahaz if he did not *believe*? Isaiah 7:9
 - (a) Connect this with 2 Chronicles 20:20. How is this a word to you concerning faith?
3. Isaiah exhorted Ahaz to *ask a sign* from God (Isaiah 7:10-12). Though he refused, God still gave him a *sign*. From Isaiah 7:14 record this *sign*.
 - a. Link this with Matthew 1:21-23 and comment on the Messianic implications of this *sign*.
 - (1) Considering the wickedness of King Ahaz, why is this prophecy remarkable?
4. Because Ahaz refused to trust God, Isaiah declared impending disaster for Judah. Briefly summarize from 2 Chronicles 28 how this word was fulfilled:
 - a. verses 5-8
 - b. verse 17
 - c. verse 18
 - d. verse 20
5. Use the following verses from 2 Chronicles 28 to remark on how Ahaz responded to these disasters:
 - a. verse 19
 - b. verse 21
 - c. verse 22
 - e. verses 23-25

6. Reflect on the fact that the prophets Isaiah and Micah (Micah 7:7-9, 18-20) both prophesied during Ahaz's reign. How does this fact minister to you about:
 - a. God's faithfulness
 - b. God's truth
 - c. man's responsibility

SIXTH DAY: Review

1. From your study this week, write a short obituary for each of the following kings:
 - a. Jehoram
 - b. Uzziah
 - c. Jotham
 - d. Ahaz
2. Using what you studied this week, comment on the faithfulness of God to preserve the lineage of Jesus.

*He sought God in the days of Zechariah, who had understanding in the visions of God;
and as long as he sought the LORD, God made him prosper.*

2 Chronicles 26:5