



Lesson 140

King Joash

Story Elements

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Text: 2 Ki. 12:1-21; 2 Ch. 24:1-27 • Setting: circa 835-796 B.C., in Jerusalem • Main Characters: God, Joash (aka Jehoash), and Jehoiada, and Zechariah • Plot: King Joash rules in righteousness until the death of Jehoida. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key word(s): “ _____ ” • Climax: <i>2 Chronicles 24:22 Thus Joash the king remembered not the kindness which Jehoiada his father had done to him, but slew his son. And when he died, he said, The LORD look upon it, and require it.</i> |
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Joash Repairs the Temple

- (2 Ch. 24:1-7) During Athaliah's reign the temple of the LORD had fallen into disrepair and its instruments had been pillaged for the sake of the temple of _____.
 - Joash wanted the temple to be restored to its former glory, but the _____ were unable to adequately raise funds for the project.
 - (2 Ch. 24:8-14) Joash took over the building project and placed a treasury box near the entrance to the temple and gave royal treasurers the financial oversight. A royal _____ was made throughout the land to tell the people of the need for funds. Money poured into the treasury and the temple was repaired and the utensils replaced.

Jehoiada Dies

- (2 Ch. 24:15-16) Jehoiada grew old and died at the age of _____. He was buried with royal honors because of his service to God and country.
 - (2 Ch. 24:17-19) After the godly old man died, it wasn't long before idolatrous leaders began to _____ Joash.
 - Soon, the king permitted idolatry to be practiced again in Judah. In response to this, the LORD sent _____ to warn the king and his subjects of their wickedness.

Joash is Judged

- (2 Ch. 24:20:21-22) The Spirit of the LORD came upon Jehoiada's son, Zechariah, who confronted Joash and his idolatrous fellows for their sin, saying, “Because ye have forsaken the LORD, he hath also _____ you.” In anger, Joash had Zechariah stoned. In his dying breath, Zechariah called out, “The LORD look upon it, and require it.”
- (2 Ch. 24:23-24) That year, the Syrians invaded Judah with a small army, and the LORD gave Judah over into the hands of their enemies; the idolatrous leaders of Judah were killed, their cities pillaged, and Joash was _____ in battle.
- (2 Ch. 24:25-27) Many of Joash's lieutenants despised him for his treachery and recognized that the Syrian invasion was the _____ of God. Two of his men, Zabad and Jehozabad, assassinated Joash as he lied sick in bed. He was buried ignominiously.

Application

6. An old proverb says, "If the camel once gets his nose in the tent, his body will soon follow." Joash was a good king while Jehoiada lived, but Joash never had the high places torn down. The high places were venues for pagan worship. Moses had commanded their destruction hundreds of years before – they were not even to be used for worshiping the LORD (Deu. 12:2-14). But the high places were tolerated by Joash, and soon also was outright idolatry. Be watchful against sin – even the small, _____ ones!

Colossians 3:5 Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry:

7. The LORD judged his people with the Syrians but had mercy on them with the prophets. Prophetic warnings against sin are not the tirades of a kill-joy God bent on ruining everyone's fun, rather they are the merciful pleadings of a holy God calling his people back to the place that gives them the most pleasure and joy – delighting in God's _____.
8. Zechariah gives us a shining example of holy boldness – knowing that rebuking a king can often lead to persecution, he chose to decry the sin of those in power and to suffer the consequences. Faithfulness in this life may lead to hardship now, but it lays up _____ in the hereafter.

Galatians 6:9 And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.

9. Joash is another tragic story of _____. How sobering to think that one so near to grace could become an idolater and a persecutor. Matthew Henry notes that, "when [God] comes to make inquisition for blood, the blood of prophets will run the account very high."¹ Joash answered for his treachery, and he serves as an example to all that God keeps accounts, and the day of reckoning will come for all.

Luke 11:51 From the blood of Abel unto the blood of Zacharias, which perished between the altar and the temple: verily I say unto you, It shall be required of this generation.

Notes: _____

Answer Key: Key word(s): "forsaken" • 1. Baal; a) Levites; b) proclamation • 2. 130; a) influence; b) prophets • 3. forsaken • 4. wounded • 5. judgment • 6. insignificant • 7. presence • 8. blessing • 9. apostasy

How to use this worksheet for personal Bible study: (1) Read the Bible passage given in the **Story Elements** section. (2) Read through the worksheet and try to fill in the blanks without looking at the **Answer Key**. (3) Check your answers with the key and make the necessary corrections. Keep in mind that some answers are a matter of opinion, and often more than one answer is correct. (4) Write down your own thoughts, applications, and questions for further study in the **Notes** section.

¹ Henry, Matthew. *Matthew Henry's Commentary on the Whole Bible: Complete and Unabridged in One Volume*. Peabody: Hendrickson, 1994. Print.