### 2 Chronicles

## Chapter 22

1Then the people of JeruSalem chose his youngest son, AhaziAh, to become their king (because all of JehoRam’s older sons had been murdered by a band of Arabian and AliMazonian highwaymen). 2So AhaziAh became the king of Judah and started his reign in JeruSalem when he was 25 years old. His mother’s name was AthaliAh, and she was the daughter of OmRi.  
  
3AhaziAh also followed in the ways of the house of [King] Ahab [of IsraEl], because his mother was his counselor in sin... 4So, like the house of Ahab, he acted wickedly before Jehovah, because [Ahab’s family] served as his counselors after his father died and they led him into destruction.  
  
5For he listened to their council and joined Ahab’s son King JehoRam of IsraEl in a war against King HazaEl of Syria at RamOth GileAd.  
  
[In this war], a bowman shot [King] JehoRam [of IsraEl], 6so he went to the hospital at JezreEl to be treated for the wound that he’d received in his war against King HazaEl of Syria at RamOth. Then King AhaziAh (son of JehoRam) of Judah went to see [King] JehoRam (son of Ahab) while he was recovering there in JezreEl... And that’s when (under God’s direction) the final event in the life of AhaziAh happened! 7For he joined with JehoRam to fight against Jehu (son of NimShi), the one whom Jehovah had anointed to destroy the house of Ahab.  
  
8Now, as Jehu was punishing the house of Ahab, he found the governors of Judah along with some of AhaziAh’s relatives, and he killed them all... 9Then Jehu told [his men] to search for AhaziAh, and they found him at the hospital in Samaria. So they [led Jehu to] him and Jehu killed him.  
  
But they buried him in a tomb, for they said:  
  
 ‘He’s the descendant of JehoShaphat, a man who searched for Jehovah with his whole heart.’  
  
Thereafter, with the death of [King] AhaziAh [of Judah], there was no one left to rule his kingdom... 10And when his mother [Queen] AthaliAh learned that her son AhaziAh had been killed, she tried to have everyone in the royal house of Judah murdered! 11But JehoShabeth (the king’s daughter) stole his son JehoAsh from the midst of the other sons of the king who were to be killed, and she hid him and fed him in a bed closet.  
  
Now, [Princess] JehoShabeth was the daughter of King JehoRam, [and was therefore King] AhaziAh’s sister; [she was also] the wife of JehoiAda (the Priest). And she kept JehoAsh with her, hidden from [Queen] AthaliAh so she wouldn’t have him murdered, 12inside the Temple of God, until he was 6 years old.  
  
But during that time, [Queen] AthaliAh ruled the land.