### 2 Chronicles

## Chapter 24

1So, JehoAsh was 7 years old when began his reign, and he ruled from JeruSalem for 40 years. His mother’s name was SabiJa, and she was from BeerSheba.  
  
2JehoAsh did what was right before Jehovah for as long as the [High] Priest JehoiAda was alive. 3Meanwhile, JehoiAda [the Priest] had taken two women that bore sons and daughters to him.  
  
  
4Then it came into the heart of JehoAsh to repair the Temple of Jehovah. 5So he assembled all the Priests and Levites and said to them:  
  
 ‘Go into all the cities of Judah and IsraEl each year and collect enough money to strengthen the Temple of Jehovah… Starting from right now!’  
  
Well, the Levites didn’t do anything; 6so King JehoAsh called for JehoiAda their leader, and asked:  
  
 ‘Why haven’t you been overseeing the Levites, to make sure that they’re taking up the collections from Judah and IsraEl that were specified by Moses, the man of God, for the gathering of IsraEl at the Tent of Proofs?  
  
 7‘[Queen] AthaliAh is to blame [for its poor condition], because it was her sons who wrecked the Temple of Jehovah, taking all its holy things and dedicating them to the BaAls.’  
  
8And the king said:  
  
 ‘Make a [collection] chest and place it just outside of the entrance to the Temple of Jehovah... 9Then, have [the officials] travel throughout Judah, JeruSalem, IsraEl, and into the desert, to tell [the people] to bring the amount that was specified by Moses, the servant of God, to Jehovah.’  
  
  
10Well thereafter, all the people and their governors did come and bring [their tithes], and soon the [collection] chest was filled! 11So when the Levites carried the chest to the king’s accountants, they found that they had more than enough money [to complete the Temple renovation project].  
  
Then the king’s scribe and the High Priest’s accountant emptied the chest and put it back into its place. They did this each day, and they gathered huge amounts of money, 12which the king then gave to the Priest JehoiAda and to those who were doing the work on the Temple of Jehovah... So they hired the stonecutters, carpenters, and metalworkers that were needed to repair Jehovah’s Temple.  
  
13Well, everyone did their jobs, and soon the project of rebuilding and refurbishing the Temple was completed. 14Then after it was done, they carried the rest of the money to King JehoAsh and to JehoiAda, and they made things that were required for the services at the Temple, such as gold incense pans and other items of silver and gold.  
  
And thereafter, whole burnt offerings were sacrificed at the Temple of Jehovah throughout the rest of the life of JehoiAda.  
  
  
15Well, [the High Priest] JehoiAda lived a very full life, which ended after 130 years. 16So they buried him in a tomb in the City of David among the kings, because he’d served IsraEl, God, and the Temple so well!  
  
17But after [High Priest] JehoiAda died, the governors of Judah came and bowed before the king, and King [JehoAsh] listened to them... 18So they abandoned the Temple of Jehovah the God of their ancestors, and started serving the Astartes and the idols… Which has brought [God’s] anger upon Judah and JeruSalem down to this day.  
  
19So [God] sent His Prophets to turn them back to Jehovah, and they warned the people… But they just wouldn’t listen!  
  
20Then the Breath of God came over AzariAh the Priest (JehoiAda’s son), and he went before the people and said to them:  
  
 ‘This is what Jehovah has said:  
  
 ‘Why are you overlooking My Commandments so that the things you’re doing won’t be blest?  
  
 ‘You have abandoned Jehovah, so now He will abandon you!’  
  
21Well, following the orders of King JehoAsh, they then attacked him and stoned him to death there in the courtyard of Jehovah’s Temple! 22For JehoAsh had forgotten the mercy that JehoiAda ([AzariAh’s] father) had shown to him and had his son murdered.  
  
And as [AzariAh] was dying, he said:  
  
 ‘Look down upon this O Jehovah, and judge!’  
  
23Well, as that year came to its end, the armies of Syria came and attacked Judah and JeruSalem, and they killed all the rulers of the people, then they carried away loot and brought it to their king in Damascus!  
  
24For even though the army of Syria that came against them wasn’t very large, God gave [Judah] and their huge army into their hands, because they’d abandoned Jehovah the God of their ancestors.  
  
They also punished JehoAsh, 25leaving him sick and broken.  
  
Then his own servants turned against him (over the blood of the son of JehoiAda the Priest), and they killed him in his own bed! So he died, and they buried him in a tomb in the City of David, but not in the tomb of the kings.  
  
26Well, the men who attacked him were:  
  
 • SaBed (son of SamaAth the AmMonite),  
 • JoZabed (son of SomarOth the Moabite) 27plus his sons (all 5 of them joined in killing him).  
  
{Look!} The rest of the things [that JehoAsh] said are written in the scrolls of the kings.  
  
Then his son AmaziAh became the king in his place.