


Jacob Halsey



Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses
1 Kingdom Way
West Hanningfield
Chelmsford
CM2 8FW

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To whom it may concern,

I would like to thank you for replying to my letter on July 30th. However, I fear there may have been a few misunderstandings. First, I have never been a baptised Jehovah's Witnesses myself; I have just recently been very interested in reading the Watchtower publications and understanding bible history.

I have carefully read the *Questions from Readers* that you cited, but I don't feel that it really applies to my question in the previous letter. You see the question I raised (regarding the date of king Josiah's death) concerns a topic that has been specifically discussed in countless publications by the Watchtower (as opposed to a personal problem or unaddressed scripture). What I was politely trying to say in my letter is that as far as I have understood them, the statements made in your publications are either contradictory or in error.

As the publisher of these works in Britain I had hoped you would be willing to investigate if your publications could indeed be in error. I believe this is a reasonable ask, and inline with the generally accepted ethics for a large publisher of non-fiction and scholarly articles.

It may be helpful if I summarise my question as simply as possible:

- According to the Insight book, chronicle BM 21901 "is in harmony with ... 2 Kings 23:29". The text states that Necho met with Assyria at the Euphrates in the 4th month (of Nabopolassar's 17th year), and the bible states that Necho killed Josiah prior to this.
- Therefore, Josiah must have died no later than around the 3rd month or June, which would be according to the Insight book chronology the June of 629 B.C.E.
- After Josiah's death, Jehoahaz ruled for 3 months. This brings us to somewhere around month 6 or September 629 B.C.E.
- According to the Insight book, Jehoiaquim's first year must have begun sometime during or after month 1 or March 628 B.C.E. (So that he ruled a total of 11 years as per the bible, plus various other synchronisms previously shown in my timeline)
- **This leaves an unexplained gap of around 6 months.**
- As far as I understand the Insight book considers the Bible writers in this time to count regnal years on a non-accession year basis, apart from Jeremiah 52:28-29 which uses the

Babylonian accession year system (another reason Josiah's reign couldn't have begun earlier than March 628 B.C.E.)

- **A further contradiction is that the Watchtower 1979 instead says that Josiah died in 628 B.C.E.** (rather than in 629 B.C.E. / the 17th year of Nabopolassar)

(For references and more detail, please see my previous letter)

Thank you in advance for your time and effort reading my letter.

Jacob Halsey