

BOOK OF 2 KINGS
QUEEN ATHALIAH IS DETHRONED
2 KINGS 11:1-21

BOOK OF 2 KINGS
QUEEN ATHALIAH IS DETHRONED
2 KINGS 11:1-21

Introduction

Last week we focused on the **PROVIDENCE** of God in saving the last of **KING AHAZIAH**'s royal seed—an **infant by the name of JOASH**—from the murderous hand of his grandmother **ATHALIAH**!

Tonight we see the self-appointed queen, **ATHALIAH**, is brought down after an ungodly six year reign and **JOASH** ascends to the throne at age of seven with the help of **JEHOIADAH** the priest of Judah!

I. WE SEE THE CHARACTER OF ATHALIAH! (Vs 1)

She had the same **murderous and idolatrous qualities** that we saw in her wicked mother **JEZEBEL**! Remember that she is the last of **AHAB** and **JEZEBEL**'s children!

Her parents murdered to get their way! (To steal Naboth's vineyard next to their palace for their own!) Her parents were both Baal worshipers! (And we will see she brought it into Judah as well!)

Here we see she had a thirst both **for power** and **for her own way**! She was so much that way that she stooped to a new low for even her family in killing all of her son's royal seed! (*i.e. Her grandchildren!*)

She is the only one of **AHAB** and **JEZEBEL'S** house that was not eliminated by **JEHU**! (**She was in Judah, not in Jezreel or Samaria**)

II. WE SEE ATHALIAH FELL SHORT OF HER GOAL! (Vs 1-3a)

Her goal was to destroy all the royal seed! (*Vs 1*)

BUT we saw last week how, she fell one shy of her goal because of the **PROVIDENCE** of God Who made sure that David's throne would continue! (*Vs 2-3a*)

III. WE SEE THE LORD ALLOWED ATHALIAH TO REIGN OVER JUDAH FOR SIX YEARS! (Vs 3b)

Just as **JOASH** was protected by the **PROVIDENCE** of God, **ATHALIAH** was allowed to reign by the **SOVEREIGNTY** of God!

That's right! No one reigns without the LORD allowing it for HIS purposes to be accomplished! The LORD allowed **ATHALIAH** to reign, but then as we will see the LORD brought her down and replaced her with her seven-year-old grandson **JOASH** whom He had protected for THAT purpose!

In the words of King Nebuchadnezzar, who had been humbled by the LORD:

Daniel 4:35—"And all the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing: and he doeth according to his will in the army of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth: and none can stay his hand, or say unto him, What doest thou?"

Isaiah 14:27—"For the LORD of hosts hath purposed, and who shall disannul it? and his hand is stretched out, and who shall turn it back?"

Psalms 75:6-7—"6 For promotion cometh neither from the east, nor from the west, nor from the south. 7 But God is the judge: he putteth down one, and setteth up another."

We do well to remember these truths even in our times!

IV. WE SEE JEHOIADAH THE PRIEST OF JUDAH UNVEIL THE ROYAL SEED AND FORM A GUARD FOR HIS PROTECTION AND CORONATION! (Vs 4-11)

A. First He Fetched The Rulers, Captains, and the Guard! (Vs 4)

This could have been risky for all involved, but the LORD was with **JEHOIADAH** in it! And there is no doubt that the timing of all this was from the LORD!

It says he made a covenant with them and took an oath of them in the house of the LORD. There was no room for a mole who would snitch to the queen or turn on the others! Everybody in the group had to be on board with this!

BOOK OF 2 KINGS
QUEEN ATHALIAH IS DETHRONED
2 KINGS 11:1-21

B. He Commanded Them Of How This Coup Was To Come About! (Vs 5-8)

JEHOIADAH had carefully planned each step of this out! Each of these people who made up this group he had assembled had a part to fulfill and carry out as this came down!

Now, understand that though **ATHALIAH** was allowed to serve at the LORD's behest, she properly had no right to the throne!

She stole her position as queen through her murderous ways and she going to be brought down here and judged by the LORD for her wickedness!

Yes, she was a queen, but she had not been anointed!

C. This Group Carried Out JEHOIADAH'S PLAN! (Vs 9-11)

V. WE SEE THE ANOINTING AND CORONATION OF KING JOASH! (Vs 12)

JOASH received the anointing and was properly made King as his father **AHAZIAH**'s last remaining seed and as the only one of who had not been influenced by **AHAB**'S family!

VI. WE SEE THAT QUEEN ATHALIAH HEARD THE NOISE OF THE CORONATION AND RUSHED TO THE TEMPLE TO SEE WHAT WAS GOING ON! (Vs 13-14)

They had managed to do the coronation without **ATHALIAH**'S knowledge!

She rushed into the Temple and she saw **JOASH** was in the kingly place in the Temple by a pillar on a raised platform and the princes (i.e. spiritual leaders of Judah) and trumpeters were by the king!

And because this was done on a Sabbath day, all the people of the land who came to the Temple were rejoicing!

BOOK OF 2 KINGS
QUEEN ATHALIAH IS DETHRONED
2 KINGS 11:1-21

Proverbs 29:2—“When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice: but when the wicked beareth rule, the people mourn.”

And what was **ATHALIAH**'S response? She tore her clothes and cried **“Treason, Treason!”** (That's rich coming from someone who herself was treasonous in her ascension to the throne in the first place!)

I think it was special that her idolatrous self had to actually enter into the Temple to find out what was going on!

VII. WE SEE QUEEN ATHALIAH IS REMOVED FROM THE TEMPLE AND SLAIN BY THE GUARD! (Vs 15-16)

They were careful not to kill her in the Temple and defile the Temple! Her very presence in the Temple was defiling enough as it was!

They took her out of the Temple beyond the ranges or fencing of the Temple so that her blood didn't even splash on the Temple!

And there her physical life came to an end just outside of the king's house!

With her death, any influence of **AHAB**'S ways from his family being in leadership died!

VIII. WE SEE JEHOIADAH MADE A COVENANT BETWEEN THE LORD AND THE KING AND THE PEOPLE! (Vs 17)

Very simply, that they should be the LORD's people!

IX. WE SEE BAAL WORSHIP DESTROYED IN JUDAH! (Vs 18a)

X. WE SEE KING JOASH (JEHOASH) ENTHRONED AT THE KING'S HOUSE AT SEVEN YEARS OF AGE! (Vs. 18b-21)

Next week, LORD willing, we will look at how the repair of the Temple is ordered by King **JOASH** (**JEHOASH**) and what transpired there.