

Three Young Kings

Joash – endings

Senior September 2010

Joash was crowned king of Judah when he was only seven years of age. He reigned under the guidance of his godly uncle Jehoiada. It wasn't hard for Joash to live a good life and do the right thing. Everything was going so well. Judah was prosperous and at peace. But it seems Joash had a "borrowed faith". He depended on Jehoiada rather than on God. When Jehoiada died, Joash turned away from the Lord.

Read 11 Chronicles 24:15-27

Question 1. What privilege was given to Jehoiada when he died and why?

Question 2. After Jehoiada died, who did Joash take advice from?

Question 3. What results of this advice are mentioned in verses 18-19.

Question 4. Why did Joash order the murder of the prophet Zechariah?

Question 5. Summarise verses 23 – 25 in your own words

Question 6. Where was Joash buried?

What can we learn from Joash's rejection of God?

1. It's easy to take God for granted when life is easy. It's been said that the greatest enemy of God in countries like Australia is our comfort. We think we don't need God.
2. We can never predict what a child's future will hold, but we can teach them, guide them and pray for them. Are you praying consistently for the children and young people in your family, neighbourhood and church?
3. Our faith needs to be personal, a result of our own choice to accept Jesus Christ as our saviour, not just a going along with parents or church.
4. We do need godly people such as pastors, teachers and mentors to help us maintain our faith but we must be careful not to put them before God in our lives.
5. Joash's choices and actions affected his whole kingdom. Our choices and actions affect the lives of those around us.

In 2 Chronicles 10, there is a story of another king who listened to bad advice. He was Rehoboam, whose father Solomon was famous for his wisdom.

Question 7. Read 11 Chronicles 10:1-19. What history changing event occurred as a result of Rehoboam acting on bad advice?

It doesn't have to be this way. Like Joash and Rehoboam, we have times in our lives that make us vulnerable – leaving home to go to university or a new job, moving to a new location or leaving a familiar church and group of friends, losing someone who has been a strong influence in our life. But we can seek guidance from God and his Word. He has promised to help us.

Question 8. What good advice does Proverbs 3:5-7 give us?

Question 9. What opportunities did God give Joash to know and follow him? Include 11 Chronicles 22:10 – 24:14

Think about the opportunities God has given you to know and follow him and thank him for them.

2000 BC
Abraham

1000 BC David

835 BC Joash

640 BC Josiah

6 BC Birth of
Jesus