

~HOSHEA 4 (103)

(Ho-she'a) [shortened form of Hoshaiiah]

- Last king of the northern kingdom of Israel, which came to its end in **740 B.C.E**, son of Elah. He did what was bad in Yehowah's sight, yet not to the same degree as his predecessors.
- In the twelfth year of Ahaz the king of Judah, **Hoshea** the son of Elah became king in Samaria over Israel for nine years. (**2 Kings 17:1**)
- And he continued to do what was bad in Yehowah's eyes, only not as the kings of Israel that happened to be prior to him. (**2 Kings 17:2**)
- **Hoshea** had no hereditary claim to the throne, nor did he receive a special anointing from God to be king. Rather, it was by conspiracy against and murder of King Pekah that the usurper **Hoshea** gained the throne.
- Finally **Hoshea** the son of Elah formed a conspiracy against Pekah the son of Remaliah and struck him and put him to death, and he began to reign in place of him in the twentieth year of Jotham the son of Uzziah. (**2 Kings 15:30**)
- States that **Hoshea** put Pekah to death and, began to reign in place of him in the twentieth year of Jotham. Since Judean King Jotham is credited with only 16 years
- In the second year of Pekah the son of Remaliah the king of Israel, Jotham the son of Uzziah the king of Judah became king. (**2 Kings 15:32**)
- Twenty-five years old he happened to be when he began to reign, and for sixteen years he reigned in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Jerusha the daughter of Zadok. (**2 Kings 15:33**)
- Twenty-five years old was Jotham when he began to reign, and for sixteen years he reigned in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Jerushah the daughter of Zadok. (**2 Chronicles 27:1**)
- Twenty-five years old he happened to be when he began to reign,

and for sixteen years he reigned in Jerusalem. (2 Chronicles 27:8)

- This may refer to the 20th year counting from the start of Jotham's kingship, which would actually be the fourth year of the reign of Jotham's successor Ahaz.

See Also JOTHAM 3

- It appears that **Hoshea** was not fully recognized as king over Israel until sometime later, however.
- In the twelfth year of Ahaz the king of Judah, **Hoshea** the son of Elah became king in Samaria over Israel for nine years. (2 Kings 17:1)
- States that, in the 12th year of Ahaz, **Hoshea** became king in Samaria over Israel for nine years. So, it may be that at this point **Hoshea** was able to establish full control from Samaria.
- Possibly Assyrian backing at this point aided him, for the records of Assyrian King Tiglath-pileser III make the claim that he put **Hoshea** on the throne. [See chart Outstanding Dates During the Period of the Kings of Judah and of Israel in the article on **CHRONOLOGY**]

See Also CHRONOLOGY

- Shalmaneser V, successor to Tiglath-pileser III, compelled **Hoshea** to pay tribute, but it was not long before **Hoshea** sent messengers to So the king of Egypt, appealing for assistance, and subsequently withheld tribute from the Assyrians.
- Upon learning of this secret conspiracy, Shalmaneser V put Hoshea in the house of detention and laid siege to Samaria. In 740 B.C.E, after a three-year siege, the city fell, its inhabitants were carried off into exile, and the split-off ten-tribe kingdom of Israel came to its end.
- It was against him that Shalmaneser the king of Assyria came up, and **Hoshea** came to be his servant and began to pay tribute to him. (2 Kings 17:3)
- However, the king of Assyria got to find conspiracy in **Hoshea's** case, in that he had sent messengers to So the king of Egypt and

did not bring the tribute up to the king of Assyria as in former years. Hence the king of Assyria shut him up and kept him bound in the house of detention. (2 Kings 17:4)

- And the king of Assyria proceeded to come up against all the land and to come up to Samaria and lay siege against it for three years. (2 Kings 17:5)
- In the ninth year of **Hoshea**, the king of Assyria captured Samaria and then led Israel into exile in Assyria and kept them dwelling in Halah and in Habor at the river Gozan and in the cities of the Medes. (2 Kings 17:6)