

### ~JEHOIADA 3 (154)

(Je-hoi'a-da) [May Yehowah Know]

- High priest in the time of Jehoram, Ahaziah, Athaliah, and Jehoash. **Jehoiada** was married to King Jehoram's daughter Jehosheba, also called Jehoshabeath, the only recorded instance of a High Priest marrying into the royal family.
- **Jehoiada** was noted especially for overthrowing Athaliah and elevating true worship in Judah. After Athaliah's ruling son Ahaziah was slain, she proceeded to kill off all the remaining royal offspring and placed herself on the throne.
- However, Jehosheba, herself a sister of Ahaziah though not necessarily Athaliah's daughter, took Ahaziah's infant son Jehoash away and kept him hidden for six years.
- In the seventh year, **Jehoiada** secured the support of the Levites, the chiefs of the Carian bodyguard and of the runners, as well as the heads of the paternal house of Israel.
- He then produced Jehoash, whom they proclaimed as king. Jehoiada next ordered Athaliah taken outside the temple grounds and slain.
- Now as regards Athaliah the mother of Ahaziah, she saw that her son had died. So she rose up and destroyed all the offspring of the kingdom. (2 Kings 11:1)
- However, Jehosheba the daughter of King Jehoram, the sister of Ahaziah, took Jehoash the son of Ahaziah and stole him from among the sons of the king that were to be put to death, even him and his nursing woman, into the inner room for the couches, and they kept him concealed from the face of Athaliah, and he was not put to death. (2 Kings 11:2)
- And he continued with her at the house of Yehowah in hiding for six years, while Athaliah was reigning over the land. (2 Kings 11:3)
- And in the seventh year **Jehoiada** sent and then took the chiefs of hundreds of the Carian bodyguard and of the runners and

brought them to himself at the house of Yehowah and concluded a covenant with them and made them swear at the house of Yehowah, after which he showed them the son of the king. (**2 Kings 11:4**)

- And he went on to command them, saying; This is the thing that you will do: One third of you are coming in on the Sabbath and keeping strict watch over the king's house. (**2 Kings 11:5**)
- And one third will be at the Gate of the Foundation, and one third will be at the gate behind the runners, and you must keep strict watch over the house by turns. (**2 Kings 11:6**)
- And there are two divisions among you that are all going out on the Sabbath, and they must keep strict watch over the house of Yehowah in behalf of the king. (**2 Kings 11:7**)
- And you must encircle the king all around, each one with his weapons in his hand, and anyone entering within the rows will be put to death. And continue with the king when he goes out and when he comes in. (**2 Kings 11:8**)
- And the chiefs of hundreds proceeded to do according to all that **Jehoiada** the priest had commanded. So they took each one his men that were coming in on the Sabbath, together with those that were going out on the Sabbath, and then came in to Jehoiada the priest. (**2 Kings 11:9**)
- The priest now gave the chiefs of hundreds the spears and the circular shields that had belonged to King David, which were in the house of Yehowah. (**2 Kings 11:10**)
- And the runners kept standing each one with his weapons in his hand, from the right side of the house clear to the left side of the house, by the altar and by the house, all around near the king. (**2 Kings 11:11**)
- Then he brought the son of the king out and put upon him the diadem and the Testimony, and so they made him king and anointed him. And they began to clap their hands and say; Let the king live! (**2 Kings 11:12**)
- When Athaliah heard the sound of the people running, she at once came to the people at the house of Yehowah. (**2 Kings**

### **11:13)**

- Then she saw, and there the king was standing by the pillar according to the custom, and the chiefs and the trumpets by the king, and all the people of the land rejoicing and blowing the trumpets. Immediately Athaliah ripped her garments apart and began crying; Conspiracy! Conspiracy! (**2 Kings 11:14**)
- But **Jehoiada** the priest commanded the chiefs of hundreds, the appointed ones of the military force, and said to them; Take her out from inside the rows, and, as for anyone coming after her, let there be an execution of death with the sword! For the priest had said; Do not let her be put to death in the house of Yehowah. (**2 Kings 11:15**)
- So they laid their hands upon her and she came by the way of the horse entry of the king's house, and she got put to death there. (**2 Kings 11:16**)
- As regards Athaliah the mother of Ahaziah, she saw that her son had died. So she rose up and destroyed all the royal offspring of the house of Judah. (**2 Chronicles 22:10**)
- So they laid their hands upon her. When she came to the entry of the horse gate of the king's house, they at once put her to death there. (**2 Chronicles 23:15**)
- **Jehoiada** thereafter wasted no time in advancing Yehowah's worship. He renewed Israel's covenant relationship with Yehowah, whereupon the people tore down the house of Baal and removed its altars, images, and priesthood. Jehoiada then restored full temple services.
- He had a strong influence for good upon the life of Jehoash. Jehoiada and the king repaired the temple and made various utensils for Yehowah's house.
- When, at the age of 130, Jehoiada finally died, he was given the exceptional honor of burial with the kings, because he had done good in Israel and with the true God and His house.
- Unfortunately, his good influence died with him, for Jehoash then listened to the princes of Judah and turned aside from Yehowah, even

to the point of ordering the killing of Jehoiada's son Zechariah, who issued the unfaithful people a rebuke.

- Then **Jehoiada** concluded the covenant between Yehowah and the king and the people, that they should prove themselves the people of Yehowah, and also between the king and the people. (**2 Kings 11:17**)
- As for the money for guilt offerings and the money for sin offerings, it was not being brought to the house of Yehowah. So it came to belong to the priests. (**2 Kings 12:16**)
- Then **Jehoiada** concluded a covenant between himself and all the people and the king that they would continue as the people of Yehowah. (**2 Chronicles 23:16**)
- And Jehoash the king did not remember the loving-kindness that **Jehoiada** his father had exercised toward him, so that he killed his son, who, when he was at the point of dying, said; Let Yehowah see to it and ask it back. (**2 Chronicles 24:22**)