

~JEHOIAKIM (565)

(Je-hoi'a-kim) [possibly, Yehowah Raises Up]

- One of the last Judean kings, son of Josiah by Zebidah, and originally called Eliakim.
- Furthermore, Pharaoh Nechoh made Eliakim the son of Josiah king in place of Josiah his father and changed his name to **Jehoiakim**, and Jehoahaz he took and then brought to Egypt, where he eventually died. (**2 Kings 23:34**)
- Twenty-five years old was **Jehoiakim** when he began to reign, and for eleven years he reigned in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Zebidah the daughter of Pedaiiah from Rumah. (**2 Kings 23:36**)
- And the sons of Josiah were the firstborn Johanan, the second, **Jehoiakim**, the third, Zedekiah, the fourth, Shallum. (**1 Chronicles 3:15**)
- **Jehoiakim's** bad rule of about 11 years, **628-618 B.C.E**, was marked by injustices, oppression, and murder.
- Twenty-five years old was **Jehoiakim** when he began to reign, and for eleven years he reigned in Jerusalem, and he continued to do what was bad in the eyes of Yehowah his God. (**2 Chronicles 36:5**)
- Assuredly your eyes and your heart are upon nothing but upon your unjust gain, and upon the blood of the innocent one in order to shed it, and upon defrauding and upon extortion in order to carry them on. (**Jeremiah 22:17**)
- And he continued to do what was bad in the eyes of Yehowah, according to all that **Jehoiakim** had done. (**Jeremiah 52:2**)
- Also, during his reign Judah experienced much harassment from Chaldean, Syrian, Moabite, and Ammonite marauder bands.
- And Yehowah began to send against him marauder bands of Chaldeans and marauder bands of Syrians and marauder bands of Moabites and marauder bands of the sons of Ammon, and he

kept sending them against Judah to destroy it, according to Yehowah's word that he had spoken by means of his servants the prophets. (**2 Kings 24:2**)

- After the death of King Josiah, the people of Judah for some reason constituted Eliakim's younger brother Jehoahaz king. About three months later Pharaoh Necho, Nechoh, took King Jehoahaz captive and made 25-year-old Eliakim king, changing the new rulers name to **Jehoiakim**.
- Necho also imposed a heavy fine on the kingdom of Judah. King Jehoiakim exacted the silver and gold for this fine from his subjects by taxation.
- Furthermore, Pharaoh Nechoh made Eliakim the son of Josiah king in place of Josiah his father and changed his name to **Jehoiakim**, and Jehoahaz he took and then brought to Egypt, where he eventually died. (**2 Kings 23:34**)
- And the silver and the gold **Jehoiakim** gave to Pharaoh. Only he taxed the land, to give the silver at the order of Pharaoh. According to each ones individual tax rate he exacted the silver and the gold from the people of the land, to give it to Pharaoh Nechoh. (**2 Kings 23:35**)
- Twenty-five years old was **Jehoiakim** when he began to reign, and for eleven years he reigned in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Zebidah the daughter of Pedaiah from Rumah. (**2 Kings 23:36**)
- However, the king of Egypt removed him in Jerusalem and fined the land a hundred silver talents and a gold talent. (**2 Chronicles 36:3**)
- Furthermore, the king of Egypt made Eliakim his brother king over Judah and Jerusalem and changed his name to **Jehoiakim**, but his brother Jehoahaz, Necho took and brought to Egypt. (**2 Chronicles 36:4**)
- Twenty-five years old was **Jehoiakim** when he began to reign, and for eleven years he reigned in Jerusalem, and he continued to do what was bad in the eyes of Yehowah his God. (**2 Chronicles 36:5**)

- Despite the financial burden that was therefore already on the people, **Jehoiakim** made plans for building a new, luxurious palace. Probably to keep down the cost, he oppressively withheld the laborers wages.
- Consequently Yehowah, through Jeremiah, pronounced woe upon this wicked ruler, indicating that he would have the burial of a he-ass.
- Woe to the one building his house, but not with righteousness, and his upper chambers, but not with justice, by use of his fellowman who serves for nothing, and whose wages he does not give him. (**Jeremiah 22:13**)
- The one saying; I am going to build for myself a roomy house and commodious upper chambers, and my windows must be widened out for it, and the paneling will be with cedar and smeared with vermilion. (**Jeremiah 22:14**)
- Will you continue reigning because you are competing by use of cedar? As for your father, did he not eat and drink and execute justice and righteousness? In that case it went well with him. (**Jeremiah 22:15**)
- He pleaded the legal claim of the afflicted one and the poor one. In that case it went well. Was not that a case of knowing me? Is the utterance of Yehowah. (**Jeremiah 22:16**)
- Assuredly your eyes and your heart are upon nothing but upon your unjust gain, and upon the blood of the innocent one in order to shed it, and upon defrauding and upon extortion in order to carry them on. (**Jeremiah 22:17**)
- Therefore this is what Yehowah has said concerning **Jehoiakim** the son of Josiah, the king of Judah, They will not wail for him; Alas, my brother! And alas, my sister! They will not wail for him; Alas, O master! And alas, his dignity! (**Jeremiah 22:18**)
- With the burial of a he-ass he will be buried, with a dragging about and a throwing away, out beyond the gates of Jerusalem. (**Jeremiah 22:19**)

- Early in **Jehoiakim's** reign Jeremiah warned that unless the people repented, Jerusalem and her temple would be destroyed. Thereafter the prophet was threatened with death.
- However, the prominent man Ahikam stood up for Jeremiah and saved the prophet from harm. Previously, similar prophesying by Urijah had so enraged Jehoiakim that he had determined to kill him.
- Although fearful Urijah had fled to Egypt, he did not escape the king's wrath. **Jehoiakim** had had Urijah brought back and then had killed him with the sword.
- In the beginning of the royal rule of **Jehoiakim** the son of Josiah, the king of Judah, this word occurred from Yehowah, saying; (**Jeremiah 26:1**)
- This is what Yehowah has said; Stand in the courtyard of the house of Yehowah, and you must speak concerning all the cities of Judah that are coming in to bow down at the house of Yehowah all the words that I will command you to speak to them. Do not take away a word. (**Jeremiah 26:2**)
- Perhaps they will listen and return, each one from his bad way, and I shall have to feel regret for the calamity that I am thinking to execute upon them because of the badness of their dealings. (**Jeremiah 26:3**)
- And you must say to them; This is what Yehowah has said; If you will not listen to me by walking in my Law that I have put before you. (**Jeremiah 26:4**)
- By listening to the words of my servants the prophets, whom I am sending to you, even rising up early and sending them, whom you have not listened to. (**Jeremiah 26:5**)
- I will, in turn, make this house like that in Shiloh, and this city I shall make a malediction to all the nations of the earth. (**Jeremiah 26:6**)
- And the priests and the prophets and all the people began to hear Jeremiah speaking these words in the house of Yehowah. (**Jeremiah 26:7**)
- So it came about that when Jeremiah had completed speaking all

that Yehowah had commanded him to speak to all the people, then the priests and the prophets and all the people laid hold of him, saying; You will positively die. ([Jeremiah 26:8](#))

- Why is it that you have prophesied in the name of Yehowah, saying; Like that in Shiloh is how this house will become, and this very city will be devastated so as to be without an inhabitant? And all the people kept congregating themselves about Jeremiah in the house of Yehowah. ([Jeremiah 26:9](#))
- In time the princes of Judah got to hear these words, and they proceeded to come up from the house of the king to the house of Yehowah and to sit down in the entrance of the new gate of Yehowah. ([Jeremiah 26:10](#))
- And the priests and the prophets began to say to the princes and to all the people; To this man the judgment of death belongs, because he has prophesied concerning this city just as you have heard with your own ears. ([Jeremiah 26:11](#))
- At that Jeremiah said to all the princes and to all the people; It was Yehowah that sent me to prophesy concerning this house and concerning this city all the words that you have heard. ([Jeremiah 26:12](#))
- And now make your ways and your dealings good, and obey the voice of Yehowah your God, and Yehowah will feel regret for the calamity that he has spoken against you. ([Jeremiah 26:13](#))
- And as for me, here I am in your hand. Do to me according to what is good and according to what is right in your eyes. ([Jeremiah 26:14](#))
- Only you should by all means know that, if you are putting me to death, it is innocent blood that you are putting upon yourselves and upon this city and upon her inhabitants, for in truth Yehowah did send me to you to speak in your ears all these words. ([Jeremiah 26:15](#))
- Then the princes and all the people said to the priests and to the prophets; There is no judgment of death belonging to this man, for it was in the name of Yehowah our God that he spoke to us. ([Jeremiah 26:16](#))

- Furthermore, certain ones of the older men of the land rose up and began saying to all the congregation of the people: **(Jeremiah 26:17)**
- Micah of Moresheth himself happened to be prophesying in the days of Hezekiah the king of Judah and went on to say to all the people of Judah, This is what Yehowah of armies has said; Zion herself will be plowed up as a mere field, and Jerusalem herself will become mere heaps of ruins, and the mountain of the House will be for high places of a forest. **(Jeremiah 26:18)**
- Did Hezekiah the king of Judah and all those of Judah by any means put him to death? Did he not fear Yehowah and proceed to soften the face of Yehowah, so that Yehowah got to feeling regret for the calamity that he had spoken against them? So we are working up a great calamity against our souls. **(Jeremiah 26:19)**
- And there also happened to be a man prophesying in the name of Yehowah, Urijah the son of Shemaiah from Kiriath-jearim. And he kept prophesying against this city and against this land in accord with all the words of Jeremiah. **(Jeremiah 26:20)**
- And King **Jehoiakim** and all his mighty men and all the princes got to hear his words, and the king began seeking to put him to death. When Urijah got to hear of it he at once became afraid and ran away and came into Egypt. **(Jeremiah 26:21)**
- But King **Jehoiakim** sent men to Egypt, Elnathan the son of Achbor and other men with him to Egypt. **(Jeremiah 26:22)**
- And they proceeded to bring Urijah out from Egypt and to bring him to King **Jehoiakim**, who then struck him down with the sword and cast his dead body into the graveyard of the sons of the people. **(Jeremiah 26:23)**
- Moreover, it was the hand of Ahikam the son of Shaphan that proved to be with Jeremiah, in order not to give him into the hand of the people to have him put to death. **(Jeremiah 26:24)**
- The fourth year of the reign of **Jehoiakim**, **625 B.C.E.**, saw Nebuchadnezzar defeat Pharaoh Necho in a battle over the domination of Syria-Palestine. The battle took place at Carchemish by the Euphrates, over 600 kilometers (370 miles) North of Jerusalem.

- This is what occurred as the word of Yehowah to Jeremiah the prophet concerning the nations. (**Jeremiah 46:1**)
- For Egypt, concerning the military force of Pharaoh Necho the king of Egypt, who happened to be by the river Euphrates at Carchemish, whom Nebuchadrezzar the king of Babylon defeated in the fourth year of **Jehoiakim** the son of Josiah, the king of Judah. (**Jeremiah 46:2**)
- In that same year Jeremiah began dictating to his secretary Baruch the words Yehowah directed against Israel, Judah, and all the nations, recording messages that had begun to be delivered from the 13th year of Josiah's reign, at which time **Jehoiakim** had been about six years old, onward.
- Nearly a year later, in the ninth lunar month **Chislev, November/December**, the scroll containing the dictated message was read before **King Jehoiakim**.
- As soon as Jehudi read three or four page-columns, that section was cut off and thrown into the fire burning in the brazier of the king's winter house. Thus the entire scroll was committed to the flames section by section.
- **Jehoiakim** ignored the pleas of three of his princes not to burn the roll. He particularly objected to the prophetic words that pointed to the desolation of Judah at the hands of Babylon's king. This suggests that Nebuchadnezzar had not yet come against Jerusalem and made **Jehoiakim** his vassal.
- Now it came about in the fourth year of **Jehoiakim** the son of Josiah, the king of Judah, that this word occurred to Jeremiah from Yehowah, saying; (**Jeremiah 36:1**)
- Take for yourself a roll of a book, and you must write in it all the words that I have spoken to you against Israel and against Judah and against all the nations, since the day that I spoke to you, since the days of Josiah, clear down to this day. (**Jeremiah 36:2**)
- Perhaps those of the house of Judah will listen to all the calamity that I am thinking of doing to them, to the end that they may return, each one from his bad way, and that I may actually forgive their error and their sin. (**Jeremiah 36:3**)

- And Jeremiah proceeded to call Baruch the son of Neriah that Baruch might write at the mouth of Jeremiah all the words of Yehowah that He had spoken to him, on the roll of the book. (Jeremiah 36:4)
- So the king sent Jehudi out to get the roll. Accordingly he got it out of the dining room of Elishama the secretary. And Jehudi began to read it aloud in the ears of the king and in the ears of all the princes standing by the king. (Jeremiah 36:21)
- And the king was sitting in the winter house, in the ninth month, with a brazier burning before him. (Jeremiah 36:22)
- Then it came about that as soon as Jehudi had read three or four page-columns, he proceeded to tear it apart with the secretary's knife, pitching it also into the fire that was in the brazier until all the roll ended up in the fire that was in the brazier. (Jeremiah 36:23)
- And they felt no dread, neither did the king and all his servants, who were listening to all these words, rip their garments apart. (Jeremiah 36:24)
- And even Elnathan and Delaiah and Gemariah themselves pleaded with the king not to burn the roll, but he did not listen to them. (Jeremiah 36:25)
- Further, the king commanded Jerahmeel the son of the king and Seraiah the son of Azriel and Shelemiah the son of Abdeel to get Baruch the secretary and Jeremiah the prophet. But Yehowah kept them concealed. (Jeremiah 36:26)
- And the word of Yehowah occurred further to Jeremiah after the king had burned up the roll with the words that Baruch had written at the mouth of Jeremiah, saying; (Jeremiah 36:27)
- Take again for yourself a roll, another one, and write on it all the first words that proved to be on the first roll, which Jehoiakim the king of Judah burned up. (Jeremiah 36:28)
- And against Jehoiakim the king of Judah you should say; This is what Yehowah has said; You yourself have burned up this roll, saying; Why is it that you have written on it, saying; The king of

Babylon will come without fail and will certainly bring this land to ruin and cause man and beast to cease from it? (**Jeremiah 36:29**)

- In his days Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon came up, and so **Jehoiakim** became his servant for three years. However, he turned back and rebelled against him. (**2 Kings 24:1**)
- Shows that Nebuchadnezzar brought pressure upon the Judean king, and so **Jehoiakim** became his servant, or vassal, for three years. However, he Jehoiakim turned back and rebelled against him Nebuchadnezzar. Evidently it is to this third year of **Jehoiakim** as a vassal king under Babylon that Daniel refers at;
- In the third year of the kingship of **Jehoiakim** the king of Judah, Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon came to Jerusalem and proceeded to lay siege to it. (**Daniel 1:1**)
- It could not be **Jehoiakim's** third year of his 11-year reign over Judah, for at that time **Jehoiakim** was a vassal, not to Babylon, but to Egypt's Pharaoh Necho. It was not until Jehoiakim's **fourth** year of rule over Judah that Nebuchadnezzar demolished Egyptian domination over Syria-Palestine by his victory at Carchemish, **625 B.C.E.** apparently after Nisan.
- For Egypt, concerning the military force of Pharaoh Necho the king of Egypt, who happened to be by the river Euphrates at Carchemish, whom Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon defeated in the fourth year of **Jehoiakim** the son of Josiah, the king of Judah. (**Jeremiah 46:2**)
- Since **Jehoiakim's** revolt against Babylon led to his downfall after about 11 years on the throne, the beginning of his three-year vassalage to Babylon must have begun toward the end of his eighth year of rule, or early in **620 B.C.E.**
- Daniel's account.
- In the third year of the kingship of **Jehoiakim** the king of Judah, Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon came to Jerusalem and proceeded to lay siege to it. (**Daniel 1:1**)
- In time Yehowah gave into his hand **Jehoiakim** the king of Judah and a part of the utensils of the house of the true God, so that he

brought them to the land of Shinar to the house of his god, and the utensils he brought to the treasure-house of his god. (**Daniel 1:2**)

- States that Nebuchadnezzar came against Jerusalem and laid siege to it and that **Jehoiakim**, along with some of the temple utensils, was given into the Babylonian king's hand. However, the account at;
- During that time the servants of Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon came up to Jerusalem, so that the city came under siege. (**2 Kings 24:10**)
- And Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon proceeded to come against the city, while his servants were laying siege against it. (**2 Kings 24:11**)
- At length Jehoiachin the king of Judah went out to the king of Babylon, he with his mother and his servants and his princes and his court officials, and the king of Babylon got to take him in the eighth year of his being king. (**2 Kings 24:12**)
- Then he brought out from there all the treasures of the house of Yehowah and the treasures of the king's house, and went on to cut to pieces all the gold utensils that Solomon the king of Israel had made in the temple of Yehowah, just as Yehowah had spoken. (**2 Kings 24:13**)
- And he took into exile all Jerusalem and all the princes and all the valiant, mighty men, ten thousand he was taking into exile, and also every craftsman and builder of bulwarks. No one had been left behind except the lowly class of the people of the land. (**2 Kings 24:14**)
- Thus he took Jehoiachin into exile to Babylon, and the king's mother and the king's wives and his court officials and the foremost men of the land he led away as exiled people from Jerusalem to Babylon. (**2 Kings 24:15**)
- Describes the siege of Jerusalem by the Babylonians and shows that **Jehoiakim's** son **Jehoiachin**, whose reign lasted only three months and ten days, was the one who finally capitulated and went out to the Babylonians. It therefore appears that Jehoiakim died during the siege of the city, perhaps in the early part thereof. Yehowah's prophecy through

- Therefore this is what Yehowah has said concerning **Jehoiakim** the son of Josiah, the king of Judah, They will not wail for him; Alas, my brother! And alas, my sister! They will not wail for him; Alas, O master! And alas, his dignity! (**Jeremiah 22:18**)
- With the burial of a he-ass he will be buried, with a dragging about and a throwing away, out beyond the gates of Jerusalem. (**Jeremiah 22:19**)
- Jeremiah's prophecy through;
- Therefore this is what Yehowah has said against **Jehoiakim** the king of Judah, He will come to have no one sitting upon the throne of David, and his own dead body will become something thrown out to the heat by day and to the frost by night. (**Jeremiah 36:30**)
- Indicated that **Jehoiakim** was not to receive a decent burial, his corpse was to lie unattended outside the gates of Jerusalem, exposed to the sun's heat by day and the frost by night. Just in what way **Jehoiakim** was given into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar.
- In time Yehowah gave into his hand **Jehoiakim** the king of Judah and a part of the utensils of the house of the true God, so that he brought them to the land of Shinar to the house of his god, and the utensils he brought to the treasure-house of his god. (**Daniel 1:2**)
- Is not revealed. It may have been in the sense of his dying under siege and of his sons thereafter having to go out into captivity, so that **Jehoiakim's** line suffered the loss of the kingship at Nebuchadnezzar's hands.
- There is no way to confirm the Jewish tradition, recorded by Josephus, that Nebuchadnezzar killed **Jehoiakim** and commanded that his dead body be thrown outside Jerusalem's walls. [**Jewish Antiquities, X, 97, vi, 3**]
- By whatever means **Jehoiakim's** death came, it appears that the copper fetters Nebuchadnezzar had brought along to bind **Jehoiakim** were not used as planned.
- Against him Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon came up that he might bind him with two fetters of copper to carry him off to

Babylon. (2 Chronicles 36:6)

- Following the siege of Jerusalem during **Jehoiakim's third year**, as vassal king, Daniel and other Judeans, including nobles and members of the royal family, were taken as exiles to Babylon.
- There being no record of an earlier Babylonian exile, this appears to place the event in the short reign of Jehoiachin, Jehoiakim's successor.
- At length Jehoiachin the king of Judah went out to the king of Babylon, he with his mother and his servants and his princes and his court officials, and the king of Babylon got to take him in the eighth year of his being king. (2 Kings 24:12)
- Then he brought out from there all the treasures of the house of Yehowah and the treasures of the king's house, and went on to cut to pieces all the gold utensils that Solomon the king of Israel had made in the temple of Yehowah, just as Yehowah had spoken. (2 Kings 24:13)
- And he took into exile all Jerusalem and all the princes and all the valiant, mighty men, ten thousand he was taking into exile, and also every craftsman and builder of bulwarks. No one had been left behind except the lowly class of the people of the land. (2 Kings 24:14)
- Thus he took Jehoiachin into exile to Babylon, and the king's mother and the king's wives and his court officials and the foremost men of the land he led away as exiled people from Jerusalem to Babylon. (2 Kings 24:15)
- As for all the valiant men, seven thousand, and the craftsmen and the builders of bulwarks, a thousand, all the mighty men carrying on war, the king of Babylon proceeded to bring them as exiled people to Babylon. (2 Kings 24:16)
- These are the people whom Nebuchadnezzar took into exile, in the seventh year, three thousand and twenty-three Jews. (Jeremiah 52:28)
- After **Jehoiakim's** son **Jehoiachin** surrendered, Nebuchadnezzar elevated Jehoiachin's uncle Zedekiah to the throne of Judah.

- Eighteen years old was **Jehoiachin** when he began to reign, and for three months and ten days he reigned in Jerusalem, and he continued to do what was bad in Yehowah's eyes. (**2 Chronicles 36:9**)
- And at the return of the year King Nebuchadnezzar sent and proceeded to bring him to Babylon with desirable articles of the house of Yehowah. Further, he made Zedekiah his father's brother king over Judah and Jerusalem. (**2 Chronicles 36:10**)
- This fulfilled Jeremiah's prophecy that **Jehoiakim** would have no one sitting on the throne of David.
- Therefore this is what Yehowah has said against **Jehoiakim** the king of Judah, He will come to have no one sitting upon the throne of David, and his own dead body will become something thrown out to the heat by day and to the frost by night. (**Jeremiah 36:30**)
- **Jehoiakim's** son **Jehoiachin** ruled a mere three months and ten days.