

RATHMINES BIBLE SCHOOL - 2006

## THE LIFE AND TIMES OF JEHOIADA THE PRIEST

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Class #2 - Four Forgotten Rulers

Good morning brethren and sisters.

This is our second session and essentially it is also an introductory session like yesterdays, in as much that we have some material to cover before we can get to the actual record of the life and work of Jehoiada. We know, of course, that he's been there, we've seen him, we believe, back in the record of 2 Chronicles 15, and this morning we're going to find him in the record of 2 Chronicles 22. Before, we get to that, we have some of these matters to cover that introduces the amazing work of this great man of God.

I was suppose to deal a little bit on the reformation and then the eventual mistakes of Jehoshaphat king of Judah. I want you to come back to the record of 2 Chronicles 17 and 18, so we're just going to put up a couple of slides which will cover a bit of the ground that was suppose to be appended to the end of yesterday's study. We want to have a look at the tragic transition that occurred in the times of Jehoshaphat. When he came to the throne verse 1 of chapter 17 tells us that 'he strengthened himself against Israel', and the reason for that, is what happened to his father in the previous chapter. When Baasha came down and Asa sought help from the king of Syria, and then he was rebuked by Yahweh; his pride prevented him from repenting of his mistake. He put the prophet in the stocks, so he himself was smitten in his feet, and he died in that condition; his son Jehoshaphat was looking on; Jehoiada the priest was looking on, they were learning some lessons, b&s, about the way that human beings behave. They loved king Asa, the whole nation loved him. At the end of chapter 16 it says, 'they made a very great burning for him'. Some think that this was a cremation because he had the disease in his feet, so they burned him, to destroy the corruption of his demise. Forget it! that is not what it means. You turn the page to 2 Chronicles 21, and this is what you read concerning the death of Jehoram his grandson. We read in verse 18, 'After all this Yahweh smote him (Jehoram) in his bowels with an incurable disease. And it came to pass that in process of time, after the end of 2 years, his bowels fell out by reason of his sickness'; can you imagine this? his bowels fell out, you can't give me greater corruption that that) so he died of sore diseases by reason of his sickness. Then it says in the 2nd sentence of verse 19, 'And his people made no burning for him, like the burning of his fathers!' Now if you were choosing burnt bodies because of corruption, Jehoram would be #1 on your list - they made no burning for him, that's because you see, this wasn't about cremating bodies, this was about paying respect. Now they had many practices and this was one of them! they made a great burning for him.

It was an mark of honour and respect for this king - they loved him, they loved him, b&s, like we love those brethren who have gone before, some of whom have made foolish

mistakes and ended their life in misery and sadness. But we owe an enormous debt to them, and though we cannot look upon what they may have done happily, or justified, we do not lose the respect that we have for those who have given us such a great legacy; and that's what they did, they honoured him.

And as soon as he was dead, and Jehoshaphat came to the throne, he strengthened himself against Israel; he set about a campaign of education, he sought to recover the greatness of the reformation that his father had wrought in Judah, the greatest of all time. And yet this is so tragic, isn't it? yet Jehoshaphat himself has clay feet, and makes serious mistakes, not that he like his father, abandoned his love of God and his confidence in God

but he did make serious mistakes. As you can see from the screen, the tragic transition from the heights of chapter 17 of 2<sup>nd</sup> Chronicles to the low points of chapter 18 and beyond, are actually portrayed in the story of the marriage between Jehoram the oldest son of king Jehoshaphat and Athaliah, who I think was the oldest child of Ahab and Jezebel. When you read in chapter 18 and verse 1 these words, 'Now (there's a transition here) Now Jehoshaphat had riches and honour in abundance, which I think, is a goodly portion of the reason for his problems. He was too wealthy, had too great a reputation, too much at ease; and these don't do anyone any good! He thought he could handle this, he changes his policy. Originally he had strengthened himself against Israel, now he joins affinity with Ahab; he thought he was strong enough to handle it! That word 'joined affinity' in the Hebrew is the word 'chathan' (2859), it means 'to give a daughter away in marriage', hence 'to contract affinity by marriage'. So this is about a marriage contract, this alliance with Ahab with Israel in the north, was sealed by a marriage, and his son, Jehoram takes Athaliah the daughter of Ahab and Jezebel to wife.

Jehoram's name means 'Yahweh-raised' (3088) and that I think tells the story of chapter 17 of 2 Chronicles. The positive story of growth in Judah, of the recovery of the spirit of the reformation of king Asa; Yahweh raised them to great heights as we shall see in a moment when we come back to a couple of verses in chapter 17. But Athaliah is the other side of the story, her name means 'Yah hath constrained' (6271) and it tells us the sad story of the decline that comes in chapter 18 and beyond, as Judah falls apart (and this is where Jehoiada comes in, b&s) the throne of David is threatened because there was only one male seed of the house of David left when Athaliah had done her evil work, and that thread was in the life of a 6 month old baby. That's where Jehoshaphat's errors of judgment brought the promises that God made to David that close to extinction. Of course, God wouldn't allow that to happen but he has to use vehicles and it just so happens that the people He used to save the house of David, to save His promises from being destroyed by her evil works, was Jehoiada and his lovely wife, Jehoshabeath, (we'll come to them in due time, God willing, this morning).

Now let's just quickly review these two sides of the life of Jehoshaphat:

2 Chronicles 17 we read verse 1, then verse 3 says, 'Yahweh was with Jehoshaphat, because he walked in the first ways of his father David and sought not unto Baalim' (well, who said he did?) Why would you add those words, why does the record

deliberately add that he sought not unto Baalim? Well, it's obvious, the next verse tells us, 'But he sought to the God of his father, and walked in his commandments, and **not after the doings of Israel**'. There was a deliberate policy in Judah, we will not go down the path of the northern kingdom. 'Therefore, it says in verse 5, 'Yahweh established the kingdom in his hand; and all Judah brought to Jehoshaphat presents; and he had riches and honour in abundance. And his heart was lifted up in the ways of Yahweh'. Now what does that mean? Well, it doesn't mean 'lifted up in pride', does it? That word 'lifted up' in the Hebrew is the word 'gabahh' (1361) it actually means to 'soar', to be lofty, to soar high; so here is a man whose heart (the heart, of course, is the deeper part of the mind where character is formed, that's where the spiritual man is as it were) this man's heart was lifted up, it soared in the things of God and he wanted that to be extended to his people, so the next verses 7 onwards, he sent out priests and Levites to teach in all the cities of Judah. He wanted their hearts to soar in the things of God as well; and of course, Yahweh added His blessing to that. Verse 10 tells us that, 'fear of Yahweh fell upon all the kingdoms of the lands; and they made no war against Jehoshaphat and he had peace'. The ecclesia, didn't have enemies breathing down its neck every second day, because of the blessing of God upon the work of Jehoshaphat. He built strong physical and spiritual defences in Judah, he developed Judah's largest army in all of history, it never had an army the size that it had in the times of Jehoshaphat. One million one hundred and sixty thousand trained men. Think about that! and Ahab's army in the north was described shortly after as being like two little flocks of goats! That was the difference, and the reason is obvious, isn't it? 'and they made an alliance with the house of Ahab'. He acquired riches and honour and it went to his head, he took his guard down and he was bound to Ahab's dubious political imperatives, unable to respond to the warnings of the divine messenger, Micaiah, the prophet. His army was defeated and scattered and totally demoralized. He forfeited nearly all his gains over that foolish policy. If we can't learn something from these things, b&s, we are doomed to repeat history! I won't go into any of the mechanics of that, and I won't endeavour to make any contemporary relationships; you are intelligent people, but I will make one observation! Whenever people who have been going in one direction supported by the Word of God, align themselves to others who are going in another direction, largely unsupported by the Word of God, there is only one outcome! Here is.....

So then, sadly what we saw in the life of Asa, his wonderful father, tragically I don't think he'll be in the kingdom. I can't make those judgments, but that's the way I read the record. We now see similar things happen in the life of his son, Jehoshaphat, although I do believe that Jehoshaphat will be in the kingdom, we'll have to wait and see!

In our study today, was entitled as you would have seen, 'four forgotten rulers', I want you to come to Matthew chapter 1 (the text is on the screen, but I want you to actually come here because many of you will have this marked in your bibles; there may be some who don't) If you don't have this little marking in your bible, perhaps it might be a good time to actually put it there. Some kind of note, I asked a young brother in North America who I'm quite friendly with and we talk about the Word of God all the time by e-mail. I was driving up to north California with him and I said to him, 'you would be aware, wouldn't you, that there are 4 rulers admitted from the record in Matthew chapter 1!' He

thought for quite a long time, and said, 'no' what's that all about?' So for the next hour our attention was taken off from the scenery and we talked about these matters together. So not everyone is aware of this, but many will be quite aware of this. In the record of Matthew 1 verses 8 and 9 we read, ' and Asa begat Jehoshaphat and Jehoshaphat begat Jehoram (I'm giving them their Old Testament names) and Jehoram begat Uzziah and Uzziah begat Jotham and Jotham begat Ahaz and Ahaz begat Hezekiah'. Now that's fine, as you are aware, Matthew chapter 1 is spelling out 14 generations from Abraham and so on, and then 2 successive periods of generations of the house of David. What's missing? 4 rulers, 3 sons of David. When you look at this list missing are, Ahaziah who was the only surviving son of Jehoram; Athaliah, Jehoram's wife who became ruler of Judah, Joash who was the youngest son of Ahaziah, and Amaziah the son of Joash. So when you look at the actual history, this is how it goes!

Jehoram son of Jehoshaphat begat Ahaziah who reign for 2 years, and Ahaziah was slain by Jehu at the same time that he slew the son of Ahab in the north. On Ahaziah's death his mother, Athaliah, slew all his children except for the youngest, Joash. Athaliah then ruled Judah for 6 years; Joash ultimately through the work of Jehoiada succeeded to the throne at the age of 7 years and reigned for 40 years. Amaziah his son, reigned for 29 years and begat Uzziah; so why are they missing? Why has the Spirit left them out of the record of Matthew 1? what's that all about? We just want to explore that for a little while! Well all, of course, relates to the doom of Ahab's house.

You'll remember without going back to the record of 1 Kings 21, of that fearful day when having through the machinations of his wife Jezebel, who wrote the letter to the elders of Jezreel, and sealed it with the seal of her husband, Ahab, that they should put Naboth on trial after initially exalting among the people, you know, build him up, make him the top poppy, and he'll come crashing down. You'll remember what happened, that they slew not only Naboth, but they slew his sons as well, because they didn't want anyone having a title to the vineyard of Naboth. Ahab went down in the wake of those events while the blood of Naboth and his sons, was still sinking into the ground and he stood there with a smirky look on his face as he walked around the vineyard of Naboth. Then everything went still, even the ..... stop making noise, because there was a figure who entered that vineyard clad in a leathern girdle with long Nazarite hair, who walked up behind Ahab and said, ' Behold, I will bring evil upon thee and will take away thy prosperity; and will cut off from Ahab every male'. Interesting isn't it? because Ahab's daughter nearly cut off from David, every male, just one survived; he that is shut up and is left in Israel'. I will make thy house like the house of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, and like the house of Baasha (that was Asa's nemesis) Baasha the son of Ahijah for the provocation wherewith thou hast provoked Me to anger and to make Israel to sin'. Just one of the 13 times that it is said of Jeroboam the son of Nebat that he made Israel to sin; and Ahab copied his example.

So here, b&s, we have the reason why those 4 rulers are forgotten in Matthew 1. Let's explore that a little more. When we look at Ahab's family tree of David's line, as they became intermingled. Ahab married Jezebel (a wonderful choice that was for a wife);

the daughter of Ethbaal and Ethbaal means (856) 'near or with baal' and she never, ever left baal her lord. He married her, he was already one of the worst kings of Israel when he did, but when he married her, he became without question, nobody would dispute it, the worst king in the line of Israel's kings of which there were none good in its history. He was the worst because of her and their first child I believe, was Athaliah; she was married to Jehoram of Judah, the oldest son of Jehoshaphat. Then came Ahaziah, now he's the donkey that was drunk in the record of 2 Kings 1, who went up to the top of the palace inebriated and because, of course, they did not follow scriptural instruction, they did not have a baluster, they just had a flimsy lattice work on the roof of their palace and he fell through it; you know, being drunk he probably leaned on the lattice work and over he went. He was the man who sent off to Baal-zebub the god of Ekron to find out if he'd recover, and his messengers were confronted by Elijah the prophet. He died. Jehoram his brother was the king who was killed by Jehu and his prodigy were absolutely annihilated by Jehu. Athaliah, well, she was married to king Jehoram of Judah, her sons were taken captive by the invaders (we might just wander back to 2 Chronicles 22) and it says this in verse 1, 'And the inhabitants of Jerusalem made Ahaziah his youngest son king in his stead; for the band of men who came with the Arabians to the camp had slain all the eldest'. So these are the boys, you see, the oldest sons of Athaliah and Jehoram, taken captive by invaders as is recorded in chapter 21 and verse 17, and then we find in chapter 22 verse 1, they were all ultimately slain. So Ahaziah was the only surviving son of Jehoram and Athaliah, and he comes to the throne around the age of 22. Of his sons, there was only 1 survivor, that was Joash, the 6-month old boy saved by Jehoiada and Jehoshabeath. So that's the line! and over this is hanging the divine edict, 'I am going to abolish the house of Ahab', even Joash is included in that; his grandmother is the evil daughter of Ahab.

You see, we are dealing here, b&s, with what is called in 2 Chronicles 15 in the words of the prophet who came to king Asa, 'the true God'; Israel hath been for a long time without the true God and a teaching priest'. Now the teaching priest is going to be teaching people about the true God. What's His character like? Well, in Deuteronomy 5 verse 9, which of course, is a repetition of Exodus 20, and the giving of the 10 commandments, we have this stated about the character of this true God, 'Thou shalt not bow down thyself unto them (other gods) nor serve them; for I, Yahweh thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> generation (now these are the words seen here in yellow, who are not in the record of Exodus 20). They are appended here as we well know in Deuteronomy 5 verse 9, they are essential really. God is not arbitrary! You know you have to say, my principle is 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> generations, so if the 3<sup>rd</sup> generation has to be righteous, well I have to follow my principles, obliterate him! It doesn't work like that, if the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> generations have been upright and righteous, He's a true God, so those words are essential, of them that hate Me, that's why 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> generations are removed.

So there are 3 sons of the house of David and 4 rulers who are removed from the record of Matthew chapter 1. That's what we've got before us, that is the character of this **true God**.

Why then is Uzziah the one that is mentioned in Matthew 1 as being the next in line? You know, it goes from Jehoram son of Jehoshaphat to Uzziah, and drops out those 3 sons of David and Athaliah, why Uzziah? Well, there is something different about Uzziah, isn't there? He's the first king of Judah since Jehoshaphat not to be an idolater. He experienced great success and was blessed beyond measure, in fact, b&s, if Uzziah had remained faithful to the end of his days, he would have been one of the most marvellous types of Christ in the scriptures, types of Christ in respect to the establishment of his kingdom. The things that he does are absolutely amazing, and we shall follow that, God willing, as we proceed this week. But his overconfidence and pride led him to try and emulate Jehoiada as a king-priest. Yes, he knew his history, he would look back upon his times of his grandfather, he knew about Jehoiada, the towering presence of that man who was buried amongst the kings; his grandfather wasn't. And after all his success and the obvious blessing of Yahweh, why shouldn't he seek the king-priesthood? that had been effectively enjoyed by Jehoiada. But unlike Jehoiada and David before him, who you'll remember operated as a king-priest at the time the ark was brought to Zion, clad in a white ephod. He went among the common people distributing bread and wine like Melchizedek, king-priest. Unlike Jehoiada and David, Uzziah did not realize that being a king-priest in those times under the law was only possible in type, that's why you see, when David on the second attempt to bring the ark back to Zion, insisted that as they came from Kirjath-jearim, some 15 miles, 20 odd kilometres to Jerusalem, (you think about that, it's a fair way!) **he insisted that the Kohathites who carried the ark on their shoulders, took 6 steps**, and on the 7<sup>th</sup> they offered sacrifice. It would take quite a while, wouldn't it? 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, stop, offer a sacrifice! Then another 6 steps, and then he'd turn, why would he do that? because David was acknowledging before his God, that what he was doing effectively belonged to the 7<sup>th</sup> millennium. He understood that what he was doing was a type of greater things to come, that they were under law, but one would come after 6,000 years of human history, who would introduce a new and glorious day, He would be a King-Priest after the order of Melchizedek. Uzziah didn't understand that principle, he wanted to be king-priest today, he thought he was the Messiah and that's why he met his demise, under the weight of his foolish presumption.

That's why I wanted to give you a taste of what's to come, and many of you will be very familiar with this anyway. In our exhortation on Sunday, God willing, we'll be talking about in the year that king Uzziah died, seeing that his presumption disqualified him to rule. That he was succeeded by his son, Jotham, the upright one. Now Uzziah kept the vision of Christ in glory as King-priest, and there with His brethren, hence it is, b&s, do you remember the words that open the New Testament? what are they? There they are in blue, opening the New Testament, Matthew's gospel which we know surrounds the lion standard, deals with Christ as King, a lion of the tribe of Judah, announces in the very opening words, the genesis, the beginnings of Jesus Christ, **the son of David**, He'll be King eventually, and **son of Abraham**. If you were to single out one of the greatest, perhaps the greatest event in Abraham's life, (there are many of them) one of the greatest scripturally, obviously Genesis 22 comes pretty high up on the list, but Abraham's meeting with Melchizedek, the king-priest, king of righteousness and then king of peace, has to be right up there, b&s. Paul says so in Hebrews chapter 7,

because in that incident Abraham encounters someone greater than himself and he acknowledged that, 'the less was blessed of the greater'. We know the reasons for that, so there right up front in Matthew chapter 1, there is clear reference to those two aspects of the work of Christ; heir-ruler ultimately to the throne of David, and the priesthood of Melchizedek, and so we're going to have a little look at that later on in the week.

So let's just come back to the record of 2 Chronicles 21 and read verse 1, 'Now Jehoshaphat slept with his fathers, and was buried with his fathers in the city of David. And Jehoram his son reigned in his stead. And he had brethren the sons of Jehoshaphat' (now I want you to notice these names (have you got 2 Davids in your family? 2 Benjamins?) Well, Jehoshaphat had 2 Azariahs! It says in verse 2, 'And he had brethren the sons of Jehoshaphat, Azariah, and Jehiel, and Zechariah, and Azariah and Michael and Shephatiah; all these were the sons of Jehoshaphat the king ( oh, that's surprising, it says king of Israel in my bible) And their father gave them great gifts of silver, and of gold, and of precious things, with fenced cities in Judah: but he gave the kingdom to Jehoram, because he was the first-born'. Jehoshaphat was a man of integrity, Jehoram may not have been the brightest and best of his sons; married to Athaliah it would be very difficult. Verse 4, 'Now when Jehoram was risen up to the kingdom of his father, he strengthened himself and slew all his brethren with the sword, and divers also of the princes of Israel'. Who do you reckon put that idea in his mind? the grandmother who in the next chapter cuts the throats of her own grandchildren (and my wife isn't in this session, so I can talk about it) the greatest pleasure of her life, is to spend a lot of time with her grandchildren, in fact, we moved into a little shack at the back of our property, so our children can live on the property so my wife can have access to her grandchildren! I don't deny her that because it's the greatest pleasure of her life. Is there a grandmother here who would take a razor blade and cut the throat of any of her grandchildren? Sometimes, you think you would, but you wouldn't do it, would you? That reminds us a bit about what Gary was talking about yesterday, could you do that? She did! with no compunction, so guess who put the idea in Jehoram's head, so that as soon as his father is dead and he has the throne, that they should cut the throats of all his brethren. All these named here were slain by Jehoram! The fact that there were 2 Azariahs, I think is indicative, that Jehoshaphat's wife who is unnamed, that he may have had a couple of wives, he may have had another son of a wife who called him Azariah, anyway there were two Azariahs in the family, it didn't matter, it didn't last that long! Jehoram their brother cut their throats, so that left, as we've found out, the sons of Jehoram and Athaliah were taken captive and then slain and that left the Azariah their surviving son, and then it brings us down to Joash, a six month old baby.

So we come to the record of 2 Chronicles 22, we've read verse 1, so we'll now read verse 2, 'Forty and two years old was Ahaziah when he began to reign' The record of 2 Kings chapter 26, tells us he was 22 years old, so this must be an interpolation or an transcription

error, because it is an error. You need to if you haven't done this, change that to '22 years old was Ahaziah when he began to reign', but you can do your numbers. It's just

not possible! his father died at the age of 40, so it's just not possible, so 22 is the correct period. 'So, 22 years old was Ahaziah when he began to reign and he reigned one year in Jerusalem. His mother's name also was Athaliah, the daughter of Omri.' What's wrong with that? she wasn't the daughter of Omri, was she? she was the daughter of Ahab, she was the granddaughter of Omri, so why does it say his mother's name was Athaliah, the daughter of Omri? well, we have to just read on! 'He also walked in the ways of the house of Ahab: for his mother was his counsellor to do wickedly'. Now if you'll keep something in 2 Chronicles 22 and come across briefly to Micah 6, we won't be here long but we just need to see what Micah has to say in verse 16; 'For the statutes of Omri are kept, and all the works of the house of Ahab (and I'd strongly suggest that you should write along side of 2 Chronicles 22 and verses 2 and 3, Micah 6 verse 16, because there is the divine clue as to why the record reads this way. You see, we don't know a great deal about Omri, but what we do know about him is this, he was an ideas man; he was the grand planner, the big schemer. He was the man who bought the ground for the city of Samaria; Ahab was the builder of it and put the ivory palaces in it; but Omri was the visionary, he was the man who had the ideas but didn't live long enough to implement them, so he got his son to implement them! So when God looks down upon this, He says, 'there he is, the ideas man; the statutes of Omri are kept, but it was his son, Ahab, who implemented them. And that's how it works, doesn't it? most of what we do, comes from what we have been implanted with in our thinking. You know, the ideas that are implanted there by parents or education, or whatever, that's what we do, that's how it works, the record says. 'He walked in the ways of the house of Ahab, for his mother was his **counsellor** to do wickedly'. The statutes of Omri are kept, and you see the works of the house of Ahab.

Wherefore it says in verse 4 of 2 Chronicles 22, 'he did evil in the sight of Yahweh, for they were his counsellors'. Interesting, isn't it? they were his counsellors after the death of his

father, 'to his destruction'. Ahab, by the way, mentioned in verse 4, that name happens to mean, 'resembling the father'. Now one of the things I take some delight in, great delight, in fact, b&s, I don't know if I ever wanted my children to be clones of their parents, but I wanted them to have the faith of their mother; I wanted them to have the values and the principles and the standards which my parents taught me; that's all I wanted for them, so guess what we did? every morning at 7:00 am after breakfast, 15 minutes and 1 of the bible readings. Kids dressed for school; read, it takes about 5 to 7 minutes; dad, kids, these are the key issues that come from that chapter; be honest before God, don't tell lies, bad companionships corrupt good morals, whatever the reading was, simple principles for life. One day, for whatever reason we couldn't do it, on one of the weekday mornings, my 6 year old boy was being rushed out the door to go to school, said, 'I can't go to school', why not, boy? we haven't done the readings'. That boy got bigger physically than his father, he may not be as sharp as his mother, but I'll tell you something, he's a boy of principle. I take great delight in that; he might never stand on a platform at Rathmines or anywhere else, I don't care; I just want him to do what's right, before God; that's all I want! The statutes of Omri are kept in the world and you see the works of the house of Ahab! but it can be different, b&s, it can be the other way around. And there was an influence in the ecclesia in the first and second



centuries, that was destroying; that woman, Jezebel, who teaches and seduces my servants, and commits fornication and adultery; if you teach you should have works! that's the lesson.

Now, we've got 5 minutes and I'll get back on track. Verse 10 of 2 Chronicles 22, 'When Athaliah the mother of Ahaziah saw that her son was dead, slain by Jehu, she arose and destroyed all the seed royal in the house of Judah (with razor blade in hand). She went around to each room in this big palace, 'who's in here? do you know what?' She was such a wonderful grandmother, she didn't even know how many grandchildren she had, and she didn't get the last one! She had been so busy doing other things, this 6 month old boy she probably hadn't even seen him, missed him, why? Verse 11, 'But Jehoshabeath the daughter of the king, took Joash the son of Ahaziah and stole him from among the kings; and the Hebrew is vibrant, it says, 'who were being slain', so there were men going around directed by Athaliah, and her shouting, 'go on, get him' and slash slash, blood pouring everywhere! Why is this happening? there's a woman...she's the wife of Jehoiada the priest. And she dashes into the room with young Joash, and there are 2 women in that room and they hide the boy under the bed; and the men come in and throw wide the door, no one here. So they sneak him out and into the temple, having hid him in the bedchamber. So Jehoshabeath the daughter of king Jehoram and the wife of Jehoiada the priest, for she was the sister of Ahaziah, hid him from Athaliah, so that she slew him not. Her name means 'whose oath is Yahweh (3089), she was a woman of great quality, great quality! She was the daughter of Jehoram possibly by another wife, we don't know; the only recorded princess to marry a high-priest. There's another one being prepared right now, some of that bride are right in this room. She could not have been older, (you can do the number work yourself) she could not have been older than 28 years of age, the would be the maximum (the age of my oldest girl) Jehoiada could not been younger than 95; hands up in this audience who would marry a 95 year old man? not a hand! Hands up of 95 year old brethren who would marry and 28 year old? It speaks for itself, doesn't it? and their union produced an unique son, who in his blood had the line of David and the line of Aaron. We'll talk about him in a subsequent session, God willing.

Zechariah, their son, was between 30 and 40 years of age when he was murdered in the house of Yahweh. It's a fascinating story and as these two young boys, Joash, the 6 month old baby saved by Jehoshabeath, from the murderous Athaliah, hidden away here in the temple of Solomon, as they grew up together, the son of Jehoiada and Jehoshabeath, and the only survivor of the house of David; they had the same upbringing, the same parents, the same home, and when they manifested themselves as mature men, well, you can put brackets around (mature) I don't care about that one, I have some things I want to say, when they manifested themselves as mature men, one went wonderfully well while Jehoiada was alive, and then he collapsed. The other one, like his father, stood like a rock until the rocks expunged his life. That story, we shall pursue it, God willing, tomorrow.