



Jehoahaz and Joash: Faltering Faith

Lesson 14

Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone.

James 2:17

Jehoahaz (2 Kings 13:1-9)

A king who looks to God’s prophet goes down as wicked. Why?

I. Summary of Jehoahaz (1-2).

With Jehoahaz, we have more of the same when it comes to Jeroboam’s sins.

II. God’s _____ and _____ (3-5).

God brings judgment, Jehoahaz humbles himself, and God responds in mercy.

III. Israel’s continually _____ (6).

Despite God’s grace, Israel continues in sin.

IV. Conclusion to Jehoahaz (7-9).

The sins of Jehoahaz left a scar on the nation, but Israel would experience one last season of success before the end.



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Joash (2 Kings 13:10-25)¹

I. Introduction to Joash (10-13).

He was an evil king. Yet a complicated picture makes that simple judgment a whole lot more complicated.

II. Joash and Elisha (14-25).

This episode paints for us a profound picture of the kings and, too often, many of us: a picture of faltering faith.

A. The context of the _____ (13:14).

Hope for Israel's future came from God, and losing the prophet of God would be a huge blow to the nation.

B. The _____ for Joash (13:15-18).

Joash stopped intentionally, because any more than 3 victories seemed a little far-fetched.

C. The _____ for Joash (13:19-19, 24-25).

Though God gave an open door to ask for the end of Syria, Joash did not have enough faith to ask for it.

Many believers today live with a faltering faith. They believe that God can do great things, but they don't ask him to do great things for them – and if they do, they don't really expect to get it. This weak faith in prayer translates into a weak faith in life. James tells us that people who don't live for God don't believe the things they say about God. So, how big is your God?

¹ This king has a long form of his name (Jehoash) and a short form (Joash). We will refer to him as Joash, though different from Joash of the southern kingdom.

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