

2 CHRONICLES CHAPTER 36

¹ And the people of the land took Jehoahaz the son of Josiah, and anointed him, and made him king over Jerusalem in the place of his father. ² Jehoahaz *was* twenty-three years old when he began to reign, and he reigned three months in Jerusalem; and his mother's name was Amital, daughter of Jeremiah of Libnah. And he did that which was evil in the sight of the Lord, according to all that his fathers had done. And Pharaoh Necho bound him in Diblath in the land of Emath, that he might not reign in Jerusalem. ³ And the king brought him over to Egypt, and imposed a tribute on the land, a hundred talents of silver and a talent of gold. ⁴ And Pharaoh Necho made Eliakim the son of Josiah king over Judah in the place of his father Josiah, and changed his name *to* Jehoiakim. And Pharaoh Necho took his brother Jehoahaz and brought him into Egypt, and he died there; but *he* had given the silver and gold to Pharaoh. At that time the land began to be taxed to give the money at the command of Pharaoh; and everyone as he could borrowed the silver and the gold of the people of the land, to give to Pharaoh Necho.

⁵ Jehoiakim was twenty-five years old when he began to reign, and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem; and his mother's name *was* Zechora, daughter of Neriah of Ramah. And he did that which was evil in the sight of the Lord, according to all that his fathers did. In his days came Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon into the land, and he served him three years, and *then* revolted from him. And the Lord sent against them the Chaldeans, and plundering parties of Syrians, and plundering parties of the Moabites, and of the children of Ammon, and of Samaria. But after this they departed, according to the word of the Lord by the hand of His servants the prophets. Nevertheless the wrath of the Lord was upon Judah, so that they should be removed from His presence, because of the sins of Manasseh in all that he did, and for the innocent blood which Jehoiakim shed, for he had filled Jerusalem with innocent blood; yet the Lord would not utterly destroy them.

⁶ And Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came up against him, and bound him with bronze fetters, and carried him away to Babylon. ⁷ And he carried away a part of the vessels of the house of the Lord to Babylon, and put them in his temple in Babylon. ⁸ And the rest of the acts of Jehoiakim, and all that he did, behold, *are* not these things written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah? And Jehoiakim slept with his fathers, and was buried with his fathers; and Jeconiah his son reigned in his place.

⁹ Jeconiah *was* eight years old when he began to reign, and he reigned three months and ten days in Jerusalem, and did that which was evil in the sight of the Lord. ¹⁰ And at the turn of the year, King Nebuchadnezzar sent, and brought him to Babylon, with the precious vessels of the house of the Lord, and made Zedekiah his father's brother king over Judah and Jerusalem.

¹¹ Zedekiah *was* twenty-one years old when he began to reign, and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem. ¹² And he did that which was evil in the sight of the Lord his God; he was not ashamed before the prophet Jeremiah, nor because of the word of the Lord; ¹³ in that he rebelled against King Nebuchadnezzar, which he adjured him by God *not to do*; but he stiffened his

neck, and hardened his heart, so as not to return to the Lord God of Israel. ¹⁴ And all the great men of Judah, and the priests, and the people of the land transgressed abundantly in the abominations of the heathen, and polluted the house of the Lord which *was* in Jerusalem.

¹⁵ And the Lord God of their fathers sent by the hand of His prophets; rising early and sending His messengers, for He had compassion on His people, and His sanctuary. ¹⁶ Nevertheless they sneered at His messengers, and despised His words, and mocked His prophets, until the wrath of the Lord rose up against His people, till there was no remedy.

¹⁷ And He brought the king of the Chaldeans against them, and killed their young men with the sword in the house of His sanctuary, and did not spare Zedekiah, and had no mercy upon their virgins, and they led away their old men; He delivered all things into their hands. ¹⁸ And all the vessels of the house of God, the great and the small, and the treasures of the house of the Lord, and all the treasures of the king and the great men; he brought all to Babylon. ¹⁹ And he burned the house of the Lord, and broke down the wall of Jerusalem, and burned its palaces with fire, and *utterly destroyed* every beautiful vessel. ²⁰ And he carried away the remnant to Babylon; and they were servants to him and to his sons until *the establishment* of the kingdom of the Medes, ²¹ that the word of the Lord by the mouth of Jeremiah might be fulfilled, until the land should enjoy its Sabbaths in resting, *and* Sabbath keeping all the days of its desolation, till the accomplishment of seventy years.

²² In the first year of Cyrus king of the Persians, after the fulfillment of the word of the Lord by the mouth of Jeremiah, the Lord stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of the Persians, and told him to make proclamation in writing throughout all his kingdom, saying, ²³ “Thus says Cyrus king of the Persians to all the kingdoms of the earth: The Lord God of heaven has given me *power*, and He has commanded me to build a house to Him in Jerusalem, in Judea. Who *is there* among you of all His people? His God shall be with him, and let him go up.”