

2 CHRONICLES CHAPTER 21

¹ And Jehoshaphat slept with his fathers, and was buried in the City of David; and Jehoram his son reigned in his place. ² And he had brothers, the six sons of Jehoshaphat: Azariah, Jehiel, Zechariah, Azaryahu, Michael, and Shephatiah; all these *were* the sons of Jehoshaphat king of Judah. ³ And their father gave them many gifts, silver and gold and arms, together with fortified cities in Judah; but he gave the kingdom to Jehoram, for he *was* the firstborn.

⁴ And Jehoram entered upon his kingdom, and strengthened himself, and killed all his brothers with the sword, and also *others* of the princes of Israel. ⁵ Jehoram was thirty-two years old when he succeeded to his kingdom, and he reigned eight years in Jerusalem. ⁶ And he walked in the way of the kings of Israel, as did the house of Ahab; for one of Ahab's daughters was his wife; and he did that which was evil in the sight of the Lord. ⁷ Nevertheless the Lord would not utterly destroy the house of David, because of the covenant which He made with David, and as He said to him that He would give a light to him and his sons forever.

⁸ In those days Edom revolted from Judah, and they made a king over themselves. ⁹ And Jehoram went with the princes, and all the cavalry with him. And it came to pass that he arose by night, and attacked Edom that compassed him about, and the captains of the chariots, and the people fled to their tents. ¹⁰ And Edom revolted from Judah until this day. Then Libnah at that time revolted from *under* his hand, because he forsook the Lord God of his fathers. ¹¹ For he built high places in the cities of Judah, and caused the inhabitants of Jerusalem to commit harlotry, and led Judah astray.

¹² And there came to him *a message* in writing from Elijah the prophet, saying, "Thus says the Lord God of your father David: 'Because you have not walked in the way of your father Jehoshaphat, nor in the ways of Asa king of Judah, ¹³ but have walked in the ways of the kings of Israel, and have caused Judah and its inhabitants in Jerusalem to play the harlot, as the house of Ahab caused *Israel* to play the harlot, and you have slain your brothers, the sons of your father, who were better than yourself. ¹⁴ Behold, the Lord shall strike you with a great plague among your people, and your sons, and your wives, and all your possessions; ¹⁵ and you *shall be afflicted* with a grievous disease, with a disease of the bowels, until your bowels have fallen out, day by day, because of the sickness.'" "

¹⁶ So the Lord stirred up the Philistines against Jehoram, and the Arabians, and those who bordered on the Ethiopians; ¹⁷ and they went up against Judah, and prevailed against them, and took away all the possessions which they found in the house of the king, and his sons, and his daughters; and there was no son left to him except Jehoahaz, the youngest of his sons.

¹⁸ And after all these things the Lord struck him in the bowels with an incurable disease. ¹⁹ And it continued from day to day. And after two years had passed by, his bowels fell out from the disease, and he died in great agony. And his people performed no funeral, like the funeral of his fathers. ²⁰ He was thirty-two years old when he began to reign, and he reigned eight years in Jerusalem.

And he departed without honor, and was buried in the City of David, but not in the tombs of the kings.