

2 KINGS CHAPTER 12

¹ Joash began to reign in the seventh year of Jehu, and he reigned forty years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name *was* Zibiah of Beersheba. ² And Joash did that which was right in the sight of the Lord all the days that Jehoiada the priest instructed him. ³ Only there were not *any* of the high places removed, and the people still sacrificed there, and burned incense on the high places.

⁴ And Joash said to the priests, "*As for* all the money of the holy things that are brought into the house of the Lord, the money of valuation, *as* each man brings the money of valuation, all the money which any man may feel led to bring into the house of the Lord, ⁵ let the priests take it to themselves, every man from *the proceeds* of his sale: and they shall repair the breaches of the house in all *places* wheresoever a breach shall be found."

⁶ And it came to pass in the twenty-third year of King Joash, that the priests *had not yet* repaired the breaches of the house. ⁷ And King Joash called Jehoiada the priest, and the *other* priests, and said to them, "Why have you not repaired the breaches of the house? Now then receive no *more* money from your sales, for you shall give it to *repair the* breaches of the house." ⁸ And the priests consented to receive no more money from the people, and not to repair the breaches of the house.

⁹ And Jehoiada the priest took a chest, and bored a hole in its lid, and set it by the altar in the house of a man *belonging to* the house of the Lord, and the priests that kept the door put all the money *there* that was found in the house of the Lord. ¹⁰ And it came to pass, when they saw that *there was* much money in the chest, that the king's scribe and the high priest went up, and they tied up and counted the money that was found in the house of the Lord. ¹¹ And they gave the money that had been collected into the hands of those that did the works, the overseers of the house of the Lord; and they gave it out to the carpenters and to the builders that worked in the house of the Lord, ¹² and to the masons, and to the hewers of stone, to purchase timber and hewn stone to repair the breaches of the house of the Lord, for all that was spent on the house of the Lord, to repair *it*. ¹³ However there were not to be made for the house of the Lord silver plates, studs, bowls, or trumpets, any vessel of gold or vessel of silver, of the money that was brought into the house of the Lord, ¹⁴ for they were to give it to the workmen, and they repaired the house of the Lord with it. ¹⁵ Also they took no account of the men into whose hands they gave the money to give to the workmen, for they acted faithfully. ¹⁶ Money for a sin offering, and money for a trespass offering, whatever happened to be brought into the house of the Lord, went to the priests.

¹⁷ Then went up Hazael king of Syria, and fought against Gath, and took it. And Hazael set his face to go against Jerusalem. ¹⁸ And Joash king of Judah took all the holy things which Jehoshaphat and Jehoram and Ahaziah, his fathers, and the kings of Judah *had* consecrated, and what he himself had dedicated, and all the gold that was found in the treasures of the Lord's house and the king's house, and he sent *them* to Hazael king of Syria; and he went up from Jerusalem.

¹⁹ And the rest of the acts of Joash, and all that he did, behold, *are* not these things written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah? ²⁰ And his servants rose up and formed a conspiracy, and killed Joash in the house of Millo that is in Silla. ²¹ And Jozachar the son of Shimeath, and Jehozabad the son of Shomer, his servants, struck him, and he died; and they buried him with his fathers in the City of David. And Amaziah his son reigned in his place.