

## 2 Kings Chapter 08 Verses 16-29 Bible Study

**2Ki 8:16 ¶ "And in the fifth year of Joram the son of Ahab king of Israel, Jehoshaphat being then king of Judah, Jehoram the son of Jehoshaphat king of Judah began to reign. 17 Thirty and two years old was he when he began to reign; and he reigned eight years in Jerusalem. 18 And he walked in the way of the kings of Israel, as did the house of Ahab: for the daughter of Ahab was his wife: and he did evil in the sight of the LORD."**

In the fifth year of Joram, aka Jehoram, the son of Ahab, who is reigning over Israel, and Jehoram the son of Jehoshaphat began to reign over Judah. Jehoram reigns for eight years in Jerusalem, and he did evil in the sight of God. Why? Because he was married to the daughter of Ahab, who was married to Jezebel the idolatrous.

This is a reminder to God's people: be not unequally yoked to unbelievers, seen in **2Co 6:14 "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?"** What is meant here? We see that Jehoram was led astray by being married to an idolatrous woman. This same principle is still true today. A child of God should not marry one who is not a child of God. Why? The unsaved person will most likely lead the saved person astray. Likewise, the church is not to knowingly receive unbelievers into the church fellowship, because it will bring worldly things into the church and corrupt the true doctrine of the church, and will eventually turn the church to idolatry, as we have seen happen in both Israel and Judah.

**19 "Yet the LORD would not destroy Judah for David his servant's sake, as he promised him to give him alway a light, and to his children. 20 In his days Edom revolted from under the hand of Judah, and made a king over themselves. 21 So Joram went over to Zair, and all the chariots with him: and he rose by night, and smote the Edomites which compassed him about, and the captains of the chariots: and the people fled into their tents. 22 Yet Edom revolted from under the hand of Judah unto this day. Then Libnah revolted at the same time. 23 And the rest of the acts of Joram, and all that he did, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah? 24 And Joram slept with his fathers, and was buried with his fathers in the city of David: and Ahaziah his son reigned in his stead."**

God has not forgotten his promise to king David to keep his lineage on the throne of Judah. Even though Jehoram was an evil king, God still preserved Judah and kept the kingship in David's lineage.

We find a greater explanation of these verses in **2Ch 21:7-20; 7 "Howbeit the LORD would not destroy the house of David, because of the covenant that he had made with David, and as he promised to give a light to him and to his sons forever. 8 In his days the Edomites revolted from under the dominion of Judah, and made themselves a king. 9 Then Jehoram went forth with his princes, and all his chariots with him: and he rose up by night, and smote the Edomites which compassed him in, and the captains of the chariots. 10 So the Edomites revolted from under the hand of Judah unto this day. The same time also did Libnah revolt from under his hand; because he had forsaken the LORD God of his fathers. 11 Moreover he made high places in the mountains of Judah, and caused the inhabitants of Jerusalem to commit fornication, and compelled Judah thereto. 12 ¶ And there came a writing to him from Elijah the prophet, saying, Thus saith the LORD God of David thy father, Because thou hast not walked in the ways of Jehoshaphat thy father, nor in the ways of Asa king of Judah, 13 But hast walked in the way of the kings of Israel, and hast made Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem to go a whoring, like to the whoredoms of the house of Ahab, and also hast slain thy brethren of thy father's house, which were better than thyself: 14 Behold, with a great plague will the LORD smite thy people, and thy children, and thy wives, and all thy goods: 15 And thou shalt have great sickness by disease of thy bowels, until thy bowels fall out by reason of the sickness day by day. 16 Moreover the LORD stirred up against Jehoram the spirit of the Philistines, and of the Arabians, that were near the Ethiopians: 17 And they came up into Judah, and brake into it, and carried away all the substance that was found in the king's house, and his sons also, and his wives; so that there was never a son left him, save Jehoahaz, the youngest of his sons. 18 And after all this the LORD smote him in his bowels with an incurable disease. 19 And it came to pass, that in process of time, after the end of two years, his bowels fell out by reason of his sickness: so, he died of sore diseases. And his people made no burning for him, like the burning of his fathers. 20 Thirty and two years old was he when he began to reign, and he reigned in Jerusalem eight years, and departed without being desired. Howbeit they buried him in the city of David, but not in the sepulchers of the kings."** We see that

Jehoram, also called Joram, king of Judah, turned to idolatry as the kings of Israel, because he was married to Jezebel's daughter, and she turned him to idolatry. Thus, we see the truth of unequally yoked marriages. God brought upon him great Judicial judgments.

This is a reminder to God's people to be very careful in who you choose to serve in this life. If you choose to follow your inherited sin nature, you will be brought under the judicial judgment of God, as king Joram was. This is a choice we must make each new day we are given in life, to serve the devil or to serve God. Make the right choice, and though you may have troubles and trials in your life, they won't be caused by making the wrong choice of being unequally yoked in marriage. Consider **2Th 1:4-10; 4 "So that we ourselves glory in you in the churches of God for your patience and faith in all your persecutions and tribulations that ye endure: 5 ¶ Which is a manifest token of the righteous judgment of God, that ye may be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which ye also suffer: 6 Seeing it is a righteous thing with God to recompense tribulation to them that trouble you; 7 And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, 8 In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: 9 Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power; 10 When he shall come to be glorified in his saints, and to be admired in all them that believe (because our testimony among you was believed) in that day."** Hereby, we know that God is with us in tribulations.

**25 ¶ In the twelfth year of Joram the son of Ahab king of Israel did Ahaziah the son of Jehoram king of Judah begin to reign. 26 Two and twenty years old was Ahaziah when he began to reign; and he reigned one year in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Athaliah, the daughter of Omri king of Israel. 27 And he walked in the way of the house of Ahab, and did evil in the sight of the LORD, as did the house of Ahab: for he was the son in law of the house of Ahab. 28 And he went with Joram the son of Ahab to the war against Hazael king of Syria in Ramothgilead; and the Syrians wounded Joram. 29 And king Joram went back to be healed in Jezreel of the wounds which the Syrians had given him at Ramah, when he fought against Hazael king of Syria. And Ahaziah the son of Jehoram king of Judah went down to see Joram the son of Ahab in Jezreel, because he was sick."**

We see that after Jehoram's death, also known as Joram, king of Judah, his son Ahaziah begins to reign in Judah. Ahaziah is an evil king because his mother was Athaliah who was an idolatrous woman. Ahaziah also did as the kings of Israel and followed his wife in idolatry. He was a bad king in Judah. He was confederate with Jehoram, the son of Ahab, who was also known as Joram. So, we see that both Israel and Judah have kings named Jehoram, AKA Joram, reigning at the same time. They are both evil kings.

They go to war against Hazael king of Syria, and Jehoram the king of Israel is wounded, and the battle is broken off. Jehoram, king of Judah, goes to visit him because he is sick. **"28 And he went with Joram the son of Ahab to the war against Hazael king of Syria in Ramothgilead; and the Syrians wounded Joram."** We remember that Ahab, Joram's father, tried to take Ramothgilead from the Syrians and was killed. Now, his son tries to take the city and he is wounded. Thus, it is said that they revolted against Israel until this day.

There is great warning to God's people in the New Testament Church in these lessons. We see that the leadership, of both Judah and Israel are bad kings, and there is no prosperity or growth under them, but a steady revolt against them from the territories outside the land of promise that King David brought into subjection unto Israel under his reign. The same is true in the New Testament Church. When church leaders begin to take in worldly things like idolatry, and try to live like the world around them, they have fallen under the practice of idolatry. They are like evil kings.

As we pointed out earlier that we are not to be unequally yoked with unbelievers, so the true church will withdraw from ungodly practices and stand firm upon **"thus saith the Lord."** At this time in both Israel and Judah, there is a great blight placed upon the name of God because of their turning to idolatry. The same is true in the world of religion today. Many of the mainstream religious organizations have turned to idolatry, and they are a blight to the name of our God. An example of this: so called "churches" are taking in, and allowing, sexually deviant people, who continue to live in their sexually deviant ways. They even promote them in living these ways of life, and promote them to leadership positions, just like the bad kings of Israel and Judah. God has said these kinds of people are an abomination to him. We can take this same principle and apply it to our individual

lives, as children of God. We can apply it to church bodies, church associations, church fellowships, and all types of religious organizations.

May God help the New Testament Church to stand firm, fully trust the name and power of God: fully trusting in the King James Bible: and fully trusting in the finished work of Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord, we pray in the name above all names, Jesus the Christ, Amen!