

## Jeremiah – Part 3

### The Last Five Kings of Judah

Welcome to Hope Sabbath School--an in-depth interactive study of the Word of God. We are continuing a series of studies on the book of the prophet Jeremiah. Our topic today: The Last Five Kings of Judah

Scripture Theme Song: “For I know the thoughts”  
(Jeremiah 29:11-13)

- 1) The reign of King Josiah – 640-609 BC
  - a) 16<sup>th</sup> king to rule the southern kingdom
  - b) How old was Josiah when he became king? 2 Kings 22:1
  - c) Does 2 Kings 22:1 surprise you in the light of the fact that Josiah’s father Amon and grandfather Manasseh were two of the most evil kings of Judah? Lesson?
  - d) What important discovery was made early in the reign of king Josiah? 2 Kings 22:3-10
  - e) What two important reforms did king Josiah implement? 2 Chronicles 34:30-33
  - f) 2 Kings 23:25 – a startling summary. How would you like your life to be summarized?
- 2) The reign of King Jehoahaz (Shallum) -3 months
  - a) 2 Kings 23:31-34
  - b) Jeremiah 22:11-17
  - c) What is your reaction to this brief account?
- 3) The reign of King Jehoiakim (Eliakim) – 11 years 609-598 BC
  - a) 2 Kings 23:34
  - b) 2 Kings 23:35-37 – what mistake did King Jehoiakim make?
  - c) Jeremiah 22:1-19
  - d) What Bible characters were teenagers during the reign of Jehoahaz and Jehoiakim? How is it possible to remain pure and undefiled in the midst of such wickedness? Daniel 1:8
- 4) The reign of Jehoiachin – 3 months
  - a) 2 Kings 24:8-16
  - b) What message did the LORD send to those who were taken captive, including King Jehoiachin? Jeremiah 29:11-14
  - c) We all face challenges of various kinds. Why is it important to remember that our future and hope is found in the faithfulness of God?
- 5) The reign of Zedekiah (Mattaniah) – 8 years
  - a) 2 Kings 24:17-19
  - b) 2 Chronicles 36:14
  - c) 2 Kings 25:1-7
  - d) What lessons can we learn from Zedekiah’s story?
- 6) A message to the remnant
  - a) Why did Nebuchadnezzar show favor to the prophet Jeremiah? Jer. 39:11-14
  - b) What promise was given to the remnant? Jer. 23:2-8
  - c) How does that same promise encourage us today?
- 7) Discussion question:
  - a) What is the relevance of these ancient stories for our lives today? 1 Cor. 10:11
  - b) What is the most important lesson for your life?