

Week 24
2 Chron 17, 19-20
Jehoshaphat

Jehoshaphat is a good King, but not a perfect King, of the Southern Kingdom of Judah. He came to the throne at the age of thirty-five and reigned for twenty-five years. He "walked in the ways" of King David. He fortified his kingdom against Israel, tore down the idols in Jerusalem, and enjoyed many years of peace. Jehoshaphat was zealous for the Law and justice. His name means "The Lord is Judge". He sent Levites out to teach and appointed judges to rule fairly throughout Judah. He formed a "court of appeal" in Jerusalem to protect the rights of the poor. Jehoshaphat's reign enjoyed peace and prosperity, and God's blessing rested on all Judah.

The Outline:

2 Chron 17 Jehoshaphat's Greatness

[1 Kings 22:41-50 Summary of his reign]

- 17:1-5 His strong Kingdom
- 17:6-9 His dedication to teaching the Law
- 17:10-19 Blessed by peace and prosperity

2 Chron 18 Jehoshaphat's Foolishness

- 18:1-3 His foolish alliance
- 18:4-11 The foolish prophets
- 18:12-27 Micaiah's prophetic warning
- 18:28-34 Jehoshaphat is endangered and Ahab dies

2 Chron 19 Jehoshaphat is Chastened and Humbled

- 19:1-3 Jehu reprimands Jehoshaphat
- 19:4-11 Jehoshaphat appoints righteous judges

2 Chron 20 Jehoshaphat's Faithfulness

- 20:1-2 Attack by a foreign alliance
- 20:3-12 Jehoshaphat calls all of Judah to seek the Lord
- 20:13-17 Jahaziel says the battle is the Lord's
- 20:18-23 The people sing and praise as the Lord goes before them
- 20:24-30 The Lord delivers and Judah is at rest
- 20:31-34 Jehoshaphat is a good King...
- 20:35-37 ...but not perfect—his treaty with Ahaziah