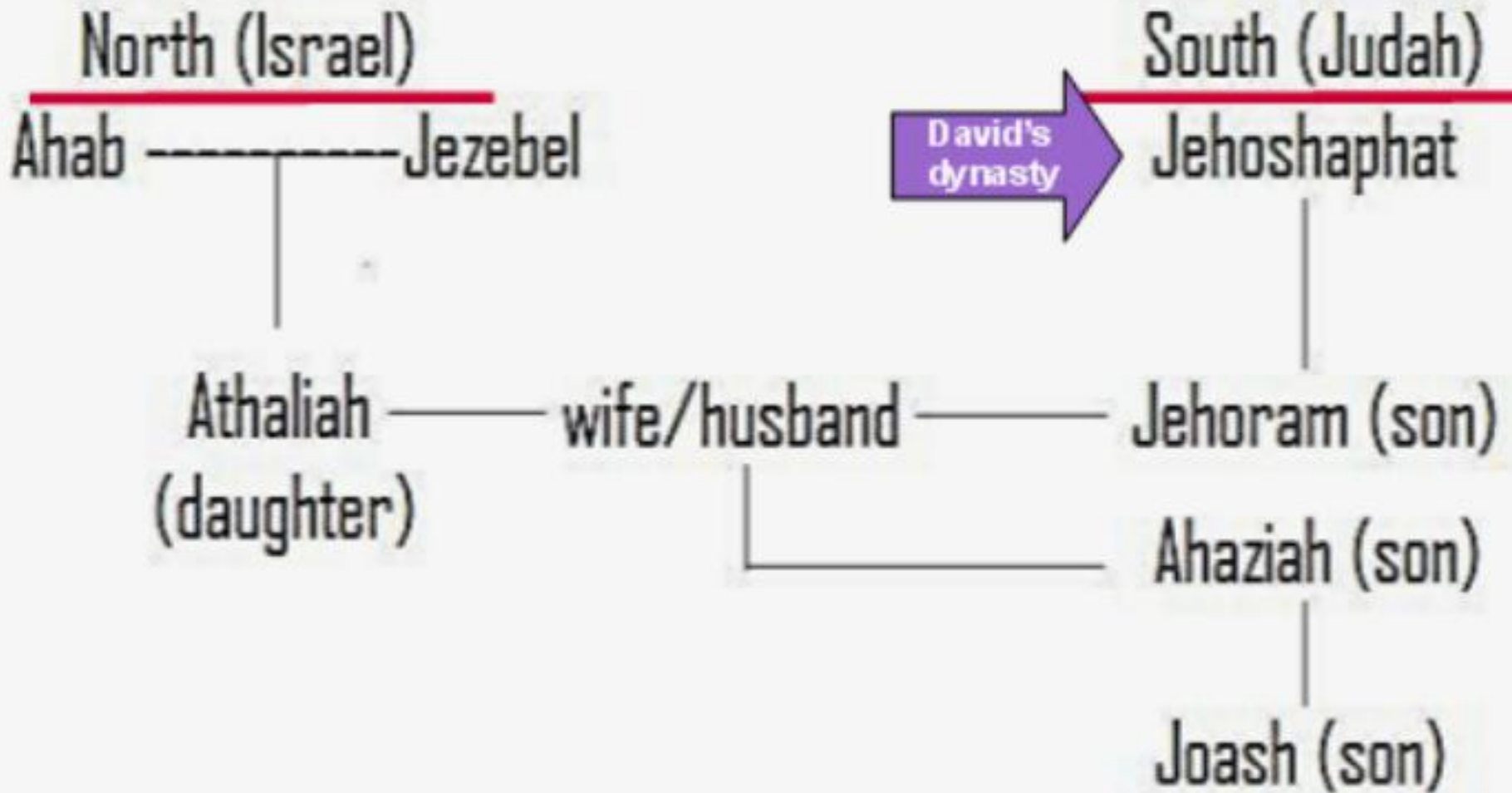


2ND KINGS 11: THE RISE AND FALL OF ATHALIAH



ATHALIAH RULED OVER JUDAH FROM 842 – 836 B.C.

- In 7th year of her rule High Priest *Y'hoyada* acted
- Wife, *Y'hosheva*, took baby Joash and hid him
- Hidden NOT in sanctuary but in the Temple complex
- Priesthood was still powerful and guardians of YHWH worship in Judah



Y'hoyada

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

- Many Hebrew names begin with yud-heh ' ה
- The idea is to invoke the Divine
- Vocalized as ye-ho such as ye-ho-yada or ye-ho-sheva
- Ye-ho is 2 syllables and is a shortened form of ye-ho-veh ' ה | ה
- Yeh or Yah is 1 syllable and means GOD
- Y'hoshua (Joshua) means "Yehoveh saves"
- Yeshua or Yashua means "God saves"
- Earliest Greek then English name for God is Je-ho-vah (3 syllables) No known form as Jah-veh
- Yah-weh is 2 syllables Ye-ho-veh is 3 syllables

JOASH LIVES AMONG THE LEVITES



- Joash now 7 years old
- 7 as the ideal number
- *Yo'ash* = given by God
- *Y'ho'ash* = given by YHWH
- *Kari* = foreigners used as bodyguards, a tradition from the days of David
- *Ratsim* = runners, not guards
- 5 groups of Kari, each with 100-man platoons, loyal to the Davidic dynasty

Y'HOYADA CALLS A CONVOCAATION TO ISSUE ORDERS

- 2Chron. 23: 1 – 3
- **Kari** sent to go throughout Judah to assure the allegiance of the clans and the Levites
- The meeting held immense gravitas since it was held at the Temple
- People were prepared to fight and die to reinstall the Davidic dynasty



PLANS FOR THE COUP



- Vss. 5 -8 give details of coup
- Courses of Levites served shifts at the Temple
- Shift change occurred on Shabbat
- Therefore double the normal amount of Levites were at the Temple on Shabbat
- Protection of the child-king was paramount
- If he died it meant the extinction of the House of David

DOING THE LORD'S WILL ISN'T A PRECISELY DISCERNABLE THING



- Was *Y'hoyada* wrong?
- No record of an oracle from God to him to start a coup now
- We rarely get unmistakable signs from God !!
- If we wait for perfect circumstances, timing, and complete peace, we may never fulfill our purpose
- God's grace is our hope

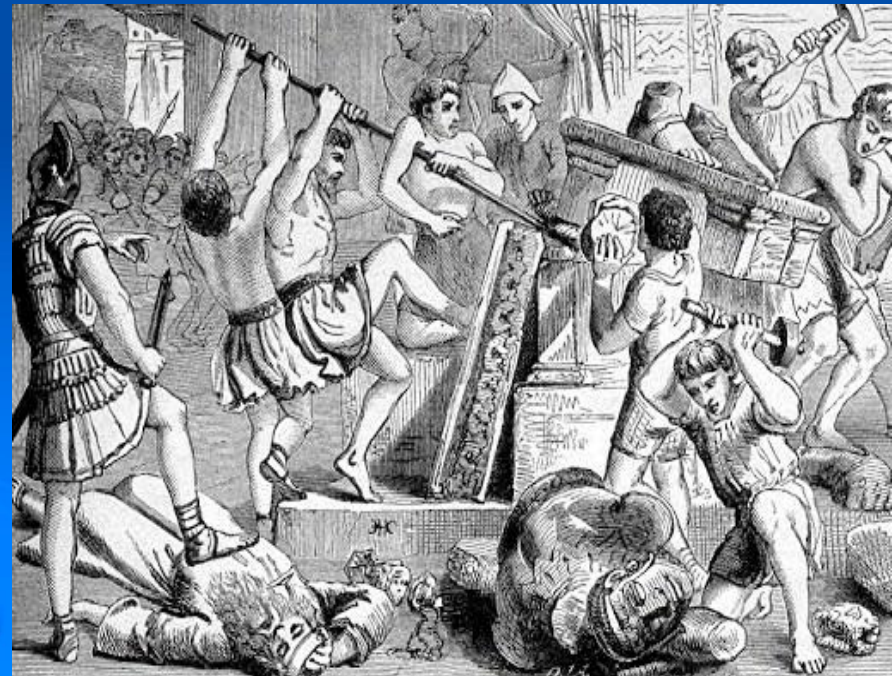
YO'ASH IS KING OF JUDAH

- Arsenal of spears and shields left by David are now given to the rebels
- Joash is crowned and given a copy of the Torah
- Deut. 17: 18 – 20
- Athaliah and the royal court in the palace heard all the commotion and came to see what was happening



ATHALIAH IS KILLED

- This was taking place on hallowed ground, on Shabbat, and the High Priest could not touch death
- So Athaliah was taken to the Horse Gate and killed
- The era of *Achav* and Jezebel was over
- Religious fervor spread and people came and destroyed the Ba'al Temple, and killed their high priest Mattan





HOW CAN A CHILD KNOW GOD?

- The weight of the Kingdom of Judah was now on the shoulders of a 7 year old
- Did he understand what just happened to him?
- Could he even read the Torah?
- Similar to what happened with Samuel
- A young child can instinctively know more about the Lord than his mind can discern
- No doubt *Y'hoyada* was the power behind the throne and she made the decisions
- People's zeal for the Torah would pull Judah back from the brink.....for awhile

