

**BOOK OF 2 KINGS**  
**THE EVIL REIGN OF JEHOIACHIN (JECHONIAH, CONIAH)**  
**2 KINGS 24:8-16; 25:27-30; 2 CHRONICLES 36:8-10;**  
**JEREMIAH 22:24-30**

**Introduction**

Last week we looked at the evil reign of **JEHOIAKIM** over **JUDAH**. He had been elevated to that roll as a puppet king by **PHARAOH-NECOH** of **EGYPT** after having carried his brother **JEHOAHAZ** to **EGYPT** to die.

We saw how that as **BABYLON** began to rise they then exerted control over **JEHOIAKIM** and **JUDAH** as **EGYPT'S** power waned.

**JEHOIAKIM** was an oppressive, wicked king over the people of **JUDAH**! When the **LORD** sent him **HIS WORD** by **JEREMIAH THE PROPHET**, he had the audacity to cut up and burn the **SCROLL** that contained the **LORD'S PROPHECY** against him and **JUDAH**!

He rebelled against **BABYLON** and was eventually put to death by **NEBUCHADNEZZAR**, and his body was left to decay, unburied, beyond the gates of **JERUSALEM**.

Next, we see **JEHOIAKIM'S** son, **JEHOIACHIN** was then elevated to the throne of **JUDAH** by **NEBUCHADNEZZAR**.

So, what do the **SCRIPTURES** say about **JEHOIACHIN**?

**I. WE SEE THE DETAILS OF JEHOIACHIN'S REIGN!**

*(2 Kings 24:6, 8-9; 2 Chronicles 36:9-10)*

**A. His Name Means "JEHOVAH Doth Establish"**

He came to the throne because **NEBUCHADNEZZAR** placed him there. *(Vs 6)*

**B. He Was Young When He Began To Reign. (Vs 8a)**

He was only eighteen years old!

**C. His Reign Was Short Like His. (Vs 8b)**

It tells us here that he reigned only three months in **JERUSALEM**. *2 Chronicles 36:9* tells us three months and ten days.

**BOOK OF 2 KINGS**  
**THE EVIL REIGN OF JEHOIACHIN (JECHONIAH, CONIAH)**  
**2 KINGS 24:8-16; 25:27-30; 2 CHRONICLES 36:8-10;**  
**JEREMIAH 22:24-30**

**D. His Mother Is Mentioned. (Vs 8c)**

We have said before that this usually indicates that she had a strong influence in his life and reign. Since his life and reign were evil, she was probably very wicked herself.

**E. He Did That Which Was Evil In The Sight Of The LORD! (Vs 9)**

In fact, the *2 Kings* account here says that he did evil according to all that his father **JEHOIAKIM** had done. Enough said right there!

His dad had the distinction of not treating the people of **JUDAH** very well. I think we can say that **JEHOIACHIN was not a people person either if he was like his dad!**

**II. WE SEE THE PROPHECY AGAINST JEHOIACHIN (CALLED CONIAH) BY JEREMIAH THE PROPHET!**

*(Jeremiah 22:24-30; He's also called JECONIAH in 1Chron. 3:16)*

Verse 24

"*As I live*" is the **LORD'S** most solemn form of an oath!

The **contraction** of the name **JECHONIAH** down to "**CONIAH**" is believed to be done in contempt.

The **signet** ring was a stamp seal used to mark ownership. It was a **symbol of royal authority**. The **right hand** was a **symbol of power**.

"*...yet would I pluck thee thence*"... Just as had been **PROPHESED** ...for his father's sins as well as his own sins!

Verse 25

The **LORD** makes it clear here that **HE** was going to give **CONIAH** over to **NEBUCHADNEZZAR** and the **CHALDEANS**, whom he lived in **FEAR** of rather than living in the **FEAR** of the **LORD**!

**BOOK OF 2 KINGS**  
**THE EVIL REIGN OF JEHOIACHIN (JECHONIAH, CONIAH)**  
**2 KINGS 24:8-16; 25:27-30; 2 CHRONICLES 36:8-10;**  
**JEREMIAH 22:24-30**

Verse 26

He is told that not only was the **LORD** going to cast him out of **JUDAH** into captivity in **BABYLON**, but his mother, the widowed queen, would suffer the same fate! Added to that he is told also that he is going to die in **BABYLON**!

Verse 27

This speaks here of **CONIAH** and his mother. The change in person from using the second person to the third person “*they*” here expresses alienation. It is as if the king were put out of sight...**unworthy of being spoken to by the LORD**. They would *desire to return*, but they would not be of the ones who would return after the **CAPTIVITY**.

Verse 28

**CONIAH** had been looked on with such hopeful expectation that **he was idolized early on by the people of JUDAH**. The people were ready to adore him when they saw him upon the throne, but then he became as despised as a broken idol that is no longer regarded.

There was a time when **CONIAH** had been delighted in by **JUDAH**! But exiled in **BABYLON** that was no longer the case.

Verse 29-30

The meaning here is that no man of **CONIAH’S** seed would prosper by sitting upon the throne of **DAVID**.

In him the line of **DAVID** was extinct as a royal line. Some think that he had children born in **BABYLON** and that they died before him because mention is made of his seed being cast out there in *verse 28*.

We read in the genealogy of *1 Chronicles 3:17*, of seven sons of **JECONIAH ASSIR** (that is, **JECONIAH the captive**) of whom **SALATHIEL** is the first and who is found in the genealogy of *Matthew 1:12*. But **SALATHIEL** nor any of his brothers ruled as kings in **JUDAH**. Therefore, **CONIAH** was childless in **JUDAH**.

**BOOK OF 2 KINGS**  
**THE EVIL REIGN OF JEHOIACHIN (JECHONIAH, CONIAH)**  
**2 KINGS 24:8-16; 25:27-30; 2 CHRONICLES 36:8-10;**  
**JEREMIAH 22:24-30**

**III. WE SEE THAT GOD ALLOWED NEBUCHADNEZZAR TO CONQUER JUDAH AND CARRY JEHOIACHIN AND JUDAH’S BEST PEOPLE INTO CAPTIVITY! (2 Kings 24:10-16)**

**The sins of JEHOIACHIN** (along with every wicked king of **JUDAH** before him) and the **wickedness of the people of JUDAH** (both them and their forefathers), **had severe and serious consequences!**

Verses 10-11

**NEBUCHADNEZZAR** and the **BABYLONIANS** laid siege to the city of **JERUSALEM**.

Verse 12, 15

**JEHOIACHIN**, along with his mother, his servants, his princes, and his officers surrendered to **NEBUCHADNEZZAR**.

Verse 13

The **TEMPLE** was stripped of its treasures and the vessels of gold were cut in pieces and carried away. The king’s house was stripped of its treasures. (Fulfilling the **PROPHECY** of the **LORD** by **ISAIAH** the **PROPHET** given to **HEZEKIAH** after he foolishly showed the **BABYLONIAN** ambassadors [spies] everything he had!)

Verse 14, 16

**JUDAH** was conquered and all but the poorest and infirm were taken captive to **BABYLON**. **JEHOIACHIN** was carried to **BABYLON** and **imprisoned there for 37 years**. May we never forget that a man’s sin can affect others beyond himself!

**IV. WE SEE JEHOIACHIN FOUND GRACE AFTER 37 YEARS IN PRISON. (2 Kings 25:27-30)**

Verse 27

A new king of **BABYLON** by the name of **EVIL-MERODACH** dealt **graciously** with **JEHOIACHIN** by releasing him from prison!

**BOOK OF 2 KINGS**  
**THE EVIL REIGN OF JEHOIACHIN (JECHONIAH, CONIAH)**  
**2 KINGS 24:8-16; 25:27-30; 2 CHRONICLES 36:8-10;**  
**JEREMIAH 22:24-30**

Verse 28

*“...he spoke kindly to him.”*

*“...set his throne above the throne of the kings that were with him in Babylon.”* (In other words, he was set above all the other kings of nations defeated by **BABYLON** whose kings were carried into captivity.)

Verse 29

**JEHOIACHIN** was allowed to change out of his prison garments. One of the more demeaning parts about being a prisoner is having to wear the prison garments that distinguish you as being a prisoner!

He also ate at the king’s table.

Verse 30

His needs were supplied for as long as he lived.

Conclusion

We are not told anything about why **EVIL-MERODACH** treated **JEHOIACHIM** with these kindnesses. It was an **extraordinary act of GRACE bestowed on this undeserving king!**

It should remind us of the extraordinary acts of **GRACE** bestowed on us as the hell-deserving sinners we were when **JESUS** set us free and blessed us!

**HE** clothes us with **HIS own RIGHTEOUSNESS!**

**HE** feeds us in **HIS HOUSE at HIS TABLE!**

**HE** meets our **EVERY NEED** for as long as we live!

---

NEXT WEEK, **LORD** WILLING WE LOOK AT THE FINAL KING OF **JUDAH**. A KING BY THE NAME OF **ZEDEKIAH** IN **JOSIAH’S** LINE ALSO.