

The Shallow Faith of King Joash 2 Kings 11-12 · 2 Chronicles 22-24

“For whatever was written in earlier times was written for our instruction, so that through perseverance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.” Romans 15:4

In a shallow world, godly mentorship matters. 2 Kings 11 – 12

“...Joash did what was right in the sight of the LORD all his days in which Jehoida the priest instructed him.” 2 Kings 12:2

- Joash supernaturally had his life spared from his wicked grandmother. 2 Kings 11:1-3
- Joash was raised by a godly uncle and aunt - Safe Family parents! 2 Kings 11:4-21
- Joash oversaw the reformation of the temple and a generous giving program. 2 Kings 12:1-5
- Joash challenged the corrupt and lazy priests, even his own mentor! 2 Kings 12:6-16

In a shallow world, shallow faith is exposed. 2 Chronicles 24:17-27

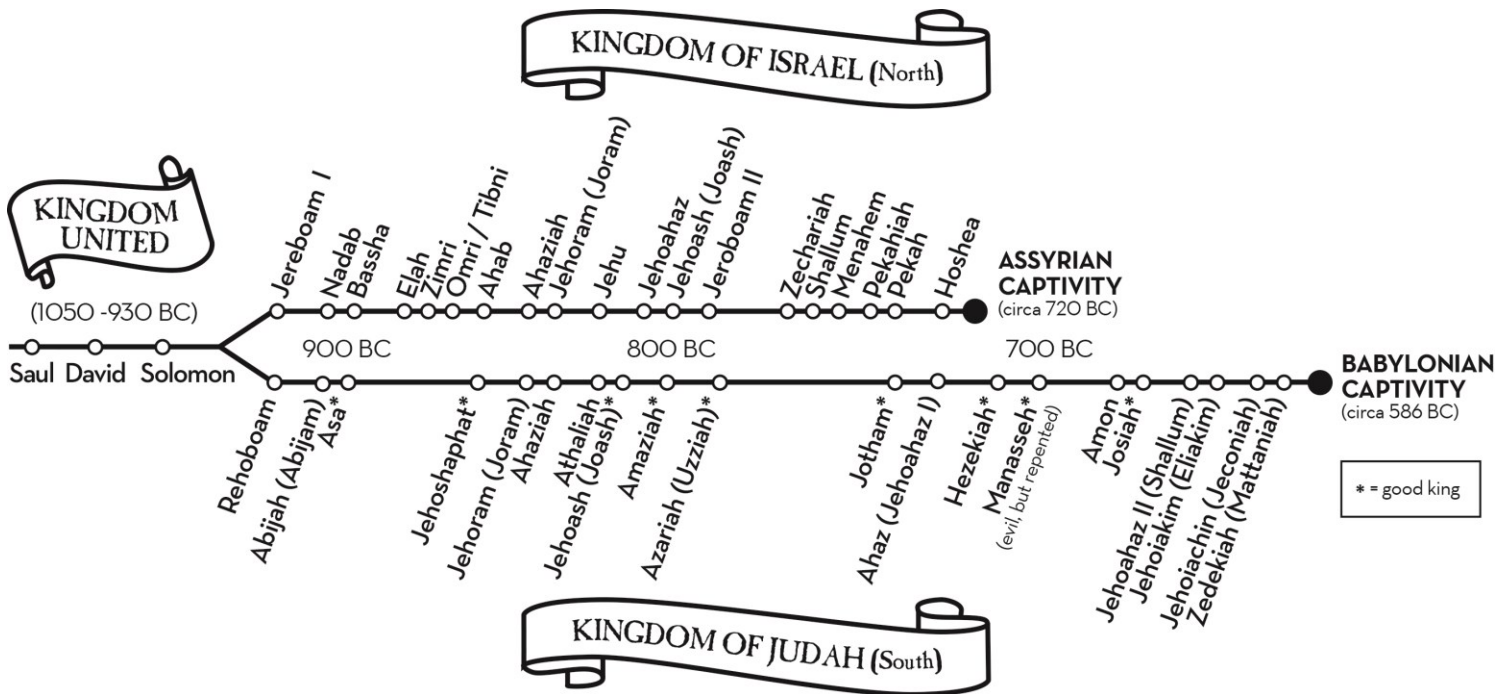
“But after the death of Jehoiada the officials of Judah came and bowed to the king, and the king listened to them.” (v.17)

- Joash was influenced by ungodly people who appealed to his pride and new found freedom. 2 Chronicles 24:17-18
- Joash was given a chance to repent. 2 Chronicles 24:19
- Joash hardened his heart towards repentance. 2 Chronicles 24:20-27

In a shallow world, deep faith is required. Luke 8

“...But the seed in the good soil, these are the ones who have heard the word in an honest and good heart, and hold it fast, and bear fruit with perseverance.” (v.15)

DEEP FAITH	SHALLOW FAITH <i>*adapted from author, Stan Key</i>
Your faith and trust in God is rooted in your personal relationship with Jesus Christ. (John 3:16, 1 Peter 1:3-9)	SECOND-HAND faith. Is faith dependent upon the presence of friends, family or key leaders? Until a person has his own personal experience of Christ his faith is on a shaky foundation. (John 4:42)
You display a thirst and desire to read, know and obey God’s word. (Psalm 119 and John 15)	Never learning how to FEED yourself. As long as Jehoida was there to tell him what he needed to know, interpret the Bible, discern God’s will, Joash was “fine.”
You are focused on pleasing God over anything and everyone else. (Galatians 1:10)	An obsession with PLEASING OTHER PEOPLE. First, Joash wanted to please Jehoida. But when Jehoida died, he then wanted to please his new advisers. He learned to adapt to his social context like a CHAMELEON adapts to his.



LIFEGROUP DISCUSSION:

1. Who were people in your life who helped you grow roots to your faith in Jesus Christ when you were a young Christian? What were some of the specific things they did to encourage you? Who are you currently mentoring or investing in? Who are some younger Christians who come to your mind whom you would like to intentionally mentor in the future?
2. King Joash's faith was proven to be shallow. What have been some of the circumstances in your life that helped grow your faith in Jesus Christ and moved you from a shallow faith to a deeper faith?
3. Look once again at the chart comparing deep faith vs. shallow faith in the sermon notes. What are some intentional steps you can take this week to deepen your faith? Take some time and pray for one another as you ask the Holy Spirit to strengthen and grow your faith in Jesus Christ.

NEXT STEPS:

1. **Place your faith in Jesus Christ.** You don't become a Christian simply by showing up to church or modifying your behavior. You become a Christian when you surrender your life to Jesus Christ by faith, acknowledging that Jesus is God and He alone is the Savior, the forgiver of your sins, your leader, the Lord and captain of your life. Read John 3 and Romans 10 to get a better understanding of what it means to be a follower of Jesus and/or use the booklet in the seat rack in front of you called "How to Connect with God" or visit calvarylife.org/jesus
2. **Join our next 'Discover Jesus' class to discover how to live and love like Jesus.** This 9-week class meets on Wednesdays, March 1 - April 26, at 7:00pm in room D-2. Learn more at calvarylife.org/discoverjesus
3. **Be mentored by another Christian.** One-on-one mentoring and discipleship is a great resource for growing in your faith. Learn more at calvarylife.org/discipleship