

Season 2 Study 8: King Joash

THE BIG YEAR

A Journey through God's Word

Has God been challenging you through His Word this week?

1. Have you ever been confronted by someone who rebuked you lovingly? How did you respond?
2. From what you've read and heard so far, what are some of the characteristics of a true prophet of God? How can you spot a 'false prophet'?

READ 2 CHRONICLES 22:10-12

3. Does this story remind you of any others in the Bible?

READ 2 CHRONICLES 23:11,16-21

4. When Joash was seven years old, Jehoiada the priest overthrew the wicked queen mother Athaliah and crowned Joash king of Judah. Jehoiada's zeal to see justice done and to see the rightful king on the throne forced him to take action. God still calls the righteous to take action today. Is there a particular sector of society where you believe the people of God (ie. the Church) should be taking more action?

READ 2 CHRONICLES 24:1-5; 14-16

5. Although Joash seems to be a righteous king, who is the real hero of this story? How does God honour him?

READ 2 CHRONICLES 24:17-25

6. According to verse 19, why did God send the prophets to Judah, and how were they received?
7. Why did the people turn on Zechariah the prophet?
8. Why was king Joash's treatment of the prophet Zechariah particularly heinous? What were the tragic consequences of this wickedness?

READ MATTHEW 21:33-41

9. In this story, the owner of the vineyard represents God, and we are the tenants of His vineyard. The son in the story obviously represents Jesus. Who do the servants who were killed represent?
10. Why do true prophets of God often pay such a high price?
11. What will happen to those who reject the Son of God?
12. In what sense is the Church today called to be a prophetic voice to the world? How are we doing, according to the standards set by Zechariah and others?

"But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream."

Amos 5:24