

**BOOK OF 1 KINGS**  
**JEHOSHAPHAT'S DEATH**  
**1 KINGS 22:41-50; 2 CHRONICLES 14:1 - 21:20**

**Introduction**

Tonight we look to wrap up the *Book of 1 Kings* with the death of Judah's King Jehoshaphat, but to do that properly we need to also be in *2 Chronicles 14 through 21*.

We were first introduced to Jehoshaphat when his dad, the good King Asa of Judah, died back in *1 Kings 15:24*.

*1 Kings 15:24 – “And Asa slept with his fathers, and was buried with his fathers in the city of David his father: and Jehoshaphat his son reigned in his stead.”*

The *Book of 1 Kings* doesn't mention Jehoshaphat again until we get to this Chapter *1 Kings 22* where we have seen that he joined in alliance with the wicked King Ahab to go to war with Syria for Ramoth-gilead!

Let's make some observations about Jehoshaphat's life from the Scriptures.

**I. JEHOSHAPHAT'S POSITIVE WAYS WERE MUCH LIKE HIS FATHER ASA!**

**A. Both Asa and Jehoshaphat were said to have done right in the eyes of the LORD as did David!**

1. **Asa**  
*1 Kings 15:11 – “And Asa did that which was right in the eyes of the LORD, as did David his father.”*

*2 Chronicles 14:2 – “And Asa did that which was good and right in the eyes of the LORD his God:”*

2. **Jehoshaphat**  
*1 Kings 22:43 – “And he walked in all the ways of Asa his father; he turned not aside from it, doing that which was right in the eyes of the LORD:...”*

*2 Chronicles 17:3-6; 20:32-33*

**BOOK OF 1 KINGS**  
**JEHOSHAPHAT'S DEATH**  
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**B. Both Asa and Jehoshaphat were said to have removed idols and high places and groves associated with idol worship!**

1. **Asa**  
*2 Chronicles 14:3 – “For he took away the altars of the strange gods, and the high places, and brake down the images, and cut down the groves:”*

*2 Chronicles 15:8 – “And when Asa heard these words, and the prophecy of Oded the prophet, he took courage, and put away the abominable idols out of all the land of Judah and Benjamin, and out of the cities which he had taken from mount Ephraim, and renewed the altar of the LORD, that was before the porch of the LORD.*

Asa even removed his own grandmother from being queen because she made an idol in a grove. Then he *“...cut down her idol, and stamped it, and burnt it...”* (*2 Chronicles 15:16*)

2. **Jehoshaphat**  
*2 Chronicles 17:6 – “And his heart was lifted up in the ways of the LORD: moreover he took away the high places and groves out of Judah.”*

**C. But, both Asa and Jehoshaphat were also said to have NOT removed the high places associated with the worship of the LORD.**

1. **Asa**  
*2 Chronicles 15:17 – But the high places were not taken away out of Israel: nevertheless the heart of Asa was perfect all his days.*

2. **Jehoshaphat**  
*2 Chronicles 20:33 – “Howbeit the high places were not taken away: for as yet the people had not prepared their hearts unto the God of their fathers.”*

BOOK OF 1 KINGS  
JEHOSHAPHAT'S DEATH

1 KINGS 22:41-50; 2 CHRONICLES 14:1 - 21:20

Now stay with me here and don't get confused because some folks want to call this a discrepancy.

So, did he and/or his father take the high places away or not?

Well, the answer is this: They took away the high places joined with groves where idols were erected.

However, there were also high places in the nation where people would worship the LORD God instead of going to Jerusalem.

They did not take those away even though the worship of the LORD was supposed to be in Jerusalem after the construction of the Temple at Jerusalem!

- D. Both Asa and Jehoshaphat removed the sodomites out of the land.
1. Asa  
*1 Kings 15:12 – “And he took away the sodomites out of the land, and removed all the idols that his fathers had made.”*
  2. Jehoshaphat  
*1 Kings 22:46 – “And the remnant of the sodomites, which remained in the days of his father Asa, he took out of the land.”*
- E. Both Asa and Jehoshaphat helped and encouraged the people spiritually!
1. Asa  
*2 Chronicles 14:4 – “And commanded Judah to seek the LORD God of their fathers, and to do the law and the commandment.”*

BOOK OF 1 KINGS  
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2. Jehoshaphat – *2 Chronicles 17:7-9; 20:3-4*

F. Both Asa and Jehoshaphat were blessed with periods of peace early during their rule.

1. Asa – *2 Chronicles 14:5-7*

2. Jehoshaphat – *2 Chronicles 17:10*

II. JEHOSHAPHAT'S NEGATIVE WAYS WERE MUCH LIKE HIS FATHER!

A. The LORD Rebuked Asa For His Alliance With Benhadad King Of Syria! (*2 Chronicles 16:7*)

B. The LORD Rebuked Jehoshaphat For Two Of His Alliances:

1. With Ahab King of Israel! (*2 Chronicles 19:1-2*)

2. With Ahaziah King of Israel! (*2 Chronicles 20:35-37*)

III. JEHOSHAPHAT'S DIED AFTER REIGNING 25 YEARS IN JERUSALEM. (*1 KINGS 22:41-42*)

He began reigning in the 4<sup>th</sup> year of Ahab's reign. (*Vs 41*)

Ahab's son, Ahaziah, began his reign in the 17<sup>th</sup> year of Jehosophat's reign. (*Vs 51*)

So Jehoshaphat reigned for 8 more years after the death of Ahab in the battle for Ramoth-Gilead.

So, what was the wrath of the LORD that was upon him for having helped the ungodly Ahab? (*2 Chronicles 19:2*)

Now we know his dad Asa was judged by the LORD removing peace in the land and Judah had wars until his death.

But, Scripture does not say what Jehoshaphat's judgment was, but I'll share with you from Scripture a good possibility of what it was.

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**JEHOSHAPHAT'S DEATH**  
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*(See 2 Chronicles 21:1-6)*

**We see here that his eldest son, Jehoram, reigned in his stead.**  
*(Vs 1)*

**We also see here that he had 6 other sons and he gave great gifts to all of his sons.** *(Vs 2-3)*

**Next, we see what I believe to be God's wrath on Jehoshaphath.**  
*(Vs 4)* **His eldest son that reigned after him slew all six of his other sons!**

That's just the beginning. We see his son, Jehoram, walked in the way of the kings of Israel, rather than like his father and grandfather! And the reason for that might have had something to do with his daddy hanging around Ahab because he married Ahab's daughter! *(Vs 6)*

As we read to the end of the chapter, we find that all of Jehoram's sons but were taken into captivity along with his wives, except his youngest son, Jehoahaz a/k/a Ahaziah. *(Vs 17)*