

# King Jehoiakim

## Introduction

1. **It was the waning days of the nation of Judah. Their last great king, Josiah, was dead.**
  - A. **In his place his son, Jehoahaz reigned for only 3 months.**
  - B. **Then his son, Jehoiakim began to reign and he reigned for 11 years.**

2 Kings 23:36-37 Jehoiakim was twenty-five years old when he became king, and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Zebudah the daughter of Pedaiah of Rumah. And he did evil in the sight of the LORD, according to all that his fathers had done.

2. **Our aim this morning is to see what evil he practiced and to see what we can learn from his life.**

## The Characterization of Jehoiakim's Reign

1. **His reign was characterized by extortion, oppression of the poor, dishonesty, and injustice.**  
**Jeremiah 22:13-17**
  - A. **King Jehoiakim built lavish mansions. He was concerned more about meeting his own selfish desires than helping those in need.**
    - 1) **Our responsibility is cited in James 1:27.**

James 1:27 Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble, and to keep oneself unspotted from the world.

- A. **We should always be involved in promoting justice.**

**2. His reign was characterized by threatening and killing prophets who spoke the truth.**

**Jeremiah 26:2-5, 12-15**

**A. He also killed Uriah, the prophet. Let us recall Paul's words of Galatians 4:16.**

Galatians 4:16 Have I therefore become your enemy because I tell you the truth?

**3. His reign was characterized by a disregard for God's Word.**

**A. Jeremiah was commanded by God to write his prophecies on a scroll.**

**B. The scroll was of papyrus or parchment.**

**Jeremiah 36:2-6**

**1) The chain of inspiration was from God's mouth to Jeremiah's mouth to Baruch's transcription.**

**2) It was still the Word of the Lord! The scroll was read to the people. The princes and King Jehoiakim heard the reading of it by Jehudi.**

**3) The king wanted to see the scroll for himself.**

**Jeremiah 36:21-23**

**a. Jehoiakim's reaction to God's Word was not to repent but rather to destroy the scroll.**

**b. A new scroll was made.**

**Jeremiah 36:27-32**

## Conclusion

### 1. God's Word is truth whether we accept it or not.

John 17:17 Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.

#### A. We can't "cut out" portions that we don't like.

**Revelation 22:18-19**

### 2. God's Word is eternal.

Isaiah 40:8 The grass withers, the flower fades, But the word of our God stands forever."

### 3. God's Word is powerful.

Hebrews 4:12 For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

### 4. Sadly, the end of Jehoiakim was tragic.

#### A. The Lord says that they shall not lament him.

Jeremiah 22:18-19 Therefore thus says the LORD concerning Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, king of Judah: "They shall not lament for him, Saying, 'Alas, my brother!' or 'Alas, my sister!' They shall not lament for him, Saying, 'Alas, master!' or 'Alas, his glory!' He shall be buried with the burial of a donkey, Dragged and cast out beyond the gates of Jerusalem.

### 5. Let us conclude by thinking seriously about what Paul wrote to the Thessalonian brethren.

**2 Thessalonians 1:6-10**

