

# 2 Kings 23:34

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Pharaoh-nechoh made Eliakim the son of Josiah king in the room of Josiah his father, and turned his name to Jehoiakim, and took Jehoahaz away: and he came to Egypt, and died there.

## Analysis

---

**And Pharaoh-nechoh made Eliakim the son of Josiah king in the room of Josiah his father, and turned his name to Jehoiakim, and took Jehoahaz away: and he came to Egypt, and died there.**

This verse contributes to the overall theme of chapter 23: Comprehensive reformation cannot avert certain judgment. The reference to kingship reminds readers that all human authority is subordinate to God's ultimate kingship. In Judah's later history, we see both genuine reforms and deep-rooted corruption, revealing that external religious activity cannot substitute for heart transformation.

The narrative demonstrates God's justice in judging covenant unfaithfulness while maintaining His ultimate purposes for redemption.

## Historical Context

---

**Historical Setting:** 2 Kings 23 takes place during the final century of Judah's existence, 7th century BCE, including Manasseh and Josiah's reigns. The chapter's theme (Josiah's Thorough Reforms) reflects the historical reality of the worst apostasy under Manasseh followed by the most thorough reforms under Josiah,

demonstrating that external righteousness cannot reverse God's determined judgment. Archaeological evidence from this period includes royal inscriptions, administrative documents, and material culture that corroborate the biblical account while providing additional context for understanding the political and social dynamics at work.

## Related Passages

---

**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

**1 Corinthians 13:4** — Characteristics of love

**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

## Study Questions

---

1. How does this verse contribute to understanding the theological message of 2 Kings 23 regarding comprehensive reformation cannot avert certain judgment?
2. What does this passage reveal about God's character, particularly His justice, mercy, and faithfulness to covenant promises?
3. In what practical ways should this text shape contemporary Christian thinking about faithfulness, worship, and obedience to God?

## Interlinear Text

---

מֶלֶךְ	פָּרַע הַ	נֹכַח הַ	אֶת	אֶלְיָקִים	בֶּן	
king	H0	And Pharaohnechoh	H853	made Eliakim	the son	
H4427		H6549		H471	H1121	
	וְאִשִּׁי הוּא	בֵּית חָתָן	וְאִשִּׁי הוּא	אָבִיו	וַיִּטּ בְּ	אֶת
in the room of Josiah	H8478	in the room of Josiah	his father	and turned	H853	
H2977		H2977	H1	H5437		
שְׁמוֹ	יְהוֹיָקִים	וְאֶת	יְהוֹאָחָז	לָקַח	וַיָּבֹא	מִצְרַיִם
his name	to Jehoiakim	H853	Jehoahaz	and took	and he came	to Egypt
H8034	H3079		H3059	H3947	H935	H4714
וַיָּמָת	שָׁם:					
and died	H8033					
H4191						

## Additional Cross-References

---

**1 Chronicles 3:15** (Parallel theme): And the sons of Josiah were, the firstborn Johanan, the second Jehoiakim, the third Zedekiah, the fourth Shallum.

**2 Kings 24:17** (Kingdom): And the king of Babylon made Mattaniah his father's brother king in his stead, and changed his name to Zedekiah.

**Daniel 1:7** (Parallel theme): Unto whom the prince of the eunuchs gave names: for he gave unto Daniel the name of Belteshazzar; and to Hananiah, of Shadrach; and to Mishael, of Meshach; and to Azariah, of Abed-nego.