

2 Kings 23:36

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Jehoiakim was twenty and five years old when he began to reign; and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Zebudah, the daughter of Pedaiah of Rumah.

Analysis

Jehoiakim was twenty and five years old when he began to reign; and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Zebudah, the daughter of Pedaiah of Rumah.

This verse contributes to the overall theme of chapter 23: Comprehensive reformation cannot avert certain judgment. 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

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

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

בֶּן	עֶשְׂרִים	וְחֲמִישָׁה	שָׁנָה	יְהוֹיָכִים	מָלַךְ	וָאֵלֶּם
old	was twenty	and five	years	Jehoiakim	and he reigned	eleven
H1121	H6242	H2568	H8141	H3079	H4427	H259

עֲשָׂרָה	שָׁנָה	מָלַךְ	בִּירוּשָׁלַם	וְשֵׁם	אִמּוֹ
H6240	years	and he reigned	in Jerusalem	name	And his mother's
	H8141	H4427	H3389	H8034	H517

זְבֻדָּה	בֵּת	פְּדִיָּה	מִן	רוּמָה:
was Zebudah	the daughter	of Pedaiah	H4480	of Rumah
H2080	H1323	H6305		H7316

Additional Cross-References

2 Chronicles 36:5 (Kingdom): Jehoiakim was twenty and five years old when he began to reign, and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem: and he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD his God.

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