

## ALL THE MONEY THAT COMETH INTO ANY MAN'S HEART

### 2 KINGS 11:1 – 12:21

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~ Moral depravity and spiritual apostasy is consuming contemporary American society – and it all begins in the church. We are dangerously close to political anarchy, which is the final of three downward steps in the fall of any nation. Many people believe we are on the verge of disastrous judgment as a country at the hands of God Almighty in the form of civil war, amongst other very real possible existential threats. Some believe current political events will usher in the second advent of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Well, our Spiritual Safari cannot answer the following question with certainty, but it is fair and legitimate to ask: is it too late for a revival? This report will have quotes from renowned Bible teachers of the past such as RA Torrey and James M Gray to answer this specific question. I have nothing new to say about “*revival*” and I am not going to give my opinion. I have no updated theories on revival. Many people are going to disagree with the theological position of the Spiritual Safari regarding what I am about to write in this report. Either way, the Holy Spirit is at work through the lives of many individuals today; convicting the world of sin, righteousness and pending judgment, according to Scripture. That will be our premise.

The eleventh chapter of second Kings continues a gory and grisly section of the Bible. The account in our previous report was not pretty; and I may have given the impression we were through with the dismal details. Unfortunately, we’re going to learn all about Athaliah, daughter of Ahab and Jezebel; and she received bad traits from both momma and poppa. She is equally as wicked, repulsive and mean as either of them. Remember, Jezebel had engineered the marriage of Athaliah into the royal family of David. Athaliah’s son was Ahaziah, who had become king of Judah; and he was killed by Jehu as he visited the king of Israel, Jehoram, who had been seriously wounded fighting the Syrian’s.

As long as Ahaziah lived, Athaliah was queen. That suited her well. As we said, she was exactly like her mother Jezebel. Now that Ahaziah has been killed, a grandson will come to the throne and Athaliah removed. Of course, Athaliah didn't want that, so she begins killing all of the grandsons. Athaliah would have exterminated every living member in the line of David to retain power if she could have. What we have is another attempt by Satan himself to use a bloodthirsty woman to cut off the line that will ultimately lead to the Lord Jesus Christ. We can all thank God He will preserve His line; just as He did when Moses delivered the children of Israel from Pharaoh.

Here, Athaliah did not know one in the line of David had been stolen away and hidden. While the child, Joash, is in hiding, Athaliah is ruling with no contenders for the throne – which is the way she wanted it. Well, some of the rulers of the people and the captain of the guard obviously hated Athaliah; so, when they discover an heir to the throne of David had been found, hope was brought to them. Many precautions were taken to preserve the life of King Joash. Naturally, his life would not have lasted twenty-four hours if Athaliah had discovered a grandson of hers still alive. She was a heartless and cold woman.

Joash was protected until he could be presented to the people. When he was presented and crowned, the people rejoiced. This was a spectacular day in the southern kingdom of Judah. Well, Athaliah hadn't been invited to the crowning ceremony and, as she sat in King David's palace, she heard a noise coming from the temple below. Of course, this was Athaliah's idea of treason. The murderous always project. I'm sure she never even considered what she had done was treason. That's the same way mankind acts out his bloodlusts today, too, my friends – always blaming others for their own acts of treachery. As we read in this chapter, the priest properly takes her out and – the end of Athaliah. With that, a dark cloud was lifted from the southern kingdom and a good king assumed power.

Jehoiada orchestrated all of this, as we read in this account. Joash is only seven years old, so the elders, naturally, mentor and guide him. Jehoiada leads a movement to return to the worship of the True and Living God. Baal worship had become prevalent again in Judah under the rule of Athaliah. The people were going to the temple of the Lord, but they were

worshipping Baal there. Does that sound familiar? Today, our church members are religious on Sunday, but they live for the devil during the other six days of the week. It's no wonder the church in our modern times is absolutely dead and ineffective at reaching people; and it's why no one is becoming saved in the church anymore. Well, here is the explanation; and it's not some great mystery....

## **XI**

***1 And when Athaliah the mother of Ahaziah saw that her son was dead, she arose and destroyed all the seed royal.***

***2 But Jehosheba, the daughter of king Joram, sister of Ahaziah, took Joash the son of Ahaziah, and stole him from among the king's sons which were slain; and they hid him, even him and his nurse, in the bedchamber from Athaliah, so that he was not slain.***

***3 And he was with her hid in the house of the LORD six years. And Athaliah did reign over the land.***

***4 And the seventh year Jehoiada sent and fetched the rulers over hundreds, with the captains and the guard, and brought them to him into the house of the LORD, and made a covenant with them, and took an oath of them in the house of the LORD, and shewed them the king's son.***

***5 And he commanded them, saying, This is the thing that ye shall do; A third part of you that enter in on the Sabbath shall even be keepers of the watch of the king's house;***

***6 And a third part shall be at the gate of Sur; and a third part at the gate behind the guard: so shall ye keep the watch of the house, that it be not broken down.***

***7 And two parts of all you that go forth on the Sabbath, even they shall keep the watch of the house of the LORD about the king.***

**8 And ye shall compass the king round about, every man with his weapons in his hand: and he that cometh within the ranges, let him be slain: and be ye with the king as he goeth out and as he cometh in.**

**9 And the captains over the hundreds did according to all things that Jehoiada the priest commanded: and they took every man his men that were to come in on the Sabbath, with them that should go out on the Sabbath, and came to Jehoiada the priest.**

**10 And to the captains over hundreds did the priest give King David's spears and shields, that were in the temple of the LORD.**

**11 And the guard stood, every man with his weapons in his hand, round about the king, from the right corner of the temple to the left corner of the temple, along by the altar and the temple.**

**12 And he brought forth the king's son, and put the crown upon him, and gave him the testimony; and they made him king, and anointed him; and they clapped their hands, and said, God save the king.**

**13 And when Athaliah heard the noise of the guard and of the people, she came to the people into the temple of the LORD.**

**14 And when she looked, behold, the king stood by a pillar, as the manner was, and the princes and the trumpeters by the king, and all the people of the land rejoiced, and blew with trumpets: and Athaliah rent her clothes, and cried, Treason, Treason.**

**15 But Jehoiada the priest commanded the captains of the hundreds, the officers of the host, and said unto them, Have her forth without the ranges: and him that followeth her kill with the sword. For the priest had said, Let her not be slain in the house of the LORD.**

**16 And they laid hands on her; and she went by the way by the which the horses came into the king's house: and there was she slain.**

**17 And Jehoiada made a covenant between the LORD and the king and the people, that they should be the LORD'S people; between the king also and the people.**

**18 And all the people of the land went into the house of Baal, and brake it down; his altars and his images brake they in pieces thoroughly, and slew Mattan the priest of Baal before the altars. And the priest appointed officers over the house of the LORD.**

**19 And he took the rulers over hundreds, and the captains, and the guard, and all the people of the land; and they brought down the king from the house of the LORD, and came by the way of the gate of the guard to the king's house. And he sat on the throne of the kings.**

**20 And all the people of the land rejoiced, and the city was in quiet: and they slew Athaliah with the sword beside the king's house.**

**21 Seven years old was Jehoash when he began to reign.**

## **XII**

**1 In the seventh year of Jehu Jehoash began to reign; and forty years reigned he in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Zibiah of Beersheba.**

**2 And Jehoash did that which was right in the sight of the LORD all his days wherein Jehoiada the priest instructed him.**

~ This marks the beginning of a spiritual movement in Israel that was the equivalent of what we conceive of as revival. This marks the reign of Jehoash – also known as Joash. There were nineteen kings who reigned over the northern kingdom; and there were twenty that ruled over the southern kingdom. In the north, there was not *one* king who was called a good king by the Lord. They ALL ‘did evil’ in the sight of the Lord! In the southern kingdom of Judah, only eight were good kings and, out of those, only five were considered exceptional; and those five were those who brought about revival. Every blessing that came to Judah was incubated in the nest of revival. These are very brief periods of respite for Israel, but

they continued the fire burning on the altar; a fire that had become all but extinguished at divers times in Israel's history.

During the five reigns in which revival flared up, it was as a forest fire that swept through the nation; but not a fire of destruction, a refining fire of purification in instruction. God visited His chosen people with a time of refreshing. Revival is a time of returning to the Word of God, the *proper* worship of God, and the putting away of idolatry; and there is always prosperity and plenty of joy when it is genuine. IF revival were to come today – there will *necessarily* need to come new power, new joy and new life - and new love - in the church. Every single one of those characteristics are severely lacking in the average modern church in this world. I'm sure *YOU* don't think this applies to *YOUR* church. Well, you may want to seriously pray for discernment concerning this.

Revival doesn't entail other people getting saved! The salvation of a lost and dying world may be a biproduct of spiritual revival; but revival only ever happened to God's chosen people in Scripture. See, revival *ONLY* happens when we go into our bedroom or study, draw an imaginary circle in the middle of the room, get inside that circle, take a Bible in our hand, learn it properly, correctly and completely, and then pray God will begin a revival inside our little circle. There is *NO OTHER WAY*, my beloved – you might want to just write that down! Only a return to the Word of God brings revival – and a return to the Word of God is what would have to happen to bring revival today. It also *MUST* include prayer and repentance – by *YOU* – not other people! Without a sincere and educated *personal* return to the Word of God by *YOU*, then you can forget about revival. This is an axiom of Biblical truth that has been behind every revival this world has ever witnessed.

I believe we could experience genuine revival in the church – even in this dark day of near total apostasy in which we live. Dr, Griffin Thomas said, “... *I cannot see anywhere in Scriptures that revival is contrary to the will of God.*” Dr. RA Torrey said, “... *there is no such teaching in Scripture as that revival is contrary to God's will.*” Dr, Gray said, “... *we recall nothing in any of the epistles to justify the conclusion that the experiences of the early church may not be repeated today.*” Well, we need revival – but we need a

*genuine* revival – not silly emotional outbreaks in some small community where a local church makes a claim revival has begun. That’s nonsense and foolishness - because it’s not Biblical. It gives the enemy occasion to blaspheme God. We need men who have been instructed in the Word of God....

***3 But the high places were not taken away: the people still sacrificed and burnt incense in the high places.***

~ Apparently, revival doesn’t mean everyone will turn back to God! Even some of the priests didn’t turn fully from the high places to God at the time in which we are studying. However, we know this was a true period of revival as Chronicles later makes abundantly clear. At this time, the temple was in very poor shape, and needed repairs. The priests were collecting the money, but they weren’t using it to do what they should have been doing! Imagine that. As we read on, after sixteen long years, still nothing had been done.

It’s the same old story today, too. Frankly, any church or church member is easily tested by their use or abuse of money. If you think revival is happening today – you’re not living in reality. The rich man is not interested in supporting the proper, correct and complete teaching of the Word of God. Everyone thinks they have some profound spiritual gift – like speaking in tongues or healing or prophesying – but *NO ONE* seems to have been given the gift of giving? Revival will *NEVER* come about under those conditions. Candidly, supporting the sincere, educated, systematic teaching of sound doctrine is the minimum prerequisite for revival, according to God. Make a note.

Here’s a safari prophecy: until what I just wrote changes – there will *NEVER* be revival anywhere in this world. If you don’t think so, all I can say is: we’re going to see. So far, I’m right. If you’re not supporting the man who believes God in his verifiable work – then you are as dead as any bad king of Israel. You can never have a role in revival in that state; I don’t care how many orphans you feed, how many widows’ mortgages you pay off, or how many dogs in the Aleutian Islands you save. Further, if you support a

ministry but you really have *NO IDEA* what is being taught there – your giving is sinful. Drink these statements down very slowly....

***4 And Jehoash said to the priests, All the money of the dedicated things that is brought into the house of the LORD, even the money of every one that passeth the account, the money that every man is set at, and all the money that cometh into any man's heart to bring into the house of the LORD,***

***5 Let the priests take it to them, every man of his acquaintance: and let them repair the breaches of the house, wheresoever any breach shall be found.***

***6 But it was so, that in the three and twentieth year of king Jehoash the priests had not repaired the breaches of the house.***

***7 Then king Jehoash called for Jehoiada the priest, and the other priests, and said unto them, Why repair ye not the breaches of the house? now therefore receive no more money of your acquaintance, but deliver it for the breaches of the house.***

***8 And the priests consented to receive no more money of the people, neither to repair the breaches of the house.***

***9 But Jehoiada the priest took a chest, and bored a hole in the lid of it, and set it beside the altar, on the right side as one cometh into the house of the LORD: and the priests that kept the door put therein all the money that was brought into the house of the LORD.***

~ Well, the priests agreed not to take any more money, but they also agreed not to continue any further repairs to the temple. That's interesting because they didn't make any repairs in the first place. Joash had to make a lockbox where the priests couldn't even get to the money. That was a pretty good idea, too. We need to have an accounting in church work – and I mean a *REAL* accounting. Anyone can be a master chef when cooking books. What's happening today in the ministry today is a disgrace. Many organizations have a "chest of Joash" used to raise money. I wonder how



many of them honestly understand the proper spiritual background. See, even with this great spiritual revival in Judah at the time in which we are studying, the nation is in decline....

***10 And it was so, when they saw that there was much money in the chest, that the king's scribe and the high priest came up, and they put up in bags, and told the money that was found in the house of the LORD.***

***11 And they gave the money, being told, into the hands of them that did the work, that had the oversight of the house of the LORD: and they laid it out to the carpenters and builders, that wrought upon the house of the LORD,***

***12 And to masons, and hewers of stone, and to buy timber and hewed stone to repair the breaches of the house of the LORD, and for all that was laid out for the house to repair it.***

***13 Howbeit there were not made for the house of the LORD bowls of silver, snuffers, basons, trumpets, any vessels of gold, or vessels of silver, of the money that was brought into the house of the LORD:***

***14 But they gave that to the workmen , and repaired therewith the house of the LORD.***

***15 Moreover they reckoned not with the men, into whose hand they delivered the money to be bestowed on workmen: for they dealt faithfully.***

***16 The trespass money and sin money was not brought into the house of the LORD: it was the priests.***

***17 Then Hazael king of Syria went up, and fought against Gath, and took it: and Hazael set his face to go up to Jerusalem.***

***18 And Jehoash king of Judah took all the hallowed things that Jehoshaphat, and Jehoram, and Ahaziah, his fathers, kings of Judah, had dedicated, and his own hallowed things, and all the gold that was found***

***in the treasures of the house of the LORD, and in the king's house, and sent it to Hazael king of Syria: and he went away from Jerusalem.***

***19 And the rest of the acts of Joash, and all that he did, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah?***

***20 And his servants arose, and made a conspiracy, and slew Joash in the house of Mollo, which goeth down to Silla.***

***21 For Jozachar the son of Shimeath, and Jehozabad the son of Shomer, his servants, smote him, and he died; and they buried him with his fathers in the city of David: and Amaziah his son reigned in his stead.***

~ Once again, we end this report on a bad note. First, Joash was only buying time paying ransom and tribute to Hazael, king of Syria. Second, this event immediately precedes the death of a good king at only forty-seven years old. In the next leg of our safari, we're going to see the reign of his son, Amaziah – who was also a good king. After that, Azariah comes to the throne, and he is also a good king. We know Azariah as Uzziah – and that's the time period when Isaiah begins his prophetic ministry. This is a wonderful period of the southern kingdom; but, during this time, we're going to see the northern kingdom taken into Syrian captivity.

We're nearing a section of Scripture that is *ALL* about revival – in depth – when we get to the two books of Chronicles. We don't hear much about revival today; but what we do hear is almost *ALWAYS* wrong. We have an overwhelming desire to solve problems from the psychological point of view – meaning personal problems – but the idea of humbling ourselves before God, confessing and repenting of our sins, and honestly learning the Bible doesn't even enter our minds. This is a very strong message for all nations – and for us as individuals, too. Our next few reports will entail some fine commentary on political economy – but *NOT* from a political point of view – from a Scriptural point of view. I hope you can continue with us ~