

WOMEN OF THE OLD TESTAMENT QUEEN ATHALIAH

Pray and ask God to help you to know Him better as you study His Word.

Read the Bible passage (preferably without using commentaries).

Begin to answer the questions using your own words.

Questions are based on the New International Version (NIV) 2011 edition.

Lesson 21 • March 27, 2013

1. What truth, verse or insight from last week's study of **Queen Jezebel** has been helpful to you?

SECTION I: Read 2 Chronicles 22

2. a) From **V1-2**, who was Ahaziah, and how did he come to power?

b) Who was Athaliah, and what was her spiritual background? To refresh your understanding of her parents and the impact of their reign, review **1 Kings 16:29-33**.

c) Read **1 Kings 16:23-28** about Athaliah's grandfather. What is significant about his reign?
3. a) How did Athaliah influence Ahaziah, and how was that reflected in **V3-6**?

b) What does it mean to do evil in the sight of the LORD? For insight, read **Judges 3:7**.

c) From **2 Chronicles 24:7**, describe how Athaliah's sons demonstrated their disdain for the things of God.
4. a) What were the ramifications of Ahaziah's visit to Joram according to **V7-9**?

b) According to **V9b**, what was the condition of the house of Ahaziah at that time?

5. How did Athaliah react to her son's death in **V10**?
6. a) What do you think led Athaliah to take such heinous actions against her grandsons, and what does that say about her spiritual condition?
- b) In what area of your life do you feel the pull or desire for position and/or power?
7. From **V11-12**, how did Joash escape from his grandmother's murderous rampage? (Note: We will be studying Jehosheba in the next lesson.)

SECTION II: Read 2 Kings 11:4-21

8. a) Summarize the plans Jehoiada laid out in **V4-11**.
- b) What were the preparations for, and what was the mood according to **V12-14**?
- c) How did Athaliah react to the crowning of the young king?
9. a) Describe Athaliah's demise, detailed in **V15-16**.
- b) Give a modern day example of the downfall of a formerly powerful person who abused his or her power or position.
10. In **V17-18**, what covenants were made, and what steps were taken in furtherance of the covenants?

11. a) According to **V19-21**, how did it end for the following:

The king _____ The people _____

The city _____ Queen Athaliah _____

b) Given the responses of the variety of people throughout this chapter, what does that say about Athaliah?

12. What lessons have you learned from the life of Queen Athaliah, and what safeguards will you employ regarding:

- Motherhood
- Desire for power
- Spiritual heritage

13. Write a prayer of protection for someone in a position of power or authority.

DIGGING DEEPER

Queen Athaliah's desire for power and prominence led her to murder her own grandchildren. Look at these verses for insight into the abuse of position and power.

1. How does **2 Chronicles 12:14** explain the root cause of another evil ruler, King Rehoboam?

2. Compare a good ruler with a wicked ruler using the verses that specifically address them in **Proverbs 28**.

Wicked Ruler

Good Ruler

3. Read **Deuteronomy 17:18-20** where God gave clear instructions to the kings. What was key for these kings to lead with a right use of power?

4. How do these questions on position and power impact your thinking in areas where you have influence?

5. Suggested Memory Verse: **Proverbs 19:21**

