



## Daily Verse and Comment

### 2 Chronicles 24:18-22

(18) And they left the house of the LORD God of their fathers, and served groves and idols: and wrath came upon Judah and Jerusalem for this their trespass. (19) Yet he sent prophets to them, to bring them again unto the LORD; and they testified against them: but they would not give ear. (20) And the Spirit of God came upon Zechariah the son of Jehoiada the priest, which stood above the people, and said unto them, Thus saith God, Why transgress ye the commandments of the LORD, that ye cannot prosper? because ye have forsaken the LORD, he hath also forsaken you. (21) And they conspired against him, and stoned him with stones at the commandment of the king in the court of the house of the LORD. (22) Thus Joash the king remembered not the kindness which Jehoiada his father had done to him, but slew his son. And when he died, he said, The LORD look upon it, and require it.

*King James Version*

Jehoiada the priest was not Joash's biological father, but he had acted as a father to him. He had essentially reared this king of Judah.

This passage recounts the murder that [Jesus](#) referred to in [Matthew 23:35](#), when He said, "'You murdered [Zechariah] between the temple and the altar.'" It just shows what [ingratitude](#) can do to a person's thinking.

Let us evaluate Joash's character. He was a "fellow traveler." He was a leaner, a clinging vine, who did not have the resources within himself to choose his own course. Whenever he was pressured, he had nothing within to give him strength, so he drooped and spiritually died. Joash bent whichever way the wind blew. He was easily influenced by his peers. He went whatever way the crowd was going. His character reflected the crowd that he had joined. When Jehoiada was with him, and the influence was for good, then Joash was compliant and seemingly a good king. However, when

he was with his peers, a bad crowd, he was afraid to buck his peers and his character plummeted. We should also add that he did not [repent](#) when he was warned.

In the end, he was assassinated and not buried with the kings ([II Chronicles 24:25](#)). Is that not an interesting contrast between him and his "father" Jehoiada, who was not even in the kingly line but a priest. Yet, he was held in such high regard that he was buried with the kings. We must conclude that Joash's character was merely programmed; it had not truly been internalized. It was not genuine.

[Faith](#) and character have to be grounded within us and personally held. We should recall [Ezekiel 14:14](#), concerning Noah, Job, and Daniel. Even these three righteous men could save only themselves.

— John W. Ritenbaugh

**To learn more, see:**

**[Why Three Kings Are Missing From Matthew 1](#)**



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[Jehoiada](#)

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