

Jehoiakim
Jeremiah 36:21-25
By Russell Earl

Thesis: I want to remind us how important it is that we respect God's Word.

- Intro:
1. Jehoiakim was the second son of Josiah and Zebidah, the daughter of Pedaiiah of Rumah (II Kings 23:36). Born Eliakim (God will establish), his name was changed to Jehoiakim (Jehovah will establish) by Pharaoh-Necho when he placed him on the throne of Judah (II Kings 23:34).
 2. Jehoiakim replaced Jehoahaz as king of Judah (II Kings 23:34) when he was twenty five years old, and reigned eleven years (II Kings 23:36). During his reign Jehoiakim paid tribute to Pharaoh (II Kings 23:35), and later was the servant of Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon (II Kings 24: 1).
 3. In spite of Josiah's dedication to Jehovah and his good example, Jehoiakim did not follow in his father's footsteps. Jehoiakim's eleven years as king of Judah is summed up in II Kings 23:37, "And he did that which was evil in the sight of Jehovah, according to all that his fathers had done." Jeremiah

I. The Sins of Jehoiakim (Jer 22:13-19)

A. He had no respect for God's Word (2 Pt 1:21)

1. Those who have no respect for God's Word cannot be pleasing to God.
2. As a result they will never be pleasing to God until they repent, obey and respect God's Word.

B. He Killed the Prophet Urijah (Jer 26:20-24)

1. Sins around this killing include: covetousness, shedding innocent blood, oppression, and violence
2. We get a real look at the wickedness and darkness that rested in the heart of Jehoiakim when he kills this prophet of God.

II. Jehoiakim's Selfish & Wicked Example

A. Opportunity to turn the nation to God

1. **Jer 36:20-21** – when hearing the word of God Jehoiakim
2. His reply was one of wrath and complete rebellion to God (**Jer 36:22-25**).
3. His reply is not unlike some of our own brethren today.
4. Jehoiakim attempted to destroy, what cannot be destroyed – the word of God (**Mt 24:35**).
5. **The Anvil – see PPT**
6. Because of Jehoiakim's unwillingness to heed warnings and obey God, he had to face the consequences (**Jer 36:30-31**).

B. Jehoiakim – too big for his own good.

1. **He was too big, too full of pride to listen to reasonable men of God warning him, like Jeremiah.**
2. **He was too big, too full of pride to listen to God's word.**
3. **He was too big, too full of pride to hold the seat of king for long.**

4. The words of Isaiah speak truth when you consider the example of Jehoiakim
(Isa 30:9-10).

III. Lessons for us today.

A. Pride is a killer of men (**Pro 16:18**)

1. Jehoiakim had chances, he ignored them.
2. Today we have chances also, we cannot allow them to pass by.

B. We must live in accordance to God's word (**Pro 8:13**)

1. Pleasing God = Heaven; this only takes place if we live in accordance to God's word.
2. This goes beyond our words, or promises or our intentions. It is what you do, not what you intend to do.

Application & Conclusion:

1. There are many lessons with Jehoiakim, one is abundantly clear, rebellion against God comes at a price (**Jer 36:30**).
2. That price is one you do not want to pay, or you shouldn't be willing to pay.
3. Full Invitation

Non-Christians must:

Hear – James 1:22, Romans 10:15,17

Believe – Jn 12:44, Jn 8:24, Mt 16:16

Repent – Luke 13:2-3

Confess – John 12:42, Romans 10:9

Be Baptized – 1 Pt 3:21, Acts 22:16, Col 2:11, Mk 16:16, Rom 6:3-4

Live faithfully – John 14:15, Rev 2:10

Christians must:

Repent: Acts 17:20, Acts 8:37, Lk 13:3

Pray: James 5:16, 1 Jn 1:9