

#1136 The Curse of Jehoiakim and the Lineage of Jesus Christ – In the *sight* of the Lord, Zedekiah was like the *second* Eliakim, Jehoiakim, so the Lord *blinded* him

King Jehoiakim and his half-brother, King Zedekiah, were *doubles* to a great degree. In fact, as it says in 2 Kings 24:19, Zedekiah did that which was evil in the sight of the Lord *just as Jehoiakim had done*. The Lord purposely compares the two.

2 Kings 24:17-20 (KJV) And the king of Babylon made Mattaniah his father's [Jehoiakim's] brother king in his stead, and changed his name to ZEDEKIAH.

18 ZEDEKIAH was twenty and one years old when he began to reign, and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Hamutal, the daughter of Jeremiah of Libnah.

*19 And he [Zedekiah] **did that which was evil IN THE SIGHT OF THE LORD, according to all that JEHOIAKIM had done.***

20 For through the anger of the LORD it came to pass in Jerusalem and Judah, until he had cast them out from his presence, that Zedekiah rebelled against the king of Babylon. [The NIV reads . . . It was because of the Lord's anger that all this happened to Jerusalem and Judah, and in the end he thrust them from his presence.]

Key Understanding #1: The Lord ordained Zedekiah's eyes to be put out. Since it is said in 2 Kings 24:20 that it was because of the Lord's anger that Jerusalem and Judah were given over to Nebuchadnezzar and Babylon, it can also be said that it was because of the Lord's anger that he ordained Zedekiah's sons to be slain before Zedekiah's eyes, and for Zedekiah's eyes to be put out.



2 Kings 25:7 (KJV) And they slew the sons of Zedekiah BEFORE HIS EYES, AND PUT OUT THE EYES OF ZEDEKIAH, and bound him with fetters of brass, and carried him to Babylon. {put...: Heb. made blind}

Key Understanding #2: One of the reasons why the Lord chose to put out Zedekiah's eyes (2 Kings 25:7) was because Zedekiah, like Jehoiakim, did that which was evil in the sight – in the eyes – of the Lord (2 Kings 24:19). Get out of my sight!



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