

## **JOSIAH'S MESSIANIC LINEAGE**

King Josiah is listed in Matthew's genealogy of Jesus Christ. Matthew divided the genealogy of Jesus Christ into three sections of 14.

"Therefore all the generations from Abraham to David are 14 generations; and from David are 14 generations; and from the deportation 14 generations to Babylon to the time of Christ 14 generations." (Matt.1:17)

Josiah is listed in the second section of 14 generations. "And to Josiah were born Jeconiah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon." (Matt.1:11)

The second section is the lineage of the 20 messianic Judean kings (Matt.1:7-12). However, Matthew records only 14 kings from Solomon to Jeconiah.

If you compare Matthew's listing to the listing in 1 Chronicles 3:10-17, you will discover these six kings missing (Joash, Amaziah, and Azariah/ 3:1-12/ Matt.1:8/ kings during the fall of the north kingdom) and (Jehoahaz, Jehoiakim, and Zedekiah/ 3:15-17/ Matt.1:11/ kings during the fall of the south kingdom).

<b>This lesson will study six aspects of Josiah's Messianic Lineage.</b>
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**1. Because of Josiah's spiritual maturity as a spiritual reforming king, he was given two important doctrines related to his reign as king of the declining nation (2 Kings 22:14-20).**

The prophetess Huldah gave Josiah these two important doctrines after they found the lost book of the Law

- The first doctrine dealt with the fact that God would bring the 5<sup>th</sup> upon Judah because their heart was idolatrous. The people had embraced Josiah reformation politically but not spiritually (22:16-17).
- The second doctrine dealt with the fact that God would spare Josiah from this 5<sup>th</sup> cycle of divine discipline upon Judah (22:18-20).

After reigning 31 years (640-609 BC), Josiah died at the age 39 (22:1). 23 years after his death, Judah went under the 5<sup>th</sup> cycle to Babylon (586 BC).

*GOD IS FAITHFUL TO HIS WORD AND THOSE FAITHFUL TO HIS WORD – "God is faithful, through whom you were called into fellowship with His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord." (1 Cor.1:9) "However, when the Son of Man comes, will He find faith on the earth?" (Luke 18:8)*

**2. Four sons of Josiah are listed in 1 Chron.3:15 by order of their birth and rights to the throne.**

- Johanan – "Johanan the firstborn is not mentioned elsewhere and may have died before Josiah." (NIV, 1 Chron.3:15-16)
- Jehoiakin (18<sup>th</sup> king)
- Zedekiah (20<sup>th</sup> king/ last)
- Shallum / Jehoahaz (fourth son but 17<sup>th</sup> king)

**Note** that none of them were the 19<sup>th</sup> king. **Note** that their order is not in succession. **Note** also that these three are missing from Matthew's genealogy. **WHY?**

**3. This takes us back to Matthew's genealogy that went from Josiah (16<sup>th</sup> king) to Jeconiah (19<sup>th</sup> king). By the way, Jeconiah is also called Jehoiachin or just Coniah (ie, curse of Coniah).**

*"And to Josiah were born Jeconiah and his brothers at the time of the deportation to Babylon."*

Jeconiah (Jehoiachin) was the son of Jehoiakim and grandson of Josiah (2 Kings 24:6-17). Jeconiah became a vassal to Babylon and part of the 2<sup>nd</sup> deportation (597 BC).

Before I discuss the curse of Coniah, I need to mention the three missing kings of Judah in Matthew's genealogy.

**4. Three sons of Josiah were heirs to the throne of Judah and missing from Matthew (2 Kings 23:28-24:20).**

- Jehoahaz (Shallum) was the (4<sup>th</sup> son) but 17<sup>th</sup> king because he was vassal and after 3 months taken prisoner to Egypt.
- Jehoiakim was the (2<sup>nd</sup> son) and the 18<sup>th</sup> king. He was a vassal to Babylon and part of the 1<sup>st</sup> deportation to Babylon (605 BC).
- Zedekiah (Mattaniah) was the 3<sup>rd</sup> son) but the 20<sup>th</sup> and last king. He was a vassal to Babylon and the fall of Judah and the 3<sup>rd</sup> deportation (586 BC).

These three kings rejected the messages of the prophets sent by God (Jer.36:9,20-26, 32/ example of Jehoiakim who burned the word of God).

"And concerning Jehoiakim king of Judah you shall say, thus says the Lord, 'You have burned this scroll, saying, 'Why have you written on it that the king Babylon shall certainly come and destroy this land, and shall make man and beast to cease from it?'"

If you read on you will see that a curse was pronounced upon him and his descendants (Jer.36:30-31/ read). He was the father of Jeconiah and this curse was extended to his son. "His son Jehoiachin (see 2 Kings 24:6) ruled only 3 months (see 2 Kings 24:8) and then was captured and carried off to exile in Babylon (see 2 Kings 24:15), where he eventually died (see Jer.52:33-34)." (NIV, Jer.36:30)

**5. Jehoiakim's curse was extended to his son Jehoiachin and an additional curse was given (Jeconiah/ curse of Coniah) by Jeremiah (22:14-30).**

"Write this an down childless, a man who will not prosper in his days; for no man of his descendants will prosper sitting on the throne of David or ruling again in Judah." (22:30)

Seven sons are attributed to him in 1 Chron.3:17-19. *How can he be childless and still have seven sons?*

The answer is found in Luke's genealogy of Jesus Christ (Luke 3:27 – the son of Shealtiel, the son of Neri) ("and the sons of Jeconiah, the prisoner, were Shealtiel his son." 1 Chron.3:17)

**6. Two inheritance laws play an important role in the curse of Coniah as it relates to the genealogy of Jesus Christ.**

Luke follows the messianic lineage through Nathan and Mary. Luke records that Shealtiel was the son of Neri. This involved the **daughter's inheritance law of Num.27:7-11**. Coniah's daughter married Neri of the tribe of Nathan during the Babylonian Captivity. Shealtiel became heir to the house of David through both Solomon (Joseph) and Nathan (Mary) (Luke 1:32/ registration). Shealtiel's brother Pedaiah married his childless widow and gave birth to Zerubbabel by the **Levirate inheritance law of Deut.25:5-6**, which kept the messianic lineage in tact and still fulfilled the word of God.

**NO HEIR OF CONIAH WILL SIT UPON THE DAVIDIC THRONE UNTIL SECOND COMING OF JESUS CHRIST**