

From First To Worst **II Kings 8:16-27**

Today we finally switch from what's going on in the apostate northern kingdom to what's happening down south in Judah--and it isn't pretty!

- What Judah once was:** 41 good years with Asa and 25 with Jehoshaphat.
See the glory in his reign--II Chron. 17:1-6, 10-19, 18:1a, 20:25,28-30.
- What Judah has become:** all lost--Edom, Libnah, tribute, property, possessions, family, prestige, health. See II Chron. 21:8-20 for more details on evil actions of Jehoram and explicit northern control of Ahaziah.
- Why Judah goes this way:** warnings given long ago (Ex. 34:14-16, Dt. 7:3,4) yet Jehoshaphat's foolish marriage alliance (II Chr. 18:1b) allows an evil northern princess, Athaliah, and the "house of Ahab" (8:27= 3x!) to call a lot of the shots, II Chron. 22:2-5.
- Why Judah survived:** Yahweh's faithfulness to His promise to David of an enduring dynasty (II Sam. 7:8-17) in which Jesus will eventually come is pictured as a lamp. See in II Sam. 21:17, I Kgs. 11:35,36, 15:4.
- How all this can warn us:** Who will I date / marry (2 Cor. 6:14-18) and how will I spiritually aim to affect my spouse?

