

As Martin Luther's Bible teachings continued to spread the leaders in Rome became more and more frustrated and no wonder; in one of his papers, Luther compared the riches and magnificence of the Pope – who claimed to be god to the humble simplicity of Jesus who really was God. He wrote of the Pope, "He is, say they, the lord of the world! But Christ, whose vicar he boasts of being, has said, 'My kingdom is not of this world.'" (From the Great Controversy p140 - D'Aubigne, b. 6, ch. 3)

Some church leaders even said that the man who killed Luther would become sinless! One day a man with a gun hidden under his cloak asked Luther why he went about alone, without a body guard. Luther replied that God was his strength and shield. When he heard this, the gunman fled.

Now Luther was given a warning – sixty days to repent and if he did not, he and all his followers would be excommunicated – thrown out of the church, treated as outlaws, hunted to death and banned from heaven! Although many people were sympathetic to Luther, this was too much for them, but Luther determined to stand firm. Instead of cowering in fear, he burned the Pope's command, his laws and other writings in front of a crowd of students, doctors and citizens. He said, "A serious struggle has just begun... I began this work in God's name and God will finish it by His might."

This final separation from the official church was not easy for Luther; as a child he had been taught to respect the authority of the church even while he had been fighting the corruption within the church.

It was at this time that he wrote, "Oh, how much pain it has caused me, though I had the Scriptures on my side, to justify it to myself that I should dare to make a stand alone against the pope, and hold him forth as antichrist! What have the tribulations of my heart not been! How many times have I not asked myself with bitterness that question which was so frequent on the lips of the papists: 'Art thou alone wise? Can everyone else be mistaken? How will it be, if, after all, it is thyself who art wrong, and who art involving in thy error so many souls, who will then be eternally damned?' 'Twas so I fought with myself and with Satan, till Christ, by His own infallible word, fortified my heart against these doubts." (The Great Controversy p143, Martyn, pages 372, 373)

The Youngest King

Sabbath

How old are you?

Do you have chores at home?

Use a red pencil to find the chores that you do and a blue pencil to find what your parents do.

Making **lunch** or **dinner**, **clearing** the **table**, **washing** or **drying** the **dishes**. Making the **beds** and **cleaning your room**. Doing the **washing**; **folding** and **putting away** the **clothes**, **cleaning** the **bathroom** and **kitchen**, **taking out** the **garbage** and **sweeping the paths**.

C L E A R I N G C B E D S H F
L O R W E S C A N D H O W O O
E A R A Y O U R O O M I E E L
A N D Y S U C B R D A N E M D
N D T H E T M A K I N G P A I
I T H E P H O G R N D E I K N
N H E T A B L E S N C H N I G
G E K I T C H E N E O D G N P
R E S T H E C H D R Y I N G U
O R W A S H I N G E S S C H T
W A S H I N G L U N C H O R T
C L E A N I N G E T H E S C I
H O R N E C L O T H E S S C N
H O R D E B A T H R O O M S G
T A K I N G T H E C R R H O R

Year 2, Quarter 2, Week 1, Level: "Pre/Teens"

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Refer: 2 Kings 11-15; 2 Chronicles 22:10-12; 23:1, 11-17; 24:1-14 NLT; *Prophets and Kings* p215, 216;

The Bible Story vol5 p111-119, *The Great Controversy* chapter 7

Sunday

When news arrived of King Ahaziah's death, his mother, Athaliah, decided she wanted to be the queen of Judah so she destroyed all the men of the king's family. Athaliah was the daughter of King Ahab of Israel and worshipped Baal like the wicked queen Jezebel.

Jehosheba, a sister or half sister of the king hid the baby Joash and his nurse in a bedroom and then took them to live in the temple where they remained hidden until Joash turned seven. Then Jehoiada the priest called the commanders and palace guards, showing them the king's son.

That Sabbath, with the people watching, Jehoiada placed the king's crown on Joash's head, and presented him with a copy of God's laws. All the people proclaimed him king and shouted, "Long, live the king!" When the Queen came to see what the noise was about, Jehoiada ordered the soldiers to take her away. Then the people tore down the temple of Baal and promised to follow God.

One day King Joash said to the priests, "Use some of the money brought as offerings to pay for the repairs needed at the Temple." But they didn't do anything so King Joash called the priests again and said, "From now on all money must be paid to workmen to repair the Temple."

Jehoiada the priest put a hole in the lid of a large chest and set it at the entrance of the Temple. The people brought gold and silver, and whenever the chest became full, the court secretary and high priest counted the money. Then they gave the money to the construction supervisors, who paid the the carpenters, builders, masons and stonecutters, and so the Temple was repaired.

After King Hazael of Aram captured the city of Gath he turned his eyes towards Jerusalem. Then King Joash took the gold from the palace and temple treasuries and sent it to Hazael, so the attack was called off. Joash ruled in Judah for forty years before he was assassinated by two of his trusted officers. Then Amaziah, his son became the king.

Friday

What about you?

Are you like David who was always asking God's will?

Proverbs 3:5, 6^{NLT}, "_____ in the Lord with all your _____; do not depend on your own _____. _____ His will in all you do, and He will show you which path to take."

Matthew 6:33^{NLT}, "_____ the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and He will give you everything you need."

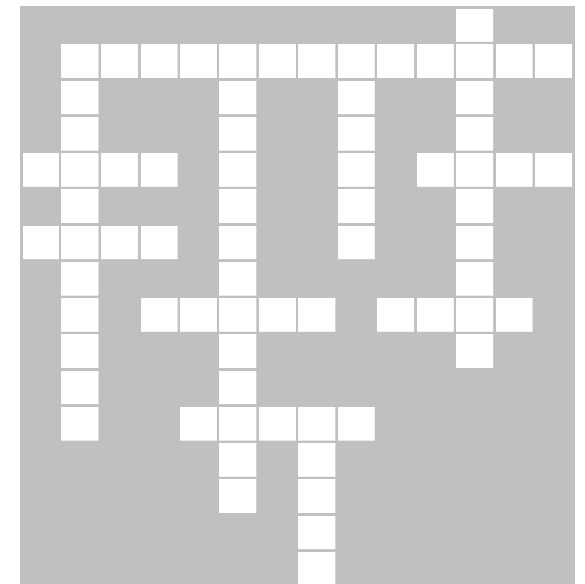
Will you make the same mistake as David and Solomon who married unbelievers?

2 Corinthians 6:14^{NLT}, "Don't team up with those who are _____. How can _____ be a partner with _____? How can light live with darkness?"

Do you have good advisors, do you ask for help when you need it?

Proverbs 12:15^{NLT}, "Fools think their own way is _____, but a _____ man listens to others."

Proverbs 19:20^{NIV}, "Listen to _____ and accept discipline, and at the end you will be counted among the _____."

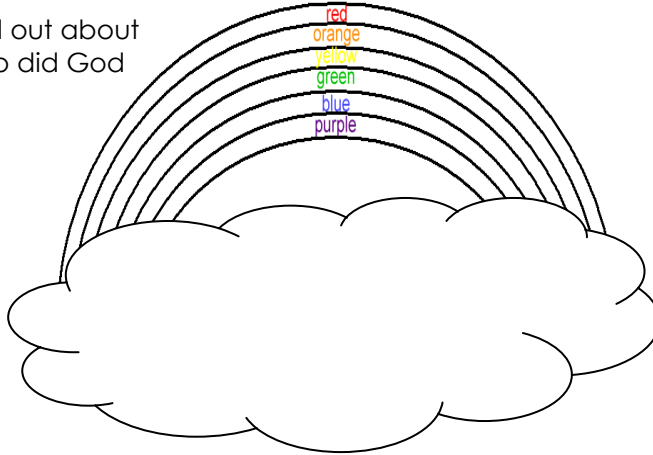


Thursday

Do you know what a covenant is?

Do you know what a promise is?

Read Genesis 9:8 to find out about another covenant. Who did God make a covenant with?



Did you know that our church still needs money?

When you put money in the offering each week it helps to pay for many things.

- ✓ Our tithe money helps pay for ministers.
- ✓ Our church offering goes to things like Christian schools, missionaries and Christian radio.
- ✓ Our Local Budget money pays our Church building and also buys the things that make it nice.

Ask your parents, Sabbath School teacher, or minister to find out what else your money helps do:



Monday

Amaziah defeated the Edmonites then sent a message to Jehoash king of Israel saying, "Meet me in battle!" But Jehoash sent a message back telling him to be content with his victory and stay home. Amaziah refused to listen and marched his army against Israel; the two armies fought and Jehoash of Israel won. He demolished part of the walls of Jerusalem and took the gold and silver from the Temple of the Lord.

After Jehoash, his son Jeroboam II became king of Israel; he ruled forty-one years and worshipped idols. Then his son Zechariah became king; he ruled six months before he was assassinated by Shallum who ruled only one month before he was assassinated by Menahem.

At this time, King Tiglath-pileser of Assyria invaded the land but King Menahem collected thirty-seven tons of silver from the people of Israel and sent it to the king of Assyria who agreed to leave. After Menahem, his son Pekahiah became king, he did not follow God and after two years he was assassinated by Pekah who ruled for twenty years and also worshiped idols. During his time, the king of Assyria attacked again and took many people captives.

When Amaziah the king of Judah was assassinated, his sixteen year old son Uzziah was crowned. Uzziah worshipped God but did not destroy all idol worship. Uzziah ruled fifty-two years but caught leprosy and then lived by himself in a separate house while his son Jotham took charge of the palace. Jotham became the next king; he rebuilt the upper gate of the Lord's temple but did not destroy all idol worship. When Jotham died, his son Ahaz became king. Ahaz worshipped idols and followed many evil practices.

When King the kings of Aram and Isreal came together to attack Jerusalem, Ahaz sent the gold and silver from the temple and palace with a message to King Tiglath-pileser of Assyria begging his help. So Assyria attacked the capital of Aram, Damascus, taking its people as captives. After this, Ahaz ordered a new altar be built in front of the temple of the Lord - an altar like the one in Damascus. He also made other changes in the temple.

Tuesday

Use the code to colour the picture to find out where Joash and his nurse hid while the soldiers searched the **palace**.

Where did **Joash** live after that?
2 Kings 11:3

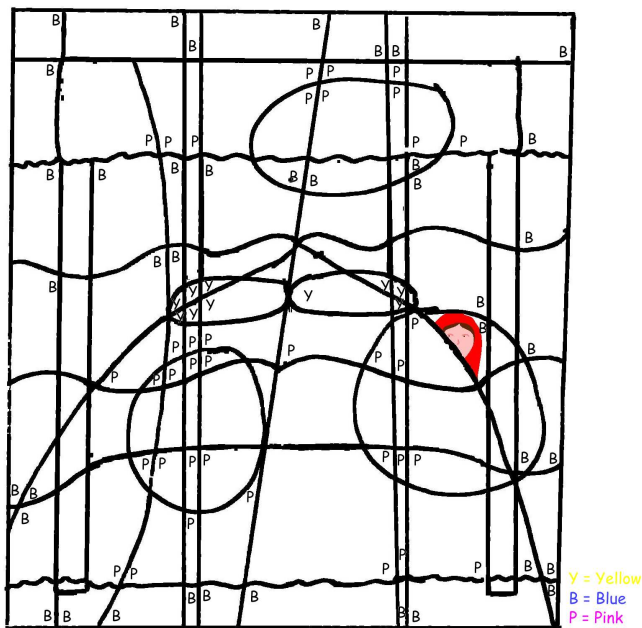
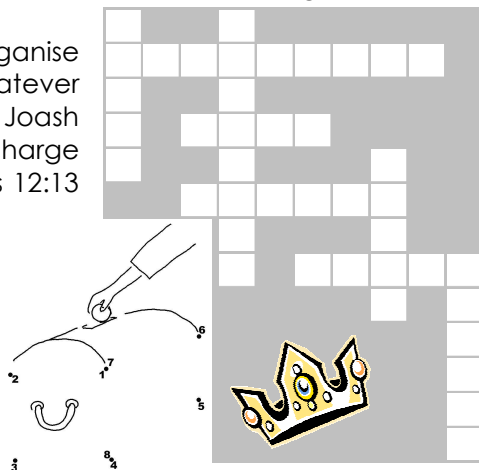
The _____

Joash is famous for two things:

1. His age when he became king. _____ (2 Kings 11:21)
2. How he raised the money to repair the temple. – **Jehoiada** took a _____ and put a _____ in the lid; this is where the people put their **offerings**. (2 Kings 12:9)

Fit the missing words and the underlined words into the grid.

The priests were supposed to organise repairs in the temple but for whatever reason they never got done, so Joash put construction supervisors in charge of organising workmen. 2 Kings 12:13 tells us, the money would no longer be used for making bowls or trumpets but the needed repairs to the buildings. Only the guilt offerings and sin offerings would be kept for the priests to live on.



Wednesday

- Who became king of Judah after Joash? _____ (3d)
2 Kings 12:21
- Who was the king of Israel at that time? _____ (6d) 2 Kings 14:8
- Did God want Judah and Israel to fight each other?
2 Chronicles 11:4. YES / NOT (10a)
- Who was king of Israel after Jehoash? _____ (1d) 2 Kings 13:13
- Who was the next king of Israel? _____ (2a) 2 Kings 14:29
- Who assassinated the king to become the next king? _____ (8a)
2 Kings 15:10
- And who assassinated the assassin? _____ (9a) 2 Kings 15:14
- Who was the next king? _____ (7a) 2 Kings 15:22
- Who assassinated him? _____ (11a) 2 Kings 15:25
- Who became the king of Judah after Azariah or Uzziah? _____ (4a) 2 Kings 15:7
- Who was the next king of Israel? _____ (5a) 2 Kings 15:38

God had called the Israelites to become a special people, different from the other people of the world; they were to be an example, a shining light to everyone. But it did not work out the way God planned. It started with David and Solomon when they took foreign wives who taught their children to worship idols. If Judah had been following God, then the wicked Athaliah would never have become the queen mother. Even with their mistakes, the Bible says that David and Solomon sought God's leading, but it does not say that of the later kings. Did they? We don't know for sure – maybe they did sometimes; but given what was happening it wasn't often enough...

