

The Death of Innocence

2 Kings 12:17-21 (with 2 Chronicles 24:15-27)

1. The Death of a _____ Man (2 Ch. 24:15-16)
 - a. Even a good man cannot _____ another
 - b. Royalty is not measured by _____

2. The Death of _____ (2 Ch 24:17-22)
 - a. Substituting _____ for a good mentor
 - b. Substituting _____ for the LORD
 - i. Brought _____ upon the people
 - ii. Brought God's _____ upon the people
 - c. Substituting revelation for a _____
 - i. _____ prophets testify against them
 - ii. Zechariah son of _____ sent to them
 1. _____ of the people
 2. _____ of the king

3. The Death of _____ (v. 17-19/2 Ch 24:23-24)
 - a. Arrival of an _____ enemy
 - i. The LORD _____ Syria victory over Judah
 - ii. The LORD _____ judgment through Syria
 - b. Acquiescence of a _____ principle
 - i. Giving up on _____
 - ii. Giving away all the _____

4. The Death of _____ (v. 20-21/2 Ch 24:25-27)
 - a. Conspiracy against a _____
 - i. After a _____ judgment
 - ii. For killing his _____'s son
 - b. Burial _____ for previous kings
 - * Despite the _____ reforms

Then the Spirit of God clothed Zechariah the son of Jehoiada the priest, and stood above the people, and said to them, 'Thus says God, 'Why do you break the commandments of the LORD, so that you cannot prosper? Because you have forsaken the LORD, he has forsaken you'' But they conspired against him, and by command of the king they stoned him with stones in the court of the house of the LORD. Thus Joash the king did not remember the kindness that Jehoiada, Zechariah's father, had shown him, but killed his son. And when he was dying, he said, 'May the LORD see and avenge!'

2 Chronicles 24:20-22

For Further Study

1. Read Psalm 49:7-9.
 - a. How does this truth play out in a drama in this historical section on King Jehoash?
 - b. How can we as parents or grandparents avoid having our kids gain any concept of salvation by proxy? If a mentor cannot save us, who is the only one who can?
2. Read Ecclesiastes 9:13-16.
 - a. How do we define a good ruler?
 - b. Why is it good to note that even good rulers will be forgotten? What good ruler was forgotten by Jehoash?
3. Read 2 Chronicles 10.
 - a. In what way was 2 Chronicles 24 a replay of 2 Chronicles 10? What were the differences?
 - b. What leadership lessons can be gained from these similar tales in 2 Chronicles 10 and 24?
4. Read Luke 11:45-52.
 - a. Who was guilty for Zechariah's murder?
 - b. Why was this injustice particularly egregious?
 - c. What was the persistent failure of the people (including the 'princes' of Judah and the king)?
5. Consider your own life in light of this historical recounting.
 - a. Are you on the path to "finish" well (2 Timothy 4:7)?
 - b. Who are you listening to? Jehoiada? Society's princes?
 - c. How are you treating the people of God – even those who might point out your sin?
 - d. What potential are you wasting or using to God's glory?