

2 Chronicles 23

King James Version (KJV)

23 And in the seventh year Jehoiada strengthened himself, and took the captains of hundreds, Azariah the son of Jeroham, and Ishmael the son of Jehohanan, and Azariah the son of Obed, and Maaseiah the son of Adaiah, and Elishaphat the son of Zichri, into covenant with him. (Jehoiada is the high priest. He was not a Baal worshipper. The people of Judah were disgusted with their rulers. They wanted to remain faithful to Yahoveh, despite having this Baal worship shoved down their throats)

2Kings-11 (Emphasizes the military and only mentions the priests in passing. Here it is the opposite, focusing on the identities of the priests)

NOTE: (Athaliah is a type for antichrist in the end times. She took a throne that didn't belong to her. She murdered to keep power for herself. Antichrist will try to take Jesus' throne. He will murder souls through false doctrine to keep power for himself. Just like Athaliah, antichrist will fail by the grace of God upon the faithful people)

²And they went about in Judah, and gathered the Levites out of all the cities of Judah, and the chief of the fathers of Israel, and they came to Jerusalem. (He gathered the Levites to help him to defy Athaliah)

³And all the congregation made a covenant with the king in the house of God. And he said unto them, Behold, the king's son shall reign, as the LORD hath said of the sons of David. (Joash = whom God hastens to help)

2Samuel-7:12 (The king's son Joash is only 1 year old at the time. He will begin to reign when he is 7 years old. Meanwhile, Athaliah will reign for 6 years)

⁴This is the thing that ye shall do; A third part of you entering on the sabbath, of the priests and of the Levites, shall be porters of the doors; (entering on the Sabbaths – this has to do with the 24 courses of the priests, throughout the year. They would serve for a week at a time; twice per year)

⁵And a third part shall be at the king's house; and a third part at the gate of the foundation: and all the people shall be in the courts of the

house of the LORD. (gate of the foundation - thought to be a side gate of the palace)

⁶But let none come into the house of the LORD, save the priests, and they that minister of the Levites; they shall go in, for they are holy: but all the people shall keep the watch of the LORD. (They hid Joash in the temple 6 years. They didn't have to worry about Athaliah coming in because she was a Baal worshipper who hated Yahoveh)

⁷And the Levites shall compass the king round about, every man with his weapons in his hand; and whosoever else cometh into the house, he shall be put to death: but be ye with the king when he cometh in, and when he goeth out. (Protect the king at all times)

(This is a military coup d'état to remove Athaliah; and to install the rightful king <Joash> on the throne of Judah)

(God raised these soldiers and priests to avenge the numerous murders that Athaliah committed in order to seize the throne. She wouldn't think twice about murdering Joash if she got the chance)

⁸So the Levites and all Judah did according to all things that Jehoiada the priest had commanded, and took every man his men that were to come in on the sabbath, with them that were to go out on the sabbath: for Jehoiada the priest dismissed not the courses. (He did a good job of keeping Yahoveh worship going through the reign of Athaliah, Jehoram, Ahaziah and the rest of Judah's Baal worshipping leaders)

⁹Moreover Jehoiada the priest delivered to the captains of hundreds spears, and bucklers, and shields, that had been king David's, which were in the house of God. (They couldn't bring their own weapons to the temple because Athaliah's spies would have known that something was up. They needed the element of surprise so that she couldn't assemble an army of her own)

¹⁰And he set all the people, every man having his weapon in his hand, from the right side of the temple to the left side of the temple, along by the altar and the temple, by the king round about.

¹¹Then they brought out the king's son, and put upon him the crown, and gave him the testimony, and made him king. And Jehoiada and his sons anointed him, and said, God save the king. (and his sons - and

the other priests who followed him) (God save the king = Let the king live <in Hebrew>)

(A copy of the testimony <the Pentateuch> – Every king will write his own copy of God's Word so that he will know it, and may rule by it) Deuteronomy-17:18

¹² Now when Athaliah heard the noise of the people running and praising the king, she came to the people into the house of the LORD: (She normally worshipped in the temple of Baal. She had never entered the House of God)

¹³ And she looked, and, behold, the king stood at his pillar at the entering in, and the princes and the trumpets by the king: and all the people of the land rejoiced, and sounded with trumpets, also the singers with instruments of musick, and such as taught to sing praise. Then Athaliah rent her clothes, and said, Treason, Treason. (Treason = conspiracy – better translation)

(This is Irony – She is the one who used conspiracy to murder the king's family in order to seize the throne. She thought that she had killed them all)

¹⁴ Then Jehoiada the priest brought out the captains of hundreds that were set over the host, and said unto them, Have her forth of the ranges: and whoso followeth her, let him be slain with the sword. For the priest said, Slay her not in the house of the LORD. (Take her out of the temple. Kill her and her followers outside, so as not to desecrate the temple of God with this murderess' blood)

¹⁵ So they laid hands on her; and when she was come to the entering of the horse gate by the king's house, they slew her there. Numbers-35, Deuteronomy-19 (A fitting punishment for mass murder)

¹⁶ And Jehoiada made a covenant between him, and between all the people, and between the king, that they should be the LORD's people. (They are renewing their relationship with God. Athaliah had driven the country into idolatry and perversion)

Exodus-24 (The covenant between God, the king and the people of Israel. They will live by and rule by the laws of God)

¹⁷ Then all the people went to the house of Baal, and brake it down, and brake his altars and his images in pieces, and slew Mattan the

priest of Baal before the altars. (They killed all of the Baal priests and destroyed the temple of Baal)

2Kings-10:20->on (Jehu was the king of Israel<10 northern tribes>. He gathered the Baal worshippers in Israel together, and slew the whole bunch. Joash, through Jehoiada the priest, did the same thing in Judah)

¹⁸ Also Jehoiada appointed the offices of the house of the LORD by the hand of the priests the Levites, whom David had distributed in the house of the LORD, to offer the burnt offerings of the LORD, as it is written in the law of Moses, with rejoicing and with singing, as it was ordained by David. (Ordained by God, through King David)

¹⁹ And he set the porters at the gates of the house of the LORD, that none which was unclean in any thing should enter in.

²⁰ And he took the captains of hundreds, and the nobles, and the governors of the people, and all the people of the land, and brought down the king from the house of the LORD: and they came through the high gate into the king's house, and set the king upon the throne of the kingdom.

²¹ And all the people of the land rejoiced: and the city was quiet, after that they had slain Athaliah with the sword. (There was peace)

NOTE: (Saul was a good king while Samuel lived. Afterwards, he went totally bad. Likewise, Joash was a good king while Jehoiada lived. Afterwards, he went totally bad also)