



## JEHOSHEBA: CHOOSING A DIFFERENT PATH

Jehosheba is a young woman who didn't grow up in the best environment, didn't have the best examples to follow, and ultimately chose to follow a different path than the one that played out in front of her day after day.

But in order for us to learn more about Jehosheba and why she rejected the lifestyle and the ways of those closest to her, we'll need to first learn more about those around her. Particularly her father, Jehoram King of Judah.

**Read 2 Chronicles 21:4-15.**

When Jehoram became king, whom did he kill?

So clearly Judah is already off to a bad start with King Jehoram. Rather than seek out enemies of Judah to kill, he prioritizes his own personal interests and seeks out his own brothers to kill.

According to the letter he received from the prophet Elijah, what did the Lord say about those whom Jehoram murdered?

You have also murdered your own brothers, members of your own family, men who were \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ (Niv).

So just to recap, Jehosheba's dad killed her uncles, his own brothers (2 Chronicles 21:4); married a daughter of King Ahab, a king who





sold himself to do evil in the eyes of the Lord at the encouragement of his wife Jezebel (2 Chronicles 21:6 and 1 Kings 21:25); and forsook the Lord the God of his ancestors and aroused the people of Jerusalem to prostitute themselves and led Judah astray (2 Chronicles 21:10-11).

This was the life Jehosheba knew. This was her background.

And unfortunately, it didn't end there. After King Jehoram dies, his son Ahaziah becomes king of Judah.

**Read 2 Chronicles 22:2-4**

According to verse 3, who encouraged King Ahaziah to act wickedly?

So now we learn that King Jehoram's son, Ahaziah, chose to follow in his parent's footsteps and in the ways of his maternal grandparents.

It would be easy to assume at this point that Jehosheba would also reject the ways of the Lord. And it wouldn't be a far-fetched thought, would it? Her dad was wicked, her stepmom was wicked, and her brother was wicked.

But now let's **Read 2 Chronicles 22:10-12**

Jehosheba chooses a different path.

I love the message in the life of Jehosheba. That it doesn't matter what your background is or what you've experienced, you can still choose what is good and right before the Lord.

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Clearly Jehosheba had a godly influence in her life as the text tells us in verse eleven that she was married to whom?

But believe it or not it didn't begin there.

**Read 2 Chronicles 17:1-6, 19:4-7, and 20:31-32**

How was Jehoshaphat related to Jehosheba?

I don't know the extent of Jehosheba's relationship with her grandfather. I don't know if she was born before he died or not. But I'm sure whether she had a relationship with him or learned about him through others, she would have certainly come to know that her grandfather served the Lord.

She would have also become very aware of the stark difference between how her grandfather lived and how her father lived.

Jehosheba exemplified courage, wisdom, and loyalty to the Lord through one simple act. She resisted the ways of evil and she chose a better path.

