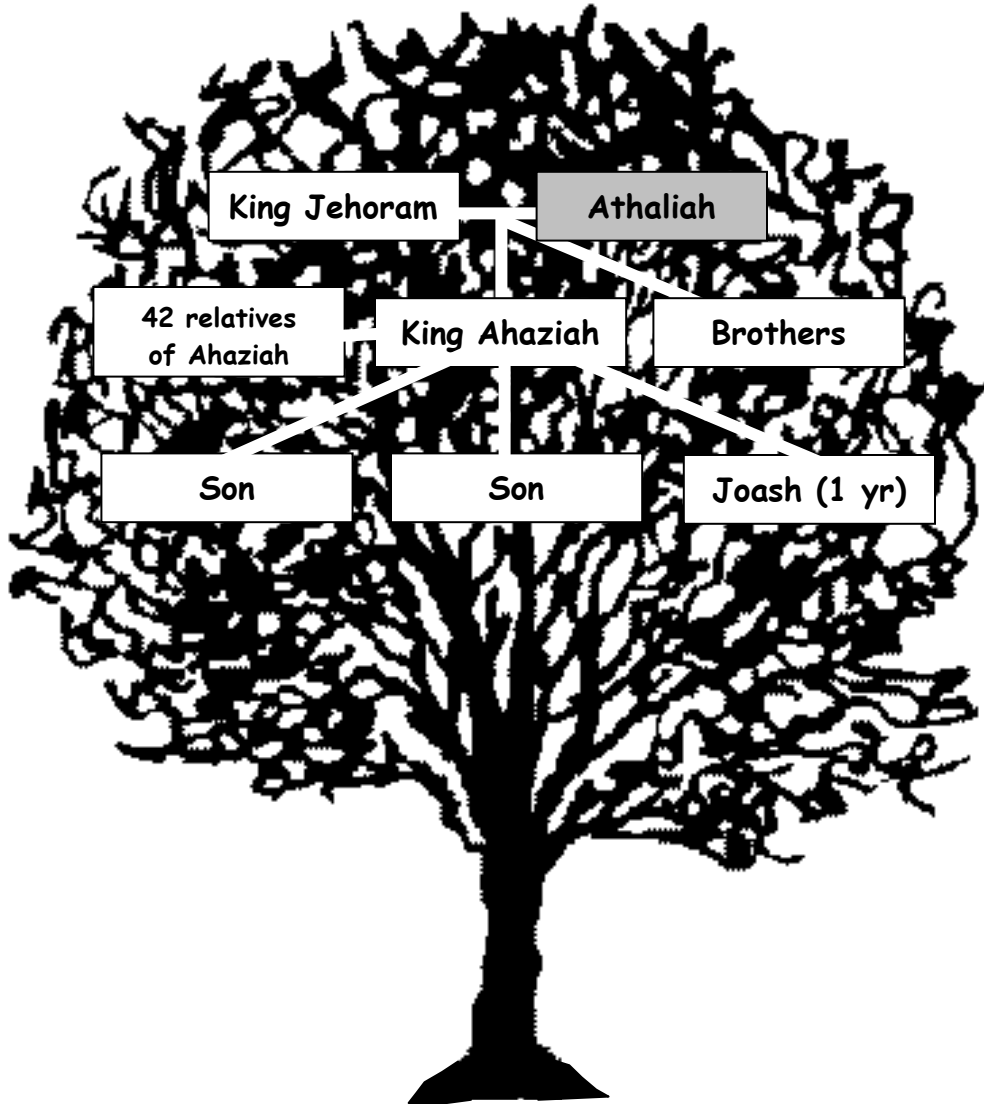


Lesson: God Protects

Response: I Will Not Fear

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lspam 118:

Joash (Athaliah)

Lesson: God protects

My response: I will not fear

Verse: The Lord is on my side; I will not fear. What can man do to me? Psalm 118:6

Reference: 2 Kings 11

Introduction: Review mobile, lessons, genealogy – ending with David.

- David's son, Solomon reigns over Israel (12 tribes) for many years but at the end of his reign he turns from the Lord – begins to be like the nations around them, worshipping idols and no longer trusts the Lord.
 - God is angry and says that he is going to split the kingdom of Israel into two parts – one will be called Israel and will have 10 tribes. The other will be called Judah and will have 2 tribes – he keeps Judah separate for the sake of David – this is the tribe through whom the Messiah will come. Show on whiteboard
 - The Children of Israel continue to sin (Israel and Judah) – no peace in the land. Continual war and many times the Children of Israel are defeated (as God had promised if they forsook Him)
 - One of the Kings in Judah was called Jehoram – he was a wicked king “did evil in the sight of the Lord”. Marries a daughter of one of the Kings of Israel – an attempt to bring peace between Israel and Judah? She encourages wickedness in Him. God refuses to destroy Judah because of His promise to David.
 - When God has a promise to keep Satan will try to do anything to keep it from being fulfilled. **Ask if they can think of other examples:**
 - Herod destroying all the children in Bethlehem
 - Temptation of the Lord
 - **Review family tree** - Ask them to listen carefully to what happens to the family members in the royal family of Judah – cross out members who die.
 - The Lord sends enemies (Philistines) into Judah – they invade the palace and kill all of King Jehoram's sons except for Ahaziah
 - The Lord raises up a King (Jehu) to bring judgement on Israel for all of their sin – King Jehoram and Ahaziah end up being killed because of their connection with Israel (Athaliah)
 - The cousins, nephews and other relatives of Ahaziah come to visit (must not know of the deaths in the family) – Jehu meets them and kills all 42 of them
 - Read: 2 Kings 11:1 – Athaliah kills all of the sons of Ahaziah except for Joash, his one year old son, who is rescued. Athaliah then declares herself Queen and begins to reign.
 - Review family tree – **What is left to fulfill God's promise of a Messiah through Judah?**
 - **If you were in this situation, how would you protect this infant son?** Generate list of suggestions. Discuss Isaiah 55:8 “My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways.
 - Read 2 Kings 11:2-3 – God does not need us and our plans to keep us safe. We are in His hands and he is able to protect us no matter how dangerous the situation may be.
 - At the age of seven, Joash is brought out surrounded by guards. They begin to clap and call out “Long live the King”.
 - Athaliah hears the commotion and comes to the temple – she makes one desperate attempt to save herself, crying out “Treason, Treason”.
 - Athaliah is killed for her treacherous actions and Joash begins to reign – there is peace in the land for his entire reign.
 - **Lesson:** If we are on the Lord's side, have put our trust in him – there is no need to fear. Man CANNOT do anything to us that is not the Lord's will and not for our blessing.
- Verse:** Have them unscramble the verse – then practice it together.