

Joash Discussion

Remember that these monologues are essentially historical fiction, based on the Scripture but filling in plausible subjective details, both emotional responses and motivations. Your first task is to decide if they are reasonable.

Joash survived a political purge. What marks this as Divine intervention?

Do such things happen in the 21st Century?

What must have been going through Athaliah's mind as she eliminated all the heirs to the throne, including her own grandchildren, after her son was killed?

Does this illustrate the principle that "power corrupts"?

Are women usually less likely to fall into this danger?

How did the priest Jehoiada show courage to hide Joash?

Is it surprising that Joash, as king, went along with the guidance of Jehoiada?

Is it surprising that he took bad advice after Jehoiada died?

Could he be characterized as a "people pleaser"?

What is the danger to a person with that type of personality?

What is the solution for the person who tends to act in that manner?

Why did Joash kill the prophet?

Might he have thought this would please the officials?

Could it have initially pleased them?

If so, why do you think did they changed their mind?

Were they possibly reacting to the consequences of the decision – defeat by Aram?

Is waiting for consequences a practical guide for making decisions?

How should a believer make decisions?

Is this skill and practice something that can be taught to children?

Is it hard to accept criticism?

Does it make it easier or harder if the criticism is true?

What is the proper way for a Christian to respond to criticism?

What is necessary in order to do that?