

Write This Man down as Childless
By Trey Sullins

Jesus Christ cannot be king! In the time of Judah's destruction God gave a prophetic declaration telling the king of Judah that he will never have any descendants rule from the throne in Judah anymore (Jeremiah 22:24-30). This does not sound unusual until you look into the genealogy of Christ in the New Testament and find this very king as our Lord's ancestor! Jesus Christ is King of Kings (1 Timothy 6:16). How can it be that the King of kings cannot be king?

Uncovering this answer starts with knowing Judah's situation in the day. Judah had rebelled against God for years and years. In fact, in Jeremiah 1:16 Jeremiah is told that this is the reason why Jeremiah was being sent to the people, "I will utter My judgments Against them concerning all their wickedness, Because they have forsaken Me, Burned incense to other gods, And worshiped the works of their own hands." Judah had broken the covenant that they made with God, "My covenant which they broke, though I was a husband to them, says the LORD" (Jeremiah 31:32). The nation from the top to the bottom had rebelled and turned against God therefore their destruction was coming.

Coniah, the wicked king of Judah, was soon to face this same destruction as well. As God's prophecies of annihilation came true and Babylon pummeled Judah over and over, you would think that Judah's last kings would be wary of rejecting God. Instead they mostly doubled down on their rejection of God and devotion to their false prophets. Because of this, God gave a special prophecy of punishment to Coniah individually. Coniah would be plucked off and given into the hands of those enemies who sought his life (Jeremiah 22:24-25). In the end he would die in a foreign land and never return to Jerusalem (Jeremiah 22:26-27). The last pronouncement against him ends his family line on the throne, "Write this man down as childless, A man who shall not prosper in his days; For none of his descendants shall prosper, Sitting on the throne of David, And ruling anymore in Judah" (Jeremiah 22:30). Coniah is the man mentioned here and is also called Jehoiachin and Jeconiah in the scriptures. He would never again have a descendant on the throne of Judah.

This brings us to Jesus Christ. In Matthew 1:12 Jesus is a descendant of Coniah. If that is the case, then how can Jesus be king? The solution is actually quite simple and something that Jesus says Himself. Coniah's bloodline was cut off from ruling "in Judah." This means that anyone who descended from this man can never sit on the throne in Jerusalem as king or God's prophecy has failed. Do you remember Jesus words in John 18:36? "My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, My servants would fight, so that I should not be delivered to the Jews; but now My kingdom is not from here." The Kingdom of which Jesus is king is not and will never be a physical kingdom. Jesus explains this further in Luke 17:20-21, "The kingdom of God does not come with observation; nor will they say, 'See here!' or 'See there!' For indeed, the kingdom of God is within you." You cannot see the kingdom because the kingdom is spiritual and always will be!

No matter how hard someone might try God's word is always accurate, and there is an answer to every perceived problem. Understanding this answer also helps us to know with certainty that doctrines like Premillennialism, which claims Jesus will come back to this earth and physically

rule, cannot be true. Our Savior is King of kings and Lord of Lords and we must only obey His spiritually minded commands to be admitted into His kingdom and reach our heavenly home.