

*Kings of Judah*  
*Zedekiah— 2 Kings 24: 17-20; 25: 1-7*  
*10/9/24*

**Zedekiah (*Yahweh is my righteousness*), was the last king of Judah before its fall to Babylon. He classified among the evil kings of Judah. King Zedekiah was placed in this office by Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon (v. 17).**

**Zedekiah was not the type of king that could keep his head amidst confusion and was persuaded to rebel against Nebuchadnezzar (2 Kings 25), and under Jeremiah’s advice Zedekiah surrendered to Nebuchadnezzar (Jeremiah 21: 9,10). Jeremiah prophesied during the whole reign of Zedekiah.**

**Zedekiah attempted to escape the tragedy Jeremiah had predicted, but was overtaken and brought to Nebuchadnezzar. Zedekiah and his whole family were taken captive to Riblah. In Riblah Nebuchadnezzar had Zedekiah’s sons killed while he watched them die. His son’s deaths were the last thing Zedekiah witnessed before Nebuchadnezzar had his eyes gouged out (25:7).**

**While on the way to Babylon in chains King Zedekiah died.**

***Holman Illustrated Bible Dictionary, Holman Publishers, pg 932.*  
*All the Men of the Bible, Herber Lockyer, Zondervan Publishers, pgs. 345-346***

**Zedekiah’s Reign: 2 Kings 24: 17-20**

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**Jerusalem Overtaken and Destroyed: 2 Kings 25: 1-30**

**vv. 1-12  
vv. 13 – 17  
vv. 18 – 30**

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**Small Group Discussion:**

- 1. What type of king was Zedekiah?**
- 2. Who made Zedekiah king?**
- 3. What caused trouble between Zedekiah and Babylon?**
- 4. How was Zedekiah punished for his rebellion?**
- 5. What prophesy had Jeremiah predicted concerning Zedekiah and Judah?**
- 6. What happen to Jerusalem, the Temple and the sacred vessels?**

**Next Week's Lesson:**

**King Jeroboam – 1 Kings 12: 20-33; 13: 1-6**

**Background Reading:**

**2 Chronicles 13:2-22**