

**Ladies Bible Study**  
**Handout**  
**2 Kings 3**  
**Feb. 9, 2023**

**Moab Revolts Read 2 Kings 3: 1-3**

Look at 2 Kings 1 v. 17

*So, he died, according to the word of the LORD that Elijah had spoken. Because Ahaziah had no son, Joram<sup>[b]</sup> succeeded him as king in the second year of Jehoram son of Jehoshaphat king of Judah.<sup>1</sup>*

1. Is there an error in the times frame? How would you explain the differences between the verses?

In ch. 1 v. 17 Ahab's son Joram became when Jehoram was in the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of his reign, but her it says the 18<sup>th</sup> year of Jehoshaphat=seems to be a conflict! It was not unusual for the king's son to be crowned while the king still lived. During the last eight years of Jehoshaphat's reign both he and his son Jehoram were counted as kings over Judah. The 18<sup>th</sup> year of Jehoshaphat was the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of Jehoram his son's reign (Wolfgramm, 1994)

2. Do you remember who Jeroboam, son of Nebat, was?

I didn't remember him. Below is a summary of his reign.

Look at 1 Kings 11 starting at 26.

v. 26 Nebat was a servant of Solomon.

v. 28 Jeroboam oversaw the labor force of the tribes of Joseph. Alijah prophesied to Jeroboam that he would receive 10 tribes of the house of David.

v. 38 He built 2 golden calves and established priest and celebrations to them.

v. 40 Solomon planned to kill him, and he fled to Egypt.

1 Kings 12: 14 Rehoboam was king after Solomon; the people rebelled against him with 10 tribes being ruled by Jeroboam and the other to rule by Rehoboam.

Through 1 Kings 14: 19 talks further about Jeroboam. Remember he was sick and sent his wife disguised to Alijah who prophesied the death of her son.

**Read 2 Kings 3: 4-8**

**Read 2 Samuel 8:2**

*David also defeated the Moabites. He made them lie down on the ground and measured them off with a length of cord. Every two lengths of them were put to death, and the third length was allowed to live. So the Moabites became subject to David and brought him tribute.*

Refer to the map as necessary.

3. The Moab people paid tribute to for 150 years. What was the King of Moab expected to pay Joram?

4. Why do you think the king refuse to meet this demand?

5. Why would the Jehoshaphat ally with the northern King?

**Read 2 Kings 3: 9-19**

6. What are your thoughts of the armies running out of water?

7. What was the relationship of the 3 kings in this campaign?

8. What was Joram's response to this event?

9. What was Jehoshaphat's response to the problem?

10. What do you make of the conversation with Elisha? What do you think about the officer who identified Elisha to King Joram?

11. Describe Elisha's tone with the King of Isreal.

12. Why did Elisha call for the harpist?

**Read 2 Kings 3: 20-27**

13. Let's summarize the events of the day of the battle.

14. Who is Chemosh? See below.

<https://www.learnreligions.com/chemosh-lord-of-the-moabites-117630>

<https://www.gotquestions.org/who-Chemosh.html>

Chemosh was the god of the Moabites ([Numbers 21:29](#); [Jeremiah 48:7, 13, 46](#)). Scripture calls him "the abomination of Moab" ([1 Kings 11:7](#)). Unfortunately, Chemosh-worship was introduced into Israelite culture by King Solomon, who had wives from other cultures who turned his heart to other gods ([1 Kings 11:4-7](#)). Chemosh was one of those gods worshiped by Solomon's wives. The cult of Chemosh was eventually destroyed in Judah by King Josiah ([2 Kings 23](#)).

The meaning of the name *Chemosh* is not understood, though some scholars believe it may have meant "destroyer" or "subduer." Chemosh was also seen as a fish-god. He was the national deity of the [Moabites](#) and the [Ammonites](#), and, according to the Moabite Stone (the Mesha Stele), Chemosh was associated with the goddess Ashteroth, another false god worshiped by wayward Israelites.



## CHEMOSH

- The god worshiped by the people of **MOAB**
- He may have been a god of **WAR**.
- Solomon build an altar for Chemosh (1 Kings 11:7) in order to please his pagan wives
- See also 2 Kings 3:27; Jeremiah 48:7,13, 46

### Application to our life

15. What can we glean from this accounting of the children of Israel's life?

16. How has God intervened in your life?

### References

<https://www.learnreligions.com/chemosh-lord-of-the-moabites-117630>

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Concordia Self-Study Bible

Wolfgramm, A. J. (1994). Kings. MO: Concordia Publishing House.

