

the king of Babylon. What happened in the end of Jehoiakim's reign we don't know. We know this. Jehoiakim when he became king had a lot of nobles in position with authority in the land who had been put in by his father Josiah during his good reign of 31 years. These ~~xxxxx~~ nobles were good men. When Jeremiah the prophet predicted evil to Jehoiakim, these good nobles protected Jeremiah and Jehoiakim was unable to kill him. Jeremiah wrote an account of the wickedness of the nation and the punishment that would come and he himself stayed in hiding but his scribe Barak went and read it in the temple. When they heard it they took him and had him go and read it to the king. When the king heard it he took the thing and took his penknife and cut it up. He was the first higher critic. He tore up the Bible in pieces and threw them into the fire. Then Jeremiah, we read, wrote the same words again and many other like words he added to them. So that throws great light on the manner of formation of the book of Jeremiah and also ~~throws some~~ shows something of the character of the headstrong, able, evil king Jehoiakim. ~~xxxx~~ How Jehoiakim's reign ended we don't know. We are not given any great amount of details in the Scripture. It would seem that there was a seige by the Babylonian forces toward the end of his reign but that they could not capture him or kill him. It is very likely that there was an uprising of the people against Jehoiakim and that they killed him and threw his body outside the wall. That is pure conjecture but it is conjecture based on very good evidence. That evidence is that the book of Jeremiah tells how Jeremiah predicted that Jehoiakim will be buried with the burial of an ass. His body will be cast outside the walls of the city! That prediction was given by Jeremiah and some ~~believe~~ ^{who read} that Jehoiakim died and slept with his forefathers take that as being a contradiction of Jeremiah's prophecy and say that there is a contradiction in the Bible. That is still a contradiction which is impossible for any intelligent person to recognize as a 103-13. For this reason, the book of Jeremiah is written half of it in the reign of Jehoiakim and half of it in the reign of Zedekiah. ~~xxxxx~~ If Jeremiah were not a prophet of God but an