

# Rediscover the Bible

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## **Josiah Seeks the Lord in His Youth**

Josiah began to seek the Lord when he was just 16 years old. By the time he turned 20, he began to take great measures toward removing any and everything under his jurisdiction that was an offense against God.

2 Chronicles 34:3 (NASB) For in the eighth year of his reign while he was still a youth, he began to seek the God of his father David; and in the twelfth year he began to purge Judah and Jerusalem of the high places, the Asherim, the carved images and the molten images.

## **The Book of the Law is Found**

As a part of his reform, he also wanted to cleanse and repair the temple which had apparently been neglected for some time. An offering was taken and used to hire contractors and acquire the building materials necessary to restore the temple. During these repairs, Hilkiah, the high priest, found a book containing the law of Moses – This would be equivalent to our bible for it was the word of God to His people. This book was taken and read aloud to Josiah.

## **Josiah's Conviction**

2 Chronicles 34:19 When the king heard the words of the law, he tore his clothes.

## **Josiah Seeks to Hear from God**

King Josiah sent a delegation to the prophetess, Huldah.

2 Kings 22:13 “Go, inquire of the Lord for me and the people and all Judah concerning the words of this book that has been found, for great is the wrath of the Lord that burns against us, because our fathers have not listened to the words of this book, to do according to all that is written concerning us.”

Huldah, the prophetess, speaks of God's coming judgment against Judah. The book of the law stated the judgment of God which would befall them if they did not keep to the covenant which God had made with them, and God was going to carry out His word. However, because Josiah had humbled himself and repented, he would not see this day of judgment.

2 Kings 22:19–20 (NASB) “Because your heart was tender and you humbled yourself before the Lord when you heard what I spoke against this place and against its inhabitants that they should become a desolation and a curse, and you have torn your clothes and wept before Me, I truly have heard you, declares the Lord. <sup>20</sup>Therefore, behold, I will gather you to your fathers, and you will be gathered to your grave in peace, and your eyes will not see all the evil which I will bring on this place.” So, they brought back word to the king.

## **Josiah Redeems the Time.**

Josiah was not content with taking comfort in his own salvation. He set out to make a difference in his generation by making an impact for God within his realm of influence and/or authority. He would make a thorough purge of the land of every offence toward God, not merely in Judea but also throughout Israel as well.

He removed everything that had the least thing to do with idolatry or sin against God. He also reinstated the celebration of the Passover. He sought to connect his generation with the one true God.

2 Kings 23:25 (NASB) Before him there was no king like him who turned to the Lord with all his heart and with all his soul and with all his might, according to all the law of Moses; nor did any like him arise after him.

## **Spiritual Darkness of the Last Days**

It's time for us to rediscover the word of God! To search it out with a hunger and thirst. To open our ears and hearts and seek to hear the words of God. (In the last days people will have itching ears)

James 4:7–10 Submit therefore to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.

<sup>8</sup>Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

<sup>9</sup>Be miserable and mourn and weep; let your laughter be turned into mourning and your joy to gloom.

<sup>10</sup>Humble yourselves in the presence of the Lord, and He will exalt you.

## **The Light of Truth**

His word reveals His coming judgment against all sin and unrighteousness; His mercy and His grace! God is not willing that any perish but that all will come to repentance.

There is a way which leads to life. It is the way made by God through His Son, Jesus Christ! There is no other way except through Him.

## **A Call to Action**

Matthew 7:13–14 “Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and there are many who enter through it. <sup>14</sup>“For the gate is small and the way is narrow that leads to life, and there are few who find it.

What is in your life, in your realm of responsibility, which is not pleasing to God. What's in your tent (the sin of Achan; Josh. 7)?

1 Peter 4:17 For it is time for judgment to begin with the household of God!

## **A Transformational Prayer**

Psalms 139:23–24 (NIV) Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me and lead me in the way everlasting.