

Sermon Summary March 17

Josiah's Reformation

2 Kings 22-23; 2 Chronicles 34-35

Josiah is a man that understood the need for the Law and the need for repentance and what God does for Josiah is really what God does for every blood-bought believer. He gives them a hope and a future that even death itself cannot remove from us.

Josiah's Reign

Josiah was 8 years old when he became king and he reigned for 31 years. Josiah removed the high places, destroyed the carved idols and tore down the altars of the false gods that had plagued Judah. In the 18th year of Josiah's reign, he repairs the Temple and the Book of the Law is found by the priests.

Hilkiah, The Law, and Josiah's Response

It is likely that the Book of the Law that was found was Deuteronomy. It very well could have been the first 5 books of the Old Testament. When Josiah hears the words of the Law read to him, he weeps and tears his clothes. What was in the book that caused Josiah to respond like this? We know that some of what Josiah heard were the curses that were found in Deuteronomy 28. Josiah has come to recognize the extent of his own sins and the depths of the sins of the nation. What is it that the Law does for us? It shows us the iniquities and the sinfulness of our human hearts and it emphasizes to us just how badly we need a Savior. The Law shows us that God only accepts perfect and sinless people.

The Marks of True Conversion

Instead of being hard hearted, Josiah's heart reflected a willingness to follow. It reflected a willingness to submit to the Lord's commands. It is to those that have submitted to the Lordship of Christ with a humble heart that will reign with Christ forever. Josiah's outward expression of sorrow showed the inward crying of his soul. Josiah shows marks of true conversion because he recognized the extent of his sins and the need for God alone to redeem him.

Josiah's Death and the Promises of God

We know that in this world there will be trouble but we can take heart because Christ has overcome the world. When it comes to the death of the believer, we know that it is not God's wrath being poured out on us. We know this because there is no condemnation for those that are in Christ .