

II Chronicles 34-35 –29 January 2026

“Josiah’s Restoration Spreads”

Introduction

- *Only Judah remains w/ its capital Jerusalem
- *Assyria had been bossing the world for past 150 yrs
- *Babylon w/ East have finally risen against Assyria
- *Egypt is aligned w/ the remains of Assyria to aid
- *Young Josiah now takes the throne at 8 years old
- *Although Josiah has an ungodly father Amon, from 0-6 Josiah also lived w/ his godly g-dad Manasseh
- *Now Manasseh came to faith late in a long reign so the nation was very much used to idolatry and sin
- *The Lord God was NOT very well known
- *This is the story of one man’s journey to restore the truth in his own heart and hopefully to a nation
- *So, let’s look at 4 steps to spiritual restoration**

1st Step – Follow what little we know (Chap 34:1-13)

Read Vs 34:1-2

1. We begin the last revival in Judah
 - a. Prophesied 300 years earlier (I Kin 13:2)
2. Other than his father, last 7 kings reigned for averaging 34 years, but his evil father was 2 years
3. Josiah may have been influenced by his g-father's repentance at end of Manasseh's life

Read Vs 3-7

1. When he was 16, he began his spiritual growth
2. When he was 20, he took bold spiritual action
 - a. He begins to cleanse the whole land
3. It's good to let the roots grow deep before shooting up
 - a. Where there is ***no root***, there is ***no fruit***

Read Vs 8-13

1. Josiah is 26 when he refurbishes the Temple
2. 8 men by name and many more listed by duty
 - a. Honored for doing God's work

3. Hilkiah the High Priest has a son who becomes the famous prophet Jeremiah
4. Great organization is needed to fulfill God's work

2nd Step – Spread the Word you learn (Chap 34:14-30)

Read Vs 34:14-17

1. There's much accountability & openness
2. They highly desire to share what God is doing

Read Vs 18-21

1. As they read their excitement turned to sobriety
 - a. Rom 7:7 – Open curtains & show the dust
2. Once the Word is out, next thing to do is to ask the Lord & His servants how we should live

Read Vs 22-25

1. She's specifically talking about Lev 26
2. The choices are obedience (only Jesus can do this), disobedience AND also repentance

Read Vs 26-28

1. Judgement and justice are due...it's coming, but the repentant WILL escape
2. Josiah read Lev 26
 - a. Vss 1-13 – blessing for obedience
 - b. Vss 14-39 – curse for disobedience
 - c. Vss 40-46 – restoration for the repentant

Read Vs 29-30

1. Now finally the Word is spread to all
2. These are the blessings AND the cursings
 - a. The hard things and the enjoyable things

3rd Step – Call for inner change (Chap 34:31-33)

Read Vs 34:31-33

1. Sometimes sweeping change has to happen
 - a. When it seems right
 - i. Not many would be upset that he's removing evil king Ahas's idolatry
 - b. When it seems wrong
 - i. But he's also removing idols the great Solomon had set up!

- ii. These would seem normal & acceptable
- 2. He's digging deep to root out the deeply ingrained idolatry that's been there since the split at the time of Jeroboam & Rehoboam
 - a. When Jeroboam first made this altar in I Kings 13 at Bethel a "man of God" prophesied that Josiah BY NAME would come & do this
 - b. That was 300 years ago!

4th Step – Live in victory (Chap 35:1-27)

Read Vs 35:1-6

- 1. As his G-grandfather Hezekiah did 60 years before, so Josiah reinstitutes Passover for national unity
- 2. Take time to bring people along, set the vision
- 3. Get organized – it's never a one-man show

Read Vs 7-9

- 1. Key expression here is they *freely gave*
 - a. The Lord has no great delight in sacrifice so much as He does in a willing heart

Read Vs 10-14

1. So all things done here IAW the Law
2. “They roasted the Passover by fire” – Every mention of this dares us to open the veil and see that its speaking of Jesus Christ the Messiah

Read Vs 15-19

1. A Passover is recorded in the days of Solomon, Hezekiah and here with Josiah
 - a. None were better than this one; not even including the 400 years of the Judges

Read Vs 20-22

1. Josiah is great example of individual salvation while judgement is about to fall all around
2. Passover is held only 17 yrs before Judah begins to fall for good
3. The Lord has been merciful to hold back His wrath on Judah – yet the seeds of war are all around - & Josiah decided to get involved

4. God is always moving large earthly piece even while each individual can still choose
 - a. If God is moving the nations for their good – an individual can still be judged – exp Achan
 - b. If God is moving the nations for their evil – an individual can still find salvation – exp Josiah

Read Vs 23-27

1. Great godly man, but he made this great military miscalculation and paid with his life
2. Even while living in spiritual victory, the Lord can call us home at any moment
3. Forces of Babylon w/ Medes & Persians have finally risen above Assyrians who had Egypt's help
 - a. Pharaoh Necho was marching to the great Battle of Carchemish w/ Babylon led by General Nebuchadnezzar
4. I believe God took him to spare him from the devastation of the Babylonian Captivity soon
 - a. Just as He took Methusaleh, yr of the flood

Conclusion

We're not responsible to convert a nation or even your whole family

We're responsible to use the authority & knowledge God has given us and grow in it

Josiah proves that ONE PERSON can live victoriously in the midst of a perverse culture

1. Follow what little we do know of God

- a. None of us have it all figured out

2. Embrace & spread God's true revelation

- a. As God gives more light, act on it!

3. Call for inward change by making outward changes

- a. We can't convert others, but can show them the good and right path

4. Live in victory

- a. Doesn't mean every earthy thing will always go right, but that all spiritual things are secure