

THE GOOD THE BAD AND THE UGLY

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• KINGS & CHRONICLES •

| GLEN BARNES

KING JOSIAH: WHAT IT TAKES TO MAKE REAL CHANGE

THE BACKSTORY: *Barriers Josiah Had To Overcome With God's Help*

• A TERRIBLE FAMILY BACKGROUND

Manasseh (*2 Chronicles 33:2-6*)

Amon (*2 Chronicles 33:23*)

• A CULTURAL CLIMATE THAT REJECTED GOD

Baal; _____

Asherah; _____

• JOSIAH'S OWN SHORT COMINGS: He was _____ .

THREE HOLY MOVEMENTS IN JOSIAH THAT LED TO REVIVAL

1 HOLY _____ ... that led to Josiah's ruthless elimination of evil.

“ Josiah was eight years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem thirty-one years. ² He did what was right in the eyes of the Lord and followed the ways of his father David, not turning aside to the right or to the left. ³ In the eighth year of his reign, while he was still young, he began to seek the God of his father David. In his twelfth year he began to purge Judah and Jerusalem of high places, Asherah poles and idols. ⁴ Under his direction the altars of the Baals were torn down; he cut to pieces the incense altars that were above them, and smashed the Asherah poles and the idols. These he broke to pieces and scattered over the graves of those who had sacrificed to them. ⁵ He burned the bones of the priests on their altars, and so he purged Judah and Jerusalem. ⁶ In the towns of Manasseh, Ephraim and Simeon, as far as Naphtali, and in the ruins around them, ⁷ he tore down the altars and the Asherah poles and crushed the idols to powder and cut to pieces all the incense altars throughout Israel. Then he went back to Jerusalem.”

~ 2 CHRONICLES 34:1-7 (NIV)

“ As a dog returns to its vomit, so fools repeat their folly. ”

Proverbs 26:11

“ Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, ²⁷ and do not give the devil a foothold. ”

Ephesians 4:26-27

2 HOLY _____ ... that led to Josiah's generous sacrifice for God's kingdom.

“ They went to Hilkiah the high priest and gave him the money that had been brought into the temple of God, which the Levites who were the gatekeepers had collected from the people of Manasseh, Ephraim and the entire remnant of Israel and from all the people of Judah and Benjamin and the inhabitants of Jerusalem. ¹⁰ Then they entrusted it to the men appointed to supervise the work on the Lord's temple. These men paid the workers who repaired and restored the temple. ¹¹ They also gave money to the carpenters and builders to purchase dressed stone, and timber for joists and beams for the buildings that the kings of Judah had allowed to fall into ruin. ¹² The workers labored faithfully.”

~ 2 CHRONICLES 34:9-12A (NIV)

MY HOLY AMBITION:

Lord break my heart for what breaks yours.

3 HOLY _____ ...that led Josiah to reorient his life around God's Word.

After 75 years they rediscovered the _____ . (2 Chronicles 34:14ff)

“ When the king heard the words of the Law, he tore his robes. ”

2 Chronicles 34:19

JOSIAH'S HOLY SURRENDER TO GOD'S WORD:

• _____ what it says.

• _____ it with others.

“ Go and inquire of the Lord for me and for the rest of the remnant of Israel and Judah about what has been written in this book.”

~ 2 CHRONICLES 34:21 (NIV)

“ Then the king called together all the elders of Judah and Jerusalem. ³⁰ He went up to the temple of the Lord with the people of Judah, the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the priests and the Levites—all the people from the least to the greatest. He read in their hearing all the words of the Book of the Covenant, which had been found in the temple of the Lord. ³¹ The king stood by his pillar and renewed the covenant in the presence of the Lord—to follow the Lord and keep his commands, statutes and decrees with all his heart and all his soul, and to obey the words of the covenant written in this book.”

~ 2 CHRONICLES 34:29-31 (NIV)

• Puts it into _____ . (2 Chronicles 35)

MY HOLY SURRENDER:

1. How I will study God's Word?

2. Who I will share it with?

3. How I will put it into action?

DISCUSSION Questions:

- 1- When I was 8 years old my favorite things to do were...
- 2- Of the three barriers Josiah had to overcome (family background, culture of the day, his own shortcomings) which do you think is the most difficult and why?
- 3- Read 2 Chronicles 34:1-7. How would you describe Josiah's response to the Idols of his day? - Is there something that you have a Holy Discontent about? Something that needs to change!

- 4- Read 2 Chronicles 34:8-13. How would you describe the way Josiah and the people go about repairing the temple? - Is there a Holy Ambition that you have these days? Something you would love to do for the Kingdom?
- 5- Read 2 Chronicles 34:14-33. How would you describe Josiah's response to the re-discovery of the Book of the Law? - What are some current ways that you could grow in studying, sharing and putting into action God's Word?

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