

Kings of Judah
Josiah- 2 Kings 23: 1-30
10/2/24

Josiah (*Yahweh heals*) succeeded his idolatrous father Amon, when he was only eight years old. At the age of sixteen, Josiah began to seek after the ways of the Lord (2 Chronicles 34:3) and left those of his father, Amon, and his grandfather, Manasseh, and began to follow after David, a king after God’s own heart. Josiah’s reign, like that of all the good kings before is compared to David.

In the 18th year of Josiah’s reign. An unexpected event took place and changed the course of his life and reign as king of Judah. A “book of the Law” was discovered while the temple was being repaired. Hilkah, the high priest, found the book gave it to Shapan, the scribe, who in turn read it to King Josiah. Upon hearing the message of the book Josiah responded by tearing his clothes, a sign of repentance, and humbled himself before the Lord. God assured Josiah that the promised destruction would not come in his time (2 Kings 22:8-20; 2 Chronicles 34: 15-28). Josiah instigated the most far-reaching religious reforms in Israel’s history.

Holman Illustrated Bible Dictionary, Holman Publishers, pg 932.

The Law Read to the People:

2 Kings 23: 1-25

God’s Wrath Toward Judah:

vv. 26 - 30

Small Group Discussion:

- 1. What was King Josiah's next step after he humbled himself before the Lord (vv. 1-3)?**
- 2. Describe what Josiah did to that of our corporate praise and worship?**
- 3. What steps did King Josiah take to rid Judah of their idolatrous ways?**
- 4. How can we rid ourselves of anything that might occupy places in our hearts that should belong to God?**
- 5. Why was God's anger against Judah (vv. 26-27)?**

Next Week's Lesson:

King Zedekiah – 2 Kings 24: 17-20, 25

Background Reading:

2 Chronicles 36: 11-23