

The Story of Josiah

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2 Kings 22-23:30 and 2 Chronicles 34, 35

“Good to Knows” from Josiah’s Story

- Josiah’s name means “Healed by Jehovah.”
- He was a King from approx. 640 B.C. to 609 B.C.
- Josiah’s father, King Amon, was murdered/assassinated.
- Josiah (healed by Jehovah) became King at eight years old.
- His heritage: His father and grand-father were evil Kings
- His great-grandfather was King Hezekiah, a good King.
- Josiah had spiritual mentors: Hilkiyah the priest, Jeremiah, Shaphan the royal scribe and his son Ahikam, Shallum (temple worker) and his wife the prophetess Huldah.
- He is known for promoting great spiritual reforms in his own life and in the lives of those he influenced.
- He was a young man sensitive to God and His Word.
- He was a worhiper.
- He is the last good King of Judah.
- Josiah died at 39 years old.

Neither before nor after Josiah was there a king like him who turned to the Lord as he did—with all his heart and with all his soul and with all his strength, in accordance with all the Law of Moses.

2 Kings 23:25 NIV

1. Determine Your _____.

He did right in the eyes of the Lord and walked in all the ways of his father David, not turning aside to the right or to the left. 2 Kings 22:2 NIV

The heritage you receive does not always determine the legacy you leave.

2. Determine Your _____.

The king stood by the 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, thus confirming the words of the covenant written in this book. Then all the people pledged themselves to the covenant. 2 Kings 23:3 NIV

God's Word

...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. 2 Kings 22:19 NASB

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How you approach God's Word will influence how you respond to God's Word.

Worship

Josiah provided for all the lay people who were there a total of thirty thousand lambs and goats for the Passover offerings, and also three thousand cattle—all from the king's own possessions. ⁸ His officials also contributed voluntarily to the people and the priests and Levites. Hilkiah, Zechariah and Jehiel, the officials in charge of God's temple, gave the priests twenty-six hundred Passover offerings and three hundred cattle. ⁹ Also Konaniah along with Shemaiah and Nethanel, his brothers, and Hashabiah, Jeiel and Jozabad, the leaders of the Levites, provided five thousand Passover offerings and five hundred head of cattle for the Levites. 2 Chronicles 35:7-9 NIV

3. Make a _____, now.

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... Then he went back to Jerusalem. ⁸ In the eighteenth year of Josiah's reign, to purify the land and the temple, he sent Shaphan son of Azaliah and Maaseiah the ruler of the city, with Joah son of Joahaz, the recorder, to repair the temple of the Lord his God. 2 Chronicles 34:3-8 NIV

Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity. ¹³ Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to preaching and to teaching. 1 Timothy 4:12-13 NIV

*"Our troubled world is demanding a better brand of leadership."
Bill Hybels*

Extra Point:

You are One Dumb Decision Away from Destruction.

But Necho sent messengers to him, saying, "What quarrel is there, king of Judah, between you and me? It is not you I am attacking at this time, but the house with which I am at war. God has told me to hurry; so stop opposing God, who is with me, or he will destroy you." ²² Josiah, however, would not turn away from him, but disguised himself to engage him in battle. He would not listen to what Necho had said at God's command but went to fight him on the plain of Megiddo. ²³ Archers shot King Josiah, and he told his officers, "Take me away; I am badly wounded." ²⁴ So they took him out of his chariot, put him in his other chariot and brought him to Jerusalem, where he died. He was buried in the tombs of his ancestors, and all Judah and Jerusalem mourned for him.

2 Chronicles 35:21-24 NIV

