

The Kings of Israel

Josiah – 2 Chronicles 34:14 – 33



Sermon Discussion Guide

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STUDY NOTES

In the eighth year (34:3). In Josiah's days, boys were considered men at age 12. By 16, Josiah understood the responsibility of his office. Even at this young age, he showed greater wisdom than many of the older kings who came before him because he had decided to seek the Lord God and His wisdom.

As far as Naphtali (34:6). Josiah's zeal knows no bounds. His reforms sweep to the northern borders by sheer spiritual momentum.

Money (34:9). The people gave toward repairing and refurbishing the temple.

The Book of the Law (34:14). This is often understood to be a scroll of Deuteronomy or a portion of it. Its discovery in the course of temple repair becomes the springboard of further reform.

1. Imagine rummaging through your attic or storage closet and you come upon a big chest covered with dust. What would you prefer to find inside: Old letters? Old baseball cards? Old newspaper clippings? Old scrapbooks? A treasure map? Your family Bible with family tree?

Read 2 Chronicles 34:14 – 33.

The nation of Judah has fallen so far that they have misplaced the Book of the Law. The rediscovery of God's Word will bring a spiritual revival into the land.

2. Who finds the Book of the Law? (v.14) When do you think they get excited about the find? Was it right away or a little later?
3. How do you account for Josiah's intense and perhaps unexpected reaction to finding and hearing out of the Book of the Law?
4. Who is Huldah? (v.22) What role does she play? What is her message? Do you think they understood the entire message or just part of it? (v.23-28)
5. How does Josiah respond to her message? (v.29-31) What does he have the people do? (v.32)
6. Do you think it would be difficult to celebrate the rediscovery of the Book of the Law given the fact that God said through Huldah that the end is near?

STUDY NOTES

The remnant in Israel and Judah (34:21). Another added reference to the northern kingdom to stress the unity of Israel – particularly the remnant that remained.

7. What do you make of the people's commitment to the Lord? Do you think Josiah forced them into it or do you believe they are on the same page as Josiah?
8. What role does the Bible play in your life today: Prominent? Sporadic? Casual? A lost book?
9. Complete the sentence: "I would make the Bible a bigger part of my life if . . . "