

## The POWER of God's WORD ~ 2 Chronicles 34-35

→ Scripture Reading - 2 Kings 22:1-2, 8, 10-13

### INTRODUCTION

**2 Chron. 33:21-22, 24** (NIV) AMON was twenty-two years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem TWO years. <sup>22</sup> He DID Evil in the eyes of the LORD, AS his father Manasseh had done... <sup>24</sup> His Court Officials assassinated him...

### Josiah SEEKS After God 2 Chronicles 34:1-7

<sup>1</sup> Josiah was eight years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem thirty-one years. <sup>2</sup> 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.  
<sup>3</sup> 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. <sup>4</sup> 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. <sup>5</sup> He burned the bones of the priests on their altars, and so he purged Judah and Jerusalem.

#### When Josiah WAS...

8 yrs. old he was **CROWNED King** vs. 1

16 yrs. old he started **SEEKING God** vs. 3

20 yrs. old he started to **PURGE idol worship** from Judah and Israel vs. 3

### IMPLICATION

<sup>2</sup> 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.

**34:2** He did what the LORD approved and followed in his ancestor David's footsteps; he did NOT Deviate to the Right or the Left. (NET)

### Convicting POWER of God' Word ~ 2 Chronicles 34:8-19

<sup>8</sup> 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.

<sup>12</sup> The workers labored faithfully...

<sup>14</sup> While they were bringing out the money that had been taken into the temple of the LORD, Hilkiyah the priest found the Book of the Law of the LORD that had been given through Moses.

<sup>18</sup> Then Shaphan the secretary informed the king, "Hilkiyah the priest has given me a book." And Shaphan READ from it in the presence of the king. <sup>19</sup> When the king heard the words of the Law, he tore his robes.

<sup>21</sup> "Go and inquire of the LORD for me and for the remnant in Israel and Judah about what is written in this book that has been found. Great is the LORD's anger that is poured out on us because those who have gone BEFORE US have NOT kept the Word of the LORD; they have NOT acted in accordance with ALL that is written in this book."

#### When Josiah WAS...

26 yrs. old he Started TEMPLE Repairs vs. 8-9

26 yrs. old God's WORD was Found and READ vs. 14,18

### Renewing the Covenant and Celebrating Passover ~ 2 Chronicles 34:29 - 35:18

<sup>29</sup> Then the king called together ALL the elders of Judah and Jerusalem. <sup>30</sup> 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.

<sup>33</sup> Josiah removed ALL the detestable idols from ALL the territory belonging to the Israelites, and he had ALL who were present in Israel serve the LORD their God. AS LONG AS he lived, they did not fail to follow the LORD, the God of their fathers.

**Deuteronomy 6:4-6** (NIV) Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. <sup>5</sup> Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. <sup>6</sup> These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts.

<sup>35:1</sup> Josiah celebrated the Passover to the LORD in Jerusalem, and the Passover lamb was slaughtered on the fourteenth day of the first month. <sup>2</sup> He appointed the priests to their duties and encouraged them in the service of the LORD's temple.

<sup>7</sup> Josiah provided for all the lay people who were there a total of thirty thousand sheep and goats for the Passover offerings, and also three thousand cattle - all from the king's own possessions.

<sup>18</sup> The Passover had Not been observed like this in Israel SINCE the days of the prophet Samuel; and none of the kings of Israel had EVER celebrated such a Passover as did Josiah, with the priests, the Levites and all Judah and Israel who were there with the people of Jerusalem.

### **When Josiah WAS...**

26 yrs. old he Started TEMPLE Repairs vs. 8-9

26 yrs. old God's WORD was Found and READ vs. 14,18

26 yrs. old they Renewed their COMMITMENT to God vs. 31

26 yrs. old they Celebrated the Passover vs. 35:1, 18

**2 Kings 23:25** (NIV) 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. <sup>26</sup> Nevertheless, the LORD did not turn away from the heat of his fierce anger, which burned against Judah because of ALL that Manasseh had done to provoke him to anger.

## **IMPLICATION**

<sup>29</sup> Then the king called together ALL the elders of Judah and Jerusalem. <sup>30</sup> 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.

### **READING God's Word Publicly Showed...** NAC

- the WORD of God was meant for EVERYONE
- it IS Inspired and AUTHORITATIVE

## **TAKE AWAY ??**

### **Lessons From Josiah**

- SEEK God
- Focusing ON God's WORD
- Put AWAY idols
- Make a COMMITMENT

### **A NEW SHEET,**

He came to my desk with a quivering lip, the lesson was done.  
Have you a new sheet for me, dear teacher? I've spoiled this one.  
I took his sheet, all soiled and blotted - and gave him a new one all unspotted.  
And into his tired heart I cried - Do better now, my child.

### **A NEW DAY,**

I came to the throne with a trembling heart; the day was done.  
Have you a new day for me, dear Master? I've spoiled this one.  
He took my day, all soiled and blotted - and gave me a new one all unspotted. -  
And into my tired heart he cried - Do better now, my child.