

THE REIGN OF JOSIAH: PART 1

(2 Kings 22:1-20)

- I. Introducing Josiah (2 Kings 22:1-2)
 - A. Ascended to the throne when EIGHT YEARS OLD
 - B. He did “what was RIGHT in the SIGHT of YAHWEH”
 - C. He “WALKED in ALL the way of his father David” without WAVERING

- II. Early REFORMS (2 Kings 22:3-7; cf. 2 Chron. 34:3-7)
 - A. He began to SEEK GOD in the EIGHTH year of his reign
 - B. He began to remove the HIGH PLACES (etc.) in the TWELFTH year of his reign
 - C. He began Temple RENOVATION in the EIGHTEENTH year of his reign

- III. The BOOK of the LAW (2 Kings 22:8-13)
 - A. Hilkiah reported having FOUND “the book of the law” in the TEMPLE
 - B. Shaphan REPORTED to King Josiah
 - 1. All the MONEY for the work has been given to the OVERSEERS
 - 2. “A BOOK” has been given me by Hilkiah
 - C. Shaphan READ the book to the king
 - D. Josiah TORE his CLOTHES

- E. Josiah sought a PROPHETIC EXPLANATION of the text
 - 1. He ADMITS the nation's SIN
 - 2. He FEARS the CONSEQUENCES
 - 3. He HOPES it is not TOO LATE to CORRECT

- IV. The COUNSEL of Hulda the PROPHETESS (2 Kings 22:14-20)
 - A. She INTERPRETS the book for God's PEOPLE
 - 1. She speaks GOD'S WORDS as His REPRESENTATIVE
 - 2. God pronounces JUDGMENT on the nation for IDOLATRY
 - B. She delivers a MORE POSITIVE message for JOSIAH
 - 1. God would HONOR Josiah's REPENTANCE
 - 2. God would WITHHOLD judgment until Josiah DIED

- V. Lesson: God may YET send REVIVAL
 - A. It will come through a FOCUS on GOD'S WORD
 - B. It will result in GENUINE REPENTANCE
 - C. It will bring ETERNAL GRACE to those who EXPERIENCE it
 - D. It will be no more than a TEMPORARY solution to the SOCIAL and POLITICAL situation