

Josiah
2 Kings 23:1-3
By Russell Earl

Thesis: I want to show the valuable lessons we can learn from Josiah.

- Intro:
1. There are many Kings we hear about in the O.T., Josiah is one that stands out and for good reasons.
 2. Can years of evil and wrong doing be overcome?
 3. Can the ways of ourselves and others really change?

I. Background of Josiah's Reign

- A. Was the complete opposite of his grandfather Manasseh.
 1. **Manasseh even built pagan altars in the temple and sacrificed children to Molech.**
 - a. Manasseh in the later part of his reign tried to right his wrongs.
 2. **Amon the son of Manasseh was wicked like his father (2 Chron 33:21-23)**
 - a. He was killed by his own servants (2 Chron 33:24)
- B. Josiah accomplished much, but not enough.
 1. Despite all the Josiah did the nation still maintained much evil (Jer 16:10-13)
 2. Josiah as a brave leader, but you cannot make people to right (Jer 17:1-4)

II. The Reign of Josiah

- A. The Early Years
 1. He began following God as a young man (2 Chron 34:1-3a)
 2. He began to purge the land. Notice 2 Chron 34:4b
- B. The Temple Repaired & the Law Discovered
 1. Josiah after purging the land, moves to restoring the temple.
 2. It is during this time that the Law is discovered.
 - a. Josiah's reaction to the hearing of the law (2 Kings 22:11-13)
- C. The Great Restoration
 1. Josiah gathers the people to hear the law, and makes a oath before them all
 - a. 2 Chron 34:29-31
 2. The people committed to serve God with Josiah (2 Chron 34:32-33)
- D. The End Of Josiah
 1. Josiah would die in battle, because he did not listen (2 Chron 35:22)
 2. The Bible mentions those who mourned his death, no doubt because he was a man of God (2 Chron 35:24-25)

III. Lessons for us today.

- A. We do not have to follow our evil predecessors
 1. Josiah broke away from the errors of his father and grandfather.
 2. Today, we too can break the tradition of error and stand with God (2 Chron 34:2)
- B. Every Generation has an obligation to maintain that which has been restored.
 1. Truth must be taught and passed down, it seems it was not passed to his son (2 Kings 23:36-37)

2. Evil would once again return, we shouldn't be surprised when evil comes in, we must teach our children about God and good & evil now.

Application & Conclusion:

1. It is not enough to stand against evil and stand for God.
2. We must teach others and those of our household to do the same.
3. Until then, evil can return with the next leader or generation.
4. Full Invitation

Non-Christians must:

Hear – James 1:22, Romans 10:15,17

Believe – Jn 12:44, Jn 8:24, Mt 16:16

Repent – Luke 13:2-3

Confess – John 12:42, Romans 10:9

Be Baptized – 1 Pt 3:21, Acts 22:16, Col 2:11, Mk 16:16, Rom 6:3-4

Live faithfully – John 14:15, Rev 2:10

Christians must:

Repent: Acts 17:20, Acts 8:37, Lk 13:3

Pray: James 5:16, 1 Jn 1:9