

Spiritual Cleansing & Restoration
2 Chronicles 34
(2 Kings 23:1-20,21-23,28-30)
By Russell Earl

Thesis: I want to remind us of the importance of restoration in the midst a spiritual departure.

- Intro:
1. When something has been neglected or treated poorly one must realize the need for restoration.
 2. In a spiritual sense when God is neglected and man departs from Him, a restoration must take place in order to restore that severed fellowship with God.

I. Clean & Rebuild (34:1-13)

A. Clean (v.1-7)

1. v.3a - While he was young – He did not wait until later in life.
2. v.3b purge – to clean, to purify
3. v.4b – he broke them into pieces and some he ground to powder
 - a. 5-7 – He purged the cities all around and treated them all the same
 - b. This appears to have been done over a span of time
(v.3 – he was 16, verse 8 – he was 26)
 - i. *The year he became King plus the number of years he 's been reigning*

B. Rebuild (34:8-13)

1. Josiah begins to rebuild the temple (v.8-9)
2. The process of how the money was used is explained (v.10-13)

II. Renewing the covenant & Observing the Passover (34:14-35:19)

A. Renewing the covenant (34:14-33)

1. The Book of the Covenant is found during construction (**v.14-18**)
2. Advice is sought concerning what to do next (**v.19-22**)
 - a. Josiah knew there was a problem (v.19,21)
3. A prophecy is given
 - a. Concerning Judah (**v.23-25**)
 - b. Concerning Josiah (**v.26-28**)
 - c. Josiah reads to the leaders and the people (**v.29-33**).

B. The Passover observed (2 Chronicles 35)

1. Josiah calls on the people to observe the Passover (**35:1-6**)
2. The contributions and the ceremony (35:7-15)
 - a. The contributions (**v.7-9**)
 - b. The ceremony conducted (**v.10-15**)
3. The people rejoicing in the keeping of the Passover (**v.16-19**)

III. Lessons for Us Today

A. Restoration is required to repair spiritual departures (**34:19,21**)

1. Restoration means you repair what has been broken down.
2. In a spiritual sense this is done by repentance.
 - a. Sin causes separation and destruction and repentance is the beginning process of

rebuilding a severed relationship brought on by sin. (**Isa 59:2a**)

B. Leave nothing behind to tempt a return to sin

1. Josiah acted in a way as to leave nothing behind that remind people of their previous ways and thereby tempt them to sin (**34:3b-7**)
2. He had to purge the temple of sinful items as well (**34:8a**), this too had to be done as a measure to prevent a return to apostasy.

Application & Conclusion:

1. Let us learn from Josiah's example of restoration, when your walk with God deteriorates, restore it!
2. Without spiritual restoration the relationship between God and man will be severed.
3. 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 2:11-12, Mk 16:16, Rom 6:3-4

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

Christians must:

Repent & Pray: James 5:16, 1 John 1:9