

JOSIAH, THE REVIVAL KING – PART I

¹⁴ if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.

II Chronicles 7:14

2 By the word of the LORD he cried out against the altar: “Altar, altar! This is what the LORD says: ‘A son named Josiah will be born to the house of David. On you he will sacrifice the priests of the high places who make offerings here, and human bones will be burned on you.’”

I Kings 13:2

²⁵ 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.

II Kings 23:25

- I. Josiah, the revival king - “He heals me.” Sixteenth king of Judah, 640-609 BC. / The influences surrounding Josiah.
 - A. Josiah came from a cursed family line that would not be allowed to define him. At 8 years of age, he became king. (II Kings 22:1; II Chronicles 34:1)
 - * He did right in God’s sight. He trusted God to decide what was right or wrong.

** He walked in the ways of David; he lived for God in everything he did.

*** He did not turn aside; he walked in a straight line and turned neither to the left nor the right.

B. His grandfather was wicked Manasseh. (II Kings 21:1-16)

C. Josiah's father was wicked Amon, who reigned two years and was assassinated by his own people.

(II Kings 21:19-23)

D. Every young person can be raised in the worst possible environment, but can choose to follow God.

E. Josiah witnessed the worst of human depravity, yet chose to live a pure life.

II. He sought the God of David.

A. At 16, he demonstrated genuine commitment to God. (II Chronicles 34:3) After eight years of study, he understood God's ways.

B. At 20 years of age, he began a purge of idolatry in Judah. He knew what was right, and began to do it.

III. What difference does this make? / Do what God tells you to do, anyway!

A. At age 26, the temple was repaired.

B. The book of the Law of Moses was discovered after being missing for 80 years! (II Kings 22:11)

¹¹ When the king heard the words of the Book of the Law, he tore his robes.

C. Josiah was shocked at the words of the Lord, tore his garments and re-read Deuteronomy 28 and 29 to a national assembly (II Chronicles 34:24).

²⁴ ‘This is what the LORD says: I am going to bring disaster on this place and its people--all the curses written in the book that has been read in the presence of the king of Judah.’

D. The covenant of the Lord was renewed.

* To walk after the Lord in obedience, sincerity, and purity.

** To keep his commandments in earnest, sincere obedience.

*** To perform the words of the covenant. To find authority in God’s word, and not feelings or imaginations.
(II Kings 23:3a; II Chronicles 34:31)

IV. The friends of Josiah / You are not alone!

- A. Hilkiah, the priest
- B. Shaphon, the scribe
- C. Huldah, the prophetess
- D. Jeremiah, the prophet
- E. Zephaniah, the prophet
- F. Nahum, the prophet
- G. Habakuk, the prophet
- H. Ezekiel, the prophet
- I. Daniel, the prophet

J. Uriah, the prophet