

"On the Way" 365 Bible Reading Plan

II CHRONICLES 34

II Chronicles 34

Josiah, the young king who was only eight (8) years old when he became king reigned for thirty-one years in Jerusalem. He did what was right in the eyes of the LORD and walked in the ways of his father David; He did not swerve either right or left. Have you noticed that David is always the marker as to who was a good or bad king? It is interesting that David is the standard by which all kings after him were judged. This is remarkable. One would think that God himself was the standard. Repeatedly this phrase is found. David was the premier leader among those who ruled in Israel. He is a paradigm for those who would come after him. The question is naturally asked, if David was such a great leader, why is it that he is not used in the western world as a leadership model. I believe it is rather a simple answer. We in the west tend to judge people and their impact for good, and for God, based upon their shortcomings, and not based upon their lives as a whole. God looks at a man's heart. He looks at the entirety of his life and not one or two incidents in his life, no matter how good or bad. David was a man after God's own heart. You and I have no say in that. David is the greatest leader in the Old Testament.

Josiah had a heart for God all of his life. Huldah the prophetess sent word to the godly young king after an inquiry saying, **"But as for the king of Judah, who sent you to inquire of the LORD, tell him that this is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: 'As for the words that you heard, because your heart was tender and you humbled yourself before God when you heard His words against this place and against its people, and because you have humbled yourself before Me and you have torn your clothes and wept before Me, I have heard you,' declares the LORD."** (II Chronicles 34:26,27)

Judgement was set for the nation of Judah. God had shown mercy over and over again to a rebellious people. God was merciful again in postponing judgement on the nation during the days of Josiah. God saw Josiah's heart. He sees yours and mine as well.

Prayer and Action Steps

Repentance in a nation postpones judgment. A tender heart toward the things of God is acceptable in His sight. Dear God, please give us tender hearts toward you and others.

Date _____ Scripture _____

- Read the chapter. If you have time, read it again.
- Highlight, underline or circle the Key Verse or Verses of the chapter.
- Ask yourself these questions as you read through the chapter.

Is this historical narrative, analogy, metaphor, allegory, or some other element of speech or communicating truth?

What is the Context? Old Testament? New Testament? What is the writer speaking or writing about? To whom is he writing?

Is this a clear passage of Scripture (can only be interpreted one way)? Or could the passage be interpreted legitimately, in two or more ways, according to grammar and context?

Does the passage teach a Biblical Precept; that is, tells you something to be, do or act? _____

Are there principles in this chapter that if followed, would require me to change my attitudes or actions? _____

Does the passage give a Biblical Pattern that is followed here and other places in the Bible? _____
