

"On the Way" 365 Bible Reading Plan

II CHRONICLES 35

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II Chronicles 35 begins with some of the best news in Josiah's short life. After finding a copy of the Torah in the Temple, while it was being refurbished by the king, he immediately set his heart to follow the instruction of God. One of the first things he did was to observe the Passover. Thousands of lambs, cattle and other offerings were furnished by the King and given to the people in Jerusalem. Josiah ordered that all the priests, Levites, singers, and others normally involved in the Temple rituals, set the house of God and themselves in order for a great observance.

"So, on that day the entire service of the LORD was carried out for celebrating the Passover and offering burnt offerings on the altar of the LORD, according to the command of King Josiah. The Israelites who were present also observed the Passover at that time, as well as the Feast of Unleavened Bread for seven days. No such Passover had been observed in Israel since the days of Samuel the prophet. None of the kings of Israel ever observed a Passover like the one that Josiah observed with the priests, the Levites, all Judah, the Israelites who were present, and the people of Jerusalem. In the eighteenth year of Josiah's reign, this Passover was observed." (II Chronicles 35: 16-19)

The Passover was the greatest since the days of Samuel, the prophet of God. After this, Josiah finished all the repairs to the Temple. But shortly after those days, the King of Assyria and the King of Babylon went to war. The King of Egypt, Pharaoh Necho, allied with the Assyrians to defeat the rising power of Mesopotamia, the Neo-Babylonians. In order to get to the battlefield in northern Syria, the Pharaoh needed to follow the Via Maris/Coastal Road, north through Josiah's territory. Josiah confronted Pharaoh, and Necho told Josiah to let him pass through his land, as he meant no harm to him. He also told King Josiah that the true and living God, the God of Israel, was sending him into battle and for Josiah not to get involved. Josiah refused to listen to the warnings and met Pharaoh Necho in battle in the Jezreel Valley at Megiddo. Josiah was wounded in the battle and later died in Jerusalem. A tragic death for the young king. The people mourned him. Jeremiah the prophet mourned the needless death of this godly young king.

Prayer and Action Steps

God sometimes speaks to us in ways we are not ready to accept. Can God use an ungodly person to speak to us? Yes, He can. Ask Balaam, God used a donkey to speak to him.

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? _____

