A Lesson From The Life Of King Josiah: Seeking Truth

Jared Byers · 2 Chronicles 34

INTRODUCTION

- How is it that somebody can lay aside all their preconceived notions, everything that they've been taught since they were a child, perhaps. And focus and change their study towards the truth.
- Because if that's what's forefront in our mind is serving God and fearing God. Then it doesn't matter if something like that has to change.

1 Josiah Walked in the Ways of David

2 Chronicles 34:1–7

- The Bible also tells us right there that he walked in the ways of David.
- Not just that he was a king and he was good, but the heart that he had, a heart of service to God, a tender heart.
- The Bible says that at sixteen or eight years into his reign, he began seeking God.
- In the twelfth year of his reign, so now when he's about twenty years old, he begins to purge Judah of all of its idolatry.

2 They Found the Book of the Law

2 Chronicles 34:8–18

- Hilkiah the priest found the book of the law of the Lord given through Moses.
- And yet, even then, they apparently had not found the book of the law yet.
- What it does say is that they found the book of the law, and to me that implies that it was lost.
- And of course, the implication is this book is going to change his life forever.

3 Why Is Josiah Afraid?

2 Chronicles 34:19–21; Deuteronomy 28:15

- And when the king heard the words of the law, he tore his clothes.
- For great is the wrath of the Lord that is poured out on us, because our fathers have not kept the word of the Lord, to do according to all that is written in this book.
- He's tried very hard to make his own life pure before God. But yet he's afraid.
- But if you will not obey the voice of the Lord your God, or be careful to do all his commandments and his statutes that I command you today, all these curses shall come upon you and overtake you.

4 The Fear of God Is the Answer

Proverbs 1:7; Proverbs 9:10; Ecclesiastes 12:13

- How does someone lay aside everything that they thought was right and follow the truth? As I told you before, it's a fear of God.
- Fear God and keep his commandments. For this is the whole duty of man.
- I don't think someone changes their way of thinking simply because we prove everything wrong in their argument.
- This fear of God is the answer. And a desire to do everything as he is commanded, and not our own preconceived notions, our own ideas.

5 The Example of Apollos

- He had been instructed in the way of the Lord, and being fervent in spirit, he spoke and taught accurately the things concerning Jesus. Though he only knew the baptism of John.
- But when Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they took him aside and explained to him the way of God more accurately.
- For he powerfully refuted the Jews in public, showing by the scriptures that the Christ was Jesus.
- I think it shows that he changed the course that he was on. It changed his path to more align himself with Christ.

6 The Example of the Apostle Peter

Acts 10:34–35; Galatians 2:11–14

- Truly I understand that God shows no partiality. But in every nation, anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him.
- But when I saw their conduct was not in step with the truth of the gospel, I said to Cephas before them all.
- Even if we studied the Bible for a hundred years, I don't think we would know everything perfectly.
- As long as we keep the fear of God as our focus in mind, those changes, even though they seem huge, are really very small.

THE CHALLENGE

Have you hardened your heart before God? Do you have a tender heart and a humble heart and the fear of God that you should have?

MY NOTES