

Background:

Series looking at the virtue of character of different people in the Bible.

When we think of an individual's character, we think of the mental and moral qualities of their behavior.

When we speak of their virtue, we are talking about them exhibiting behavior that shows high moral standards.

2 Kings 22:1-2

1 Josiah was eight years old when he became king, and he reigned thirty-one years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Jedidah the daughter of Adaiah of Bozkath. 2 And he did what was right in the sight of the Lord and walked in all the ways of his father David; he did not turn aside to the right hand or to the left.

Main Statement:

Taking responsibility to do the right thing even if others have done wrong is being obedient to God's Word! This happens when you turn to the Lord with all your heart, your soul, and might!

VIEW OF JOSIAH:

1. He had **influence** at a young age.

2 Kings 22:1a, 2b

1a Josiah was eight years old when he became king...

2b ...walked in all the ways of his father David; he did not turn aside to the right hand or to the left.

2. **Committed** to God.

2 Kings 22:2

And he did what was right in the sight of the Lord, and walked in all the ways of his father David; he did not turn aside to the right hand or to the left.

Psalm 37:5

Commit your way to the Lord, trust also in Him, and He shall bring it to pass.

3. **Responded** to God's Word.

2 Kings 22:11

Now it happened, when the king heard the words of the Book of the Law, that he tore his clothes.

Matthew 23:25-26

Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye make clean the outside of the cup and of the platter, but within they are full of extortion and excess. Thou blind Pharisee, cleanse first that which is within the cup and platter, that the outside of them may be clean also.

4. Had a **perspective shift** from the Book of Law to calling it a Book of Covenant.

2 Kings 23:3

Then the king stood by a pillar and made a covenant before the Lord, to follow the Lord and to keep His commandments and His testimonies and His statutes, with all his heart and all his soul, to perform the words of this covenant that were written in this book. And all the people took a stand for the covenant.

Psalm 37:23

The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord, and He delights in his way.

2 Kings 23:4

The king ordered Hilkiah the high priest, the priests next in rank and the doorkeepers to remove from the temple of the Lord all the articles made for Baal and Asherah and all the starry hosts. He burned them outside Jerusalem in the fields of the Kidron Valley and took the ashes to Bethel.

Joel 2:13

And rend you heart not your garments and turn to the Lord your God; for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and of great kindness, and repent of evil.

2 Kings 23:21

The king gave this order to all the people: "Celebrate the Passover to the Lord your God, as it is written in this Book of the Covenant."

PERSONAL LESSONS:

1. Turn **neglect** of God's Word into taking responsibility to be **obedient**

2 Kings 22:8

Then Hilkiah the high priest said to Shaphan the scribe, "I have found the Book of the Law in the house of the Lord." And Hilkiah gave the book to Shaphan, and he read it

2. Inquire of the Lord to **apply** His Word **properly** to your life.

2 Kings 22:13

“Go, inquire of the Lord for me, for the people and for all Judah, concerning the words of this book that has been found; for great is the wrath of the Lord that is aroused against us, because our fathers have not obeyed the words of this book, to do according to all that is written concerning us.”

Reflection:

1. What is your real perspective of God’s Word at this point in your life?
2. How does that affect what you are responsible for?