



1. Introduction

- a. Josiah, king of Judea
 - last good king of Judea
 - his grandfather Manasseh was Judea's worst king
- b. King Josiah was a young boy taking the throne at 8 years old

2. Potential of Tragedy

- a. He rose over tragedy
- b. He chose to walk with God
 - between 8-16 years of age, he chose to follow God
 - Prophet Jeremiah began his ministry in Josiah's 13th year of reign

3. Pursuit of the Lord

- a. By seeking God at age 16
 - Zephaniah prophet under reigns of King Manasseh & Josiah
- b. By separating from pagan gods
 - King Josiah destroyed false gods, alters, & worship locations
 - he also did the same throughout territories of former Israel
 - he returned all Israel to pure worship of the one true God
 - God continually sent his prophets to guide His people

4. Priority of the People
- a. Repairing Lord's house of worship
 - King Josiah 26 years old
 - He had been ruling for 18 years
 - He sent government officials to repair the temple
 - b. Levites received money offerings throughout lands of Israel
 - priests returned to Jerusalem
 - money placed into hands of Hilkiyah High Priest & the priests serving in the temple
 - They paid the craftsmen & laborers working in stone & wood
 - * workers faithfully labored
 - * previous evil kings had damaged the temple
 - c. Repentance of the people
 - Hilkiyah the High Priest found the temple copy of Moses' Book of the Law
 - Book of the Law brought to King Josiah
 - * Shaphan the scribe read it to the king
 - * King Josiah tore his clothes in repentance for the sins of Israel
 - He wanted an answer from God
 - * God answered by Huldah the prophetess (wife of Shallum)
 - x God will bring judgment
 - x But God will spare the king the judgments to die in peace, because his heart was tender & humble
 - King Josiah read the Law to the people, and they observed the Passover