

~JOSIAH 1 (921)

(Jo-si'ah) [if related to an Arabic root, May Yehowah Heal, Yehowah Has Healed]

- Son of Judean King Amon by Jedidah the daughter of Adaiah.
- Eight years old was **Josiah** when he began to reign, and for thirty-one years he reigned in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Jedidah the daughter of Adaiah from Bozkath. (**2 Kings 22:1**)
- **Josiah** had at least two wives, Hamutal and Zebidah.
- Twenty-three years old was Jehoahaz when he began to reign, and for three months he reigned in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Hamutal the daughter of Jeremiah from Libnah. (**2 Kings 23:31**)
- Furthermore, Pharaoh Nechoh made Eliakim the son of **Josiah** king in place of Josiah his father and changed his name to Jehoiakim, and Jehoahaz he took and then brought to Egypt, where he eventually died. (**2 Kings 23:34**)
- Twenty-five years old was Jehoiakim when he began to reign, and for eleven years he reigned in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Zebidah the daughter of Pedaiiah from Rumah. (**2 Kings 23:36**)
- Of his four sons mentioned in the Bible, only the firstborn, Johanan, did not rule as king over Judah.
- Amon his son, **Josiah** his son. (**1 Chronicles 3:14**)
- And the sons of **Josiah** were the firstborn Johanan, the second, Jehoiakim, the third, Zedekiah, the fourth, Shallum. (**1 Chronicles 3:15**)
- After the assassination of his father and the execution of the conspirators, eight-year-old **Josiah** became king of Judah.
- Eventually servants of Amon conspired against him and put the king to death in his own house. (**2 Kings 21:23**)

- But the people of the land struck down all the conspirators against King Amon. Then the people of the land made **Josiah** his son king in place of him. (**2 Kings 21:24**)
- So they buried him in his grave in the garden of Uzza, and **Josiah** his son began to reign in place of him. (**2 Kings 21:26**)
- But the people of the land struck down all the conspirators against King Amon, and the people of the land then made **Josiah** his son king in place of him. (**2 Chronicles 33:25**)
- Some six years later Zebidah gave birth to **Josiah's** second son, Jehoiakim.
- Eight years old was **Josiah** when he began to reign, and for thirty-one years he reigned in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Jedidah the daughter of Adaiah from Bozkath. (**2 Kings 22:1**)
- Twenty-five years old was Jehoiakim when he began to reign, and for eleven years he reigned in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Zebidah the daughter of Pedaiiah from Rumah. (**2 Kings 23:36**)
- In the eighth year of his reign, **Josiah** sought to learn and to do Yehowah's will.
- And in the eighth year of his reigning, while he was still a boy, he started to search for the God of David his forefather, and in the twelfth year he started to cleanse Judah and Jerusalem from the high places and the sacred poles and the graven images and the molten statues. (**2 Chronicles 34:3**)
- It was also about this time that Jehoahaz or Shallum, **Josiah's** son by Hamutal, was born.
- Eight years old was **Josiah** when he began to reign, and for thirty-one years he reigned in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Jedidah the daughter of Adaiah from Bozkath. (**2 Kings 22:1**)
- Twenty-three years old was Jehoahaz when he began to reign, and for three months he reigned in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Hamutal the daughter of Jeremiah from Libnah. (**2 Kings 23:31**)

- For this is what Yehowah has said concerning Shallum the son of **Josiah**, the king of Judah who is reigning instead of **Josiah** his father, who has gone forth from this place, He will return there no more. (**Jeremiah 22:11**)

- During his 12th year as king, **Josiah** began a campaign against idolatry that apparently extended into the 18th year of his reign. Altars used for false worship were torn down and desecrated by burning human bones upon them.

- Also, sacred poles, graven images, and molten statues were destroyed. Josiah even extended his efforts as far as the northern part of what had once been territory of the ten-tribe kingdom but had been desolated because of the Assyrian conquest and subsequent exile.

- And in the eighth year of his reigning, while he was still a boy, he started to search for the God of David his forefather, and in the twelfth year he started to cleanse Judah and Jerusalem from the high places and the sacred poles and the graven images and the molten statues. (**2 Chronicles 34:3**)

- Further, they pulled down before him the altars of the Baals, and the incense stands that were up above he cut down from off them, and the sacred poles and the graven images and the molten statues he broke in pieces and reduced to powder, and then sprinkled it upon the surface of the burial places of those that used to sacrifice to them. (**2 Chronicles 34:4**)

- And the bones of priests he burned upon their altars. Thus he cleansed Judah and Jerusalem. (**2 Chronicles 34:5**)

- Also, in the cities of Manasseh and Ephraim and Simeon and clear to Naphtali, in their devastated places all around. (**2 Chronicles 34:6**)

- He even went pulling down the altars and the sacred poles, and the graven images he crushed and reduced to powder, and all the incense stands he cut down in all the land of Israel, after which he returned to Jerusalem. (**2 Chronicles 34:7**)

- And in the eighteenth year of his reigning, when he had cleansed the land and the house, he sent Shaphan the son of Azaliah and Maaseiah the chief of the city and Joah the son of Joahaz the recorder to repair the house of Yehowah his God. (**2 Chronicles**

34:8)

- **Evidently Zephaniah's and Jeremiah's denunciations of idolatry had a good effect.**
- **The words of Jeremiah the son of Hilkiah, one of the priests that were in Anathoth in the land of Benjamin. (Jeremiah 1:1)**
- **To whom the word of Yehowah occurred in the days of Josiah the son of Amon, the king of Judah, in the thirteenth year of his reigning. (Jeremiah 1:2)**
- **And Yehowah proceeded to say to me in the days of Josiah the king; Have you seen what unfaithful Israel has done? She is going upon every high mountain and underneath every luxuriant tree, that she may commit prostitution there. (Jeremiah 3:6)**
- **And after her doing all these things I kept saying that she should return even to me, but she did not return, and Judah kept looking at her own treacherous sister. (Jeremiah 3:7)**
- **When I got to see that, for the very reason that unfaithful Israel had committed adultery, I sent her away and proceeded to give the certificate of her full divorce to her, yet treacherously dealing Judah her sister did not become afraid, but she herself also began to go and commit prostitution. (Jeremiah 3:8)**
- **And her prostitution occurred because of her frivolous view, and she kept polluting the land and committing adultery with stones and with trees. (Jeremiah 3:9)**
- **And even for all this her treacherous sister Judah did not return to me with all her heart, only falsely, is the utterance of Yehowah. (Jeremiah 3:10)**
- **The word of Yehowah that occurred to Zephaniah the son of Cushi the son of Gedaliah the son of Amariah the son of Hezekiah in the days of Josiah the son of Amon the king of Judah. (Zephaniah 1:1)**
- **I shall without fail finish everything off the surface of the ground, is the utterance of Yehowah. (Zephaniah 1:2)**
- **I shall finish off earthling man and beast. I shall finish off the**

flying creature of the heavens and the fishes of the sea, and the stumbling blocks with the wicked ones, and I will cut off mankind from the surface of the ground, is the utterance of Yehowah. (**Zephaniah 1:3**)

- And I will stretch out my hand against Judah and against all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and I will cut off from this place the remaining ones of the Baal, the name of the foreign-god priests along with the priests. (**Zephaniah 1:4**)
- And those who are bowing down upon the roofs to the army of the heavens, and those who are bowing down, making sworn oaths to Yehowah and making sworn oaths by Malcam. (**Zephaniah 1:5**)
- And those who are drawing back from following Yehowah and who have not sought Yehowah and have not inquired of him. (**Zephaniah 1:6**)
- After King **Josiah** completed cleansing the land of Judah and while he was having Yehowah's temple repaired, High Priest Hilkiah found, the book of Yehowah's Law by the hand of Moses, doubtless the original copy.
- Entrusted by Hilkiah with this sensational find, Shaphan the secretary reported on the progress of the temple repair work and thereafter read the book to **Josiah**.
- On hearing God's word, this faithful king ripped his garments apart and then commissioned a five-man delegation to inquire of Yehowah on his behalf and on behalf of the people.
- The delegation went to the prophetess Huldah, then dwelling in Jerusalem, and brought back a report to this effect. Calamity will come as a consequence of disobedience to Yehowah's Law.
- But because you, King Josiah, humbled yourself, you will be gathered to your graveyard in peace and will not see the calamity.
- And it came about in the eighteenth year of King **Josiah** that the king sent Shaphan the son of Azaliah the son of Meshullam the secretary to the house of Yehowah, saying; (**2 Kings 22:3**)
- Go up to Hilkiah the High Priest, and let him complete the money

that is being brought into the house of Yehowah that the doorkeepers have gathered from the people. ([2 Kings 22:4](#))

- And let them put it into the hand of those doing the work, the appointed ones, in the house of Yehowah, that they may give it to those doing the work who are in the house of Yehowah to repair the cracks of the house. ([2 Kings 22:5](#))
- To the craftsmen and the builders and the masons, and to buy timbers and hewn stones to repair the house. ([2 Kings 22:6](#))
- Only no accounting should be taken of the money with them into whose hand it is being put, for it is in faithfulness that they are working. ([2 Kings 22:7](#))
- Later Hilkiyah the High Priest said to Shaphan the secretary; The very book of the Law I have found in the house of Yehowah. So Hilkiyah gave the book to Shaphan, and he began to read it. ([2 Kings 22:8](#))
- Then Shaphan the secretary came in to the king and replied to the king and said; Your servants have poured out the money that was to be found in the house, and they keep putting it into the hand of the doers of the work, the ones appointed, in the house of Yehowah. ([2 Kings 22:9](#))
- And Shaphan the secretary went on to tell the king, saying; There is a book that Hilkiyah the priest has given me. And Shaphan began to read it before the king. ([2 Kings 22:10](#))
- And it came about that as soon as the king heard the words of the book of the Law, he immediately ripped his garments apart. ([2 Kings 22:11](#))
- Then the king commanded Hilkiyah the priest and Ahikam the son of Shaphan and Achbor the son of Micaiah and Shaphan the secretary and Asaiah the king's servant, saying; ([2 Kings 22:12](#))
- Go, inquire of Yehowah in my own behalf and in behalf of the people and in behalf of all Judah concerning the words of this book that has been found, for great is Yehowah's rage that has been set afire against us over the fact that our forefathers did not listen to the words of this book by doing according to all that is written concerning us. ([2 Kings 22:13](#))

- **Accordingly Hilkiah the priest and Ahikam and Achbor and Shaphan and Asaiah went to Huldah the prophetess the wife of Shallum the son of Tikvah the son of Harhas, the caretaker of the garments, as she was dwelling in Jerusalem in the second quarter, and they proceeded to speak to her. (2 Kings 22:14)**
- **In turn she said to them; This is what Yehowah the God of Israel has said; Say to the man that has sent you men to me. (2 Kings 22:15)**
- **This is what Yehowah has said; Here I am bringing calamity upon this place and upon its inhabitants, even all the words of the book that the king of Judah has read. (2 Kings 22:16)**
- **Due to the fact that they have left me and have gone making sacrificial smoke to other gods in order to offend me with all the work of their hands, and my rage has been set afire against this place and will not be extinguished. (2 Kings 22:17)**
- **And as to the king of Judah who is sending you to inquire of Yehowah, this is what you should say to him; This is what Yehowah the God of Israel has said; As regards the words that you have heard. (2 Kings 22:18)**
- **For the reason that your heart was soft so that you humbled yourself because of Yehowah at your hearing what I have spoken against this place and its inhabitants for it to become an object of astonishment and a malediction, and then you ripped your garments apart and began weeping before me, I, even I, have heard, is the utterance of Yehowah. (2 Kings 22:19)**
- **That is why here I am gathering you to your forefathers, and you will certainly be gathered to your own graveyard in peace, and your eyes will not look upon all the calamity that I am bringing upon this place. And they proceeded to bring the king the reply. (2 Kings 22:20)**
- **And in the eighteenth year of his reigning, when he had cleansed the land and the house, he sent Shaphan the son of Azaliah and Maaseiah the chief of the city and Joah the son of Joahaz the recorder to repair the house of Yehowah his God. (2 Chronicles 34:8)**

- **And they proceeded to come to Hilkiah the High Priest and give the money that was being brought to the house of God, which the Levites the doorkeepers had gathered from the hand of Manasseh and Ephraim and from all the rest of Israel and from all Judah and Benjamin and the inhabitants of Jerusalem. (2 Chronicles 34:9)**
- **Then they put it into the hand of the doers of the work that were appointed over the house of Yehowah. In turn the doers of the work who were active in the house of Yehowah applied it to mending and repairing the house. (2 Chronicles 34:10)**
- **So they gave it to the craftsmen and the builders to buy hewn stones and timbers for clamps and to build with beams the houses that the kings of Judah had brought to ruin. (2 Chronicles 34:11)**
- **And the men were acting in faithfulness in the work, and over them there were appointed Jahath and Obadiah the Levites, from the sons of Merari, and Zechariah and Meshullam, from the sons of the Kohathites, to act as overseers. And the Levites, each of whom was expert with the instruments of song. (2 Chronicles 34:12)**
- **Were over the burden bearers, and the overseers of all the doers of the work for the different services, and from the Levites there were secretaries and officers and gatekeepers. (2 Chronicles 34:13)**
- **Now while they were bringing out the money that was being brought to the house of Yehowah, Hilkiah the priest found the book of Yehowah's Law by the hand of Moses. (2 Chronicles 34:14)**
- **So Hilkiah answered and said to Shaphan the secretary; The very book of the Law I have found in the house of Yehowah. With that Hilkiah gave the book to Shaphan. (2 Chronicles 34:15)**
- **Then Shaphan brought the book to the king and replied further to the king, saying; All that has been put in the hand of your servants they are doing. (2 Chronicles 34:16)**
- **And they pour out the money that is found in the house of Yehowah and put it in the hand of the appointed men and into**

the hand of the doers of the work. (2 Chronicles 34:17)

- And Shaphan the secretary went on to report to the king, saying; There is a book that Hilkiah the priest gave me. And Shaphan began to read out of it before the king. (2 Chronicles 34:18)
- And it came about that as soon as the king heard the words of the Law, he immediately ripped his garments apart. (2 Chronicles 34:19)
- Then the king commanded Hilkiah and Ahikam the son of Shaphan and Abdon the son of Micah and Shaphan the secretary and Asaiah the king's servant, saying; (2 Chronicles 34:20)
- Go, inquire of Yehowah in my own behalf and in behalf of what is left in Israel and in Judah concerning the words of the book that has been found, for great is Yehowah's rage that must be poured out against us because of the fact that our forefathers did not keep the word of Yehowah by doing according to all that is written in this book. (2 Chronicles 34:21)
- Accordingly Hilkiah along with those whom the king had said went to Huldah the prophetess, the wife of Shallum the son of Tikvah the son of Harhas the caretaker of the garments, as she was dwelling in Jerusalem in the second quarter, and they proceeded to speak to her like this. (2 Chronicles 34:22)
- In turn she said to them; This is what Yehowah the God of Israel has said; Say to the man that sent you to me. (2 Chronicles 34:23)
- This is what Yehowah has said; Here I am bringing calamity upon this place and its inhabitants, all the curses that are written in the book that they read before the king of Judah. (2 Chronicles 34:24)
- Due to the fact that they have left me and gone making sacrificial smoke to other gods, in order to offend me with all the doings of their hands and that my rage may pour forth upon this place and not be extinguished. (2 Chronicles 34:25)
- And to the king of Judah, who is sending you to inquire of Yehowah, this is what you should say to him; This is what Yehowah the God of Israel has said; As regards the words that

you have heard. (2 Chronicles 34:26)

- For the reason that your heart was soft so that you humbled yourself because of God at your hearing his words concerning this place and its inhabitants, and you humbled yourself before me and ripped your garments apart and wept before me, I, even I, have heard, is the utterance of Yehowah. (2 Chronicles 34:27)
- Here I am gathering you to your forefathers, and you will certainly be gathered to your graveyard in peace, and your eyes will not look upon all the calamity that I am bringing upon this place and its inhabitants. Then they brought the reply to the king. (2 Chronicles 34:28)

See Also HULDAH

- Subsequently **Josiah** assembled all the people of Judah and Jerusalem, including the older men, the priests, and the prophets, and read God's Law to them.
- After this, they concluded a covenant of faithfulness before Yehowah. Then followed a second and evidently a more intensive campaign against idolatry.
- The foreign-god priests of Judah and Jerusalem were put out of business, and Levite priests who had become involved in improper worship at high places were deprived of the privilege of serving at Yehowah's altar.
- The high places built centuries earlier during Solomon's reign were made completely unfit for worship. In fulfillment of a prophecy uttered about 300 years previously by an unnamed man of God, Josiah pulled down the altar built by Israel's King Jeroboam at Bethel.
- The high places were removed not only at Bethel, but also in the other cities of Samaria, and the idolatrous priests were sacrificed on the altars where they had officiated.
- And here there was a man of God that had come out of Judah by the word of Yehowah to Bethel, while Jeroboam was standing by the altar to make sacrificial smoke. (1 Kings 13:1)
- Then he called out against the altar by the word of Yehowah and said; O altar, altar, this is what Yehowah has said; Look! A son

born to the house of David, whose name is **Josiah**! And he will certainly sacrifice upon you the priests of the high places that are making sacrificial smoke upon you, and men's bones he will burn upon you. (**1 Kings 13:2**)

- And the king went on to command Hilkiah the High Priest and the priests of the second rank and the doorkeepers to bring out from the temple of Yehowah all the utensils made for Baal and for the sacred pole and for all the army of the heavens. Then he burned them outside Jerusalem on the terraces of Kidron, and he brought the dust of them to Bethel. (**2 Kings 23:4**)
- And he put out of business the foreign-god priests, whom the kings of Judah had put in that they might make sacrificial smoke on the high places in the cities of Judah and the surroundings of Jerusalem, and also those making sacrificial smoke to Baal, to the sun and to the moon and to the constellations of the zodiac and to all the army of the heavens. (**2 Kings 23:5**)
- Furthermore, he brought out the sacred pole from the house of Yehowah to the outskirts of Jerusalem, to the torrent valley of Kidron, and burned it in the torrent valley of Kidron and ground it to dust and cast its dust upon the burial place of the sons of the people. (**2 Kings 23:6**)
- Further, he pulled down the houses of the male temple prostitutes that were in the house of Yehowah, where the women were weaving tent shrines for the sacred pole. (**2 Kings 23:7**)
- Then he brought all the priests from the cities of Judah, that he might make unfit for worship the high places where the priests had made sacrificial smoke, from Geba as far as Beer-sheba, and he pulled down the high places of the gates that were at the entrance of the gate of Joshua, the chief of the city, which was at the left as a person came into the gate of the city. (**2 Kings 23:8**)
- Only the priests of the high places would not come up to the altar of Yehowah in Jerusalem, but they ate unfermented cakes in among their brothers. (**2 Kings 23:9**)
- And he made unfit for worship Topheth, which is in the valley of the sons of Hinnom, that no one might make his son or his daughter pass through the fire to Molech. (**2 Kings 23:10**)

- Further, he caused the horses that the kings of Judah had given to the sun to cease from entering the house of Yehowah by the dining room of Nathan-melech the court official, which was in the porticoes, and the chariots of the sun he burned in the fire. ([2 Kings 23:11](#))
- And the altars that were upon the roof of the roof chamber of Ahaz that the kings of Judah had made, and the altars that Manasseh had made in two courtyards of the house of Yehowah, the king pulled down, after which he crushed them there, and he cast their dust into the torrent valley of Kidron. ([2 Kings 23:12](#))
- And the high places that were in front of Jerusalem, that were to the right of the Mount of Ruination, that Solomon the king of Israel had built to Ashtoreth the disgusting thing of the Sidonians and to Chemosh the disgusting thing of Moab and to Milcom the detestable thing of the sons of Ammon, the king made unfit for worship. ([2 Kings 23:13](#))
- And he broke the sacred pillars to pieces and went on to cut down the sacred poles and to fill their places with human bones. ([2 Kings 23:14](#))
- And also the altar that was in Bethel, the high place that Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who caused Israel to sin, had made, even that altar and the high place he pulled down. Then he burned the high place, he ground it to dust and burned the sacred pole. ([2 Kings 23:15](#))
- When **Josiah** turned, he got to see the burial places that were there in the mountain. So he sent and took the bones from the burial places and burned them upon the altar, that he might make it unfit for worship, according to Yehowah's word that the man of the true God had proclaimed, who proclaimed these things. ([2 Kings 23:16](#))
- Then he said; What is the gravestone over there that I am seeing? At this the men of the city said to him; It is the burial place of the man of the true God that came from Judah and proceeded to proclaim these things that you have done against the altar of Bethel. ([2 Kings 23:17](#))
- So he said; Let him rest. Do not let anyone disturb his bones.

Consequently they let his bones alone along with the bones of the prophet that had come from Samaria. (2 Kings 23:18)

- And also all the houses of the high places that were in the cities of Samaria that the kings of Israel had built to cause offense **Josiah** removed, and he went on to do to them according to all the doings that he had done at Bethel. (2 Kings 23:19)
- Accordingly he sacrificed all the priests of the high places that were there upon the altars and burned human bones upon them. After that he returned to Jerusalem. (2 Kings 23:20)
- After that **Josiah** removed all the detestable things out of all the lands that belonged to the sons of Israel, and he had all who were found in Israel take up service, to serve Yehowah their God. All his days they did not turn aside from following Yehowah the God of their forefathers. (2 Chronicles 34:33)
- In the 18th year of his reign, **Josiah** arranged for the celebration of the Passover, on Nisan 14. It transcended any Passover that had been observed since the days of the prophet Samuel. **Josiah** himself contributed 30,000 Passover victims and 3,000 head of cattle.
- The king now commanded all the people, saying; Hold a Passover to Yehowah your God according to what is written in this book of the covenant. (2 Kings 23:21)
- For no Passover like this had been held from the days of the judges that had judged Israel, nor all the days of the kings of Israel and the kings of Judah. (2 Kings 23:22)
- But in the eighteenth year of King **Josiah** this Passover was held to Yehowah in Jerusalem. (2 Kings 23:23)
- Then **Josiah** held in Jerusalem a Passover to Yehowah and they slaughtered the Passover victim on the fourteenth day of the first month. (2 Chronicles 35:1)
- So he stationed the priests over the things under their care and encouraged them in the service of the house of Yehowah. (2 Chronicles 35:2)
- And he went on to say to the Levites, the instructors of all Israel, those holy to Yehowah; Put the holy Ark in the house that

- Solomon the son of David the king of Israel built, it is not yours as a burden upon the shoulder. Now serve Yehowah your God and his people Israel. (2 Chronicles 35:3)**
- **And make preparation by the house of your forefathers according to your divisions, by the writing of David the king of Israel and by the writing of Solomon his son. (2 Chronicles 35:4)**
 - **And stand in the holy place by the classes of the house of the forefathers for your brothers, the sons of the people, and the portion of a paternal house belonging to the Levites. (2 Chronicles 35:5)**
 - **And slaughter the Passover victim and sanctify yourselves and make preparation for your brothers to do according to the word of Yehowah by means of Moses. (2 Chronicles 35:6)**
 - **Josiah** now contributed to the sons of the people flocks, male lambs and male kids, the whole for the Passover victims for all who were to be found, to the number of thirty thousand, and cattle, three thousand. These were from the goods of the king. **(2 Chronicles 35:7)**
 - **And his princes themselves made a contribution as a voluntary offering for the people, for the priests and for the Levites. Hilkiah and Zechariah and Jehiel themselves as leaders of the house of the true God gave to the priests for the Passover victims two thousand six hundred, and three hundred cattle. (2 Chronicles 35:8)**
 - **And Conaniah and Shemaiah and Nethanel his brothers and Hashabiah and Jeiel and Jozabad, the chiefs of the Levites, contributed to the Levites for Passover victims five thousand, and five hundred cattle. (2 Chronicles 35:9)**
 - **And the service was prepared and the priests kept standing at their places, and the Levites by their divisions, according to the kings commandment. (2 Chronicles 35:10)**
 - **And they proceeded to slaughter the Passover victim and the priests sprinkled the blood from their hand, while the Levites were stripping the skins off. (2 Chronicles 35:11)**
 - **Further, they prepared the burnt offerings so as to give them to**

the classes by the paternal house, to the sons of the people, so as to make a presentation to Yehowah according to what is written in the book of Moses, and thus also with the cattle. (2 Chronicles 35:12)

- And they went boiling the Passover offering over the fire according to the custom, and the things made holy they boiled in cooking pots and in round-bottomed pots and in banquet bowls, after which they brought it quickly to all the sons of the people. (2 Chronicles 35:13)
- And afterward they prepared for themselves and for the priests, because the priests the sons of Aaron were engaged in offering up the burnt sacrifices and the fat pieces until night, and the Levites, for their part, prepared for themselves and for the priests the sons of Aaron. (2 Chronicles 35:14)
- And the singers the sons of Asaph were at their office according to the commandment of David and of Asaph and of Heman and of Jeduthun the visionary of the king, and the gatekeepers were at the different gates. There was no need for them to turn aside from their service, because their brothers the Levites themselves prepared for them. (2 Chronicles 35:15)
- And all the service of Yehowah was prepared on that day to hold the Passover and to offer up the burnt offerings upon the altar of Yehowah, according to the commandment of King Josiah. (2 Chronicles 35:16)
- And the sons of Israel that were to be found proceeded to hold the Passover at that time and also the festival of the unfermented cakes for seven days. (2 Chronicles 35:17)
- And there had never been held a Passover like it in Israel since the days of Samuel the prophet, neither had any of the other kings of Israel themselves held a Passover like that which Josiah and the priests and the Levites and all Judah and Israel that were to be found and the inhabitants of Jerusalem held. (2 Chronicles 35:18)
- In the eighteenth year of Josiah's reign this Passover was held. (2 Chronicles 35:19)

- About four years later **Josiah** became father to Mattaniah, Zedekiah, by his wife Hamutal.
- Eight years old was **Josiah** when he began to reign, and for thirty-one years he reigned in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Jedidah the daughter of Adaiah from Bozkath. (**2 Kings 22:1**)
- Twenty-three years old was Jehoahaz when he began to reign, and for three months he reigned in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Hamutal the daughter of Jeremiah from Libnah. (**2 Kings 23:31**)
- Furthermore, Pharaoh Nechoh made Eliakim the son of **Josiah** king in place of Josiah his father and changed his name to Jehoiakim, and Jehoahaz he took and then brought to Egypt, where he eventually died. (**2 Kings 23:34**)
- Twenty-five years old was Jehoiakim when he began to reign, and for eleven years he reigned in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Zebidah the daughter of Pedaiiah from Rumah. (**2 Kings 23:36**)
- Eighteen years old was Jehoiachin when he began to reign, and for three months he reigned in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Nehushta the daughter of Elnathan of Jerusalem. (**2 Kings 24:8**)
- Further, the king of Babylon made Mattaniah his uncle king in place of him. Then he changed his name to Zedekiah. (**2 Kings 24:17**)
- Twenty-one years old was Zedekiah when he began to reign, and for eleven years he reigned in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Hamutal the daughter of Jeremiah from Libnah. (**2 Kings 24:18**)
- Toward the close of **Josiah's** 31-year reign, **659-629 B.C.E**, Pharaoh Necho led his army northward to the aid of the Assyrians. For a reason not revealed in the Bible, King **Josiah** disregarded, the words of Necho from the mouth of God, and tried to turn the Egyptian forces back at Megiddo, but he was mortally wounded in the attempt.
- He was brought back to Jerusalem in a war chariot and died either en route or upon arrival there. **Josiah's** death brought much

grief to his subjects. All Judah and Jerusalem were mourning over Josiah.

- **And Jeremiah began to chant over Josiah, and all the male singers and female singers keep talking about Josiah in their dirges down till today.**
- **After all this when Josiah had prepared the house, Necho the king of Egypt came up to fight at Carchemish by the Euphrates. Then Josiah went out to an encounter with him. (2 Chronicles 35:20)**
- **At that he sent messengers to him, saying; What do I have to do with you, O king of Judah? It is not against you that I am coming today, but it is against another house that my fight is and that God himself said that I should cause disturbance. Refrain for your own sake because of God, who is with me, and do not let him bring you to ruin. (2 Chronicles 35:21)**
- **And Josiah did not turn his face away from him, but to fight against him he disguised himself and did not listen to the words of Necho from the mouth of God. So he came to fight in the valley plain of Megiddo. (2 Chronicles 35:22)**
- **And the shooters got to shoot at King Josiah, so that the king said to his servants; Take me down, for I have been very severely wounded. (2 Chronicles 35:23)**
- **Accordingly his servants took him down from the chariot and had him ride in the second war chariot that was his and brought him to Jerusalem. Thus he died and was buried in the graveyard of his forefathers, and all Judah and Jerusalem were mourning over Josiah. (2 Chronicles 35:24)**
- **And Jeremiah began to chant over Josiah, and all the male singers and female singers keep talking about Josiah in their dirges down till today, and they have them set as a regulation over Israel, and there they are written among the dirges. (2 Chronicles 35:25)**
- **In his days Pharaoh Nechoh the king of Egypt came up to the king of Assyria by the river Euphrates, and King Josiah proceeded to go to meet him, but he put him to death at Megiddo as soon as he saw him. (2 Kings 23:29)**

- So his servants conveyed him dead in a chariot from Megiddo and brought him to Jerusalem and buried him in his grave. Then the people of the land took Jehoahaz the son of **Josiah** and anointed him and made him king in place of his father. (**2 Kings 23:30**)

See Also ASSYRIA (The fall of the empire)

- Although three of **Josiah's** sons and one grandson ruled as kings over Judah, none of them imitated his fine example of turning to Yehowah with all his heart, soul, and vital force.
- And also the spirit mediums and the professional foretellers of events and the teraphim and the dungy idols and all the disgusting things that had appeared in the land of Judah and in Jerusalem **Josiah** cleared out, in order, that he might actually carry out the words of the Law that were written in the book that Hilkiyah the priest had found at the house of Yehowah. (**2 Kings 23:24**)
- And like him there did not prove to be a king prior to him who returned to Yehowah with all his heart and with all his soul and with all his vital force, according to all the Law of Moses, neither after him has there risen up one like him. (**2 Kings 23:25**)
- Twenty-three years old was Jehoahaz when he began to reign, and for three months he reigned in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Hamutal the daughter of Jeremiah from Libnah. (**2 Kings 23:31**)
- And he began to do what was bad in Yehowah's eyes, according to all that forefathers of his had done. (**2 Kings 23:32**)
- Twenty-five years old was Jehoiakim when he began to reign, and for eleven years he reigned in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Zebidah the daughter of Pedaiah from Rumah. (**2 Kings 23:36**)
- And he continued to do what was bad in Yehowah's eyes, according to all that forefathers of his had done. (**2 Kings 23:37**)
- Eighteen years old was Jehoiachin when he began to reign, and for three months he reigned in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Nehushta the daughter of Elnathan of Jerusalem. (**2**

Kings 24:8)

- And he continued to do what was bad in Yehowah's eyes, according to all that his father had done. (**2 Kings 24:9**)
- Twenty-one years old was Zedekiah when he began to reign, and for eleven years he reigned in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Hamutal the daughter of Jeremiah from Libnah. (**2 Kings 24:18**)
- And he continued to do what was bad in Yehowah's eyes, according to all that Jehoiakim had done. (**2 Kings 24:19**)
- This also indicates that although **Josiah's** efforts had removed the outward appendages of idolatry, the people generally had not returned to Yehowah with a complete heart. Consequently, future calamity was certain.
- Nevertheless, Yehowah did not turn back from the great burning of his anger, with which his anger burned against Judah over all the offensive things with which Manasseh had made them offend. (**2 Kings 23:26**)
- But Yehowah said; Judah, too, I shall remove from my sight, just as I have removed Israel, and I shall certainly reject this city that I have chosen, even Jerusalem, and the house of which I have said; My name will continue there. (**2 Kings 23:27**)
- The word that occurred to Jeremiah from Yehowah in the days of Jehoiakim the son of **Josiah**, the king of Judah, saying; (**Jeremiah 35:1**)
- This is what Yehowah of armies, the God of Israel, has said; Go, and you must say to the men of Judah and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem; Did you not continually receive exhortation to obey my words, is the utterance of Yehowah? (**Jeremiah 35:13**)
- There has been a carrying out of the words of Jehonadab the son of Rechab, that he commanded his sons, to drink no wine, and they have drunk none down to this day, because they have obeyed the commandment of their forefather. And as for me, I have spoken to you men, rising up early and speaking, but you have not obeyed me. (**Jeremiah 35:14**)

- **And I kept sending to you all my servants the prophets, rising up early and sending them, saying; Turn back, please, each one from his bad way, and make your dealings good, and do not walk after other gods to serve them. And keep dwelling on the ground that I have given to you and to your forefathers. But you did not incline your ear, nor did you listen to me. (Jeremiah 35:15)**
- **But the sons of Jehonadab the son of Rechab have carried out the commandment of their forefather that he commanded them, but as for this people, they have not listened to me. (Jeremiah 35:16)**
- **Therefore this is what Yehowah, the God of armies, the God of Israel, has said; Here I am bringing upon Judah and upon all the inhabitants of Jerusalem all the calamity that I have spoken against them, for the reason that I have spoken to them but they did not listen, and I kept calling to them but they did not answer. (Jeremiah 35:17)**
- **And all the men who were knowing that their wives had been making sacrificial smoke to other gods, and all the wives who were standing as a great congregation, and all the people who were dwelling in the land of Egypt, in Pathros, proceeded to answer Jeremiah, saying; (Jeremiah 44:15)**
- **As regards the word that you have spoken to us in the name of Yehowah, we are not listening to you. (Jeremiah 44:16)**
- **But we shall positively do every word that has gone forth from our mouth, in order to make sacrificial smoke to the queen of the heavens and to pour out to her drink offerings, just as we ourselves and our forefathers, our kings and our princes did in the cities of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem, when we used to be satisfied with bread and to be well off, and we did not see any calamity at all. (Jeremiah 44:17)**
- **And from the time that we ceased to make sacrificial smoke to the queen of the heavens and pour out drink offerings to her we have lacked everything, and by the sword and by the famine we have come to our finish. (Jeremiah 44:18)**