

King Josiah Reads God's Word

II Kings 22:1-23:3

For many, many years, God's special people had forgotten about him! More and more, they did BAD things, things that displeased God. They stopped going to the house of the Lord and no longer worshiped the one true living God. God's beautiful house was not beautiful anymore. It was all dusty and dirty. It had been neglected for so long that the building was beginning to fall apart! No one went there because NO ONE cared about God.

When Josiah became king, he wanted to do what was right. He really loved the Lord God and wanted to please him. He reminded the people of how very much God loved them and how faithfully He had cared for them. The king sent many workers to the house of the Lord to clean and repair it so that it could be used for worship once again.

One day one of the men found a part of a book in the house of the Lord. He gave it to one of the king's special helpers, and the helper took it to the king. When the helper read the book to King Josiah, the king became very upset. THIS book was part of God's Word, and it has been lost a very long time!

When King Josiah heard the words from this part of God's Book, he knew that his people had done many bad things that had displeased God. The king wondered if he and his people would have to be punished for their sins. He asked some of his helpers to find out.

God told the helpers that the bad things that had been done for so many years would have to be punished. But he also told them that the punishment would not come as long as King Josiah lived because the king truly loved God and tried to do what was right.

Because the king loved and obeyed the Lord, his people also obeyed God. King Josiah was a good king.

The Bible says, "I will not forget thy word." We please God when we listen carefully to His Word and then remember to do what He wants us to do.

Bible Verse to Learn

"...I will not forget thy word" (Psalm 119:16).