

9/15/19

**2Chron. 34-35**

The two following chapter cover the reign of Josiah and the fifth revival. 2Chron. 34-35

\* The parallel passage. 2King. 22-23

**34:1-33     The revival of Josiah.**

**34:1-2**     The accensioin of Josiah to the throne.

- 1) The age and reign of Josiah, who succeeded his father Manasseh is stated, “Josiah was eight years old when he became king, and he reigned thirty-one years in Jerusalem.” vs. 1
  - a) Just a child of 8 years of age, but they were the latter years of Manasseh reestablish rieg्न as he repented and removed the idolatry.
  - b) Once again the choice was of Josiah, but the godly example was beneficial, reigning till 39 years old. 641-609 B.C.
- 2) The godly character of Josiah is also stated, “And he did what was right in the sight of the LORD, and walked in the ways of his father David; he did not turn aside to the right hand or to the left.” vs. 2
  - a) Josiah walked and trusted God doing what was right being a faithful witness to Yahweh.
  - b) Josiah walked aftr David’s example.

c) Josiah stayed on the strieght and narrow, not deviating from God.

**34:3-7**     The reforms of Josiah to cleans the land of idolatry.

- 1) The soveriegn pouring out of God’s Spirit to bring about revival was when Josiah was a mere child, “For in the eighth year of his reign, while he was still young, he began to seek the God of his father David.” vs. 3a-b
  - a) God is always the initiator.
  - b) Josiah responded “to seek God”.
- 2) The young king put in place some reforms against idolatry, “and in the twelfth year he began to purge Judah and Jerusalem of the high places, the wooden images, the carved images, and the molded images.” vs. 3c-e
  - a) This took place four years after anscending to the throne.
  - b) Josiah started to purse Judah and the city of Jerusalem of the idolatry.
  - c) Jeremiah began his ministry the following year, on the 13th year of the reign of Josiah, 627-26 B.C. demouncing the evil of Judah and the superficial reforms trusting in the Temple. Jer. 1:2; 7:1-4
    - 1)) The first 12 chapters of Jeremiah are believed to cover the reign of Josiah.
    - 2)) The wooden images “Asherah”, to represent the male phallic in the

- worship of the fertility goddess of Canaanites.
- 3)) The carved images “p@ciyl”, an idol image of a false god chiseled out of stone or carve out of wood.
  - 3)) The molded images “maccekah”, refers to casting of false gods of brass, silver, gold, etc.
  - 4) The young king equally destroyed the accompanying altars, “They broke down the altars of the Baals in his presence, and the incense altars which were above them he cut down; and the wooden images, the carved images, and the molded images he broke in pieces.” vs. 4a-e
  - 5) The young king desecrated the tombs of the false worshippers, “and made dust of them and scattered it on the graves of those who had sacrificed to them.” vs. 4f  
\* Greater details are in Kings. 2Kings 23
  - 6) The young king also desecrated the graves of the false priest, “He also burned the bones of the priests on their altars, and cleansed Judah and Jerusalem.” vs. 5
  - 7) These reforms took place also in the northern tribes of Israel, “And so he did in the cities of Manasseh, Ephraim, and Simeon, as far as Naphtali and all around, with axes.” vs. 6
  - 8) The reform was thoroughly carried out by Josiah, “When he had broken down the altars and the wooden images, had beaten

the carved images into powder, and cut down all the incense altars throughout all the land of Israel, he returned to Jerusalem.” vs. 7

### **34:8-13** The reforms to repair the temple.

- 1) The reform came four years later, “In the eighteenth year of his reign, when he had purged the land and the temple, he sent Shaphan the son of Azaliah, Maaseiah the governor of the city, and Joah the son of Joahaz the recorder, to repair the house of the LORD his God.” vs. 8
  - a) The land and temple had been purged for four years.
  - b) The repair of the temple now followed.
- 2) They delegated task to repair the temple to the high priest, “When they came to Hilkiah the high priest, they delivered the money that was brought into the house of God, which the Levites who kept the doors had gathered from the hand of Manasseh and Ephraim, from all the remnant of Israel, from all Judah and Benjamin, and which they had brought back to Jerusalem.” vs. 9
  - a) The money was entrusted to Hilkiah the High Priest. vs. 9a-b  
\* Hilkiah could have been the father of Jeremiah. Jer. 1:2
  - b) The Levites had gathered the money from the northern tribes and Judah. vs. 9c-e

- 3) The money was further delegated down, “Then they put it in the hand of the foremen who had the oversight of the house of the LORD; and they gave it to the workmen who worked in the house of the LORD, to repair and restore the house.” vs. 10
- a) The foremen oversaw the work,
  - b) The workers did the work.
- 4) The money was used to purchase the materials needed, “They gave it to the craftsmen and builders to buy hewn stone and timber for beams, and to floor the houses which the kings of Judah had destroyed.” vs. 11
- a) The damage was great.
  - b) The destruction was collective of the kings of Judah.
- 5) The report of the work done is stated. vs. 12
- a) The commendation of the men, “And the men did the work faithfully.” vs. 12a
  - b) The name of the foremen, “Their overseers were Jahath and Obadiah the Levites, of the sons of Merari, and Zechariah and Meshullam, of the sons of the Kohathites, to supervise.” vs. 12a-e
  - c) The supervisors, “Others of the Levites, all of whom were skillful with instruments of music, were over the burden bearers and were overseers of all who did work in any kind of service.” vs. 12f-13a

- d) The distinct class of Levites, “And some of the Levites were scribes, officers, and gatekeepers.” vs. 13c
- 1)) The scribes “capher” were those who kept records and accounting, later they transcribed the scriptures.
  - 2)) The officers “shoter”, overseers.
  - 3)) The gatekeepers “shaw’ er” the porters for the temple.

**34:14-19** The discovery of the book of the Law in the temple.

- 1) The time of the discovery, “Now when they brought out the money that was brought into the house of the LORD, Hilkiah the priest found the Book of the Law of the LORD given by Moses.” vs. 14
  - a) This is around 623 B.C.
  - b) Moses died around 1405 B.C.
  - c) If this was the very book of Moses, it would have been 782 years old.
  - d) The book was to be kept in the ark, Manasseh or Amon perhaps removed it? Deut. 31:26
- 2) The communication about the discovery. Then Hilkiah answered and 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.” vs. 15
  - a) He told Shaphan the scribe.
  - b) He gave the book of Shaphan the scribe.

- 3) The report to Josiah of the work in the temple. vs. 16-17
  - a) The work was in process, “So Shaphan carried the book to the king, bringing the king word, saying, “All that was committed to your servants they are doing.” vs. 16
  - b) The work was carefully being overseen, “And they have gathered the money that was found in the house of the LORD, and have delivered it into the hand of the overseers and the workmen.” vs.17
- 4) The report about findind the book of Moses. vs. 18-19
  - a) The information about the book, “Then Shaphan the scribe told the king, saying, “Hilkiah the priest has given me a book.” And Shaphan read it before the king.” vs. 18
  - b) The consternation over the book, “Thus it happened, when the king heard the words of the Law, that he tore his clothes.” vs. 19
    - 1)) Josiah understood Judah had disobeyed and violated the law.
    - 2)) Josiah express in a demonstrative manner his grief at the disobedience of Judah.

**34:20-28** The response of Josiah about the book of the Law found.

- 1) The king Josiah gave a command, “Then the king commanded Hilkiah, Ahikam the son of Shaphan, Abdon the son of Micah, Shaphan the scribe, and Asaiah a servant of the king, saying.” vs. 20
- 2) The king ordered them to inquire of God about the word he heard read from the book, “Go, inquire of the LORD for me, and for those who are left in Israel and Judah, concerning the words of the book that is found.” vs. 20a-d
- 3) The reason was clear to Josiah, “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.” vs. 20e-g
- 4) The men went to the prophetess, “So Hilkiah and those the king had appointed went to Huldah the prophetess, the wife of Shallum the son of Tokhath, the son of Hasrah, keeper of the wardrobe. (She dwelt in Jerusalem in the Second Quarter.) And they spoke to her to that effect.” vs. 22
  - a) The prophetess Hildahm not Jeremiah, Habkkuk or Zephaniah.
  - b) The location was in the Seond Quarter was the lower city residential area to the west of the Temple in the depression which is the upper Tyropoeon Valley.
- 5) The answer of the prophetess Hildah was directed to Josiah, “Then she answered

- them, “Thus says the LORD God of Israel, ‘Tell the man who sent you to Me.’” vs. 23
- a) The authority was from heaven.
  - b) The recipient was Josiah.
- 6) The message was one of deserved judgment, “Thus says the LORD: ‘Behold, I will bring calamity on this place and on its inhabitants, all the curses that are written in the book which they have read before the king of Judah.’” vs. 24
- a) Regarding the curses in the book of Moses. Deut. 27-28; Lev. 26
  - b) Regarding their disobedience.
- 6) The reason for God’s judgment, “‘because they have forsaken Me and burned incense to other gods, that they might provoke Me to anger with all the works of their hands. Therefore My wrath will be poured out on this place, and not be quenched.’” vs.25
- a) They forsook God.
  - b) They provoke God to anger.
  - c) They would receive the wrath poured out.
- 7) The message of mercy to Josiah, “But as for the king of Judah, who sent you to inquire of the LORD, in this manner you shall speak to him, ‘Thus says the LORD God of Israel: ‘Concerning the words which you have heard—
- a) For seeking the LORD.
  - b) For hearing God’s word towards him.

- 8) The reason for God annulling the judgment. vs. 27
- a) Josiah was open to God, “because your heart was tender,” vs. 27a
  - b) Josiah was not pridefull, “and you humbled yourself before God when you heard His words against this place and against its inhabitants, and you humbled yourself before Me.” vs. 27b-c
  - c) Josiah demonstrated to repentance, “and you tore your clothes and wept before Me.” vs. 27d
  - d) Josiah had received favor of God, “I also have heard you,” says the LORD.” vs. 27e-f
- 9) The promise to Josiah from God. vs. 28
- a) Josiah would die in peace, “Surely I will gather you to your fathers, and you shall be gathered to your grave in peace.” vs. 28a-b
  - b) Josiah would not see the final judgment of God, “and your eyes shall not see all the calamity which I will bring on this place and its inhabitants.”” vs. 28c
  - c) Josiah heard God’s words, “So they brought back word to the king.” vs. 28d

**34:29-33** The renewed covenant with God by Josiah.

- 1) Josiah gather all the leaders, “Then the king sent and gathered all the elders of Judah and Jerusalem.” vs. 29
- 2) Josiah read the word of God to the people. vs. 30
  - a) The location was the temple, “The king went up to the house of the LORD, with all the men of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem--the priests and the Levites, and all the people, great and small.” vs. 30a-d
  - b) The portion was from the Book of the Covenant, “And he read in their hearing all the words of the Book of the Covenant which had been found in the house of the LORD.” vs. 30c
- 3) Josiah dedication to obey the covenant. vs. 31
  - a) Josiah vowed before God, “Then the king stood in his place and made a covenant before the LORD.” vs. 31a
  - b) Josiah vowed to obey, “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 the covenant that were written in this book.” vs. 31b-d
- 4) Josiah force the people to covenant with God, “And he made all who were present in Jerusalem and Benjamin take a stand. So the inhabitants of Jerusalem did according to the

covenant of God, the God of their fathers.”  
vs. 32

- 5) The summary statement, “Thus Josiah removed all the abominations from all the country that belonged to the children of Israel, and made all who were present in Israel diligently serve the LORD their God. All his days they did not depart from following the LORD God of their fathers.”  
vs. 33

### **35:1-27      The Passover of Josiah.**

**35:1-6**    The preparations for the Passover.

- 1) The keeping of the Passover. vs. 1-2
  - a) The location, “Now Josiah kept a Passover to the LORD in Jerusalem.” vs. 1a
  - b) The offering and date, “and they slaughtered the Passover lambs on the fourteenth day of the first month.” vs. 1b  
\* Ex.13:4-7; Lev. 23:5
- 2) The attending officials “And he set the priests in their duties and encouraged them for the service of the house of the LORD.” vs. 2  
\* There are only three verses given to this even in Kings. 2Kings 23:21-23
- 3) The instructions to the Levites. vs. 3
  - a) Their identity, “Then he said to the Levites who taught all Israel, who were holy to the LORD.” vs. 3a-b

- b) Their duty, “Put the holy ark in the house which Solomon the son of David, king of Israel, built.” vs. 3c-d
- c) Their old job description, “It shall no longer be a burden on your shoulders.” vs. 3e
- d) Their call, “Now serve the LORD your God and His people Israel.” vs. 3f
- 4) The duties were to be after the temple order. vs. 4-5
  - a) According to their families and divisions, “Prepare yourselves according to your fathers’ houses, according to your divisions.” vs. 4a-b
  - b) According to the written word, “following the written instruction of David king of Israel and the written instruction of Solomon his son.” vs. 4c
  - c) According to their prescribed duty, “And stand in the holy place according to the divisions of the fathers’ houses of your brethren the lay people, and according to the division of the father’s house of the Levites.” vs.5
- 5) The sanctifying of the priests, “So slaughter the Passover offerings, consecrate yourselves, and prepare them for your brethren, that they may do according to the word of the LORD by the hand of Moses.” vs.6

**35:8-10** The provisions given to the people for the Passover.

- 1) The king Josiah was very benevolent, “Then Josiah gave the lay people lambs and young goats from the flock, all for Passover offerings for all who were present, to the number of thirty thousand, as well as three thousand cattle; these were from the king’s possessions.” vs. 7
- 2) The leader followed his example, “And his leaders gave willingly to the people, to the priests, and to the Levites. Hilkiah, Zechariah, and Jehiel, rulers of the house of God, gave to the priests for the Passover offerings two thousand six hundred from the flock, and three hundred cattle.” vs. 8
- 3) The Levites did the same, “Also Conaniah, his brothers Shemaiah and Nethanel, and Hashabiah and Jeiel and Jozabad, chief of the Levites, gave to the Levites for Passover offerings five thousand from the flock and five hundred cattle.” vs. 9
- 4) The preparations were ready, “So the service was prepared, and the priests stood in their places, and the Levites in their divisions, according to the king’s command.” vs. 10

**35:11-19** The celebration of the Passover.

- 1) The atonement was made, “And they slaughtered the Passover offerings; and the priests sprinkled the blood with their hands,

while the Levites skinned the animals.” vs. 11

**a)** The blood was for atonement. Lev. 17:11

**b)** Establish at the fall. Gen. 3:21

- 2)** The offering of dedication and consecration, “Then they removed the burnt offerings that they might give them to the divisions of the fathers’ houses of the lay people, to offer to the LORD, as it is written in the Book of Moses. And so they did with the cattle.” vs. 12

**a)** Burnt offering were for dedeication and consecration to God.

**b)** Everything done according to the Scriptures.

- 3)** The offering of the Passover, “Also they roasted the Passover offerings with fire according to the ordinance; but the other holy offerings they boiled in pots, in caldrons, and in pans, and divided them quickly among all the lay people.” vs. 13
- a)** The Passover was a reminder of God’s faithfulness to deliver them from Egypt.
- b)** The people feasted on the offerings
- 4)** The portions of the Priest, “Then afterward they prepared portions for themselves and for the priests, because the priests, the sons of Aaron, were busy in offering burnt offerings and fat until night; therefore the Levites prepared portions for themselves

and for the priests, the sons of Aaron.” vs. 14

**a)** The Levites went last, after they finished serving.

**b)** The order of the priest of the house of Aaron.

- 5)** The order of everyone was executed exactly, “And the singers, the sons of Asaph, were in their places, according to the command of David, Asaph, Heman, and Jeduthun the king’s seer. Also the gatekeepers were at each gate; they did not have to leave their position, because their brethren the Levites prepared portions for them.” vs. 15
- 6)** The summary statement, “So all the service of the LORD was prepared the same day, to keep the Passover and to offer burnt offerings on the altar of the LORD, according to the command of King Josiah. And the children of Israel who were present kept the Passover at that time, and the Feast of Unleavened Bread for seven days.” vs. 16-17
- a)** The Passover was on the 14<sup>th</sup> of April, the first month.
- b)** The Feast of Unleaven followed on the 15-22.
- 7)** The commentary about the Passover. vs. 18
- a)** It surpassed the days of Samuel, “There had been no Passover kept in Israel like

that since the days of Samuel the prophet.” vs. 18a

- 1) Hezekiah’s Passover was unlike any since the days of Solomon.
- 2) Josiah’s Passover goes back further is greater than Hezekiah’s.
- b) It surpassed all the kings, “and none of the kings of Israel had kept such a Passover as Josiah kept, with all Judah and Israel who were present, and the inhabitants of Jerusalem.” vs. 18b-d
- 8) The date of the Passover, “In the eighteenth year of the reign of Josiah this Passover was kept.” vs. 19
  - 1) Josiah began to reign in 641 B.C.
  - 2) The date is 634 B.C.

**35:20-27** The pride of Josiah resulted in his death.

\* The parallel passage. 2Kings 23:29-30

- 1) Josiah went out to meet Pharaoh in battle, “After all this, when Josiah had prepared the temple, Necho king of Egypt came up to fight against Carchemish by the Euphrates; and Josiah went out against him.” vs. 20
  - a) The Scythians overran all Western Asia from 633-605 B.C.
  - b) Necho was coming to assist Assyrian against Babylon, the rising power in 609 B.C. , Necho was not coming against Josiah. 2Kings 23:29

- c) Three years before Nineveh had fallen in 612 B.C. to Babylon.
- 2) Josiah was warned Josiah about minding his own business. vs. 21
  - a) The check on his obstructing, “But he sent messengers to him, saying, “What have I to do with you, king of Judah?” vs. 21a-b
  - b) The clear identity of his enemy, “I have not come against you this day, but against the house with which I have war.” vs. 21c
  - c) The warning of opposing God, “for God commanded me to make haste. Refrain from meddling with God, who is with me, lest He destroy you.” vs. 21d-g
    - \* Remember Jehoshaphat went out with Ahab against Syria and almost lost his life. 2Chron. 18:28-34
- 3) The prideful arrogance of Josiah. vs. 22
  - a) He refused to listen, “Nevertheless Josiah would not turn his face from him, but disguised himself so that he might fight with him.” vs. 22a-b
  - b) He refused to believe God had spoken to Necho, “and did not heed the words of Necho from the mouth of God.” vs. 22c
  - c) He refused to go home, “So he came to fight in the Valley of Megiddo.” vs. 22d
- 4) The fatal wound of Josiah, vs. 23

- a) This was the LORD's arrow, "And the archers shot King Josiah." vs. 23a
  - \* Just like Ahab when an archer shot and arrow at a venture and killed him and Jehoshaphat escaped. 2Chron. 18:33
- b) The time to leave was too late, "and the king said to his servants, "Take me away, for I am severely wounded." vs. 23b-c
- 5) The death of Josiah. vs. 24
  - a) He was removed from the battlefield, "His servants therefore took him out of that chariot and put him in the second chariot that he had, and they brought him to Jerusalem." vs. 24a-b
  - b) He was taken to Jerusalem, "So he died, and was buried in one of the tombs of his fathers." vs. 24c-d
    - \* Kings clarifies that Josiah died at Megiddo and buried in Jerusalem. 2Kings 23:29-30
  - c) He was lamented, "And all Judah and Jerusalem mourned for Josiah." vs. 24e
- 6) The great lament over Josiah. vs. 25
  - a) Jeremiah also lamented for Josiah.
  - b) And to this day all the singing men and the singing women speak of Josiah in their lamentations.
  - c) They made it a custom in Israel; and indeed they are written in the Laments.
- 7) The summary statement, "Now the rest of the acts of Josiah and his goodness,

according to what was written in the Law of the LORD, and his deeds from first to last, indeed they are written in the book of the kings of Israel and Judah." vs. 26-27  
 \* The parallel passage. 2Kings 22-23