



— LINEAGE OF THE KING —

Amon was the father of Josiah Matthew 1:10

Lesson 15

FIRST DAY: Review and Overview

1. What warning did you receive from your study of Manasseh and Amon?
2. What a difference God makes in our lives when we choose to make pleasing Him our chief desire! This is clearly stated in 2 Timothy 2:21 (NLT), *If you keep yourself pure, you will be a special utensil for honorable use. Your life will be clean, and you will be ready for the Master to use you for every good work.* When Josiah became the king of Judah he had many impediments to overcome: he was young; Judah was spiritually blighted; the military power of the nation had been humbled by Assyria; his grandfather had left a legacy of idolatry and oppression; there was political unrest that resulted in Amon, Josiah's father, being murdered *in his own house* by his servants. Yet, because Josiah *began to seek the God of his father David*, he greatly impacted the nation of Judah for good.

It doesn't matter how many or how great the difficulties in life are, if we determine to make pleasing God our chief desire, God will use our lives in amazing ways for His glory! From the Scriptures below cite some of the ways God used Josiah for His glory:

- a. 2 Chronicles 34:3-4, 7-8
 - b. 2 Chronicles 34:31-33
 - c. 2 Chronicles 35:1-3, 16
 - d. 2 Chronicles 35:26-27
3. Write a prayer asking God to give you a greater desire to please Him in all your ways.

*He did what was right in the sight of the Lord
... he did not turn aside to the right hand or to the left.*
2 Chronicles 34:2

SECOND DAY: Read 2 Chronicles 34:1-19

1. Josiah the son of Amon *was eight years old when he became king, and he reigned thirty-one years* (2 Chronicles 34:1). What do you learn about his reign in 2 Chronicles 34:2?

2. According to 2 Chronicles 34:3a, what did Josiah do *while he was still young*?
 - a. Link this with Psalm 119:9 and share your thoughts.

3. Later, Josiah *began to purge Judah and Jerusalem* (2 Chronicles 34:3b). Use 2 Chronicles 34:3c-7 to document how he did this.
 - a. Josiah was able to extend his reforms to northern Israel even though Assyria had conquered that nation (2 Kings 17:24). What do you find interesting about this?

4. According to 2 Chronicles 34:8-13, *In the eighteenth year of his reign, Josiah sent the leaders of Jerusalem to repair the house of the LORD*. What do you find remarkable about the discovery Hilkiah the priest made there? 2 Chronicles 34:14

5. When Shaphan the scribe read *the Book of the Law of the LORD given by Moses* to the king, how did Josiah respond? 2 Chronicles 34:19
 - a. Tearing one's clothes was an expression of grief and conviction. What impresses you about Josiah's response to God's Word?

 - b. How does this speak to you concerning the power of God's Word? See also Hebrews 4:12.

6. Remember Josiah purged the land when he was sixteen years old and began repairing the Temple when he was twenty-six years old. Connect these facts with 1 Timothy 4:12 and share how Josiah's example speaks to you.
 - a. How does this inspire you to pray for the next generation?

THIRD DAY: Read 2 Chronicles 34:20-33

1. Because he was so strongly influenced by the Word of God, what did Josiah command the priests and scribes to do? 2 Chronicles 34:21a
 - a. What did Josiah realize? 2 Chronicles 34:21b

2. Those whom Josiah *appointed went to Huldah the prophetess* (2 Chronicles 34:22). She had a solemn word concerning Judah's impending judgment (2 Chronicles 34:24-25). However, what was God's message to Josiah? 2 Chronicles 34:26-28
 - a. Link this with Psalm 34:18 and 51:17. How does this minister to you?

3. Use 2 Chronicles 34:30-33 to note and comment on Josiah's reaction to God's Word:
 - a. verse 30
 - (1) Link this with 1 Timothy 4:13. What do you see?

 - b. verse 31

 - c. verse 32

 - d. verse 33
 - (1) Josiah conducted these reforms although he knew judgment would still come upon Judah (2 Chronicles 34:24-25). How does this speak to you?

4. How is Josiah an example to you by:
 - a. his heart for the Lord

 - b. his response to God's Word

FOURTH DAY: Taken from 2 Kings 23:3–25, 2 Chronicles 35:1–19

1. What did Josiah do after he had *read in their hearing all the words of the Book of the Covenant which had been found in the house of the LORD*? 2 Kings 23:3

2. In response to the covenant they made with God, *Josiah removed all the abominations from all the country that belonged to the children of Israel* (2 Chronicles 34:33). This is described extensively in 2 Kings 23. Use this passage to note and comment on how Josiah *removed* the following *abominations*:
 - a. those in the *house of the LORD* (verses 4–7)

 - b. those throughout the country (verses 8–10, 19–20)

 - c. those set up by previous *kings* (verses 11–15)
 - (1) What stands out to you from Josiah’s reforms?

3. Briefly summarize the events of 2 Kings 23:16–18.
 - a. Link this with the events in 1 Kings 13:1–3, which took place over three hundred years before Josiah’s reign. What do you find interesting about this?

4. After these things, *Josiah kept a Passover to the LORD in Jerusalem* (2 Chronicles 35:1). Use 2 Chronicles 35:2–19 to comment on the following aspects of this *Passover*:
 - a. Josiah’s commission to the *priests* and *Levites* (verses 2–6)

 - b. the generosity of Josiah and the *leaders* (verses 7–9)

 - c. the *Passover* service (verses 10–17)

5. According to 2 Chronicles 35:18, how did this *Passover* compare to previous ones?
 - a. What does this convey to you about Josiah?

FIFTH DAY: Read 2 Chronicles 35:20-27

1. What happened *after all this*? 2 Chronicles 35:20
 - a. 2 Kings 23:29 tells us Pharaoh Necho *went to the aid of the king of Assyria*. How might this explain Josiah's resistance?

2. What do you find interesting about Necho's message to Josiah? 2 Chronicles 35:21
 - a. Link this with Proverbs 26:17 and share your thoughts.
 - (1) How do you see the wisdom of this counsel?

3. In spite of Necho's counsel, what did Josiah do? 2 Chronicles 35:22
 - a. What do you think of Josiah's actions?

4. Note the consequences of Josiah's actions from 2 Chronicles 35:23-24.
 - a. Share a way these events serve as a warning to you.

5. Even though Josiah died a tragic death, record his overall legacy from 2 Kings 23:25.

6. Read 2 Chronicles 35:25. How does the response to Josiah's death reflect on his legacy?
 - a. Connect this with the following verses and share what speaks to you:
 - (1) Proverbs 10:7a

 - (2) Proverbs 22:1

7. What legacy do you desire to leave?

