

**"GOOD KING JOSIAH"****Introduction**

1. God tells us about many people in the Bible.
2. Some were kings and queens
3. God tells us so as to teach us

**1. WE SHOULD PAY GREAT ATTENTION TO THE CHILDREN**

- 1) This king was a child of eight – excellent king.
- 2) His ancestry is interesting:
  - (i) Hezekiah: very great man of God
  - (ii) Manasseh: long reign of terror – repented!
  - (iii) Amon: short, bad reign – murdered.
- 3) Good men have bad sons, and vice versa  
**APPLICATION**: Pay great attention to young children:
  - (i) discipline
  - (ii) religious knowledge
  - (iii) support
- 4) There have been good kings + queens very young:
  - (i) Edward VI – c.10 – 6yrs
  - (ii) Lady Jane Grey – 9 days  
They both loved God and advanced His word  
**APPLICATION**: children, live for God in your life.

**2. ONE GOOD LEADER CAN DO VERY GREAT GOOD**

- 1) How God shows us the progress of King Josiah:
  - (i) v.3: first beginnings. Conversion here.
  - (ii) v.3-7: destroyed idolatry far + wide
  - (iii) v.8: repaired God's house
  - (iv) v.15: the book of God found  
**APPLICATION**: this is what our nation needs!

- (v) v.19: The repentance he showed  
**APPLICATION**: An example to us all

- 2) The blessing he got for this:
  - (i) v.22: The enquiry from Huldah
  - (ii) v.24f: The judgement threatened  
**APPLICATION**: Our poor nation today!
  - (iii) v.27-28: the value of a tender heart  
**APPLICATION**: The godly may hold back God's hand of judgement
- 3) The great good which Josiah did:
  - (i) v.31: public national covenant  
**ILLUSTRATION**: The Scottish covenants
  - (ii) chapter 35: great Passover (see v.18-19)  
**APPLICATION**: Should we not pray for such men as this to lead our nation?

**3. GOD'S PEOPLE MAY NOT GET THEIR REWARD ON EARTH**

- 1) You might think Josiah would have a very long reign – but no – 31 years, then, killed in battle. Not an old man.
- 2) But he has not lost his reward:
  - (i) v.25: the lamentations
  - (ii) v.26-27: recorded in God's Book too
- 3) So, if we do God's will we shall not lose our reward – even if we die young:
  - (i) "lay up...treasure"
  - (ii) Parables of Talents + Pounds
  - (iii) "steadfast...not in vain in the Lord"

**APPLICATIONS**

1. Young people, pray to be given grace and ability to honour God in life.  
**ILLUSTRATION**: Picture Josiah at 16 years old – seeking the Lord! (How?)

2. How do we know he is high in God's favour in heaven now?  
Because God has spoken so well of him in the Bible.

**PSALM**

**1: 1 – 6**

**119: 9 – 14**

**92: 12 – 15**