

Josiah: The Challenge to KNOW



- The Challenge to See
- The Challenge to Know
- The Challenge to Trust
- The Challenge to Obey
- The Challenge to Believe

➤ Josiah was the last of the Revival Kings of Judah.

➤ Asa –

➤ Jehoshaphat –

➤ Joash –

➤ Hezekiah –

➤ and now Josiah



- **2 Kings 21:1-8** - Manasseh was twelve years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem fifty-five years. His mother was Hephzibah. 2 He did what was evil in the Lord's sight, following the detestable practices of the pagan nations that the Lord had driven from the land ahead of the Israelites. 3 He rebuilt the pagan shrines his father, Hezekiah, had destroyed. He constructed altars for Baal and set up an Asherah pole, just as King Ahab of Israel had done. He also bowed before all the powers of the heavens and worshiped them. 4 He built pagan altars in the Temple of the Lord, the place where the Lord had said, "My name will remain in Jerusalem forever."
- **2 Kings 21:1-4 (LBLA)** — 1 Manasés tenía doce años cuando comenzó a reinar, y reinó cincuenta y cinco años en Jerusalén. El nombre de su madre era Hepsiba. 2 E hizo lo malo ante los ojos del SEÑOR, conforme a las abominaciones de las naciones que el SEÑOR había desposeído delante de los hijos de Israel. 3 Porque reedificó los lugares altos que su padre Ezequías había destruido; levantó también altares a Baal e hizo una Asera, como había hecho Acab, rey de Israel, y adoró a todo el ejército de los cielos y los sirvió. 4 Edificó además altares en la casa del SEÑOR, de la cual el SEÑOR había dicho: En Jerusalén pondré mi nombre.

- 5 He built these altars for all the powers of the heavens in both courtyards of the Lord's Temple. 6 Manasseh also sacrificed his own son in the fire. He practiced sorcery and divination, and he consulted with mediums and psychics. He did much that was evil in the Lord's sight, arousing his anger. 7 Manasseh even made a carved image of Asherah and set it up in the Temple, the very place where the Lord had told David and his son Solomon: "My name will be honored forever in this Temple and in Jerusalem—the city I have chosen from among all the tribes of Israel. Holy Bible, New Living Translation (R)

- **2 Kings 21:5–7 (LBLA)** — 5 Edificó altares a todo el ejército de los cielos en los dos atrios de la casa del SEÑOR. 6 Hizo pasar por fuego a su hijo, practicó la hechicería, usó la adivinación y trató con médium y espiritistas. Hizo mucho mal ante los ojos del SENOR, provocándole a ira. 7 Colocó la imagen tallada de Asera que él había hecho, en la casa de la cual el SENOR había dicho a David y a su hijo Salomón: En esta casa y en Jerusalén, que he escogido de entre todas las tribus de Israel, pondré mi nombre para siempre.

- “In his distress he sought the favor of the Lord his God and humbled himself greatly before the God of his ancestors. And when he prayed to him, the Lord was moved by his entreaty and listened to his plea; so he brought him back to Jerusalem and to his kingdom. Then Manasseh knew that the Lord is God” (**2 Chronicles 33:12–13**).

Remember - The books of Kings presents a historical account of the histories of Judah and Israel.

The books of Chronicles presents the events from "*God's point of view*".

JOSIAH SOUGHT THE LORD FROM THE MOMENT HE BECAME KING

- **2 Chronicles 34:1–2 (NASB95)** — 1 Josiah was eight years old when he became king, and he reigned thirty-one years in Jerusalem. 2 He did right in the sight of the LORD, and walked in the ways of his father David and did not turn aside to the right or to the left. He was 8 years old when he began to reign.
- **2 Chronicles 34:1–2 (LBLA)** — 1 Josías tenía ocho años cuando comenzó a reinar, y reinó treinta y un años en Jerusalén. 2 E hizo lo recto ante los ojos del SEÑOR y anduvo en los caminos de su padre David; no se apartó ni a la derecha ni a la izquierda.

- Vs. 2 - He did that which was right "in the sight of the Lord".
- He walked in the ways of David his father.
- He walked the straight line.



At age 20 – Josiah began his reforms – We could say that Josiah came into his own

• **2 Chronicles 34:3–7 (NASB95)** — 3 For in the eighth year of his reign while he was still a youth, he began to seek the God of his father David; and in the twelfth year he began to purge Judah and Jerusalem of the high places, the Asherim, the carved images and the molten images. 4 They tore down the altars of the Baals in his presence, and the incense altars that were high above them he chopped down; also the Asherim, the carved images and the molten images he broke in pieces and ground to powder and scattered it on the graves of those who had sacrificed to them. 5 Then he burned the bones of the priests on their altars and purged Judah and Jerusalem. 6 In the cities of Manasseh, Ephraim, Simeon, even as far as Naphtali, in their surrounding ruins, 7 he also tore down the altars and beat the Asherim and the carved images into powder, and chopped down all the incense altars throughout the land of Israel. Then he returned to Jerusalem.

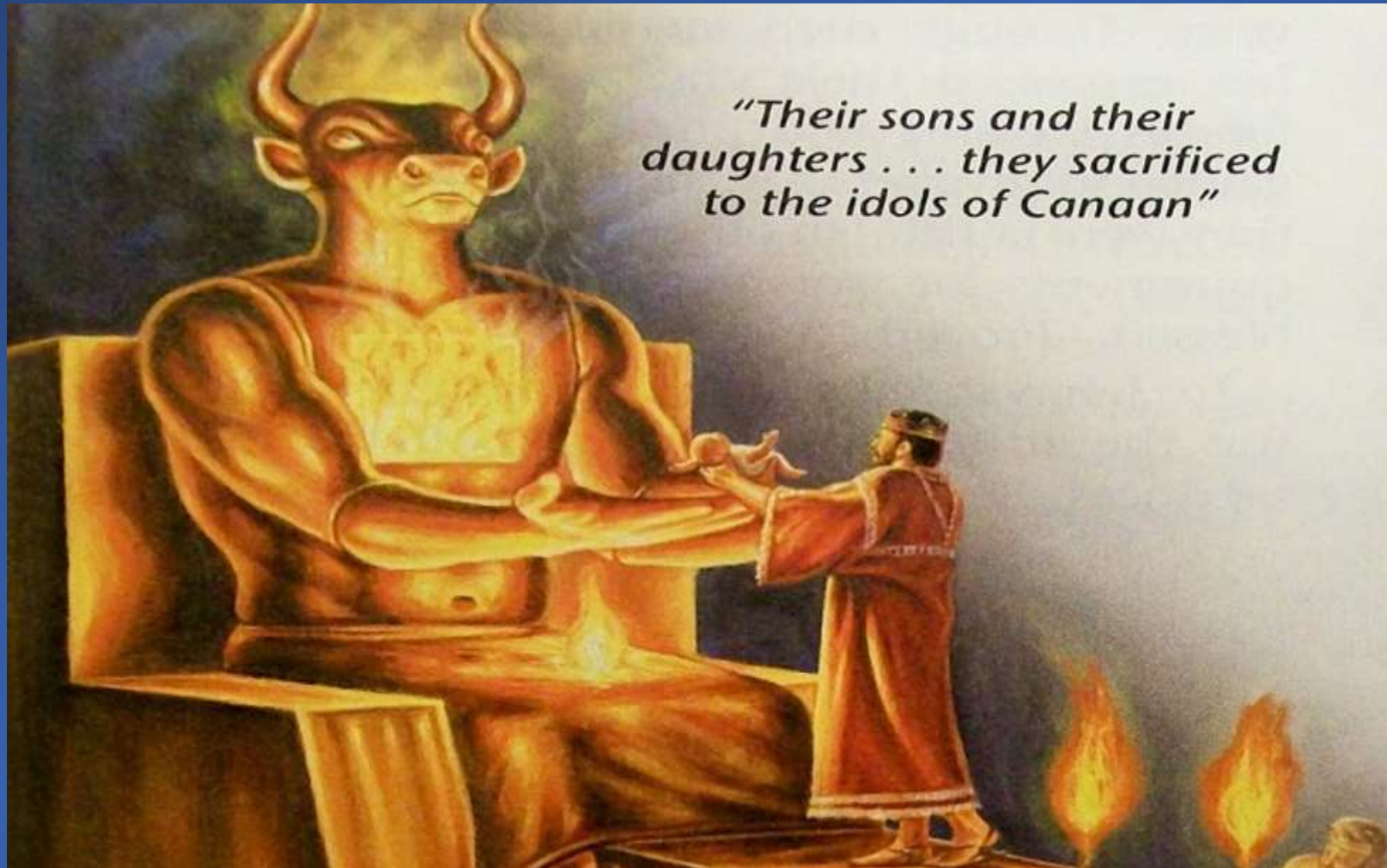
• **2 Chronicles 34:3–7 (LBLA)** — 3 Porque en el octavo año de su reinado, siendo aún joven, comenzó a buscar al Dios de su padre David; y en el año doce empezó a purificar a Judá y a Jerusalén de los lugares altos, de las Aseras, de las imágenes talladas y de las imágenes fundidas. 4 Y derribaron en su presencia los altares de los baales; destrozó los altares del incienso que estaban puestos en alto, encima de ellos; despedazó también las Aseras, las imágenes talladas y las imágenes fundidas y las redujo a polvo, y lo esparció sobre las sepulturas de los que les habían ofrecido sacrificios. 5 Entonces quemó los huesos de los sacerdotes sobre sus altares y purificó a Judá y a Jerusalén. 6 Y en las ciudades de Manasés, Efraín, Simeón y hasta en Neftalí, y en sus ruinas alrededor, 7 derribó también los altares y redujo a polvo las Aseras y las imágenes talladas, y destrozó todos los altares de incienso por todas las tierras de Israel. Y regresó a Jerusalén.

THE NEGATIVE SIDE

- He destroyed the altars of Baal and its idols
Vs. 4,5
- He destroyed the idols so completely that he ground them to dust so they could never be used again.
- He polluted the altars with the bones of the dead priests of Baal to make them unfit for worship.

- He was thorough – he made certain that this happened in all the land under his reign.
- How thorough was he? - II Kings 23 tells us
- Vs. 7 - He destroyed the houses of the homosexual temple prostitutes
 - **2 Kings 23:7 (NASB95)** — 7 He also broke down the houses of the male cult prostitutes which were in the house of the LORD, where the women were weaving hangings for the Asherah.
 - **2 Kings 23:7 (LBLA)** — 7 También derribó las casas de los dedicados a la prostitución que estaban en la casa del SEÑOR, donde las mujeres tejían pabellones para la Asera.

Vs. 9 - He did away with child sacrifice



Vs. 24 - He did away with those who dealt with unclean spirits.

- Psychics, Astrology , Mediums, "white witches".
- He closed the "doorways" to the occult.
- **1 Corinthians 10:19-21** - 19 What do I mean then? That a thing sacrificed to idols is anything, or that an idol is anything? 20 No, but I say that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to demons and not to God; and I do not want you to become sharers in demons. 21 You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons; you cannot partake of the table of the Lord and the table of demons. NASU
- **1 Corinthians 10:19–21 (LBLA)** — 19 ¿Qué quiero decir, entonces? ¿Que lo sacrificado a los ídolos es algo, o que un ídolo es algo? 20 No, sino que digo que lo que los gentiles sacrifican, lo sacrifican a los demonios y no a Dios; no quiero que seáis partícipes con los demonios. 21 No podéis beber la copa del Señor y la copa de los demonios; no podéis participar de la mesa del Señor y de la mesa de los demonios.

THE POSITIVE SIDE

- Josiah repaired the temple. II Chron. 34:8-13
- He raised money for these repairs
- The men worked faithfully and honestly. It seems like many “*religious*” groups today, the ministers were untrustworthy and were stealing from the Temple treasury.
- He restored honesty and integrity to worship as well as to the political realm. II kings 22:7

JOSIAH'S GREATEST DISCOVERY - THE WORD OF GOD

- **2 Chronicles 34:14–19 (NASB95)** — 14 When they were bringing out the money which had been brought into the house of the LORD, Hilkiah the priest found the book of the law of the LORD given by Moses. 15 Hilkiah responded 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. 16 Then Shaphan brought the book to the king and reported further word to the king, saying, “Everything that was entrusted to your servants they are doing. 17 They have also emptied out the money which was found in the house of the LORD, and have delivered it into the hands of the supervisors and the workmen.” 18 Moreover, Shaphan the scribe told the king saying, “Hilkiah the priest gave me a book.” And Shaphan read from it in the presence of the king. 19 When the king heard the words of the law, he tore his clothes.
- **2 Chronicles 34:14–19 (LBLA)** — 14 Y mientras ellos sacaban el dinero que habían traído a la casa del SENOR, el sacerdote Hilcías encontró el libro de la ley del SENOR dado por Moisés. 15 Entonces Hilcías dijo al escriba Safán: He hallado el libro de la ley en la casa del SENOR; e Hilcías dio el libro a Safán. 16 Y Safán llevó el libro al rey y le dio más noticias, diciendo: Todo lo que fue encomendado a tus siervos, lo están haciendo. 17 También han tomado el dinero que se encontraba en la casa del SENOR, y lo han entregado en manos de los encargados y de los obreros. 18 El escriba Safán informó también al rey, diciendo: El sacerdote Hilcías me ha dado un libro. Y Safán leyó de él en la presencia del rey. 19 Y sucedió que cuando el rey oyó las palabras de la ley, rasgó sus vestidos.

- **Matthew 15:8–9 (NLT)** — 8 ‘These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. 9 Their worship is a farce, for they teach man-made ideas as commands from God.’”
 - **Matthew 15:8–9 (LBLA)** — 8 «ESTE PUEBLO CON LOS LABIOS ME HONRA, PERO SU CORAZON ESTA MUY LEJOS DE MÍ. 9 »MAS EN VANO ME RINDEN CULTO, ENSEÑANDO COMO DOCTRINAS PRECEPTOS DE HOMBRES».
- **Mark 7:7–9 (NASB95)** — 7 ‘BUT IN VAIN DO THEY WORSHIP ME, TEACHING AS DOCTRINES THE PRECEPTS OF MEN.’ 8 “Neglecting the commandment of God, you hold to the tradition of men.” 9 He was also saying to them, “You are experts at setting aside the commandment of God in order to keep your tradition.
 - **Mark 7:7–9 (LBLA)** — 7 »MAS EN VANO ME RINDEN CULTO, ENSEÑANDO COMO DOCTRINAS PRECEPTOS DE HOMBRES». 8 Dejando el mandamiento de Dios, os aferráis a la tradición de los hombres. 9 También les decía: Astutamente violáis el mandamiento de Dios para guardar vuestra tradición.

JOSIAH'S RESPONSE

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“...have not observed the word of the Lord, to do according to all that is written in this book.”

*Jesus says it makes the
worship and service of those
who do this
void,
in vain,
having no value,
worthless,
marked by futility
or ineffectualness:
UNSUCCESSFUL, USELESS.*

GOD'S RESPONSE - Justice, Mercy, and Grace!

- **2 Chronicles 34:24–28 (NASB95)** — 24 thus says the LORD, “Behold, I am bringing evil on this place and on its inhabitants, even all the curses written in the book which they have read in the presence of the king of Judah. 25 “Because they have forsaken Me and have 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 it shall not be quenched.” 26 “But to the king of Judah who sent you to inquire of the LORD, thus you will say to him, “Thus says the LORD God of Israel regarding the words which you have heard, 27 “Because your heart was tender and you humbled yourself before God when you heard His words against this place and against its inhabitants, and because you humbled yourself before Me, tore your clothes and wept before Me, I truly have heard you,” declares the LORD. 28 “Behold, I will gather you to your fathers and you shall be gathered to your grave in peace, so your eyes will not see all the evil which I will bring on this place and on its inhabitants.”” And they brought back word to the king.
- **2 Chronicles 34:24–28 (LBLA)** — 24 así dice el SEÑOR: “He aquí, voy a traer mal sobre este lugar y sobre sus habitantes, es decir, todas las maldiciones escritas en el libro que ellos han leído en presencia del rey de Judá. 25 “Por cuanto me han abandonado y han quemado incienso a otros dioses para provocarme a ira con todas las obras de sus manos, por tanto mi furor se derramará sobre este lugar, y no se apagará”». 26 Pero al rey de Judá que os envió a consultar al SENOR, así le diréis: «Así dice el SENOR, Dios de Israel: “En cuanto a las palabras que has oído, 27 porque se enterneció tu corazón y te humillaste delante de Dios cuando oíste sus palabras contra este lugar y contra sus habitantes, y te humillaste delante de mí, y rasgaste tus vestidos y lloraste delante de mí, ciertamente te he oído—declara el SENOR. 28 “He aquí, te reuniré con tus padres y serás recogido en tu sepultura en paz, y tus ojos no verán todo el mal que yo voy a traer sobre este lugar y sobre sus habitantes”». Y llevaron la respuesta al rey.

- **2 Chronicles 34:31–33 (NASB95)** — 31 Then the king stood in his place and made a covenant before the LORD to walk after the LORD, and to keep His commandments and His testimonies and His statutes with all his heart and with all his soul, to perform the words of the covenant written in this book. 32 Moreover, he made all who were present in Jerusalem and Benjamin to stand with him. So the inhabitants of Jerusalem did according to the covenant of God, the God of their fathers. 33 Josiah removed all the abominations from all the lands belonging to the sons of Israel, and made all who were present in Israel to serve the LORD their God. Throughout his lifetime they did not turn from following the LORD God of their fathers.

THEN THEY OBSERVED THE PASSOVER

- **Vs. 18** This was the greatest Passover since the days of Samuel. It was greater than David's or Solomon's, or Hezekiah's.
- That's why it is important to know the Word of God.
 - **Romans 10:17 (NASB95)** — 17 So faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ.
 - **Romans 10:17 (LBLA)** — 17 Así que la fe viene del oír, y el oír, por la palabra de Cristo.