

Week 34

Josiah

2 Kings 22-23 2 Chron 34-35

King Josiah is the last great king of Judah. His reign began when he was only eight years old, and lasted from 628–609 BC, which would have been longer if he had not been killed in battle. King Josiah is known for his reforms. He launched a massive effort to abolish pagan worship throughout Judah, even up into the the land of Israel. He refurbished and restored the Temple in Jerusalem. Most importantly, he restored the Feast of Unleavened Bread; Passover. The power of the Assyrians was on the decline, and he gained back much of the land of Israel. Josiah met his death at Megiddo because he tried to prevent Pharaoh Neco II of Egypt from going to Carchemish to fight alongside the Assyrians, who were being attacked by forces from the rising Babylonian Empire. The same rising empire that would bring about the demise of Israel after Josiah's death. *[See the maps "Josiah's Gamble" on the Bibletek site]*

Outline: Josiah

2 Kings 22-23 2 Chron 34-35

2 Kings 22-23 King Josiah of Judah

- 22:1-2 Summary statement of Josiah's reign [*2 Chron 34:1-2*]
- 22:3-7 Josiah repairs the Temple [*2 Chron 33 [2 Chron 34:3-7]*]
- 22:8-20 Hilkiah finds the Scroll of the Law [*2 Chron 34:8-21*]
Huldah the Prophetess prophecies disaster [2 Chron 34:22-28]
- 23:1-20 Josiah's reforms
 - 1-3 Renewing the covenant [*2 Chron 34:29-32*]
 - 4-9 Reforms in the Temple
 - 10-14 Tearing down the high places [*2 Chron 34:33*]
 - 15-18 Destroying the altar in Bethel
 - 19-20 Reforms in Samaria
- 23:21-27 Josiah restores the Passover [*2 Chron 35:1-19*]
 - 21-23 Celebrating the feast
 - 24 Cleansing the land
 - 25-27 The Lord's anger still burns
- 23:28—30 Josiah dies in battle [*2 Chron 35:20-27*]
- 23:31-33 King Jehoahaz taken captive by Neco of Egypt [*2 Chron 36:1-3*]
- 23:34-35 Jehoiakim is made king by Neco [*2 Chron 36:4*]