

# A Man For Such a Time as This

## II Chronicles 34:1-8, 14-21, 31-33

### Introductory Examples:

Esther 4:13-14

Joseph - Genesis 50:19-20

Daniel 6:16, 19-22

#### A. Josiah's Courage Was Outstanding (34:1-3)

1. Did right in the sight of the Lord – *v 2, II Chron. 16:9*
2. He was undistracted – *v 2, Josh. 1:7, II Sam. 11:1-2*
3. He respected his spiritual heritage – *v 3, Ps. 34-38*
4. Age sixteen was a turning point – *v 3a*

#### B. Josiah's Confidence Was Grounded (34:3b-7, 14-21)

1. At age twenty he began to be passionate for truth – *v 36, Ps. 119:145-148*
2. Standing for truth meant standing against error – *vs 4-7, Titus 3:9-10*
3. At age twenty-six, the book of the law of the Lord was found – *vs 14-18*
4. His heart was sensitive to God's Word; he acted out of conviction – *vs 19-21*

#### C. Josiah's Commitment to God Was His Legacy (34:31-33)

1. His commitment was both private and public – *vs 31-32, Josh. 24:15, Acts 16:31*
2. His commitment was consistent – *v 33, Titus 1:5-9, I Sam. 13:14, II Tim. 4:11*

### Take Aways:

1. While we cannot change the course of history, we must prepare future generations to meet challenges ahead.
2. Truth is the foundation for courage and confidence.
3. Redemptive truth must shape values and world views.

## II Chronicles 34:1-8, 14-21

Josiah was eight years old when he began to reign, and he reigned thirty-one years in Jerusalem. <sup>2</sup>And he did what was right in the eyes of the LORD, and walked in the ways of David his father; and he did not turn aside to the right hand or to the left. <sup>3</sup>For in the eighth year of his reign, while he was yet a boy, he began to seek the God of David his father, and in the twelfth year he began to purge Judah and Jerusalem of the high places, the Asherim, and the carved and the metal images. <sup>4</sup>And they chopped down the altars of the Baals in his presence, and he cut down the incense altars that stood above them. And he broke in pieces the Asherim and the carved and the metal images, and he made dust of them and scattered it over the graves of those who had sacrificed to them. <sup>5</sup>He also burned the bones of the priests on their altars and cleansed Judah and Jerusalem. <sup>6</sup>And in the cities of Manasseh, Ephraim, and Simeon, and as far as Naphtali, in their ruins all around, <sup>7</sup>he broke down the altars and beat the Asherim and the images into powder and cut down all the incense altars throughout all the land of Israel. Then he returned to Jerusalem. <sup>8</sup>Now in the eighteenth year of his reign, when he had cleansed the land and the house, he sent Shaphan the son of Azaliah, and Maaseiah the governor of the city, and Joah the son of Joahaz, the recorder, to repair the house of the LORD his God.

While they were bringing out the money that had been brought into the house of the LORD, Hilkiah the priest found the Book of the Law of the LORD given through Moses. <sup>15</sup>Then Hilkiah answered and said to Shaphan the secretary, "I have found the Book of the Law in the house of the LORD." And Hilkiah gave the book to Shaphan. <sup>16</sup>Shaphan brought the book to the king, and further reported to the king, "All that was committed to your servants they are doing. <sup>17</sup>They have emptied out the money that was found in the house of the LORD and have given it into the hand of the overseers and the workmen." <sup>18</sup>Then Shaphan the secretary told the king, "Hilkiah the priest has given me a book." And Shaphan read from it before the king. <sup>19</sup>And when the king heard the words of the Law, he tore his clothes. <sup>20</sup>And the king commanded Hilkiah, Ahikam the son of Shaphan, Abdon the son of Micah, Shaphan the secretary, and Asaiah the king's servant, saying, <sup>21</sup>"Go, inquire of the LORD for me and for those who are left in Israel and in Judah, concerning the words of the book that has been found. 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."