



Huldah: Prophet of Wisdom

2 Kings 22:14-20

Background

- The events recorded in this week's text took place in the days of Josiah, king of Judah (reigned 640–609 BC).
- Josiah was the son of Amon of Judah and Jedidah
- Grandson of Manasseh of Judah
- During Josiah's reign, there was peace, prosperity, and political reform in Judah

Background

- The house of the LORD had been allowed to fall into need of repair under the evil kings.
- They had done much damage as well, with their evil altars and statues of idols.
- In the twelfth year of his reign, Josiah began purging the land of pagan idols and shrines (34:3-7), but now the building and its furnishings were in need of repair.

Background

About six years later, King Josiah ordered a renovation of the temple (2 Kings 22:3). The Book of the Law was found within the temple in the process (22:8).

Given Josiah's reaction of distress to what he heard from that book (2 Kings 22:11), Deuteronomy detailed the punishments Israel would suffer if the people failed to keep the covenant.

Background

These curses would culminate in exile from the land (Deuteronomy 29:25-28).

Realizing the guilt of Judah, Josiah commissioned a delegation to **inquire of the Lord** concerning the wrath that the king feared would soon be visited on him and his kingdom (2 Kings 22:12-13).

Background

It seems absurd that the Book of the Law was neglected and lost to the people of Judah!

Yet, it is no more ridiculous than the Bible's loss to myriads of Christians who rarely read it? We must guard against losing Scripture in our churches, our homes, and our lives.

Background

- Look at the abundance of Bibles we possess in the United States, yet so many refuse to read His word when put into our hands, or, reading it, not to believe and obey it.
- It is by the holy law that we have knowledge of sin, and by the gospel that we learn of salvation

Background

Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit *who is* in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? -- 1 Corinthians 6:19

Outline

2 Kings 22:14-20

- I. God's Prophetess (v. 14)
- II. God's Condemnation (vv. 15-17)
- III. God's Affirmation (vv. 18-20)

God's Prophetess

2 Kings 22:14

2 Kings 22:12-13 Then the king commanded Hilkiah the priest, Ahikam the son of Shaphan, Achbor the son of Michaiah, Shaphan the scribe, and Asaiah a servant of the king, saying, “**Go, inquire of the LORD for me**, for the people and for all Judah, concerning the words of this book that has been found; for great *is* the wrath of the LORD that is aroused against us, because our fathers have not obeyed the words of this book, to do according to all that is written concerning us.”

God's Prophetess

2 Kings 22:14

Huldah – One of three named prophetess in old testament. Miriam and Deborah also prophetess by name.

God's Condemnation

2 Kings 22:15-17

A. Judgment Is Coming (vv. 15-16)

And she said unto them, "**Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, Tell the man that sent you to me"**

B. Judgment Is Deserved (v. 17)

Because they have forsaken me

God's Affirmation

2 Kings 22:18-20

- God Heard (vv. 18-19)
But **to the king of Judah** which sent you to enquire of the LORD
- God Will Act (v. 20)

Responding in Faith

Josiah sought to honor God through his reforms after the Book of the Law was found.

- He *acted on the words* he had heard from that book.
- He *showed remorse* over the sin of his people.
- He *sought godly insight* into what he had heard read to him.