

I. Discovered - 2 Kings 22:8-10

1. Josiah is having the Temple repaired - and they found “the Book” (**verse 8**)
 - A. What is the “Book of the Law?”
 - some suggest it was the book of Deuteronomy
 - 2 Chronicles 34:14 states that Hilkiah found the book of the law written by the hand of Moses - implies Genesis through Deuteronomy
 - B. Shapan read the book (the secretary)
2. Shapan goes to Josiah to report his findings (**verse 9**)
 - A. Your officials have been paid
 - B. He read the book in the ears of Josiah (**verse 10**)

Rea **Ideas and Questions:**

1. How could they lose the Book?
 - how can people lose their Bibles in 2022?
 - what percentage of a normal church reads the Bible?
 - if the people do not read the Bible, then they will not know what the Bible teaches - nor really care. Or, they are totally dependent on a preacher to tell them what it says.
2. They found the book “accidentally” - they did not set out to find the book
3. Discuss the importance of being in the Book - is it stressed nowadays?
4. What about the person who says “well, the priest will tell me what it says”
5. Are all versions of the Bible the same?

II. Response - 2 Kings 22:11-13

1. The king tore his clothes (**verse 11**)
 - an expression of extreme grief
 - other clothes tearing moments in Scripture
 - A. When Joshua and Caleb had their promised land report rejected
 - B. When the people of Lystra thought that Paul and Barnabas were to be worshiped
 - C. When Jehoiakim burned the book of Jeremiah - Jer. 36:24
2. He gave these orders (**verse 12**) - to his leaders

Rea -always wise to gather your leadership - for wisdom’s sake

3. Instructed - go and inquire of the Lord (**verse 13**)
 - we have not obeyed the book and God is angry at us
 - they were to show faithfulness to God by obeying the book

Rea -profession is not enough we ought to honor Him by our obedience

Rea **Ideas and Questions:**

1. Your relationship to God is at stake in what you do with the message found in the “book”
2. To be faithful to God, means to follow His expressed will - in the Book
3. These things being said - what does it say to God if we don’t even know what the Book says?

III. Proven - 2 Kings 22:14-20

1. They go to speak to Huldah the prophetess (**verse 14**)
 2. She tells them what the Lord says (**verse 15**)
 3. She sends a message to Josiah (**verse 16**)
 - the Lord promised disaster on these people
 - God will fulfill everything written in this book
 4. Why? (**Verse 17**)
 - A. You have forsaken me
 - B. You have burned incense to other gods
 - C. My anger will burn toward you and will not be quenched
 - the kindling of the wrath of God (verse 13)
 5. Tell the king what I say - he's inquired of the Lord (**verse 18**)
 - his heart was responsive (**verse 19**)
 - you have humbled yourself before the Lord
 - you wept
 - I have heard you
 - I "also" have heard you
- Rea Josiah heard the Lord and the Lord heard Josiah
6. I will gather you to your ancestors and you will die in peace (**verse 20**)
 - your eyes will not see the disaster I'm sending on these people and this place

Rea **Ideas and Questions:**

1. This text is easily understood but seldom received
 - judgment is coming because you have not been faithful to obey my word
 - even this lesson centers on the positive side of obedience without much reference to the "anger" of the Lord that was headed their way
2. I believe that God supernaturally helped them "find" the Book
3. Do you think that the Bible is faithfully preached in our churches - wrath and all?
 - how long since you heard a sermon on hell?
4. Is it possible that we might come and be blessed by God without dealing with this elephant in the room?

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