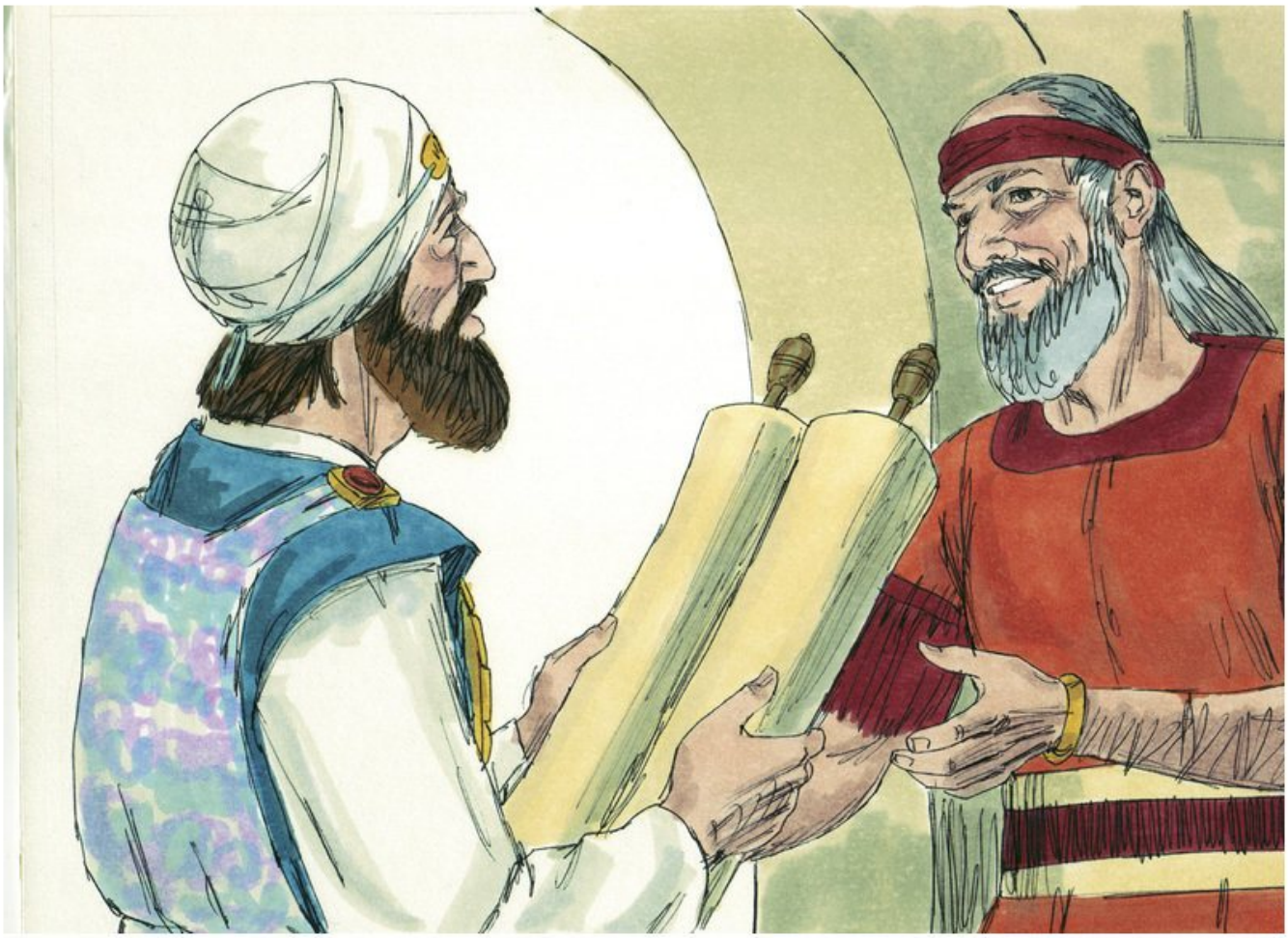
GENESIS TO REVELATION | BIBLE ACCOUNT

Josiah Finds the Book of the Law

2 Kings 22:1-23:3



YOUR BIBLE READING

Hearing God’s word calls for a humble and faithful response.

Inside: two extended reading pages, a thoughtful reflection, creative activities and a grown-up guide.

AGES 6-10 WITH AN ADULT • 6 COLORFUL A4 PAGES • ENGLISH ONLY

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 1 OF 2

The Book Found in the Temple

2 Kings 22:1-23:3



Josiah became king of Judah as a child and sought to do what was right before God. Years later, when he was an adult, he ordered repairs to the temple. The money collected there was to be given to those overseeing the work. They would pay carpenters, builders, and stoneworkers and buy the timber and prepared stone needed to repair the damage. The account describes the workers as trustworthy in handling the funds.

During this work, Hilkiah the high priest found the book of the law in God's house. He gave it to Shaphan, the royal secretary, who read it. Shaphan went to report to Josiah about the repair money and also told him about the book. Then he read its words aloud to the king. The important discovery was not made by Josiah himself, but it became a message he needed to hear.

Josiah was deeply troubled when he heard the words. He tore his clothes, an ancient expression of grief and alarm. He understood that the people and their ancestors had not lived according to the covenant written there. The king did not respond by saying that the book must be unimportant because it challenged them. He recognized the seriousness of what had been neglected and sought to learn what God's word meant for the people now.

He sent a group of officials and priests to inquire about it. They went to Huldah the prophetess in Jerusalem. This detail gives her a clear place in the account: she was consulted as someone who could bring God's message. The king's concern led to listening, and listening led to a difficult answer. What they would hear concerned both the nation's wrongdoing and Josiah's own humble response to the words that had been read.

Remember: I can listen, learn, and choose a better way.

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 2 OF 2

Hearing Becomes a Promise

2 Kings 22:1-23:3



Huldah delivered a serious warning. The people had turned away from God and worshiped other gods, and judgment would come upon the place and its inhabitants. The discovery of the book did not make the history of wrongdoing vanish. God's message required them to face it. For a child reading this story, the important point is that the people were being called to take their covenant and their choices seriously.

Huldah also had a message for Josiah himself. God had heard him because his heart was tender and he had humbled himself. His tears and sorrow had not gone unnoticed. He was told that he would not see the full disaster described for the place. The officials took this answer back to the king. He had received both a warning about the nation and an acknowledgment of the way he had responded.

Josiah then gathered the elders and the wider community. He went to the temple with priests, prophets, and people of different ages and positions. There he read aloud the words of the covenant book that had been found. What had first reached the king through Shaphan was now heard by the gathered people. The message was not kept inside a small group of officials as though ordinary listeners had no part in it.

Standing by a pillar, Josiah made a covenant before God. He promised to follow God and keep his commands with his whole heart and soul. The people agreed to the covenant too. The scene moves from a damaged building to a recovered book, then to a public commitment. Repairing the temple mattered, but the people also needed to renew the way they lived. The words they had heard called for more than admiration; they called for faithfulness.

Pause and think: What would help you put an important lesson into practice after you have heard it?

THINK, NOTICE & GROW

Receiving a Needed Correction



It can be uncomfortable to learn that something needs to change. Perhaps a rule you ignored has a good purpose, or a friend explains that your joke was hurtful. Josiah did not cover his ears when the words challenged him. His response invites us to listen with humility. A correction may be an opportunity to understand more clearly and choose a better next action.

The book was found during repairs, but Josiah was not the person who found it. Hilkiah, Shaphan, Huldah, the king, and the people each have a role. Good listening can depend on several voices. We do not need to make one person the whole story. Notice how bringing, reading, explaining, and hearing the words all helped the community face what had been neglected.

Josiah's promise concerned a way of life. In our lives, putting teaching into practice might mean telling the truth after admitting a lie, returning something taken without permission, or changing a habit that hurts others. These are present-day examples, not extra events in the king's story. A sincere response can begin with a humble admission and continue through a concrete, caring choice.

A SMALL STEP FOR TODAY

Hearing good teaching calls us to respond with humility and faithful action.

What would help you put an important lesson into practice after you have heard it?

Read, Remember & Create

Name: _____ Date: _____

1 Think about the reading

1. Who actually found the book in the temple?

2. What did Josiah promise after the public reading?

2 Put the ideas in order

Write 1, 2 and 3 for the order these ideas appear in the reading.

- ☐ The king and people renewed their commitment to God’s covenant.
- ☐ Hilkiah found the book during the temple repairs.
- ☐ Josiah heard it and sought God’s message through Huldah.

3 Draw a meaningful picture

Draw Josiah listening as Shaphan reads the covenant book.

Tell someone how your picture connects to the reading.

Read & Grow Together

Read and learn with context

This English edition is designed for ages 6-10 with an adult. Read both extended readings together, or enjoy one each day. Pause at unfamiliar words, invite questions and use the reflection page to connect the story with everyday life. These are retellings and lessons with explanations; read the listed Bible passage for context. Poetry, parables, letters and symbolic visions are identified by type.

Remember this

I can listen, learn, and choose a better way.
Original memory thought, not a direct Bible quotation. Related passage: 2 Kings 23:2-3

A thoughtful conversation

Hilkiah finds the book; Josiah hears and responds. Josiah was an adult by the temple repairs. Tearing clothing expressed grief in that culture and is not an activity for children to copy.

Activity answers

1. Hilkiah the high priest.
2. To follow God wholeheartedly and keep his commands.
Sequence boxes, top to bottom: 3, 1, 2. Personal responses and drawings will vary.

Optional prayer

God, help us receive correction and put good teaching into practice. Amen.

Print and share

Each pack has 6 pages. Print on A4 at Actual Size (100%). The worksheet is page 5. You may print just that page, or use the separate 150-page activity book. The collection contains 150 packs in Bible book order, 15 volumes and one ZIP. Catalog pack IDs stay the same when new readings are added.

Sources and sharing

English retellings, lessons, reflections and activities by DigiPick (2026), based on 2 Kings 22:1-23:3. Source checked with the public-domain World English Bible. Illustration © Sweet Publishing; 12_2Ki_22_03_RG.jpg. CC BY-SA 3.0. Source: unfoldingWord. Resized proportionally, without cropping.
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