A Bible Story



RESCUE
HOPE | PURPOSE | LIFE



Josiah and the Book of the Law

A story about listening to God's Word with a humble heart.



A Young King

Josiah was only eight years old when he began to reign in Jerusalem. Although he was a child, he bravely accepted the great responsibility before him.



Josiah Chose to Do What Was Right

Josiah did what pleased God. He followed the good example of King David and tried not to turn away from the right path.



The Temple Needed Care

Many years later, in the eighteenth year of his reign, Josiah saw that the temple needed repairs and decided to begin the work.



A Task for Shaphan

The king sent Shaphan the scribe to the temple. He was to speak with Hilkiah the priest and organize the money the people had given for the repairs.



Trustworthy Workers

The money was given to carpenters, builders, and masons. They worked so honestly that there was no need to require an account of every coin.



A Forgotten Book

While the work was being done, Hilkiah the priest found the book of God's Law in the temple. It was a treasure that had been forgotten.



Shaphan Read the Book

Hilkiah gave the book to Shaphan. The scribe opened it carefully and began to read the words that the people needed to remember.



The Book Came to the King

Shaphan returned to the palace, reported that the repairs were progressing, and added, “Hilkiah the priest hath delivered me a book.” Then he read it before the king.



Josiah Listened with Sorrow

When Josiah heard the Law, he realized how far the people had moved away from God. In deep sorrow, he tore his clothes as a sign of humility.



He Wanted to Know What to Do

The king asked Hilkiah, Shaphan, and other servants to inquire of the Lord. He wanted to understand the message clearly and know how to respond.



Huldah the Prophetess

The messengers went to Huldah, a prophetess who lived in Jerusalem. She listened to their question and gave them God's answer.



God Saw His Heart

Huldah explained that consequences would come after so many years of disobedience. But God had seen that Josiah humbled himself, was grieved, and listened sincerely.



God's Word Is a Treasure

The messengers returned and brought the answer to the king. Josiah understood that God's Word should be heard with respect, attention, and a willing heart.