

Bible Class Notes – Studies on The Word of God – Lesson 147

The Word Rediscovered – Josiah’s love for God’s Word

This week – We learn how a true Christian will daily value and find joy in God’s word

**In the eighth year of Josiah’s reign, while he was yet young (16), he began to seek after the God of his father.
2 Chronicles 34v3.**

Bible Readings for this week:

(Choose a regular time each day to read the Bible and pray whether it be when you first wake up or just before you go to sleep)

Day	Bible Reading	Tick When Read
Sunday	2 Chronicles 34 v1-13 (Josiah destroys the idols)	
Monday	2 Chronicles 34 v14-21 (God’s Word is found)	
Tuesday	2 Chronicles 34 v22-33 (Josiah’s obedience is blessed)	
Wednesday	Exodus 12 v1-20 (The first Passover)	
Thursday	Exodus 12 v21-36 (The first Passover)	
Friday	Exodus 12 v37-51 (The first Passover)	
Saturday	2 Chronicles 35 v1-19 (The Passover is kept)	

Important Lesson for us Today: Have we discovered treasure in God’s Word? God’s word is a treasure trove of wisdom and help; but our eternal souls can only benefit from it if we daily read and pray over it. Yet God’s Word can often seem dull, dry and unattractive to those who have no living relationship with Him. Josiah’s seeking the Lord for himself at 16 and knowing forgiveness, and mercy as an undeserving sinner, made God’s word come alive and sparkle with meaning and depth. It became his essential daily duty to set aside time to read God’s word, bringing him in a closer relationship with his Lord, so that he could not easily skip doing it and neither could he read the words hurriedly without thought or care. He prayed as he read that the Lord would show him how he could live each day close to Him. The Lord rewarded him with praise in the Bible for obeying His Words!

Will we be so commended and helped by the Lord? May our prayer be “Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of Thy law.” (Psalm 119v18).

Hymn 329 encourages us to make God’s word our daily delight and see our Saviour in every line!

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| 1. Father of mercies, in Thy Word
What endless glory shines!
For ever be Thy name adored
For these celestial lines. | 4. Here the Redeemer’s welcome voice
Spreads heavenly peace around;
And life and everlasting joys
Attend the blissful sound. |
| 5. O may these heavenly pages be
My ever dear delight;
And still new beauties may I see,
And still increasing light. | 5. Divine Instructor, gracious Lord,
Be Thou for ever near:
Teach me to love Thy sacred Word,
And view my Saviour there. |

The Word Rediscovered – Josiah’s Love for God’s Word.

▪ Background to today’s lesson.

- **On the death of Manasseh**, the people immediately rejected his reforms. When 8 year old Josiah became King, God was forgotten and Baal worshipped.

▪ Young Josiah Seeks the Lord at 16.

- **After 8 years of rule** Josiah saw the evil consequences on Judah’s society in rejecting God and so **“began to seek after the God of David his father.”**

Will we remember our Creator in the days of our youth?

▪ Josiah Stands for the Lord Despite his Youth.

- **Not an easy or popular step for such a young King**; to refuse his nation their sinful pleasures and encourage them to seek the Lord. Yet his trust in his God to help him was rewarded and true belief in God returned to the land.

Will we bravely stand for the Lord like other young Christians, e.g. Daniel and Samuel?

▪ Josiah, now 26, and the People Rediscover the Bible!

- **A wonderful blessing.** When the people demonstrated true sorrow for their sin and a desire to change they found the lost copy of God’s Law!

The Lord will help us discover much from the Bible if we truly sorrow for our sins.

▪ Josiah and the People Find God’s Mercy and Forgiveness.

- **Josiah trembled as he read the Bible** and saw that the Passover (which pictured how the Lord will “pass over” our sins if we trust only in the death and salvation of Christ), had been forgotten and neglected.
- **True repentance was given** on acknowledging their sin against the Lord.
- **A solemn vow was made to keep the Passover annually thereafter.**
- **Overwhelming love and joy was known** when they experienced the Lord’s mercy and forgiveness as they fulfilled the keeping of the Passover precisely.
- **Judgement was removed** and Judah knew great blessing in Josiah’s reign.

The same God is willing to pardon and forgive us too! It is Christ that saves, not us!

▪ Josiah Dies Unexpectedly Young at 39.

- **If Josiah had postponed** his search or stand for the Lord until he was older, what opportunities he would have missed to influence Judah for good!

Seek the Lord today and stand for Him as death can come suddenly and unexpectedly.

The Lord Jesus Christ’s promise to us is, “... all who heareth these sayings of Mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock.”
Matthew 7:24