Jeremiah – Part 8

Josiah's Reforms

Welcome to Hope Sabbath School--an in-depth interactive study of the Word of God. Today we are beginning a new series of studies on the book of the prophet Jeremiah. Our topic today: Josiah's Reforms (that which is impossible for man is possible with God).

Scripture Theme Song: "For I know the thoughts" (Jeremiah 29:11-13)

1) The reign of King Manasseh of Judah (686-643 BC)
   a) 2 Chronicles 33:1-10 - How many would think Manasseh's story would end well?
   b) 2 Chron. 33:11-13 – Manasseh repented.
   c) How do you know if a person's repentance is genuine? 2 Chron. 33:15-16
   d) Our sins affect the lives of those around us
      i) 2 Chron. 33:17
      ii) 2 Chron. 33:21-23
   e) Think of some examples in our day where a person's sins impacted the lives of those around them.
2) The early reign of king Josiah
   a) What are the odds that Manasseh's grandson would be a godly ruler? – amazing testimony 2 Kings 23:25
   b) 2 Kings 22:1-2 – How was this possible with such an evil father?
   c) 2 Kings 22:3-7 – What wisdom is revealed in King Josiah's conduct?
   d) Why is it important to identify people of good reputation and delegate responsibility to them? (See Acts 6:1-3)
3) Rediscovering the Book of the Law
   a) Has anyone here discovered something valuable in an unexpected place?
   b) 2 Kings 22:8-11
      i) What can we learn from the fact that the book of the Law was lost inside the Temple?
      ii) How did King Josiah respond after he heard the words contained in the book of the Law? (2 Kings 22:19)
   c) 2 Kings 22:12-20 (2 Chron. 34:22-24)
      i) What can we learn both about Huldah and also about God from this account?
4) Josiah's reforms
   a) Why make an effort to bring about revival and reformation if imminent judgment is certain?
   b) 2 Kings 23:1-3
   c) 2 Kings 23:4-7
   d) 2 Kings 23:21-23
   e) 2 Kings 23:24
   f) What reforms might we make if we humbly listened to the book of the Law?
5) Discussion questions
   a) How is it possible to be women and men of integrity like Josiah in the midst of a corrupt generation?
   b) What changes might God ask you to make in response to this study?