

## **JOSIAH: SON OF DAVID**

Josiah was born the son of King Amnon. Yet Josiah is referred to as the son of David. *“And he did right in the sight of the Lord and walked in all the way of his father David, nor did he turn aside to the right or to the left.”* (22:2)

**This lesson will introduce us to King Josiah of Judah.**

**We will study six aspects of his birth and background and why he was referred to as a son of David.**

- 1. Josiah was born into Judean royalty through King Amnon (21:25-26). He was born into the Judean royalty lineage of David, Solomon, and Rehoboam (Matt.1: 6-11).**

Matthew’s account left out four kings between Uzziah (Ahaziah) and Jotham (Athaliah, Joash, Amariah, and Azariah/ 2Kings 11-15). These four kings rejected the message of the prophets sent to them from God and contributed to 5<sup>th</sup> cycle to Northern Kingdom by Assyria.

There is another gap of three kings between Josiah (16<sup>th</sup>) and Jeconiah (Jehoiachin)(19<sup>th</sup>). The same held true for them except to the 5<sup>th</sup> cycle to the Southern Kingdom (Jehoahaz, Jehoiakim, and Jehoiachin) (2 Kings 23-24). Three of the last four kings of Judah were sons of Josiah (Jehoahaz, Jehoiakim, and Zedekiah).

Therefore Josiah is actually the 16<sup>th</sup> king of Judea from Rehoboam according to the Book of 2 Kings but only the 12<sup>th</sup> king according to Matthew.

- 2. Josiah was born into the messiah royal lineage by means of the unconditional Davidic covenant (2 Sam.7: 12-17; Rom.1: 1-4).**

“It finds its ultimate fulfillment in the kingship of Christ, who was born of the tribe of Judah and the house of David (Psa.89: 30-38; Isa.9: 1-7; Matt.1; **Luke 1:32-33, 69**; Acts 2:30; 13:23; Rom.1: 2-3; 2 Tim.2: 8; Rev.3: 7; 22:16).” (NIV, 2 Sam.7:11)

- 3. Josiah was one of four great spiritual reformer kings of Judah (2 Kings 23-23; 2 Chron.34-35).**

- Asa (3<sup>rd</sup> king) (1 Kings 15:9-24, 11)
- Azariah (Uzziah) (10<sup>th</sup> king) (2 Kings 15:1-7, 3; 14:3-4)
- Hezekiah (13<sup>th</sup> king) (2 Kings 18-20; 18:3) King Hezekiah was the great grandfather of Josiah.
- Josiah (16<sup>th</sup> king) (22:3)

- 4. Josiah’s Hebrew name means “the Lord supports” (yoshiyah). Remember that in OT Hebrew names usually give us a clue to their biblical history.**

His father died when he was eight and he was made king. The influence of his mother and royal guardianship must have had a spiritual influence upon his young life. We know that by the time he began to reign as a teenager Jeremiah was his pastor-teacher (Jer.1: 2) 13<sup>th</sup> year of reign.

**5. His grandfather Manasseh and father Amnon were very evil kings (21:2,6).**

Manasseh is described by the Lord in 2 Kings 21:1-11,16 and 2 Chron.33: 1-6. He set the 5<sup>th</sup> cycle upon Judah and was taken prisoner and was later released and tried reform but the people wouldn't have anything to do with it (2 Chron.33: 8-17) read.

Amnon did evil in the eyes of the Lord as his father Manasseh had done (2 Kings 20:20; 21:21-22; 2 Chron.33: 23-25) read.

Yet Josiah didn't walk in the ways of his father or grandfather.

**6. Josiah broke the family pattern or cycle of bad behavior.**

- His father died while he was very young.
- His grandfather had come home a POW with a completely different attitude towards spiritual things and God (2 Chron.33:11-14) read (33:14-17)

Josiah looked for and pursued spiritual influences for his life (Matt.6: 33; 1 John 2:12-14).

Josiah is described in 2 Chron.33: 2 as – “he did what was right in the sight of the Lord and walked in the ways of his father David, not turning aside to the right or to the left.”

“Josiah removed all the detestable idols from all the territory belonging to the Israelites, and he had all who were present I Israel serve the Lord their God. **As long as he lived, they did not fail to follow the Lord, the God of their fathers.**” (33:33)

**This is why Josiah is described as walking in all the ways of his father David, not turning to the right or to the left (2 Kings 22:2).**