Bible Stories for Young Children

part of a curriculum prepared for young children

JOSIAH'S GREAT WORK FOR GOD / THE BOOK FOUND IN THE TEMPLE

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2 KINGS 22:1 – 23:3, 21–23 2 Chronicles 34:1 – 35:19; Deuteronomy 28:1–25 JOSIAH'S GREAT WORK FOR GOD / THE BOOK FOUND IN THE TEMPLE File no. 87

For a long time
God had been saying
to His people,
'You have made Me angry.
You have done what was wrong.
Your enemies
will take you away.'

Then Josiah became king. He was only eight years old, but he loved the Lord with all his heart.



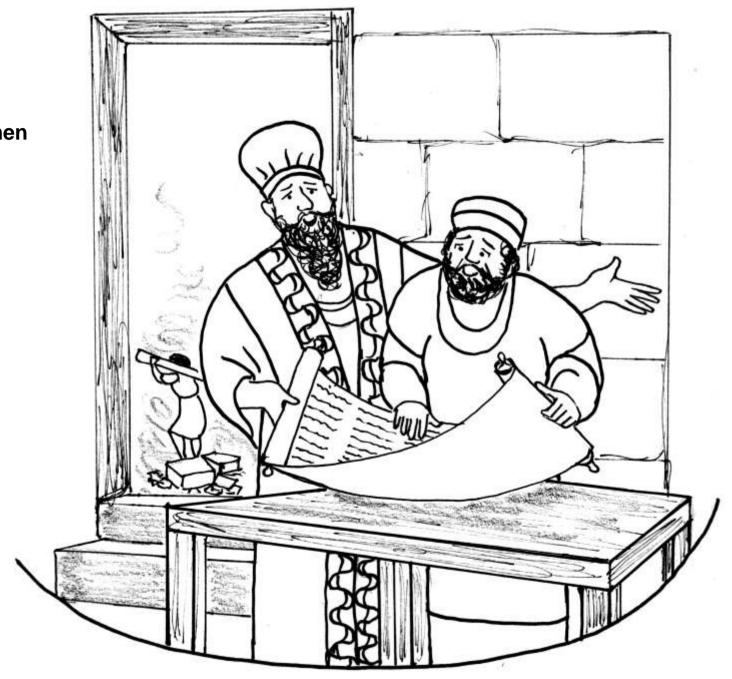
He wanted the people to go to the temple and worship the Lord God, but God's house needed mending.

So he took out the idols, that should never have been there. He ground them to dust. Then he gave orders for God's house to be repaired.



Hilkiah, the priest,
went to watch the workmen
mending the temple.
He was looking around
and found a book.
It was the book of
God's law.
He had not read it.
No one had read it
for a long time.

'I must give this to the king,' thought Hilkiah.

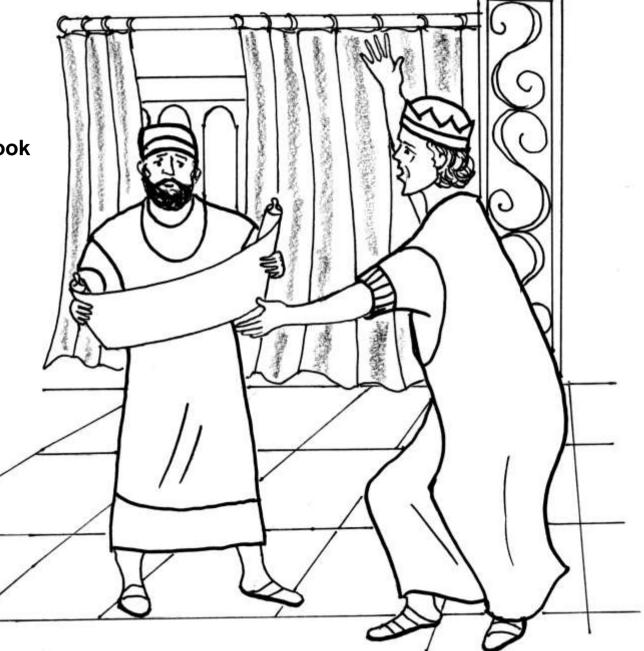


He gave the book to Shaphan. Shaphan took it to the king.

'Read it to me,' said the King.

As Shaphan was reading the book Josiah became upset.

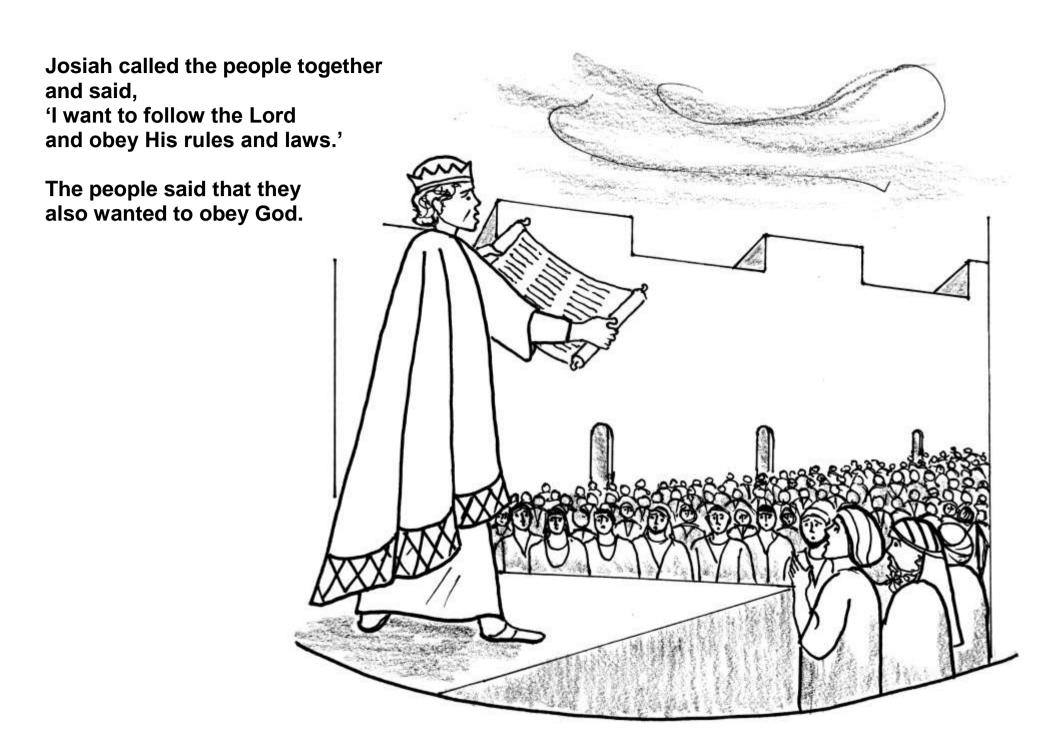
He said,
'Our ancestors did not obey the Lord.
They did not do what the book said.
God is very angry with us.
Find out from the Lord what He is going to do.



Shaphan asked Hilkiah the priest, and Hilkiah asked the prophetess.

The prophetess answered:
'This is what the Lord says;
"My people have left Me.
They have made Me
very angry
and I will punish them.
Tell the king,
that because he is sorry
and has come to Me,
he will not see
the trouble
I am going send."'





Everyone gave thanks to God and celebrated the Passover feast.

This was the way God gave them to remember that He had saved them from slavery and death.

