



Lost & Found:

Josiah's Faithful Response
to the Law of the Lord

2 Kings 22.1–23.3

2 Chronicles 34

Book Themes

2 Kings – Fall of Israel & Judah

2 Chronicles – God's View of Judah's Kings



Series Key Verse

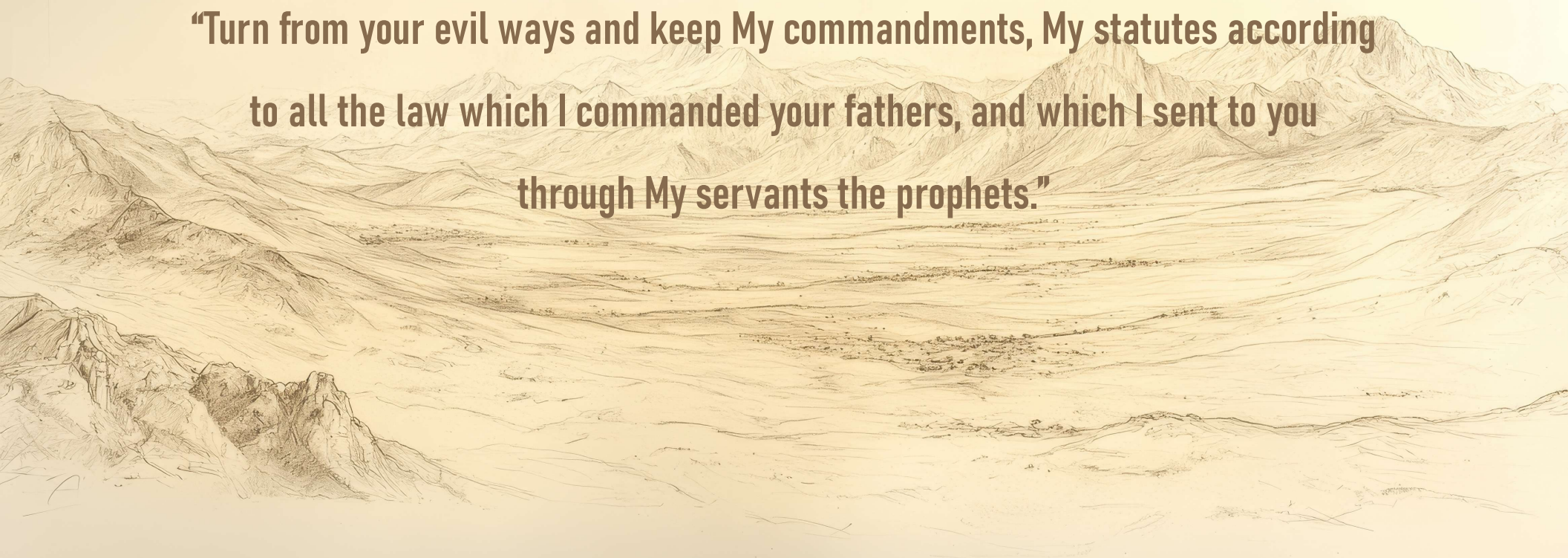
2 Kings 17.13

Yet the Lord warned Israel and Judah through all His prophets and every seer, saying,

“Turn from your evil ways and keep My commandments, My statutes according

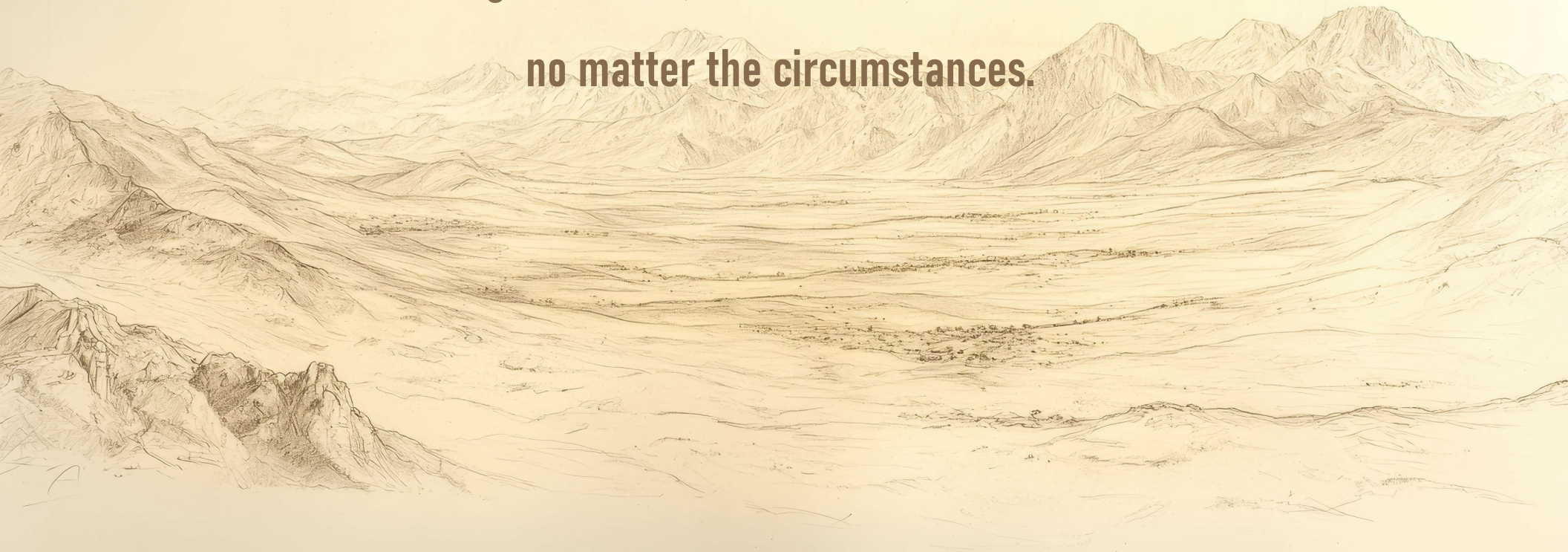
to all the law which I commanded your fathers, and which I sent to you

through My servants the prophets.”



Lesson Theme

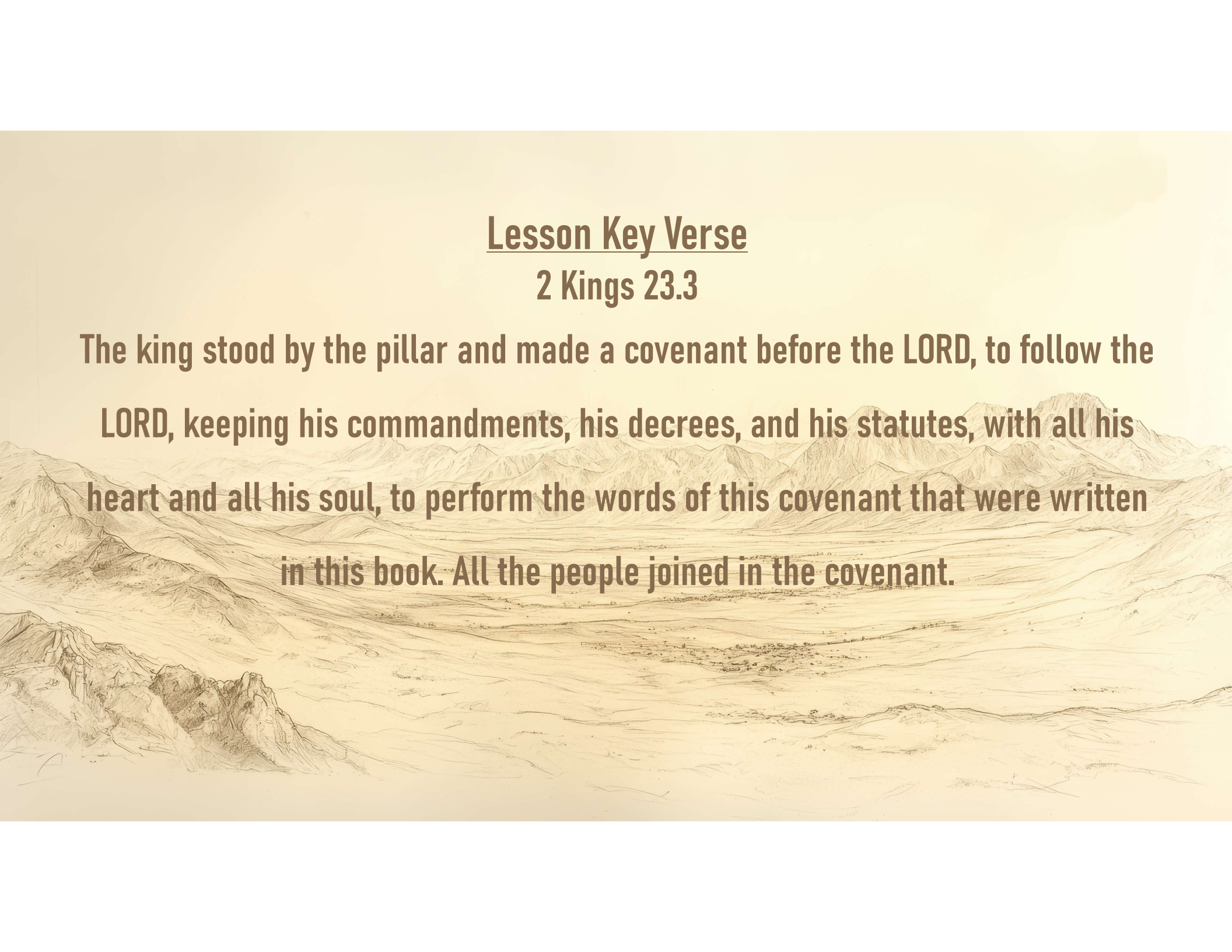
**Josiah demonstrates that faithful believers will do that which pleases the Lord,
seek the Lord through His Word, and demonstrate faithfulness to the Lord
no matter the circumstances.**



Lesson Key Verse

2 Kings 23.3

The king stood by the pillar and made a covenant before the LORD, to follow the LORD, keeping his commandments, his decrees, and his statutes, with all his heart and all his soul, to perform the words of this covenant that were written in this book. All the people joined in the covenant.





Josiah's Reputation Defined

- A. Josiah did what was right in the sight of the Lord
- B. Josiah walked in all the way of his father David
- C. Josiah did not turn aside to the right or to the left





Josiah's Reforms Detailed

A. Josiah sought the Lord

B. Josiah purged the idols

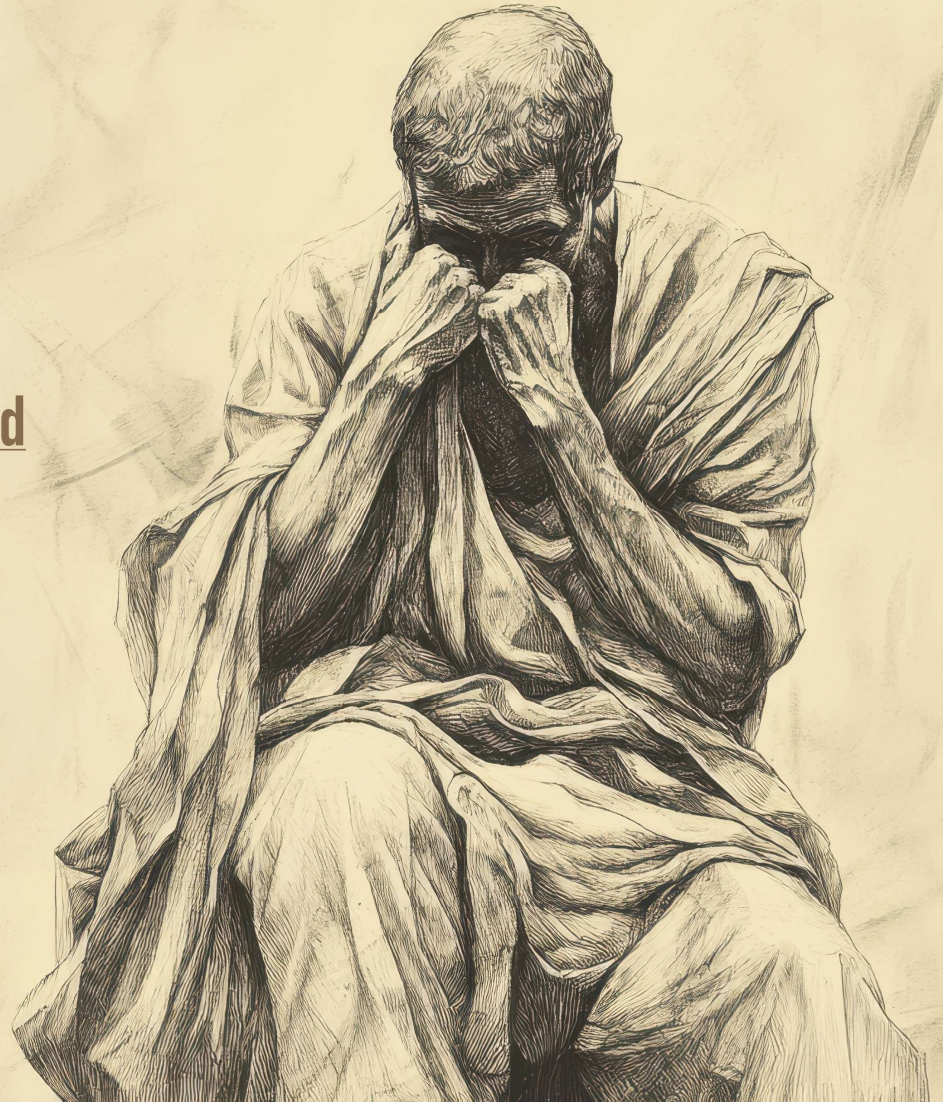
C. Josiah repaired the House of the Lord





Josiah's Response Described

A. Josiah listened to the Law of the Lord

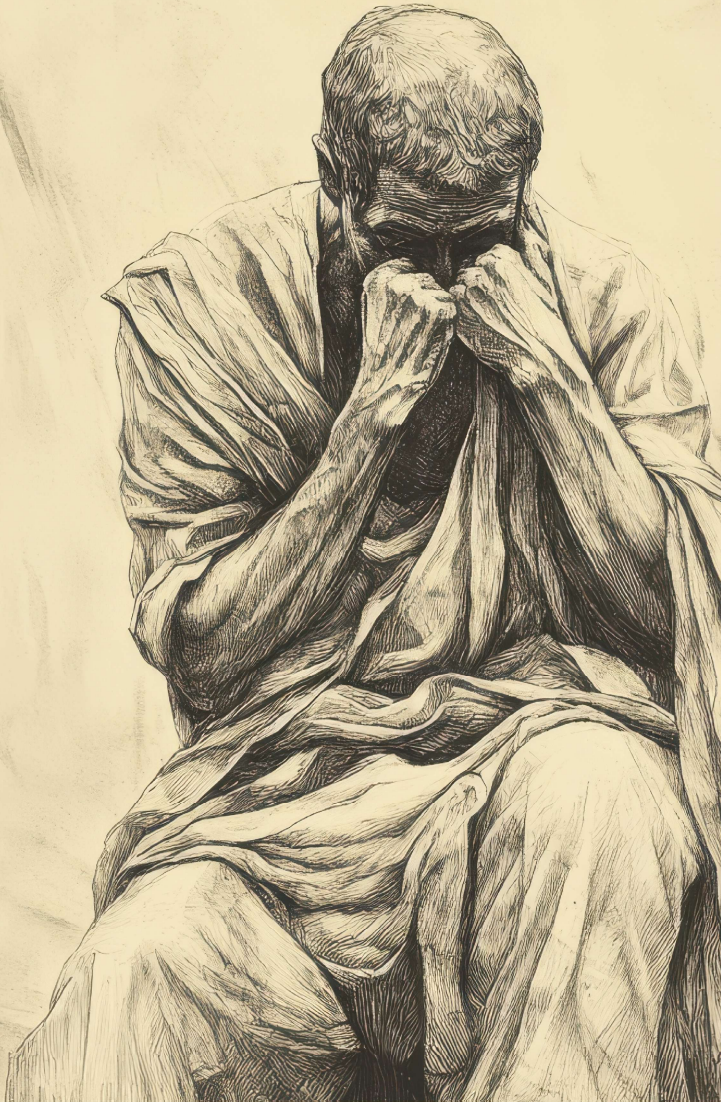




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Nor is it possible to decide anything with certainty, as to whether the king had hitherto been altogether unacquainted with the book of the law, and had merely a traditional knowledge of the law itself, or whether he had already had a copy of the law, but had not yet read it through, or had not read it with proper attention, which accounted for the passages that were read to him now making so deep and alarming an impression upon him...

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It is a well-known experience, that even books which have been read may, under peculiar circumstances, produce an impression such as has not been made before. But in all probability Josiah had not had in his possession any copy of the law, or even read it till now, although the thorough acquaintance with the law, which all the prophets display, places the existence of the Pentateuch in prophetic circles beyond the reach of doubt.

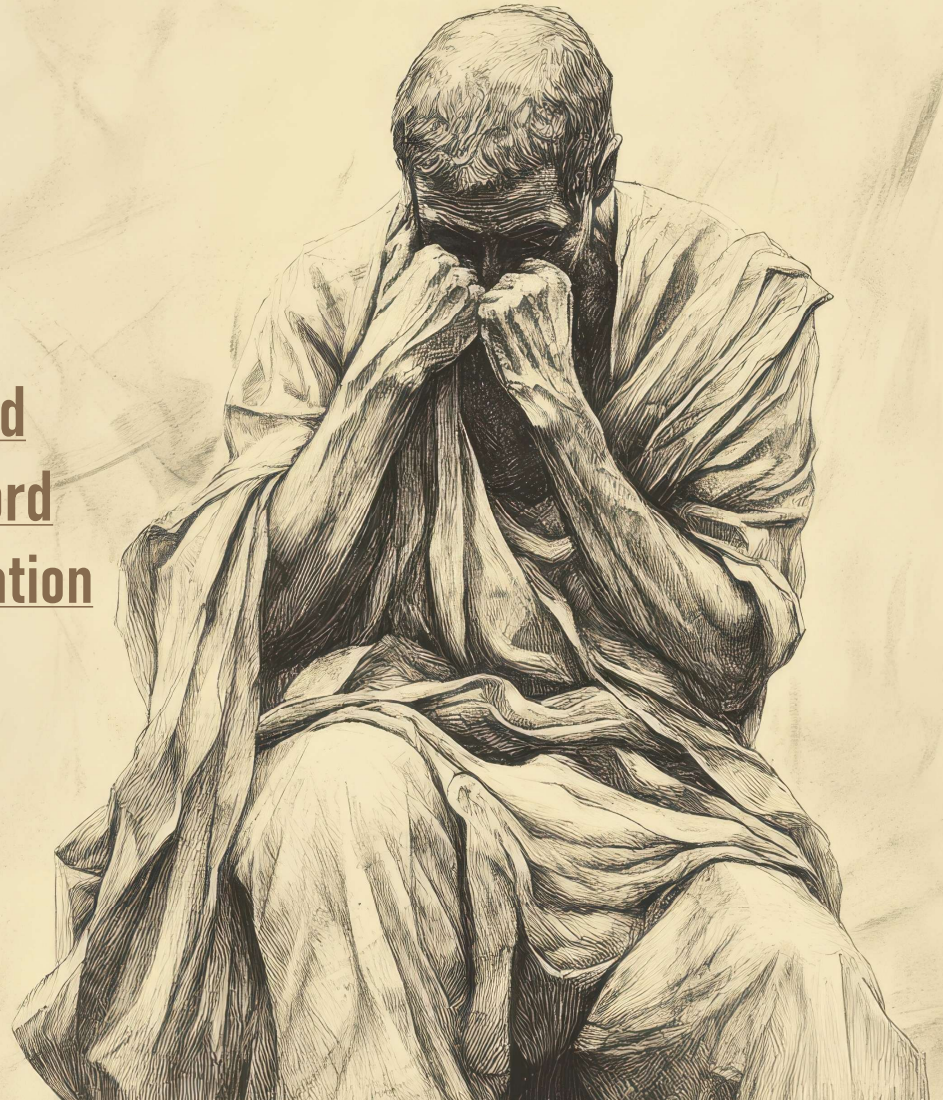
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Kiel & Delitzsch



Josiah's Response Described

- A. Josiah listened to the Law of the Lord
- B. Josiah sought the guidance of the Lord
- C. God confirmed the judgment of the nation
- D. God promised to bless Josiah
- E. Josiah reinstates the covenant with the people





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Josiah knew that the judgment upon Judah was sure to come, but he wanted to press ahead with the reformation of Judah anyway. In this he showed a diligence unmatched by any king before or after him. He did not declare that there was no point in reformation since it could not save Judah anyway. He wanted to go ahead with the reformation solely for the sake of the honor and righteousness of the Lord. The Lord has a right to be served, even if our service does not bring about our salvation.

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- S.G. DeGraf




Application

It is impossible to lead a life that honors the Lord that is not grounded in the Word of God. You may be able to follow some generally biblical, God-honoring behaviors, but without the intentional intake of God's Word in your life, you and I will never be pleasing to the Lord.



Application

Our obedience to the Lord cannot be dependent on God's blessing us or giving us what we want.



**The book of Job opens with the disturbing and penetrating question,
'Will Job serve God if he gets nothing out of it?'**
Do people serve God only to avoid judgment or to gain blessing?
**Josiah's love of God is not to avert judgment; it is the only appropriate action,
living in humble relationship with the covenant-keeping God. – John Olley**

