

Intro

~ Our world today needs a lesson in humility. Our world is filled with self-importance above others (Sentinel article)

Body

2 Kings 22 Outline

V1-2 = Josiah walks with the Lord

V3-7 = Josiah orders the repair of the temple of the Lord

V8-12 = Josiah humbles himself at the hearing of the Law of the Lord

V13-20 = Josiah enquires of the Lord concerning the Law of the Lord

We see four great things Josiah did:

1 Walked with the Lord = It can't be underestimated in the days we're living in when a person walks with the Lord

2 Repaired the temple of the Lord = He cared about the house of God. He made it a point of emphasis

3 Humbled himself before the Lord = He humbled himself before God for sins in the past he personally didn't commit

4 Enquired of the Lord = After he humbled himself he showed that humility makes and accepts corrections

~ Josiah was already honoring the Lord when he ordered the repair of the temple and heard the Law of the Lord

~ Yet when he hears what the Lord has said in the law concerning Israel he knows Israel has behaved themselves

~ He could've said, "well, I've walked with God, repaired the temple." Yet what we find is Josiah humbling himself before the word of God

~ What a great picture of humility

~ The result of his humility is that the Lord wouldn't bring judgement on Judah during his reign

~ We see the Lord honor the humility found in the life of Josiah

What the Lord does for the humble

1 The Lord is near the Humble

~ *Ps 34:18 The LORD is near to those who have a broken heart, And saves such as have a contrite spirit.*

~ *Is 57:15 For thus says the High and Lofty One Who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: "I dwell in the high and holy place, With him who has a contrite and humble spirit,*

~ God loves to draw near the humble person. Go finds in that person someone he can fellowship with

~ Pride is the opposite here and the Lord knows this proud person from afar and doesn't draw near to them

~ There's no fellowship to be had for the Lord with the proud person

2 The Lord saves the humble

~ *Ps 34:18 The LORD is near to those who have a broken heart, And saves such as have a contrite spirit.*

~ The Lord saved this person because they know they need healing

~ Humble look to the Lord for saving (whether salvation, from self, from trials)

~ The proud person doesn't look to the Lord for saving so he doesn't save them from their need

3 The Lord Notices, Observes and Cares for the humble

~ *Ps 113:5-8 Who is like the LORD our God, Who dwells on high, 6 Who humbles Himself to behold The things that are in the heavens and in the earth? 7 He raises the poor out of the dust, And lifts the needy out of the ash heap, 8 That He may seat him with princes—With the princes of His people.*

~ *Ps 138:6,7 Though the LORD is on high, Yet He regards the lowly; But the proud He knows from afar. 7 Though I walk in the midst of trouble, You will revive me; You will stretch out Your hand Against the wrath of my enemies, And Your right hand will save me.*

~The Lord will intervene for the humble person. He helped Israel only after they cried out in humble need

~ Again, the Lord notices the proud but won't intervene because they're too proud to look to him. The proud will figure things out themselves and the Lord will be the last resort and option

4 The Lord heals the humble

~ Ps 147:3 *He heals the brokenhearted And binds up their wounds.*

~ Robin Mark has a song called, "Heal this Land." He sings in this song, "Lord we humble ourselves before you, so heal this land."

~ 2 Chron 7:14 *If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.*

~ The Lord is waiting for his people to turn to him before he heals them.

~ Think of this not just in terms of physical healing but healing from the past

5 The lord binds (heals) up their wounds (brokenhearted)

~ Ps 147:3 *He heals the brokenhearted And binds up their wounds.*

~ Lk 10:33-35 *But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was: and when he saw him, he had compassion on him, 34 And went to him, and bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine, and set him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn, and took care of him. 35 And on the morrow when he departed, he took out two pence, and gave them to the host, and said unto him, Take care of him; and whatsoever thou spendest more, when I come again, I will repay thee.*

~ The Lord binds up our broken (shattered) hearts from emotional hurts, hurts from others, from our own choices

~ The proud don't have their shattered hearts made whole because they don't go to him with their hurts

6 The Lord dwells with the humble (Is 57:15)

~ Is 57:15 *For thus says the High and Lofty One Who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: "I dwell in the high and holy place, With him who has a contrite and humble spirit, To revive the spirit of the humble, And to revive the heart of the contrite ones.*

~ Not only does the Lord draw near to the humble but he dwells with the humble

~ The word dwell means to lodge, reside, and to take up residence. The Lord's address is that of the humble

~ God has two residences, the heavens and with the humble person

~ The Lord doesn't take up residence with the proud

7 The Lord revives the humble

~ Ps 138:6,7 *Though the LORD is on high, Yet He regards the lowly; But the proud He knows from afar. 7 Though I walk in the midst of trouble, You will revive me;*

~ Is 57:15 *For thus says the High and Lofty One Who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: "I dwell in the high and holy place, With him who has a contrite and humble spirit, To revive the spirit of the humble, And to revive the heart of the contrite ones.*

~ Contrite – crushed (literally to powder). Root of the word means beat to pieces, bruised, destroyed, smite

~ Humble – humble, to be brought low, humiliated

8 The Lord gives grace to the humble

~ Prov 3:34; Js 4:6; 1 Pet 5:5 *Surely He (The Lord) scorns the scornful, But gives grace to the humble.*

What the Lord does for the proud

1 The Lord knows them afar off (Ps 138:6,7)

~ We look at someone from a distance and may recognize them but the Lord recognizes people from afar off but keeps a distance

2 The Lord resists the proud

~ James 4:6-8 *But He gives more grace. Therefore He says: "GOD RESISTS THE PROUD, BUT GIVES GRACE TO THE HUMBLE." 7 Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. 8 Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded.*

~ 1 Peter 5:5,6 *Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to your elders. Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for "GOD RESISTS THE PROUD, BUT GIVES GRACE TO THE HUMBLE." 6 Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time,*

Conclusion (Practical Points on humility)

1 Humility is more willing to serve than to be served (in our job, family and church)

2 Humility doesn't have to get the word in. Thus, trying to get the upper hand in conversation and win the argument

3 Humility doesn't have a knit picky critical spirit

4 Humility doesn't take advantage of others

5 Humility isn't legalistic (Legalism is more concerned with others' conduct and my enforcement of those standards)