

# JOSIAH'S RESTORATION OF TRUE WORSHIP

**BIBLE TEXT** : **I Kings 13:1, 2; II Kings 22:1-20; 23:1-25;**  
**II Chronicles 35:1-27; .**

LESSON 374 Junior Course

**MEMORY VERSE: "The LORD is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit" (Psalm 34:18).**

## **BIBLE TEXT in King James Version**

### **1 Kings 13:1-2**

<sup>1</sup> And, behold, there came a man of God out of Judah by the word of the LORD unto Bethel: and Jeroboam stood by the altar to burn incense.

<sup>2</sup> And he cried against the altar in the word of the LORD, and said, O altar, altar, thus saith the LORD; Behold, a child shall be born unto the house of David, Josiah by name; and upon thee shall he offer the priests of the high places that burn incense upon thee, and men's bones shall be burnt upon thee.

### **2 Kings 22:1-20**

<sup>1</sup> Josiah *was* eight years old when he began to reign, and he reigned thirty and one years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name *was* Jedidah, the daughter of Adaiah of Boscath.

<sup>2</sup> And he did *that which was* right in the sight of the LORD, and walked in all the way of David his father, and turned not aside to the right hand or to the left.

<sup>3</sup> And it came to pass in the eighteenth year of king Josiah, *that* the king sent Shaphan the son of Azaliah, the son of Meshullam, the scribe, to the house of the LORD, saying,

<sup>4</sup> Go up to Hilkiah the high priest, that he may sum the silver which is brought into the house of the LORD, which the keepers of the door have gathered of the people:

<sup>5</sup> And let them deliver it into the hand of the doers of the work, that have the oversight of the house of the LORD: and let them give it to the doers of the work which *is* in the house of the LORD, to repair the breaches of the house,

<sup>6</sup> Unto carpenters, and builders, and masons, and to buy timber and hewn stone to repair the house.

<sup>7</sup> Howbeit there was no reckoning made with them of the money that was delivered into their hand, because they dealt faithfully.

<sup>8</sup> And Hilkiah the high priest said unto Shaphan the scribe, I have found the book of the law in the house of the LORD. And Hilkiah gave the book to Shaphan, and he read it.

<sup>9</sup> And Shaphan the scribe came to the king, and brought the king word again, and said, Thy servants have gathered the money that was found in the house, and have delivered it into the hand of them that do the work, that have the oversight of the house of the LORD.

<sup>10</sup> And Shaphan the scribe shewed the king, saying, Hilkiah the priest hath delivered me a book. And Shaphan read it before the king.

<sup>11</sup> And it came to pass, when the king had heard the words of the book of the law, that he rent his clothes.

<sup>12</sup> And the king commanded Hilkiah the priest, and Ahikam the son of Shaphan, and Achbor the son of Michaiah, and Shaphan the scribe, and Asahiah a servant of the king's, saying,

<sup>13</sup> Go ye, enquire of the LORD for me, and for the people, and for all Judah, concerning the words of this book that is found: for great *is* the wrath of the LORD that is kindled

## **BIBLE REFERENCES:**

### **NOTES:**

#### **The Establishing of the Passover**

The Israelites were supposed to live by the rules God gave them when they came from the land of Egypt. On their last night in captivity, they had eaten the Passover Feast for the first time. At that time God said: "This day shall be unto you for a memorial; and ye shall keep it a feast to the LORD throughout your generations; ye shall keep it a feast by an ordinance for ever" (Exodus 12:14). It was to remind them of their deliverance from Egypt, and also to be a type of the Lamb of God, Jesus, who would come to deliver men from sin.

Among God's rules was one that told the parents to teach their children the laws of God" "And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up" (Deuteronomy 6:7).

#### **God's Law Not Kept**

For many years the children of the Israelites had not heard the laws of God. Their parents did not talk to them about God, nor go to the Temple where God had promised to meet them. Through the reigns of two kings, the people had worshiped idols, and few knew what the laws of God were. The Passover Feast, which was to have been a memorial and to have been kept every year, had not been kept for a long time. Think how dreary the world would be if there were no churches to go to, and no one ever talked about God! What if there were no one to tell you right from wrong?

God had threatened the Israelites that if they did not obey Him but worshiped idols instead, He would let heathen nations come into their land and take them captive. Prophets had warned that God was noticing all their wickedness, and soon the time would come when those warnings would be fulfilled.

#### **Josiah's Birth**

Into all this sinfulness and spiritual darkness, Josiah was born. When he was only eight years old he became king. When Josiah was sixteen years old "he began to seek after the God of David his father" (II Chronicles 34:3); and by the time he was twenty he had begun to tear down the heathen idols and all the groves where people went to make sacrifices. Josiah wanted the people to worship God, but first they must get sin out of the way.

#### **Repairing the Temple**

After Josiah had destroyed the idol worship, it was time to prepare the House of God for worship.

against us, because our fathers have not hearkened unto the words of this book, to do according unto all that which is written concerning us.

<sup>14</sup> So Hilkiah the priest, and Ahikam, and Achbor, and Shaphan, and Asahiah, went unto Huldah the prophetess, the wife of Shallum the son of Tikvah, the son of Harhas, keeper of the wardrobe; (now she dwelt in Jerusalem in the college;) and they communed with her.

<sup>15</sup> And she said unto them, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, Tell the man that sent you to me,

<sup>16</sup> Thus saith the LORD, Behold, I will bring evil upon this place, and upon the inhabitants thereof, *even* all the words of the book which the king of Judah hath read:

<sup>17</sup> Because they have forsaken me, and have burned incense unto other gods, that they might provoke me to anger with all the works of their hands; therefore my wrath shall be kindled against this place, and shall not be quenched.

<sup>18</sup> But to the king of Judah which sent you to enquire of the LORD, thus shall ye say to him, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, *As touching* the words which thou hast heard;

<sup>19</sup> Because thine heart was tender, and thou hast humbled thyself before the LORD, when thou heardest what I spake against this place, and against the inhabitants thereof, that they should become a desolation and a curse, and hast rent thy clothes, and wept before me; I also have heard *thee*, saith the LORD.

<sup>20</sup> Behold therefore, I will gather thee unto thy fathers, and thou shalt be gathered into thy grave in peace; and thine eyes shall not see all the evil which I will bring upon this place. And they brought the king word again.

#### **2 Kings 23:1-25**

<sup>1</sup> And the king sent, and they gathered unto him all the elders of Judah and of Jerusalem.

<sup>2</sup> And the king went up into the house of the LORD, and all the men of Judah and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem with him, and the priests, and the prophets, and all the people, both small and great: and he read in their ears all the words of the book of the covenant which was found in the house of the LORD.

<sup>3</sup> And the king stood by a pillar, and made a covenant before the LORD, to walk after the LORD, and to keep his commandments and his testimonies and his statutes with all *their* heart and all *their* soul, to perform the words of this covenant that were written in this book. And all the people stood to the covenant.

<sup>4</sup> And the king commanded Hilkiah the high priest, and the priests of the second order, and the keepers of the door, to bring forth out of the temple of the LORD all the vessels that were made for Baal, and for the grove, and for all the host of heaven: and he burned them without Jerusalem in the fields of Kidron, and carried the ashes of them unto Bethel.

<sup>5</sup> And he put down the idolatrous priests, whom the kings of Judah had ordained to burn incense in the high places in the cities of Judah, and in the places round about Jerusalem; them also that burned incense unto Baal, to the sun, and to the moon, and to the planets, and to all the host of heaven.

<sup>6</sup> And he brought out the grove from the house of the LORD, without Jerusalem, unto the brook Kidron, and burned it at the brook Kidron, and stamped *it* small to powder, and cast the powder thereof upon the graves of the children of the people.

<sup>7</sup> And he brake down the houses of the sodomites, that

Because no one had gone to church for so long, no doubt weeds were high around the building, and the windows were broken and doors off their hinges. It took many workmen -- builders, carpenters, and masons -- to again make the Temple the beautiful house of God that would be a worthy place of worship. It cost very much money, too, for the repair work, but the people gave willingly and the workmen honestly put all the money into the work even though no one kept accounts.

It was a good thing to have a beautiful place in which to worship, but something else of even greater importance was necessary. The hearts of the people had to be beautified.

#### **The Need for a Clean Heart**

Some people today realise that they should change from their sinful ways, so they start to go to church and they mix with "good people." But they do not repent of their sins, so, of course, do not find favour with God. In order to enjoy real Christianity, one must first put away sin. When the heart is clean, then we know the joys of salvation and can live a life of victory over sin. Jesus alone can make our hearts clean, and he does it when we repent.

#### **Instructions Found**

How could the Israelites know what God wanted them to do? how they should live? Maybe even the parents of the children had not heard the laws of God, because it had been perhaps 50 years since they had had a king who served the Lord.

Just when the people needed instruction the most, the priest found a copy of the Law of God written in a book. If a person is honest, and wants to know the will of God, God will lead him to the truth and give him an opportunity to do the right thing.

Not everyone could read and write in those days, so Shaphan the scribe, whose business it was to read important papers, took the book to the king and read the words of the Lord to him. Josiah had prayed to God to know His will, and here was the answer.

In the book were written the judgments that were to come upon Israel if the Law of God was not obeyed. When Josiah heard them, he became frightened and thought surely all Israel was doomed. Israel had not kept the Law of God and deserved to be punished.

When people want to do the right thing, they are deeply concerned when they find that laws have been broken. Other people, whose hearts are hard and who do not want to be Christians, can read the judgments of God and never be moved. May God keep our hearts tender so that we will listen to His warnings, and prepare our hearts to be ready when Jesus comes! Jesus said when He was on earth: "He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day" (John 12:48).

#### **Hope**

In the time of Josiah there was a righteous prophetess to whom God spoke. The book was taken to her to see if there might be some hope for Israel. If the people repented with all their heart, could they be spared? Or must they suffer at once for the sins of

were by the house of the LORD, where the women wove hangings for the grove.

<sup>8</sup> And he brought all the priests out of the cities of Judah, and defiled the high places where the priests had burned incense, from Geba to Beersheba, and brake down the high places of the gates that *were* in the entering in of the gate of Joshua the governor of the city, which *were* on a man's left hand at the gate of the city.

<sup>9</sup> Nevertheless the priests of the high places came not up to the altar of the LORD in Jerusalem, but they did eat of the unleavened bread among their brethren.

<sup>10</sup> And he defiled Topheth, which *is* in the valley of the children of Hinnom, that no man might make his son or his daughter to pass through the fire to Molech.

<sup>11</sup> And he took away the horses that the kings of Judah had given to the sun, at the entering in of the house of the LORD, by the chamber of Nathanmelech the chamberlain, which *was* in the suburbs, and burned the chariots of the sun with fire.

<sup>12</sup> And the altars that *were* on the top of the upper chamber of Ahaz, which the kings of Judah had made, and the altars which Manasseh had made in the two courts of the house of the LORD, did the king beat down, and brake *them* down from thence, and cast the dust of them into the brook Kidron.

<sup>13</sup> And the high places that *were* before Jerusalem, which *were* on the right hand of the mount of corruption, which Solomon the king of Israel had builded for Ashtoreth the abomination of the Zidonians, and for Chemosh the abomination of the Moabites, and for Milcom the abomination of the children of Ammon, did the king defile.

<sup>14</sup> And he brake in pieces the images, and cut down the groves, and filled their places with the bones of men.

<sup>15</sup> Moreover the altar that *was* at Bethel, *and* the high place which Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel to sin, had made, both that altar and the high place he brake down, and burned the high place, *and* stamped *it* small to powder, and burned the grove.

<sup>16</sup> And as Josiah turned himself, he spied the sepulchres that *were* there in the mount, and sent, and took the bones out of the sepulchres, and burned *them* upon the altar, and polluted it, according to the word of the LORD which the man of God proclaimed, who proclaimed these words.

<sup>17</sup> Then he said, What title *is* that that I see? And the men of the city told him, *It is* the sepulchre of the man of God, which came from Judah, and proclaimed these things that thou hast done against the altar of Bethel.

<sup>18</sup> And he said, Let him alone; let no man move his bones. So they let his bones alone, with the bones of the prophet that came out of Samaria.

<sup>19</sup> And all the houses also of the high places that *were* in the cities of Samaria, which the kings of Israel had made to provoke *the LORD* to anger, Josiah took away, and did to them according to all the acts that he had done in Bethel.

<sup>20</sup> And he slew all the priests of the high places that *were* there upon the altars, and burned men's bones upon them, and returned to Jerusalem.

<sup>21</sup> And the king commanded all the people, saying, Keep the passover unto the LORD your God, as *it is* written in the book of this covenant.

<sup>22</sup> Surely there was not holden such a passover from the days of the judges that judged Israel, nor in all the days of the kings of Israel, nor of the kings of Judah;

<sup>23</sup> But in the eighteenth year of king Josiah, *wherein* this

their parents and their own sins, too? She answered: "Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, . . . Because thine heart was tender, and thou hast humbled thyself . . . I also have heard thee."

God always sees the repentant heart. Whosoever will may come to Jesus. He never turns anyone away who is sorry that he has sinned, and wants to be forgiven. But one must repent with all his heart in order to find favour with God.

Josiah wanted the favour of God more than anything in the world, and God saw it. Judgment would still come upon the sinners, but not while Josiah lived.

Many times the righteousness of one man has held back the judgments of God for a time, giving others a chance to repent. What great mercy God shows to the children of men! But judgment must fall when the heart is unrepentant. God has spoken, and it shall come to pass.

### **A Righteous Nation**

Josiah called all the people together to listen to the reading of the Law. Everyone came: the men and women, the children, the great and small. Josiah made a covenant before the Lord to obey all that God had commanded, and the people all stood with him, saying that they too would obey God's law. How wonderful Josiah must have felt, to know that all the Children of Israel would support him in a righteous reign! There have been very few times in the world's history when the rulers of countries have given themselves wholeheartedly to serve God, and when all the people have followed their example. What a happy world this would be if such a condition existed in all nations!

Now that Josiah knew the will of God, he really went to work to finish cleaning up the idol worship, which had been going on throughout all the cities and in the country.

### **The Golden Calves**

Many years before, just after Israel had been divided into two kingdoms, Jeroboam had brought great trouble upon Israel by making two golden calves and setting them up for the Israelites to worship. One had been set up at Bethel, the place that is sacred to us as the place where Jacob dreamed he saw the angels ascending and descending on a ladder which reached to Heaven. Jacob felt the presence of God at that time, and said, "Surely the LORD is in this place; and I knew it not." But Jeroboam had profaned the place by setting up a golden calf, and God had sent a prophet to tell him that judgement would befall him.

When Jeroboam had stood up to burn incense to the golden calf, "a man of God" interrupted by saying, "O altar, altar, thus saith the LORD; Behold, a child shall be born unto the house of David, Josiah by name; and upon thee shall he offer the priests of the high places that burn incense upon thee, and men's bones shall be burnt upon thee" (I Kings 13:2). After about 350 years, that prophecy was fulfilled when Josiah took bones from the sepulchres and burned them upon the altar, besides tearing down the high places and grinding them to powder, and burning the



passover was holden to the LORD in Jerusalem.

<sup>24</sup> Moreover the *workers with familiar spirits*, and the wizards, and the images, and the idols, and all the abominations that were spied in the land of Judah and in Jerusalem, did Josiah put away, that he might perform the words of the law which were written in the book that Hilkiah the priest found in the house of the LORD.

<sup>25</sup> And like unto him was there no king before him, that turned to the LORD with all his heart, and with all his soul, and with all his might, according to all the law of Moses; neither after him arose there *any* like him.

## **2 Chronicles 35:1-27**

<sup>1</sup> Moreover Josiah kept a passover unto the LORD in Jerusalem: and they killed the passover on the fourteenth *day* of the first month.

<sup>2</sup> And he set the priests in their charges, and encouraged them to the service of the house of the LORD,

<sup>3</sup> And said unto the Levites that taught all Israel, which were holy unto the LORD, Put the holy ark in the house which Solomon the son of David king of Israel did build; *it shall not be* a burden upon *your* shoulders: serve now the LORD your God, and his people Israel,

<sup>4</sup> And prepare *yourselves* by the houses of your fathers, after your courses, according to the writing of David king of Israel, and according to the writing of Solomon his son.

<sup>5</sup> And stand in the holy *place* according to the divisions of the families of the fathers of your brethren the people, and *after* the division of the families of the Levites.

<sup>6</sup> So kill the passover, and sanctify yourselves, and prepare your brethren, that *they* may do according to the word of the LORD by the hand of Moses.

<sup>7</sup> And Josiah gave to the people, of the flock, lambs and kids, all for the passover offerings, for all that were present, to the number of thirty thousand, and three thousand bullocks: these *were* of the king's substance.

<sup>8</sup> And his princes gave willingly unto the people, to the priests, and to the Levites: Hilkiah and Zechariah and Jehiel, rulers of the house of God, gave unto the priests for the passover offerings two thousand and six hundred *small cattle*, and three hundred oxen.

<sup>9</sup> Conaniah also, and Shemaiah and Nethaneel, his brethren, and Hashabiah and Jeiel and Jozabad, chief of the Levites, gave unto the Levites for passover offerings five thousand *small cattle*, and five hundred oxen.

<sup>10</sup> So the service was prepared, and the priests stood in their place, and the Levites in their courses, according to the king's commandment.

<sup>11</sup> And they killed the passover, and the priests sprinkled *the blood* from their hands, and the Levites flayed *them*.

<sup>12</sup> And they removed the burnt offerings, that they might give according to the divisions of the families of the people, to offer unto the LORD, as *it is* written in the book of Moses. And so *did they* with the oxen.

<sup>13</sup> And they roasted the passover with fire according to the ordinance: but the *other* holy *offerings* sod they in pots, and in caldrons, and in pans, and divided *them* speedily among all the people.

<sup>14</sup> And afterward they made ready for themselves, and for the priests: because the priests the sons of Aaron *were busied* in offering of burnt offerings and the fat until night; therefore the Levites prepared for themselves, and for the priests the sons of Aaron.

<sup>15</sup> And the singers the sons of Asaph *were* in their place, according to the commandment of David, and Asaph, and Heman, and Jeduthun the king's seer; and the porters *waited* at every gate; they might not depart from their

groves where the idols stood.

Many times we see prophecy thus fulfilled in the Bible. It puts confidence into our hearts that all God has said shall come to pass. When the Bible states, "The soul that sinneth, it shall die" (Ezekiel 18:4), we know it means just that. No sinner will go to Heaven unless he has repented of his sins and God has forgiven him. If a person dies with sin in his life, he will be condemned before God.

## **Obedience Brings Rejoicing**

What rejoicing filled the house of the Lord when all the evil was put away from among the people! God came down and met with them as they ate the Feast of the Passover. They had covenanted with God to keep His law, had prepared their hearts for His blessing, and now they were enjoying the outpouring of His love upon them. Never since the time of the Prophet Samuel had they enjoyed such a wonderful Passover Feast.

God honoured the man who led the people in the ways of the Lord. Listen to the words the Bible speaks of him: "Like unto him was there no king before him, that turned to the LORD with all his heart, and with all his soul, and with all his might, according to all the law of Moses; neither after him arose there any like him" (II Kings 23:25).

## **QUESTIONS**

1. Who gave the Israelites rules to live by?
2. When was the first Passover Feast held?
3. How often was the Passover to be kept? and for how long?
4. What did the Israelites we are studying about know regarding the Passover?
5. What kind of king was Josiah, good or bad?
6. What did Josiah do when he was 16 years old? when he was 20?
7. How did Josiah and his people learn the law of God?
8. How did the people help Josiah?
9. What was the result of the people's hard work?
10. What does the Bible say of Josiah's reign?

service; for their brethren the Levites prepared for them.

<sup>16</sup> So all the service of the LORD was prepared the same day, to keep the passover, and to offer burnt offerings upon the altar of the LORD, according to the commandment of king Josiah.

<sup>17</sup> And the children of Israel that were present kept the passover at that time, and the feast of unleavened bread seven days.

<sup>18</sup> And there was no passover like to that kept in Israel from the days of Samuel the prophet; neither did all the kings of Israel keep such a passover as Josiah kept, and the priests, and the Levites, and all Judah and Israel that were present, and the inhabitants of Jerusalem.

<sup>19</sup> In the eighteenth year of the reign of Josiah was this passover kept.

<sup>20</sup> After all this, when Josiah had prepared the temple, Necho king of Egypt came up to fight against Carchemish by Euphrates: and Josiah went out against him.

<sup>21</sup> But he sent ambassadors to him, saying, What have I to do with thee, thou king of Judah? *I come* not against thee this day, but against the house wherewith I have war: for God commanded me to make haste: forbear thee from *meddling with* God, who *is* with me, that he destroy thee not.

<sup>22</sup> Nevertheless Josiah would not turn his face from him, but disguised himself, that he might fight with him, and hearkened not unto the words of Necho from the mouth of God, and came to fight in the valley of Megiddo.

<sup>23</sup> And the archers shot at king Josiah; and the king said to his servants, Have me away; for I am sore wounded.

<sup>24</sup> His servants therefore took him out of that chariot, and put him in the second chariot that he had; and they brought him to Jerusalem, and he died, and was buried in *one of* the sepulchres of his fathers. And all Judah and Jerusalem mourned for Josiah.

<sup>25</sup> And Jeremiah lamented for Josiah: and all the singing men and the singing women spake of Josiah in their lamentations to this day, and made them an ordinance in Israel: and, behold, they *are* written in the lamentations.

<sup>26</sup> Now the rest of the acts of Josiah, and his goodness, according to *that which was* written in the law of the LORD,

<sup>27</sup> And his deeds, first and last, behold, they *are* written in the book of the kings of Israel and Judah.

### **Jeremiah 36:1-32**

<sup>1</sup> And it came to pass in the fourth year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah, *that* this word came unto Jeremiah from the LORD, saying,

<sup>2</sup> Take thee a roll of a book, and write therein all the words that I have spoken unto thee against Israel, and against Judah, and against all the nations, from the day I spake unto thee, from the days of Josiah, even unto this day.

<sup>3</sup> It may be that the house of Judah will hear all the evil which I purpose to do unto them; that they may return every man from his evil way; that I may forgive their iniquity and their sin.

<sup>4</sup> Then Jeremiah called Baruch the son of Neriah: and Baruch wrote from the mouth of Jeremiah all the words of the LORD, which he had spoken unto him, upon a roll of a book.

<sup>5</sup> And Jeremiah commanded Baruch, saying, I *am* shut up; I cannot go into the house of the LORD:

<sup>6</sup> Therefore go thou, and read in the roll, which thou hast written from my mouth, the words of the LORD in the ears of the people in the LORD'S house upon the fasting day:

and also thou shalt read them in the ears of all Judah that come out of their cities.

<sup>7</sup> It may be they will present their supplication before the LORD, and will return every one from his evil way: for great *is* the anger and the fury that the LORD hath pronounced against this people.

<sup>8</sup> And Baruch the son of Neriah did according to all that Jeremiah the prophet commanded him, reading in the book the words of the LORD in the LORD'S house.

<sup>9</sup> And it came to pass in the fifth year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah, in the ninth month, *that* they proclaimed a fast before the LORD to all the people in Jerusalem, and to all the people that came from the cities of Judah unto Jerusalem.

<sup>10</sup> Then read Baruch in the book the words of Jeremiah in the house of the LORD, in the chamber of Gemariah the son of Shaphan the scribe, in the higher court, at the entry of the new gate of the LORD'S house, in the ears of all the people.

<sup>11</sup> When Michaiah the son of Gemariah, the son of Shaphan, had heard out of the book all the words of the LORD,

<sup>12</sup> Then he went down into the king's house, into the scribe's chamber: and, lo, all the princes sat there, *even* Elishama the scribe, and Delaiah the son of Shemaiah, and Elnathan the son of Achbor, and Gemariah the son of Shaphan, and Zedekiah the son of Hananiah, and all the princes.

<sup>13</sup> Then Michaiah declared unto them all the words that he had heard, when Baruch read the book in the ears of the people.

<sup>14</sup> Therefore all the princes sent Jehudi the son of Nethaniah, the son of Shelemiah, the son of Cushi, unto Baruch, saying, Take in thine hand the roll wherein thou hast read in the ears of the people, and come. So Baruch the son of Neriah took the roll in his hand, and came unto them.

<sup>15</sup> And they said unto him, Sit down now, and read it in our ears. So Baruch read *it* in their ears.

<sup>16</sup> Now it came to pass, when they had heard all the words, they were afraid both one and other, and said unto Baruch, We will surely tell the king of all these words.

<sup>17</sup> And they asked Baruch, saying, Tell us now, How didst thou write all these words at his mouth?

<sup>18</sup> Then Baruch answered them, He pronounced all these words unto me with his mouth, and I wrote *them* with ink in the book.

<sup>19</sup> Then said the princes unto Baruch, Go, hide thee, thou and Jeremiah; and let no man know where ye be.

<sup>20</sup> And they went in to the king into the court, but they laid up the roll in the chamber of Elishama the scribe, and told all the words in the ears of the king.

<sup>21</sup> So the king sent Jehudi to fetch the roll: and he took it out of Elishama the scribe's chamber. And Jehudi read it in the ears of the king, and in the ears of all the princes which stood beside the king.

<sup>22</sup> Now the king sat in the winterhouse in the ninth month: and *there was a fire* on the hearth burning before him.

<sup>23</sup> And it came to pass, *that* when Jehudi had read three or four leaves, he cut it with the penknife, and cast *it* into the fire that *was* on the hearth, until all the roll was consumed in the fire that *was* on the hearth.

<sup>24</sup> Yet they were not afraid, nor rent their garments, *neither* the king, nor any of his servants that heard all these words.

<sup>25</sup> Nevertheless Elnathan and Delaiah and Gemariah had

made intercession to the king that he would not burn the roll: but he would not hear them.

<sup>26</sup> But the king commanded Jerahmeel the son of Hammelech, and Seraiah the son of Azriel, and Shelemiah the son of Abdeel, to take Baruch the scribe and Jeremiah the prophet: but the LORD hid them.

<sup>27</sup> Then the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah, after that the king had burned the roll, and the words which Baruch wrote at the mouth of Jeremiah, saying,

<sup>28</sup> Take thee again another roll, and write in it all the former words that were in the first roll, which Jehoiakim the king of Judah hath burned.

<sup>29</sup> And thou shalt say to Jehoiakim king of Judah, Thus saith the LORD; Thou hast burned this roll, saying, Why hast thou written therein, saying, The king of Babylon shall certainly come and destroy this land, and shall cause to cease from thence man and beast?

<sup>30</sup> Therefore thus saith the LORD of Jehoiakim king of Judah; He shall have none to sit upon the throne of David: and his dead body shall be cast out in the day to the heat, and in the night to the frost.

<sup>31</sup> And I will punish him and his seed and his servants for their iniquity; and I will bring upon them, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and upon the men of Judah, all the evil that I have pronounced against them; but they hearkened not.

<sup>32</sup> Then took Jeremiah another roll, and gave it to Baruch the scribe, the son of Neriah; who wrote therein from the mouth of Jeremiah all the words of the book which Jehoiakim king of Judah had burned in the fire: and there were added besides unto them many like words.