



Sermon Guide: The Unexpected Ending (1/7/2023)

Join us **tomorrow, Sunday (1/8/2023), at 7 PM** on Zoom for Sermon Essentials to dive deeper into today's message. You can use the link <https://zoom.us/j/285038684> or call 312.626.6799 and enter the ID 285 038 684 to be a part of the discussion.

Read *Prophets and Kings*, Chapter 28, "Hezekiah"; Chapter 29, "The Ambassadors from Babylon"; Chapter 31, "Hope for the Heathen"; Chapter 32 "Manasseh and Josiah"; and Chapter 33 "The Book of the Law"

Text: 2 Chronicles 35:25-27 Jeremiah also lamented for Josiah. And to this day all the singing men and the singing women speak of Josiah in their lamentations. They made it a custom in Israel; and indeed they *are* written in the Laments.

²⁶ Now the rest of the acts of Josiah and his goodness, according to *what was* written in the Law of the Lord, ²⁷ and his deeds from first to last, indeed they *are* written in the book of the kings of Israel and Judah.

Hezekiah

Reference verses: 2 Kings 18:1-8; 20:1-21; 2 Chronicles 29-31; 32:24-33; Isaiah 38-39

1. Why are godly leaders so important?

2. What lessons can be learned regarding God's answering of our prayers from Hezekiah's answered prayer?

Manasseh

Reference verses: 2 Kings 21:1-26; 2 Chronicles 33:1-25

3. In what ways do you think Hezekiah's prosperity effected Manasseh's relationship with the Lord?



4. How do the events leading up to Manasseh's conversion experience explain the reasons for trials and tribulations?

5. What is revealed to us about delaying opportunities to follow God earlier in life when we study Ammon, Manasseh's son, who succeeded him on the throne?

Josiah

Reference verses: 2 Kings 22:1-20; 23:1-30; 2 Chronicles 34-35

6. Josiah's father reigned only two years as the king of Judah. Why was this a good thing?

7. How long does it take to correct the mistakes of others or even your very own mistakes?

8. What made the biggest difference in Josiah's reign over his father (Ammon), grandfather (Manasseh), and even great grandfather (Hezekiah)?

The Unexpected Ending

9. In what ways do these three kings, Hezekiah, Manasseh and Josiah, instruct us about unexpected endings?

10. How do these principles impact the decision you will make regarding your future?
