

# 2 Kings 22:3

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

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,

## Analysis

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**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,**

This verse contributes to the overall theme of chapter 22: Rediscovery of God's word brings renewal. The divine name emphasizes Yahweh's covenant relationship with Israel and His sovereign control over historical events. The reference to kingship reminds readers that all human authority is subordinate to God's ultimate kingship. In Judah's later history, we see both genuine reforms and deep-rooted corruption, revealing that external religious activity cannot substitute for heart transformation.

The narrative demonstrates God's justice in judging covenant unfaithfulness while maintaining His ultimate purposes for redemption.

## Historical Context

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**Historical Setting:** 2 Kings 22 takes place during the final century of Judah's existence, 7th century BCE, including Manasseh and Josiah's reigns. The chapter's theme (Josiah's Reform Begins) reflects the historical reality of the worst apostasy under Manasseh followed by the most thorough reforms under Josiah, demonstrating that external righteousness cannot reverse God's determined

judgment. Archaeological evidence from this period includes royal inscriptions, administrative documents, and material culture that corroborate the biblical account while providing additional context for understanding the political and social dynamics at work.

## Related Passages

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**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

**Psalms 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

## Study Questions

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1. How does this verse contribute to understanding the theological message of 2 Kings 22 regarding rediscovery of God's word brings renewal?
2. What does this passage reveal about God's character, particularly His justice, mercy, and faithfulness to covenant promises?
3. In what practical ways should this text shape contemporary Christian thinking about faithfulness, worship, and obedience to God?

## Interlinear Text

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וַיְהִי י'	בְּשָׁמֶנֶּה	הַ	עֲשָׂרָה	שָׁנָה	הַ	מֶלֶךְ	הַ
H1961	And it came to pass in the eighteenth	H8083	H6240	year	H8141	of king	H4428
יֹאשִׁיָּהוּ	שָׁלַח	הַ	מֶלֶךְ	אֶת	שָׁפָן	בֶּן	אֶצְלֵי הוּ
Josiah	sent	H853	Shaphan	the son	of Azaliah	the son	
H2977	H7971	H4428	H8227	H1121	H683	H1121	
מִשְׁלָם	הַ	סֹפֵר	בֵּית	יְהוָה	לֵאמֹר:		
of Meshullam	the scribe	to the house	of the LORD	saying			
H4918	H5608	H1004	H3068	H559			