

2 Kings 22:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

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.

Analysis

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.

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. 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

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

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

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

הַסֵּפֶר	וְיֹאמֶר	חִלְקִיָּה	הַכֹּהֵן	הַגָּדוֹל	עַל	שָׁפָן	הַסֵּפֶר
	said	And Hilkiah	priest	the high	H5921	to Shaphan	the scribe
	H559	H2518	H3548	H1419		H8227	H5608
חִלְקִיָּה	וַתֵּן	יְהוָה	בְּבֵית	מָצָאתִי	הַתּוֹכָהּ	הַסֵּפֶר	חִלְקִיָּה
And Hilkiah	gave	of the LORD	in the house	I have found	of the law	the book	And Hilkiah
H2518	H5414	H3068	H1004	H4672	H8451	H5612	H2518
וַיִּקְרָאָהּ	שָׁפָן	אֶל	הַסֵּפֶר	אֶת			
and he read	to Shaphan		the book				
H7121	H8227	H413	H5612	H853			