Rediscover God’s Word September 22, 2019

*2 Kings 22:8-20 Series: Revive Us Again!*

"Most wire walkers, they die when they arrive. They think they have arrived, but they're still on the wire. If you have three steps to do, and you take those steps arrogantly, if you think you are invincible, you're going to die." – Papa Rudy in, “The Walk”

Intro: Why Jonathan Edwards never finished his sermon.

1. Revival won’t come until you rediscover the book.
2. Is your book still buried?

v. 8 *I have found the Book of the Law in the house of the LORD.*

1. Is your book gathering dust?

v. 8 *And Hilkiah gave the book to Shaphan, and he read it.*

v. 10 *And Shaphan read it before the king.*

Deuteronomy 17:19 *And it shall be with him, and he shall read in it all the days of his life, that he may learn to fear the LORD his God by keeping all the words of this law …*

1. Do you read the hard parts of the book?

Deuteronomy 28:15 *But if you will not obey the voice of the LORD your God or be careful to do all his commandments and his statutes that I command you today, then all these curses shall come upon you and overtake you.*

* How has your Bible reading been recently?
* Where do you feel you need to grow in your Bible reading?
* What has helped you to make reading the hard parts of the Bible slightly less difficult?
1. Revival won’t come until you’re broken by the bad news.
2. God’s warnings should unsettle us.

v. 11 *When the king heard the words of the Book of the Law, he tore his clothes.*

1. God’s warnings should break us.

v. 19 *your heart was penitent*

v. 19 *you have torn your clothes and wept before me*

Psalm 51:17 *The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.*

1. A hard heart resists God’s warnings.

Jeremiah 36:23-24 *As Jehudi read three or four columns, the king would cut them off with a knife and throw them into the fire in the fire pot, until the entire scroll was consumed in the fire that was in the fire pot. Yet neither the king nor any of his servants who heard all these words was afraid, nor did they tear their garments.*

1 Kings 22:8 *And the king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, “There is yet one man by whom we may inquire of the LORD, Micaiah the son of Imlah, but I hate him, for he never prophesies good concerning me, but evil.” And Jehoshaphat said, “Let not the king say so.”*

* Why does God value brokenness and contrition so much?
* Have you ever felt the kind of brokenness over your sin that Josiah expressed when he heard God’s Word?
* What should we do when we don’t feel broken by our sins?
1. Revival won’t come until you’re humbled by the hope of good news.
2. Does the Bible drive you to the Lord or just your own effort?

v. 13 *Go, inquire of the LORD for me, and for the people, and for all Judah, concerning the words of this book that has been found.*

Paul House: He seems to reason that God may yet be merciful to an undeserving people.

1. God uses people who have been humbled by Him.

v. 14 *So Hilkiah the priest, and Ahikam, and Achbor, and Shaphan, and Asaiah went to Huldah the prophetess …*

Paul House: Jeremiah felt himself to be a forgotten man in his day. Huldah left no book. Both were used by the Lord …

v. 19 *you humbled yourself before the LORD when you heard how I spoke against this place*

1. The good news is only received in humility.

2 Chronicles 7:14 *if my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.*

Isaiah 66:2 *But this is the one to whom I will look: he who is humble and contrite in spirit and trembles at my word.*

* Why do you think Josiah immediately sent representatives to the prophetess? What might he have wrongly done instead?
* In what sense is humility necessary to receive the gospel?
* Where do you most need prayer for humility in your life?

Revival comes when people rediscover God’s Word

and are broken by the bad news and humbled by the good news.

Study ahead: Next week, we’ll study 2 Kings 23:1-20.

Notes