

Huldah

Core Verse

2 Kings 22:19. “Because your heart was tender, and you humbled yourself before the Lord when you heard what I spoke against this place and against its inhabitants, that they would become a desolation and a curse, and you tore your clothes and wept before Me, I also have heard you,” says the Lord.



Background

Josiah has been King in Jerusalem for eighteen years. He has just asked that the temple funds be used to restore the building, but when the Priest hands over the money he also hands over the Book of the Law. Josiah’s secretary, Shaphan, takes the book back to Josiah and reads it to him. Josiah immediately realises that they and their ancestors have not obeyed God and therefore God must be angry with them. He is desperate to know what God is going to do, so he sends Shaphan and some other Royal attendants to find out. They go to ask a local prophetess called Huldah. Her reply is that God is most certainly angry with Jerusalem and the people there, because they have worshipped other gods and idols. God is angry and will not be persuaded otherwise. However, because Josiah has recognised their sins and asked God’s forgiveness God will not destroy Jerusalem in his own lifetime.

*God must
be angry
with them*

More Info

Huldah is one of only a few female prophets mentioned in the Bible. This is the only event in the Bible where Huldah is referred to, and we are not told why Huldah was consulted rather than another prophet. But we can see now that Huldah was a trustworthy person to ask because Josiah did indeed not live to see the destruction of Jerusalem.

What's this got to do with me?

We don't talk about Prophets and Prophetesses these days, except in reference to people of the Bible. But what is a prophet? Someone that knows what God's plan is. That might sound like they need some special phone line to God, but in reality, no. The Bible is a book of history (because we can learn from mistakes) but it is also a detailed outline of God's plan. We call God's plan the Gospel: *Because Man sinned and separated himself from God, God sent his Son to die for us so that Man can be reunited with God.* There's a lot more detail of course, especially in regards to how we will ultimately be reunited, but everything we need to know is in the Bible.

So we all have the chance to be a prophet or a prophetess, if we read God's Word. Some stuff may seem too complicated to understand right now, and that's ok. That's where it may be useful to go and ask an older friend or leader in your church.

*Someone
that knows
what
God's plan
is*

Dig deeper

Huldah influences King Josiah – 2 Kings 22:8-20

Josiah restores True Worship – 2 Chronicles 34:29-33

What's cool about Huldah?