

Neither before nor after Josiah was there a king like him who turned to the Lord as he did – with all his heart and with all his soul and with all his strength.


2 Kings 23:25


- Josiah king at 8, reigns for 31 years.
- 8th year started seeking God.
- 12th year purged Judah of idols.
- 18th year finds book of law, seeks God, reads to people, renew covenant, destroys idols, celebrates Passover.
- 31st year died fighting King of Egypt.
2 Kings 22 & 23; 2 Chronicles 34 & 35

THE CRITERIA FOR

KINGS:

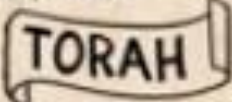
- WORSHIP THE GOD OF ISRAEL ALONE?
- RID ISRAEL OF IDOLATRY?
- FAITHFUL TO THE COVENANT?

NORTHERN ISRAEL  0  20

SOUTHERN JUDAH  8  12

THE ROLE OF
PROPHETS:



- SPEAK ON GOD'S BEHALF
- COVENANT WATCHDOGS
- CALL OUT IDOLATRY AND INJUSTICE
- CHALLENGE TO REPENT AND FOLLOW THE  TORAH

Do the criteria apply today?

How might we update them so we understand them better?

- Worship God alone
- Get rid of idols
- Keep the covenant

²⁹ “The most important one,” answered Jesus, “is this: ‘Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. ³⁰ Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’ ³¹ The second is this: ‘Love your neighbour as yourself.’ There is no commandment greater than these.”

Mark 12:29-31

¹⁵ 'Does it make you a king
to have more and more cedar?
Did not your father have food and drink?
He did what was right and just,
so all went well with him.

¹⁶ He defended the cause of the poor and needy,
and so all went well.
Is that not what it means to know me?'
declares the LORD.

Jeremiah 22:15-16