

2 CHRONICLES CHAPTER 35

¹ And Josiah kept a Passover to the Lord his God; and sacrificed the Passover on the fourteenth day of the first month. ² And he appointed the priests at their charges, and encouraged them for the services of the house of the Lord. ³ And he told the Levites that were able *to act* in all Israel, that they should consecrate themselves to the Lord. And they put the holy ark in the house which Solomon the son of David king of Israel built. And the king said, "You must not carry anything on your shoulders; now then minister to the Lord your God, and to His people Israel. ⁴ And prepare yourselves according to the houses of your families, and according to your daily courses, according to the writing of David king of Israel, and *the order* by the hand of his son Solomon. ⁵ And stand in the house according to the divisions of the houses of your families for your brothers the sons of the people; *so* also let there be for the Levites a division of the house of their family. ⁶ And kill the Passover *lamb*, and prepare *it* for your brothers, to do according to the word of the Lord, by the hand of Moses." ⁷ And Josiah gave as an offering to the children of the people, sheep, lambs, and kids of the young of the goats, all for the Passover, *even for* all that were found, in number *amounting to* thirty thousand, and three thousand calves, these *were* of the substance of the king. ⁸ And his princes gave an offering to the people, and to the priests, and to the Levites: and Hilkiyah and Zechariah and Jehiel the chief men gave to the priests of the house of God, they even gave for the Passover sheep, lambs, and kids, two thousand six hundred, and three hundred calves. ⁹ And Conaniah, Benaiah, Shemaiah, Nethaneel his brother, Hashabiah, Jeiel, and Jozabad, heads of the Levites, gave an offering to the Levites for the Passover, of five thousand sheep and five hundred calves.

¹⁰ And the service was duly ordered, and the priests stood in their place, and the Levites in their divisions, according to the command of the king. ¹¹ And they killed the Passover *offerings*, and the priests sprinkled the blood from their hand, and the Levites skinned *the animals*. ¹² And they prepared the burnt offering to give to them, according to the division by the houses of families, *even* to the sons of the people, to offer to the Lord, as it is written in the Book of Moses. ¹³ And thus *they did* till the morning. And they roasted the Passover with fire according to the ordinance; and boiled the holy *pieces* in copper vessels and caldrons, and *the feast* went on well, and they quickly served all the children of the people. ¹⁴ And after they had prepared for themselves and for the priests, for the priests *were engaged* in offering the burnt offerings and the fat until night, then the Levites prepared for themselves, and for their brothers the sons of Aaron. ¹⁵ And the sons of Asaph the psalm-singers *were* at their post according to the commands of David, and Asaph, Heman, and Jeduthun, the prophets of the king. Also, the chiefs and the porters of the several gates—it was not for them to stir from the service of the holy things, for their brothers the Levites prepared for them. ¹⁶ So all the service of the Lord was duly ordered and prepared in that day, for keeping the Passover, and offering the whole burnt sacrifices on the altar of the Lord, according to the command of King Josiah. ¹⁷ And the children of Israel that were present kept the Passover at that time, and the Feast of Unleavened Bread for seven days. ¹⁸ And there was no Passover like it in Israel from the days of

Samuel the prophet, or any king of Israel; they did not keep such a Passover as Josiah, and the priests, and the Levites, and all Judah and Israel that were present, and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, kept to the Lord. ¹⁹ In the eighteenth year of the reign of Josiah this Passover was kept, after all these things that Josiah did in the house. And King Josiah burnt those who had in them a divining spirit, and the wizards, and the images, and the idols, and the sodomites which were in the land of Judah and in Jerusalem, that he might confirm the words of the law that were written in the book which Hilkiah the priest found in the house of the Lord. There was no *king* like him before him, who turned to the Lord with all his heart, and all his soul, and all his strength, according to all the Law of Moses, and after him there rose up none like him. Nevertheless the Lord did not turn from the anger of His fierce wrath, wherewith the Lord was greatly angry against Judah, for all the provocations in which Manasseh had provoked Him. And the Lord said, "I will even remove Judah also from My presence, as I have removed Israel, and I have rejected the city which I chose, *even* Jerusalem, and the house of which I said, 'My name shall be there.'" ²⁰ And Pharaoh Necho king of Egypt went up against the king of the Assyrians to the River Euphrates, and King Josiah went to meet him. ²¹ And he sent messengers to him, saying, "What have I to do with you, O king of Judah? I have not come today to war against you; and God has told me to make haste; beware of the God that is with me, lest He destroy you." ²² However, Josiah did not turn his face from him, but *rather* strengthened himself to fight against him, and did not listen to the words of Necho by the mouth of God, and he came to fight in the plain of Megiddo. ²³ And the archers shot at King Josiah. And the king said to his servants, "Take me away, for I am severely wounded." ²⁴ And his servants lifted him out of the chariot, and put him in the second chariot which he had, and brought him to Jerusalem. And he died, and was buried with his fathers; and all Judah and Jerusalem lamented over Josiah. ²⁵ And Jeremiah mourned over Josiah, and all the chief men and chief women uttered a lamentation over Josiah until this day. And they made it an ordinance for Israel, and behold, it is written in the lamentations.

²⁶ And the rest of the acts of Josiah, and his hope, are written in the law of the Lord. ²⁷ And his acts, the first and the last, behold, *they are* written in the book of the kings of Israel and Judah.