God’s Book Lost in God’s House
2 Kings 22:8-11

Introduction:
A. God’s book was lost in God’s house (the temple).
   1. Written by Moses. (Deut. 31:24-27).
   2. Found by Hilkiah, the priest. (v. 8).
   3. Read to Josiah by Shaphan, the scribe.
B. God’s book sometimes lost in God’s house (the church).
   1. Lost to the hearts and lives of many of us.
   2. Lost to the preaching of many of us.
   3. Lost to the practices of many of us.
C. God’s book led young King Josiah to take three decisive actions:

Discussion:
I. It Led Josiah to Change His Own Life.
   A. He confessed his and nation’s sins. (2 Kings 22:11-13; 23:3; cf. 1 John 1:9)
   B. He took a firm stand for truth found in God’s book.
      1. Meant repudiating his own former position.

II. It Led Josiah to Destroy False Religion.
   A. He destroyed idolatry.
      1. In the temple (2 Kings 23:4-7)
      2. In the nation (2 Kgs. 23:8-24).
      3. One cannot love truth and ignore error.
   B. N. T. should lead us to destroy error in minds of people. (2 Cor. 10:4-5).
      1. Destroy by exposure and teaching, not by physical force. (cf. 2 Cor. 10:4,5).
      2. All soul threatening error must be destroyed (Tit. 1:10, 11).
         a. Denominational doctrines and creeds (Eph. 4:4-6; Gal. 1:10; 2 John 9-11).
         b. Various false doctrines and practices among brethren.
         c. Humanististic ideas of morality and ethics.
      3. Truth and error cannot co-exist in peace (Gal. 2:5; Eph. 5:11).

III. It Led Josiah to Restore True Religion (2 Kings 23:24-25)
   A. Josiah’s “restoration movement” was a move back to the Bible (v. 21).
      1. It made same plea we make today: Back to the Bible for it all.
      2. It insisted on doing Bible things in Bible ways.
   B. Josiah’s “restoration movement” was unique for its time. (vs. 22,23).
      1. We must be more interested in truth than conformity to established practice.
      2. We must realize that ancient truth can be strange to modern religionists.
   C. Josiah’s “restoration movement” caused Josiah to go down in history a great king.

Conclusion:
A. Let us once again find the Book of God any place it may be lost.
B. Let us have to courage to change to conform to the Book of God.
C. Let us have the courage to destroy error instead of compromising with it.
D. Let us go back to the Bible for all our religious faith and practice.