



Before the THRONE

The Devotional

Volume 1

Books of the Law & History

2 Chronicles 35:20-24

“After all this (*the reforms Josiah instituted and then carried out*) when Josiah had prepared the temple, Necho king of Egypt came up to fight against Charchemish by Euphrates: and Josiah went out against him. But Neco sent ambassadors to Josiah, saying, “What have I to do with you king of Judah? I come not against thee this day, but against the house wherewith I have war: for God commanded me...forbear yourself from meddling with God, who is with me, that He doesn’t destroy you... Nevertheless Josiah would not turn his face from Neco, but disguised himself, that he might fight with him, and hearkened not to the words of Neco from the mouth of God... and the archers shot at king Josiah... and he died...” (2 Chronicles 35:20-24).

It can be difficult enough to hear the voice of God – but especially so from the mouth of our enemies! Sadly, for Josiah the great reformer king – it cost him his life! Strongholds in our thinking refuse to believe that our God could possibly use our enemies to speak to us – after all, He is “our” God and most surely if He has something to say He would say it to one of His people or prophets, not those who think differently, act differently, talk differently and worship different gods than we do. In our bias we forget He is “the God of all flesh.” (Jeremiah 32:27)

The Lord’s choice of a delivery boy varies according to His purposes – both for us and for the messenger.

Our task then is to be ever watchful, poised with a listening and humble heart, ready to hear and respond to the “still small voice” of the Spirit even when it comes clothed in the most unlikely of messengers. While the messenger or method of His communication to us may change, one thing will not – His never changing character of goodness and mercy. When you come to a personal knowledge of Him and His character, you will see through any manner of disguise because you will know His voice (John 10:27).

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