

Women in the
Bible:
Huldah
and me

“Your word is lamp
for my feet and a
light for my path.”

Psalms 119:105

Courage and
Empowerment



Key Scripture: 2 Kings 22 and
2 Chronicles 34:14-28

Huldah

Her Name Means “Mole”

Introduction

Huldah was one of the many prophetesses in the Old Testament. The prophetesses are sometimes forgotten or seen as ‘second rank’ among their male colleagues. I mean, how does Huldah sound next to Isaiah, Samuel or Jeremiah? And yet the story of Huldah can teach us a thing or two. At a time of spiritual darkness, just before the dawn of a revival, it is a woman who is to deliver the word of God to the king, the priest and the nation. It is God's message through Huldah that sparks an earnest spiritual revival.



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2 Chronicles 34:14-28

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Introduction

In addition to her message, there is another fact that the earnest Bible reader will discover: Huldah and Jeremiah were contemporaries, which means King Josiah's delegation didn't ask Huldah because there was no man around to do the job. They asked Huldah because she was the one who should deliver this message from God.

The way Huldah is treated in the biblical account tells us that there was no difference in the authority of the prophetess Huldah compared to the prophet Jeremiah. God used them the same way - and why should there be a difference in how God uses men and women today?



Huldah

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Discover

- * Her Role in Society
- * Her Authority as Messenger of God
- * The Effect of Her Message



Going Deeper

1. What do we learn about King Josiah? (2 Kings 22: 1-2, 2 Chronicles 34: 1-3)
2. In what state was the house of the Lord, and why? (2 Chronicles 34: 8-13)
3. What happened during the work on the temple? (2 Chronicles 34: 14-15)



Going Deeper

4. What was King Josiah's reaction to the message of the book? Why do you think he reacted this way? (2 Chronicles 34: 18-21)
5. What do we get to know about Huldah? Why do you think the biblical account gives us so many details about her? (2 Chronicles 34: 22)
6. Describe the message delivered by Huldah. (2 Chronicles 34: 23-28)
7. What were the direct consequences of the reading of the book and the message delivered by Huldah? (2 Chronicles 34: 29-33)



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Words for Today

8. What do we do in a situation where we have to deliver a negative message?
9. Huldah did the job she is asked to do. She boldly delivered the message of the Lord to His people. Where do we find strength and courage to do the work God is asking us to do? Are there different ways?



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Words for Today

10. Huldah doesn't fit into our stereotypical picture of women in the Old Testament: yet the biblical account doesn't highlight the fact that Huldah is a woman or give a reason why she was asked and not Jeremiah. What we can see from the text, there wasn't anything strange about this situation for the people back then.

How can we become more open-minded, both towards the biblical text and to our contemporaries, trying not to put people into boxes?



Questions for Discussion

1. God used Jeremiah and Huldah the same way. Why should there be a difference in how God uses men and women today?



Questions for Discussion

2. God used Huldah in a powerful way - just think about the changes her message brought forth in God's people! How can we support women around us to be used by God - even if they might have to step into arenas that go against our gender-stereotypes? What kind of support might be necessary for their families and spouses? (Don't forget about Shallum!)



Words of Wisdom

The story of Josiah, the re-discovered scroll and the message through Huldah gives a powerful example of how the work of God is accomplished through all people according to their gifts. It's God's people working and cooperating at their best - with a king, a high priest and a prophetess, all doing their job, all respecting and valuing each other; the king trusting the building people, the building people doing the best job they could for the House of the Lord. This is the kind of leadership and cooperation of the whole community I would like to see more of and be a part of in my church.

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My Prayer for Today

Lord, help me to accept your calling for my life.
Give me the strength and courage to stand
where you want me to be. Help me to work
together with the people around me, resembling
a leadership and commitment that is worthy for
your people here on earth.

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Sharing

Huldah and Jeremiah were contemporaries doing the same job. God shows us through His word that there is a message for Huldah to deliver and there is a message for Jeremiah to deliver - and he chooses when to use whom. What can we do to do away with rivalry and to welcome diversity in church offices, making sure we have male voices when God needs male voices, and female voices when God needs female voices?