

## **HULDAH THE PROPHETESS & WOMEN'S ROLE IN CHURCH LEADERSHIP**

The story of Huldah is found in 2 Chronicles chapter 34. When the priest Hilkiyah found the Book of the Law of the Lord he took it to Shaphan the court secretary who took it to King Josiah and read it to him. King Josiah was so stricken by the words in the scroll that he tore his clothes in despair. King Josiah ordered Hilkiyah, the priest; Shaphan, the court secretary; Asaiah the king's personal advisor; and 2 other men to go to the temple and speak to the Lord about the scroll.

Here's where it gets interesting. The 5 advisors to King Josiah, all men, evidently didn't have confidence in their relationship with God to speak to Him directly. So, they went to Huldah the prophetess, wife of Shallum, for consultation. It was Huldah, not the priest or any of King Josiah's male advisors who was able to speak with God and tell the men what God's judgment was on Israel and Judah.

This raises the question; if God had enough confidence, faith, and belief in Huldah (and other Biblical women) to make her a prophetess to speak God's judgment to the king of Israel and a priest, how can men (males) possibly claim that women should not hold positions of leadership and authority in church?

Perhaps thru the years men (males) have misinterpreted the Bible, taken scripture out of context unintentionally or intentionally to support their egos and male agendas. I believe that all of the above is what has occurred thru the centuries and it is a real shame that males have and continue to suppress women in leadership roles in the church. Also perhaps, women have been complacent in this area to avoid conflict and/or responsibility.

This does not overrule God's definition of the roles of men and women in marriage. You may be interested to read my papers on [The Marriage Relationship](#) and [Women in Church Leadership](#).