Josiah was born into the messiah royal lineage by means of the unconditional Davidic covenant (2 Sam.7: 12-17; Rom.1: 1-4).

"It finds its ultimate fulfillment in the kingship of Christ, who was born of the tribe of Judah and the house of David (Psa.89: 30-38; Isa.9: 1-7; Matt.1; Luke 1:32-33, 69; Acts 2:30; 13:23; Rom.1: 2-3; 2 Tim.2: 8; Rev.3: 7; 22:16).” (NIV, 2 Sam.7:11)

Josiah was one of four great spiritual reformer kings of Judah (2 Kings 22-23; 2 Chron.34-35).

- Asa (3rd king) (1 Kings 15:9-24, 11)
- Azariah (Uzziah) (10th king) (2 Kings 15:1-7, 3; 14:3-4)
- Hezekiah (13th king) (2 Kings 18-20; 18:3) King Hezekiah was the great grandfather of Josiah.
- Josiah (16th king) (22:3)

Josiah’s Hebrew name means “the Lord supports” (yoshiyah). Remember that in OT Hebrew names usually give us a clue to their biblical history.

His father died when he was eight and he was made king. The influence of his mother and royal guardianship must have had a spiritual influence upon his young life. We know that by the time he began to reign as a teenager Jeremiah was his pastor-teacher (Jer.1: 2) 13th year of reign.
5. His grandfather Manasseh and father Amnon were very evil kings (21:2,6).

Manasseh is described by the Lord in 2 Kings 21:1-11,16 and 2 Chron.33: 1-6. He set the 5th cycle upon Judah and was taken prisoner and was later released and tried reform but the people wouldn’t have anything to do with it (2 Chron.33: 8-17) read.

Amnon did evil in the eyes of the Lord as his father Manasseh had done (2 Kings 20:20; 21:21-22; 2 Chron.33: 23-25) read.

Yet Josiah didn’t walk in the ways of his father or grandfather.

6. Josiah broke the family pattern or cycle of bad behavior.

- His father died while he was very young.
- His grandfather had come home a POW with a completely different attitude towards spiritual things and God (2 Chron.33:11-14) read (33:14-17)

Josiah looked for and pursued spiritual influences for his life (Matt.6: 33; 1 John 2:12-14).

Josiah is described in 2 Chron.33: 2 as – “he did what was right in the sight of the Lord and walked in the ways of his father David, not turning aside to the right or to the left.”

“Josiah removed all the detestable idols from all the territory belonging to the Israelites, and he had all who were present in Israel serve the Lord their God. As long as he lived, they did not fail to follow the Lord, the God of their fathers.” (33:33)

This is why Josiah is described as walking in all the ways of his father David, not turning to the right or to the left (2 Kings 22:2).