

## Sackcloth Underneath

(2 Kings 6:24-31)

- Introduction:
1. Life is difficult, and God knew it would be.
  2. That's why he desires the church to be a community of believers who can lean on each other and be strong for each other.
  3. The following are several practical suggestions that might help us fulfill that mission.

### I. The Story of Jehoram

- A. (2 Kings 6:25-31).
- B. Jehoram wasn't a good king (2 Kings 3:1-2).
  1. He didn't make the list Hebrews 11.
  2. He was son of Ahab but wasn't as wicked as his father and mother.
  3. Even after the incident recorded in this chapter, he wanted to kill God's prophet, Elisha.
  4. He does, however, serve as a reminder to us.
- C. Jehoram tore his clothes and exposed he was wearing sackcloth underneath.
  1. Sackcloth was coarsely woven, often made out of goat's hair.
  2. It would be uncomfortable, itch, and irritate, and chafe.
  3. It was worn to represent the affliction of the spirit.

### II. What Can We Learn From Jehoram

- A. What you see is not always what you get.
  1. Many people show only what they want to show and hide a part of their life that is causing them great pain and discomfort.
  2. Therefore, be careful how you judge a person.
  3. I am constantly mindful of the cheery dispositions we "put on" for each other, when deep down, we may be hurting.
- B. Learn to quit hiding your sackcloth and be more transparent.
  1. (Ecclesiastes 4:9).
  2. (Galatians 6:2).
- C. Look deeper and be available to people.
  1. How do we respond? - "If there's anything we can do, let us know."
  2. (Luke 10:30-36) Bandaged his wounds, put him on his donkey, took care of him, paid for his recovery.

- Conclusion:
1. Let's be the church that God envisioned.
  2. Let's realize that there are people who are wearing sackcloth underneath and minister to each other.
  3. Let's not hide our sackcloth and suffer in silence but seek help and support, and in so doing, fulfill the law of Christ (Galatians 6:2).