

## **Don't Settle For Less Than Christ Paid For!**

2 Chron. 33:1-17

1 Manasseh was twelve years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem fifty-five years.

2 He did evil in the eyes of the Lord, following the detestable practices of the nations the Lord had driven out before the Israelites.

3 He rebuilt the high places his father Hezekiah had demolished; he also erected altars to the Baals and made Asherah poles. He bowed down to all the starry hosts and worshiped them.

4 He built altars in the temple of the Lord, of which the Lord had said, "My Name will remain in Jerusalem forever."

5 In both courts of the temple of the Lord, he built altars to all the starry hosts.

6 He sacrificed his children in the fire in the Valley of Ben Hinnom, practiced divination and witchcraft, sought omens, and consulted mediums and spiritists. He did much evil in the eyes of the Lord, arousing his anger.

7 He took the image he had made and put it in God's temple, of which God had said to David and to his son Solomon, "In this temple and in Jerusalem, which I have chosen out of all the tribes of Israel, I will put my Name forever.

8 I will not again make the feet of the Israelites leave the land I assigned to your ancestors, if only they will be careful to do everything I commanded them concerning all the laws, decrees and regulations given through Moses."

9 But Manasseh led Judah and the people of Jerusalem astray, so that they did more evil than the nations the Lord had destroyed before the Israelites.

10 The Lord spoke to Manasseh and his people, but they paid no attention.

11 So the Lord brought against them the army commanders of the king of Assyria, who took Manasseh prisoner, put a hook in his nose, bound him with bronze shackles and took him to Babylon.

12 In his distress he sought the favor of the Lord his God and humbled himself greatly before the God of his ancestors.

13 And when he prayed to him, the Lord was moved by his entreaty and listened to his plea; so he brought him back to Jerusalem and to his kingdom. Then Manasseh knew that the Lord is God.

14 Afterward he rebuilt the outer wall of the City of David, west of the Gihon spring in the valley, as far as the entrance of the Fish Gate and encircling the hill of Ophel; he also made it much higher. He stationed military commanders in all the fortified cities in Judah.

15 He got rid of the foreign gods and removed the image from the temple of the Lord, as well as all the altars he had built on the temple hill and in Jerusalem; and he threw them out of the city.

16 Then he restored the altar of the Lord and sacrificed fellowship offerings and thank offerings on it, and told Judah to serve the Lord, the God of Israel.

17 The people, however, continued to sacrifice at the high places, but only to the Lord their God.

1. Those who believe in God, but despise Him, even to the point of denying His existence.
2. Those who don't have a clue, they are just surviving.
3. Those who are church people who are not saved.
4. Those who are backslidden Christians. (Not moving forward)
5. Those who claim to be saved, but won't even go to church. (Typically rebellious to ANY authority)
6. Those who are Christians who actually go to Church, but who depend on the flesh.

Meatheads – Carnally minded – Self focused

Graham Cook – “The first level of warfare is always ‘spirit vs. flesh!’”

2 Chron. 33:17 - The people, however, continued to sacrifice at the high places, but only to the LORD their God.

Joyce Meyer – “It's so easy to settle for less than God's best for us because we don't always feel like taking responsibility for our behavior or putting forth some effort to do what we need to do so we can accomplish great things for God and help people. But the cost of settling for less is actually harder than being completely obedient to God's will.”

2Kings 17:41 - Even while these people were worshiping the LORD, they were serving their idols. To this day their children and grandchildren continue to do as their fathers did.

Is. 2:8 - Their land is full of idols; they bow down to the work of their hands, to what their fingers have made.

Is. 26:18 - We were with child, we writhed in pain, but we gave birth to wind. We have not brought salvation to the earth; we have not given birth to people of the world.

Is. 50:10-11

10. Who among you fears the LORD and obeys the word of his servant? Let him who walks in the dark, who has no light, trust in the name of the LORD and rely on his God.

11. But now, all you who light fires and provide yourselves with flaming torches, go, walk in the light of your fires and of the torches you have set ablaze. This is what you shall receive from my hand: You will lie down in torment.

2 Cor. 12:14 - He did evil because he had not set his heart on seeking the LORD.

Phil. 3:3 - For it is we who are the circumcision, we who worship by the Spirit of God, who glory in Christ Jesus, and who put no confidence in the flesh—

Confidence = Confide...ence

“Put confidence in” = “Worship and boast about”

Phil. 1:6 - being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

Heb. 4:16 - Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

Confidence = par-rhay-see'-ah – Honest, open, bold, faith filled speech before a King.

Romans 8:1-8 (NKJV)

- 1 Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, 2 because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death.
- 3 For what the law was powerless to do because it was weakened by the flesh, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in the flesh,
- 4 in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.
- 5 Those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on what the flesh desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires.
- 6 The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace.
- 7 The mind governed by the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so.
- 8 Those who are in the realm of the flesh cannot please God.

1. Those who believe in God, but despise Him, even to the point of denying His existence.
2. Those who don't have a clue, they are just surviving.
3. Those who are church people who are not saved.
4. Those who are backslidden Christians. (Not moving forward)
5. Those who claim to be saved, but won't even go to church. (Typically rebellious to ANY authority)
6. Those who are Christians who actually go to Church, but who depend on the flesh.
7. Real Christians who live by and are led by the Holy Spirit!

Eph. 2:1-10

1. As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins,
2. in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient.

3. All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature objects of wrath.

4. But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy,  
5. made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions--it is by grace you have been saved.

6. And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus,

7. in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus.

8. For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith--and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God--

9. not by works, so that no one can boast.

10. For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Eph. 2:19-22

19. Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household,

20. built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone.

21. In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord.

22. And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.

Judges 1:6-7

6. Adoni-Bezek fled, but they chased him and caught him, and cut off his thumbs and big toes.

7. Then Adoni-Bezek said, "Seventy kings with their thumbs and big toes cut off have picked up scraps under my table. Now God has paid me back for what I did to them." They brought him to Jerusalem, and he died there.

Eph. 1:22-23 - "And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way."

Gal. 2:20 - "I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me.

Ephesians 1:3 - Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ.

"I will not settle for less than Christ paid for!"

"I refuse to be led by my flesh!"

"Today I declare as Paul did that 'I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me.'

"I will live this life led by the Spirit!"