

Don't Be A Meathead... Be Spirit Led!

2 Chron. 33:1-17 (ESV)

1 Manasseh was twelve years old when he began to reign, and he reigned fifty-five years in Jerusalem.

2 And he did what was evil in the sight of the Lord, according to the abominations of the nations whom the Lord drove out before the people of Israel.

3 For he rebuilt the high places that his father Hezekiah had broken down, and he erected altars to the Baals, and made Asheroth, and worshiped all the host of heaven and served them.

4 And he built altars in the house of the Lord, of which the Lord had said, "In Jerusalem shall my name be forever."

5 And he built altars for all the host of heaven in the two courts of the house of the Lord.

6 And he burned his sons as an offering in the Valley of the Son of Hinnom, and used fortune-telling and omens and sorcery, and dealt with mediums and with necromancers. He did much evil in the sight of the Lord, provoking him to anger.

7 And the carved image of the idol that he had made he set in the house of God, of which God said to David and to Solomon his son, "In this house, and in Jerusalem, which I have chosen out of all the tribes of Israel, I will put my name forever,

8 and I will no more remove the foot of Israel from the land that I appointed for your fathers, if only they will be careful to do all that I have commanded them, all the law, the statutes, and the rules given through Moses."

9 Manasseh led Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem astray, to do more evil than the nations whom the Lord destroyed before the people of Israel.

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

11 Therefore the Lord brought upon them the commanders of the army of the king of Assyria, who captured Manasseh with hooks and bound him with chains of bronze and brought him to Babylon.

12 And when he was in distress, he entreated the favor of the Lord his God and humbled himself greatly before the God of his fathers.

13 He prayed to him, and God was moved by his entreaty and heard his plea and brought him again to Jerusalem into his kingdom. Then Manasseh knew that the Lord was God.

14 Afterward he built an outer wall for the city of David west of Gihon, in the valley, and for the entrance into the Fish Gate, and carried it around Ophel,

and raised it to a very great height. He also put commanders of the army in all the fortified cities in Judah.

15 And he took away the foreign gods and the idol from the house of the Lord, and all the altars that he had built on the mountain of the house of the Lord and in Jerusalem, and he threw them outside of the city.

16 He also restored the altar of the Lord and offered on it sacrifices of peace offerings and of thanksgiving, and he commanded Judah to serve the Lord, the God of Israel.

17 Nevertheless, the people still sacrificed at the high places, but only to the Lord their God.

There are seven kinds of people in this world...

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

Rom. 8:6 (ESV) - For to be CARNALLY MINDED is DEATH; but to be SPIRITUALLY MINDED is LIFE and PEACE.

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

2 Chron. 33:17 (ESV) - Nevertheless, the people STILL SACRIFICED at the HIGH PLACES, but ONLY TO THE LORD THEIR GOD.

Sometimes you can do the right things the wrong way!

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.”

The high place represents areas of our lives that we want to hang on to while we serve the Lord...

Whatever high places you refuse to destroy will be, not only tolerated, but embraced!

2Kings 17:41 (ESV) - So these nations feared the Lord and also served their carved images. Their children did likewise, and their children's children—as their fathers did, so they do to this day.

Is. 2:8 (ESV) - Their land is filled with idols; they bow down to the work of their hands, to what their own fingers have made.

Is. 26:18 (ESV) - we were pregnant, we writhed, but we have given birth to wind. We have accomplished no deliverance in the earth, and the inhabitants of the world have not fallen.

Is. 50:10-11 (ESV)

10 Who among you fears the Lord and obeys the voice of his servant? Let him who walks in darkness and has no light trust in the name of the Lord and rely on his God.

11 Behold, all you who kindle a fire, who equip yourselves with burning torches! Walk by the light of your fire, and by the torches that you have kindled! This you have from my hand: you shall lie down in torment.

2 Cor. 12:14 (ESV) - Here for the third time I am ready to come to you. And I will not be a burden, for I seek not what is yours but you. For children are not obligated to save up for their parents, but parents for their children.

It would be a terrible thing to get to the end of your life only to realize that you've missed the point of living it!

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

Confidence = Confide...ence

The actual phrase used here in the Greek for “Put confidence in” is the phrase, “Worship and boast about”!

What you put your confidence in is what you really worship!

Phil. 1:6 (NIV) - being CONFIDENT (ESV – I am sure) 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 (ESV) - Let us then with CONFIDENCE draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

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

Romans 8:1-8 (ESV)

1 There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

2 For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death.

3 For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh,

4 in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, WHO WALK NOT ACCORDING TO THE FLESH BUT ACCORDING TO THE SPIRIT.

5 FOR THOSE WHO LIVE ACCORDING TO THE FLESH SET THEIR MINDS ON THE THINGS OF THE FLESH, but those who LIVE ACCORDING TO THE SPIRIT SET THEIR MINDS ON THE THINGS OF THE SPIRIT.

6 For to SET THE MIND ON THE FLESH is death, but to SET THE MIND ON THE SPIRIT is LIFE and PEACE.

7 For the MIND THAT IS SET ON THE FLESH is HOSTILE TO GOD, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it CANNOT.

8 Those who are in 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 sons and daughters of God who live by and are led by the Holy Spirit!

Eph. 2:1-10 (ESV)

1 And you were dead in the trespasses and sins

2 in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience—

3 among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the flesh and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.

4 But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us,

5 even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—

6 and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,

7 so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

8 For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God,

9 not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Eph. 2:19-22

19 So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God,

20 built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone,

21 in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord.

22 In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

Judges 1:6-7 (ESV)

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

7 And Adoni-bezek said, "Seventy kings with their thumbs and their big toes cut off used to pick up scraps under my table. As I have done, so God has repaid me." And they brought him to Jerusalem, and he died there.

“Don’t take the devil’s scrap any longer!”

Eph. 1:22-23 (ESV)

22 And he put all things under His (Jesus) feet and gave Him as head over all things to the Church,

23 which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

Gal. 2:20 (ESV) - I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

Eph. 1:3 (ESV) - Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places,

“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!”