



Can we make a difference
in a godless world?

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(II Chronicles 34:1-33)

*“God’s People
CAN Make a Difference
in a Godless world!”*

The Context –

➤ The Biblical Context:

- Abrahamic Covenant Gen. 12:1-3
- Mosaic and Land Covenant (Deut.)
- 5 degrees of Divine Discipline Lev. 26

➤ The Historical Context:

Good king, bad king, increasingly bad kings!

1. Working on our resistance to godlessness vv. 1-7

A. Observations:

- He did what was right v. 2
 - “walked in the ways of his father David”
 - “he did not turn aside to the right hand or to the left” (cf. Deut. 5:29-33)

Deuteronomy 5:32–33 (NKJV)

32 “Therefore you shall be careful to do as the LORD your God has commanded you; **you shall not turn aside to the right hand or to the left.**

33 You shall walk in all the ways which the LORD your God has commanded you, that you may live and that it may be well with you, and that you may prolong your days in the land which you shall possess.

1. Working on our resistance to godlessness vv. 1-7

A. Observations:

- He did what was right v. 2
- He sought the Lord v. 3a
- He fought against public idolatry vv. 3c-7
- His campaign was extensive but not exhaustive vv. 6-7

There is no shortage of ministry, but there is a shortage of ministers!

1. Working on our resistance to godlessness vv. 1-7

B. Summary:

- Josiah lived according to God's word
- Josiah sought the LORD
- This caused him to pursue the cleansing of idolatry in the land.

1. Working on our resistance to godlessness vv. 1-7

C. Application:

- Seek to live according to God's word
- Seek the Lord as your comfort, counsel, and enablement.
- Fulfill your ministry in the place God has put you.

Outline –

1. Working on our resistance to godlessness vv. 1-7
2. Working on our reception of God's Word vv. 14-21

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A. Observations:

- Consider Romans 1:18-21
- Summary of 2 Chr. 34:8-13

2. Working on our reception of God's Word vv. 14-21

A. Observations:

- He listened to it vv. 14-18
 - He allowed it to be read v. 18
 - He allowed Shaphan to continue v. 19
 - He tore his garments v. 19b
 - He recognized a major problem
 - Cf. the covenant and the 5 degrees of disobedience

2. Working on our reception of God's Word vv. 14-21

A. Observations:

- He listened to it vv. 14-18
- He took action vv. 20-21
- God's response to Josiah's inquiry vv. 23-28

2. Working on our reception of God's Word vv. 14-21

B. Summary:

- The knowledge of Israel breaking their covenant with God broke Josiah.
- Josiah took the necessary action to get back into fellowship with God.

2. Working on our reception of God's Word vv. 14-21

C. Application:

- Are we listening to God's word?
- Are we letting God's word teach, rebuke, correct, and train us? (cf. 2 Tim. 3:16)
- Are we taking action to live according to God's word and maintain fellowship with Him?

Outline –

1. Working on our resistance to godlessness vv. 1-7
2. Working on our reception of God's Word vv. 14-21
3. Witnessing the results of godly living v. 33

3. Witnessing the results of godly living v. 33

A. Observations:

➤ 3 results of Josiah's life:

- 1) He fought against idolatry in Israel
- 2) He repaired the temple
- 3) He set an example to follow

3. Witnessing the results of godly living v. 33

But they still slipped into idolatry and went into captivity... What use was all of that?

- 1) Consider Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah!
- 2) Consider Ezekiel!
- 3) Consider Jeremiah!

Josiah's ministry provided a foundation for the future remnant to continue.

➤ Pastor Jacob's agricultural comparison

- “you reap what you sow”
- When you sow you don't immediately experience the reaping.
- You can sow good and you can sow bad. The consequences will come in time and accumulate.
- How can we sow “good” things that will lead to a “good” reaping?

➤ Pastor Jacob's agricultural comparison

What are you sowing today that will
make a difference tomorrow?



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