

Dead in Our Trust
2 Kings 16:1-9, Pew Bible p. 322
February 18, 2024

I. The Effects of Misplaced Trust (V. 1-4)

- A. Misplaced trust can function alongside public outrage.
- B. Misplaced trust will drive us to insanity.
- C. Misplaced trust will turn small flaws into widespread immorality.

II. Misplaced Trust and Poor Circumstances (V. 5-9)

- A. Circumstances that test our trust
 - 1. Impossible odds
 - 2. Treacherous people
 - 3. Godless opportunities
- B. Misplaced trust can have the illusion of initial success.
- C. Misplaced trust has a much higher cost than Christ-centered faith.
 - 1. Sin makes you pay a high price for a limited reward.
 - 2. Jesus paid the highest price to give you an eternal reward.

Group Discussion Questions

1. Read 2 Kings 16:1-9.
2. Why would King Ahaz walk in the way of the kings of Israel (V. 3) even though they were his enemy? How is it possible for people today to become, in the eyes of God, the very people they hate the most?
3. What would drive someone to burn their own child in sacrifice to a false god? Have you seen unbelief cause people to do crazy things? How does that happen today?
4. Compare 2 Kings 15:35 with verse 4 in this passage. How did making offerings on high places (instead of the temple) progress from King Jotham to King Ahaz? What does that tell you about what “small flaws” in one generation can do to the next generation?
5. Have you ever been tempted to abandon your faith because of an impossible situation, like Ahaz did in verse 5? What about that situation drew you away from God?
6. Why would King Ahaz pay so much money (V. 9) for a godless friend? Have you ever been tempted to pay a high price to preserve a toxic relationship? Why?
7. Pray for our church members to make God the center of all their plans and dreams. Come to the church prayer meeting this Wednesday from 6:00–6:30 pm in Worship Center Room 103.

Church Reading Plan (2/19-2/25)

Read John 10-13

Acts 2:38-41 (ESV)

³⁸ And Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself.” ⁴⁰ And with many other words he bore witness and continued to exhort them, saying, “Save yourselves from this crooked generation.” ⁴¹ So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

Wednesday Night Prayer Meeting

- PRAYING for church members inviting lost or unchurched friends to church, that God would use them to win people to Jesus.

Pray for Our Church Family Needs:

- PRAY for missions and missionaries:
Andy & Lindsay M. in Spain; Luke P. in Maricopa, Arizona; Nathan & Becky F. in Indonesia; Doug & Cheryl D. in Thailand; Jules S. in Thailand; and Sylvia M. and Andrew M. at ASU West, Glendale, Arizona.
- PRAY for all our students: elementary school, middle school, high school, and college. No matter whether they are in the classroom, an online setting, or a home school setting, our students are forming minds that need to focus on Christ.
- PRAY for family & friends of church members who need salvation or to renew their relationship with Jesus:
Sharon L. (children & grandchildren); Marge D. (son, Matthew); Rezwana D. (parents); Margaret J. (Tom & Bob); Sophia W. (husband); Ida S. (granddaughter & her husband); Charity M. (daughter); Kayla P. (nephew, Jordan); Gary & Betty B. (grandchildren & siblings); and V. family (Ashley & Jesse)
- PRAY for families who are grieving the recent loss of loved ones:
Family of Sam B.; and Dorothy C. (sister’s husband)
- PRAY for those struggling with ongoing health and other issues:
Michelle L. (health); Leon V. (chemo); Jan B. (health); Stan & Twyla H. (health & other issues); Edna N. (health); Elaine W. (health); Kelly J. (health); Debbie P. (health); Debbie B. (health); Marge D. (health); Anne W. (health); Ann C.-W. (pain); Sherri O. (upcoming heart surgery); Margaret J. (surgery recovery); April H.-F. (wisdom in choice of upcoming treatment plan); Ed G. (health); Rita H. (health); Laura M. (health); Michelle LaM. (specialist appts, kidney issues & cancer treatment); Ken R. (in hospital; kidney stone & serious infection); Helene D. (eyes & shoulders); Mimi M. (in hospital); and Peggy T. (knee replacement surgery Tuesday)
- PRAY for others that you are aware of.