

**Dead in Our Worship**  
**2 Kings 16:10-20, Pew Bible p. 323**  
**February 25, 2024**

**I. The Beginning of Misplaced Worship (V. 10-11)**

- A. Misplaced worship happens when we put anything before God.
  - 1. We worship what we want the most.
  - 2. We worship what we can't stop thinking about.
  - 3. We worship what we love with all our heart.
  
- B. Misplaced worship happens when we are more impressed with creation than we are with the Creator.
  - 1. There is a difference between reaching a lost world in order to save people and impersonating a lost world in order to impress people.
  - 2. There is a difference between being saved and being religious.

**II. The Result of Misplaced Worship (V. 12-20)**

- A. Misplaced worship will turn even correct religious practice into pointless nonsense.
  - 1. It stops you from being in awe of God.
  - 2. It prevents you from being convicted of sin.
  
- B. Misplaced worship will enslave you, not free you.

## **Group Discussion Questions**

1. Read 2 Kings 16:10-20.
2. Have you ever been obsessed with something that was not God, as King Ahaz was in verse 10? What inspired your obsession and what did it do to your relationship with God?
3. What is the difference between liking something a lot and worshiping it? How do you know? Which do you think King Ahaz was doing with the Syrian altar in verses 12-16? How do you know?
4. What is the difference between reaching the lost world in order to save people and impersonating a lost world in order to impress people? Which do you think King Ahaz was doing? How do you know?
5. Was King Ahaz worshiping in the right place and doing the right offerings to God, according to verse 13? What does that tell you about the difference between being saved and being religious?
6. What does verse 18 say is the reason King Ahaz made modifications to the house of God? What does that tell you about how free we are apart from God? Is living a godless life true freedom? Why?
7. Pray for our church members to truly worship and avoid godless religion. Come to the church prayer meeting this Wednesday from 6:00–6:30 pm in Worship Center Room 103.

## **Church Reading Plan (2/26-3/3)**

Read John 14-17

***Proverbs 16:6-9 (ESV)***

*<sup>6</sup> By steadfast love and faithfulness iniquity is atoned for, and by the fear of the LORD one turns away from evil. <sup>7</sup> When a man's ways please the LORD, he makes even his enemies to be at peace with him. <sup>8</sup> Better is a little with righteousness than great revenues with injustice. <sup>9</sup> The heart of man plans his way, but the LORD establishes his steps.*

**Wednesday Night Prayer Meeting**

- PRAYING for the missions committee and pastors as they plan a vital church mission trip to Mexico in July.

**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:  
Dorothy C. (sister's husband & son-in-law)
- PRAY for those struggling with ongoing health and other issues:  
Michelle L. (health); Leon V. (chemo); Jan B. (health); Kelly J. (health); Debbie P. (health); Debbie B. (health); Marge D. (health); Ann C.-W. (pain); Rita H. (health); Laura M. (health); Margaret J. (surgery recovery); April H.-F. (wisdom in choice of upcoming treatment plan); Michelle LaM. (specialist appts, kidney issues); Helene D. (eyes/shoulders); Mimi M. (health); Sherri O. (upcoming heart surgery); Ken R. (serious kidney stone issues); Peggy T. (post knee replacement therapy); Jeff S. (blood clot); Karim D. (pre-pneumonia); and Kathy W. (heart & other health concerns)
- PRAY for others that you are aware of.