

It Is Too Much For You

“Too much”

- Moses – Ex.18:18
- Giving – Ex.36:7
- Levites – Nu.16:7
- . . . 2 Kings 13:6 Nevertheless they did not depart from the sins of the house of Jeroboam, who had made Israel sin, but walked in them; and the wooden image also remained in Samaria.

Jeroboam: man of great potential; God's choice to rule Israel

- 1 Kg.11:26-40 – servant of Solomon...
- 1 Kg.11:38 – if ... then...
 - 1 Kg.12, Rehoboam
 - 1 Kg.12:2-3, 16-20...25... Jeroboam

Strong leader; did not trust God, 26-27

Worldly counsel, 28: “too much for you”

I. It Keeps Us From
Doing Our Best

- We can't grow in strength without overcoming difficulties
 - Physically
 - Mentally
 - Spiritually. Mt. 16²⁴ Then Jesus said to His disciples, If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me.

- “But I want to do just enough to get by”
- Contrast –
 - Gn.43:11, *best*
 - Mt.6:33, *first*
 - Mk.12:30, *all*
 - Rv.2:4, *against you . . . first love . . .*
 - *Christians . . . churches*

- “How can I know if I’m doing my best?”
 - Two families: both sick on Sunday...
 - Two families: on vacation...
 - Two families: pursue recreation...
- Hb.6:11-12
 - *Each* (individual concern). *My duty*...
 - *Show* (demonstrate, as v.10)
 - *Diligence* (haste, opposite of sluggish, 12)
 - *Until the end* (steadfast endurance)
 - *Imitate* (6:4-6. Here, the best examples...)

I. It Keeps Us From Doing Our Best

II. It Keeps Us From True Joy

Mt.16:25-26

1. Preference – save or lose?
2. Profit – gain or lose soul?
3. Paradox – gain but lose; lose but gain?

Lk.24:...17

Irony:

¹disciples sad even as resurrected Lord walks and talks with them

²greatest event in history of world, yet they think Jesus is uninformed

- Do we remember that Jesus is raised?

I. It Keeps Us From Doing Our Best

II. It Keeps Us From True Joy

III. It Harms Others

Dt.20:8

We influence other people

Lord requires Christians to influence others for good –

1. Mt.5:13, we are *salt*...

- Salt preserves / prevents decay
- Salt flavors / seasons food. Mk.9:49.
Lk.14:34
- Salt is an emblem of wisdom. Col.4:5-6.
Ro.12:1. Phil.2

2. Mt.5:14-16, we are light... 1 Pt.2:11-12

I. It Keeps Us From Doing Our Best

II. It Keeps Us From True Joy

III. It Harms Others

IV. It Leads To Apostasy

Backwards progress

1. Did not learn from earlier golden calf, Ex.32
2. 1 K.12:28, 32 . . . 2 K.10:29, prolonged; apostasy grew worse
3. 2 K.17:16-18, gone!
4. Costly. 1 K.14:1
 - Jeroboam had it all...didn't need God...
 - Now, son is dying
 - He does not consult false priests...
 - Knew prophet could see future...

Abijah, the son of Jeroboam (1 K.14)

1. Something good in the child, 14:13
2. Child died, 14:17
 - Death spared Abijah from father's evil influence – mercy in disguise
 - But son's death removed salt and light from house of Jeroboam