

October 31, 2010

'Re-cover'

We think life looks like this:

Feelings will lead to the right **actions**.

Reality is that:

Actions will lead to the right **feelings**.

If you want to get back on track spiritually, here is the key:

Your heart must turn toward God.

"...turn back...with all [your] heart..." ~ 1 Kings 8:48 NIV

"May [God] turn our hearts to Him..." ~ 1 Kings 8:58 NIV

"...your hearts must be fully committed to the Lord our God."
~ 1 Kings 8:61 NIV

When King Solomon got off track, the Bible says: "As Solomon grew old, his wives turned his heart after other gods, and his heart was not fully devoted to the Lord his God, as the heart of David his father had been."
~ 1 Kings 11:4 NIV

When King Jeroboam got off track, the Bible says: "...you have not been like my servant David, who kept my commands and followed me with all his heart."
~ 1 Kings 14:8 NIV

When King Ahijah got off track, the Bible says: "...his heart was not fully devoted to the Lord his God, as the heart of David his forefather had been."
~ 1 Kings 15:3 NIV

When King Jehu got off track, the Bible says: "...Jehu was not careful to keep the law of the Lord, the God of Israel, with all his heart."
~ 2 Kings 10:31 NIV

What does it mean to have a Heart for God?

It means that **God has our Heart!**

Then the king called together all the elders of Judah and Jerusalem. He went up to the temple of the Lord with the men of Judah, the people of Jerusalem, the priests and the prophets – all the people from the least to the greatest. He read in their hearing all the words of the Book of the Covenant, which had been found in the temple of the Lord. The king stood by the pillar and renewed the covenant in the presence of the Lord – to follow the Lord and keep His commands, regulations and decrees with all his heart and all his soul, thus confirming the words of the covenant written in this book. Then all the people pledged themselves to the covenant..Neither before nor after Josiah was there a king like him who turned to the Lord as he did – with all his heart and with all his soul and with all his strength, in accordance with all the Law of Moses."

~ 2 Kings 23:1-3, 25 NIV

Three things to get back on track spiritually:

1. **Rediscover**
2. **Read**
3. **Respond**

Only one response will get you back on track: **Do what it says!**

Three ways we get off track spiritually:

1. **Cosmic** Exception Clause
2. Treating the Bible like a **Buffet Bar**
3. Instead of it judging me, **I judge it**

"It's not the parts of the Bible I don't understand that disturb me,...it's the parts of the Bible that I *do* understand that disturb me." (Mark Twain)