

October 10, 2010

## ... 'Re-Turn'

“This is no afternoon athletic contest that we'll walk away from and forget about in a couple of hours. This is for keeps, a life-or-death fight to the finish against the Devil and all his angels.”

~ Ephesians 6:12, Msg.

“You have done more evil than all who lived before you. You have made for yourself other gods, idols made of metal; you have provoked Me to anger and thrust Me behind your back.”

~ 1 Kings 14:9, NIV

“...they provoked the Lord, the God of Israel, to anger by their worthless idols.”

~ 1 Kings 16:13

“He walked in all the ways of Jeroboam son of Nebat and in his sin, which he had caused Israel to commit, so that they provoked the LORD, the God of Israel, to anger by their worthless idols.”

~ 1 Kings 16:26, NIV

“He behaved in the vilest manner by going after idols.”

~ 1 Kings 21:26, NIV

“They worshiped idols, though the LORD had said, “You shall not do this.”... They rejected His decrees and the covenant He had made with their fathers and the warnings He had given them. They followed worthless idols and themselves became worthless. They imitated the nations around them although the LORD had ordered them, “Do not do as they do,” and they did the things the LORD had forbidden them to do.”

~ 2 Kings 17:12, 15, NIV

“And God spoke all these words: ‘I am the Lord your God,...You shall have no other gods before me...You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. You shall not bow down to them or worship them...’”

~ Exodus 20:1-5, NIV

“Our God is in the heavens... The idols of the nations are made of silver and gold. They have a mouth and eyes, but they can't speak or see. Their ears can't hear, and their noses can't smell. Their hands have no feeling, their legs don't move, and they can't make a sound. Everyone who made the idols and all who trust them are just as helpless as those useless gods.”

~ Psalm 115:3-8, CEV

“Then the king ordered...the high priest, his associate priest, and The Temple sentries to clean house – to get rid of everything in The Temple of God that had been made for worshipping Baal and Asherah...He had them burned...and then disposed of the ashes...He fired the pagan priests whom the kings of Judah had hired to supervise the local sex and religion shrines...In a stroke he swept the country clean of the polluting stench of the round the clock worship of “Baal, sun and moon, stars – all the so-called cosmic powers. He took the obscene phallic Asherah pole from The Temple of God...burned it up, then ground up the ashes and scattered them in the cemetery...He swept the outlying towns of Judah clean...from one end of the country to the other...Then Josiah demolished...the iron furnace griddle set up...for sacrificing children in the fires. No longer could anyone burn son or daughter to the god Molech. He hauled off the horse statues honoring the sun god that the kings of Judah had set up near the entrance to The Temple...The king smashed all the altars to smithereens...he smashed them all, pulverized the fragments, and scattered their dust...But Josiah hadn't finished. He now moved through all the towns of Samaria where the kings of Israel had built neighborhood sex and religion shrines,...He tore the shrines down and left them in ruins...He killed all the priests who had conducted the sacrifices and cremated them on their own altars, thus desecralizing the altars...Josiah scrubbed the place clean and trashed spirit-mediums, sorcerers, domestic gods, and carved figures—all the vast accumulation of foul and obscene relics and images on display everywhere you looked in Judah and Jerusalem. Josiah did this in obedience.”

~ 2 Kings 23, Msg.

### Three things Josiah went after:

1. **Things**
2. **Places**
3. **People**