**2 Kings**

*2 Kings 14: Incomplete Righteousness*

Background

* 3 And he did *that which was* right in the sight of the LORD, yet not like David his father: he did according to all things as Joash his father did. 4 Howbeit the high places were not taken away: as yet the people did sacrifice and burnt incense on the high places. (2 Kings 14:3-4)
* And he did *that which was* right in the sight of the LORD, but not with a perfect heart. (2 Chron 25:2)
* Matthew Henry: “He was not a man of serious piety or devotion himself, nor had he any zeal for the exercises of religion. He is no enemy to it, but a cool and indifferent friend.”

Effects of Doing Right without a Perfect Heart

* We Enjoy Vengeance (v 3-4, 12)
  + NOTE: He showed wisdom and waited until the kingdom was established (v 3)
  + The fathers shall not be put to death for the children, neither shall the children be put to death for the fathers: every man shall be put to death for his own sin. (Deuteronomy 24:16)
* We Depend on Money to Solve Our Problems
  + NOTE: Jehoshaphat (~50-60 years earlier) had 1.16MM mighty men of valour! 2 Chron 17:14-19
    - Matthew Henry: “Sin weakens a people, diminishes them, dispirits them and lessens their number and figure.”
  + Many times, we use our money inappropriately. They were hiring the Ephraimites who the prophet said the Lord was not with. (v 7)
  + NOTE: ….”the LORD is able to give thee much more than this.” (v 9)
    - He fought also with the king of the Ammonites, and prevailed against them. And the children of Ammon gave him the same year an hundred talents of silver, and ten thousand measures of wheat, and ten thousand of barley. So much did the children of Ammon pay unto him, both the second year, and the third. (2 Chron 27:5) – Amaziah’s grandson (Jotham)
  + NOTE: The behavior of the Ephraim proved that sending them home was right.
    - How do we handle change? How do we handle disappointment?
* We Misunderstand Obedience
  + We Think God Owes Us
    - We think everything is going to come up roses because “look what we did for God….”
  + We Compromise with the Enemy
    - Utter foolishness
      * Wherefore the anger of the LORD was kindled against Amaziah, and he sent unto him a prophet, which said unto him, Why hast thou sought after the gods of the people, which could not deliver their own people out of thine hand? (2 Chron 25:15)
  + We Become Arrogant and Don’t Listen (v 16, 20)
    - He, that being often reproved hardeneth *his* neck, shall suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy. (Prov 29:1)
  + We Assume Past Victory Equals Present Success
    - A man’s pride shall bring him low: but honour shall uphold the humble in spirit. (Prov 29:23)
    - Go not forth hastily to strive, lest *thou know not* what to do in the end thereof, when thy neighbour hath put thee to shame. (Prov 25:8)
    - NOTE: The hearts of the people turned against Amaziah from the time he departed from the Lord
      * Now after the time that Amaziah did turn away from following the LORD they made a conspiracy against him in Jerusalem; and he fled to Lachish: but they sent to Lachish after him, and slew him there. (2 Chron 25:27)