Restoring God: Putting Jehovah at the Center of Me

Jared Bollman · 2 Kings 22:1–23:20

INTRODUCTION

- In every generation of God's people, there has been a struggle with one particular sin. But that sin is idolatry.
- Idolatry is part of the human condition. It really is. We want something tangible to worship.
- Idolatry is anything that we put before God. Anything in which our trust resides, anything in which our devotion belongs to can be a form of idolatry.

1 Seeking God Where He Can Be Found

2 Kings 22:1–11; 1 Corinthians 9:24–27

- If we're going to restore God, then we need to begin by seeking God and putting him in the proper place. And to do that, we have to seek him where he can be found.
- And when the king heard the words of the book of the law, he tore his clothes.
- He found something that he wouldn't find anywhere else. And it motivated him to restore God to the proper place.
- What I want to do cannot be the standard for how I live my life. That is the essence of idolatry.
- God's word has to be the standard.
- Be imitators of me. Just as I also imitate Christ.

2 Tearing Down the Idols That Occupy His Place

2 Kings 23:4–20

- Restoring God means tearing down the idols that occupy his place.
- It's not enough for us to know what God expects. We got to get our sleeves rolled up.
- The king commanded Hilkiah the high priest to bring out of the temple of the Lord all of the vessels that were made for Baal, for Asherah, and for all the hosts of the heavens.
- He's burning the idols. He's taking them out, he's destroying them.
- Josiah did not just fix the immediate problem in his backyard.
- If it is a friend, if it is a co-worker, if it is a job, if it is whatever thing, get it out of your life. It ain't worth your soul.

3 Having a Proper Passion for Him

2 Kings 23:1–3; Colossians 3:1–16; 1 John 1:5–10

- Restoring God to the proper place in our lives means that we have a proper passion for him.
- We need to live the lives that we live because we have a legitimate, unbridled passion for God.

- We are the people of God when those things come from passion for Him.
- One of the things that kills our passion for God is when we know the right thing to do, but we approach it with a wrong attitude.
- Unconfessed and unrepentant sin is a problem.
- The one who is the child of God cannot hate his brother. He loves his brother.

THE CHALLENGE

We need to acknowledge that we have to find him where he can be found. We need to tear down the idols that separate us from him. We need to do these things with a sincere love and passion for him and his truth.

MY NOTES