

HE JUST DIDN'T KNOW

TEXT: (I Kings 15:9-14, TLB)

⁹ Asa became king of Judah, in Jerusalem, in the twentieth year of the reign of Jeroboam over Israel, ¹⁰ and reigned forty-one years. (His grandmother was Maacah, the daughter of Abishalom.) ¹¹ He pleased the Lord like his ancestor King David. ¹² He executed the male prostitutes and removed all the idols his father had made. ¹³ He deposed his grandmother Maacah as queen mother because she had made an idol—which he cut down and burned at Kidron Brook. ¹⁴ However, the shrines on the hills were not removed, for Asa did not realize that these were wrong.

I. GOD'S COMMANDMENTS ARE FOUNDATIONAL

1. "So that you may enjoy long life" (Deuteronomy 6:2).
2. "Asa did not realize that these were wrong" (I Kings 15:14, TLB).

A. New Testament Doctrines

1. New Birth
 - a. "Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God" (John 3:5, KJV).
2. "Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up" (Deuteronomy 6:7, NIV).

B. A Lifestyle of Separation from the World

1. "'Therefore come out from them and be separate, says the Lord. Touch no unclean thing, and I will receive you.' 'I will be a Father to you, and you will be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty.'
Since we have these promises, dear friends, let us purify ourselves from everything that contaminates body and spirit, perfecting holiness out of reverence for God" (II Corinthians 6:17-7:1, NIV).
2. "Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates" (Deuteronomy 6:5-9, NIV).
3. "These are the commands, decrees and laws the LORD your God directed me to teach you to observe...so that you, your children and their children after them may fear the LORD your God as long as you live by keeping all his decrees and commands that I give you, and so that you may enjoy long life....Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up" (Deuteronomy 6:1-2, 7, NIV).

II. GOD'S STATUTES TAUGHT DILIGENTLY

1. "Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up" (Deuteronomy 6:7, NIV)

A. Talks—Not Lectures

1. "Lo, children are an heritage of the LORD: and the fruit of the womb is his reward. As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man; so are children of the youth. Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them: they shall not be ashamed, but they shall speak with the enemies in the gate" (Psalm 127:3-5, KJV).

B. Teaching and Training

1. "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it" (Proverbs 22:6, KJV).

III. QUESTIONING SPIRITUAL VALUES

A. Meaning Given

1. "In the future, when your son asks you, 'What is the meaning of the stipulations, decrees and laws the LORD our God has commanded you?' tell him: 'We were slaves of Pharaoh in Egypt, but the LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand. Before our eyes the LORD sent miraculous signs and wonders—great and terrible—upon Egypt and Pharaoh and his whole household. But he brought us out from there to bring us in and give us the land that he promised on oath to our forefathers. The LORD commanded us to obey all these decrees and to fear the LORD our God, so that we might always prosper and be kept alive, as is the case today. And if we are careful to obey all this law before the LORD our God, as he has commanded us, that will be our righteousness'" (Deuteronomy 6:20-25, NIV).

B. Answering Honestly

1. "Tell him: 'We were slaves of Pharaoh in Egypt'" (Deuteronomy 6:21, NIV).
2. "The LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand" (Deuteronomy 6:21, NIV).
3. "Before our eyes the LORD sent miraculous signs and wonders—great and terrible—upon Egypt and Pharaoh and his whole household" (Deuteronomy 6:22, NIV).
4. "But he brought us out from there to bring us in and give us the land that he promised on oath to our forefathers" (Deuteronomy 6:23, NIV).
5. "The LORD commanded us to obey all these decrees and to fear the LORD our God" (Deuteronomy 6:24, NIV).
6. "The LORD commanded us to obey all these decrees and to fear the LORD our God, so that we might always prosper and be kept alive, as is the case today" (Deuteronomy 6:24, NIV).

C. Personal Renewal

1. "But he brought us out from there to bring us in and give us the land that he promised on oath to our forefathers" (Deuteronomy 6:23, NIV).