



Island Pond Baptist Church | Pastor Kyle Lewis | July 12, 2020

A Very Bad Vow

Judges 10-12

Judges 11:30-31 – 30 And Jephthah made a vow to the Lord and said, “If you will give the Ammonites into my hand, 31 then whatever comes out from the doors of my house to meet me when I return in peace from the Ammonites shall be the Lord's, and I will offer it up for a burnt offering.”

Two Things We Can Learn From This Passage:

1) The powerful influence of _____.

“Jephthah had clearly been deeply de-sensitized to violence by the atrocious cruelty of the pagan cultures around him. This is a most vivid and horrible example of how believers can profess faith in God and hold on to some truth, yet let the world squeeze them into its mold.”

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Are there any thoughts, actions, or beliefs in my life that I allow even

though they contradict Scripture?

Sin? Morality and Truth? Entertainment?

Romans 12:2 – Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind.

John 17:15-16

We should live in the world, but not be influenced by the world. Instead, we should be influenced by _____.

2) The power of the _____ and grace.

“Jephthah was not only infected by pagan moral codes, but also by the pagan works-righteousness understanding of God’s character. Human sacrifice was how you could ‘buy off’ a pagan god. A pagan worshipper did human sacrifice to say: Let me show you how impressed and awed I am by your power.”

Jephthah thought he had to work _____ (or impress God). Are you doing the same?

Martin Luther: The law says "Do this", and it is never done. Grace says, "believe in this" and everything is already done.

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