

SERMON NOTES

Title: One Nation Under...Delusion*.

Text: II Kings 23:4-16

Topic: Idolatry, National Judgement

Teacher: Pastor Barry Time: 7/4/21

File Under: Holiday (Independence Day)



***Parents please note:** The subject matter may not be suitable for children.

Josiah, King of Judah has discovered Judah has fallen into deep spiritual darkness and attempts to lead it back to God

Josiah knew that one of the first things he would have to do is to get rid of all the things that have a negative influence.

One of the foolish things Solomon did when he was king was to allow the pagan gods of the women he'd married to be worshiped in the *high places*.

Signs Judah had fallen away from God:

1. THEY WORSHIPPED STARS AND CONSTELLATIONS

Israel's collapse didn't happen in one day, it came over hundreds of years.

As time passed, they found themselves becoming more and more delusional in their thinking.

2. THEY WORSHIPPED SEX.

The *Asherah* was a wooden image in the shape of an erect male genital organ.

There were places designated for prostitutes, to engage activities that were seen as part of the rituals of worshiping God.

In America over the past hundred years the sex industry has become a multi-billion dollar enterprise.

3. THEY WORSHIPPED A CHILD FREE LIFE

Molech: If you want a life that is rich and full get rid of your children.

Molech's message is loud and clear in America today - if you want to be free, you may have to sacrifice your babies.

Ironically Judah thought of themselves as one nation under God. But they had become one nation under delusion.

"If God doesn't judge America, He will have to apologize to Sodom and Gomorrah". Ruth Graham

Judah had moved so far away from God that not too long after Josiah's call to repentance the city of Jerusalem was totally destroyed.

It would appear Josiah failed because he wasn't able to deliver the nation from destruction, but there were individuals who turned back to God.

God's eternal plan will happen with or without America.

II Kings is a depressing book because it's the account of a nation that rebelled against God and suffered the consequences for it.

It's me O Lord standing in the need of prayer.

Josiah was sincere. He tried. The problem wasn't the King it was the people.

"If My people who are called by My name shall humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land." II Chronicles 7:14