



CAPITOL COMMISSION™

God's Leader Series: Be Transformed

JUNE 6, 2012

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Our leaders in the Kansas Executive and Legislative branches have created initiatives to strengthen families, protect children, and grow the economy. How do we invite God to bless the land and prosper the people of this great state?

INTRODUCTION

Few would disagree that our moral fiber has degenerated and we have not prospered in this present age. Our previous Capitol Bible studies featured Kings Asa and Josiah and their coming into leadership during times of national crises. These leaders cleansed the land of idol worship, destroyed the altars of child sacrifice, and restored the temple, the house of the LORD. God honored their observance of His Commandments, giving Judah peace from enemies and multiplying their crops and herds (2 Chronicles, Chapters 14 and 34).

FOLLOW THE LORD NOT THE CULTURE

Romans 12:2 Do not be shaped by this world; instead be changed within by a new way of thinking. Then you will be able to decide what God wants for you; you will know what is good and pleasing to him and what is perfect¹

Rather than have ourselves shaped by the culture, we are admonished to impact the world around us. Many leaders strive to be popular by reacting to the crowd, *being tossed back and forth like the waves* (Ephesians 4:14). In contrast, Solomon concludes his wisdom books (Proverbs and Ecclesiastes) with simple advice: *Honor God and keep His Commandments* (Ecclesiastes 12:13). History bears out the truth of Solomon's teaching. Two common epitaphs can be found in an Old Testament review of the lives of dozens of Israel's and Judah's kings. Sadly, the most common is: *He did evil in the sight of the Lord and the people suffered*. Only a few earned the commentary: *He did right in the sight of the Lord and God prospered him*. What do you think God would conclude about Kansas and its leadership in this age?

CONCLUSION

A summary of the steps for an individual to be transformed is listed below. This seems appropriate for the transformation of a village, a state, or a nation.

1. **Decide to change.** Past behavior is not producing the results desired. To quote Einstein: *"Insanity is doing the same thing over and over, expecting different results"*¹
2. **Admit you were wrong.** You may as well admit that you behaved or acted wrongly. God knows, and other people are beginning to realize this. It is likely that your honesty will endear you to most others. *"No one does right, not even one"* (Romans 3:12b).
3. **Apologize.** Seek to restore the damage done. Ask forgiveness when restitution seems not practical. The goal here is to gain the favor of God and our fellow man (Luke 2:52).
4. **Acknowledge God's sovereignty.** God can make a way or empower others to move mightily (2 Chronicles 20: 4-12).
5. **Study God's Word and pray.** God is a God of order and of compassion (1 Corinthians 14:33a). Like you expect of a son or daughter, God only requires your love and obedience (Deuteronomy 10:12).

A PRAYER

Father God, I have tried to make things right and have not done very well. Please forgive me for trying my way and causing much loss to others as well as to myself. I turn to You, Sovereign Lord. You are mighty to save! Help me to set my life straight with You and to better serve my family and Your people Kansas. I ask this in the Name of Your Son, Jesus. Amen.

¹ The Holy Bible, New century Version. (Thomas Nelson, Inc.). 2005

² www.brainyquote.com/quotes/quotes/a/albertains133991.html