

“And [King Manasseh] took away the strange gods, and the idol out of the House of the LORD, and all the altars that he had built in the mount of the House of the LORD, and in Jerusalem, and cast them out of the city. And he repaired the altar of the LORD, and sacrificed thereon peace offerings and thank offerings, and commanded Judah to serve the LORD God of Israel. Nevertheless the people did sacrifice Still In The High Places, yet unto the LORD their God only.” 2 Chronicles 33:15-17 KJV



There are many ways to enter a building, but only one correct way the door; otherwise you're a criminal! Jesus, God's Word, said, *“I am the Door...the Way...the Truth...the Life. NO MAN cometh to the Father, but by Me!”* When the Israelites first entered the Promised Land, they were told to destroy the high places, idols, and molten images of the Canaanite inhabitants and were also instructed not to worship at their high places. God wanted to be worshiped in another Place: *“But unto the Place which the LORD your God shall choose out of all your tribes to put His Name there, even unto His Habitation shall ye seek, and thither thou shalt come.”* God designated the Tabernacle and subsequently the Temple as the Place (singular) for worship: Nowhere else! The people of Manasseh's day still worshipped God, sure, but not where He wanted! They still went to the *“high places”* of Baal. To be sure they had removed the idols and altars, but it was only partial obedience. If you're digging a hole in the wrong place, digging it deeper doesn't correct the error! Partial obedience is disobedience even if done sincerely! Today, God has designated another Place of worship. *“What? Know ye (believers) not that YOUR BODY IS THE TEMPLE of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a Price: Therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, Which Are God's. If any man defile the Temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the Temple of God is Holy, which Temple ye are.”* Cleaning up your act for church and then living for yourself the rest of the week is just like the Israelites in today's passage. Church has become your *“high place.”* Your body is God's designated Place of worship; even in church! Worship of God is done through faithful obedience to His Word, 24/7. That's why we're told, *“Where two or three are gathered together in My Name, there am I in the midst.”* Church simply means *“Assembly.”* The purpose of Christ's Church/Assembly is to worship Him. If not, it's not Christ's church! The Church of Jesus Christ is the designated gathering place of today. Do you have *“high places”* that are not God's choice, but are YOURS?

The *“high places”* that we do choose,
Are not what God told us to use,
The *“Temple”* is His dwelling Place,
Where we should go to seek His Face. ~CGP

We defile God's *“Temple”* with our doubt, disobedience, and disregard of God's Holy Word. Every time you do what YOU want instead of what God wants, you have done the same as Adam, who with one choice condemned humanity! Did you think your sincerity made it less sinful? A lot of *“sincere”* folks are in Hell right, now! Will you join them just to have things *“your way,”* now?

“I beseech you therefore, Brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye PRESENT YOUR BODIES a living sacrifice, Holy, acceptable unto God, which is your REASONABLE service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind (with God's Word), that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, Will of God.” Romans 12:1-2 KJV