

## **The Error of Good Intentions**

### **10-5-14**

Proverbs 21:27 states "the sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination; How much more when he brings it with wicked intent". Consider the point here: the sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination *when it is offered with good intent!* The Bible would have understand a simple point: good intentions alone are going to cause us to be denied by God.

Consider the case of Uzzah in 2 Samuel 6:1-8. His good intention is undoubtable. But his action was in disregard or ignorance of God's commandments. He did for his good intentions. There are a number of people in the Bible who acted in good intention, but were condemned for ignorance. Some of these men (Josiah and Paul and the Jews at Pentecost) when confronted with the truth they did not know repented of their ignorance. Consider:

I Samuel 15:21.....King Saul  
I Kings 13.....The Old Prophet  
II Chronicles 26:16.....King Uzziah  
II Chronicles 34:19.....King Josiah  
Acts 3:17.....The Jews who killed Jesus  
Acts 23:1.....The Apostle Paul

Point 1: NO MATTER HOW GOOD our intention might be, intention is not obedience. 1 Samuel 15:22 Then Samuel said: "Has the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to heed than the fat of rams."

Point 2: Nothing substitutes for KNOWING what is necessary & good  
1 Samuel 2:3 "Boast no more so very proudly, do not let arrogance come out of your mouth; for the LORD is a God of knowledge, and with Him actions are weighed.

Point 3: INTENTIONS ALONE lead to error  
Proverbs 14:12 There is a way that seems right to a man, But its end is the way of death.

Point 4: Good intention without follow through still fail  
Matthew 21:28-31 "But what do you think? A man had two sons, and he came to the first and said, 'Son, go, work today in my vineyard.' He answered and said, 'I will not,' but afterward he regretted it and went. Then he came to the second and said likewise. And he answered and said, 'I go, sir,' but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said to Him, "The first."

Conclusion: If Your Intent is Good:

You should desire to KNOW your God - 2 Timothy 2:15

You should desire to KNOW your brethren - I Peter 3:8, 4:8-10

You should refrain from ignorant actions - Ecclesiastes 5:1, Hosea 6:6