

Before the THRONE

The Devotional

Volume 1

Books of the Law & History

2 Chronicles 25:2

“*Amaziah* did that which was right in the sight of the LORD, but not with a perfect heart.” 2 Chronicles 25:2

Surely you remember the story of a little boy who wanted to stand up on his chair during dinner, but his parents made him sit down. After some moments of struggle with them he finally announced, “Well, I may be sitting down on the outside, but I’m standing up on the inside!” To yield to externals without having a transformed inner heart produces only resentment, if not the subtle beginnings of legalism. Conforming to external forms of behaviour without the inner work of the heart being changed is hypocrisy. “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitened sepulchres which indeed appear beautiful outwardly, but within you are full of dead men’s bones, and all sorts of uncleanness. Even so you also appear righteous to men, but within you are full of hypocrisy and iniquity.” (Matthew 23:27-28)

Watch yourself lest you become like King Amaziah! It is too easy to conform to the people’s (or the church’s) external expectation without ever being transformed on the inside. The Gospel of Jesus Christ acts in just the opposite manner – transforming from the inside out. Once the power of the Gospel enters the heart of man (the new birth is instantaneous) the process of being “conformed to the image of His Son” (Romans 8:29) begins and continues until the Day we awaken with His image! (Psalm 17:15; Philippians 1:6)

“Lord, help me do what is right in Your sight, but help me to do it with a perfect heart!”