

Scripture to read: 2 Kings 17:1-23**The Israelites who were taken as captives by the king of Assyria**

Lord God delivered the people of Israel from the bondage of Egyptians and brought them to the land of Canaan. He met all their needs. God desired that they should fear him and not sin against him. But they sinned against the LORD their God by building pagan shrines for themselves in all their towns and set up sacred pillars and Asherah poles at the top of every hill and under every green tree; they also made idols, offered incense and worshiped them, they even consulted fortune-tellers and practiced sorcery. Again and again the LORD had sent his prophets and seers to warn them: "Turn from all your evil ways. Obey my commands and decrees—the entire law that I commanded your ancestors to obey, and that I gave you through my servants the prophets." But the Israelites would not listen. They were as stubborn as their ancestors who had refused to believe in the LORD their God.

Question:

What did God do in order for the Israelites to turn away from their wicked ways?

Answer:

God ordained his Laws and commands to be followed by the people for their protection, well being, and for their prosperous life. But the people of Israelites did not pursue it. The people of Israelites did not give heed to God's voice even after God patiently warning them. So God let the people to continue in their sinful way and falling into the consequence of their sins. Our God is not a person who compels anybody. He did not stop the Assyrians who took the Israelites as captives. At the same time, this is not something that the Lord would take delight in. Children our lives should not be like the people of Israelites. Jesus Christ alone is the true and living God. You should also not accept or worship any other so called foreign gods. You should read the bible every day and walk according to it by living a life as a child of God.

Since we are receiving a Kingdom that is unshakable, let us be thankful and please God by worshiping him with holy fear and awe. Hebrews 12:28

Prayer

Our Gracious, Loving heavenly father, all the days of our life we will hold on to the commands of the Lord. We will live a life that pleases God. Amen