

# Nehushtan

**TEXT: 2 Kings 18:1-5**

## INTRODUCTION:

- A. HEZEKIAH DESCRIBED AS GOOD, NONE LIKE HIM.
- B. A REFORMER, REPAIRS THE TEMPLE AND DESTROYS THE IDOLS.
  - 1. Destroyed the Brazen Serpent Moses had made.
    - a. The background of the serpent (**Numbers 21:4-9**).
    - b. Why destroy it? (**2 Kings 18:4**).
    - c. It Became an Idol (**Ex. 20:4-5; 2 Kings 18:5**). Desecrated by misuse.
- C. MANY OTHER DIVINELY APPOINTED THING HAVE BEEN AND ARE BEING DESECRATED. LET'S LOOK AT A FEW.

## I. THE OLD TESTAMENT.

- A. PURPOSE (**Gal. 3:23-24**) A Guardian or Tutor:
  - 1. To give hope (**Rom. 15:4**).
  - 2. To give warning (**1 Cor. 10:11**).
  - 3. To prefigure the New (**Col. 2:16-17; Heb. 8:4-5; 10:1; 9:11-12**).
- B. DESECRATION:
  - 1. Binding as law (**Gal. 3:24-25; Rom. 7:6**).
  - 2. Seeking authority (**Gal. 5:4**) 10 Commandments (**Rom. 7:7**).  
Instrumental Music, Sabbath Keeping (**Col. 2:16-17**).

## II. THE NEW TESTAMENT.

- A. PURPOSE:
  - 1. Revelation of God's plan and will for us (**Eph. 3:3-5**).
  - 2. Testimony to the resurrection and miracles (**John 20:30-31**).
  - 3. Explanations of our faith (**1 Pet. 3:15**).
  - 4. Our instruction in sanctification (**Rom. 12:2; 2 Tim. 3:16-17**).
  - 5. Defines our work and worship (**2 John 9**).
- B. DESECRATION:
  - 1. Can our Bible become an idol?
  - 2. Wrest and change to our destruction (**Gal. 1:1-7; 2 Pet. 3:15-16**).
  - 3. Disobey (**2 Thess. 1:7-8; Heb. 10:26**).

## III. TALENTS.

- A. PURPOSE (**Phil. 2:12-13; 1:27**) God Has Work For Us (**Eph. 2:10**).
- B. DESECRATION:
  - 1. Burying our talent through neglect (**Matt. 25:11-12; 1 Tim. 4:14**).
  - 2. Wasted opportunity (**Eph. 5:17**).
  - 3. Trivial pursuits (**2 Cor. 4:16-18**).

## IV. THE LORD'S SUPPER.

- A. PURPOSE: (**1 Cor. 11:23-25**).
- B. DESECRATION:
  - 1. Sacrament (**Acts 8:22**).
  - 2. Common meal – Love feast (**1 Cor. 11:34**).
  - 3. Most important thing – Remember, no magic. More important than singing? praying?  
Bible study? Where is Book, Chapter, and Verse?

## V. ELDERS.

- A. PURPOSE: (**Acts 14:23; 20:28**). Limited jurisdiction, rule in the local church.
- B. DESECRATION:
  - 1. Extend authority beyond the local church. NO SCRIPTURE!
  - 2. Some "lord it over" (**1 Pet. 5:2-3**).
  - 3. A résumé filler.

## VI. THE CHURCH.

- A. PURPOSE: (**Eph. 3:10-11, 21; 4:11-12; Phil. 2:14-16**).
- B. DESECRATION:
  - 1. Not a social club or lonely hearts club.
  - 2. Not secular education or children's recreation club.
  - 3. Not a means of raising money for work not related.
  - 4. Not a social or political organization.
  - 5. Not for entertainment or ego boosting. ie. prayers and songs.

## VII. BAPTISM.

- A. PURPOSE:
  - 1. **Rom. 6:3-7**.
  - 2. **Acts 2:38; 22:16**.
  - 3. **1 Cor. 12:13**.
- B. DESECRATION:

1. Infant baptism. Babies don't need it (**Ez 18:20**). Can't believe (**Mark 16:15-16**).
2. As a personal testimony to salvation already had. Passage please (**Acts 22:6-16**).
3. Entrance for saved people into a denomination.
4. For wrong reason or without understanding. Taught wrong but baptized right?

### **CONCLUSION:**

A. MORE TO EXPLORE.

B. HAVE YOU BEEN SCRIPTURALLY BAPTIZED?