



Joash's Decline through Reversionism: *Mataiotēs* & *Pōrōsis*: Blackout & Scar Tissue of the Soul, the Vacuum & the Callus, Eph 4:18

16. Those without truth will brainwash themselves. They use their own volition to change the way they think.
 17. Those with integrity cannot be brainwashed. They use their own volition not to change the way they think.
 18. PROPAGANDA (the lie) + DISHONOR (Being disloyal to the truth under pressure) = BRAINWASHING (believing the lie).
 19. PROPAGANDA (the lie) + INTEGRITY (remaining loyal to the truth under pressure) = HONOR (rejecting the lie).
- 72) Joash had 23 years to develop integrity under the mentorship of Jehoiada. His failure to grow in grace is demonstrated by the fact that he was unable to make good decisions once Jehoiada died.
 - 73) He was easily propagandized by the proponents of Baal and ultimately sided with them in opposition to the prophets of God.
 - 74) Over the seventeen years following Jehoiada's death, Joash had been so propagandized by the followers of Baal that he was conditioned to betray what he was duty bound to defend.
 - 75) Brainwashing so conditions a person that he can be easily controlled to oppose what he once defended.
 - 76) Under pressure his loss of integrity enabled the officials of Judah to persuade him to betray his previous beliefs and thus convert him over to their side.
 - 77) Joash was so weak and bought into the lie so completely that he not only became an executioner of God's prophet but also his uncle Jehoiada's grandson and his second cousin.
 - 78) The doctrines of demons had been sucked into his soul and created a blackout of the soul which neutralized any doctrine he might have learned from his uncle.
 - 79) Demon influence creates blackout of the soul which sucks in human viewpoint thinking characterized by religion, crusader arrogance, anti-authority arrogance, and manifestations of the evil modus operandi of Lucifer's conspiracy against God, client nations, and the divine institutions.
 - 80) Blackout of the soul leads to hostility toward truth, doctrine, and those who communicate it. This is the final stage of Christian degeneracy and is called scar tissue of the soul.

Ephesians 4:18 - They are darkened in their way of thinking; they have been alienated from the life of God because of ignorance which is in them, because of the blindness [*πῶρωσις*, *pōrōsis*: a callus or hardning, i.e., scar tissue] of their heart [stream of consciousness].

Bauer, Walter. *A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament*. Translated by William F. Arndt & F. Wilber Gingrich. (Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 1979), 732:

πῶρωσις. Dullness: slow in perception. Insensibility: incapable of sensation; lacking sensory perception or ability to react; unaware. Obstinacy: perversely adhering to an opinion, purpose, or course in spite of reason, arguments, or persuasion. Latin: *obstinare*; to stand in the way; to be resolved.



Encyclopaedia Britannica: Micropaedia. (Chicago: Encyclopaedia Britannica, 1979), 2:465:

Callus. A small area of thickened skin, caused by continued friction, pressure, or irritants. In response to mild but repeated injury, the cells of the skin, become more active, giving rise to a localized increase in horny tissue on the surface of the skin.

- 81) The facilitation of wheel-tracks of wickedness results in the diminishment (or inhibition) of wheel-tracks of righteousness. When scar tissue forms it results in a complete shut down of the circulation of doctrine in the stream of consciousness.
- 82) In this stage the believer cannot be distinguished from the unbeliever and there is no thought or behavior that he will not entertain or execute including murder.
- 83) The final stage is reverse process reversionism in which the things once believed are now rejected and what was once rejected is now believed. This led Joash to murder Zechariah and the Lord to unleash the Aramean army.
- 84) The best narrative of the invasion of the Arameans is found in the parallel passage of:

2 Kings 12:17 - Then Hazael 'haz' a-el\ king of Aram went up and fought against Gath and captured it, and Hazael set his face to go up to Jerusalem.

v. 18 - And Joash king of Judah took all the sacred things that Jehoshaphat and Jehoram and Ahaziah, his fathers, kings of Judah, had dedicated, and his own sacred things and all the gold that was found among the treasuries of the house of the Lord and of the king's house, and sent them to Hazael king of Aram. Then he [**Hazael**] went away from Jerusalem.