

Let's Talk About Stubbornness

I. Introduction:

- A. Wisdom says hear and refuse not (**Proverbs 8:32-33**).
 - 1. To refuse instruction is to hate your own soul (**Proverbs 15:31-32**).
 - 2. There are consequences (**Hebrews 12:24-25**).
- B. Some people just want to hold to their own ways (**Isaiah 65:2**).
 - 1. There are many problems with that, one of which is that man doesn't know the best way (**Proverbs 20:24**).
 - 2. When people are dead-set in certain ways, they revolt and are gone (**Jeremiah 5:22-23**).

II. Body: **Judges 2:8-21**

- A. Think back to what God told Moses (**Exodus 32:9**, **Exodus 33:1-5**, **Deuteronomy 9:6**, and **Deuteronomy 9:13**). **Same Hebrew word in Judges 2:19 is translated "stiffnecked" in the aforementioned passages (Strong's # 7186).*
 - 1. Israel's stubbornness was obvious to Moses too (**Deuteronomy 31:27**).
 - 2. Fast forward generations later... (**Isaiah 48:1-6** and **Acts 7:51-52**).
- B. Think about trying to reach a stubborn person(s) (**Ezekiel 2:1-5**).
 - 1. They won't listen (**Ezekiel 3:7**). **Again, same Hebrew word as in Judges 2:19*
 - 2. Even with drastic measures, great efforts to teach, etc.; it is very tough to reach stubborn people even from generations forward (**Nehemiah 9:6-38**).
- C. The solution of knowledge, hope, recollection, obedience, are all tied to setting the heart aright (**Psalms 78:1-8**).
 - 1. Think about a heart contrast (**II Chronicles 12:13-14** and **Ezra 7:10**).
 - 2. There just has to be an open heart (**Deuteronomy 10:16**).
 - 3. Furthermore, it is very helpful to have support (**Hebrews 3:13**).

III. Conclusion: Don't be a stubborn person (**I Samuel 15:23** and **Psalms 32:8-9**).