## **MOTTOS AND MANTRAS**

Part 4: It's Not How You Start It's How You Finish

## Paul; A Man Who Finished Strong

- The three things he listed about himself (2 Timothy 4:6-7 NKJ)
  - 1. Fought the good fight
  - 2. Finished the race
  - 3. Kept the faith

## HORRIBLE START STRONG FINISH

- One of the worst kings ever (2 Chronicles 33:1-2 & 9 NKJ)
  - 1. Built altars to foreign gods, set up an idol in the temple
  - 2. Passed his sons through fire, practiced witchcraft and sorcery
  - Influenced the nation to sin against God
- Mercy in the middle of trouble (2 Chronicles 33:10-13; 15-16 NKJ)
  - 1. A merciful God spoke to Manasseh but he wouldn't listen
  - Wound up captive in chains with a hook in his nose
  - 3. Humbled himself and asked God for help
- Manasseh acted like God was God
  - 1. He removed what was wrong and repaired what was right
  - 2. He used his influence for good for God

## **FINISHING STRONG**

- Make small adjustments
  - 1. We all have a human tendency to drift and forget
  - 2. Listen for the Lord's voice to you His word and His Spirit
- Stay humble
  - 1. When we miss it, own it defiance doesn't work
  - 2. Then ask God for His help (1 Peter 5:5-6 NKJ)
- Act like God is God (Hebrews 11:6 NKJ)
  - 1. We believe He is real so we follow Manasseh's example
  - God is still a rewarder
  - 3. Use our influence for good for God