Day 14

> *Then the king stood in his place and made a covenant before the Lord to walk after the Lord, and to keep His commandments and His testimonies and His statutes with all his heart and with all his soul, to perform the words of the covenant written in this book. Moreover, he made all who were present in Jerusalem and Benjamin to stand with him. So the inhabitants of Jerusalem did according to the covenant of God, the God of their fathers. 2Chron 34:31-32 [The New American Standard Bible, 1995 Update]*

King Josiah had a passion to obey God and bring honor to His name, so it is not surprising that the Bible speaks so highly of him. While he was king the people of Judah behaved much better, but notice in the passage above that he "made" the people join him in his covenant with God. What happened after he died? Bad kings followed and the people reverted to idol worship, ignoring the clear warnings God gave them through His prophets (especially Jeremiah). The total destruction of Jerusalem was not long in coming. Talk to God honestly about how much of your obedience is because you <u>have to</u> and how much because you <u>want to</u>. The Lord wants a bride that submits to Him out of love, not compulsion. Wouldn't you?