**“Seeking Ungodly Counsel”**

Children of God! Are required and commanded to depend on and seek God for what we need. However, there are many in times past, the present, and in the future who will choose to depend and seek ungodly counsel to there on detriment. Let’s Get Into The Word!

**1 Kings 22:51-53 (NLT) says this,** “51 Ahaziah son of Ahab began to rule over Israel in the seventeenth year of King Jehoshaphat’s reign in Judah. He reigned in Samaria two years. 52 But he did what was evil in the Lord’s sight, following the example of his father and mother and the example of Jeroboam son of Nebat, who had led Israel to sin. 53 He served Baal and worshiped him, provoking the anger of the Lord, the God of Israel, just as his father had done.”

**2 Kings 1:1-18 (NLT) says this,** “1 After King Ahab’s death, the land of Moab rebelled against Israel. 2 One day Israel’s new king, Ahaziah, fell through the latticework of an upper room at his palace in Samaria and was seriously injured. So he sent messengers to the temple of Baal-zebub, the god of Ekron, to ask whether he would recover. 3 But the angel of the Lord told Elijah, who was from Tishbe, “Go and confront the messengers of the king of Samaria and ask them, ‘Is there no God in Israel? Why are you going to Baal-zebub, the god of Ekron, to ask whether the king will recover? 4 Now, therefore, this is what the Lord says: You will never leave the bed you are lying on; you will surely die.’” So Elijah went to deliver the message.

King Ahaziah chose to seek the counsel of a false god called (Baal-Zebub) located in the Philistine city Ekron. King Ahaziah violated the first commandment of God in Exodus 20:3 (NKJV), which said, “3You shall have no other gods before Me.” Therefore, the question asked by the Lord, via the mouth of the Angel of the Lord, which is, “Is it because there is no God in Israel that you are going to inquire of Baal-Zebub, the god of Ekron?’. The question proposed by the Lord in it of itself is a rhetorical question. Meaning the Lord wanted to produce an effect or to make a statement and was not looking for the question to be answered. Therefore, the Lord pronounced judgement against King Ahaziah saying, “You will never leave the bed you are lying on; you will surely die.’ This judgement from the Lord to King Ahaziah may appear to some to be harsh. However, It was the decision of King Ahaziah to seek the counsel of a false God called Baal-Zebub of Ekron, a Philistine city, that was harsh against a loving God. Who would have surely healed him. If King Ahaziah had chosen to seek his counsel. Amen!

5 When the messengers returned to the king, he asked them, “Why have you returned so soon? ”6 They replied, “A man came up to us and told us to go back to the king and give him this message. **‘This is what the Lord says: Is there no God in Israel? Why are you sending men to Baal-zebub, the god of Ekron, to ask whether you will recover? Therefore, because you have done this, you will never leave the bed you are lying on; you will surely die.** 7 “What sort of man was he?” the king demanded. “What did he look like?” 8 They replied, “He was a hairy man, and he wore a leather belt around his waist.” “Elijah from Tishbe!” the king exclaimed. 9 Then he sent an army captain with fifty soldiers to arrest him. They found him sitting on top of a hill. The captain said to him, “Man of God, the king has commanded you to come down with us.”

10 But Elijah replied to the captain, “If I am a man of God, let fire come down from heaven and destroy you and your fifty men!” Then fire fell from heaven and killed them all. 11 So the king sent another captain with fifty men. The captain said to him, “Man of God, the king demands that you come down at once.” 12 Elijah replied, “If I am a man of God, let fire come down from heaven and destroy you and your fifty men!” And again the fire of God fell from heaven and killed them all. 13 Once more the king sent a third captain with fifty men. But this time the captain went up the hill and fell to his knees before Elijah. He pleaded with him, “O man of God, please spare my life and the lives of these, your fifty servants. 14 See how the fire from heaven came down and destroyed the first two groups. But now please spare my life!” 15 Then the angel of the Lord said to Elijah, “Go down with him, and don’t be afraid of him.” So Elijah got up and went with him to the king. 16 And Elijah said to the king, **“This is what the Lord says: Why did you send messengers to Baal-zebub, the god of Ekron, to ask whether you will recover? Is there no God in Israel to answer your question? Therefore, because you have done this, you will never leave the bed you are lying on; you will surely die.”** 17 So Ahaziah died, just as the Lord had promised through Elijah. Since Ahaziah did not have a son to succeed him, his brother Joram became the next king. This took place in the second year of the reign of Jehoram son of Jehoshaphat, king of Judah. 18 The rest of the events in Ahaziah’s reign and everything he did are recorded in The Book of the History of the Kings of Israel.

 Notice the response from King Ahaziah! He wanted to know who told the messengers this judgement from the Lord. Upon hearing what the messengers description ff the man. He determined it could only be “Elijah from Tishbe! Whom he well knows is a Prophet of God in and for Israel. Instead of sending his Captain with his fifty soldiers to inform Elijah. Of his repentant heart and request that he may come and pray to the Lord for him. To reverse his judgement of death against him.

 He sent his Captain along with the fifty soldiers to arrest Elijah the Prophet of God. All because he didn’t like what he had to say from the Lord. Therefore, some of us are no different today. We being children of the most high God. Seek ungodly counsel for issues affecting our lives in a negative way. Instead of seeking the Lord, which has consequences. For the Lord Jesus instructed us in **Matthew 6:33 (NKJV), which says this,** “33 But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.” Was not the Lord’s opinion but a commandment for those then and us know. Therefore, choose to seek the Lord and his counsel for whatever it is you need. Remember what the word says in **1 Peter 5:6-7 (NKJV) which says this,** “6 Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, 7 casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you”. Therefore, don’t insult the mighty hand of God. By seeking ungodly counsel as King Ahaziah did and ended of dying from the very thing God would have healed him of. But do as the Lord commands and live. Amen!

I Love You, Be Blessed!

Pastor Jimmy