

What Counsel Do You Seek?

Introduction

1. **In today's society many individuals do not take any care when considering "what counsel" they are seeking.**
 - A. **It is very important that we in the Lord's church understand that depending upon the counsel, the information we receive could mean whether our soul goes to heaven or hell!**
 - B. **The wicked of the world are not ones we should seek counsel in.**

Psalms 1:1 Blessed is the man who ***walks not in the counsel of the ungodly***, nor stands in the path of sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scornful;

- 1) **Their counsel is often times deceitful.**

Proverbs 12:5 The thoughts of the righteous are right, but the counsels of the wicked ***are deceitful***.

2. **We would all be wise to pay close attention to the kind of counsel we seek.**

Proverbs 1:5 A wise man will hear and increase learning, and a man of understanding will attain wise counsel,

3. **We can learn many examples from the pages of the Old and New Testament concerning individuals and how they sought and responded to various kinds of advice they received.**

Examples of Those Seeking Counsel:

1. Those seeking BAD counsel:

A. King Saul

- 1) **Before we look at Saul's counsel it would do us good to first review God's ordinance of Deut 18:9-12.**

Deuteronomy 18:9-12

- a) **We can learn from this and every other example that follows, that for the counsel to be GOOD in God's sight, it must come from God.**

1. **He gave us our "roadmap" of daily living!**

1 Samuel 28:7-20

- 2) **Saul sought counsel in a medium and earlier did not do what God told him to do concerning the Amalekites!**

B. Ahaziah - King of Judah

2 Chronicles 22:2-5 Ahaziah was forty-two years old when he became king, and he reigned one year in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Athaliah the granddaughter of Omri. He also walked in the ways of the house of Ahab, for his mother **advised him to do wickedly**. Therefore he did evil in the sight of the LORD, like the house of Ahab; **for they were his counselors** after the death of his father, to his destruction. **He also followed their advice....**

- 1) **He only lasted one year as King and was evil because he constantly sought wicked counsel.**

2. Those who received good counsel and did not do it:

A. Rehoboam:

1 Kings 12:3-8

- 1) His mind was already made up on what he wanted to do - he just looked for someone that would tell him "music to his ears".

B. Zedekiah:

Jeremiah 38:14-23

- 1) And so it was because we later learn that Zedekiah never went forth to fight and the counsel of Jeremiah came true - Jerusalem was destroyed!

C. The Young Man:

Matthew 19:16-22

- 1) Many today do not listen to the words of Jesus and as a result, will turn to counsel that will lead them further away from "eternal life".

3. Those that received good counsel and did it:

A. David:

1 Chronicles 14:8-17

- 1) God was with David because he kept the counsel that He gave him.

B. The Apostles - Naming the new apostle (Matthias)

Acts 1:21-26

- 1) Their counsel was in the Lord, he directed them.

What Counsel Are You Seeking?

- 1. One can seek right or wrong counsel.**
 - A. Sometimes one will seek bad counsel and not consider what is good such as Saul and Ahaziah did.**
 - B. Some will seek the wrong counsel because they are only interested in hearing what they want to hear as Rehoboam did.**
 - C. If it is the right counsel that you seek are you then prepared to carry it out as David, the Apostles, and the Congregation did?**
- 2. Let's notice the following chart of situations. What do you have a tendency to do in these scenarios?**

SEE CHART

3. The Christian needs to seek counsel that is from above.

A. When we do so, then we can give credit to God as the Psalmist does. It is God who we can trust to lead us through the "trials of life".

Psalms 16:7 I will bless the LORD who has given me counsel; my heart also instructs me in the night seasons.

Psalms 33:11 The counsel of the LORD stands forever, the plans of His heart to all generations.

Psalms 73:24 You will guide me with Your counsel, and afterward receive me to glory.

B. The Proverb writer hits the nail on the head when he says:

Proverbs 12:15 The *way of a fool is right in his own eyes*, but he who heeds counsel is wise.

Proverbs 9:9 Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be still wiser; teach a just man, and he will increase in learning.

4. You and I must be careful what counsel that we seek!

Invitation

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