

Ridin' High Cowboy Church

8771 FM 35

Union Valley/Royse City, TX

Pastor: Steve Bishop

Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.

1 Peter 4:10

Sunday, January 22, 2017

Who you listen to impacts what you do

Robert Jeffress preaching the sermon before the inauguration...a guy at work asked me what would you preach to the President.

2 Chronicles 18

1 Now Jehoshaphat had great wealth and honor, (he was known as a good man who did what was right by God and people) **and he allied himself with Ahab** (wife, Jezebel) **by marriage.** (women will get you every time) whenever you are in alliance with someone, they gain leverage over you. Business relationships...

2 Some years later he went down to see Ahab in Samaria. Ahab slaughtered many sheep and cattle for him and the people with him and urged him to attack Ramoth Gilead, (border town in Aram, main route of business so this was a money thing) **3** Ahab, king of Israel asked Jehoshaphat, king of Judah, "Will you go with me against Ramoth Gilead?" Jehoshaphat replied, "I am as you are, and my people as your people; we will join you in the war." **4** But Jehoshaphat also said to the king of Israel, "First seek the counsel of the LORD." **5** So the king of Israel brought together the prophets – four hundred men – and asked them, "Shall we go to war against Ramoth Gilead, or shall I not?"

"Go," they answered, "for God will give it into the King's hand."

5 But Jehoshaphat asked, "Is there no longer a prophet of the LORD here whom we can inquire of?"

7 The king of Israel answered Jehoshaphat, "There is still one prophet through whom we can inquire of the LORD, but I hate him because he never prophesies anything good about me, but always bad. He is Micaiah, son of Imlah."

“The king should not say such a thing,” Jehoshaphat replied.

8 So the king of Israel called one of his officials and said, “Bring Micaiah, son of Imlah, at once.” (skip to verse 12) in the verses we skip, the prophets start a pep rally.

12 The messenger who had gone to summon Micaiah said to him, “Look, the other prophets without exception are predicting success for the king. Let your word agree with theirs, and speak favorably.” 13 But Micaiah said, “As surely as the LORD lives, I can tell him only what my God says.” 14 When he arrived, the king asked him, “Micaiah, shall we go to war against Ramoth Gilead, or shall I not?”

“Attack and be victorious,” he answered, “for they will be given into your hand.” (he is mocking the other prophets and his face shows that he is not saying what he believes) ***15 The king said to him, “How many times must I make you swear to tell me nothing but the truth in the name of the LORD?” 16 Then Micaiah answered, “I saw all Israel scattered on the hills like sheep without a shepherd, and the LORD said, ‘These people have no master. Let each one go home in peace.’”*** This was the prophet’s way of saying everyone comes home but you, king. ***17 The king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, “Didn’t I tell you that he never prophesies anything good about me, but only bad?”***

Skip to verse 25 (18-24) tells of what is happening in heaven when God is deciding how this plays out, a sermon in itself...

Proverbs 16:9 the mind of man plans his ways but the Lord directs his steps.

25 The king of Israel then ordered, “Take Micaiah and send him back to Amon the ruler of the city and to Joash the king’s son, 26 and say, ‘This is what the king says: Put this fellow in prison and give him nothing but bread and water until I return safely.’ ”

27 Micaiah declared, “If you ever return safely, the LORD has not spoken through me.” Then he added, “Mark my words, all you people!” (side note - we don’t know if he ever got out of prison or not, make a note to check on that when you get to heaven)

28 So the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat, king of Judah, went up to Ramoth Gilead. 29 The king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, “I will enter the battle in disguise, but you wear your royal robes.” So the king of Israel disguised himself and went into battle. Everyone knows this does not sound right but Jehoshaphat was too far in to turn back

30 Now the king of Aram had ordered his chariot commanders, “Do not fight with anyone, small or great, except the king of Israel.” 31 When the chariot commanders saw Jehoshaphat, they thought, “This is the king of Israel.” So they turned to attack him, but Jehoshaphat cried out, and the LORD helped him. God drew them away from him, 32 for when the chariot commanders saw that he was not the king of Israel, they stopped pursuing him. 33 But someone drew his bow at random (don’t worry, I’ll be careful) and hit the king of Israel between the breastplate and the scale armor. The king told the chariot driver, “Wheel around and get me out of the fighting. I’ve been wounded.” 34 All day long the battle raged, and the king of Israel propped himself up in his chariot facing the Arameans until evening. Then at sunset he died.

Ahab lost the battle because he didn’t listen to the right voice...for us – marriages, jobs finances...

The thing we least want to hear is what we need to hear the most, the person we least want to hear from is the person we need to listen to the most.

John 16:12-15 (Jesus is going away to heaven and the disciples are wondering how they will know what to do)

12 “I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. 13 But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. 14 He will glorify me because it is from me that he will receive what he will make known to you. 15 All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will receive from me what he will make known to you.

Process of Listening to God

1. God Speaks with Specifics
He Doesn’t Communicate EVERYTHING AT ONCE. (v.12)
2. God speaks through the Spirit
We Need ASSISTANCE To HEAR His Voice (v.13)
3. God speaks to emphasize the Son
He Communicates With Us to GLORIFY HIS SON. (v.14)

Five Questions:

1. Who are you listening to?
2. Who do you need to quit listening to, or who do the people who love you the most wish you would quit listening to?]

3. Who should you listen to?
4. What do you not want to hear?
5. Whose advice are you avoiding because you don't like them?