

Volume 13, Issue 32: Respond Well To Correction

In the previous post, we saw that King Jehoshaphat responded well to correction when God confronted him for hanging out with King Ahab of Israel, a wicked king. Jehoshaphat continued to direct the people to worship God wholeheartedly. This trait was also evident in King David. When God confronted him of the affair with Bathsheba and the murder of her husband Uriah, David repented and accepted God's judgment.

One example of not responding well to correction that stood out for me in my Scripture reading last week was that of King Asa, Jehoshaphat's father. Asa started his kingship well by living right before God and expressing dependence on God. In one instant, when Zerah the Ethiopian went to war against Asa with a huge army, he prayed and asked for God's help. God defeated the Ethiopians before Asa and Judah.

However, in the 36th year of Asa's reign, Baasha king of Israel attacked Judah. Asa sent silver and gold to Ben-Hadad, king of Aram, making a treaty with him to help him get Baasha off his back. God was displeased with Asa for this action and sent a prophet to tell him so. Unfortunately, instead of repenting before God, Asa lost his temper and locked up the prophet and started abusing some of the people.

In the twentieth chapter of the book of Second Chronicles, we see Jehoshaphat turning to God for help when Judah faced a looming attack by a huge force of Ammonites, Moabites and Meunites. Shaken, Jehoshaphat prayed. He went to God for help and ordered a nationwide fast. God was honored by Jehoshaphat's dependence on him and set ambushes against the men of Ammon, Moab and Mount Seir as they were attacking Judah, and they all ended up dead.

These examples show us that a submissive and repentant heart is also one that expresses reliance and dependence on God. It's futile to rely on ourselves or on people. Reliance on God always delivers. Because God is honored when we rely on him, he goes to work on our behalf.

For His Glory,

Respond Well To Correction

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