

FAMILY PRAYER AND DEVOTION

GOD IS ABLE TO DO MUCH MORE: 2 CHRONICLES 25:1-10:

1 Amaziah was twenty and five years old when he began to reign, and he reigned twenty and nine years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Jehoaddan of Jerusalem.

2 And he did that which was right in the sight of the LORD, but not with a perfect heart.

3 Now it came to pass, when the kingdom was established to him, that he slew his servants that had killed the king his father.

4 But he slew not their children but did as it is written in the law in the book of Moses, where the LORD commanded, saying, the fathers shall not die for the children, neither shall the children die for the fathers, but every man shall die for his own sin.

5 Moreover Amaziah gathered Judah together, and made them captains over thousands, and captains over hundreds, according to the houses of their fathers, throughout all Judah and Benjamin: and he numbered them from twenty years old and above, and found them three hundred thousand choice men, able to go forth to war, that could handle spear and shield.

6 He hired also a hundred thousand mighty men of valour out of Israel for a hundred talents of silver.

7 But there came a man of God to him, saying, O king, let not the army of Israel go with thee; for the LORD is not with Israel, to wit, with all the children of Ephraim.

8 But if thou wilt go, do it, be strong for the battle: God shall make thee fall before the enemy: for God hath power to help, and to cast down.

9 And Amaziah said to the man of God, but what shall we do for the hundred talents which I have given to the army of Israel? And the man of God answered, The LORD is able to give thee much more than this.

10 Then Amaziah separated them, to wit, the army that was come to him out of Ephraim, to go home again: wherefore their anger was greatly kindled against Judah, and they returned home in great anger.

1. GOD KNOWS OUR HEARTS:

AMAZIAH was the king of Judah, but he did not serve God wholeheartedly. The kings of Judah generally honor God whereas the kings of Israel usually did evil in His sight.

Halfhearted service is not acceptable, whether we are serving God or man. Why?

(1) we serve God by serving man; therefore, any service we do is serving God.

(2) The Bible teaches, “Whatever you do, whether in word or deeds, do so as unto the Lord.” (Colossians 3:23) This is saying our conversations should be pleasing to God. “We should be careful of the things we say about others, especially if they are believers.

Another scripture says we should not be involved in idle jesters (Matt. 12:36; Eph. 4:29; Prov. 16:28, 15:28, 15:4; 1 Tim. 6:20, 5:13) These are some examples, the scripture says a lot about our words. Life and death are in the power of the tongue. (Prov. 18:21) Our words reveal what is in our hearts.

We are to praise and not curse anyone, be an encourager, if we cannot find something good to say about someone, say nothing.

2. AMAZIAH slew the servants that killed his father the king. Although the death of his father allowed him to become king, he was not in agreement with the way it happened. He considered those who did it his enemy. Perhaps he was thinking, if they did it to my father, they would do it to me also. He could not trust them. He needed loyal people in his service, and so should we have loyal people in our inner circle. He did that which was right, he did not kill the children, because he was obeying what was written in the book of the laws of Moses, which

says; “The father shall not die for the children, neither the children die for the fathers, but every man shall die for his own sins” (Deu.24:16; Jer.31:29-30; Ezekiel. 18:20-21).

He was obedient to God by not killing the children for the sins of their fathers. These scriptures teach clearly that there is no such thing as “generational curse.” What it teaches is that the soul that sins shall die for it is sin if it repents, not. IF THE CHILDREN REPENT AND FOLLOW GOD THEY ARE SAVED; THE CURSE WOULD BE BROKEN, that is, the curse of sin. The children are responsible for their own sins or righteous living. There are no generational curses.

The people of Israel had a proverb which says the fathers eat the sour grapes and the children’ teeth are set on edge. God addressed that issue through His prophet Ezekiel. HE SAID, “As I live said the Lord God, ye shall not have occasion any more to use this proverb in Israel.” (Ezekiel 18:1-3) He said all souls are His. The soul that sins will die for its sin. (Ezekiel 18:4)

3. AMAZIAH was not satisfied with what he had. He counted the men for his army and discovered that there were 300,000 men (about half the population of Wyoming). He was not satisfied with that number. He should be because he and his men were in God’s army. He forgot that the battle was not his but the Lord’s. (2 Chronicles 20:15).

When we face our enemies, we often tend to forget that the enemy is not really after us, he wants to get to Jesus and because he is defeated and cannot get to Jesus, he attacks us who are weaker. We must remember that THE BATTLE IS NOT OURS BUT THE LORD’S. Let us allow Him to fight our battles. He has an adequate army for His battles. AMAZIAH was not satisfied with his army. He went to Israel and hired 100,000 mighty men to join his army.

4. He did not consult God to see if it would be right for him to join with Israel’s army. Be careful of those with whom you allow to be your partner. Israel and its people did not serve God.

The Bible says we should not be unequally yoked. (2 Corinthians 6:14) This is not talking about marriage only; it is also talking about business associates.

The man of God approached AMAZIAH and told him to get rid of the 100,000 soldiers from Israel, if not, he would be defeated by his enemies when he went to battle. He was concerned about the financial losses he would suffer, because he had invested 100 talents to strengthen his army. The man of God told him; God is able to give him much more than those.

5. We must get God's approval before we do any transaction or make any decision.

(1.) AMAZIAH did not seek God before he had Israel's army joined his.

(2) We should not join with unbelievers in marriage or business.

(3) Sometimes, we have to take the loss and walk away. It is difficult, but if we want to succeed, we will have to take our temporary loss. I say temporary because God will restore our loss.

(4) The man of God told AMAZIAH that God was able to do much more.

(5) AMAZIAH trusted God and got rid of 100,000 soldiers from Israel. We can learn from him and be prepared to take some losses and walk away knowing that our God is able.

(6) We must learn to be satisfied with what we have, and trust God in every situation.

God knows why we have what we have, because He is the supplier of our needs, not our wants.

What He has provided is always enough. He wants us to be faithful with what we have and trust

Him. Remember that little is much when God is in it. He tells us to be contented because He will

never leave us nor forsake us. (Hebrews 13:5) It also says that "godliness with contentment is

great gain, for we brought nothing into this world, and we can take nothing out of it."

(1 Timothy 6:6-7)

6. AMAZIAH did not serve God with his whole heart, and his halfhearted service ruined him. He did not remove the groves that were used for worshiping idols. Are there some groves that you need to remove? groves such as traditions or customs that are preventing you from worshiping God whole heartedly.?

(2) The man of God told him that God has power to help and cast down. You need to believe this truth. He is able to do exceedingly more than we can think or imagined. (Ephesians 3:20-21) We can apply it to all our difficult situations and leave them in His hands. God does not force any one to do anything, the man of God told AMAZIAH why he should not go to battle with the soldiers from the Israelites, if he chose to go he would fail. He sent the soldiers back and did not include them in his army. The same is true for us. He tells us what to do or what we should not do; we must make the choice. When we ignore His warnings and have our own ways, we must be prepared to face the consequences.

(3) After being successful against his enemies; AMAZIAH took home the gods who were not able to help those who he defeated and worshipped the idols as his god. 2 Chronicles 25:14-15) When we are not wholehearted in our service to God, we will not finish well. The thing that prevents us from wholehearted service will pull us away from God. God must be first. We must love Him with all our hearts.