

HOLY BOLDNESS

A SLAP IN GOD'S FACE

2 Kings 1:1-18 Jeff Schreve

What do we learn from King Ahaziah's story of insolence?

1. God uses problems to get our attention.

A. Problems help us see our need.

B. Needs must be taken to the right place.

I will lift up my eyes to the mountains; From where shall my help come? My help comes from the LORD, Who made heaven and earth. Psalm 121:1-2

2. God notices when we fail to call upon Him.

"Go, inquire of Baal-zebul, the god of Ekron, whether I shall recover from this sickness." 2 Kings 1:2

A. It reveals a wicked, rebellious heart.

*But Jehoshaphat said, "Is there not yet a prophet of the LORD here, that we may inquire of him?" And the king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, "There is yet one man by whom we may inquire of the LORD, **but I hate him, because he does not prophesy good concerning me, but evil.** He is Micaiah son of Imlah." But Jehoshaphat said, "Let not the king say so." 1 Kings 22:7-8*

B. It is a slap in His face.

"This man casts out demons only by Beelzebul the ruler of the demons." Matthew 12:24

C. It provokes Him to anger.

Worship the LORD with reverence, And rejoice with trembling. Do homage to the Son, lest He become angry, and you perish in the way, For His wrath may soon be kindled. How blessed are all who take refuge in Him! Psalm 2:11-12

And the LORD said to Moses, "How long will this people spurn Me? And how long will they not believe in Me, despite all the signs which I have performed in their midst? I will smite them with pestilence and dispossess them, and I will make you into a nation greater and mightier than they." Numbers 14:11-12

3. God reminds us that judgment is coming unless we repent.

A. People refuse to repent because of their pride.

B. People refuse to repent because of their unbelief.

C. People refuse to repent because of their love for sin.

*... and with all the deception of wickedness for those who perish, because **they did not receive the love of the truth so as to be saved**. And for this reason God will send upon them a deluding influence so that they might believe what is false, in order that they all may be judged **who did not believe the truth, but took pleasure in wickedness**. 2 Thessalonians 2:10-12*

Are you more like Ahaziah or the third captain?