Two Heirs

Eastside Church of Christ VBS, 2021: Lesson Two

Fatherly Advice to Rehoboam

- Came to Throne at Age 41
 - Product of his father's bad choices

His mother's name was Naamah the Ammonite/No Ammonite or Moabite may enter the assembly of the LORD. Even to the tenth generation, none of them may enter the assembly of the LORD forever – II Chronicles 12:13b/Deuteronomy 23:3

Fatherly Advice to Rehoboam

- Came to Throne at Age 41
 - Product of his father's bad choices
 - Father's advisors gave good advice

And Jeroboam and all Israel came and said to Rehoboam, "Your father made our yoke heavy. Now therefore lighten the hard service of your father and his heavy yoke on us, and we will serve you." He said to them, "Come to me again in three days." So the people went away. Then King Rehoboam took counsel with the old men, who had stood before Solomon his father while he was yet alive, saying, "How do you advise me to answer this people?" And they said to him, "If you will be good to this people and please them and speak good words to them, then they will be your servants forever." – II Chronicles 10:3-7

Fatherly Advice to Joash

- Came to Throne at Age 7
 - Saved from psychotic grandmother
 - Jehoida was his fatherly advisor

And Joash did what was right in the eyes of the LORD all the days of Jehoiada the priest (24:2)

And Jehoiada made a covenant between himself and all the people and the king that they should be the LORD's people. Then all the people went to the house of Baal and tore it down [...]And Jehoiada posted watchmen for the house of the LORD [...] to be in charge of the house of the LORD, to offer burnt offerings to the LORD, as it is written in the Law of Moses, with rejoicing and with singing, according to the order of David. [...]And he took the captains, the nobles, the governors of the people, and all the people of the land, and they brought the king down from the house of the LORD, marching through the upper gate to the king's house. And they set the king on the royal throne. (23:16-20)

Foolish Advice to Rehoboam

- Rehoboam Sought a Second Opinion
 - Appealed to his vanity
 - Advice followed; kingdom rebelled

And he said to them, "What do you advise that we answer this people who have said to me, 'Lighten the yoke that your father put on us'?" And the young men who had grown up with him said to him, "Thus shall you speak to the people" who said to you, 'Your father made our yoke heavy, but you lighten it for us'; thus shall you say to them, 'My little finger is thicker than my father's thighs. And now, whereas my father laid on you a heavy yoke, I will add to your yoke. My father disciplined you with whips, but I will discipline you with scorpions (10:9-11)

Foolish Advice to Joash

Fatherly advisor lived to age 130

- Joash's "faith" died with Jehoida
- Replaced by foolish advisors
 - Abandoned House of God
 - Replaced Yahweh with idols
 - Killed Jehoida's son

Now after the death of Jehoiada the princes of Judah came and paid homage to the king. Then the king listened to them. (24:17)

Listen

Important Question: To Whom Do I Listen?

To Whom Do I Listen?

Advice About Life Originates From Two Sources

- Illustrated in the Garden of Eden
 - God: How to live, how to rule
 - Serpent: How to rebel, how to die
- The Right Advisor must be chosen

And to Adam he said, "Because you have listened to the voice of your wife and have eaten of the tree of which I commanded you, 'You shall not eat of it,' cursed is the ground because of you; in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life – Genesis 3:17

- And now, O Israel, listen to the statutes and the rules that I am teaching you, and do them, that you may live, and go in and take possession of the land that the LORD, the God of your fathers, is giving you — Deuteronomy 4:1
- Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers; but his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night. He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers – Psalm 1:1-3
- Wisdom cries aloud in the street, in the markets she raises her voice — Proverbs 1:20
- Then Pilate said to him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world—to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice." John 18:37

To Whom Do I Listen?

- Advice About Life Originates From Two Sources
 - Illustrated in the Garden of Eden
 - God: How to live, how to rule
 - Serpent: How to rebel, how to die
 - The Right Advisor must be chosen
- Am I dedicated to the Word of God?
 - Do I listen to what I need, not just what I want?
 - God wants more than nominal listening



Important Question: What Type of Advice do I Give?

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What Type of Advice do I Give?

- Bible Highly Respects Those Who Give Advice:
 - Without counsel plans fail, but with many advisers they succeed Pr. 15:22
 - By insolence comes nothing but strife, but with those who take advice is wisdom -- Proverbs 13:10



What Type of Advice do I Give?

- Three Major Dangers in Giving Advice:
 - Playing to someone's vanity
 - Saying what someone wants to hear
 - Seeking to gain something for oneself
 - Using another for selfish motives
 - Giving safe advice rather than good advice
 - Parents face this challenge



What Type of Advice do I Give?

- Good Advice Always Follows the Wisdom of God
 - Advice must always advance the cause of God



Recommending College Choice When to Take a New Job Churches Recommendations to Elders Elders Recommendations to Churches

Older women likewise are to be reverent in behavior, not slanderers or slaves to much wine. They are to teach what is good, and so train the young women to love their husbands and children – Titus 2:3-4



Listen and Speak Carefully