

Elijah/Elisha – Standing Alone

Week 7 – Like Father, Like Son

Transition: Last week, we once again saw the sheer and unmistakable wickedness of Jezebel. When King Ahab did not get his way (taking possession of another man's vineyard), Jezebel concocted a conspiracy that cleared the way for Ahab to acquire the land illegitimately. But God was not pleased, so He sent His prophet to confront the king.

Context: This week we see how the legacy of Ahab carries on through his son, Ahaziah. Ahaziah gets injured in an accident and seeks Baal about his recovery. Yahweh is not pleased, however, and alerts His prophet, Elijah, of what is happening. Like his father, Ahaziah learned what happens when a leader of Israel does not seek the one true God.

Opening Questions:

- When have you noticed a person seek advice from someone other than God (when he/she should have sought God first)? In your experience, why and when do people do this?
- Why does God allow the effects of one person's sin to harm others (who had nothing to do with that sin)?

Scripture/Storying: 2 Kings 1

Discipleship Questions:

- What is your overall reaction to this passage? What impression does it make on you and why?
- Although Ahaziah was a grown man responsible for his own decisions, how did Ahaziah's upbringing influence his decision to seek Baal for answers to his health? What do you learn from this?
- How is the word Elijah received from the LORD still pertinent today? ...how is it pertinent to you specifically?
- Why do you think Ahaziah's messengers didn't follow through on the king's orders, but they did Elijah's (even though they didn't know/recognize him)? How might what Jesus said in John 18:37 relate?
- What is your reaction to Elijah's calling fire down on the soldiers sent to bring him to Ahaziah? How do you reconcile this with God being good/loving by nature? What (if any) is the relationship between this fire from heaven and the fire from heaven that consumed the sacrifice on Mt Carmel (1 Kings 18:36-39)?
- Why did Elijah not call fire down on the third group that was sent to bring him to the king? What did that captain do differently than the previous two captains? What does this reveal about God?
- How is Ahaziah's reaction different than his father's when Ahab received similar "bad news" from Elijah (1 Kings 21:27-29)? What biblical principle do you draw from this? How will you apply it to your own life?
- What is the Holy Spirit teaching you through this story? How does it impact the way you think and live?

Prayer time: This week we are praying for Igreja Baptista Atitude church, a ministry that Providence supports.

- Pray for the new church that Igreja Baptista Atitude church is planting in Tampa, Florida. May the Lord be glorified through how this church makes, grows, and unleashes disciples of Christ!