

PLEASE INQUIRE OF GOD

INTRODUCTION:

- A. Wise advise handed down: "always look before you leap"
- B. In day-to-day decisions, we must ask most relevant question: "Is this within the will of God?"
- C. Get into trouble because we do not inquire of God
- D. Lives ruined, misery spreads, because we don't inquire of God how to direct our lives 1Chr 10:13,14
- E. Some common mistakes even religious people make

DISCUSSION:

I. ASSUMING LORD THINKS LIKE MAN Isa 55:8-9

- A. Deadly mistake of Nadab and Abihu? Lev 10:1,2
- B. Mistake of David in carrying the Ark? 2Sam 6:1-10
- C. We judge things by feeling, pleasure, looks, etc.)?
- D. What prevails on young, impressionable heart, when someone with little or no moral character lures them into a relationship that only wiser parents worry about?
 - 1. Inquire of Lord if relationship good for your soul, for the souls of children and grandchildren
 - 2. Search beneath exterior layer of physical beauty. Find out about character, principles, and spiritual priorities of the person
- E. Cain thought his offering would please God Gen 4
 - 1. People think God will accept instrumental music, because they like it.
 - 2. Can't assume Lord thinks like we do. We need to "inquire of God" Prov 14:12

II. ASSUME WE CAN GET INFORMATION FROM ANOTHER SOURCE 1Pet. 4:11; 2Tim 3:15-17

- A. Saul went to another source 1Sam 28:7-14
 - 1. A Witch, Instead of God
 - 2. Some go to "friend" or "preacher" who may or may not affirm what God says
- B. Some assume God and pope are in agreement.
- C. Many preachers/writers teach error - even ones who claim to be members of the church
- D. Find out how and where to get authoritative information Make sure you are on solid ground
 - 1. Let God's word direct your paths Psa 17:4-5
 - 2. In all your ways acknowledge Him Prov 3:6
 - 3. All other steps are uncertain Prov 4:11-13
 - 4. Ask for "old paths" wherein is good way Jer 6:16
 - 5. Make straight paths for your feet Heb 12:13
 - 6. Inquire of God for wisdom, and He will give it Jas 1:2-7

IV. PROVE WHAT IS ACCEPTABLE

- A. Do not wait to be told you are wrong. Just be sure you are right Rom 14:23
 - 1. Don't have to prove hamburgers on Lord's table are wrong. Those who practice MUST prove it right Rom 12:2; Eph 5:10; 1Thess 5:21
 - 2. Don't have to prove instrumental music or burning incense in worship is wrong. Those who practice MUST prove it right Eph 5:19; Col 3:16
 - 3. Otherwise, they are doing a sinful thing
- B. If there is a question, "Please Inquire of God"
 - 1. It is best to err on the side of caution than to err on the side of recklessness
 - 2. Better to be cautious and not get too close to the edge. Better safe than sorry

V. THE DANGERS OF IMPULSIVENESS:

- A. Hurtful Words Jas 3:1-10
 - 1. Words that injure the heart and spirit of those we need to help save, and those we love Jas 1:19
 - 2. Inquire of God whether to say and what to say and how to say it Col 4:6
- B. Hurtful Actions Matt 7:12
 - 1. Actions that hurt people needlessly
 - 2. Inquire of God what actions would be most helpful to the eternal well-being of all soul.
- C. Destruction of Relationships Eph 5:22-31; 6:1-4
 - 1. Destruction of Families
 - 2. Calm inquiry of the Lord can save many families
- D. Destruction of Churches Rom 16:17; 1Cor 1:10
 - 1. By exercising caution we keep ourselves from doing and saying things we will later regret
 - 2. Calm inquiry of the Lord can save people and churches

CONCLUSION:

- A. Remember to "Please Inquire of God"
- B. Filtering your thoughts through God's will, allows you to make wiser decisions
- C. Pray and seek for God's will in all things, and He will help you find the right path
- D. Do you need forgiveness in Christ today? Do you need to obey the gospel or correct things in your life with God? Let your heart inquire of God as we sing the selected song

Revision of outline by Terry W. Benton