



CHRIST
REFORMED BAPTIST
CHURCH

Biblical Preaching & Reverent Worship
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Results of Unwise Counsel

Lesson from King Rehobaom – 1 Kings 12:1-33

‘Study to show thyself approved unto God...’ – 2 Timothy 2:15
The importance of reading and learning God’s word is a vital part of both growing and also experiencing the blessing of belonging to God the Father through His Son, Jesus Christ.

This truth is one of the purposes why we wish to offer you these sermon notes which are to be used while listening to the sermon.

For your added benefit, there is also included six daily bible readings that supplement the theme of each sermon. Take time to gather your loved ones to read and discuss the texts.

If you have any further questions relating to the sermon, sermon notes or would like to learn more about how to become a member of Christ Reformed Baptist Church, please do not hesitate to contact

Pastor Doug Barger
email: pastor@crbc.faith or phone: #317-542-3159

INTRODUCTION

• In the current information age, counsel is often given without us even asking. Let's learn from Rehoboam a lesson regarding the results of being influenced by unwise counsel.

vv.1-5 The Cause For Counsel

v.4 The level of comfortability and personal affluence that had been experienced under Solomon, was evidently not entirely appreciated by the people and is what's really behind this 'cause for counsel'.

v.5 Here is a slight indication of Rehoboam's lack of wisdom in contrast to his father Solomon.

vv.6,7 The Value of Wise Counsel

• The true value of this wise counsel, lies in this word 'servant'.

• When seeking counsel for our lives we must first seek it from those who have God's word as their starting point.

• Pro 16:31 The hoary head [is] a crown of glory, if it be found in the way of righteousness.

• In our own lives people will come to us and ask 'what should I do' and so here in this picture of wise counsel we have an example which helps:

1. Start with the principals and precepts of Scripture.
2. Prayerfully discern what character quality is needed.
3. Give sound directions that would honor the name of Christ.

• Servant Leadership reminds us of Jesus's words in Matt.20:25-28

vv.8-11 The Tragedy of Foolish Counsel

• 'he forsook the counsel of the old men' Rehoboam's decision is not so much based on the influence of his peers as much as it is from within his own heart.

Seven distinctions of foolishness that originates in man's heart.

1. _One who does not delight in understanding. (Prov.18:2)
2. _Someone who is overly confident in his/her own ability. (Prov.28:26)
3. _Someone who is opposed to wisdom and wise men (Prov.10:14;12:16)
4. _One who rejects the fear (reverence) of the Lord. (Prov.1:7)
5. _One who is slow, dull, nonresponsive or inactive toward wise counsel (Prov.3:25)

6. One who is actively wicked and divisive in their foolishness
(Prov 30:32)

7. One who is described as ‘simple’ meaning naïve, easily enticed
(Prov.1:4; 22, 32; 7:7)

vv.12-14 Foolish Announcement

- Keyword here in v.13 is “roughly” in the Hebrew meaning ‘harsh’ or ‘heavy’. Foolishness which is harsh and intentionally heavy can be especially evil.
- There is no excuse for the fool who accepts and then makes decisions based on unwise counsel – he and he alone must take responsibility.

v.15 God’s Providence

REF. Hand out of God’s executing His decrees.

v.16-21 Fruits of Unwise Counsel

v.16 A forfeiting of covenant promises and spiritual heritage.

v.18 Loss of life by murder v.19 Division and separation. v.20 Unlawful self appointment of a king. v.21 Almost a full scale war

- We must be ever so careful as a church, as a covenant community of Christian family and friends to practice the fruits of patience, forbearance and be longsuffering toward one another.

v.22-24 God’s Providence

- “*for this thing is from me.*” The Lord had eternally decreed both the good and the bad. (v.15)

v.25-33 Dangerous Counsel & Our Own Hearts.

- Following God’s ways may at times seem self-defeating, may appear to jeopardize our understanding of success and our futures – but in reality obeying God’s way secures all these things.

CLOSING THOUGHT:

Pro 12:5 The thoughts of the righteous [are] right: [but] the counsels of the wicked [are] deceit.

Isa 8:20 To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, [it is] because [there is] no light in them.

- We must then, by the strength of the Spirit, grow and mature by feasting NOT primarily upon those things which are unwise, but filling

our hearts and minds with the things of God that we may grow stronger in the faith.

Pray and Read the Bible together as a family this week.

Individual/Family Worship Bible Readings

Monday > Genesis 11:1-9 (Self-Will)

Tuesday > 2 Chronicles 10:1-11 (Poor Decision)

Wednesday > Psalm 131:1-3 (Humility)

Thursday > Proverbs 12:1-12 (Accepting Reproof)

Friday > Mark 10:17-22 (Unwise Choice)

Saturday > 2 Tim. 3:14-17 (Wise Counsel)

Thought of the week :

“I think it is not very difficult to discern by the duties and converse of Christians, what frames their spirit are under. Take a Christian in a good frame, and how serious, heavenly, and profitable, will his conversations and duties be! What a lovely companion (friend) is he during the continuance of it!”

~ John Flavel (c.1627-1691) English Puritan

These resources are never intended to replace the involvement or instruction of your local church where you are a member, only to supplement your continued growth in the truth of God’s Word.

If you do not have a home church we encourage you to search out a bible preaching, reverent worshipping assembly of local believers.