

COUNSEL

WHAT it is and WHY you need it

Do you only have a preacher or is he your pastor?

If you get what I am about to give you, it will mean the difference between you having a preacher or a pastor.

It will mean the difference between you letting your preacher be your pastor or him remaining only your preacher.

Deut 32:28-29 *For they are a nation void of counsel, neither is there any understanding in them.*

29 *O that they were wise, that they understood this, that they would consider their latter end!*

Not having counsel will make you void of wisdom.

6098 `etsah (ay-tsaw');
from 3289; advice; by implication, plan; also prudence:

KJV-- advice, advisement, counsel (l- [or]), purpose.

3289 ya`ats (yaw-ats');
a primitive root; to advise; reflexively, to deliberate or resolve:

KJV-- advertise, take advise, advise (well), consult, (give, take) counsel (-lor), determine, devise, guide, purpose.

Counsel is so important in the life of a Christian and it is a basic tool for you to use.

Anyone can learn from their own mistakes but a wise man will learn from someone else's mistakes.

Prov 11:14 *Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety.*

Question: "Have you run that past pastor?"

Prov 15:22 *Without counsel purposes are disappointed: but in the multitude of counsellors they are established.*

Prov 24:6 *For by wise counsel thou shalt make thy war: and in multitude of counsellors there is safety.*

Some Bible verses on Counsel

1 Sam 9:6 *And he said unto him, Behold now, there is in this city a man of God, and he is an honourable man; all that he saith cometh surely to pass: now let us go thither; peradventure he can shew us **our way that we should go.***

"The way we should go." concerns the direction of life.

II Ki 8:8 *And the king said unto Hazeal, Take a present in thine hand, and go, meet the man of God, and inquire of the LORD by him, saying, Shall I recover of this disease?*

You should seek the man of God concerning sickness.

James 5:14-15 *Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord:*

15 *And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him.*

Even the president of the United States realizes this and chooses for himself a group of men whom he calls his cabinet. These men are experts or perverts in different fields in which the president has to make decisions. He meets with them for counsel and advice.

Ezra 7:14 Forasmuch as thou art sent of **the king, and of his seven counsellors**, to inquire concerning Judah and Jerusalem, according to the law of thy God which is in thine hand;

Dan 3:24 Then Nebuchadnezzar **the king** was astonished, and rose up in haste, and spake, and said unto **his counsellors**, Did not we cast three men bound into the midst of the fire? They answered and said unto the king, True, O king.

1 Chr 27:33 And **Ahithophel was the king's counsellor**: and Hushai the Archite was the king's companion:

Pity the person who knows it all.

Pity the person who has come to place where they think they don't need counsel and advise.

You are foolish to take only your own counsel.

Prov 28:26 He that trusteth in his own heart is a fool: but whoso walketh wisely, he shall be delivered.

Jer 17:5 Thus saith the LORD; Cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the LORD.

Why?

Jer 17:9 The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?

Prov 14:12 There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.

Your own counsel is not enough.

You don't know enough to guide your own life.

Job 18:7 The steps of his strength shall be straitened, and his **own counsel** shall cast him down.

Ps 5:10 Destroy thou them, O God; let them fall by their **own counsels**; cast them out in the multitude of their transgressions; for they have rebelled against thee.

Ps 81:11-13 But my people would not hearken to my voice; and Israel would none of me.

12 So I gave them up unto their own hearts' lust: and they walked **in their own counsels**.

13 Oh that my people had hearkened unto me, and Israel had walked in my ways!

Jer 7:24 But they hearkened not, nor inclined their ear, but walked in **the counsels** and in the imagination of their evil heart, and went backward, and not forward.

Hosea 11:6 And the sword shall abide on his cities, and shall consume his branches, and devour them, because of **their own counsels**.

Every time getting your own counsel is mentioned in the Bible it always leads to destruction.

In the Bible there is good counsel and bad counsel. Everybody gets counsel but it isn't always good.

You are not to get counsel from people who are not right with God.

You can get facts on how to build a bridge from a bridge builder but he is not to give you advise for life.

1 Chr 10:13-14 *So Saul died for his transgression which he committed against the LORD, even against the word of the LORD, which he kept not, and also for asking counsel of one that had a familiar spirit, to inquire of it; He saught it from a witch.*

14 *And inquired not of the LORD: **therefore he slew him**, and turned the kingdom unto David the son of Jesse.*

Isa 30:1 *Woe to the rebellious children, saith the LORD, that take counsel, but not of me; and that cover with a covering, but not of my spirit, that they may add sin to sin:*

There is a counsel that is available that God does not approve of you getting.

Bad counsel caused Rehoboam's downfall

I Kings 12:3-13 *That they sent and called him. And Jeroboam and all the congregation of Israel came, and spake unto Rehoboam, saying,*

4 *Thy father made our yoke grievous: now therefore make thou the grievous service of thy father, and his heavy yoke which he put upon us, lighter, and we will serve thee.*

5 *And he said unto them, Depart yet for three days, then come again to me. And the people departed.*

6 *And king Rehoboam consulted with the old men, that stood before Solomon his father while he yet lived, and said, How do ye advise that I may answer this people?*

7 *And they spake unto him, saying, If thou wilt be a servant unto this people this day, and wilt serve them, and answer them, and speak good words to them, then they will be thy servants for ever.*

8 *But he forsook the counsel of the old men, which they had given him, and consulted with the young men that were grown up with him, and which stood before him:*

9 *And he said unto them, What counsel give ye that we may answer this people, who have spoken to me, saying, Make the yoke which thy father did put upon us lighter?*

10 *And the young men that were grown up with him spake unto him, saying, Thus shalt thou speak unto this people that spake unto thee, saying, Thy father made our yoke heavy, but make thou it lighter unto us; thus shalt thou say unto them, My little finger shall be thicker than my father's loins.*

11 *And now whereas my father did lade you with a heavy yoke, I will add to your yoke: my father hath chastised you with whips, but I will chastise you with scorpions.*

12 *So Jeroboam and all the people came to Rehoboam the third day, as the king had appointed, saying, Come to me again the third day.*

13 *And the king answered the people roughly, and forsook the old men's counsel that they gave him;*

Getting counsel from your peers is the worst thing you can do.

You are to never counsel with the ungodly

Job 21:16 *Lo, their good is not in their hand: **the counsel of the wicked is far from me.***

Ps 1:1-2 *Blessed is the man that walketh not in **the counsel of the ungodly**, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.*

2 *But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.*

It is dangerous and unwise for a high school student to seek the counsel of so-called senior counselors if they are not Christians.

The same is true of Christian psychologists. They are worse.

They learned the same psychology that the secular psychologists are taught - they just add the name "Christian," in front of their profession.

What is psychology? The study of the soul. Who knows more about the soul of man and its problems than God who made the soul. The best counselor a Christian has is their Pastor who loves them and prays for them.

Prov 12:5 *The thoughts of the righteous are right: but the counsels of the wicked are deceit.*

You need a wise counselor

King David - a man after God's own heart, had wise counselors.

1 Chr 26:14 *And the lot eastward fell to Shelemiah. Then for Zechariah his son, a wise counsellor, they cast lots; and his lot came out northward.*

1 Chr 27:32 *Also Jonathan David's uncle was a counsellor, a wise man, and a scribe: and Jehiel the son of Hachmoni was with the king's sons:*

Every Christian should have a cabinet of good counselors.

Who?

1) The Pastor

There are 3 titles for the New Testament Pastor.

- 1) Bishop--overseer---oversees all the work
- 2) Pastor--the feeder-protector of the sheep
- 3) Elder--experienced one

1 Tim 5:1 Rebuke not an elder, but intreat him as a father; and the younger men as brethren;

1 Tim 5:19 Against an elder receive not an accusation, but before two or three witnesses.

Even if he is younger than you God has given him wisdom to do what God has called him to do just like God would give you if you were the pastor.

Before making any serious decisions certainly one would want to counsel with the pastor.

Private conference

Simple telephone conversation.

This is the reason the parents should never cut the pastor down in front of the kids. One day they will need the pastor.

1 Cor 11:8-10 For the man is not of the woman; but the woman of the man.

9 Neither was the man created for the woman; but the woman for the man.

10 For this cause ought the woman to have **power** on her head because of the angels.

Women should read the Bible for strength, not guidance.

Most people cannot read the Bible for guidance.

1 Tim 2:14 And Adam was not deceived, but **the woman** being **deceived** was in the transgression.

Rev 20:10 And **the devil that deceived them** was cast into the lake of fire and

2.) Choose someone with the gift of wisdom.

A wise person has several traits

- 1 He himself loves the Lord
- 2 He himself gets counsel from Godly people
- 3 He is a soul winner
- 4 He loves preaching
- 5 He is behind the pastor

If they do not meet these requirements then do not get advice from them on the direction your life should go.

Wisdom comes only from the Lord.

Prov 2:6-7 For the LORD giveth wisdom: out of his mouth cometh knowledge and understanding.

7 He layeth up sound wisdom for the righteous: he is a buckler to them that walk uprightly.

1 Chr 22:12 Only the LORD give thee wisdom and understanding, and give thee charge concerning Israel, that thou mayest keep the law of the LORD thy God.

Dan 1:17 As for these four children, God gave them knowledge and skill in all learning and wisdom:

Dan 2:21 he giveth wisdom unto the wise, and knowledge to them that know understanding:

Luke 21:15 For I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which all your adversaries shall not be able to gainsay nor resist.

James 1:5 If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

3.) A sincere friend

Prov 27:9 Ointment and perfume rejoice the heart: so doth the sweetness of a man's friend by hearty counsel.
Not someone who tells you what you want to hear but someone who is frank enough to tell you the truth.
It should be one who knows you well.
It should be one who loves you in spite of your faults.

4.) Someone who is successful in your field or in the field you plan to enter.

If one is going to be a school teacher he should also have a cabinet member who is successful in the teaching profession. To be sure this person should be a Christian.

5.) Parents (if Christians)

Each child should feel that he is able to talk to his mother and father.

To avoid the child never feeling like he could come to the parent.

- 1 Start early in the child's life having regular talks with the child.
- 2 Nothing should appear to be funny to the parent
- 3 Treat them as adults
- 4 Listen carefully to everything they say
- 5 Always have time for private conversation with the child
- 6 Be on the lookout for times when the child might want to talk to his parent.
- 7 Always be confidential
- 8 Build up the child's confidence in the parent.

6.) The Word of God

Ps 119:24 Thy testimonies also are my delight and my counsellors.

Ps 119:128 Therefore I esteem all thy precepts concerning all things to be right; and I hate every false way.

2 Tim 3:16-17 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

17 That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

The Word of God is your counselor.

If you don't know it then get to someone who does?

Ps 73:24 Thou shalt guide me with thy counsel, and afterward receive me to glory.

God wants to guide you with His counsel

Ps 119:133 Order my steps in thy word: and let not any iniquity have dominion over me.

Isa 55:8-9 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD.

9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Wise people listen to counsel

Prov 12:15 The way of a fool is right in his own eyes: but he that hearkeneth unto counsel is wise.

A fool is the one who doesn't get counsel

Prov 15:12 A scorner loveth not one that reproveth him: neither will he go unto the wise.

Prov 23:9 Speak not in the ears of a fool: for he will despise the wisdom of thy words.

2 Chr 18:7 And the king of Israel said unto Jehoshaphat, There is yet one man, by whom we may inquire of the LORD: but I hate him; for he never prophesied good unto me, but always evil: the same is Micaiah the son of Imla. And Jehoshaphat said, Let not the king say so.

Job 21:13-16 They spend their days in wealth, and in a moment go down to the grave.

14 Therefore they say unto God, Depart from us; for we desire not the knowledge of thy ways.

15 What is the Almighty, that we should serve him? and what profit should we have, if we pray unto him?

16 Lo, their good is not in their hand: the counsel of the wicked is far from me.

1 Sam 10:26-27

And Saul also went home to Gibeah; and there went with him a band of men, whose hearts God had touched.

27 But the children of Belial said, How shall this man save us? And they despised him, and brought him no presents. But he held his peace.

Why wouldn't someone just go in that office right there or pick up the phone?

There is something wrong with that.

The answer is PRIDE just plain old satanic PRIDE!!!

COUNSEL IS AN AUTHORITY ISSUE; NOT ONE OF PERSONAL PREFERENCE.

Counsel confirms your decisions.

Prov 20:18 *Every purpose is established by counsel: and with good advice make war.*

Failure comes because of lack of counsel

Prov 15:21-22 *Folly is joy to him that is destitute of wisdom: but a man of understanding walketh uprightly.*

22 Without counsel purposes are disappointed: but in the multitude of counsellors they are established.

GOD SHOWS THE MAN OF GOD WHAT YOU NEED BEFORE YOU COME TO HIM FOR COUNSEL.

1 Sam 9:1-17 *Now there was a man of Benjamin, whose name was Kish, the son of Abiel, the son of Zeror, the son of Bechorath, the son of Aphiah, a Benjamite, a mighty man of power.*

2 *And he had a son, whose name was Saul, a choice young man, and a goodly: and there was not among the children of Israel a goodlier person than he: from his shoulders and upward he was higher than any of the people.*

3 *And the asses of Kish Saul's father were lost. And Kish said to Saul his son, Take now one of the servants with thee, and arise, go seek the asses.*

4 *And he passed through mount Ephraim, and passed through the land of Shalisha, but they found them not: then they passed through the land of Shalim, and there they were not: and he passed through the land of the Benjamites, but they found them not.*

5 *And when they were come to the land of Zuph, Saul said to his servant that was with him, Come, and let us return; lest my father leave caring for the asses, and take thought for us.*

6 *And he said unto him, Behold now, **there is in this city a man of God**, and he is an honourable man; all that he saith cometh surely to pass: now let us go thither; peradventure he can shew us **our way that we should go**.*

7 *Then said Saul to his servant, But, behold, if we go, what shall we bring the man? for the bread is spent in our vessels, and there is not a present to bring to the man of God: what have we?*

8 *And the servant answered Saul again, and said, Behold, I have here at hand the fourth part of a shekel of silver: that will I give to the man of God, to tell us our way.*

9 *(Beforetime in Israel, when a man went to inquire of God, thus he spake, Come, and let us go to the seer: for he that is now called a Prophet was beforetime called a Seer.)*

10 *Then said Saul to his servant, Well said; come, let us go. So they went unto the city where the man of God was.*

11 *And as they went up the hill to the city, they found young maidens going out to draw water, and said unto them, Is the seer here?*

12 *And they answered them, and said, He is; behold, he is before you: make haste now, for he came to day to the city; for there is a sacrifice of the people to day in the high place:*

13 *As soon as ye be come into the city, ye shall straightway find him, before he go up to the high place to eat: for the people will not eat until he come, because he doth bless the sacrifice; and afterwards they eat that be bidden. Now therefore get you up; for about this time ye shall find him.*

14 *And they went up into the city: and when they were come into the city, behold, Samuel came out against them, for to go up to the high place.*

15 *Now **the LORD had told Samuel in his ear a day before Saul came, saying,***

16 *To morrow about this time I will send thee a man out of the land of Benjamin, and thou shalt anoint him to be captain over my people Israel, that he may save my people out of the hand of the Philistines: for I have looked upon my people, because their cry is come unto me.*

17 *And when Samuel saw Saul, the LORD said unto him, Behold the man whom I spake to thee of! this same shall reign over my people.*

God knows the future.

As the man of God walks with God, God tells him what he needs to know for his people.

Judg 18:5 *And they said unto him, Ask counsel, we pray thee, of God, that we may know whether our way which we go shall be prosperous.*

Many times the Man of God has the answer to your problems but you don't go to him with your questions.

Why should God waste time answering your prayer to show you His will when He has already shown the Man of God the answer?

God is not redundant.

Because some Christians do not do the revealed will of God that is written in the Bible,

- 1) Reading their Bible
- 2) Praying
- 3) Going to Church
- 4) Soulwinning
- 5) Tithing

They need counsel because God will not show his hidden will without you doing His revealed will. Why should God lead you in the unknown when you are not doing the known?

Don't ever reject God's counsel, it is very dangerous.

Prov 1:20-30

Wisdom crieth without; she uttereth her voice in the streets:

- 21 *She crieth in the chief place of concourse, in the openings of the gates: in the city she uttereth her words, saying,*
22 *How long, ye simple ones, will ye love simplicity? and the scorers delight in their scorning, and fools hate knowledge?*
23 *Turn you at my reproof: behold, I will pour out my spirit unto you, I will make known my words unto you.*
24 *Because I have called, and **ye refused**; I have stretched out my hand, and no man regarded;*
25 *But ye have **set at nought** all my counsel, and would none of my reproof:*
26 *I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your fear cometh;*
27 *When your fear cometh as desolation, and your destruction cometh as a whirlwind; when distress and anguish cometh upon you.*
28 *Then shall they call upon me, but I will not answer; they shall seek me early, but they shall not find me:*
29 *For that they hated knowledge, and did not choose the fear of the LORD:*
30 *They would none of my counsel: they despised all my reproof.*

It is a very dangerous thing to look at the Word of God and know what it says and say, "I will not do that."

2 Pet 2:21-22 *For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them.*

22 *But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, The dog is turned to his own vomit again; and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire.*

John 12:48

He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day.