

Correcting the King

“And with many other words (a long sermon) he testified and exhorted them, saying, “Be saved from this perverse (filthy) generation.” (Acts 2:40)

1. It is alright to call this present generation exactly what it is, polluted and perverted.
2. We also need to be on the streets of the world giving the message of salvation first, then truthfully telling this generation what it looks like to the Lord and to us.
3. Correcting our nation and the king is not our main ministry, but it is *part* of it.

Speaking Out Against Sin In Public And To Churches

“O faithless and perverse (twisted [Acts 20:30]) generation...” (Matthew 17:17)

“An evil (unbelievers) and adulterous (believers) generation seeks after a sign...” (Matthew 12:39)

“That you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked (bent, warped) and perverse generation...” (Philippians 2:15)

“Be saved from this perverse (spotted, stained [Eph 5:27]) generation.” (Acts 2:40)

“Listen to you more than God, you judge.” (Acts 4:19)

The Corruption Of King Ahab And Queen Jezebel

Obadiah’s Warning To Elijah

“As the Lord your God lives, there is no nation or kingdom where my master has not sent someone to hunt for you; and when they said, ‘He is not here,’ he took an oath from the kingdom or nation that they could not find you.” (1 Kings 18:10)

1. King Ahab’s life was tormented because:
 - a. He was married to Jezebel.
 - b. Elijah was the prophet of God speaking out against Ahab in every section of Israel.
 - c. Elijah prophesied no rain for 3 ½ years.
 - d. Elijah won the hearts of the people of Israel.
2. Elijah came out of hiding and faced the king in person. He told Obadiah to tell the king he was back.
3. Obadiah told Elijah that Ahab sent trained assassins to every nation to hunt for Elijah and they could not find him. To be sure they were telling the truth, they took an oath before king Ahab that they could not find Elijah.

4. Elijah loved his country but hated what Ahab, Jezebel, and Satan had done to Israel.
 - a. When Elijah saw Ahab and Jezebel dismantling the country given to the people by God, he was enraged.
 - b. Elijah left the brook which was drying up because of the curse he placed on the land he was called to be a prophet in.
 - c. Elijah ended up as a guest in the home of a widow and her son. The Lord performed a miracle, and the meal and oil did not fail until the time of the drought ended. Next, he raised the boy from the dead.
 - d. Elijah should have had a national ministry by now. Israel could use someone to multiply grain and oil and raise people from the dead. The drought reduced the food and people were dying. God kept Elijah's ministry a secret for a reason and the time was now coming for Elijah to come on the scene.
5. A greater miracle than food multiplying and a boy being brought back from the dead had been occurring in the ministry of Elijah. Trained assassins were told in every country to tell king Ahab if they saw Elijah. The greatest miracle was Elijah was hidden in plain sight by the Holy Spirit.
 - a. In our churches, we have had miracles that should have made front page news in our cities.
 - b. God has hidden us in plain sight but is now about to bring us out for the world to see.
6. The background for 1 Kings 18 began in verse one when the Lord told Elijah it was time for him to come out into the open before King Ahab.
 - a. The drought was ending, and Elijah would announce it to Ahab.
 - b. The prophet Obadiah had been working for the king but hiding the prophets of the Lord in a cave and feeding them. Obadiah met Elijah and told him all he did to protect the Lord's prophets.
7. **Elijah's** answer to Obadiah:

"Then Elijah said, "As the Lord of hosts lives, before whom I stand, I will surely present myself to him today." So Obadiah went to meet Ahab, and told him; and Ahab went to meet Elijah. Then it happened, when Ahab saw Elijah, that Ahab said to him, "Is that you, O troubler of Israel?" And he answered, "I have not troubled Israel, but you and your father's house have, in that you have forsaken the commandments of the Lord and have followed the Baals" (1 Kings 18:15-18).

 - a. We need to tell the nation's leadership the truth.
 - b. We are not the nation's problems. They are. We are the answer.
 - c. Leadership who has turned from God is the problem. Those who know God and walk in righteousness are the answer.
8. Elijah told Ahab, *"the sin of the nation's leadership has cause God to give me the message that it will not rain for three and a half years. The curse has come because of you, not me."*

The Lame Man At The Gate Beautiful

1. He was the most well-known crippled man in Jerusalem. The city gave him the most accessible place in the city to beg alms.
2. One day Peter and John came by and healed the man, and the leadership hated them and arrested them.
3. Elijah's story was repeated with the early apostles after Pentecost. A healing brought he government's wrath (Acts 4:7-20).

How Can You Call Yourself A Minister Of God And Not Correct The King?

1. The leaders of Israel have just declared that it is a crime to heal the sick of preach in the name of Jesus.
 - a. It is illegal for the government to use their money to help Christians get heroin addicts off drugs, though the results for Christians are 87% compared to the government results of 3%.
 - b. Peter told them to their faces, they were the problem, not the disciples, not the message of name of Jesus.
 - c. We, like Peter, must choose to serve God, not men.
2. God started the Church and its miracle ministry. So, neither Satan nor any human government can stop it.
 - a. We preach the gospel and teach the word which will live and abide forever.
 - b. Therefore, because our message is eternal and will outlive the messages of religion, Satan, or the world, we will be found preaching it when all other kingdoms are gone.