

“The Necessity of the Counsel of the Lord”

Joshua 9:1-27

subject: the Israelites are deceived by their enemies

objective: seek the counsel of the Lord in all my ways

I. our enemies try to deter us from the counsel of the Lord (1-6)

A. we're in a spiritual battle against deceptive enemies

1. the devil (Satan) (1 Pet. 5:8; Eph. 6:11-12; 2 Cor. 11:3)

2. the world (1 John 5:19; Mark 4:19; 1 John 2:15-16)

3. our flesh (James 1:14; Gal. 5:17)

II. in all our ways we need to seek the counsel of the Lord (7-15)

A. we should never rely solely upon our own judgment

1. our hearts are very deceitful (Jer. 17:9-10; Prov. 14:12)

B. we should always rely upon the counsel of the Lord

1. He knows everything (Isaiah 46:9-10; Psalm 147:4-5; Psalm 33:13-15)

C. we should seek His counsel in all our ways

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart,
And lean not on your own understanding;
In all your ways acknowledge Him,
And He shall direct your paths.”
(Prov. 3:5-6)

III. troubles come when we neglect the counsel of the Lord (16-27)

A. our decisions can greatly impact those around us

B. some bad decisions have life-long consequences

C. forgiveness doesn't necessarily eliminate consequences