

## Evangelism Part 14

*“13 for, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.” 14 How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? 15 And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!” (Romans 10:13-15)*

In the above Scripture it is very clearly demonstrated to us that people will believe in the good news of Lord and got saved through hearing the message. They need to hear the good news and the Word of God from someone to be saved. Therefore it is necessarily that we need to continually preach the Word of God.

We as Church of God we honour the command of Jesus in *Mark 16:15 “Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation.”* Therefore we commissioned all our trained workers to go forward with the message and the command of Jesus to go and make disciples by preaching to them the Gospel and teaching them the Word of God, *“19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” (Matthew 28:19-20)*

*“32 “Whoever acknowledges me before men, I will also acknowledge him before my Father in heaven. 33 But whoever disowns me before men, I will disown him before my Father in heaven.” (Matthew 10:32-33)* The Lord would expect from us to acknowledge him before men and proclaim His Word and will to them. Evangelism might not be easy, and you might find opposition and some people who will not accept the message but the Lord would expect from you to continue to proclaim the message, *“34 Do not suppose that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I did not come to bring peace, but a sword. 35 For I have come to turn a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law--36 a man's enemies will be the members of his own household.” (Matthew 10:34-36)*

The Lord commissioned the prophet Jeremiah to preach and teach His Word to the Israelites, *“9 Then the LORD reached out his hand and touched my mouth and said to me, “Now, I have put my Words in your mouth. 10 See, today I appoint you over nations and kingdoms to uproot and tear down, to destroy and overthrow, to build and to plant.” (Jeremiah 1:9-10)*

Jeremiah was admonished to stand firm in spite of all the pressures that were surrounded him: *“17 Get yourself ready! Stand up and say to them whatever I command you. Do not be terrified by them, or I will terrify you before them. 18 Today I have made you a fortified city, an iron pillar and a bronze wall to stand against the whole land--against the kings of Judah, its officials, its priests and the people of the land. 19 They will fight against you but will not overcome you, for I am with you and will rescue you,” declares the LORD.” (Jeremiah 1:17-19)* Truly Jeremiah was sent to stubborn people who were also misled by many false prophets who taught the people rebellion and did

not admonish them to follow God the same as the message of the Lord through Jeremiah. The Word of God spoke about those false prophets the following: *“25 I have heard what the prophets say who prophesy lies in my name. They say, ‘I had a dream! I had a dream!’ 26 How long will this continue in the hearts of these lying prophets, who prophesy the delusions of their own minds? 27 They think the dreams they tell one another will make my people forget my name, just as their fathers forgot my name through Baal worship.” (Jeremiah 23:25-27)* But that is how God addresses the challenge: *“28 Let the prophet who has a dream tell his dream, but let the one who has my Word speak it faithfully. For what has straw to do with grain?” declares the LORD. 29 “Is not my Word like fire,” declares the LORD, “and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?” (Jeremiah 23:28-29)*

The time that God had called Jeremiah to serve Him and proclaim His Word, there were many other false prophets and false teachers who were preaching messages that did not come from the Lord. Those prophets were misleading the people and condoning with them their sins and their wrong doings. Jeremiah was surrounded by such dreamers who were teaching the people things that contradict the message that God had given to Jeremiah. Sure Jeremiah was discouraged because of those preachers who were opposing the message of God and who were leading the people through their teaching to move away from God. But the Lord encouraged Jeremiah with His Word that he does not need to be discouraged; the Lord directed Jeremiah also of what he needs to do:

*1- Let the prophet who has a dream tell his dream:* Let them speak lies and tell the people wrong things. You cannot close the mouth of those false teachers and those who compromise, and you do not need to condone with the people their sins. But you can do the following:

*2- But let the one who has my Word speak it faithfully:* God instructed Jeremiah to continue to speak forth the Word of God that He was receiving from the Lord. You can face the false prophets and teachers, by continually preaching to the people the Word of God and teach them the sound teaching.

*3- For what has straw to do with grain?* The false teaching is like a straw and it has no value in compare to the grain (the Word of God). The straw will be blown away by the wind, but the grain will remain.

*4- Is not my Word like fire,” declares the LORD:* The Word of God that you are preaching is like the fire that will consume the false teaching (the straw).

*5- And like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?:* Whatever is the foundation of false teaching, the Word of God shall break it as hammer break a rock in pieces.

It is a very clear way for you to continue to serve God, and to be well maintained even you are in the mid of bad company of false teachers. You do not need to grieve or feel pain because of the false teaching, and you do not need to approve them. But faithfully continue to proclaim the Word of God to the people and to the field of Evangelism whom the Lord entrusted to your care.

We learn that we need to speak the truth even there are around us many who are false teachers and false prophets. And certain time we pray to God and we ask Him to send us to people who are willing to receive the Word of God and who are receptive to what we are going to tell them. There might be not wrong in such kind of prayer, but how about if God want to send you to people who are not willing to receive God's Word, or who are aggressive and would react badly against you when you speak to them the truth and declare to them God's Will: would you not go to them? I guess not. Even to those who are not willing to repent God may send us to them for a certain purpose, that they may hear the word of God clearly, and therefore their judgment will be based on evidence. Or in reaching them we are making the move and clearing the way toward other souls to hear the truth and to come to Christ.

Truly that our aim is to reach the sheep the Jesus and to disciple them, and we also don't delight in argument or fight. But we need to understand that the sheep of Jesus in certain occasion are taken captive by ring leaders who are misleading them into wrong ways of life. So to reach them we need to deal with such ring leaders, and to do that we might be called to go into a hard time with those leaders to set the captive sheep free. Let us read this event from the Scripture and will learn further how to evangelize.

***“1 Then Moab rebelled against Israel after the death of Ahab. 2 And Ahaziah fell down through a lattice in his upper chamber that was in Samaria, and was sick: and he sent messengers, and said unto them, Go, enquire of Baalzebub the god of Ekron whether I shall recover of this disease. 3 But the angel of the LORD said to Elijah the Tishbite, Arise, go up to meet the messengers of the king of Samaria, and say unto them, Is it not because there is not a God in Israel, that ye go to enquire of Baalzebub the god of Ekron? 4 Now therefore thus saith the LORD, Thou shalt not come down from that bed on which thou art gone up, but shalt surely die. And Elijah departed. 5 And when the messengers turned back unto him, he said unto them, Why are ye now turned back? 6 And they said unto him, There came a man up to meet us, and said unto us, Go, turn again unto the king that sent you, and say unto him, Thus saith the LORD, Is it not because there is not a God in Israel, that thou sendest to enquire of Baalzebub the god of Ekron? therefore thou shalt not come down from that bed on which thou art gone up, but shalt surely die. 7 And he said unto them, What manner of man was he which came up to meet you, and told you these words? 8 And they answered him, He was an hairy man, and girt with a girdle of leather about his loins. And he said, It is Elijah the Tishbite. 9 Then the king sent unto him a captain of fifty with his fifty. And he went up to him: and, behold, he sat on the top of an hill. And he spake unto him, Thou man of God, the king hath said, Come down. 10 And Elijah answered and said to the captain of fifty, If I be a man of God, then let fire come down from heaven, and consume thee and thy fifty. And there came down fire from heaven, and consumed him and his fifty. 11 Again also he sent unto him another captain of fifty with his fifty. And he answered and said unto him, O man of God, thus hath the king said, Come down quickly. 12 And Elijah answered and said unto them, If I be a man of God, let fire come down from heaven, and consume thee and thy fifty. And the fire of God came down from heaven, and consumed him and his fifty. 13 And he sent again a captain of the third fifty with his fifty. And the third captain of fifty went up, and came and fell on his knees before Elijah, and besought him, and said***

***unto him, O man of God, I pray thee, let my life, and the life of these fifty thy servants, be precious in thy sight. 14 Behold, there came fire down from heaven, and burnt up the two captains of the former fifties with their fifties: therefore let my life now be precious in thy sight. 15 And the angel of the LORD said unto Elijah, Go down with him: be not afraid of him. And he arose, and went down with him unto the king. 16 And he said unto him, Thus saith the LORD, Forasmuch as thou hast sent messengers to enquire of Baalzebub the god of Ekron, is it not because there is no God in Israel to enquire of his word? therefore thou shalt not come down off that bed on which thou art gone up, but shalt surely die. 17 So he died according to the word of the LORD which Elijah had spoken. And Jehoram reigned in his stead in the second year of Jehoram the son of Jehoshaphat king of Judah; because he had no son. 18 Now the rest of the acts of Ahaziah which he did, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel?” (2 Kings 1:1-18 KJV)***

Ahaziah was the son of Ahab, the Ahab who led the Israelites away in Baal worship. The people forsaken the worship of God and were enticed to take other gods of other nations to make their life more pleasant and comfortable. Now a day the churches in general introducing many worldly things and days in their worship and celebrate these days, like Valentine, Halloween, Mother Day, Father Day, and the rest of the feast to come, trusting that they will be feeling more happy and elated as they celebrating these days. They are taken these days celebration as replacement to Christ and His word. They trust them more than the Word of God. They are celebrating these even not out of reverence of God but out of fear of their friends, spouses, friends and acquaintances. They are Christianizing these events, forgetting that what they are doing is introducing idol worship in God's church and into their families. That will ultimately cause havoc and destruction.

Due to the evil ways of Ahab and his family, the Lord allowed the Moabites to rebel against Israel. Their rebellion had affected Israel since Moab was supplying large number of sheep every year as tribute to Israel. Possibly king Ahaziah was troubled in his mind because of that event and the financial loss and pressure. Possibly due to lack of concentration he fell down from the lattice in his upper chamber. The meaning of Ahaziah is 'the Lord hold'. Ahaziah Instead of repentance and return back to God to solve his economic problem and in order for him to be healed, he decided to ask healing and support from other gods and not Jehovah. ***“And Ahaziah fell down through a lattice in his upper chamber that was in Samaria, and was sick: and he sent messengers, and said unto them, Go, enquire of Baalzebub the god of Ekron whether I shall recover of this disease.” (2 Kings 1:2 KJV)*** He was looking for a revelation and help from other gods. Ahaziah was the king, and there was large number of people under him. If Ahaziah the king that was his stand, then what will be the stand of others who are under him? Most likely departure from God.

At that juncture of event, God sent His angel and spoke to Elijah to go and give the following message to the messengers that the king sent: ***“But the angel of the LORD said to Elijah the Tishbite, Arise, go up to meet the messengers of the king of Samaria, and say unto them, Is it not because there is not a God in Israel, that ye go to enquire of Baalzebub the god of Ekron?” (2 Kings 1:3 KJV)***

***Is it not because there is not a God in Israel, that ye go to enquire of Baalzebub the god of Ekron?*** The meaning of Baalzebub is the 'lord of fly', the god that the Philistines worship at Ekron. The meaning of the word baal is 'lord'. Anything you allow it to be Lord over your life is idol worship. Is it because there is not a Word of God, His promises, and His ordinances that Ahaziah went to seek help and comforts from idols and demons? Nothing will destroy God's church more than idols and demons. He might expect to feel better when he go to idols to seek help; demons might give some temporal relief but only to confuse and lead those who seek them astray. We have Jesus, His Word, and the voice of the Holy Spirit to heal and comfort us and give us what we need in our lives.

The meaning of Elijah is 'Jehovah is God'. We need to keep God in our lives and not to go and prostitute ourselves with other gods in this world. As well as we shouldn't think that such kind of seeking help from idols will bring joy, peace, relief, or healing. We need to seek God, repent of our worldliness and stubbornness, and have healing and relief from our troubles!

To evangelize properly we need to clean ourselves from such unclean things so we can reach the lost with a pure message. Elijah faithfully was living for God, and he delivered the message faithfully as it should be and gave the judgment of God against Ahaziah, ***"Now therefore thus saith the LORD, Thou shalt not come down from that bed on which thou art gone up, but shalt surely die. And Elijah departed."*** (2 Kings 1:4 KJV) The message was very clear and systematic. Elijah presented to Ahaziah his sin being trusting baalzebub and not the Lord God, and as a result of that he will receive death because the wage of sin is death. The message was heavy, and the messengers turned back and returned to the king, ***"And when the messengers turned back unto him, he said unto them, Why are ye now turned back?"*** (2 Kings 1:5 KJV) When we evangelize we need to combat sin clearly and we need to use the very Word of God to condemn it. We need to use Scriptures from the bible to make the message valid and effective.

Diligently the messengers informed the king the message of God to him, ***"6 And they said unto him, There came a man up to meet us, and said unto us, Go, turn again unto the king that sent you, and say unto him, Thus saith the LORD, Is it not because there is not a God in Israel, that thou sendest to enquire of Baalzebub the god of Ekron? therefore thou shalt not come down from that bed on which thou art gone up, but shalt surely die."*** (2 Kings 1:6 KJV) The king when he heard the message, he verified from where it came and he come to know that it was the message of God through Elijah the prophet, ***"7 And he said unto them, What manner of man was he which came up to meet you, and told you these words? 8 And they answered him, He was an hairy man, and girt with a girdle of leather about his loins. And he said, It is Elijah the Tishbite."*** (2 Kings 1:7-8 JV) After Ahaziah came to know the authenticity of the message it supposes that he should repent, and renounce what he did in asking help from idols. Ahaziah needed to show repentance and humility when he heard the message, but neither he nor the people with him showed any repentance. Instead that he will humble down before God and the man of God and repent and consider his way, he sent fifty men to take him. The message of God to Ahaziah was that he will not recover

from his sickness, and truly he died, not because the message was the final judgment of God but because he was not willing to humble down. He did not show any fear toward God and reverence to heed the message that God sent to him. He remained arrogant, and no mind in him to repent. Even those whom he sent were behaving in an arrogant way as we read here: ***"Then the king sent unto him a captain of fifty with his fifty. And he went up to him: and, behold, he sat on the top of an hill. And he spake unto him, Thou man of God, the king hath said, Come down."*** (2 Kings 1:9 KJV) They were the people of God but they were totally unaware of the death that coming to them from the devil that they trusted and worshipped. Elijah was willing to be persecuted and targeted by the enemy, and he did not bend to them. He was still valiant and gave the message of God to them: ***"And Elijah answered and said to the captain of fifty, If I be a man of God, then let fire come down from heaven, and consume thee and thy fifty. And there came down fire from heaven, and consumed him and his fifty."*** (2 Kings 1:10 KJV) I am not telling here to curse the people or be aggressive with them when you evangelize, but you should be firm and stick to the message that was entrusted to you by God. Neither you go by your own understanding but deliver the message and do exactly what the Lord had requested you to do without fear and without compromising.

I was reminded here of what the Lord spoke to the prophet Jeremiah whom the Lord sent to face the people and their sins. When the people rejected the message of Jeremiah and rejected him as a messenger from God, this what the Lord instructed Jeremiah, ***"Therefore thus saith the LORD, If thou return, then will I bring thee again, and thou shalt stand before me: and if thou take forth the precious from the vile, thou shalt be as my mouth: let them return unto thee; but return not thou unto them."*** (Jeremiah 15:19 KJV)

***"Therefore thus saith the LORD, If thou return, then will I bring thee again, and thou shalt stand before me."*** (Jeremiah 15:19 KJV) Jeremiah here backslidden because he did not face properly the people with their sins; God is telling him, that if you want to come back to God and fight against sin with me, then you can stand again.

***"And if thou take forth the precious from the vile, thou shalt be as my mouth."*** (Jeremiah 15:19 KJV) God was telling him you need to honor the truth of God and consider it as a precious thing. Those who does not honor the truth of God and those who does not keep the truth, they are doing vile things. If you will honor the truth then you will be the mouth of God, and the Lord will give you His Word.

***"Let them return unto thee; but return not thou unto them."*** (Jeremiah 15:19 KJV) Don't bend down before them. Those who had done wrong and you had rebuked them correctly according to God's Word, don't go and apologize to them and say to them sorry. Don't do that, but let them repent, come back to God, and to you correcting their wrong doings.

With all what had happened Ahaziah did not wake up from the clutches of devil. He continued in his arrogance, and he repeated his folly: ***"Again also he sent unto him another captain of fifty with his fifty. And he answered and said unto him, O man of God, thus hath the king said, Come down quickly."*** (2 Kings 1:11 KJV) Elijah did not change his stand and the way he delivered the message, ***"And Elijah answered and said unto them, If I be a man of God, let fire come down from heaven, and consume thee and thy fifty. And***

*the fire of God came down from heaven, and consumed him and his fifty. ” (2 Kings 1:11 KJV)*

In evangelism there might be batches of people coming to us in sequence. We need to tell the message that is suitable to them and to those who are leading them astray. We might be having no fruit or harvest at the beginning or for a while as we found here. But we need to persevere and continue to serve God without fear and without compromises. When we deliver the message and agree with God then the Lord will bless our effort and grant us success in the ministry that he entrusted to us, as we can see here in the ministry of Elijah. On the third round and after the death of the first two batches, the third officer came to the prophet Elijah with fear and trembling, **“13 And he sent again a captain of the third fifty with his fifty. And the third captain of fifty went up, and came and fell on his knees before Elijah, and besought him, and said unto him, O man of God, I pray thee, let my life, and the life of these fifty thy servants, be precious in thy sight. 14 Behold, there came fire down from heaven, and burnt up the two captains of the former fifties with their fifties: therefore let my life now be precious in thy sight.” (2 Kings 1:13-14 KJV)** That new officer was humbled and had the fear of God in his heart. He valued Elijah, and knew the truthfulness of God’s Word that he delivered to them. He was aware that the judgment of God will fall on him if he refused to repent. He was aware of what is death and what is life. Therefore He asked for mercy and asked for his life to be saved. After we deal properly with the ring leaders who promote idolatry, the Lord will lead us to his sheep who need Him and His salvation.

That third batch was receptive to God’s message and they got saved from God’s judgment. As people humble down before God, He will have mercy on them. Therefore, as this man humbled down, Elijah was requested to go with them, **“15 And the angel of the LORD said unto Elijah, Go down with him: be not afraid of him. And he arose, and went down with him unto the king.” (2 Kings 1:15 KJV)** Then Elijah said to the king the same message of God because he did neither amend his way nor repent, **“16 And he said unto him, Thus saith the LORD, Forasmuch as thou hast sent messengers to enquire of Baalzebub the god of Ekron, is it not because there is no God in Israel to enquire of his word? therefore thou shalt not come down off that bed on which thou art gone up, but shalt surely die.” (2 Kings 1:16 KJV)** Elijah used the Word of God, and the message was repeated three times without failing. We need without failing repeat the same message till God’s Word will come to pass.

And truly king Ahaziah died just as what the Word of God spoken by Elijah against him, **“17 So he died according to the word of the LORD which Elijah had spoken. And Jehoram reigned in his stead in the second year of Jehoram the son of Jehoshaphat king of Judah; because he had no son. 18 Now the rest of the acts of Ahaziah which he did, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel?” (2 Kings 1:17-18 KJV)** He died because he refused to repent and amend his way before God and before His prophet.

**“17 So he died according to the word of the LORD which Elijah had spoken. And Jehoram reigned in his stead in the second year of Jehoram the son of Jehoshaphat king of Judah; because he had no son. 18 Now the rest of the acts of Ahaziah which**

**he did, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel?” (2 Kings 1:17-18 KJV)** Elijah warned two kings with God’s judgment. Ahaziah the king of Israel as we discussed above, and the second is king Jehoram the son of Jehoshaphat, the king of Judah, who also did wicked things against God and His Word. Let us read how God dealt with him, **“12 And there came a writing to him from Elijah the prophet, saying, Thus saith the LORD God of David thy father, Because thou hast not walked in the ways of Jehoshaphat thy father, nor in the ways of Asa king of Judah, 13 But hast walked in the way of the kings of Israel, and hast made Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem to go a whoring, like to the whoredoms of the house of Ahab, and also hast slain thy brethren of thy father's house, which were better than thyself: 14 Behold, with a great plague will the LORD smite thy people, and thy children, and thy wives, and all thy goods: 15 And thou shalt have great sickness by disease of thy bowels, until thy bowels fall out by reason of the sickness day by day. 16 Moreover the LORD stirred up against Jehoram the spirit of the Philistines, and of the Arabians, that were near the Ethiopians: 17 And they came up into Judah, and brake into it, and carried away all the substance that was found in the king's house, and his sons also, and his wives; so that there was never a son left him, save Jehoahaz, the youngest of his sons. 18 And after all this the LORD smote him in his bowels with an incurable disease. 19 And it came to pass, that in process of time, after the end of two years, his bowels fell out by reason of his sickness: so he died of sore diseases. And his people made no burning for him, like the burning of his fathers. (2 Chronicles 21:12-19 KJV)**

In conclusion to this message, to evangelize we need to consider to whom the sheep is bound with in our evangelism. And direct the message to the sheep who are captive and to the ring leaders who are leading them far away from God.

King David in his testimony of how he was trained to rescue the sheep from the mouth of the lion and the bear, he said the following: **“34 And David said unto Saul, Thy servant kept his father's sheep, and there came a lion, and a bear, and took a lamb out of the flock: 35 And I went out after him, and smote him, and delivered it out of his mouth: and when he arose against me, I caught him by his beard, and smote him, and slew him.” (1 Samuel 17:34-35 KJV)** To evangelize and want people to be saved, we need to deal also with those who enslave them and led them away from God.

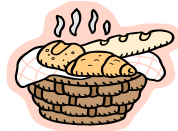
**My Dear and Beloved:** Elijah was alone in dealing with the wickedness of king Ahaziah, but he stood firm, fought the good fight and overcame. He used the Word of God to deliver the message of the Lord. The message of the Lord was repeated without wavering until it was fulfilled. God wants us to do the very will of Him in persevering in delivering the exact message that He wants us to deliver. We should not be afraid or intimidated by people or ring leaders, knowing that if we abide with God’s Word and will, He will rescue us and save us from all perils. Paul experienced that and testified about it as he said, **“16 At my first answer no man stood with me, but all men forsook me: I pray God that it may not be laid to their charge. 17 Notwithstanding the Lord stood with me, and strengthened me; that by me the preaching might be fully known, and that all the Gentiles might hear: and I was delivered out of the mouth of the lion. 18 And the Lord shall deliver me from every evil work, and will preserve me unto his heavenly kingdom: to whom be glory for ever and**

*ever. Amen. 18 And the Lord shall deliver me from every evil work, and will preserve me unto his heavenly kingdom: to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.” (2 Timothy 4:16-18 KJV) You need to be honest in using the Word of God that you receive from the Lord. Be strong and courageous and stand firm in proclaiming His Word that will bring life to the lost*

**My Prayer:** *Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins, who was buried and rose from the dead on the third day to give me eternal life. Lord I commit myself to go and serve you and do the work that you had prepared in advance for me to do. Lord I am willing to go to wherever place or people you are going to send me. Lord I abide with your will and plan to deliver the message that you want me to deliver. Lord protect me and provide for me, trusting you my future and my life. This is my prayer in Jesus name, Amen.*

*For more spiritual enrichment please visit our website at:  
[www.churchofgoduae.com](http://www.churchofgoduae.com)*

# Jesus christ



## The Bread Of Life

Vol. 19

Issue 11

*“31 At that time some Pharisees came to Jesus and said to him, "Leave this place and go somewhere else. Herod wants to kill you." 32 He replied, "Go tell that fox, 'I will drive out demons and heal people today and tomorrow, and on the third day I will reach my goal.' 33 In any case, I must keep going today and tomorrow and the next day--for surely no prophet can die outside Jerusalem! 34 "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing! 35 Look, your house is left to you desolate. I tell you, you will not see me again until you say, 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.'”*

*(Luke 13:31-35)*

*Share the message to a friend*