Be Careful Who You Listen to

Linville Dunaway, Corinth Christian Church

1 Kings 13:1-32 tells the story of a prophet who was commanded of God to deliver a message and to return without eating, or drinking, and to return by another way. He told this to both the king and to another prophet, showing that he knew and alright for him to do it, he gave in and disobeyed the command-

It sounded good, that's for sure. The prophet was thirsty, or to eat, but to go back home. Evidently he didn't want to rush right back home, but he knew that was what God had ordered him to do. Isn't that like so many people today who want to do what they know is wrong? One person told me once that he had to stop drinking, and doing a lot of the things that he had always do.

done because of his age and health. He said, "I had to slow down, but I sure didn't want too." If a person is trying to serve the Lord, he will try to do God's will and resist the desires of the flesh.

At times folks try to rationalize the things that they want to do. Compared to things that are really evil, the things that they want may not seem so bad. I have heard some say that they had never let a drop of alcohol touch their lips, but there were other things understood what God had ordered him to do. Still, he must have that they had done that was sinful. (James 2:10), "For whosoever wanted to eat and drink, for when he was told that it would be shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all. If one were to say, "I haven't stolen anything, that would be good, but if they gossip, or judge, then they have sinned."

When God has said something is sin, it is, no matter who may hungry, and tired. He had told the king that he was not to stay, tell you it is alright to do it. Does God have the ultimate authority in your life? He should have total authority in all areas of life. Eve listened to another voice and disobeyed God. If we are not careful we can too, just like the prophet. He repeated God's commands to the king, showing that he understood what he was supposed to

However, when another man came along who said that he was also a prophet, he listened to him. Nothing in 1 Kings 13 indicates that he knew the man, or that he was a prophet., Yet, when he said that God had sent him to bring the first prophet home to eat he readily accepted his word. It sounded like the words that he wanted to hear, so with no question he disobeyed the Lord. If God had changed his mind, wouldn't he have let the prophet know? Sure, he would have, and it would have been prudent to ask God about it. People have been deceived all through history by those who said what the listener wanted to hear. When it went against God's command there was always a penalty to pay.

The prophet died because he listened to a lie. When anyone says that it is alright to go against the Word of God, realize that it is someone trying to lead you astray. Not everything that looks good is good. The same is true for things that may sound good, but are not according to God's word. Stand on what God has said, not what someone says that he meant.

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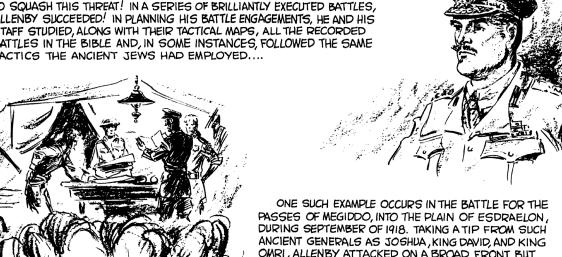
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