

Be Very Careful About Whom You Choose to Listen To

There are two cliché's that, no matter what changes may occur in our society, always seem to survive the ages:

- 1) "Be careful what you wish for", and
- 2) "Be careful whom you choose to listen to".

Both of these axioms are, in my opinion, supported by Scripture.

Ezekiel 13 (NIV)

False Prophets Condemned

Then the word of the LORD came to me saying, ²“Son of man, prophesy against the prophets of Israel who prophesy, and say to those who prophesy from their own inspiration, ‘Listen to the word of the LORD! ³Thus says the Lord GOD, “Woe to the foolish prophets who are following their own spirit and have seen nothing. ⁴O Israel, your prophets have been like foxes among ruins. ⁵You have not gone up into the breaches, nor did you build the wall around the house of Israel to stand in the battle on the day of the LORD. ⁶They see falsehood and lying divination who are saying, ‘The LORD declares,’ when the LORD has not sent them; yet they hope for the fulfillment of *their* word. ⁷Did you not see a false vision and speak a lying divination when you said, ‘The LORD declares,’ but it is not I who have spoken?’”

⁸Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD, “Because you have spoken falsehood and seen a lie, therefore behold, I am against you,” declares the Lord GOD. ⁹“So My hand will be against the prophets who see false visions and utter lying divinations. They will have no place in the council of My people, nor will they be written down in the register of the house of Israel, nor will they enter the land of Israel, ¹⁰that you may know that I am the Lord GOD. ¹⁰It is definitely because they have misled My people by saying, ‘Peace!’ when there is no peace. And when anyone builds a wall, behold, they plaster it over with whitewash; ¹¹so tell those who plaster *it* over with whitewash, that it will fall. A flooding rain will come, and you, O hailstones, will fall; and a violent wind will break out. ¹²Behold, when the wall has fallen, will you not be asked, ‘Where is the plaster with which you plastered *it*?’” ¹³Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD, “I will make a violent wind break out in My wrath. There will also be in My anger a flooding rain and hailstones to consume *it* in wrath. ¹⁴So I will tear down the wall which you plastered over with whitewash and bring it down to the ground, so that its foundation is laid bare; and when it falls, you will be consumed in its midst. And you will know that I am the LORD. ¹⁵Thus I will spend My wrath on the wall and on those who have plastered it over with whitewash; and I will say to you, ‘The wall is gone and its plasterers are gone, ¹⁶*along with* the prophets of Israel who prophesy to Jerusalem, and who see visions of peace for her when there is no peace,’ declares the Lord GOD.

¹⁷“Now you, son of man, set your face against the daughters of your people who are prophesying from their own inspiration. Prophesy against them ¹⁸and say, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD, “Woe to the women who sew *magic* bands on all wrists and make veils for the heads of *persons* of every stature to hunt down lives! Will you hunt down the lives of My people, but preserve the lives of *others* for yourselves? ¹⁹For handfuls of barley and fragments of bread, you have profaned Me to My people to put to death some who should not die and to keep others alive who should not live, by your lying to My people who listen to lies.’”

²⁰Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD, “Behold, I am against your *magic* bands by which you hunt lives there as birds and I will tear them from your arms; and I will let them go, even

those lives whom you hunt as birds. ²¹ I will also tear off your veils and deliver My people from your hands, and they will no longer be in your hands to be hunted; and you will know that I am the LORD. ²² Because you disheartened the righteous with falsehood when I did not cause him grief, but have encouraged the wicked not to turn from his wicked way *and* preserve his life, ²³ therefore, you women will no longer see false visions or practice divination, and I will deliver My people out of your hand. Thus you will know that I am the LORD.”

Be careful; 21st Century deceptiveness is a formidable force, and it's alive and well, tripping us up in just about every category, and in ways you would not believe because what sometimes intuitively makes sense to us may never-the-less not always be in our best interests to pursue.

Talk everything over with the Lord, then wait for His responses. It's mostly when we get ourselves out of His will, timing or sequences that we get ourselves into trouble. The good news, though, is that even if we get ourselves into a problem He will show us the way out if we'll just listen.

I hope you have an amazing day!!

- Jack