

Seeking God “After The Due Order”

“And let us bring again the ark of our God to us: for we enquired not at it in the days of Saul” (I Chronicles 13:3).

Bulletin VCM-021

09 October 2011

In this text David undertook an initiative because of his yearning desire to seek God and maintain fellowship with Him. His passion for God is captured in his expression “O God, thou art my God; **early will I seek** thee: my soul thirsteth for thee, my flesh longeth for thee in a dry and thirsty land, where no water is” (Psalms 63:1).

This attribute distinguished David from Saul, and earned him the title “**a man after God’s heart**”. It is safe to say that Saul’s failure to seek and obey God’s will was the major reason for his loss of divine favour and the associated consequences - failure and loss of the Kingship.

David wanted the ark to be in close proximity so that he and others can regularly enquire of God because “... **we enquired not at it in the days of Saul**” (I Chronicles 13:3). Apparently Saul was very busy with many programmes to find time to seek God. Had he sought God, and followed His will, many of his programmes (including his hot and endless pursuit to kill David) would have changed for good.

Had he sought God **early** as David, he would have come to the same conclusion as Solomon - “**Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man**” (Ecclesiastes 12:13); which in turn would have influenced his goals and programmes in life. We need to be very careful not to repeat Saul’s mistakes.

Seeking God must also be accompanied by knowledge and obedience. Lack of abiding by God’s word in the bringing of the ark resulted in the untimely death of Uzza (I Chronicles 13:10), and changed plans. This provoked David to diligent study of God’s word, which produced new instructions that enabled successful com-

“And ye shall seek for me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart” (Jeremiah 29:13).



pletion of the project -”Then David said, **None ought to carry the ark of God but the Levites:** for them hath the LORD chosen to carry the ark of God, and to minister unto him for ever... And David called for Zadok and Abiathar the priests, and for the Levites... And said unto them, Ye are the chief of the fathers of the Levites: sanctify yourselves, both ye and your brethren, that ye may bring up the ark of the LORD God of Israel unto the place that I have prepared for it. For because ye did it not at the first, the LORD our God made a breach upon us, **for that we sought him not after the due order** (I Chronicles 15:2,11-13).

God demands all to seek Him “**Seek ye the LORD while** he may be found, call ye upon him **while** he is near” (Isaiah 55:6). He told Asa “... The LORD is with you, while ye be with him; and if ye forsake him, he will forsake you” (2 Chronicles 15:2). **As long as Uzziah “sought the Lord, God made him to prosper”** (2 Chronicles 26:5).

Seeking God must be constant. Neither fears nor past failures should hinder seeking God. After divine judgement for his mistake, fear gripped David - “But **David could not go before it to enquire of God: for he was afraid** because of the sword of the angel of the LORD” (I Chronicles 21:30). Overcome your fears and seek God continually! “**Acquaint now thyself with Him and be at peace thereby good shall come unto thee**” (Job 22:21).