

WHO I AM PLEASING?

SCCC

S – Scriptures

“Then Jeremiah said to Zedekiah, “This is what the Lord God Almighty, the God of Israel, says: ‘If you surrender to the officers of the king of Babylon, your life will be spared and this city will not be burned down; you and your family will live.’” Jeremiah 38: 17

C – Consideration

King Zedekiah was under great pressures, facing the enemy outside of the city, and by his own leaders inside. It is said in 2 Kings 24: 19 that he did evil in the eyes of the Lord”. In his eleven years in power, Jeremiah kept speaking God’s words; however, they would not listen to it. Instead, the prophet had been always in danger for his life because of the false prophets who kept speaking lies to the people. They were sinning greatly against the Lord, living in rebellion and yet believing in deceptions, ignoring the one sent by the Lord to warn them of the imminent judgment. When things were coming to an end and, the Babylonians were ready to invade Jerusalem and to destroy it, God in his mercy gave the last chance to the King. Paraphrased, Jeremiah told him, Surrender to Babylon and you, your family and the city will be spared, and if you won’t do it, your family will be killed, the remnant in the city will die, Jerusalem burn down and you will go into captivity until death. But, Zedekiah kept saying the same things: “King Zedekiah said to Jeremiah, “I am afraid of the Jews who have gone over to the Babylonians, for the Babylonians may hand me over to them and they will mistreat me.” (v. 19).

C - Commitment

The life of this king is a great example of how will I finish my life on this earth. Two things will be written about me: He did well in the eyes of the Lord! He did evil in the eyes of the Lord! Jesus had told in the parables of the Talents in Matthew 25: 21-26 the same things:

““His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!’

“His master replied, ‘You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed?’”

I could see the Zedekiah’s greatest problem was the fear of man. When God called me to serve him, I must understand that many people will oppose and not be pleased with what I might do, I have to keep reminding myself that no matter the circumstances, I must obey God, rather than man.

C – Call

My Heavenly Father, forgive me because there were times when I displeased you to please people. Many times I disobeyed your word to please people. I claim the blood of Jesus to cleanse all this evil as your word promises me in I John 1: 7 My Father, give me strength no to waive by fear but, fill me up with the Holy Spirit, therefore, I will be like the disciples in Pentecost. They went out and proclaim Jesus Christ fearlessly and courageously, In Jesus’s name I pray. Amen!