



"And this is the commandment we have from Him, that the one who loves God should love his brother also." 1 John 4: 21

Sunday – August 15, 2010

Heart to Heart...

King Ahab was a good 'sulker.' Read I Kings 21. He wanted Naboth's vineyard which was next to the king's palace. The problem in this was Naboth's inheritance from his family lineage. King Ahab offered him a better vineyard but Naboth didn't want to give up his family possession. What did the king do? He sulked! He went home, laid on his bed with his face turned toward the wall, stuck out that bottom lip and refused to eat. He did not get what he wanted and felt mistreated by being told "no" so he sulked! The king that owned half the country, had palaces, troops for fighting and wealth with the power to command anything he wished but none of that mattered. He wanted a little piece of land from a humble man and that man refused him and it made him upset. When you read carefully, you can almost hear him, "Wah...wah..!"

It sounds a little funny to think of it this way but there is a lesson in it for us. In the church today, there seems to be those super-sensitive that see a refusal, decisions that are made they don't like and they take it as a personal insult! That leads them to childish tendencies and tantrums. They sulk because something isn't done their way and they start holding everyone in their path hostage because of pouty sulking. When people are like that, they make everyone pay. They are visited and reassured but to no avail! They simply must go through their time of sulking. It can lead to the point of leaving and to make their point to cover up their sulking, they point their finger at someone or a certain situation to make it look like it was for a spiritual reason they are leaving. Sulkers play an ungodly game and it creates an ugly heart!

It also happens in homes. There is no physical violence but a lot of sulking and it puts family members in the state of dread. Families live with one individual, who time after time sulk because something is not done in a particular way. They stew about a situation, a word said or a refused physical contact and will sulk for days on end. No talking, a hateful disposition, sharp words when they do speak and a scowl that allows everyone to know they are unhappy. (It's called fleshliness!) If a stranger visits, they can leave. But a family held hostage by one individual has to endure such ungodliness day after day, enduring childish, juvenile attitudes. It destroys the home! It destroys the church! Those with ungodly homes make for an ungodly church because they don't bring love and concern for the Lord from their home to God's people!

Why do people sulk? To make certain others know they have been hurt or refused and they will play this game all the way to their personal ending while everyone else suffers. Sulking is the very world of the devil. It is the opposite of the Lord as He calls to us: "***So, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience; bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you.***" (Colossians 3:12-13) Sulking will cost people their souls! The mind set on the Spirit brings life and peace! (Romans 8:6) If we would embrace the things of God, our lives would go so much better, much happier and you won't have to worry about someone stepping on your lip! Think about it!!!

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