

Date: 4 August 2019

Speaker: Rev Clement Chew

**Topic: Wrong Help is No Help**

Scripture text: 2 Kings 1:1-18

1. King Ahaziah (son of Ahab) was in a desperate situation because he was facing a war with Moab. He was afflicted with serious illness, making him unable to lead the Israelite army into the battle. In his time of desperation, Ahaziah did not turn to the LORD. Instead, he sent his messengers to inquire of Baal-zebub, a heathen god, if he will recover from the disease. In critical times, we must seek the LORD's help and not rely on self or man.

2. The angel of the LORD, who was the pre-incarnate Christ, intervened by commanding Elijah the prophet of the LORD to send Ahaziah's men a message. The message from the LORD was that Ahaziah would surely die from his illness because he chose to seek the help of idols. Instead of repenting and seeking the LORD's forgiveness, Ahaziah sent two troops of armies to Elijah. The two captains were disrespectful when approaching Elijah and God sent a fire from heaven to consume them. God spared the third troop of army as they had a humble spirit when they approached God's servant Elijah.

3. Ahaziah died from his illness as prophesied by Elijah and Baal-zebub did not intervene as he was a powerless idol. As God's children, we ought to have a meek and contrite spirit when we seek God's help. We ought to give thanks to the Lord for all His help and guidance in our lives. When we seek the right help, it is a sure help that will deliver us from all trials and temptations according to the will of God.