

come home to dinner with me. I want to give you a reward. You are a fine man. I'd like to consider giving up this altar and building another one, if You don't like it. You are worth having around. Many a prophet in a situation like that will say, oh how wonderful, the king is converted. Isn't that grand. Tell the world the king has become a Christian. Now we are going to have the millennium right away. Well, kings are converted, and they become Christians. Then much good is done. But there are other cases, where people are moved, and touched, but are not converted, or where they see a chance for their own advancement, and aren't actually touched in the heart at all. And only God knows which and He must test the situation. And in this case, God knew in advance what the situation was going to be, and He did not want this prophet to work with this king who pretended to be a Christian and wasn't one at all. He did not want to work with him and ~~yet~~ he had warned him in advance so he would not make a serious mistake at this point. And so the king said to the man of God, Come home with me, ~~and~~ I'll give you a good dinner and I will give you a reward, and I'll try to persuade you to stay here with me, because you can be so much help to me. And the man of God said to the king, if you give me half your house, I won't go in with you, I won't eat bread and I won't drink any water in this place, for the word of the Lord said to me, Eat no bread nor drink water, nor turn again by the same way that thou camest. So he went another way, and ~~ret~~ didn't return, by the way that he had come. God had given him a command, no matter how beautiful somebody talks, no matter how wonderful it sounds, no matter whether opportunities it is, for the presentation of the Gospel, he could go and have dinner with the king. Now even if he did nothing more, all the rest of his life they would say, this is the man that had dinner with the king. This is the man that was honored by Jeroboam. This is the man who had such a great influence here. Wonderful revival in the city of Bethel. This man carried out with the king coming and giving testimonial to it. Wonderful what this man has done. Think how it would have helped all his future work, even if the king turned against him later. But God said no. You are not to compromise with this king in any way, shape or form, you are not to stay in this place. You are to return. And not even to return by the way you went, but return a