

Elijah

The End of Ahab

Sunday, November 5, 2000

Now Jehoshaphat had great riches and honor;
and he allied himself by marriage with Ahab.

Some years later he went down to visit Ahab at Samaria.

And Ahab slaughtered many sheep and oxen for him

and the people who were with him,

and induced him to go up against Ramoth-gilead.

- 2 Chronicles 18:1-2

The Background

Time: approximately 848 BC

Location: Israel, the Northern Kingdom

Key Players: The LORD

Elijah, the Prophet of the LORD

Ahab, King of Israel

Jezebel, Ahab's wife

Jehoshaphat, King of Judah

Ben-Hadad, King of Syria

Micaiah, a Prophet of the LORD

Unnamed prophets

Situation: Divided Kingdom

Spiritual Apostasy

Alliance between Jehoshaphat and Ahab

Corrupt and weak Ahab

Evil and powerful Jezebel

The Outline

1 Kings Chapter 20

v1-12 Ben-Hadad of Syria tries to make Ahab a vassal

v13-15 A prophet of the LORD prophesies victory

v16-21 The LORD brings the first victory over Ben-Hadad

v22

The prophet of the LORD says Ben-Hadad will return

v23-25

Ben-Hadad told to prepare another campaign

v26-30

At the LORD's word, Ben-Hadad loses again

v31-34

Ahab spares the life of Ben-Hadad

v35-43

The Lord's reply: Ahab's life for sparing Ben-Hadad

1 Kings Chapter 21

v1-4

Ahab covets Naboth's vineyard

v5-10

Jezebel arranges Naboth's death to get vineyard

v11-14

Naboth is murdered

v15-16

Jezebel tells Ahab, the vineyard is his now

v17-24

Elijah sent by the Lord to condemn Ahab to die

v25-26

The LORD's Summary of Ahab

v27

Ahab repents (!)

v28-29

The Lord delays his judgment against Ahab

1 Kings Chapter 22

v1-4

Jehoshaphat visits Ahab, asked to fight with him

v5-6

Prophets consulted, predict victory

v7-8

Jehoshaphat asks for a prophet of the LORD

v9

Micaiah summoned

v10-12

More prophets consulted, predict victory

v13-23

Micaiah comes, prophesies disaster for Ahab

v24-28

Micaiah imprisoned

v29-34

Battle, Ahab is wounded

v35-40

Death of Ahab, as prophesied

The Final Word

Surely there was no one like Ahab
who sold himself to do evil in the sight of the LORD,
because Jezebel his wife incited him.

He acted very abominably in following idols,
according to all that the Amorites had done,
whom the LORD cast out before the sons of Israel.

- 1 Kings 21:25-26, NASB

