

There IS a GOD in Israel ~ 1 Kings 22 - 2 Kings 1

→ **Scripture Reading** - 1 Kings 16:29-33, 21:25-26

AHAB'S LAST BATTLE ~ 1 Kings 22:1-38

¹ For three years there was no war between Aram and Israel. ² But in the third year Jehoshaphat king of **Judah** went down to see the king of **Israel**. (NIV)

→ **Map of Israel - Judah - Aram**

³ The king of Israel had said to his officials, "Don't you know that Ramoth Gilead belongs to us and yet we are doing nothing to retake it from the king of Aram?" ⁴ So he asked Jehoshaphat, "Will you go with me to fight against Ramoth Gilead?" Jehoshaphat replied to the king of Israel, "I am as you are, my people as your people, my horses as your horses." ⁵ BUT Jehoshaphat also said to the king of Israel, "First seek the counsel of the LORD."

²³ So now the LORD has put a lying spirit in the mouths of all these prophets of yours. The lord has DECREED DISASTER for you."

²⁶ The king of Israel then ordered... Put this fellow in prison and give him nothing but bread and water until I return safely. ²⁸ Micaiah declared, If you EVER return safely, the LORD has not spoken through me.

IMPLICATION

1 Kings 21:19 (NIV)This is what the LORD says: In the place where dogs licked up Naboth's blood, dogs will lick up YOUR blood...

They washed the chariot at a pool in Samaria and the dogs licked up his blood. God always has the LAST word. You can Deny God's Word, Reject God's Word, attempt to Outsmart God's Word, but you can NEVER escape it. Ahab's death was not an accident but a DIVINE ACT of JUSTICE. HOTC

PROPHECY: Ahab and Family - FULFILLED

- Dogs will lick up Ahab's BLOOD like Naboth's- 1 Kings 22:38
- ALL his male descendants will be CUT OFF- 2 Kings 10:1,7
- Dogs will DEVOUR Jezebel by a wall in Jezreel- 2 Kings 9:32-36
- NONE of his descendants will be Buried- 1 Kings 21:19

→ **Ahaziah** - Ahab's First son reigned for 2 yrs. - 1 Kings 22:51

→ **Joram** - Ahab's second son reigned for 12 yrs. - 2 Kings 3:1

→ God's Judgment may be DELAYED - but it is Always CERTAIN

Numbers 23:19 (NIV) God is NOT a man, that He should lie, nor a son of man, that He should change His mind. Does He speak and then not act? Does He promise and not fulfill?

→ When GOD Says says Something - He MEANS it

IMPLICATION

1 Kings 22:34 (NLT) An Aramean soldier, however, randomly shot an arrow at the Israelite troops and hit the king of Israel between the joints of his armor. "Turn the horses and get me out of here!" Ahab groaned to the driver of his chariot. "I'm badly wounded!"

The SOVEREIGNTY of God is the Biblical teaching that God possesses ALL POWER and is the Ruler OVER ALL things. God rules and works according to His eternal purpose, even through events that seem to contradict or oppose His rule. HBD

Scripture emphasizes **God's SOVEREIGNTY** in three areas: Creation, Human History, and Redemption. HBD

Psalms 135:6 (ESV) Whatever the LORD pleases, HE DOES, in heaven and on earth, in the seas and all deeps.

Daniel 4:34-35 (NLT) After this time had passed, I, Nebuchadnezzar, looked up to heaven. My sanity returned, and I praised and worshiped the Most High and honored the one who lives forever. His rule is everlasting, and his kingdom is eternal. ³⁵ All the people of the earth are nothing compared to him. He does as he pleases among the angels of heaven and among the people of the earth. No one can stop him or say to him, 'What do you mean by doing these things?'

A Chip of the Old Block ~ 1 Kings 22:51-53

⁵¹ Ahaziah son of Ahab began to rule over Israel in the seventeenth year of King Jehoshaphat's reign in Judah. He reigned in Samaria two years. ⁵² But he DID what was EVIL in the LORD's sight, following the example of his father and mother... ⁵³ He served Baal and worshiped him, provoking the anger of the LORD, the God of Israel, just as his father had done. (NLT)

Elijah Confronts Ahaziah ~ 2 Kings 1:1-18

¹ After King Ahab's death, the land of Moab rebelled against Israel. ² One day Israel's new king, Ahaziah, fell through the latticework of an upper room at his palace in Samaria and was seriously injured. So he sent messengers to the temple of Baal-zebub, the god of Ekron, to ask whether he would recover. (NLT)

→Map showing Ekron

³ But the angel of the LORD told Elijah, who was from Tishbe, "Go and confront the messengers of the king of Samaria and ask them, 'Is there no God in Israel? Why are you going to Baal-zebub, the god of Ekron, to ask whether the king will recover?' ⁴ Now, therefore, this is what the LORD says: You will never leave the bed you are lying on; you will surely die. So Elijah went to deliver the message. ⁵ When the messengers returned to the king, he asked them, "Why have you returned so soon?" ⁶ They replied, "A man came up to us and told us to go back to the king and give him this message.

A Messenger had the authority of the ONE who sent them. Neither the captains nor King Ahaziah Respected the One who sent Elijah. BEC

⁹ Then he sent an army captain with fifty soldiers to arrest him. They found him sitting ON TOP of a hill. The captain said to him, "Man of God, the king has commanded you to come down with us." ¹⁰ But Elijah replied to the captain, "If I am a man of God, let fire come down from heaven and destroy you and your fifty men!" Then fire fell from heaven and killed them all.

¹³ Once more the king sent a third captain with fifty men. But this time the captain went up the hill and fell to his knees before Elijah. He pleaded with him, "O man of God, please spare my life and the lives of these, your fifty servants." ¹⁴ See how the fire from heaven came down and destroyed the first two groups. But now please spare my life!"

¹⁷ So Ahaziah died, just as the LORD had promised through Elijah...

TAKE AWAY ??

Exodus 24:7 (NLT) Then Moses took the Book of the Covenant and read it aloud to the people. Again they all responded, "We will do everything the LORD has commanded. We will obey."

Deuteronomy 5:6-9 (NLT)

⁶ I am the LORD your God, who rescued you from the land of Egypt...

⁷ You must NOT have any other god but ME.

⁸ You must NOT make for yourself an idol of any kind...

⁹ You must NOT bow down to them or worship them...

(for I the LORD your God, am a jealous God who will not tolerate your affection for any other gods)

Isaiah 57:15 (CSB) For the High and Exalted One, who lives forever, whose NAME is Holy, says this: "I live in a high and holy place, and WITH the oppressed and lowly of spirit, to revive the spirit of the lowly and revive the heart of the oppressed.

Life Lessons...

Elijah- had nothing to fear he was walking in OBEDIENCE to God. HOTC

Ahab- shows us that we cannot manipulate or outmaneuver God. HOTC

Micaiah- challenges us to stand for the Word of God courageously, whatever the cost. HOTC

Jehoshaphat- is a reminder that we must listen to God's Word FIRST, not second. HOTC