

1 Kings 22

Big God/Press On

- Ahab Murders Naboth: Vegetable Garden
- Ahab Judged: No Descendants
- Ahab Humbles Himself before God
- **Ahab Reprieved by God...till today**

I. God Warns Ahab

1 Now **three years** passed without war between **Syria and Israel.**

Three Years after Ahab's compromise...

- Three years after *God gave Ahab victory over Syria*
- Three years after *Ahab allowed Ben Hadad King of Syria to live*

Ahab could have...but did not...take more territory in those 3 years
Guess whose back...His friend Ben Hadad King of Syria

2 Then it came to pass, in the **third year**, that Jehoshaphat the king of Judah went down to visit the king of Israel.

▪ **Jehoshaphat**

1. Fourth King of Israel's Southern Kingdom
2. **Related to Ahab:**

- Jehoshaphat is Ahab's in-law
- Jehoshaphat's son Jehoram married Ahab's/Jezebel's daughter Athaliah

Jehoshaphat goes north to visit Ahab...bad move

3 And [Ahab] the king of Israel said to his servants, "Do you know that Ramoth in Gilead is ours, but we hesitate to take it out of the hand of the king of Syria?"

▪ **Ramoth in Gilead:** Strategic City

1. Center of Administration during Solomon before Kingdom split
2. Lost to Syria during reign of Ahab's father **King Omri**
3. **Ahab wants it back**

4 So he said to Jehoshaphat, "Will you go with me to fight at Ramoth Gilead?"

- **Not Jehoshaphat's fight:** Ramoth belonged to the North

Proverbs 26:17 He who passes by and meddles in a quarrel not his own Is like one who takes a dog by the ears.

- Good man visiting a bad man

1 Corinthians 15:33 Do not be deceived: **"Evil company corrupts good habits."**

- **Ahab to Jehoshaphat:** Fight the Syrians with me to win Ramoth

4b... Jehoshaphat said to the king of Israel, "I am as you are, my people as your people, my horses as your horses."

- Some people have a hard time saying NO
- **I am as you are?** Jehoshaphat was a good man not a smart man

2 Chronicles 17:3 [Read] Now the Lord was with Jehoshaphat, because he walked in the former **ways of his father David**; he did **not seek the Baals**, 4 but **sought the God** of his father, and **walked in His commandments** and not according to the acts of Israel. 5 Therefore the Lord established the kingdom in his hand; and all Judah gave presents to Jehoshaphat, and he had riches and honor in abundance. 6 And **his heart took delight in the ways of the Lord**; moreover he removed the high places and wooden images from Judah...**10** And the fear of the Lord fell on all the kingdoms of the lands that were around Judah, so that they did not make war against Jehoshaphat.

Why do we say yes when we should say no? **"I was so stupid!"**

- God will use even our poor decisions for His plan for us...

Romans 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.

- **All things:** gr. phrase *pā's* each, every, any, all, the whole, everyone, all things, everything...collectively

**God' greater purpose will not be thwarted by our mistakes
...But may cause us some unnecessary pain**

- Jehoshaphat an imperfect man of God

5 Also Jehoshaphat said to the king of Israel, "Please inquire for the word of the Lord today."

- **Obvious:** Seek the Lord's specific instructions/blessing before battle

2 Samuel 5:19 [Read] So David inquired of the Lord, saying, "Shall I go up against the Philistines? Will You deliver them into my hand?" And the Lord said to David, "Go up, for I will doubtless deliver the Philistines into your hand." 20 So David went to Baal Perazim, and David defeated them there...

- Same enemy different strategy...

2 Samuel 5:22 [Read] Then the Philistines went up once again and deployed themselves in the Valley of Rephaim. 23 Therefore David inquired of the Lord, and He said, "You shall not go up; circle around behind them, and come upon them in front of the mulberry trees. 24 And it shall be, when you hear the sound of marching in the tops of the mulberry trees, then you shall advance quickly. For then the Lord will go out before you to strike the camp of the Philistines." 25 And David did so, as the Lord commanded him; and he drove back the Philistines from Geba as far as Gezer.

**When warring we seek the Lords specific instructions.
When are we warring? Always**

- **Jehoshaphat:** Let's seek the Lord...that's what kings do

6 Then the [Ahab] king of Israel gathered the prophets together, about **four hundred men**, and said to them, "Shall I go against Ramoth Gilead to fight, or shall I refrain?" So they said, "Go up, for the Lord will deliver it into the hand of the king."

- **400 False-prophets:** Replenished after the "fire from heaven" incident

Ahab: Q. Should we go to Ramoth and fight the Syrians? **A. Absolutely!**

7 And Jehoshaphat said, "Is there not still a prophet of the Lord here, that we may inquire of Him?"

- These were 400 prophets of Baal
- Jehoshaphat want to hear from the Living God

8 So [Ahab] the king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, "There is still one man, Micaiah the son of Imlah, by whom we may inquire of the Lord; but I hate him, because he does not prophesy good concerning me, but evil." And Jehoshaphat said, "Let not the king say such things!"

- 100 True Prophet's hidden in caves
- Elijah and Elisha location unknown
- **Micaiah:** Only known by this incident here in 1 Kings 22 and in 2 Chron. 18
 1. Kept in jail by Ahab
 2. I hate him because he tells me the truth

**People will hate us simply because we tell them the truth
About consequences of their actions**

- Ahab is evil. Micaiah tells him it will not end well

Do we go to doctor to hear the truth or hear him lie about our terminal condition?

2 Timothy 4:2 Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching. 3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; 4 and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables.

- Not looking for truth just someone to agree

9 Then the king of Israel called an officer and said, "Bring Micaiah the son of Imlah quickly!"

- Jehoshaphat won't go unless he hears from the Lord...

10 The king of Israel and Jehoshaphat the king of Judah, having put on their robes, sat each on his throne, at a threshing floor at the entrance of the gate of Samaria; and all the prophets prophesied before them.

- **Two kings sitting at Threshing Floor**

1. Chaff separated from Wheat/Good from Bad
2. Figuratively a place of Judgment...place to get real

Luke 22:31 And the Lord said, "Simon, Simon! Indeed, Satan has asked for you, that he may sift you as wheat.

- False-prophets begin the show...
- Dancing/Chanting/Cutting...but there was no real answer

11 Now Zedekiah the son of Chenaanah had made horns of iron for himself; and he said, "Thus says the Lord: 'With these you shall gore the Syrians until they are destroyed.'" 12 And all the prophets prophesied so, saying, "Go up to Ramoth Gilead and prosper, for the Lord will deliver it into the king's hand."

- **Zedekiah the False Prophet**

1. Made horns of Iron for his head: Symbol of Strength
2. Running around pretending to gore onlookers
3. You will gore the Syrians like this!
4. 399 agree

Jeremiah 23:16 Thus says the Lord of hosts: "Do not listen to the words of the prophets who prophesy to you. They make you worthless; **They speak a vision of their own heart**, Not from the mouth of the Lord. 17 They continually say to those who despise Me, 'The Lord has said, "You shall have peace"'; And to everyone who walks according to the dictates of his own heart, they say, 'No evil shall come upon you.'"

- **How to know a True Prophet?**

1. Does not contradict Word of God
 2. Near prophesy comes to pass confirming far will be fulfilled
- Micaiah hears the chanting/goring as he is let out of jail...

13 Then the messenger who had gone to call Micaiah spoke to him, saying, "Now listen, the words of the prophets with one accord encourage the king. Please, let your word be like the word of one of them, and speak encouragement." 14 And Micaiah said, "As the Lord lives, **whatever the Lord says to me, that I will speak.**"

Everybody else is saying we are going to win...Don't be the weirdo/the downer

- Whatever the consequences I will speak only the truth of God's Word

- **Where do I get that courage?**

When we consciously and deliberately place the Fear of God...
...exponentially higher than fear of man...and act accordingly [NJC]

- Did Micaiah have any reason to fear?

1 Kings 18:4 For so it was, while Jezebel massacred the prophets of the Lord

- I will speak the Word of God no matter the consequences!

15 Then [Micaiah] came to the king; and the king said to him, "Micaiah, shall we go to war against Ramoth Gilead, or shall we refrain?" And he answered him, "Go and prosper, for the Lord will deliver it into the hand of the king!"

- **Shows his fearlessness with sarcasm:** Go ahead you're going to win

16 So the king [Ahab] said to him, "How many times shall I make you swear that you tell me nothing but the truth in the name of the Lord?"

- Stop messing with me!

17 Then [Micaiah] said [to Ahab], "I saw all Israel scattered on the mountains, as sheep that have no shepherd. And the Lord said, 'These have no master. Let each return to his house in peace.'"

- **I saw:** Vision as if already happened...
 1. Scattered: Picture of judgment
 2. Sheep without a Shepherd
 3. No one to lead the people
 4. Best if you all call it a day and go home...

18 And the king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, "Did I not tell you he would not prophesy good concerning me, but evil?"

- **Foolishness:** Micaiah digs in...

19 Then Micaiah said, "Therefore **hear the word of the Lord:** I saw the Lord sitting on His throne, and all the **host of heaven** standing by, on His right hand and on His left. 20 And the Lord said, 'Who will persuade Ahab to go up, that he may fall at Ramoth Gilead?' So one spoke in this manner, and another spoke in that manner. 21 Then a spirit came forward and stood before the Lord, and said, 'I will persuade him.' 22 The Lord said to him, 'In what way?' So he said, 'I will go out and be a lying spirit in the mouth of all his prophets.' And the Lord said, 'You shall persuade him, and also prevail. Go out and do so.' 23 Therefore look! The Lord has put a lying spirit in the mouth of all these prophets of yours, and the Lord has declared disaster against you."

- **Some believe a parable;** funny story that never really happened to mock the FP's
- Some believe it is account of actual event...

Satan and demons must present themselves to God before doing anything

Job 1:6 Now there was a day when the sons of God came to **present themselves before the Lord**, and Satan also came among them.

Revelation 12:10 ...the accuser of our brethren, who **accused them before our God** day and night, has been cast down.

**Satan must have God's permission for all things
The Devil is in subjection to his Creator**

- Satan's schemes use ultimately for God's purpose
- Here demons work in false-prophets to move Ahab to judgment

"Ahab ... the Lord has declared disaster against you
By sending lying spirits to speak through your prophets"

24 Now Zedekiah the son of Chenaanah went near and struck Micaiah on the cheek, and said, "Which way did the spirit from the Lord go from me to speak to you?"

- **Iron Horn guy now embarrassed:**

1. **Anger of false-prophets:** Strikes prophet of God
2. **Arrogance of false-prophets:** Slanders the Prophet of God [lying]

When pride/arrogance meet a Big God...pride/arrogance are no more

25 And Micaiah said, "Indeed, you shall see on that day when you go into an inner chamber to hide!"

- **One more prophesy:** The day you realize I am right will be the day you die

26 So [Ahab] the king of Israel said, "Take Micaiah, and return him to Amon the governor of the city and to Joash the king's son; 27 and say, 'Thus says the king: "Put this fellow in prison, and feed him with bread of affliction and water of affliction, until I come in peace.'"

- People want to snuff out the light of the truth to their own demise...

John 3:19 ...this is the condemnation [leading to damnation...], that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. 20 For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed.

- Religious leaders/Satan thought they could snuff out Light by killing the Son of God
- Ahab thought if he locked up Micaiah that the truth he spoke would not come to pass

Ahab: Throw him back in prison and make his life miserable till I come back

28 But Micaiah said, "If you ever return in peace, the Lord has not spoken by me." And he said, "Take heed, all you people!"

- Prophet warns Ahab and all the people before being hauled away

SUMMARY God Warns Ahab: Itching Ears Leading to Defeat

- Ahab did not want truth so God sent what he wanted...a lie
 1. Self-deception will lead to his demise
 2. Same deception in end times will lead to embracing AC and damnation...

2 Thessalonians 2:9 The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, 10 and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not **receive the love of the truth**, that they might be saved. 11 And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie

II. Ahab Ignores God: Began with Solomon Ignoring God

29 So the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat the king of Judah went up to Ramoth Gilead.

- **What?** Why did Jehoshaphat [man of God] go after Prophet said no?
 1. Fear of man? Not likely as seen later
 2. Caught up in the moment? 2 Kings in kingly attire on thrones
 3. Ahab convinced him
 4. He gave Ahab his word before hearing the prophet?

2 Chronicles 18:3 "I am as you are, and my people as your people; we will be with you in the war."

30 And the king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, "I will disguise myself and go into battle; but you put on your robes." So the king of Israel disguised himself and went into battle.

When we disregard Word of God

We will try to create our own plan in an attempt to thwart God's plan: Nope

- Ahab knows Ben-Hadad will seek him out: Dresses like a common soldier
- Ahab tells Jehoshaphat to where his Kingly clothing?

We have the wisdom of the Lord at our fingertips Sad to see an ignorant believer

- Jehoshaphat a godly man in many ways but wisdom is not one of them...
 1. Gets involved with things that don't concern him, then...
 2. Paints a target on his back as goes to war

Nice jackets. I'll take the one with the target on the back

Luke 16:8 ...the sons of this world are more shrewd in their generation than the sons of light.

- **Many times...**

1. Heathens are more shrewd planning sin Ahab
2. Than believers are in seeking to do right Jehoshaphat

Sad to see an ignorant believer making bad decisions
When we absolutely don't have to...every decision could be the right one

31 Now the king of Syria had commanded the thirty-two captains of his chariots, saying, "Fight with no one small or great, but only with the king of Israel."

- **Find Ahab and kill him:**

1. What happened to the previous friendship
2. **Ahab:** He is my brother?

Ben-Hadad picture of sin that needed to die but left alive to come back and bite

32 So it was, when the captains of the chariots saw Jehoshaphat, that they said, "**Surely it is the king of Israel!**" Therefore they turned aside to fight against him, and Jehoshaphat cried out. 33 And it happened, when the captains of the chariots saw that it was not the king of Israel, that they turned back from pursuing him.

- **Saw someone dressed as Ahab:** Jehoshaphat screams "You got the wrong guy!"
- God helped His man...

2 Chronicles 18:31 [Parallel] ...but Jehoshaphat cried out, and the Lord helped him, and God diverted them from him.

34 Now a certain man drew a bow at random, and struck [Ahab] the king of Israel between the joints of his armor. So he said to the driver of his chariot, "Turn around and take me out of the battle, for I am wounded."

God's plan precisely utilizes what we see as random/coincidence

- Guided missile of God/Sin-seeking missile hits Ahab

35 The battle increased that day; and the [Ahab] was propped up in his chariot, facing the Syrians, and **died at evening**. The blood ran out from the wound onto the floor of the chariot. 36 Then, as the sun was going

down, a shout went throughout the army, saying, "Every man to his city, and every man to his own country!"

Israel has lost the battle to the Syrians

- Ahab propped up to encourage troops to keep fighting
- **Ahab finally dies:** Chariot filled with blood...battle over

Every man to his home: Should have done that in the first place

37 So [Ahab] died, and was brought to Samaria. And they buried the king in Samaria. 38 Then someone washed the chariot at a pool in Samaria, and the dogs licked up his blood while the harlots bathed, according to the word of the Lord which He had spoken.

- Back to the Palace to "his" garden: Did not return in peace; God was right
- Dogs come and help clean up the mess...

2 Prophecies Fulfilled at Ahab's Death

1. You will die in place of Ben-Hadad...

1 Kings 20:42... your life shall go for his life, and your people for his people."

2. Dogs will lick your blood...

1 Kings 22:19b... [Elijah told to tell Ahab] "Thus says the Lord: "In the place where dogs licked the blood of Naboth, dogs shall lick your blood, even yours.""

39 Now the rest of the acts of Ahab, and all that he did, the ivory house which he built and all the cities that he built, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel? 40 So Ahab rested with his fathers. Then Ahaziah his son reigned in his place.

God warned Ahab...Ahab ignored God's clear warning

- **Looking back:** Ahab existed to gratify the desires of his flesh
 1. Self-centered
 2. Self-absorbed
 3. Self-deceived...

Galatians 6:7 Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. 8 For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life.

- Self-deceives as to the consequences of his decisions
- Few years of "pleasure" in exchange everlasting punishment [contrast to eternal life]

Hebrews 11:25 [Moses chose] ...to suffer affliction with the people of God [rather] than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, 26 esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for **he looked to the reward.**

Is it wrong to look for the reward of following the Lord? No.

- **Moses:** Esteemed the reproach of Christ greater than worldly pleasures/riches
- **Reproach:** To suffer a little while for Christ as we **look forward to eternal reward**

Eternal Perspective: To live is Christ [both joy/suffering] **but to die is gain** [Philippians 1:21]

III. Jehoshaphat Reigns in Judah Legacy Recap

41 Jehoshaphat the son of Asa had become king over Judah in the fourth year of Ahab king of Israel. 42 Jehoshaphat was thirty-five years old when he became king, and he reigned twenty-five years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Azubah the daughter of Shilhi. 43 And he walked in all the ways of his father Asa. He did not turn aside from them, doing what was right in the eyes of the Lord.

- **Jehoshaphat**
 1. King over Southern Kingdom
 2. Son of good king Asa; first good king of Judah after split
 3. Jehoshaphat also good king
 4. Next good king 4 kings later; i.e. Joash
 5. Walked in the former ways of David
 6. Lord established the kingdom in his hand
 7. Riches and honor in abundance
 8. God's hand on Jehoshaphat caused surrounding nations to fear
 9. His enemies would bring tribute for peace; i.e. Precious metals and flocks
 10. Increased in power and built fortresses and storage cities in Judah
 11. Made the mistake of visiting his father-in-law Ahab

Protected by God but rebuked when he returned...

2 Chronicles 19:1 [Read] Then Jehoshaphat the king of Judah returned safely to his house in Jerusalem. 2 And Jehu the son of Hanani the seer went out to meet him, and said to King Jehoshaphat, "**Should you help the wicked and love those who hate the Lord? Therefore the wrath of the Lord is upon you.** 3 Nevertheless **good things are found in you**, in that you have removed the wooden images from the land, and have **prepared your heart to seek God.**"

Prepared his heart to seek God; i.e. receive rebuke and repent graciously

- **Immediately back in the saddle**
 1. Not moping
 2. Not self-absorbed
 3. Not blaming

4. Accepted rebuke and back to work for the Lord...

2 Chronicles 19:4 [Read] ...he went out again among the people from Beersheba to the mountains of Ephraim, and brought them back to the Lord God of their fathers...**8** Moreover in Jerusalem, for the judgment of the Lord and for controversies, Jehoshaphat appointed some of the Levites and priests, and some of the chief fathers of Israel, when they returned to Jerusalem.

- **Jehoshaphat:**

1. A man who immediately called to the Lord when in trouble
2. A man who could rally people to seek the Lord with him...

2 Chronicles 20:2 [Read] Then some came and told Jehoshaphat, saying, "A great multitude is coming against you from beyond the sea, from Syria; and they are in Hazazon Tamar" (which is En Gedi). **3** And Jehoshaphat feared, and **set himself to seek the Lord**, and proclaimed a fast throughout all Judah. **4** So Judah gathered together to ask help from the Lord; and from all the cities of Judah they **came to seek the Lord**.

- **A man God responds to...**

2 Chronicles 20:15 [Read] And [the Prophet answered]..."Listen, all you of Judah and you inhabitants of Jerusalem, and you, King Jehoshaphat! Thus says the Lord to you: 'Do not be afraid nor dismayed because of this great multitude, for the **battle is not yours, but God's**. **16** Tomorrow go down against them. They will surely come up by the Ascent of Ziz, and you will find them at the end of the brook before the Wilderness of Jeruel. **17** You will not need to fight in this battle. Position yourselves, **stand still and see the salvation of the Lord, who is with you**, O Judah and Jerusalem!' **Do not fear or be dismayed**; tomorrow go out against them, for the Lord is with you." **18** And Jehoshaphat bowed his head with his face to the ground, and all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem bowed before the Lord, worshiping the Lord. **19** Then the Levites of the children of the Kohathites and of the children of the Korahites stood up to **praise the Lord God** of Israel with voices loud and high. **20** So they rose early in the morning and went out into the Wilderness of Tekoa; and as they went out, **Jehoshaphat stood and said**, "Hear me, O Judah and you inhabitants of Jerusalem: **Believe in the Lord your God, and you shall be established**; believe His prophets, and you shall prosper." **21** And when he had consulted with the people, he appointed those who should sing to the Lord, and who should praise the beauty of holiness... **24** So when Judah came to a place overlooking the wilderness, they looked toward the multitude; and there were their dead bodies, fallen on the earth. No one had escaped... **28** So they came to Jerusalem, with stringed instruments and harps and trumpets, to the house of the Lord. **29** And the fear of God was on all the kingdoms of those countries when they heard that the Lord had fought against the enemies of Israel. **30** Then the **realm of Jehoshaphat was quiet, for his God gave him rest all around**.

- Great guy but not perfect

2 Chronicles 20:35 [Read] After this Jehoshaphat king of Judah allied himself with Ahaziah [bad] king of Israel, who acted very wickedly. **36** And [Jehoshaphat] allied himself with him to make ships to go to Tarshish...[Rebuked by prophet]...**37b** "Because you have allied yourself with Ahaziah, the Lord has destroyed your works." Then the ships were wrecked, so that they were not able to go to Tarshish.

- Not perfect but loved none the less...

Psalm 103:11 [David] For as the heavens are high above the earth, So great is His mercy toward those who fear Him; 12 As far as the east is from the west, So far has He removed our transgressions from us. 13 As a father pities his children, So the Lord pities those who fear Him. 14 For He knows our frame; He remembers that we are dust.

- Really wanted to do God's will but at times fell to people pleasing/compromise

43b...Nevertheless the high places were not taken away, for the people offered sacrifices and burned incense on the high places. 44 Also Jehoshaphat made peace with the king of Israel.

- **2 Things God calls Jehoshaphat out for in 1 Kings**

1. **High Places:** Allowed places of worship away from Temple [Compromise]
2. **Ungodly Alliances** with Ahab and his son Ahaziah [v49] [People pleasing?]

45 Now the rest of the acts of Jehoshaphat, the might that he showed, and how he made war, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah? 46 And the rest of the perverted persons, who remained in the days of his father Asa, he banished from the land. 47 There was then **no king in Edom**, only a deputy of the king.

- **More godly acts of Jehoshaphat**

1. Showed Might
2. Removed homosexual temple prostitutes his [good?] father left

**Jehoshaphat removed things that offended God
And cherished the things that pleased God**

- Jehoshaphat battled his flesh but had victory by God's Spirit

No King of Edom; i.e. in the end the flesh was not reigning in Jehoshaphat's life

48 Jehoshaphat made merchant ships to go to Ophir for gold; but they never sailed, for the **ships were wrecked** at Ezion Geber. 49 Then Ahaziah the son of Ahab said to Jehoshaphat, "Let my servants go with your servants in the ships." But Jehoshaphat would not.

- Learned his lesson to not ally himself with evil
- It took a couple of hard lessons but God did not give up

50 And Jehoshaphat rested with his fathers, and was buried with his fathers in the City of David his father. Then Jehoram his son reigned in his place.

IV. Ahaziah Reigns in Israel Ahab's Legacy Recap

51 Ahaziah the son of Ahab became king over Israel in Samaria in the seventeenth year of Jehoshaphat king of Judah, and reigned two years over Israel. 52 He did evil in the sight of the Lord, and walked in the way of his father and in the way of his mother and in the way of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who had made Israel sin; 53 for he served Baal and worshiped him, and provoked the Lord God of Israel to anger, according to all that his father had done.

▪ Ahab's son Ahaziah

1. Did evil in sight of the Lord
2. Walked in the way of parents Ahab and Jezebel
3. Walked in the way of Jeroboam
4. Served/Worshiped Baal
5. Provoked the Lord to anger

Read about the fate of Ahab's son Ahaziah in Chapter 1 of 2 Kings

I Kings Overview

▪ Chapters 1-11

1. David is King and advanced in age
2. David proclaims Solomon King
3. Builds Temple: Visions of God 2x
4. Asks for Wisdom
5. Ark brought to its home: Temple in Jerusalem/Prayer of Dedication
6. Queen of Sheba observes Solomon's great wisdom/great wealth
7. Solomon married heathen Egyptian girl for "purely political reasons"
8. **Law of Kings:** Solomon disregards Gods clear instructions...
 - King is *not to* multiply horses
 - King is *not to* multiply wives
 - King *is to* "write a copy" of the instructions for the king from the Law
9. Chapter 11: Solomon turns from the Lord to Idols of his wives
10. God allows adversaries to arise causing it to split
 - Son Rehoboam in the South
 - Servant Jeroboam in North

▪ Chapters 12-22

1. Jeroboam replaces worship of true God with idolatry and worship of demons
2. Golden Calves, Priests of Baal, 2 places to worship idols; i.e. Bethel and Dan
3. Man of God sent to prophesy doom to Jeroboam
4. Man of God eaten by lions for not heeding Lord's instructions in front pagans
5. Rehoboam reigns in south then succeeded by Abijam then Asa [Good King]

6. Nadab succeeds Jeroboam in north for 2 years
7. Then Baasha who kills all house of Jeroboam
8. Various kings in north then Omri father of Ahab
9. Ahab and Jezebel in north: Don't have this couple over for dinner
10. Rebuilt Jericho at the expense of firstborn [disregarding God's word Joshua]
11. Elijah enters in Ch. 17. No rain for you.
12. Drought and famine except widow, son and Elijah: Flour and oil don't run out
13. Elijah Mt Carmel: Victory w/fire from heaven
14. Elijah runs from Jezebel and Elisha takes over
15. Ahab defeats Syrians for Gods Names sake
16. Makes treaty with Ben-Hadad. Comprise leading to his death
17. Kills Naboth for vegetable garden
18. God says "that's it" and Ahab repents
19. Ahab confront Ben-Hadad and dies
20. Jehoshaphat godly but dumb is protected

Contrast the evil of Ahab and the godliness of Jehoshaphat and you get the story
...stay close to God and far from every idol and the fear of man

1 John 1:18 [Read] We know that whoever is born of God does not sin; but he who has been born of God keeps himself, and the wicked one does not touch him. 19 We know that we are of God, and the whole world lies under the sway of the wicked one. 20 And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us an understanding, that we may know Him who is true; and we are in Him who is true, in His Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God and eternal life. **21 Little children, keep yourselves from idols. Amen.**

Players in 2nd Kings will not heed this advice either...