

A watercolor-style background depicting a forest scene. A path leads through trees towards a bright, hazy horizon. The colors are muted greens, browns, and blues. In the foreground, two stylized figures are shown from behind, looking towards the path. One figure wears a blue head covering and a brown robe, while the other has a black beard and hair, wearing a brown tunic and a dark shawl.

Walk

WITH

me

Go Along to Get Along

1 Kings 22

Walk WITH *Me*

“No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other.”

Matt 6:24

Walk **WITH** *Me*

“I believe that one reason why the church of God at this present moment has so little influence over the world is because the world has so much influence over the church.”

C.H. Spurgeon

Walk WITH *Me*

1 Kings 22:1 Three years passed without war
between Aram and Israel.

Walk WITH *Me*

2 In the third year Jehoshaphat the king of Judah came down to the king of Israel.

- > Jehoshaphat (Jehovah is my Judge)
- > King of South (Judah)
- > 'came down' – from Jerusalem

Walk WITH *Me*

3 Now the king of Israel said to his servants,
“Do you know that Ramoth-gilead belongs to
us, and we are still doing nothing to take it
out of the hand of the king of Aram?”

> ‘us’ = Jews

Walk WITH *Me*

4 And he said to Jehoshaphat, “Will you go with me to battle at Ramoth-gilead?” And Jehoshaphat said to the king of Israel, “I am as you are, my people as your people, my horses as your horses.”

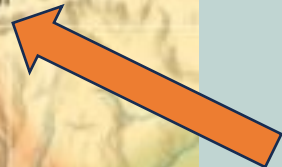
Walk WITH *Me*

5 Moreover, Jehoshaphat said to the king of Israel, “Please inquire first for the word of the LORD.”

>Ahab – King of North - Israel

Walk WITH *Me*

Kingdoms of Israel and Judah



God's Will 1-5

- Two Kings – North & South
- Two Kingdoms – North & South
- God delivered North from Aram
- Land still occupied – far away
- Help me go finish victory
- Ask LORD

Walk WITH *Me*

*“We should no more tolerate
false doctrine that we would
tolerate sin.” J. C. Ryle*

Walk **WITH** *Me*

1 Kings 22:6 Then the king of Israel gathered the prophets together, about four hundred men, and said to them, “Shall I go against Ramoth-gilead to battle or shall I refrain?” And they said, “Go up, for the Lord will give it into the hand of the king.”

> ‘Lord’ not LORD

Walk WITH *Me*

10 Now the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat king of Judah were sitting each on his throne, arrayed in their robes, at the threshing floor at the entrance of the gate of Samaria; and all the prophets were prophesying before them.

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11 Then Zedekiah the son of Chenaanah made horns of iron for himself and said, “Thus says the LORD, ‘With these you will gore the Arameans until they are consumed.’”



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12 All the prophets were prophesying thus, saying, “Go up to Ramoth-gilead and prosper, for the LORD will give it into the hand of the king.”

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God's Man? 10-12

- The prophets spoke to please the wrong king
- “unfaithful prophets to the true God”
- Added drama for effect – w/o Power!
- Power is in the Word NOT the method

Walk WITH *Me*

“Readers are advised to remember that the devil is a liar.”

C.S. Lewis

(Preface to The Screwtape Letters)

Walk WITH *Me*

1 Kings 22:7 But Jehoshaphat said, “Is there not yet a prophet of the LORD here that we may inquire of him?”

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8 The king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, “There is yet one man by whom we may inquire of the LORD, but I hate him, because he does not prophesy good concerning me, but evil. He is Micaiah son of Imlah.” But Jehoshaphat said, “Let not the king say so.”

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9 Then the king of Israel called an officer and said, “Bring quickly Micaiah son of Imlah.”

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God's Man 7-9

- Micaiah was a common Hebrew name in the Bible. It means “Who is Like Yahweh?”
- May have been in jail already – Ahab found fast
- Herod kept John Baptist in prison for talks

Walk WITH *Me*

“What Satan could not do by persecution the Church has done to herself with prosperity!”

Walk **WITH** *Me*

13 Then the messenger who went to summon Micaiah spoke to him saying, “Behold now, the words of the prophets are uniformly favorable to the king. Please let your word be like the word of one of them, and speak favorably.”

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14 But Micaiah said, “As the LORD lives, what the LORD says to me, that I shall speak.”

Walk **WITH** *Me*

15 When he came to the king, the king said to him, “Micaiah, shall we go to Ramoth-gilead to battle, or shall we refrain?” And he answered him, “*Go up and succeed, and the LORD will give it into the hand of the king.*”

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16 Then the king said to him, “How many times must I adjure you to speak to me nothing but the truth in the name of the LORD?”

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17 So he said, “I saw all Israel
Scattered on the mountains,
Like sheep which have no shepherd.
And the LORD said, ‘These have no master.
Let each of them return to his house in
peace.’”

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God's Message 13-17

- Messenger prompts the prophet – ‘say this...’
- Micaiah speaks – imitating 400 vs.6
- Ahab recognizes mocking – calls for truth!
- Be careful what you ask for –
- Prophet foretells outcome

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*“We are not salesmen or diplomats
with an offer – we are prophets with
an ultimatum!”*

Walk **WITH** *Me*

1 Kings 22:18 Then the king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, “Did I not tell you that he would not prophesy good concerning me, but evil?”

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26 Then the king of Israel said, “Take Micaiah and return him to Amon the governor of the city and to Joash the king’s son;

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27 and say, ‘Thus says the king, “Put this man in prison and feed him sparingly with bread and water until I return safely.”’”””

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28 Micaiah said, “If you indeed return safely the LORD has not spoken by me.” And he said, “Listen, all you people.”

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God's Word 18; 26-28

- I can only speak what God gives me vs.14
- Ahab says 'I told you so!'
- Ahab chooses to ignore Micaiah – follows 400
- Micaiah back to jail – skimpy rations – later?
- Micaiah knows there is no later – lifetime

Walk WITH *Me*

“Prosperity knits a man to the world. He feels that he is finding his place in it, while really it is finding its place in him.”

C.S. Lewis

Walk WITH *Me*

Go Along to Get Along?

- Are you willing to speak the truth?
- Are you willing to endure the opposition?
- Are you willing to spend your life for Christ?
- Are you willing to say that now to God?

Walk WITH *Me*

*“The question is not ‘am I going to die?’
– the question is ‘am I going to die doing
God’s will?’”*

Walk **WITH** *Me*

A watercolor-style illustration of a forest path. The background is composed of various shades of brown, tan, and blue, with visible brushstrokes and textures. Several trees are scattered throughout the scene, with some having green foliage and others being bare. A path leads from the foreground into the distance. In the bottom left corner, two figures are shown from behind, looking towards the path. One figure is wearing a blue head covering and a brown robe, while the other is wearing a dark brown robe and has a black beard. The overall mood is serene and contemplative.

Walk

WITH

me