

Ahab, Jezebel, And Naboth

1 Kings 21:1-29

History

- Ahab becomes 7th king of Israel. 1 Kings 16:29
 - Wicked king. 1 Kings 16:30-31
 - Married Jezebel, daughter of the king of the Sidonians. 1 Kings 16:31; cf. Deuteronomy 17:1-5
 - Baal / Asherah worship introduced. 1 Kings 16:31-33

History

- Jezebel killed the prophets of God. 100 saved by Obadiah. 1 Kings 18:4, 13
- Contest on Mount Carmel. 1 Kings 18
 - Jehovah proclaimed to be God. 1 Kings 18:39
 - False prophets killed. 1 Kings 18:40; 19:1
- Jezebel threatens Elijah. 1 Kings 19:2

History

- Ben-hadad (Syrian) wars against Ahab. 1 Kings 20
- Ahab kills all the Syrians
 - Ben-hadad escapes. 1 Kings 20:20
- Syrians return. 1 Kings 20:22, 26
 - Ben-hadad allowed to go free. 1 Kings 20:34
- Ahab unhappy. 1 Kings 20:42-43

Ahab

Known for his wickedness. 1 Kings 17:30, 33

- Ahab Wants Naboth's Vineyard. 1 Kings 21
- Ahab's Command. Verse 2. (cf. warning 1 Samuel 8:10-18)
- Ahab's offer. Verse 2
 - Naboth refuses. Verse 3 – bound by divine decree. Leviticus 25:14-17, 23, 25-28; Numbers 36:7
- Ahab pouts. Verse 4
 - Discontent. cf. 1 Timothy 6:6

Jezebel

Known for her wickedness. cf. Revelation 2:20

- Daughter of the king of Sidonians.
 - Worship of Astarte (Asherah – Greek - Aphrodite) was connected with fertility, sexuality, and war.
- Killed the prophets of God. 1 Kings 18:4
- Planned Elijah's death. 1 Kings 19:1-2
- Planned Naboth's death. 1 Kings 21:1-15
- Controlled her husband. 1 Kings 21:25

Note:

- 1 Kings 11:1-8 – Solomon was influenced by his wives.
- Acts 5:1-11 – Ananias and Sapphira fed off of each other.
- 1 Corinthians 15:33 – Evil company corrupts.

Naboth

Good & Conscientious. *"Jehovah forbid me ..."* 1 Kings 21:3; Numbers 36:7

- Lied about. *"Cursed God & the King."* 1 Kings 21:13
 - Lied about the Lord. Accused of blasphemy. Matthew 26:65
 - Stephen. Acts 6:13
 - Paul. Acts 25:7-8 *"many grievous charges"*
- Stoned.
 - OT Worthies – Hebrews 11:37;
 - Stephen. Acts 7;
 - Paul. Acts 14
- Innocent suffer.

Ahab's Partial Repentance 1 Kings 21:27-29

- It originated in a true message. Reaction to Elijah's words.
- It asserted itself in fasting and tears.
- It consisted in terror, not in turning.
 - He did not forsake his idols, nor give up Naboth's vineyard, nor abandon his arrogance.
 - Note also 1 Kings 22:1ff (threat of Syria, opinion of Micaiah).
 - Evidently there was no change of heart or of life.

Consequences For Ahab

1 Kings 21:17-20 *"Hast thou found me?" Ahab sold himself to do evil (verses 20, 25)*

- Dogs will lick your blood. 1 Kings 21:19
 - Fulfilled. 1 Kings 22:37-38
 - Fulfilled in Jehoram. 2 Kings 9:24-26
- Linage cut off ... No descendants. 1 Kings 21:21, 29
 - Fulfilled ... 2 Kings 9:8; 10:1-11. 70 sons slain, heads placed in baskets, made 2 piles at the entrance of the city.
 - Like Jeroboam. 1 Kings 15:29
 - Like Baasha. 1 Kings 16:3, 11

Consequences For Jezebel

- Jezebel – Dogs will eat you. 1 Kings 21:23
 - Fulfilled 14 years after the death of Ahab. 2 Kings 9:7-10, 30-37

Lessons

- Be careful who you marry. (Solomon, Abigail, Ahab).
- Fulfill your proper role.
- Beware of selfishness ... We don't get everything we want.
- Don't pout. Learn to accept life's inequities. Ecclesiastes 9:11-12
- Learn genuine repentance.
- Always consequences.
- God does what he says.