

1 Kings 20-22

Major Plot: **Ahab's continual & incremental disobedience**

namely, his releasing of & allying with the Syrian king, Ben-hadad (Chp 20)
his killing of Naboth & seizing of his vineyard (Chp 21)
his disobeying of God's message & claiming Ramoth gilead (Chp 22)

resulted in his downfall (coming under God's judgment) as prophesized

1. Historical Narrative

Scene 1: ***Ahab released & allied with the Syrian king, Ben-hadad*** (Chp 20)

- a. Ben-hadad attacked Israel time & again & were defeated (20:1-30)
- b. Ahab released & allied with Ben-hadad (20:31-34)
- c. God sent a prophet to pronounce a judgment on Ahab (20:35-43)

Scene 2: ***Ahab killed Naboth & seized his vineyard*** (Chp 21)

- a. Ahab wanted to acquire Naboth's vineyard but was turned down (21:1-6)
- b. Jezebel framed & killed Naboth so that Ahab can have his vineyard (21:7-16)
- c. God sent Elijah to pronounce a judgment on Ahab (21:17-29)

Scene 3: ***Ahab disobeyed God's message & went to claim Ramoth gilead*** (Chp 22)

- a. Ahab was convinced that he was to claim Ramoth gilead (22:1-12)
- b. God sent Micaiah to warn Ahab of his disobedience (22:8-9, 13-28)
- c. Ahab met his downfall as prophesized by the prophets (22:29-40)

Scene 4: ***Jehoshaphat ruled Judah & Ahaziah took over the rule of Israel*** (22:41-53)

2. Original Audience

To the Israelites during the exile & when they return from exile, they were to remember that God's judgment always follows their unholy alliance with their enemies, their idolatrous & immoral practices, their willful disobedience of God's word & their unfaithfulness to God's covenant

3. Significance to Jesus Christ

When left on our own & without the saving grace & work of the Lord Jesus, we are steeped in our evil ways, having no regard for God. In this condition, we are totally deserving of God's judgment. Now that we are saved in Christ from sin & by the grace of God, we must nevertheless still constantly guard against conformity to the world, disobedience to God's word as well as idols in our hearts