

2 Chronicles 18

King James Version (KJV)

18 Now Jehoshaphat had riches and honour in abundance, and joined affinity with Ahab. (Ahab was one of the worst kings of Israel)

(joined affinity = to give in marriage. Jehoshaphat's son Jehoram married the daughter of Ahab <Athaliah>. She was pure evil, like her father and her mother Jezebel. Jezebel's father was a Baal priest. The whole family was Baal worshippers who hated Yahoveh)

(By now, Israel was a completely heathen nation. They abandoned God long ago, so He took His blessings away from them. That's why they can't even defend their own country. Turn your back on God and He will turn His back on you)

²And after certain years he went down to Ahab to Samaria. And Ahab killed sheep and oxen for him in abundance, and for the people that he had with him, and persuaded him to go up with him to Ramothgilead. (persuaded = seduced, entrapped or conned – better translation)

(Ramoth was a city of refuge in Gad. Behadad, king of Syria, had seized some of their land. Ahab is trying to fool Jehoshaphat into fighting his battle with Syria. Jehoshaphat will fall for it) See 1Kings-22:1

³And Ahab king of Israel said unto Jehoshaphat king of Judah, Wilt thou go with me to Ramothgilead? And he answered him, I am as thou art, and my people as thy people; and we will be with thee in the war. (Jehoshaphat had no business getting into a war to help Ahab, who was evil through and through. Jehoshaphat was a good king, but he was gullible where Ahab was concerned)

⁴And Jehoshaphat said unto the king of Israel, Enquire, I pray thee, at the word of the LORD to day. (This is always a good idea, but he's telling the wrong guy. Ahab had nothing to do with God. He was a Baal worshipper through and through. Jehoshaphat should have enquired of the Lord before he went to see Ahab)

⁵Therefore the king of Israel gathered together of prophets four hundred men, and said unto them, Shall we go to Ramothgilead to battle, or shall I forbear? And they said, Go up; for God will deliver it into the king's hand. (These four hundred are Baal prophets. Ahab and Jezebel had ended all worship of Yahoveh in Israel)

⁶But Jehoshaphat said, Is there not here a prophet of the LORD besides, that we might enquire of him? (Isn't there a real prophet; a prophet of God?)

⁷And the king of Israel said unto Jehoshaphat, There is yet one man, by whom we may enquire of the LORD: but I hate him; for he never prophesied good unto me, but always evil: the same is Micaiah the son of Imla. And Jehoshaphat said, Let not the king say so. (Ahab is angry at the messenger, not at God)

(God didn't bless Ahab because he was evil to the core. Many prophets had a very hard life due to these evil kings)

⁸And the king of Israel called for one of his officers, and said, Fetch quickly Micaiah the son of Imla. (He was being held in prison)

⁹And the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat king of Judah sat either of them on his throne, clothed in their robes, and they sat in a void place at the entering in of the gate of Samaria; and all the prophets prophesied before them. (This is Jehoshaphat's and Ahab's egos run amok. These prophets are all Baal prophets; putting on a show for the two kings)

¹⁰And Zedekiah the son of Chenaanah had made him horns of iron, and said, Thus saith the LORD, With these thou shalt push Syria until they be consumed. (Horns were symbolic for power and might. These Baal prophets are spouting BS. Zedekiah is plagiarizing Deuteronomy-33:17)

¹¹And all the prophets prophesied so, saying, Go up to Ramothgilead, and prosper: for the LORD shall deliver it into the hand of the king.

¹²And the messenger that went to call Micaiah spake to him, saying, Behold, the words of the prophets declare good to the king with one assent; let thy word therefore, I pray thee, be like one of their's, and speak thou good. (Agree with the Baal prophets <or else>. Say only good things that will please Ahab)

¹³And Micaiah said, As the LORD liveth, even what my God saith, that will I speak. (He will speak what God tells him. He was a true prophet of God)

¹⁴And when he was come to the king, the king said unto him, Micaiah, shall we go to Ramothgilead to battle, or shall I forbear? And he said,

Go ye up, and prosper, and they shall be delivered into your hand.
(Ahab didn't ask Micaiah what the Lord says. He asked him what he thought; so Micaiah told him to go – in sarcasm)

¹⁵ And the king said to him, How many times shall I adjure thee that thou say nothing but the truth to me in the name of the LORD? (Now he's asking what God said)

¹⁶ Then he said, I did see all Israel scattered upon the mountains, as sheep that have no shepherd: and the LORD said, These have no master; let them return therefore every man to his house in peace.
(These are the words of the Lord – the king's death)

¹⁷ And the king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, Did I not tell thee that he would not prophesy good unto me, but evil? Also read 1Kings-21

¹⁸ Again he said, Therefore hear the word of the LORD; I saw the LORD sitting upon his throne, and all the host of heaven standing on his right hand and on his left. (God is making known to Ahab that his false prophets are lying to him)

¹⁹ And the LORD said, Who shall entice Ahab king of Israel, that he may go up and fall at Ramothgilead? And one spake saying after this manner, and another saying after that manner. (This was God's judgment on Ahab; because he had Naboth and his family murdered, so that he could have Naboth's vineyard)

²⁰ Then there came out a spirit, and stood before the LORD, and said, I will entice him. And the LORD said unto him, Wherewith? (What's your plan?)

²¹ And he said, I will go out, and be a lying spirit in the mouth of all his prophets. And the Lord said, Thou shalt entice him, and thou shalt also prevail: go out, and do even so. (God had had enough of Ahab's evil)
(This judgment upon Ahab was also prophesied by Elijah)

²² Now therefore, behold, the LORD hath put a lying spirit in the mouth of these thy prophets, and the LORD hath spoken evil against thee.
(evil = misfortune or calamity) (Micaiah is calling the Baal prophets liars)

²³ Then Zedekiah the son of Chenaanah came near, and smote Micaiah upon the cheek, and said, Which way went the Spirit of the LORD from

me to speak unto thee? (This Baal prophet is trying to humiliate Micaiah in front of the kings)

(This is similar to Mark-14:65, when one of the false accusers hit Jesus)

²⁴ And Micaiah said, Behold, thou shalt see on that day when thou shalt go into an inner chamber to hide thyself. (He will die there, at the hand of Jezebel's men. She will kill them all for advising Ahab to go to his death)

²⁵ Then the king of Israel said, Take ye Micaiah, and carry him back to Amon the governor of the city, and to Joash the king's son; (Throw him back into prison)

²⁶ And say, Thus saith the king, Put this fellow in the prison, and feed him with bread of affliction and with water of affliction, until I return in peace. (Bad bread and foul water)

²⁷ And Micaiah said, If thou certainly return in peace, then hath not the LORD spoken by me. And he said, Hearken, all ye people. (If you return in peace, then the Lord hasn't spoken to me, and I am a false prophet)

²⁸ So the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat the king of Judah went up to Ramothgilead. (Jehoshaphat should have known by now that he shouldn't go with Ahab)

²⁹ And the king of Israel said unto Jehoshaphat, I will disguise myself, and I will go to the battle; but put thou on thy robes. So the king of Israel disguised himself; and they went to the battle. (Jehoshaphat is being set up, like a sucker, by Ahab)

(Ahab knows that the Syrians are looking to kill him. He tells Jehoshaphat to dress like a king while he goes in disguise as a soldier. He put a target on Jehoshaphat's back. This is some friendship)

³⁰ Now the king of Syria had commanded the captains of the chariots that were with him, saying, Fight ye not with small or great, save only with the king of Israel. (Don't waste time fighting the soldiers. Try to kill their king <Ahab>)

³¹ And it came to pass, when the captains of the chariots saw Jehoshaphat, that they said, It is the king of Israel. Therefore they

compassed about him to fight: but Jehoshaphat cried out, and the LORD helped him; and God moved them to depart from him. (Jehoshaphat was the only one there that looked like a king. God saved him from his own stupidity)

³² For it came to pass, that, when the captains of the chariots perceived that it was not the king of Israel, they turned back again from pursuing him. (God saved Jehoshaphat)

³³ And a certain man drew a bow at a venture, and smote the king of Israel between the joints of the harness: therefore he said to his chariot man, Turn thine hand, that thou mayest carry me out of the host; for I am wounded. (drew a bow at a venture = without aiming. This was divine intervention by Almighty God)

(God had judged Ahab to death. A disguise couldn't save him)

³⁴ And the battle increased that day: howbeit the king of Israel stayed himself up in his chariot against the Syrians until the even: and about the time of the sun going down he died. (Justice delivered to Ahab)

1Kings-22 (This also fulfilled the prophecy of God through Elijah. He prophesied to Ahab that the dogs would lick up his blood; just as the dogs licked up the blood of Naboth and his family. Jezebel had Naboth's family killed so Ahab could take his vineyard)