

1 Kings 22

King James Version (KJV)

22 And they continued three years without war between Syria and Israel. (This all happened after Ahab let Benhadad go, against God's command) see Chapter-20

²And it came to pass in the third year, that Jehoshaphat the king of Judah came down to the king of Israel. (Jehoshaphat, a mostly righteous king, entered into an agreement with Ahab. That was a big mistake for Jehoshaphat. His son Jehoram married Ahab's daughter Athaliah) See 2Chronicles-21:6

³And the king of Israel said unto his servants, Know ye that Ramoth in Gilead is ours, and we be still, and take it not out of the hand of the king of Syria? (Ahab was the idiot who let Benhadad go three years earlier. Now he complains that Benhadad didn't keep his part of the bargain. He had promised to return the cities to Israel that his father took)

⁴And he said unto Jehoshaphat, Wilt thou go with me to battle to Ramothgilead? And Jehoshaphat said to the king of Israel, I am as thou art, my people as thy people, my horses as thy horses. (Jehoshaphat is another idiot, although he was a righteous king in God's eyes. He was a loyal servant of Yahoveh all his life)

(Ahab had been working against God all along. Now Ahab is conning Jehoshaphat into helping him fight a war. Jehosaphat should have realized that it was God who set the Sirians against Ahab for his sins and his idol worship)

NOTE: (I suspect that these kings had become elitists. They considered themselves above the "people". They thought that they were in a class of their own. That's why Ahab let Benhadad go and that's why Jehoshaphat will help Ahab in this chapter)

⁵And Jehoshaphat said unto the king of Israel, Enquire, I pray thee, at the word of the LORD to day. (This is the right thing to do. Jehoshaphat was loyal to God. He should have asked God before he made an alliance with Ahab)

⁶Then the king of Israel gathered the prophets together, about four hundred men, and said unto them, Shall I go against Ramothgilead to battle, or shall I forbear? And they said, Go up; for the LORD shall

deliver it into the hand of the king. (These are prophets of Baal, not of God. Jezebel had all but wiped out the prophets of Yahoveh)

⁷ And Jehoshaphat said, Is there not here a prophet of the LORD besides, that we might enquire of him? (There was not one single prophet of God in the bunch. This should have woken Jehoshaphat up as to whom he was dealing with. It didn't)

⁸ And the king of Israel said unto Jehoshaphat, There is yet one man, Micaiah the son of Imlah, by whom we may enquire of the LORD: but I hate him; for he doth not prophesy good concerning me, but evil. And Jehoshaphat said, Let not the king say so. (Micaiah = who is like God)

(Micaiah was a true prophet of God. He was the only one left that Jezebel hadn't killed. Ahab hated him because he told Ahab what God thought of him)

⁹ Then the king of Israel called an officer, and said, Hasten hither Micaiah the son of Imlah.

¹⁰ And the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat the king of Judah sat each on his throne, having put on their robes, in a void place in the entrance of the gate of Samaria; and all the prophets prophesied before them. (void = empty; probably an open floor, like a threshing floor)

(These two kings, sitting on their thrones, probably looked like two pompous asses, in their royal robes. Spiritually, Jehoshaphat was a good wise king. Physically, he was a fool for even listening to Ahab)

¹¹ And Zedekiah the son of Chenaanah made him horns of iron: and he said, Thus saith the LORD, With these shalt thou push the Syrians, until thou have consumed them. (These are prophets of Baal. God never spoke to them)

(The pathetic sideshow that these 400 false prophets were putting on is prophecy for the pathetic sideshow that antichrist will put on; when he sits on his throne and rules the world for 5 months; in the end days of this Age)

Deuteronomy-33:17 (Moses referred to horns of iron when he was passing on the blessing from Joseph to Ephraim. Ahab is not considering the condition – IF they will stay faithful to Yahoveh. Zedekiah and these guys are all Baal prophets, so God's Word doesn't apply to them)

¹² And all the prophets prophesied so, saying, Go up to Ramothgilead, and prosper: for the LORD shall deliver it into the king's hand. (The 400 Baal prophets were all in complete agreement)

Ezekiel-13, Jeremiah-23 (God doesn't appreciate false prophets speaking for Him. We see this today also with preachers who recite 1 or 2 verses of God's Word, and then go on to preach a 1 hour sermon that came from their imaginations)

¹³ And the messenger that was gone to call Micaiah spake unto him, saying, Behold now, the words of the prophets declare good unto the king with one mouth: let thy word, I pray thee, be like the word of one of them, and speak that which is good. (He is telling Micaiah to agree with the 400 false prophets. Prophecy good to Ahab – or else)

¹⁴ And Micaiah said, As the LORD liveth, what the LORD saith unto me, that will I speak. (As the LORD liveth – is an oath to God. Micaiah was not politically correct; but he was morally correct. Always try to please God, not man)

¹⁵ So he came to the king. And the king said unto him, Micaiah, shall we go against Ramothgilead to battle, or shall we forbear? And he answered him, Go, and prosper: for the LORD shall deliver it into the hand of the king. (He said it so sarcastically, that even Ahab knew he was lying. Ahab never asked him what the Lord said. He asked him what he thought)

¹⁶ And the king said unto him, How many times shall I adjure thee that thou tell me nothing but that which is true in the name of the LORD? (NOW Ahab is asking what the Lord said)

¹⁷ And he said, I saw all Israel scattered upon the hills, as sheep that have not a shepherd: and the LORD said, These have no master: let them return every man to his house in peace. (They will lose their leader <Ahab>, and return home in peace. Now Micaiah is speaking what the Lord gave him)

¹⁸ And the king of Israel said unto Jehoshaphat, Did I not tell thee that he would prophesy no good concerning me, but evil? (Ahab must think that the prophet decides what will happen. Micaiah is only the messenger. God decides what will happen)

¹⁹ And he said, Hear thou therefore the word of the LORD: I saw the LORD sitting on his throne, and all the host of heaven standing by him on his right hand and on his left. (A vision from Heaven)

²⁰ And the LORD said, Who shall persuade Ahab, that he may go up and fall at Ramothgilead? And one said on this manner, and another said on that manner. (persuade - also means to deceive)

²¹ And there came forth a spirit, and stood before the LORD, and said, I will persuade him. (Ahab had been judged by God for all the evil that he did. He was sentenced to death)

²² And the LORD said unto him, Wherewith? And he said, I will go forth, and I will be a lying spirit in the mouth of all his prophets. And he said, Thou shalt persuade him, and prevail also: go forth, and do so. (The spirit will use the evil Baal prophets to betray Ahab)

²³ Now therefore, behold, the LORD hath put a lying spirit in the mouth of all these thy prophets, and the LORD hath spoken evil concerning thee. (evil = calamity – better translation)

(Ahab deserved all that he got. He killed Naboth and his sons to get his vineyard. He caused Israel to abandon God and to worship Jezebel's false gods)

²⁴ But Zedekiah the son of Chenaanah went near, and smote Micaiah on the cheek, and said, Which way went the Spirit of the LORD from me to speak unto thee? (He was mocking a prophet of God; therefore he was mocking God)

(When Jeroboam reached out to harm a prophet of God, God struck his hand with paralysis)

Mark-14:65 (When they spit on Jesus and struck Him. They told Him to prophecy as to who had hit Him. They will also pay for that on judgment day)

²⁵ And Micaiah said, Behold, thou shalt see in that day, when thou shalt go into an inner chamber to hide thyself. (This will happen after the battle. God will use Jezebel to avenge His prophet. She will be looking to avenge Ahab's death on these false prophets. They told Ahab to go attack the Syrians)

²⁶ And the king of Israel said, Take Micaiah, and carry him back unto Amon the governor of the city, and to Joash the king's son;
2Chronicles-18:26 (Micaiah had been in prison there, and now he was going back. The prophets of God had a very difficult life)

²⁷ 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 come in peace. (Of affliction = distress - a small quantity of poor quality – prison rations)

²⁸ And Micaiah said, If thou return at all in peace, the LORD hath not spoken by me. And he said, Hearken, O people, every one of you. (He is trying to raise awareness in the people that Ahab and his prophets are not with God. Micaiah is a true prophet of God)

²⁹ So the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat the king of Judah went up to Ramothgilead. (Jehoshaphat ignored Micaiah's warning, and almost died for it. He sided with Ahab, against God's prophet)

³⁰ And the king of Israel said unto Jehoshaphat, I will disguise myself, and enter into the battle; but put thou on thy robes. And the king of Israel disguised himself, and went into the battle. (Ahab was setting Jehoshaphat up to take the fall that Micaiah had foretold for him. He is putting a target on Jehoshaphat's back, while he disguises himself to look like a common soldier)

³¹ But the king of Syria commanded his thirty and two captains that had rule over his chariots, saying, Fight neither with small nor great, save only with the king of Israel. (Don't fight against the army of Israel. Just kill their king. Ahab had already released this guy twice, against the Word of the Lord. Now he will pay for his mistake)

³² And it came to pass, when the captains of the chariots saw Jehoshaphat, that they said, Surely it is the king of Israel. And they turned aside to fight against him: and Jehoshaphat cried out.

2Chronicles-18:31-on (He cried out to the Lord for help. The Lord heard and helped Jehoshaphat to escape)

³³ And it came to pass, when the captains of the chariots perceived that it was not the king of Israel, that they turned back from pursuing him. (Their orders were to only kill the king of Israel – Ahab)

³⁴ And a certain man drew a bow at a venture, and smote the king of Israel between the joints of the harness: wherefore he said unto the driver of his chariot, Turn thine hand, and carry me out of the host; for I am wounded. (This is divine intervention; the judgment of God on Ahab)

³⁵ And the battle increased that day: and the king was stayed up in his chariot against the Syrians, and died at even: and the blood ran out of the wound into the midst of the chariot.

³⁶ And there went a proclamation throughout the host about the going down of the sun, saying, Every man to his city, and every man to his own country. (Their king is dead. The army returned home in peace. Just as Micaiah had foretold)

³⁷ So the king died, and was brought to Samaria; and they buried the king in Samaria. (Good riddance to a bad king)

³⁸ And one washed the chariot in the pool of Samaria; and the dogs licked up his blood; and they washed his armour; according unto the word of the LORD which he spake. (Elijah had prophesied that this would happen) Chapter-21:19

³⁹ Now the rest of the acts of Ahab, and all that he did, and the ivory house which he made, and all the cities that he built, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel? (God's judgment on Israel – ivory houses are symbolic for things built with ill gotten gains) Amos-3:15

⁴⁰ So Ahab slept with his fathers; and Ahaziah his son reigned in his stead. (But not for long; God swore to wipe out Ahab's progeny. All males will die) Chapter-21:26

(Back up in time a little – switch to Judah)

⁴¹ And Jehoshaphat the son of Asa began to reign over Judah in the fourth year of Ahab king of Israel.

⁴² Jehoshaphat was thirty and five years old when he began to reign; and he reigned twenty and five years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Azubah the daughter of Shilhi. (He was one of the better kings of Judah. He never fell onto idolatry)

⁴³ And he walked in all the ways of Asa his father; he turned not aside from it, doing that which was right in the eyes of the LORD: nevertheless the high places were not taken away; for the people offered and burnt incense yet in the high places. (Some high places were for Yahoveh while others were for idol gods of the heathen. This nonsense all started with Solomon. Only the worship of Yahoveh in the temple was righteous; yet they could never get rid of these high places)

⁴⁴ And Jehoshaphat made peace with the king of Israel. (Jehoshaphat's son Jehoram married Athaliah, Ahab's daughter – much to the demise of Judah)

⁴⁵ Now the rest of the acts of Jehoshaphat, and his might that he shewed, and how he warred, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah? 2Chronicles-18

⁴⁶ And the remnant of the sodomites, which remained in the days of his father Asa, he took out of the land. (sodomites = male homosexual prostitutes)

⁴⁷ There was then no king in Edom: a deputy was king. (He was appointed by the king of Judah)

⁴⁸ Jehoshaphat made ships of Tharshish to go to Ophir for gold: but they went not; for the ships were broken at Eziongeber. (Located in the southern portion of Edom, on the Gulf of Acaba)

(God told Jehoshaphat not to make alliances with Israel, but he didn't listen; so God sent a storm to destroy his ships) See 2Chronicles-20:36-37

⁴⁹ Then said Ahaziah the son of Ahab unto Jehoshaphat, Let my servants go with thy servants in the ships. But Jehoshaphat would not. (This was Ahaziah's second attempt to go, but Jehoshaphat had finally learned his lesson)

⁵⁰ And Jehoshaphat slept with his fathers, and was buried with his fathers in the city of David his father: and Jehoram his son reigned in his stead. (Jehoram = God has exalted – not so for this loser. He was a murderer and an idol worshipper)

⁵¹ Ahaziah the son of Ahab began to reign over Israel in Samaria the seventeenth year of Jehoshaphat king of Judah, and reigned two years over Israel. (God vowed to end Ahab's line, and He did)

⁵² And 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 made Israel to sin: (Ahaziah paid for his sins and died young)

⁵³ For he served Baal, and worshipped him, and provoked to anger the LORD God of Israel, according to all that his father had done. (We all make our own destiny. God is fair to all people. Jehoram died young, not because of Ahab, but because of what he did. The apple did not fall far from the tree)