

## **I Kings 19-22** **(Studies in I Kings #12)**

### Introduction:

- I. A Tired Prophet, Sustained and Strengthened (vv. 1-10)
  - A. Jezebel's Desires (vv. 1, 2)
  - B. Elijah's Departure (vv. 3-10)
    1. The Wilderness (3-8)
      - a. Israel does not listen to me (v. 4)  
Num. 11:15; Jer. 20:14-18; Jon 4:3
      - b. God sustains him (vv. 5-8) Cp. Ex. 16:1 ff.  
Dt. 9:9-11; Mt. 4:2
    2. Horeb (vv. 9-10)  
Ex. 3:1-6  
Ex. 18:5; 24:12-18  
Cp. v. 10 with Ex. 32
- II. A Faithful Prophet Assured and Assigned (vv. 11-21)
  - A. Assured of the Lord at work (vv. 11-14)
    1. Not just in mighty acts (vv. 11, 12) Ex. 33:21, 22; Ex. 3:6; Is. 6:3; Ex. 18
    2. Also in seemingly silent ways (v. 12) 18:4; 19:18
  - B. Assigned further work (vv. 15-21)
    1. Anoint Hazael as King over Syria (v. 15) 2 Kings 8:8-15
    2. Anoint Jehu as king over Israel (v. 16) 2 Kings 9:1-10
    3. Anoint Elisha in Elijah's place (vv. 17-21)

### Application:

1. In every event God is at work, in some way, advancing His kingdom.

2. God often works in ways that man does not see.
3. Cp. Elijah's trip to Horeb with Moses' time there.
4. God has more Christians who are seeking to be faithful to the Lord than may seem apparent.
5. No matter the devastation to false religions or the miracles non-Christians may see, hearts remain hardened without the work of God's saving grace.
6. God will not take us from this earth until the work He has given us to do is accomplished.
7. Note that God has power over the Gentile world as well as Israel. Elijah is commanded to anoint the next king of Syria and of Israel.

### III. Defeats in the midst of Victory

#### 1. Ahab defeats an external foe (20:1-43)

##### a. Ben-Hadad of Syria

1. Challenges Ahab (vv. 1-8)
2. Chooses to attack (vv. 9-12)

##### b. God's merciful intervention (vv. 13-22)

1. Purpose – know I am Lord (v. 13)
2. Pursuit of the fleeing Syrians (vv. 14-22) Cp. 20:15 w/ 19:18

##### c. Another attack (vv. 23-27)

1. A fight in the plains (vv. 23-27)
2. Another victory

##### a. Purpose – know I am Lord (v. 28)

##### b. Fallen soldiers (v. 29)

##### c. Falling wall (v. 30) Cp. Josh. 6:20, 21

##### d. Ahab's defeat (vv. 31-43)

1. Spares Ben-Hadad (vv. 31-33)
  2. Enters into a treaty (v. 34)
  3. The prophet's word (vv. 35-43)
    - a. A story (vv. 35-4)
    - b. The lesson (vv. 41-43)
2. Ahab defeats an internal foe (21:1-29)
- A. Naboth's vineyard (vv. 1-16)
1. A plea fails (vv. 1-4) (Cp. 20:43, 21:4)  
Lev. 25:13-17  
Lev. 25:25-28
  2. A plot flourishes (vv. 5-16)
    - a. Jezebel's plan (v. 7)
    - b. Unfair verdict (vv. 8-14)
  3. A property's new owner (vv. 15-16)  
(Cp. Parable of the Vineyards Mt. 21:33-46)
- B. The Lord's word (vv. 17-19)
1. Posterity (males) eliminated (v. 21) Cp. I Kings 14:9-10
  2. Polluted demise assured (vv. 19, 23, 24)  
  
Dogs in O.T. unclean (Ex. 22:31; Dt. 23:18; Mt. 7:6)
  3. Ahab's response (vv. 27-29)

Application:

1. Elijah was willing to be called an enemy by God's enemies. Are we?
2. God's mercy to Ahab does not change his character. Ahab needed a changed heart.

3. Ahab was very attracted to forbidden fruit – his neighbor’s land. Where did his discontent lead?

4. Naboth did not lose his ultimate inheritance.

I Pet. 1:4-5

Mt. 6:19-20

5. Was Ahab’s humbling of himself from the heart or only outward (Cp. 22:6-8, 26-28, II Cor. 7:10)?

6. God’s people may suffer greatly, but they never ultimately lose.

7. It is easier to be a friend of worldliness than an enemy of it.

#### IV. Ahab’s Death (22:1-40)

##### A. A desire pursued (vv. 1-28)

1. Jehoshaphat’s (“Yah judges”) willingness (vv. 1-4)

2. Jehoshaphat’s request (v. 5)

a. 400 prophets (vv. 5, 6)

b. Micaiah (v. 7) (“Who is like Yah?”)

3. Micaiah’s words

a. Zedekiah’s (“Yah is righteous”) false words

b. Micaiah’s response (vv. 14-23)

1. Initially (vv. 15, 16) Cp. v. 16 with vv. 11 & 12

2. Truthfully

a. Scattered Israel (vv. 17, 18)

b. Lying prophets (vv. 19-23)

3. His reward (vv. 26-28)

##### B. A king dies

1. Providential protection (vv. 29-33) Cp. 2Chr. 18:31

2. Providential hit (vv. 34-40) Cp. 21:19

V. Jehosphaphat's Reign (vv. 41-50)

A. Accomplishments

1. Godly obedience (v. 43)
2. Perverted persons banished (v. 46)
3. Refused joint sailing venture (v. 49)

(Cp. II Chr. 20:35-37)

B. Errors

1. Failure to remove high places (v. 43)
2. Made peace with Ahab (by marriage alliance I Chr. 18:1) (v. 44)  
(2 Chr. 21:6)

Application:

1. Even against a multitude we must be willing to speak biblical truth. Then we are a majority of one because God's word is always ultimately victorious.
2. How does faithful Naboth point us to Christ?
3. Why did Ahab hate Micaiah? (v. 8)
4. Note the danger Jehosphaphat incurred by becoming allied with Ahab.
5. Note the extent to which Micaiah was willing to suffer as he spoke the truth.
6. Note how God keeps His promises throughout these chapters. He continues to keep his promises today.

