



Lesson 121

The Death of Ahab

Story Elements

Text: 1 Ki. 22:1-40; 2 Ch. 18:1-34

Setting: circa 853 B.C., at Ramoth-Gilead

Main Characters: God, Ahab, Jehoshaphat, and Micaiah

Plot: Ahab's lackey prophets promise victory in battle while Micaiah, the true prophet, foretells Ahab's defeat.

Key word(s): “ _____ ”

Climax: *1 Kings 22:17 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.*

Strange Bedfellows

1. (1 Ki. 22:1-4) At some point in Ahab's reign, he was able to form an alliance with _____ king of Judah
 - (a) Jehoshaphat even gave his daughter in marriage to Ahab's son.
 - (b) Ahab suggested to his new compatriot that they cooperate to retake the Hebrew city of _____ from the weakened Syrian Empire.

Smooth Words and Strong Preaching

2. (1 Ki. 22:5-7) Jehoshaphat suggested that before the campaign is begun that they inquire of the LORD.
 - (a) Ahab agreed and had his _____ bought-and-paid-for false prophets give their approbation.
 - (b) Jehoshaphat detected the _____ in their prophecies and requested that a true prophet of God be sought.
3. (1 Ki. 22:8-9) Ahab confessed that a true prophet of was available, _____ by name, but he would first have to be fetched out of the dungeon (It seems Ahab had imprisoned him for preaching the truth – cf. vv 25-26).
4. (1 Ki. 22:10-16) A place was prepared near Samaria's city gate for what amounted to a prophetic _____.
 - (a) Of course, Ahab's lackey prophets prophesied _____ (with not a little melodrama) of their king's military ambitions.
 - (b) Micaiah initially did the same, mockingly. Ahab picked up on Micaiah's sarcasm and pressed the prophet to speak _____.
5. (1 Ki. 22:17-23) Micaiah went on to unload the entire prophesy that spelled out doom for Ahab, and even described a heavenly scene wherein Ahab's death was ensured

because God allowed a _____ spirit to deceive Ahab by speaking through the false prophets.

6. (1 Ki. 22:24-25) _____, the belle of the false prophet ball, smote Micaiah on the cheek and said, "Which way went the Spirit of the LORD from me to speak unto thee?" to which Micaiah replied, "Behold, thou shalt see in that day, when thou shalt go into an inner chamber to hide thyself."
7. (1 Ki. 22:26-28) Before Micaiah was placed back in his dungeon cell, he appealed to the test of God's true prophets, "If thou return at all in _____, the LORD hath not spoken by me."

Shooting at a Venture

8. (1 Ki. 22:29-33) The campaign for Ramoth-gilead proceeded, and Ahab disguised himself as a common soldier while Jehoshaphat went to battle in his _____ garb.
- (a) During combat, the Syrians were commanded to especially target _____, and Jehoshaphat found himself being pursued under the assumption that he was Israel's king. But the Syrians realized their mistake and withdrew from pursuing him. Jehoshaphat escaped.
- (b) (1 Ki. 22:34-38) Meanwhile, an archer drew a bow and shot an arrow, without _____, into the air. The arrow struck Ahab and killed the wicked king. His corpse was brought back to Samaria and his chariot washed out, after which the dogs came and licked his blood according to the word of Elijah. (1 Ki. 21:19)

Application

9. Ahab's preference for rose-colored prophecies instead of truth is an illustration of the last days, when people will have an appetite for feel-good messages instead of strong, truthful _____. (cf. 2 Tim. 4:2-4)

Notes: _____

Answer Key: Key word(s): "prophesy" • 1. Jehoshaphat; b) Ramoth-gilead • 2. a) four hundred; b) deceit • 3. Micaiah • 4. talent show; a) approvingly; b) sincerely • 5. lying • 6. Zedekiah • 7. peace • 8. royal; a) Ahab; b) aiming • 9. preaching

How to use this worksheet for personal Bible study: (1) Read the Bible passage given in the **Story Elements** section. (2) Read through the worksheet and try to fill in the blanks without looking at the **Answer Key**. (3) Check your answers with the key and make the necessary corrections. Keep in mind that some answers are a matter of opinion, and often more than one answer is correct. (4) Write down your own thoughts, applications, and questions for further study in the **Notes** section.