

Bible Biographies

Sunday Night Auditorium Class

King Ahab: I Kings 21-22

Introduction

“Surely there was no one like Ahab who sold himself to do evil in the sight of the Lord, because Jezebel his wife incited him.” I Kings 21:25.

If Ahab was a character in a play or movie, we would describe him as a tragic-comic figure. Some of his actions, as they are described in 1 Kings 21-22 are laughable, if they were not so evil. Here is a king who is given to pouting and whining and cannot seem to resist the schemes of his soon-to-be infamous wife, Jezebel. Ahab is the archetype self-indulgent individual. When he doesn't what he wants, he is thoroughly unhappy and completely open to temptation.

Questions

1. Read 1 Kings 16:29-31 and describe Ahab's reign as king over Israel.
2. Why did Ahab want Naboth's vineyard and what did he offer in return? Why did Naboth turn down the offer?
3. What was Ahab's reaction and what does it tell us about his character?
4. What was Jezebel's rationale to Ahab to get him to take Naboth's vineyard by force? Describe her plan.
5. Who was sent by the Lord to pronounce judgment on Ahab and Jezebel? What was Ahab's response to Elijah? Read 1 Kings 18:17 – what was that occasion?
6. What was Elijah's message to Ahab and Jezebel – what would become of them? Who seemed to get the greater judgment?
7. 1 Kings 21:27-29 describes a reaction by Ahab to the message and God's response. Describe it.
 - What does this say about the character of God?
8. Sum up Ahab's life. Did he walk by faith or by sight? Why?