

Assignment Week 11

The Kingship of Ahab and Jezebel.

King Ahab was a powerful but evil man. He reigned Israel after his father Omri for twenty-two years. Ahab was a king that did more evil acts in the sight of the Lord than any of his fathers before him. Ahab walked in the sins of Jeroboam; following other gods. He married Jezebel and began worshipping the Zidonian god Baal/Baalim. He worshipped, built altars and groves in Samaria, and did other detestable things that angered God. Ahab sold himself to wickedness and didn't stand up when the opportunities of changing presented itself. He yet, listened to his wife Jezebel and allowed her to corrupt him even more. Ahab didn't listen carefully to the prophets God would send to him, most importantly Elijah. Besides worshipping other gods and not listening to the word of God, Ahab paid his enemies to avoid war and even let Armenian king Benhadad live instead of killing him in battle. When it came to important events in his reign, he missed the mark a lot. Ahab didn't seem to have a personal relationship with God. He would notify the prophets for counsel, even though he didn't heed the warnings they said to him. He didn't seem to consult God for himself, which I think was one of his major flaws. Ahab met his doom in the battle at Ramoth-Gilead when he finally was convinced to go into battle by the lying spirit that was put into place by God. Ahab tried to disguise himself to avoid being captured or killed, which backfired. He was wounded and died from his wounds in a chariot, dying a death that was prophesied to him where dogs would lick up his blood.

Jezebel was an evil queen who did many evil things in the sight of the Lord God. She killed prophets that the Lord God raised up, stirred up drama, and inspired Ahab to do horrible things. She tried desperately to kill Elijah after hearing what he had done on Mt. Carmel to her prophets, so she was bent on revenge and wrath. Jezebel was a priestess for the Baal religion. She led, not only Ahab to destruction, but many Israelites who had began following Baalism. Jezebel was described as treacherous and a murder who did whatever she wanted to get her way. She forged letters in Ahab's name and seal, sending them to the leaders of the city saying that Naboth blasphemed against God and Ahab, telling them expose him to the public with false witnesses in place, and to kill him. She also met her doom with a horrible death when King Jehu ordered her pushed from a window. Her body was trampled by horses and eaten by dogs.

In the year of 874, King Ahab began his reign over Israel. He reigned for 22 years before dying in the year of 853/852. God used Elijah to help King Ahab by warning him of the upcoming judgement that God was sending him for worshipping Baal and being an evil King. Even though King Ahab was corrupt, God went to such an extent to help King Ahab because God wanted Ahab to repent for marrying Jezebel and worshipping her god baal. Jezebel had done many evil things to people. She worshipped the god Baal, built a temple to honor the god Baal, killed godly priests, and killed Naboth. Jezebel was an instrument in Ahab's wrong doings as well, she inspired his actions and counseled him when it came to his next moves. Elijah had a change of mind after the Mt. Carmel experience. After his triumph over the Baal prophets, Elijah was being hunted down by Jezebel. He seemed to of felt dismayed, that after this miraculous event where the Lord God showed His power and that He is the true living God, that Ahab and Jezebel still

wanted to pursue killing him. God then comforted Elijah with letting him know that through him being an instrument, the Lord God would redeem Israel. Elijah began hearing the still small voice of God. This gave him peace to move forward and toward the direction God was taking him.