



Pastor's Bible Study

Becoming Disciples Through Bible Study

Week Thirty-Four 1 Kings 16:29 - 22

Review

Literary Period

The Divided Kingdom period of ancient Israel and Judah

Spanned from approximately 931 BCE to 586 BCE.

Review

1 Kings 16:28 marks the transition from Omri's reign to that of his son Ahab, who would become one of the most infamous kings in Israel's history. Here's a summary of the key events from 1 Kings 16:28 through chapter 22:

Ahab's Reign – Northern Kingdom

- Ahab is the 7th king succeeding his father Omri as king of Israel and reigned for 22 years, 874-853 B.C.E.
- He is described as “doing more evil in the eyes of the Lord than any of the kings before him”.

Key aspects of Ahab's reign:

- Married Jezebel, daughter of the king of Sidon, which led to increased idolatry in Israel.
- Built a temple and altar for the god Baal in Samaria.
- Promoted the worship of the god Asherah.

Confrontations with Elijah

Ahab's reign was marked by multiple confrontations with the prophet Elijah:

1. Elijah prophesied a drought in Israel.
2. The contest on Mount Carmel between Elijah and the prophets of Baal.
3. Elijah's flight from Jezebel and his encounter with God at Mount Horeb.

Wars with Syria

Ahab engaged in several conflicts with Ben-Hadad, king of Syria:

1. Successfully defended Samaria against a Syrian siege.
2. Defeated the Syrians in battle at Aphek.
3. Made a treaty with Ben-Hadad, which was criticized by a prophet.



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The Vineyard of Naboth

This incident highlights Ahab's wickedness:

- Ahab coveted Naboth's vineyard.
- Jezebel orchestrated Naboth's death to obtain the vineyard.
- Elijah pronounced judgment on Ahab and Jezebel for this act.

Final Battle and Death

The Biblical story concludes with Ahab's death:

- Ahab allied with Jehoshaphat of Judah to fight against Syria.
- Despite disguising himself, Ahab was mortally wounded by a random arrow.
- He died in his chariot, fulfilling Elijah's prophecy.

Throughout these chapters, we see the continued spiritual decline of Israel under Ahab's leadership, the prophetic ministry of Elijah, and God's ongoing attempts to call His people back to faithfulness.

The Prophet Elijah

Is one of the great prophets in the Bible. When we get to New Testament he will be the representative of all the preceding prophets. When Jesus begins performing miracles he will be compared to Elijah.

Elijah performed eight miracles. How are the miracles Jesus performed similar?

1. **Drought:** Elijah caused a drought by shutting up the heavens
2. **Oil and flour:** Elijah multiplied oil and flour for a widow
3. **Raising a widow's son:** Elijah raised a widow's son from the dead
4. **Defeating the prophets of Baal:** Elijah defeated the prophets of Baal with fire from heaven
5. **Ending the drought:** Elijah brought rain to end the drought
6. **Destroying soldiers:** Elijah destroyed 51 soldiers with fire and lightning
7. **Parting the Jordan:** Elijah parted the waters of the Jordan River
8. **Ascending to heaven:** Elijah ascended to heaven alive