

HEROES OF THE FAITH

ELIJAH: God's Messenger



1 Kings 21

23 September 2020

WORSHIP: "...THE PRIMARY PURPOSE OF HUMAN EXISTENCE,
& THE CHIEF END OF MAN."

➤ Review

- ❖ Elijah fled from Jezebel. (1 Kings 19:1-2)
- ❖ God spoke to Elijah at Mount Sinai/Mount Horeb. (1 Kings 19:9-18)
- ❖ God gave Elijah a new ministry purpose and direction. (1 Kings 19:15-18)
- ❖ Elijah partiality fulfilled God's command on his life (1 Kings 19:19-21)

➤ Israel's History (1 Kings 18 - 20)

- ❖ NOTE: Ben-hadad is Syria's king, not Hazael. (1 Kings 19:15)
- ❖ NOTE: Ahab (#7) is Israel's king, not Jehu (#10) – of 19 kings. (1 Kings 19:16)
- ❖ NOTE: Elijah appeared not to be God's only prophet. (1 Kings 19:18)
- ❖ NOTE: Time, & events, must transpire before God's prophetic word begins.
- ❖ War: Ahab battled with the Syrian king - Ben-hadad. (1 Kings 20)

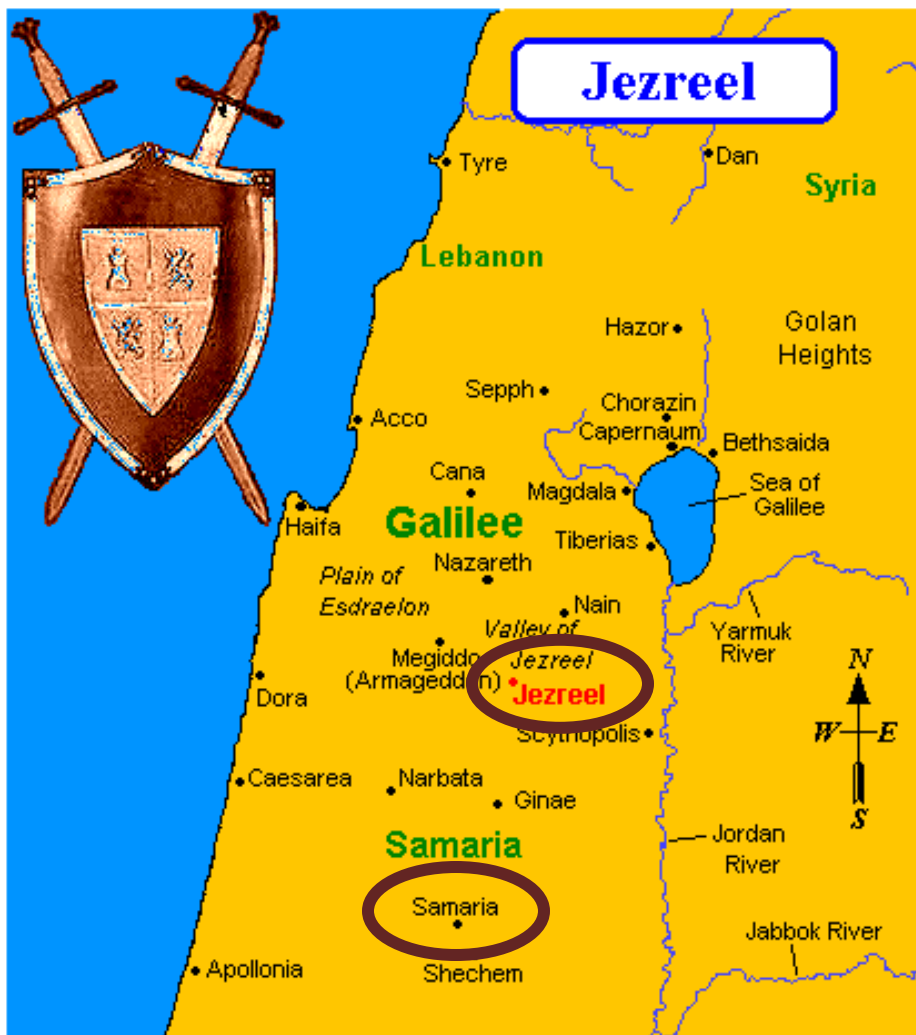
➤ Theological Themes (1 & 2 Kings)

- I. The Lord judged *Israel* (722 B.C.) & *Judah* (586 B.C.) because of their disobedience to His law. **Elijah began serving as God's prophet in 875 B.C.**
- II. The word of God's prophets came to pass.
- ➔ III. The Lord remembered His promise to David. (2 Samuel 7:15-16; 1 Kings 11:12-13; 15:4-5; 2 Kings 8:19)
- IV. Scripture reveals man's continued need for Messiah/Savior.

➤ Naboth's Vineyard (vv. 1-16)

- ❖ The scene (vv. 1-4; **see map**).
 - Naboth had a vineyard near Ahab's auxiliary/winter palace in Jezreel. (v. 1)
 - Ahab wanted it for an honest price. (v. 2)
 - NOTE: The priorities of both men. (vv. 3-4)
- ❖ The rationale. (vv. 5-7)
 - Ahab's morality, & moral character. (vv. 5-6)
 - Jezebel's morality, & moral character. (v. 7)





❖ **The location of Ahab's two palaces.**



❖ The plot. (vv. 8-14)

Jezebel intervened for Ahab.

✓ Her implementation of the diabolical plan.

- 1) Use the king's power for personal gain. (v. 7)
- 2) Public setting. False charges. Hebrew biblical law. (vv. 8-14)
 - She wrote a letter for Ahab to Jezreel's leaders. (v. 8)
 - Jezreel's elders & leaders proclaimed a fast. (v. 9)
 - Honored Naboth at the feast.
 - Hired two witnesses to lie about him. (v. 10; Deuteronomy 19:15)
 - Jezreel's leaders complied. (v. 11)
 - Feast occurred. Witnesses lied. Naboth executed. (vv. 12-14)

❖ The result. (vv. 15-16)

With Naboth dead, Jezebel gave the vineyard to her husband. (v. 15)

NOTE: Ahab's moral fiber. (v. 16)

- ✓ He was angry with Naboth. (v. 4)
- ✓ He was dejected by Naboth's refusal. (v. 4)
- ✓ Remember, "*Silence is consent.*" (vv. 7, 8-11)
- ✓ For Ahab, the ends justified the means. (vv. 15-16)

➤ God condemned Ahab's sin. (vv. 17-24)

❖ God spoke to Elijah. (vv. 17-18)

❖ God judged Ahab. (vv. 19-24)

- Ahab was both a murderer and a thief. (v. 19)
- God prophesied Ahab's death. (v. 19)
- Ahab's *spiritual position & condition* were clear to God. (v. 20)
- Ahab's blood lineage would end. (vv. 21-22)
- God foretold Jezebel's death. (v. 23)
- God would remove all signs of Ahab's family's existence. (v. 24)

➤ Ahab's repentance. God's response to it. (vv. 25-29)

- ❖ Great sinner. Enemy of God. (vv. 25-26)
- ❖ Great brokenness; and, repentance. (v. 27)
- ❖ God heard, and, saw Ahab's repentance. (vv. 27-28)
- ❖ God reacted to Ahab. (v. 29)

