

1 Kings.

The Kings are Dead

Key verse: 1 Kings 21:35.

(There was never a man like Ahab, who sold himself to do evil in the eyes of the LORD, urged on by Jezebel his wife. He behaved in the vilest manner by going after idols, like the Amorites the LORD drove out before Israel.)

Kick Off

Draw as best you can the public signs for; Bed and Breakfast, Emergency Exit, Public Toilets, Phone Booths, Information Desk.

Why the move to Images rather than Words?

Study six...



Big Idea: The word of God must be understood and obeyed for us to enjoy God's blessing.

STUDY

1 Kings 20-22 contains three detailed stories of evil King Ahab's failure to follow the word of God and how God's word stands in opposition to him for his actions.

Read 1 Kings 20. Spineless moderation.

1. Describe the situation Israel finds itself in vv1-12?
2. Where does help come from and how do things pan out vv13-22?
3. What to you make of Syria's mix of theology and military strategy in vv23-25?

Do people today sometimes think God is over the big stuff but not into the little things in life? He governs the world but not the work place, the hills but not the valleys?

4. True to prophecy Syria attacks again. What chance, without God, would Israel have had v27? Why did Israel gain the victory and who really won the battle v28?
5. God won the battle but what is Ahab's big mistake and why is it such a mistake vv 32-43.

Where does spineless moderation get you v42?

Read 1 Kings 21. Heartless oppression.

6. Naboth's vineyard is a well-known story. A few things to consider as you discuss it.
 - a. Why does God not intervene earlier into this injustice so Naboth could have been saved?
 - b. How come the city elders and leaders are so compliant with Ahab's wickedness?
 - c. Why is God's grace so outrageous towards Ahab the murderer v27-29?

Read 1 Kings 22. Foolish stupidity

7. What's the situation in Israel in this chapter vv1-12?
8. How is Micaiah the prophet's message appreciated? And how is he an inspiration to us to stand up for truth in the face of intense opposition?
9. How does Ahab show he has a fear of the word of the Lord? Are his actions effective vv29-40?
10. Does 1 Kings end on a positive note?

THINK AND APPLY

What can we learn about the seriousness and blessing of obeying the word of God in our life and practice?

To obey God you first have to understand what he's asking you to do. Is your problem understanding or obedience or both or neither?

PRAYER

What can you pray about arising from this study?



**For next week
Read
Acts**