

1. THE CAST OF CHARACTERS IN THE STORY

- 1) **Micaiah** - (1 Kings 22:8) “son of Imlah;” prophet in Israel.
- 2) **Ahab** - (1 Kings 16:28-31) king in Israel for 22 years; son of Omri; did evil; married Jezebel. (1 Kings 21:1-19) story of Naboth’s vineyard. (1 Kings 22:34-35) prophesy of Ahab’s death fulfilled.
- 3) **Jehoshaphat** - (v2) king in Judah, southern kingdom.
(v4) Ahab asks Jehoshaphat to join him in battle against Syria.
(v42-43) reigns 25 years, and “did that which was right in the eyes of the Lord”
- 4) **Syria** - the nation on Israel’s northern border; Ben-Hadad is the ruler.
- 5) **Ramoth-Gilead** - one of the cities of refuge appointed by Moses (Deut. 4:41-43).
(v3) the city was in Syria’s control, and Ahab wants it back.

2. THE SETTING FOR THE STORY

- 1) Ahab asks Jehoshaphat to join him in battle, and (v5) Jehoshaphat says, “Enquire at the word of the Lord today.”

(v6) Ahab asks 400 of his own prophets, and they say, “Go up ... “

There will always be people to speak what you want to hear: (2 Tim. 4:3-4; Isaiah 30:9-10; Jude v4).
- 2) (v7) Jehoshaphat asks for one more inquiry from a “prophet of the Lord.”

(v8) “There’s one, Micaiah, but I hate him ... “

(v9) Ahab sends an officer, “Hasten here Micaiah the son of Imlah.”

3. THE CONFRONTATION

- (v13) The officer finds Micaiah and informs him of Ahab’s prophets conclusion.
- (v14) Micaiah’s reply: “... what the Lord says, that will I speak.”
- Micaiah is not for or against Ahab, he is for the Lord; and, his answer is:
(v17) “I saw all Israel scattered on the hills, sheep without a shepherd.”

4. AHAB’S DECISION AFTER COUNSEL

- (v34-35, v37-38) He ignores Micaiah’s warning, goes into battle, and dies.

5. APPLICATION - Micaiah was not afraid to speak God’s word even when it was not what the majority wanted to hear; dare to be “different” when difference matters.