

Ahab. II Chronicles 18-12-17, 25-27 (to 1st .),  
28, 29 (to 1st ;), 33 (to -), 34

12 And the messenger that went to call Micaiah spake to him, saying, Behold, the words of the prophets declare good to the king with one assent; let thy word therefore, I pray thee, be like one of theirs, and speak thou good.

13 And Micaiah said, As the Lord liveth, even what my God saith, that will I speak.

14 And when he was come to the king, the king said unto him, Micaiah, shall we go to Ramoth-gilead to battle, or shall I forbear? And he said, Go ye up, and prosper, and they shall be delivered into your hand.

15 And the king said to him, How many times shall I adjure thee that thou say nothing but the truth to me in the name of the Lord?

But Micaiah answered, "As surely as the Lord lives, I can tell him only what the Lord tells me."

17 So Micaiah answered, "I saw the army of Israel scattered over the hills like sheep without a shepherd. The Lord said, 'They have no leaders. They should go home and not fight.'"

16 Then he said, I did see all Israel scattered upon the mountains, as sheep that have no shepherd: and the Lord said, These have no master; let them return therefore every man to his house in peace.

At first the prophet tells him what he wants to hear

The military venture will be successful

Then he commits to conveying God's message, a prediction of defeat and advice to refrain from war. (The mention of sheep having no master is viewed **as alluding to Ahab's death.**) Rejecting this oracle, Ahab sends Micaiah to prison. The king's willfulness brings about his demise in battle.

17 And the king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, Did I not tell thee that he would not prophesy good unto me, but evil?

Though King Jehoshaphat of Judah agrees to join the war effort, he doesn't trust Ahab's court prophets—men whose loyalty is to their king instead of to God.

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<p>25 Then the king of Israel said, Take ye Micaiah, and carry him back to Amon the governor of the city, and to Joash the king's son</p>	
<p>26 And say, Thus saith the king, Put this fellow in the prison, and feed him with bread of affliction and with water of affliction, until I return in peace.</p>	
<p>27 And Micaiah said, If thou certainly return in peace, then hath not the Lord spoken by me.</p>	
<p>28 So the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat the king of Judah went up to Ramoth-gilead.</p>	<p>Some time later, a combined army of various nations from the south and east set out to attack Judah (20:1-2). The Chronicler notes that Jehoshaphat and his people not only cried to God for help, but they did so by gathering at the temple in Jerusalem. That was the place of prayer for God's people in times of crisis (3-12; cf. 6:24-25). As a result God answered their prayer.</p>

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29 And the king of Israel said unto Jehoshaphat, I will disguise myself, and will go to the battle;

When we go into the battle, I will wear ordinary clothes. People will not recognize me as the king. But you should wear your *royal* clothes.' So the king of Israel went into the battle as if he was an ordinary soldier.

The king of Syria had said to his 32 *chariot* officers, 'Only fight the king of Israel. Do not fight against anyone else, whoever they are.' <sup>32</sup> The chariot officers saw King Jehoshaphat in his royal clothes. They thought, 'Surely that man is the king of Israel.' So they turned towards him to attack him. When King Jehoshaphat saw them, he shouted out. <sup>33</sup> Then the chariot officers realized that he was not the king of Israel. So they did not chase him any more.

**34 and about the time of  
the sun going down he  
died.**

Then a Syrian soldier shot an *arrow* into the air. He did not try to shoot at anyone, but the arrow hit the king of Israel. The arrow went through a space in the king's *armour*. The king commanded the man who drove his chariot, 'Turn the chariot around. Take me away from the battle. An arrow has hit me.'

<sup>35</sup> The soldiers fought the battle all day. While they were fighting, King Ahab sat in his chariot where he could see the Syrian soldiers. His blood poured out and it covered the floor of the chariot. When evening came, Ahab died. <sup>36</sup> At sunset, the Israelite soldiers shouted to each other, 'Leave the battle! Every man should return home to the city where he lives.'

<sup>37</sup> So the king of Israel died. They took him to Samaria. They buried him there. <sup>38</sup> They washed his blood from the chariot at  
the pool of water in

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