

Handout: 1 Kings Lesson 9

Laws of the Covenant that pertain to events in 1 Kings Chapter 21:

- *Land will not be sold absolutely, for the land belongs to me, and you are only strangers and guests of mine (Lev 24:23).*
- *The prince may not take any part of the people's hereditary portion, thus robbing them of what is theirs; he must provide the patrimony of his sons out of his own property. So that no member of my people is robbed of what is his (Ez 46:18).*
- *You will not revile God, nor curse your people's leader (Ex 22:27).*
- *Anyone who curses his God will bear the consequences of his sin, and anyone who blasphemes the name of Yahweh will be put to death; the whole community will stone him; be he alien or native-born, if he blasphemes the Name, he will be put to death (Lev 24:16).*
- *... a single witness is not enough to sustain a capital charge (Num 35:30).*
- *A death sentence may be passed only on the word of two witnesses or three; and no one must be put to death on the word of one witness alone (Dt 17:6).*
- *Laws of a king: ...so that he will not think himself superior to his brothers, and not deviate from these commandments either to right or to left. So doing, long will he occupy his throne, he and his sons, in Israel (Dt 17:20).*
- *You shall not kill [take innocent life] (Ex 20:13, Dt 5:16; Lev 19:2; 20:9)*
- *You shall not give false evidence against your neighbor (Ex 20:16; Dt 5:20).*
- *You shall not set your heart on your neighbor's house. You shall not set your heart on your neighbor's spouse, or servant, man or woman, or ox, or donkey, of any of your neighbor's possessions (Ex 20:17; Dt 21).*

Jezebel used King Ahab's seal on the document that outlined the conspiracy to kill Naboth. In ancient times seals were not only used on documents but also to place a mark on slaves who were branded with their owner's names or on soldiers who were marked with their unit's seal. A seal also authenticated a juridical act or document. Jesus declared that He was marked with His Father's seal (Jn 6:27), and all those who have come to Christ in the Sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation carry the "seal" of Jesus Christ on their souls. Baptized and Confirmed Christians are indelibly marked by the Holy Spirit as totally belonging to Christ, are commissioned by Him for service, and have the promise of divine protection in the Final Judgment (see 1 Cor 9:2; 2 Cor 1:21-22; Eph 1:13-14; 4:30; 2 Tim 2:19, Rev 7:2-3; 9:4; Ez 9:4-6; and CCC 1295-96).

- *Jesus: Do not work for food that perishes but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For on him the Father, God, has set his seal (Jn 6:27 NAB).*
- *St. Paul: But the one who gives us security with you in Christ and who anointed us is God; he has also put his seal upon us and given the Spirit in our hearts as a first installment (2 Cor 1:21-22 NAB). The "installment" is on the promise of eternal life.*
- *St. Paul: In him you also, who have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and have believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, which is the first installment on our inheritance toward redemption as God's possession, to the praise of his glory (Eph 1:13-14 NAB).*

Handout 2: 1 Kings Lesson 9

Sins committed by Jezebel and the village elders violated the Ten Commandments:

1. The sin of coveting another's possession
2. The sin of giving false testimony
3. The sin of taking innocent life

Naboth is a "Biblical type" of Jesus Christ.

Naboth of Jezreel	Jesus of Nazareth
A conspiracy was formed against Naboth because the king envied Naboth's possession of a vineyard (1 Kng 21:1-7).	The religious leaders wanted to put Jesus to death because of their envy of Jesus' influence over the "vineyard" that was Israel (Is 5:7; Mt 27:18).
Witnesses were called to give false testimony against Naboth (1 Kng 21:10, 13a).	Witnesses were called to give false testimony against Jesus (Mt 26:59-61).
Naboth was charged with the sin of blasphemy by the village elders and was condemned to death (1 Kng 21:10, 13).	Jesus was charged with the sin of blasphemy by the Sanhedrin and was condemned to death (Mt 26:65-66).
Naboth was innocent (2 Kng 21:8-14).	Jesus was innocent (Jn 18:38, 19:4, 6).
Naboth was executed outside the city (2 Kng 21:13b).	Jesus was executed outside the city (Jn 19:20).
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Chapter 22: Another Aramaean War

King Ahab of Israel ruled c. 874-853 BC. King Jehoshaphat of Judah ruled c. 870-848 BC.

Jehoshaphat of Judah made an alliance with Ahab of Israel and sealed the alliance with a royal marriage of his son Jehoram to Ahab and Jezebel's daughter Athaliah (see an expanded story of Jehoshaphat's reign in 2 Chr 17:1-21:1). He joined Ahab in another war against Ben-Hadad II of Damascus in 853 BC.

Test of a true prophet: Moses said: *"You may be privately wondering, 'How are we to tell that a prophecy does not come from Yahweh?' When a prophet speaks in the name of Yahweh and the thing does not happen and the word is not fulfilled, then it has not been said by Yahweh. The prophet has spoken presumptuously. You have nothing to fear from him."*

Opinions are divided on Micaiah's vision in 1 Kings 22:19-23:

1. It is a true vision and this is the way God moves human events to bring about a desired result.
2. In order to protect himself from openly accusing the court prophets of lying, he has fabricated this story to excuse their false message. They are not responsible because it was a spirit who lied to them.
3. The spirit who volunteers to present the lie to the court prophets is Satan (the devil), the "father of lies" (Jn 8:44-45).

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Handout 3: 1 Kings Lesson 9
 Aramaean and Assyrian Kings from 990 BC to 627 BC
 (Contemporary kings from the reigns of King Solomon to King Josiah)

Aramaean Kings	Neo-Assyrian Kings
Hezion (Rezon) c. 990-930 BC 1 Kng 11:23, 25; 15:18	Tiglath-Pileser II c. 966-935
	Assur-dan II c. 934-912
Tabrimmon c. 930-885 BC 1 Kng 15:18	Adad-nirari II c. 911-891
	Tukuli-ninurta c 890-884
Ben-Hadad I c. 885-860 BC 1 Kng 15:18, 20	Assur-nasupal II c. 883-859 BC
Ben-Hadad II c. 860-841 BC 1 Kng 20; 2 Kng 6:24; 8:7, 9, 14	Shalmaneser III c. 858-824 BC c. 842 Israel pays tribute to Assyria (Balck Obelisk)
Hazel c. 841-801 1 Kng 19:15, 17; 2 Kng 8: 9:14, 15; 10:32; 12:17, 18; 13:3, 22, 24, 25	Shamshi_Adad V c. 823-811 BC
	Adad-nirari III 810-783 BC
Ben Hadad III c. 807-780 BC 2 Kng 13:3, 24, 25	Shalmeneser IV c. 782-773 BC
Rezin c. 780-732 2 Kng 15:9; 16:5-6, 9 killed by the Assyrians 16:9 (cf. Is 7:1, 4, 8; 8:6; 9:11) Aram is conquered by the Assyrians in c. 732 BC along with the Israelite territory of the Gilead and the Galilee. The people are deported into exile in Assyria (2 Kng 15:29).	Assur-nirari V c. 754-745 BC
	Tiglath-Pileser III (Pul) c. 745-727 BC 2 Kng 15:19, 29; 16:7 People of the Gilead and the Galilee taken into exile 732 BC.
	Shalmaneser V c. 727-722 BC 2 Kng 17:5; 18:9-10 Israel became a vassal state of Assyria (2 Kng 17:3-5) but after King Hoshea's refusal to pay the tribute, Assyria attacked Israel in c. 722; people exiled.
	Sargon II c. 722-705 BC 2 Kng 17:5; 18:9-10; Is 20:1 Conquered Israel and deported the entire population into exile (2 Kng 17:6).
	Sennacherib c. 705-681 BC 2 Kng 18:13; 19:16, 20, 35-36; 2 Chr 32:1- 22; Is 36:1; 37:17, 21, 37
	Esarhaddon c. 681-669 BC 2 Kng 19:37; Ezra 4:2; Is 37:38
	Ashurbanipal (Asnapper) c. 668-627 BC Ezra 4:10