

An Unholy Alliance

The God of Elijah: Lesson 10

1 Kings 22:1-50; 2 Chronicles 19-20

- I. UNEQUALLY YOKED** (v. 4; 2 Chr 19:2; 2 Cor 6:14-16)
- A. Unwise Alliances**
1. **Political** (vs. 2-4)—almost gets him killed in battle
 2. **Business** (vs. 48-49; 2 Chr 20:35-37)— cursed by the LORD, fails
 3. **Marriage** (2 Chr 21:4-6; 22:2-4)— married his son to Ahab's daughter
- B. Possible Motives**
1. **Politically expedient**—economy and safety
 2. **Wants to reconcile the Israelite family** (Mat 10:34-38)—noble but *at what cost?*
-> Loyalty to God must *always come first, even before peace* within the family.
 3. **Thinks he can be a good influence on Ahab** (Pr 13:20; 2 Ch 19:2; I Cor 15:33; Ja 4:4)—
-> Allegiance to God limits the other alliances a believer is free to make.
- II. ENQUIRING OF THE LORD** (v. 5)
- A. An Empty Formality**—mind *already made up*
1. **We should ask God before committing to any course of action.** (Josh 9:14)
 2. **We should be guided by what He says.**
- B. Knowing Who to Ask (to Get the Answer You Want)**
1. **400 False Prophets**
 - a. **Prophets by Profession but Not by Divine Calling** (1 Kg 12:31)
 - b. **The Majority** (v. 13)—religious peer pressure
 - c. **Politically Astute**—human analysis

2. **One True Prophet**—Micaiah son of Imlah
 - a. **Regarded as the king's enemy** (v. 8; Pr 27:6)
 - b. **Refuses to be intimidated by the great or by the majority** (v. 14)
 - c. **Reveals the Word of the LORD**
 - **Employs Prophetic Sarcasm** (vs. 15-16; Pr 26:4-5)
 - **Speaks Plainly** (vs. 17-23)

C. **A Lying Spirit** (vs. 20-23)—

1. **Not every spirit you encounter will tell the truth.** (1 Jn 4:1, 5-6; 1 Ths 5:19-22)
2. **You will get what you want.** (2 Sam 22:27)
 - a. **Those who earnestly seek truth will find it.** (Jer 29:12-13; Pr 3:32)
 - b. **Those who reject truth will be given over to delusion.** (2 Ths 2:9-12)

III. **DANCING WITH DISASTER** (v. 23)—both kings

A. **JEHOSHAPHAT**

1. **Unwise Alliance** (v. 4; Pr 1:7; 13:20)—companion of a fool
2. **Hearing vs. Doing** (Js 1:22)—Seeking not same as *obeying*
3. **People Pleasing** (Pr 29:25)—Fear of man is a snare

B. **AHAB**

1. **Employing Yes Men** (v. 6, 13; 2 Tim 4:3-4) values ego more than wisdom.
2. **Despising the word of the LORD** (v. 29; Jer 6:10)
3. **Punishing the Prophet** (v. 8, 26; Lk 10:16)—rejecting the One who sent him
4. **Thinking He Can Outsmart God** (v. 30; Pr 21:30)

The LORD's friendship is infinitely superior to any other alliance we could make.

LISTEN TO "If I Stand" by Rich Mullins at

https://youtu.be/TBfTlywNV_0