

1 Kings 21

Chapter 21 of 22 · 29 Verses · Authorized King James Version

Naboth's Vineyard

¹ And it came to pass after these things, that Naboth the Jezreelite had a vineyard, which was in Jezreel, hard by the palace of Ahab king of Samaria.

² And Ahab spake unto Naboth, saying, Give me thy vineyard, that I may have it for a garden of herbs, because it is near unto my house: and I will give thee for it a better vineyard than it; or, if it seem good to thee, I will give thee the worth of it in money.

³ And Naboth said to Ahab, The LORD forbid it me, that I should give the inheritance of my fathers unto thee.

⁴ And Ahab came into his house heavy and displeased because of the word which Naboth the Jezreelite had spoken to him: for he had said, I will not give thee the inheritance of my fathers. And he laid him down upon his bed, and turned away his face, and would eat no bread.

⁵ But Jezebel his wife came to him, and said unto him, Why is thy spirit so sad, that thou eatest no bread?

⁶ And he said unto her, Because I spake unto Naboth the Jezreelite, and said unto him, Give me thy vineyard for money; or else, if it please thee, I will give thee another vineyard for it: and he answered, I will not give thee my vineyard.

⁷ And Jezebel his wife said unto him, Dost thou now govern the kingdom of Israel? arise, and eat bread, and let thine heart be merry: I will give thee the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite.

⁸ So she wrote letters in Ahab's name, and sealed them with his seal, and sent the letters unto the elders and to the nobles that were in his city, dwelling with Naboth.

9 And she wrote in the letters, saying, Proclaim a fast, and set Naboth on high among the people:

10 And set two men, sons of Belial, before him, to bear witness against him, saying, Thou didst blaspheme God and the king. And then carry him out, and stone him, that he may die.

11 And the men of his city, even the elders and the nobles who were the inhabitants in his city, did as Jezebel had sent unto them, and as it was written in the letters which she had sent unto them.

12 They proclaimed a fast, and set Naboth on high among the people.

13 And there came in two men, children of Belial, and sat before him: and the men of Belial witnessed against him, even against Naboth, in the presence of the people, saying, Naboth did blaspheme God and the king. Then they carried him forth out of the city, and stoned him with stones, that he died.

14 Then they sent to Jezebel, saying, Naboth is stoned, and is dead.

15 And it came to pass, when Jezebel heard that Naboth was stoned, and was dead, that Jezebel said to Ahab, Arise, take possession of the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite, which he refused to give thee for money: for Naboth is not alive, but dead.

16 And it came to pass, when Ahab heard that Naboth was dead, that Ahab rose up to go down to the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite, to take possession of it.

Elijah Condemns Ahab

17 And the word of the LORD came to Elijah the Tishbite, saying,

18 Arise, go down to meet Ahab king of Israel, which is in Samaria: behold, he is in the vineyard of Naboth, whither he is gone down to possess it.

19 And thou shalt speak unto him, saying, Thus saith the LORD, Hast thou killed, and also taken possession? And thou shalt speak unto him, saying, Thus saith the LORD, In the place where dogs licked the blood of Naboth shall dogs lick thy blood, even thine.

20 And Ahab said to Elijah, Hast thou found me, O mine enemy? And he answered, I have found thee: because thou hast sold thyself to work evil in the sight of the LORD.

21 Behold, I will bring evil upon thee, and will take away thy posterity, and will cut off from Ahab him that pisseth against the wall, and him that is shut up and left in Israel,

22 And will make thine house like the house of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, and like the house of Baasha the son of Ahijah, for the provocation wherewith thou hast provoked me to anger, and made Israel to sin.

23 And of Jezebel also spake the LORD, saying, The dogs shall eat Jezebel by the wall of Jezreel.

24 Him that dieth of Ahab in the city the dogs shall eat; and him that dieth in the field shall the fowls of the air eat.

25 But there was none like unto Ahab, which did sell himself to work wickedness in the sight of the LORD, whom Jezebel his wife stirred up.

26 And he did very abominably in following idols, according to all things as did the Amorites, whom the LORD cast out before the children of Israel.

27 And it came to pass, when Ahab heard those words, that he rent his clothes, and put sackcloth upon his flesh, and fasted, and lay in sackcloth, and went softly.

28 And the word of the LORD came to Elijah the Tishbite, saying,

29 Seest thou how Ahab humbleth himself before me? because he humbleth himself before me, I will not bring the evil in his days: but in his son's days will I bring the evil upon his house.

HEBREW & GREEK WORD STUDIES

Blood — דָּם (Dam)

Blood

The Hebrew **dam** (דָּם) means blood—representing life itself. 'The life of the flesh is in the blood' (Leviticus 17:11), and blood was required for atonement, foreshadowing Christ's sacrifice.

Lord — יְהוָה / אֲדֹנָי (YHWH / Adonai)

The LORD / Lord

When 'LORD' appears in small capitals, it represents the Tetragrammaton **YHWH** (יְהוָה), God's personal covenant name meaning 'I AM.' When 'Lord' appears normally, it's **Adonai** (אֲדֹנָי), meaning 'my Lord,' emphasizing sovereignty.

God — אֱלֹהִים (Elohim)

God (plural of majesty)

The Hebrew **Elohim** (אֱלֹהִים) is a plural form denoting majesty and fullness of deity. Though grammatically plural, it takes singular verbs when referring to the one true God, suggesting the Trinity's plurality within unity.

Spirit — רוּחַ (Ruach)

Spirit, wind, breath

The Hebrew **ruach** (רוּחַ) means spirit, wind, or breath—invisible but powerful. It describes both the Holy Spirit and the human spirit. God's Spirit gives life and empowers His people.

Word — דָּבָר (Davar)

Word, thing, matter

The Hebrew **davar** (דָּבָר) means word, thing, or matter—God's creative and authoritative speech. 'By the word of the LORD were the heavens made' (Psalm 33:6).

CROSS REFERENCES

1 Kings 21:1 **Kingdom:** 2 Chronicles 28:22. **Parallel theme:** Judges 6:33

1 Kings 21:2 **Parallel theme:** 1 Samuel 8:14; 1 Timothy 6:9

1 Kings 21:3 **Parallel theme:** Leviticus 25:23; Numbers 36:7; Ezekiel 46:18

1 Kings 21:4 **Parallel theme:** 1 Kings 20:43; James 1:14

1 Kings 21:10 **References God:** Exodus 22:28; Deuteronomy 13:13; Acts 6:11. **Witness:** Deuteronomy 19:15

- 1 Kings 21:12** **Parallel theme:** Isaiah 58:4
- 1 Kings 21:13** **Parallel theme:** 2 Kings 9:26
- 1 Kings 21:17** **Parallel theme:** Psalms 9:12
- 1 Kings 21:19** **Blood:** 1 Kings 22:38. **References Lord:** 2 Samuel 12:9
- 1 Kings 21:20** **Parallel theme:** 1 Kings 18:17; Romans 7:14; Revelation 11:10. **Evil:** 1 Kings 21:25; 2 Kings 17:17. **References Lord:** Isaiah 52:3
- 1 Kings 21:21** **Evil:** 1 Kings 14:10
- 1 Kings 21:22** **Parallel theme:** 1 Kings 16:3; 16:11. **Creation:** 1 Kings 14:16
- 1 Kings 21:23** **Parallel theme:** 2 Kings 9:10
- 1 Kings 21:24** **Parallel theme:** 1 Kings 14:11; 16:4; Jeremiah 15:3
- 1 Kings 21:25** **Evil:** 1 Kings 21:20; Acts 14:2. **References Lord:** Proverbs 22:14. **Parallel theme:** 1 Kings 21:7; Ecclesiastes 7:26; Romans 6:19
- 1 Kings 21:26** **Parallel theme:** Genesis 15:16; 2 Kings 21:11
- 1 Kings 21:27**
 Word: 2 Kings 6:30; 18:37. **Parallel theme:** Genesis 37:34; 2 Samuel 3:31; Job 16:15; Isaiah 22:12; 38:15; Joel 1:13
- 1 Kings 21:29** **Parallel theme:** Exodus 10:3; 2 Kings 10:11; Psalms 18:44; 66:3; 86:15; Jeremiah 7:17; Micah 7:18; Romans 2:4; 2 Peter 3:9