

Setting

Locate the following places on the Bible map:

- Ramoth-gilead
- Israel
- Jerusalem
- Edom
- Samaria
- Ezion-geber
- Syria (Aram)

Key Terms and People

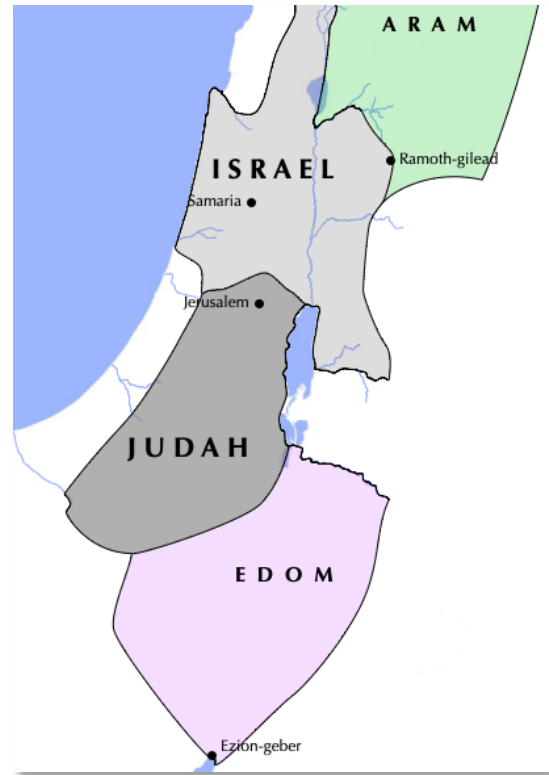
Jehoshaphat: Fourth king of the Southern Kingdom of Judah. Reigned approx. 870–848 B.C.

Ahab: Seventh king of the Northern Kingdom of Israel. Reigned approx. 875–853 B.C.

Micaiah: Prophet of God who prophesies Ahab’s demise.

Zedekiah: Son of Chenaanah, rival prophet to Micaiah.

Ahaziah: Eighth king of the Northern Kingdom of Israel. Reigned 853–852 B.C.



Story Moments

Ahab and Jehoshaphat

22:1–4. How much time has passed since the war with Syria (1 Kings 20)? _____

How has the relationship between the kingdoms of Israel and Judah shifted since the events of 1 Kings 15:6–7²⁵? _____

22:5–6. What does Jehoshaphat request before agreeing to war against Syria? _____

What do the prophets advise? _____

22:7–9. What question does Jehoshaphat ask after the prophets of Israel give their blessing? _____

What is Ahab’s response? _____

Why does Ahab hate Micaiah? _____

22:10–12. What demonstration does the prophet Zedekiah offer to the kings of Israel and Judah? _____

According to 22:11, who are these prophets speaking for? “Thus says _____.”

Prophecy against Ahab

22:13–14. What does the messenger ask Micaiah to do? _____

How does Micaiah respond? _____

22:15. What does Micaiah say when asked about going to war? _____

22:16–17. Somehow, Ahab realizes that Micaiah is not telling the whole truth. When asked again, how does Micaiah describe what he sees? _____

22:18. How do the kings react to Micaiah’s message? _____

²⁵ Note: 1 Kings 15:6–7 speaks of war between Rehoboam (the kingdom of Judah) and Jeroboam (the kingdom of Israel).

22:19–23. How does Micaiah explain (through the word of the LORD) that all the other prophets were mistaken? _____

What role does the host of heaven play? _____

What is the purpose of this plan? _____

22:24–28. What does Zedekiah do to Micaiah and how does Micaiah respond? _____

What does Ahab command should be done to Micaiah? _____

Death of Ahab

22:29–33. How do the kings seek to confuse the Syrians? _____

What command does the king of Syria give? _____

22:34–40. How does King Ahab die? _____

New Kings in Israel and Judah

22:41–50. How would you describe the reign of Jehoshaphat? What are his strengths and weaknesses? _____

22:51–53. Briefly summarize Ahaziah's reign in Israel: _____

Ask Yourself

What can I learn from Micaiah's resolve to say whatever the Lord told him to say and to not be pressured by what the other prophets said?

According to 22:34, "a certain man drew a bow at random, and struck the king of Israel," fulfilling the prophecy from God that Ahab would die in battle. How does God's sovereign hand over seemingly random events encourage me to trust Him?

Note that both Jehoshaphat and Ahaziah followed the pattern of their respective fathers (Asa and Ahab). Each "walked in all the ways of his father" (22:43; see also 22:52). What can I learn from this? What are some ways I am instructing my children without realizing it?

Study Helps

Kings of Judah and Israel

<i>Dates (approx.)</i>	<i>Unified Kingdom</i>			<i>Dates (approx.)</i>	
1051–1011	<i>House of Saul</i>	Saul	<i>House of Saul</i>	1051–1011	
1011–971	<i>House of David</i>	David	<i>House of David</i>	1011–971	
971–931		Solomon		971–931	
	<i>Southern Kingdom</i>		<i>Northern Kingdom</i>		
931–915	<i>House of David</i>	Rehoboam	Jeroboam I	931–911	
915–912		Abijam	Nadab	<i>House of Jeroboam</i>	
912–871		Asa	Baasha	<i>House of Issachar</i>	910–877
			Elah		887–886
				Zimri	886
871–849		Jehoshaphat		Omri	886–875
			Ahab	<i>House of Omri</i>	
		Ahaziah	875–853		
				853–852	