



5 MINUTE LESSONS ON THE KINGDOM OF GOD

Delusions Will Mislead and Deceive

(1 Kings 22:10-28, 34-38 Contemporary English Version)

¹⁰*All this time, Ahab and Jehoshaphat were dressed in their royal robes and were seated on their thrones at the threshing place near the gate of Samaria. They were listening to the prophets tell them what the Lord had said.*

¹¹*Zedekiah son of Chenaanah was one of the prophets. He had made some horns out of iron and shouted, 'Ahab, the Lord says you will attack the Syrians like a bull with iron horns and wipe them out!'*

¹²*All the prophets agreed that Ahab should attack the Syrians at Ramoth, and they promised that the Lord would help him defeat them.*

¹³*Meanwhile, the messenger who went to get Micaiah whispered, 'Micaiah, all the prophets have good news for Ahab. Now go and say the same thing.'*

¹⁴*'I'll say whatever the living Lord tells me to say,' Micaiah replied.*

¹⁵*Then Micaiah went to Ahab, and Ahab asked, 'Micaiah, should I attack the Syrians at Ramoth?'*

'Yes!' Micaiah answered. 'The Lord will help you defeat them.'

¹⁶*'Micaiah, I've told you over and over to tell me the truth!' Ahab shouted. 'What does the Lord really say?'*

¹⁷*He answered, 'In a vision I saw Israelite soldiers walking around in the hills like sheep without a shepherd to guide them. The Lord said, "This army has no leader. They should go home and not fight."'*

¹⁸*Ahab turned to Jehoshaphat and said, 'I told you he would bring bad news!'*

¹⁹*Micaiah replied:*

Listen to this! I also saw the Lord seated on his throne with every creature in heaven gathered around him. ²⁰The Lord asked, 'Who can trick Ahab and make him go to Ramoth where he will be killed?'

They talked about it for a while, ²¹then finally a spirit came forward and said to the Lord, 'I can trick Ahab.'

'How?' the Lord asked.

²²'I'll make Ahab's prophets lie to him.'

'Good!' the Lord replied. 'Now go and do it.'

²³This is exactly what has happened, Ahab. The Lord made all your prophets lie to you, and he knows you will soon be destroyed.

²⁴Zedekiah walked up to Micaiah and slapped him on the face. Then he asked, 'Do you really think the Lord would speak to you and not to me?'

²⁵Micaiah answered, 'You'll find out on the day you have to hide in the back room of some house.'

²⁶Ahab shouted, 'Arrest Micaiah! Take him to Prince Joash and Governor Amon of Samaria. ²⁷Tell them to put him in prison and to give him nothing but bread and water until I come back safely.'

²⁸Micaiah said, 'If you do come back, I was wrong about what the Lord wanted me to say.' Then he told the crowd, 'Don't forget what I said!'

³⁴However, during the fighting a soldier shot an arrow without even aiming, and it hit Ahab where two pieces of his armor joined. He shouted to his chariot driver, 'I've been hit! Get me out of here!'

³⁵The fighting lasted all day, with Ahab propped up in his chariot so he could see the Syrian troops. He bled so much that the bottom of the chariot was covered with blood, and by evening he was dead.

³⁶As the sun was going down, someone in Israel's army shouted to the others, 'Retreat! Go back home!'

³⁷Ahab's body was taken to Samaria and buried there. ³⁸Some workers washed his chariot near a spring in Samaria, and prostitutes washed themselves in his blood. Dogs licked Ahab's blood off the ground, just as the Lord had warned." (1 Kings 22:10-28, 34-38 Contemporary English Version)

Ahab was one of the most wicked kings in the Old Testament. His sins brought him to physical and spiritual ruin.

Are you being deceived by a life of sin? These are things that sin will cause you to do:

- cause you to be deceived by lying spirits (1 Kings 22:23; 1 Timothy 4:1)
- cause strong delusions so you will believe a lie (2 Thessalonians 2:10-11)
- cause you to be damned (2 Thessalonians 2:12)

- cause you to not love the truth (2 Thessalonians 2:10)
- cause you to change God's truth and believe lies (Romans 1:25)
- cause you to be unthankful (Romans 1:21)
- cause you to have a foolish and darkened heart (Romans 1:21)
- cause you to enter into idolatry (Romans 1:23)
- cause you to have false wisdom (Romans 1:22)
- cause you to have spiritual darkness and uncleanness (Romans 1:24; Acts 26:18)
- cause you to come under Satan's authority (Acts 26:18)
- and can even cause your death (1 John 5:16; Romans 6:16)

"³⁰In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent. ³¹For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to all men by raising him from the dead." (Acts 17:30-31 NIV)

Questions

- 1 What was Ahab deceived by?
- 2 In the New Testament, who gets deceived by lying spirits?
- 3 People choose idolatry over the true and living God.

True or False

- 4 Satan will use every kind of evil deception to fool you.

True or False

We want to hear from you!

We would love to hear your feedback on these lessons and how you use them in your own study or in discipling others. If you have any thoughts, stories, testimonies, comments, or questions we would love to hear them!

delessons.org/contact

DKM
10065 Sun Ridge Circle
Rogers, AR 72756 U.S.A.
delessons.org

Answer Key

1 What was Ahab deceived by?

By 400 of his prophets that prophesied by lying spirits.

“I’ll make Ahab’s prophets lie to him.’ ‘Good!’ the Lord replied. ‘Now go and do it.’” (1 Kings 22:22 CEV)

2 In the New Testament, who gets deceived by lying spirits?

Those who turn away from Christ.

“Now the Holy Spirit tells us clearly that in the last times some will turn away from the true faith; they will follow deceptive spirits and teachings that come from demons.” (1 Timothy 4:1 NLT)

3 People choose idolatry over the true and living God.

True

“²¹Yes, they knew God, but they wouldn’t worship him as God or even give him thanks. And they began to think up foolish ideas of what God was like. As a result, their minds became dark and confused. ²²Claiming to be wise, they instead became utter fools. ²³And instead of worshiping the glorious, ever-living God, they worshiped idols made to look like mere people and birds and animals and reptiles.” (Romans 1:21-23 NLT)

4 Satan will use every kind of evil deception to fool you.

True

“¹⁰He will use every kind of evil deception to fool those on their way to destruction, because they refuse to love and accept the truth that would save them. ¹¹So God will cause them to be greatly deceived, and they will believe these lies. ¹²Then they will be condemned for enjoying evil rather than believing the truth.” (2 Thessalonians 2:10-12 NLT)