



ELIJAH & ELISHA

Lessons In Faith



LESSON 4

Death of Ahab



I KINGS 22

**Jehoshaphat
betrayed Elijah
and all Israel
with his
alliance with
evil King Ahab.**

KINGS OF ISRAEL

Jeroboam	975-954
Nadab	954-953
Baasha	953-930
Elah	930-929
Zimri	929
Omri	929-918
Ahab	918-897
Ahaziah	897-896
Joram	896-884
Jehu	884-856
Jehoahaz	856-841
Joash	841-825
Jeroboam II	825-784
Zechariah	773
Shallum	772
Menahem	772-762
Pekahiah	762-760
Pekah	760-740
Hoshea	730-721

KINGS OF JUDAH

Rehoboam	975-958
Abijah	958-955
Asa	955-914
Jehoshaphat	914-892
Jehoram	892-884
Ahaziah	885
Athaliah	885-878
Joash	878-839
Amaziah	839-810
Uzziah	810-758
Jotham	758-742
Ahaz	742-726
Hezekiah	726-698
Manasseh	698-643
Amon	643-641
Josiah	641-610
Jehoahaz	610
Jehoiakim	610-599
Jehoiachin	599
Zedekiah	599-588

A COMPROMISEING ALLIANCE



1 Kings 22

“¹And they continued three years without war between Syria and Israel. ²And it came to pass in the third year, that Jehoshaphat the king of Judah came down to the king of Israel. ³And the king of Israel said unto his servants, Know ye that Ramoth in Gilead is ours, and we be still, and take it not out of the hand of the king of Syria? ⁴And he said unto Jehoshaphat, Wilt thou go with me to battle to Ramothgilead? And Jehoshaphat said to the king of Israel, I am as thou art, my people as thy people, my horses as thy horses.”

A COMPROMISEING ALLIANCE

Jehoshaphat should never have lowered himself to confer with wicked Ahab.

Elijah had killed King Ahab's false prophets at the brook Kishon, and he hid in a cave to escape Ahab and Jezebel's evil attempts to silence him.

Syria and Israel were at peace, yet Ahab wanted war. It is shocking that Jehoshaphat was totally compliant with this evil-doer.

1 Kings 22

“¹And they continued three years without war between Syria and Israel. ²And it came to pass in the third year, that Jehoshaphat the king of Judah came down to the king of Israel. ³And the king of Israel said unto his servants, Know ye that Ramoth in Gilead is ours, and we be still, and take it not out of the hand of the king of Syria? ⁴And he said unto Jehoshaphat, Wilt thou go with me to battle to Ramothgilead? And Jehoshaphat said to the king of Israel, I am as thou art, my people as thy people, my horses as thy horses.”



1 Kings 22

“⁵And Jehoshaphat said unto the king of Israel, Enquire, I pray thee, at the word of the LORD to day. ⁶Then the king of Israel gathered the prophets together, about four hundred men, and said unto them, Shall I go against Ramothgilead to battle, or shall I forbear? And they said, Go up; for the Lord shall deliver it into the hand of the king. ⁷And Jehoshaphat said, Is there not here a prophet of the LORD besides, that we might enquire of him?”



1 Kings 22

“⁸And the king of Israel said unto Jehoshaphat, There is yet one man, Micaiah the son of Imlah, by whom we may enquire of the LORD: but I hate him; for he doth not prophesy good concerning me, but evil. And Jehoshaphat said, Let not the king say so. ⁹Then the king of Israel called an officer, and said, Hasten hither Micaiah the son of Imlah.”



Zedekiah
False Prophet

1 Kings 22

“¹⁰And the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat the king of Judah sat each on his throne, having put on their robes, in a void place in the entrance of the gate of Samaria; and all the prophets prophesied before them.”



**Zedekiah
False Prophet**

1 Kings 22

“¹¹And Zedekiah the son of Chenaanah made him horns of iron: and he said, Thus saith the LORD, With these shalt thou push the Syrians, until thou have consumed them. ¹²And all the prophets prophesied so, saying, Go up to Ramothgilead, and prosper: for the LORD shall deliver it into the king’s hand.”

SUMMARY

So, at the special request of King Jehoshaphat, Ahab asked counsel of his prophets concerning a campaign against Syria. Ahab's 400 prophets all assured him of success.



SUMMARY

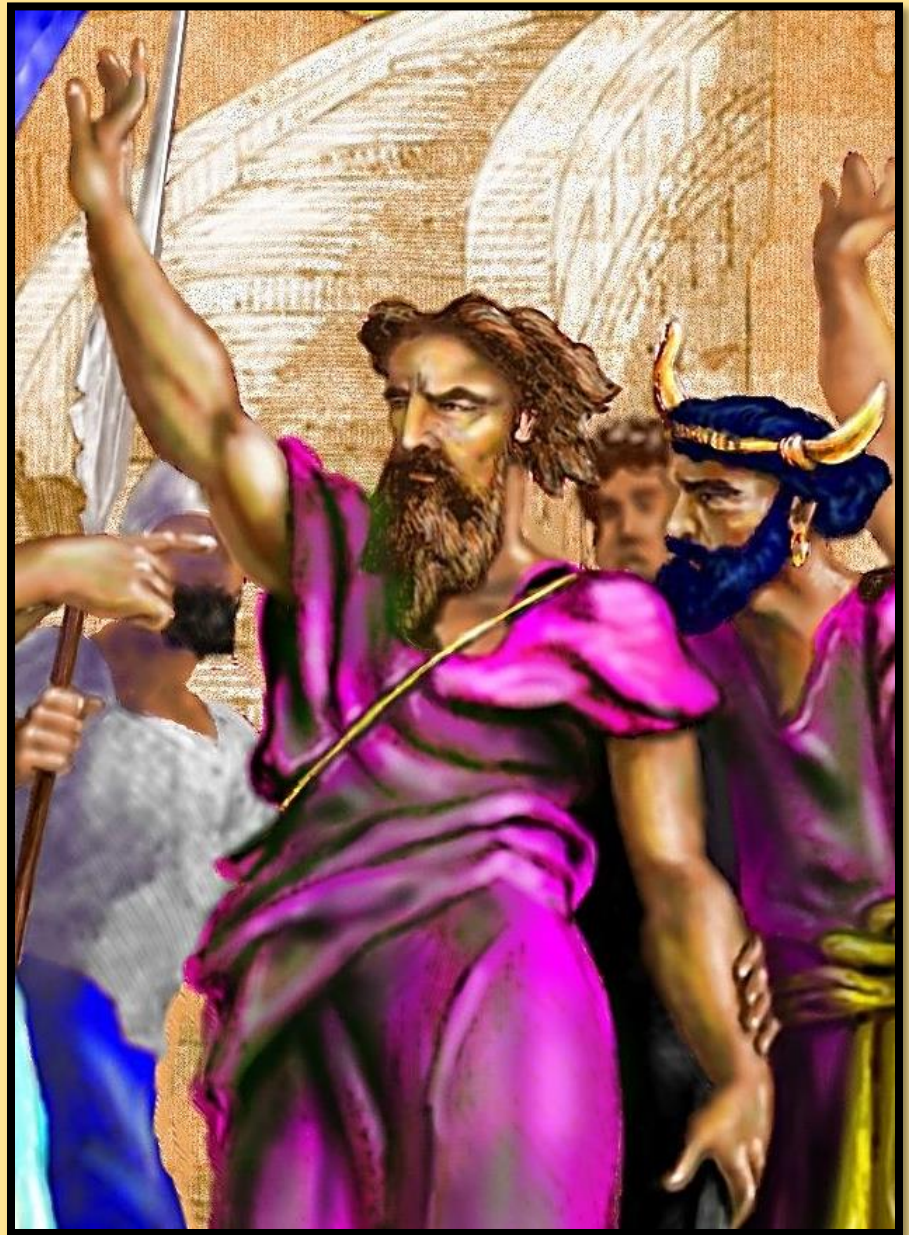
They knew which way his inclination was and looked to humor the two kings. But they were false prophets! King Jehoshaphat asked if there was a prophet of the Lord that they might inquire of him. Ahab said yes there was, but he hated him because he always spoke evil concerning him. **His name was Micaiah.**



Micaiah The Prophet

1 Kings 22

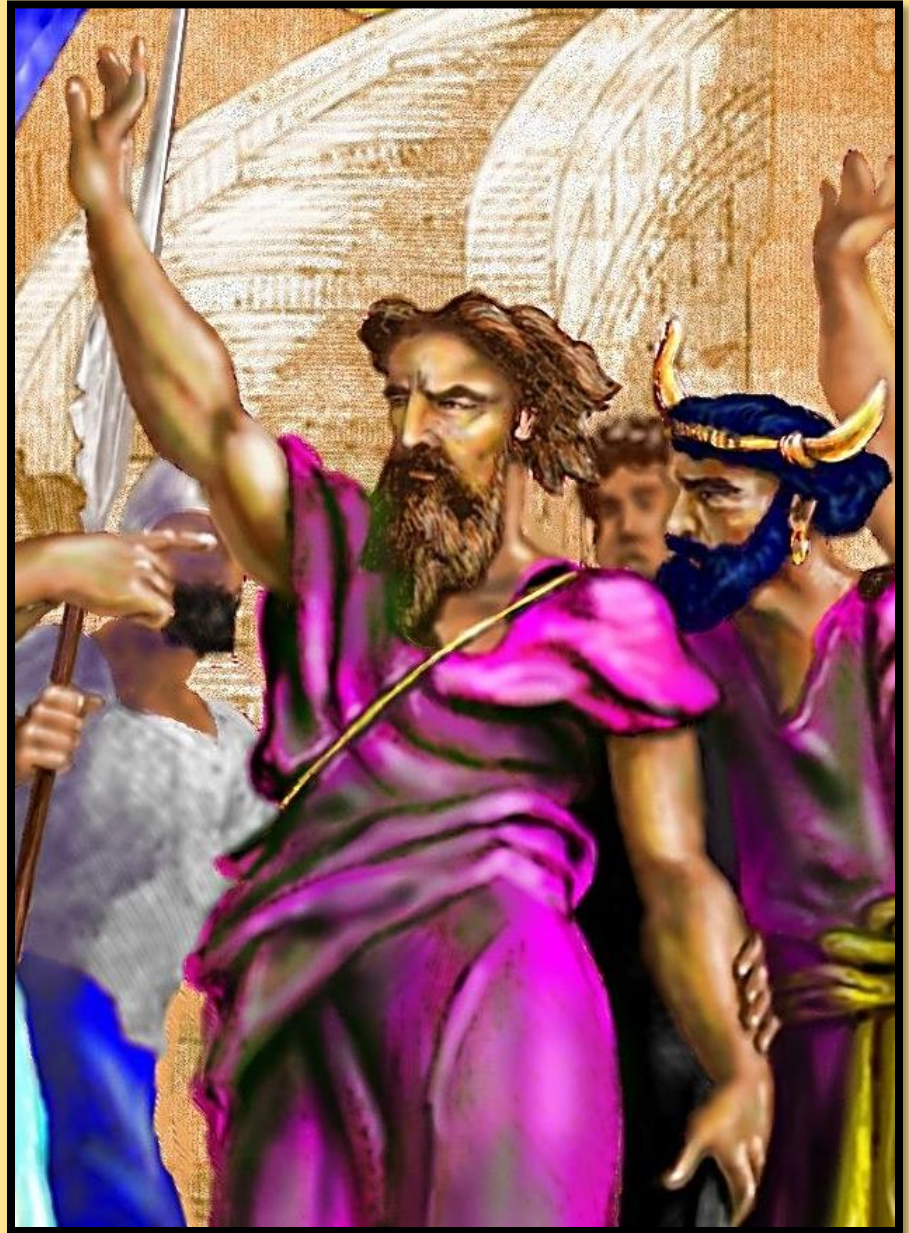
“¹³And the messenger that was gone to call Micaiah spake unto him, saying, Behold now, the words of the prophets declare good unto the king with one mouth: let thy word, I pray thee, be like the word of one of them, and speak that which is good. ¹⁴And Micaiah said, As the LORD liveth, what the LORD saith unto me, that will I speak.”



Micaiah The Prophet

Micaiah was called out of prison (most likely Ahab put him there because he hated his prophecies).

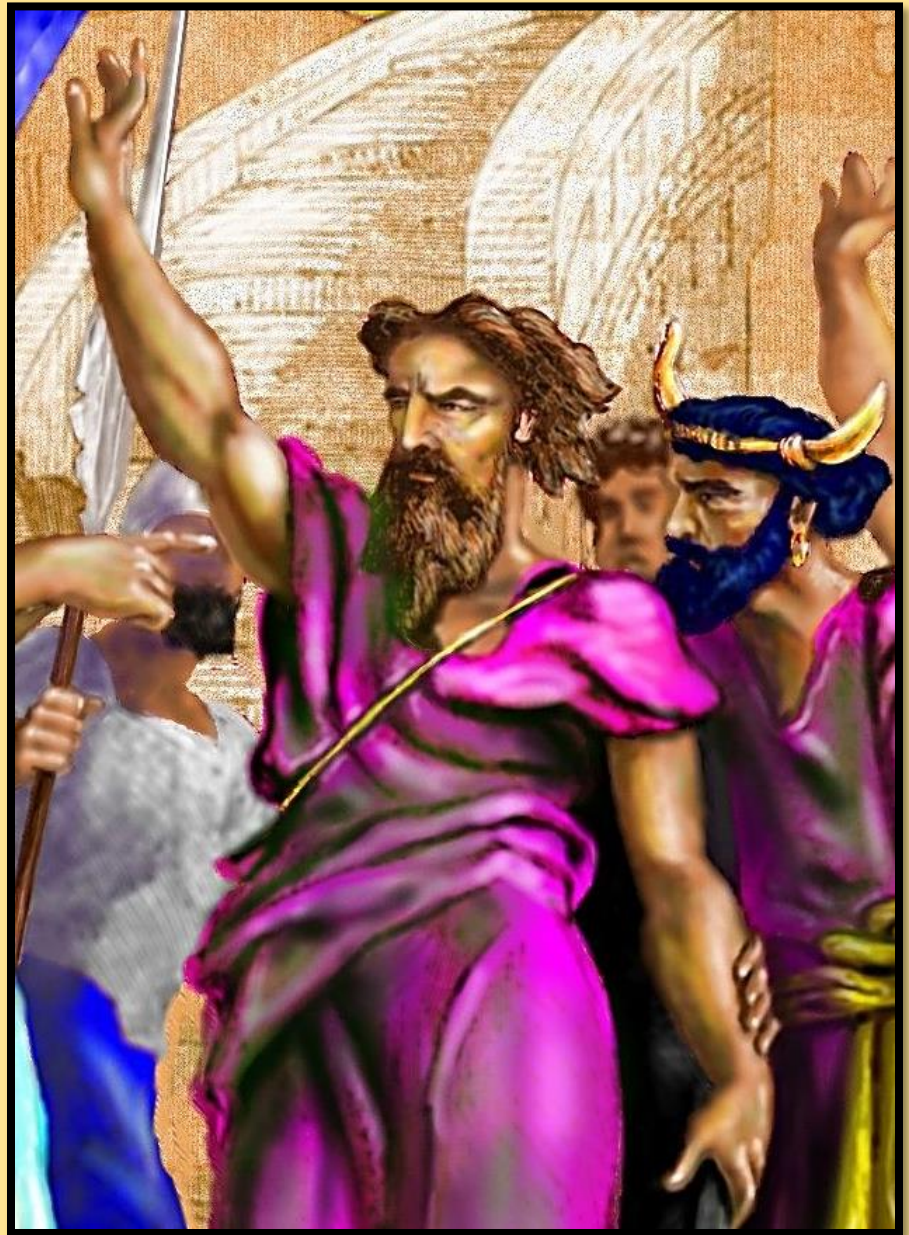
The officer that brought Micaiah pressed him to go along with the false prophets, but Micaiah would only deliver God's message.

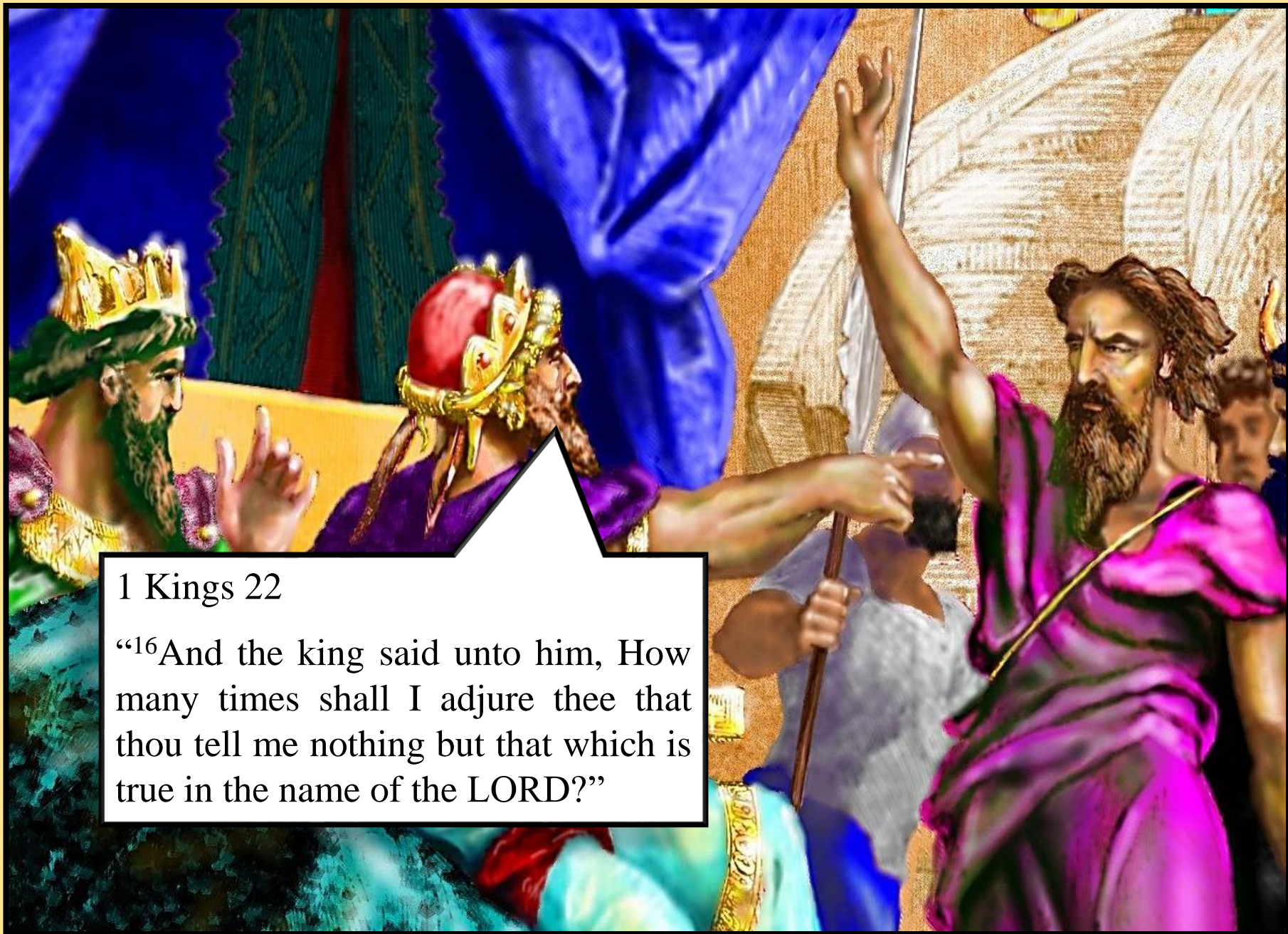


1 Kings 22

“¹⁵So he came to the king. And the king said unto him, Micaiah, shall we go against Ramothgilead to battle, or shall we forbear? And he answered him, **Go, and prosper: for the LORD shall deliver it into the hand of the king.**”

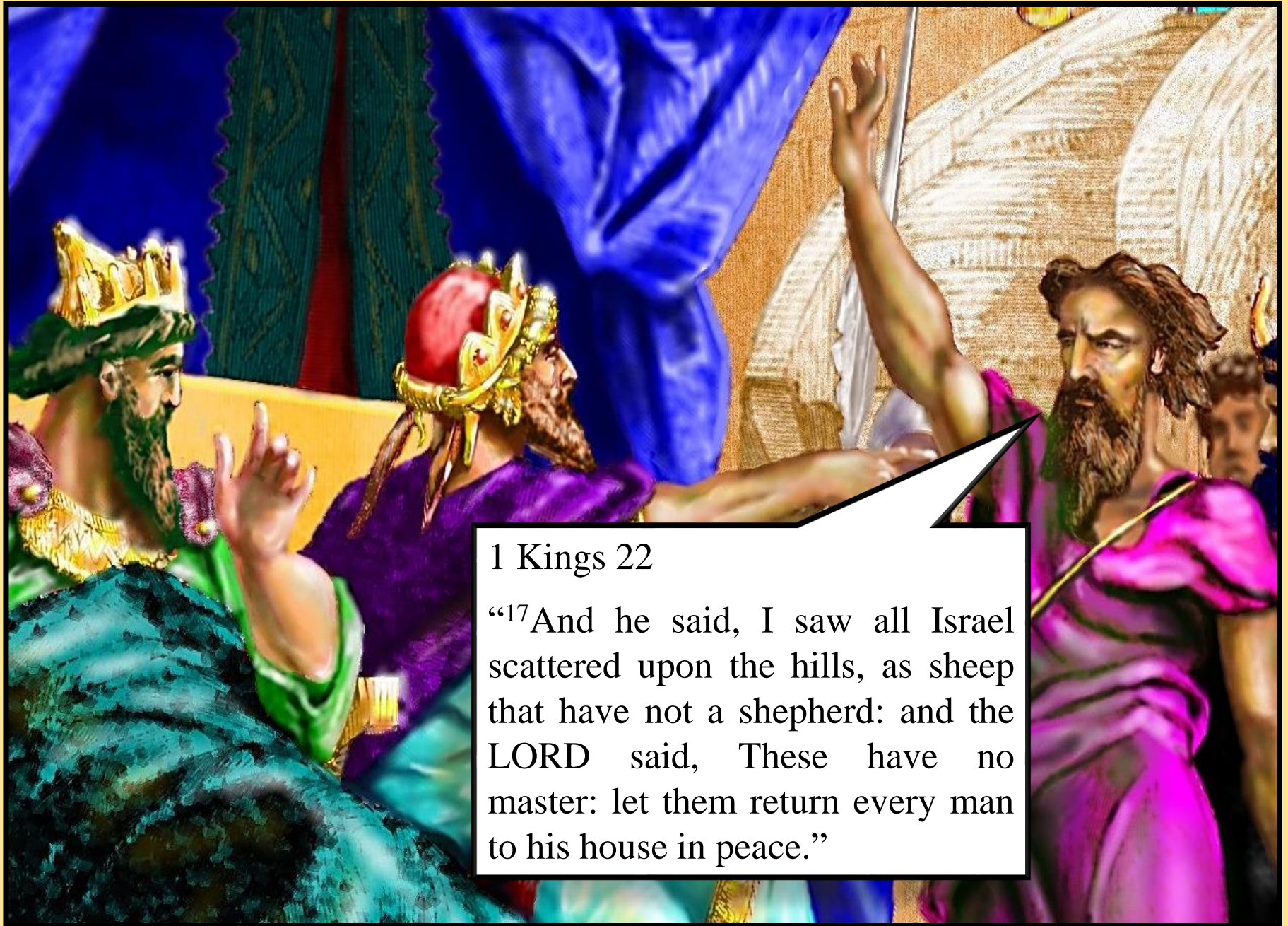
Micaiah first gave this sarcastic answer. It was as if he was saying, **GO THEN AND TAKE WHAT FOLLOWS**, like a dare.





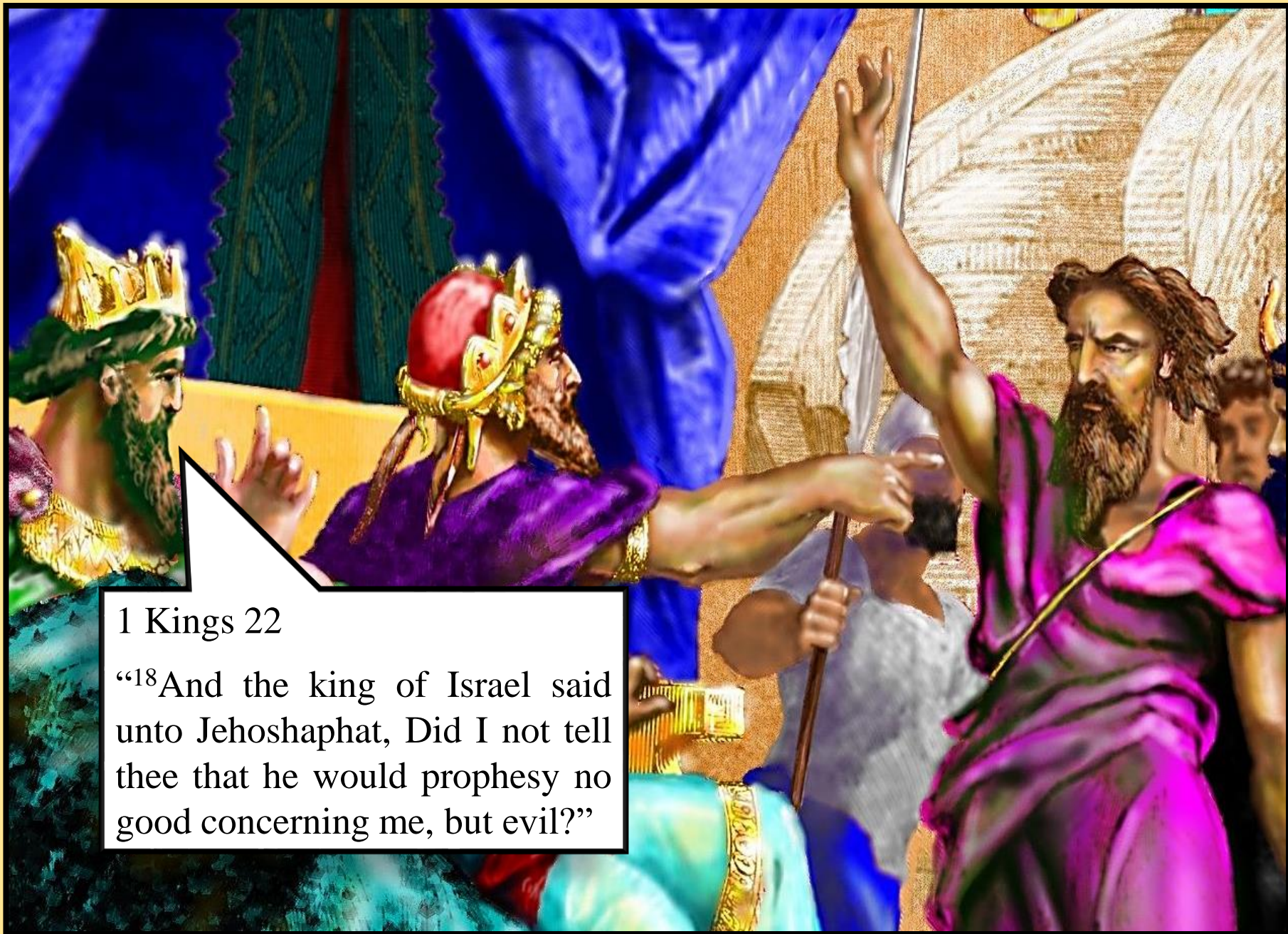
1 Kings 22

“¹⁶And the king said unto him, How many times shall I adjure thee that thou tell me nothing but that which is true in the name of the LORD?”



1 Kings 22

“¹⁷And he said, I saw all Israel scattered upon the hills, as sheep that have not a shepherd: and the LORD said, These have no master: let them return every man to his house in peace.”



1 Kings 22

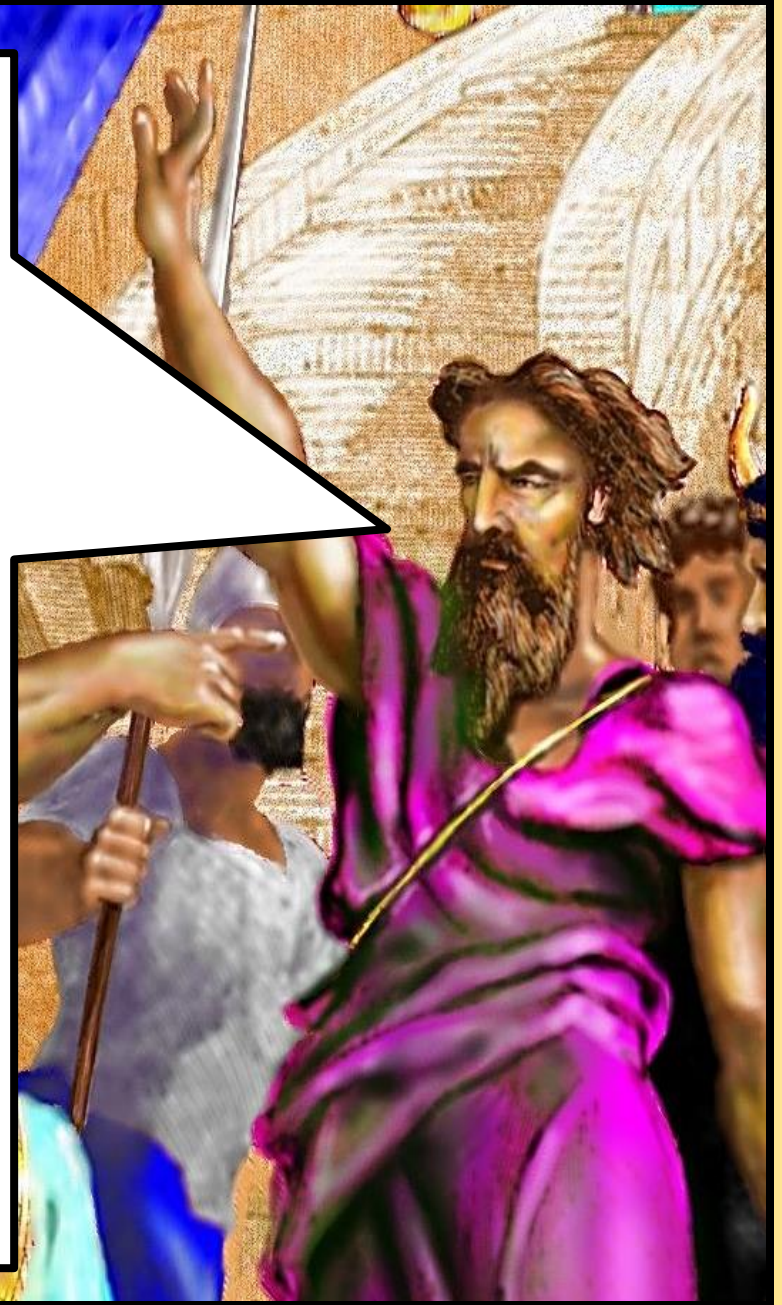
“¹⁸And the king of Israel said unto Jehoshaphat, Did I not tell thee that he would prophesy no good concerning me, but evil?”

1 Kings 22

“¹⁹And he said, Hear thou therefore the word of the LORD:

I saw the LORD sitting on his throne, and all the host of heaven standing by him on his right hand and on his left.

²⁰And the LORD said, Who shall persuade Ahab, that he may go up and fall at Ramothgilead? And one said on this manner, and another said on that manner. ²¹And there came forth a spirit, and stood before the LORD, and said, I will persuade him. ²²And the LORD said unto him, Wherewith? And he said, I will go forth, and I will be a lying spirit in the mouth of all his prophets. And he said, Thou shalt persuade him, and prevail also: go forth, and do so.”





Micaiah plainly foretold that the king would be cut off, his army scattered, dispersed like sheep with no one to guide them.

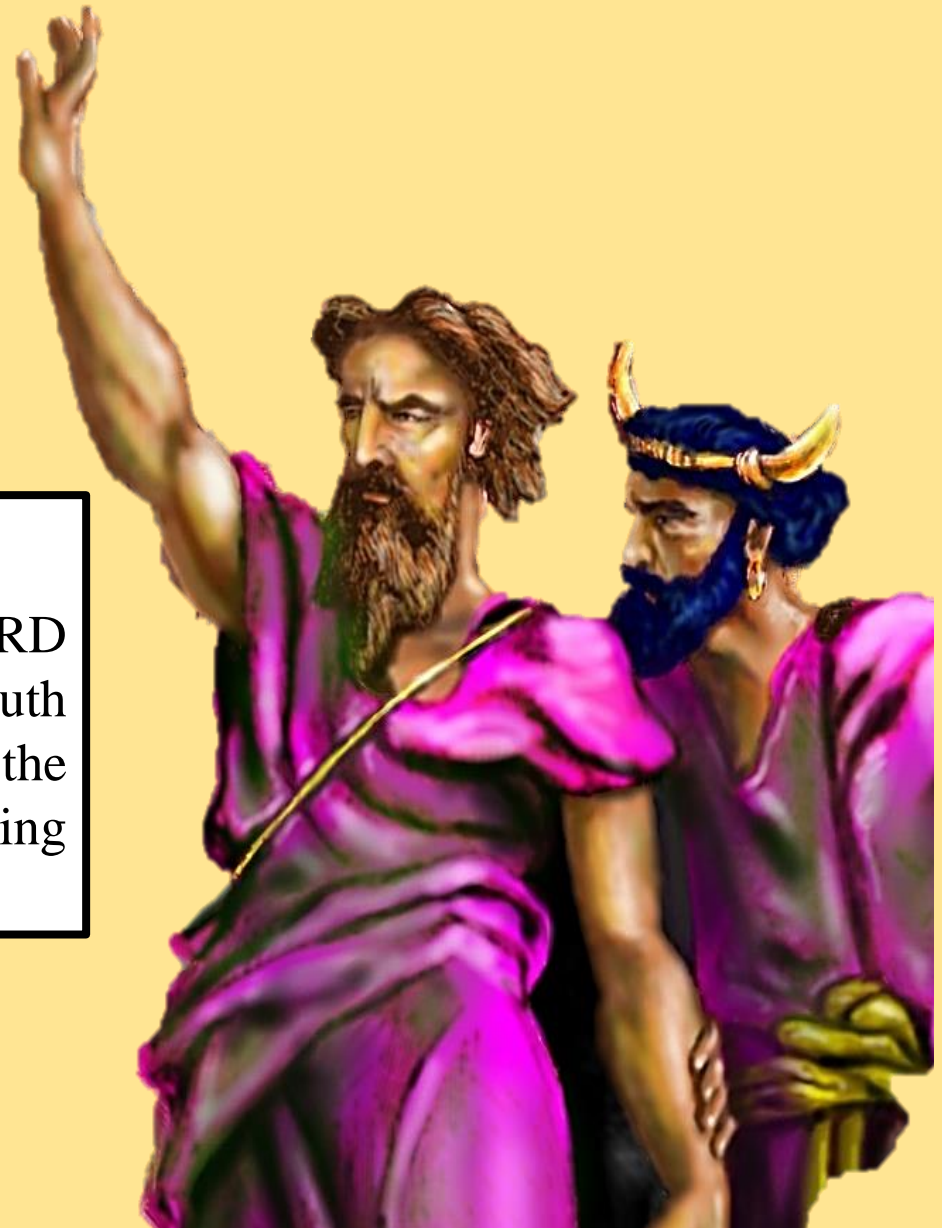
Thus Micaiah gave Ahab and Jehoshaphat fair warning.

Micaiah concluded his prophecy by exposing the other prophets as liars.



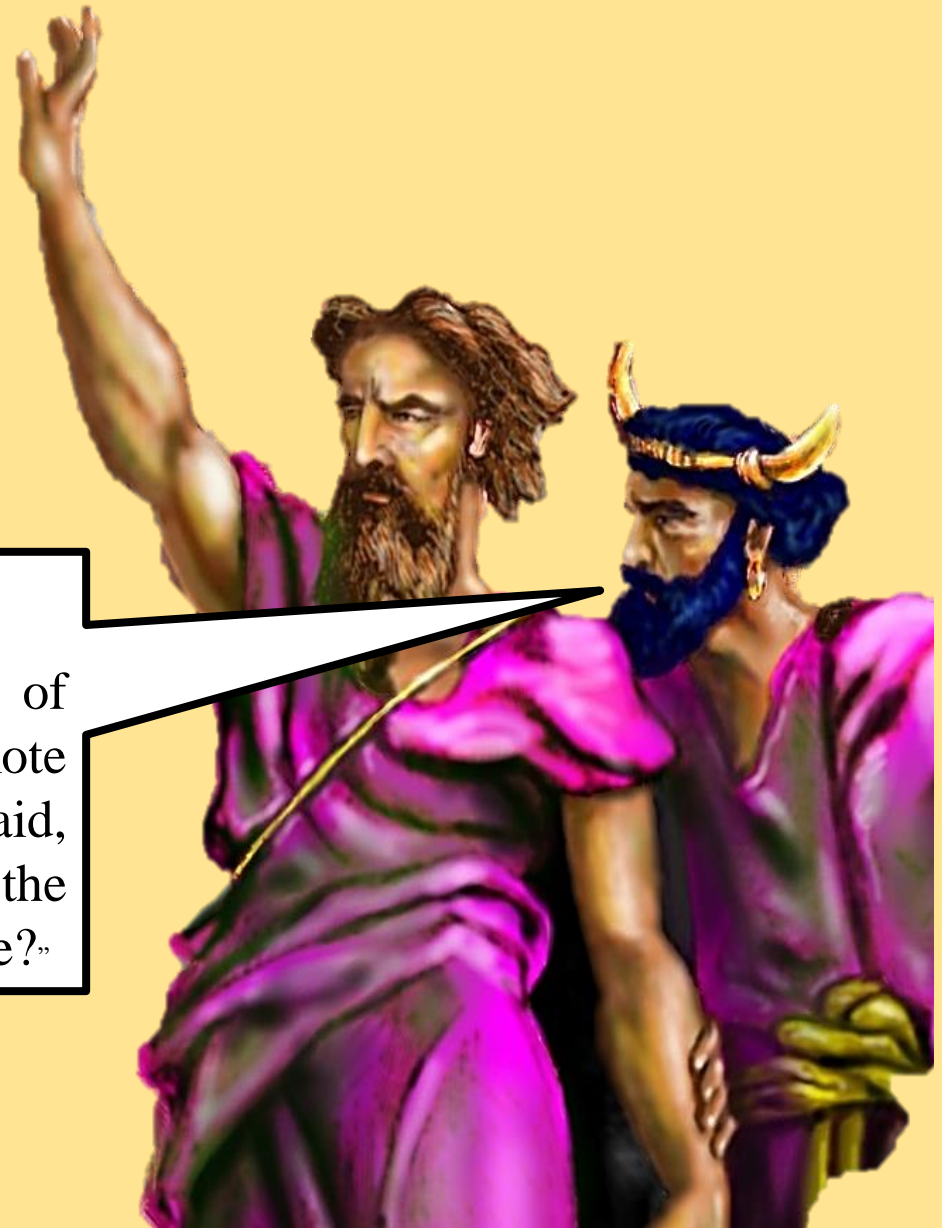
1 Kings 22

“²³Now therefore, behold, the LORD hath put a lying spirit in the mouth of all these thy prophets, and the LORD hath spoken evil concerning thee.”



1 Kings 22

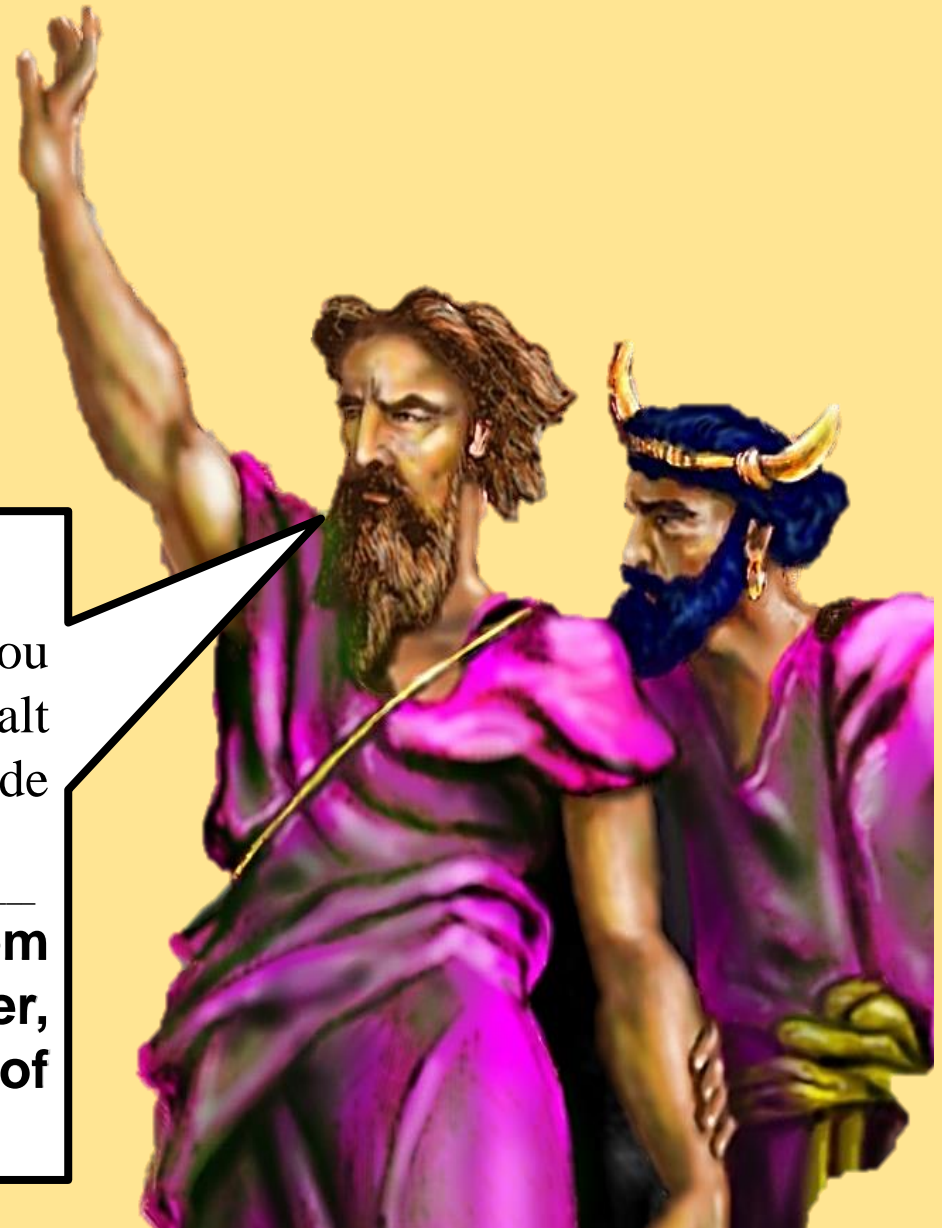
“²⁴But Zedekiah the son of Chenaanah went near, and smote Micaiah on the cheek, and said, Which way went the Spirit of the LORD from me to speak unto thee?”



1 Kings 22

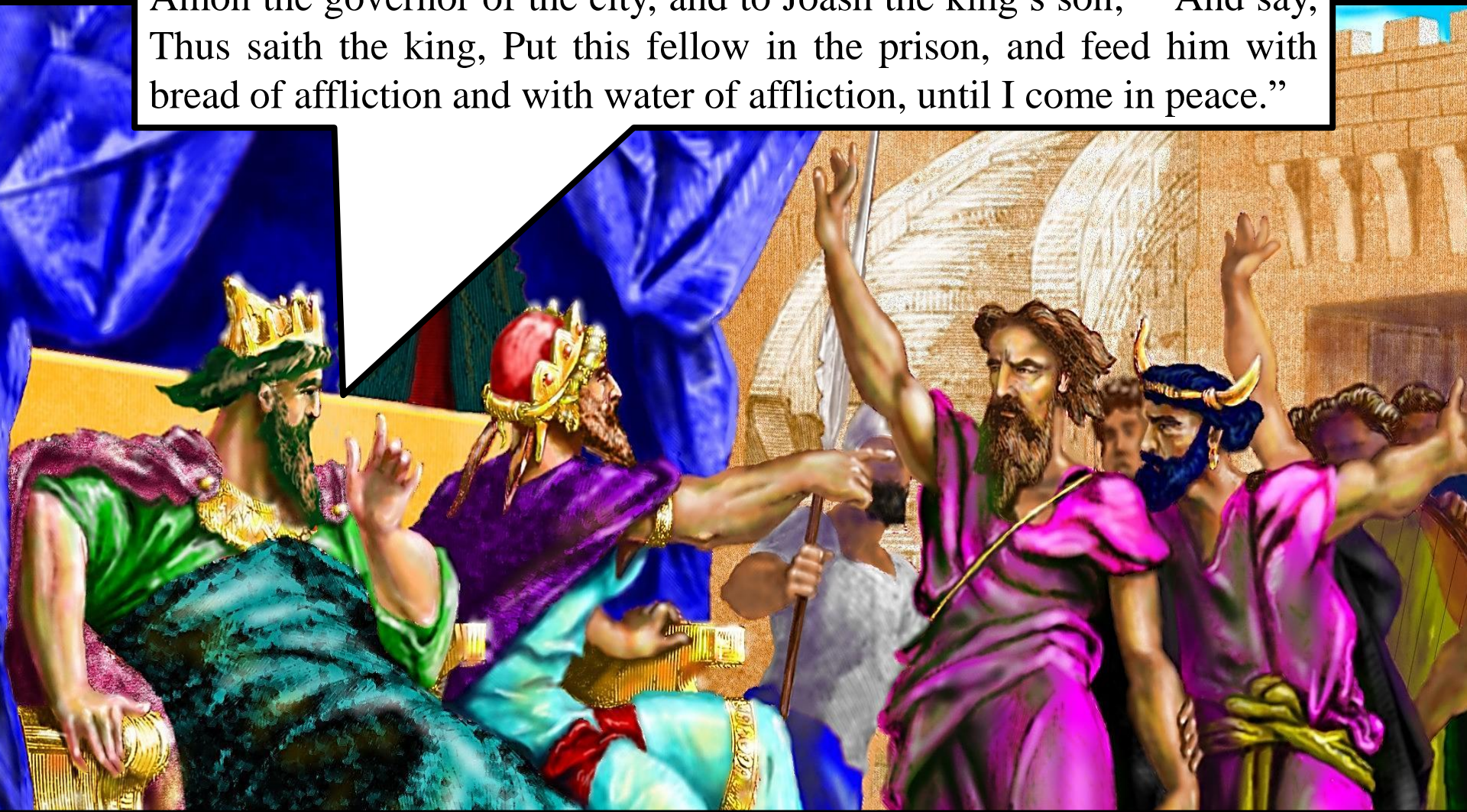
“²⁵And Micaiah said, Behold, thou shalt see in that day, when thou shalt go into an inner chamber to hide thyself.”

Zedekiah would retreat from the battle, hide in his chamber, and realize the truth of Micaiah's prophecy.



1 Kings 22

“²⁶And the king of Israel said, Take Micaiah, and carry him back unto Amon the governor of the city, and to Joash the king’s son; ²⁷And say, Thus saith the king, Put this fellow in the prison, and feed him with bread of affliction and with water of affliction, until I come in peace.”



1 Kings 22

“²⁸And Micaiah said, If thou return at all in peace, the LORD hath not spoken by me. And he said, Hearken, O people, every one of you.

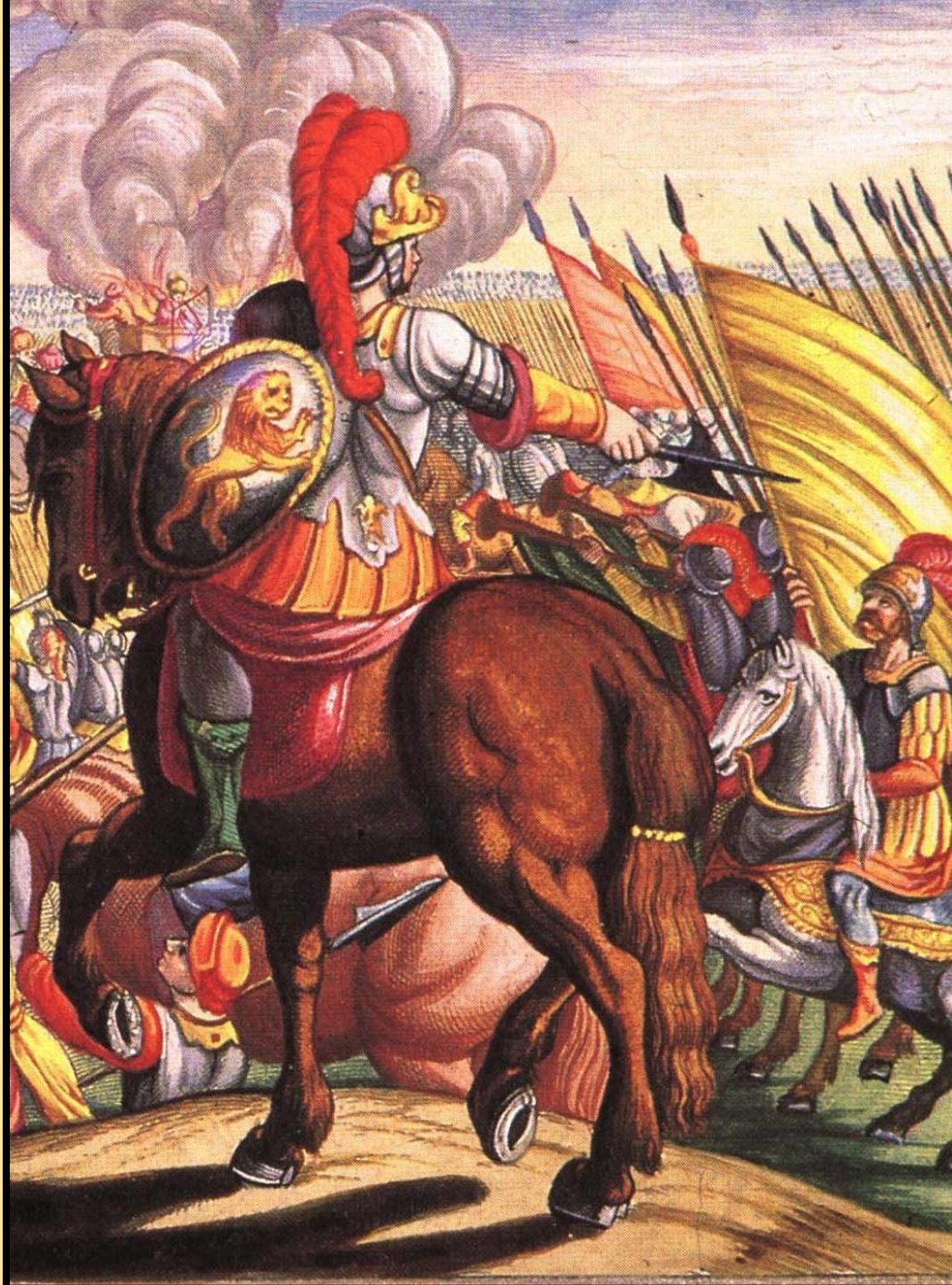


1 Kings 22

“²⁹So the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat the king of Judah went up to Ramothgilead.”

It is astonishing that king Jehoshaphat went with king Ahab to battle after the Lord's prophet Micaiah warned them so confidently.

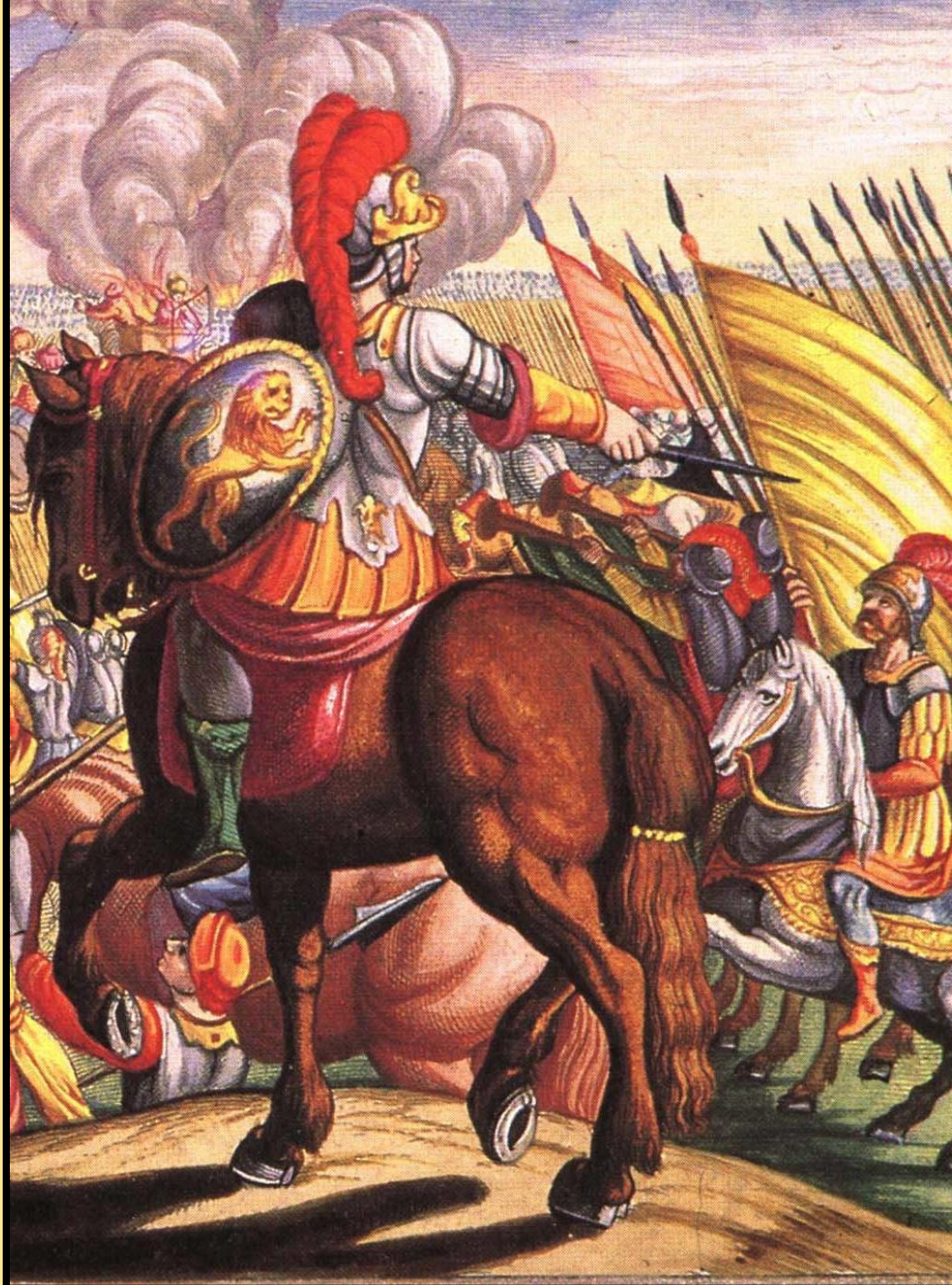
Jehoshaphat compromised by giving too much heed to Ahab's prophets, because they were 400 to one.

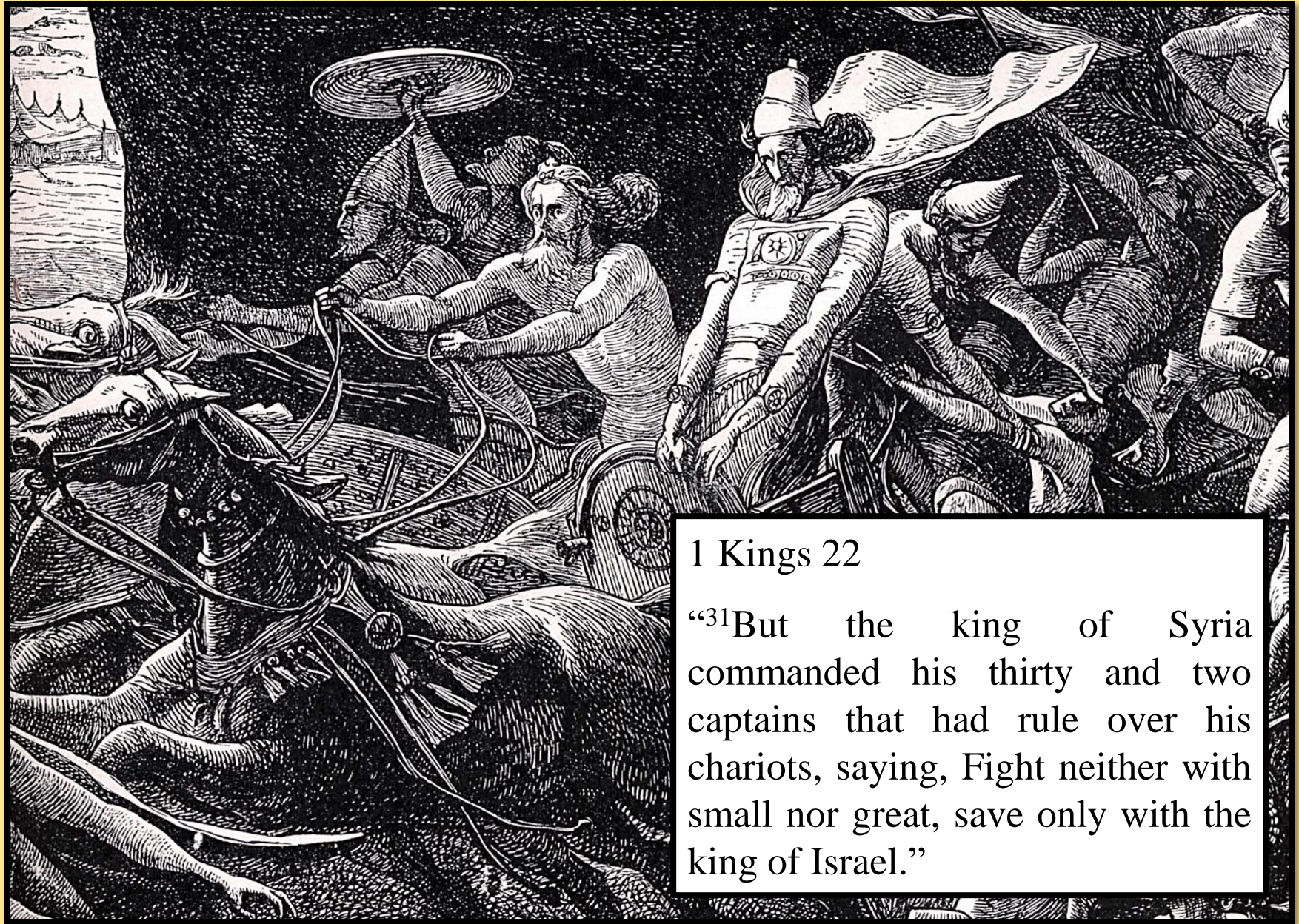


1 Kings 22

“³⁰And the king of Israel said unto Jehoshaphat, I will disguise myself, and enter into the battle; but put thou on thy robes. And the king of Israel disguised himself, and went into the battle.”

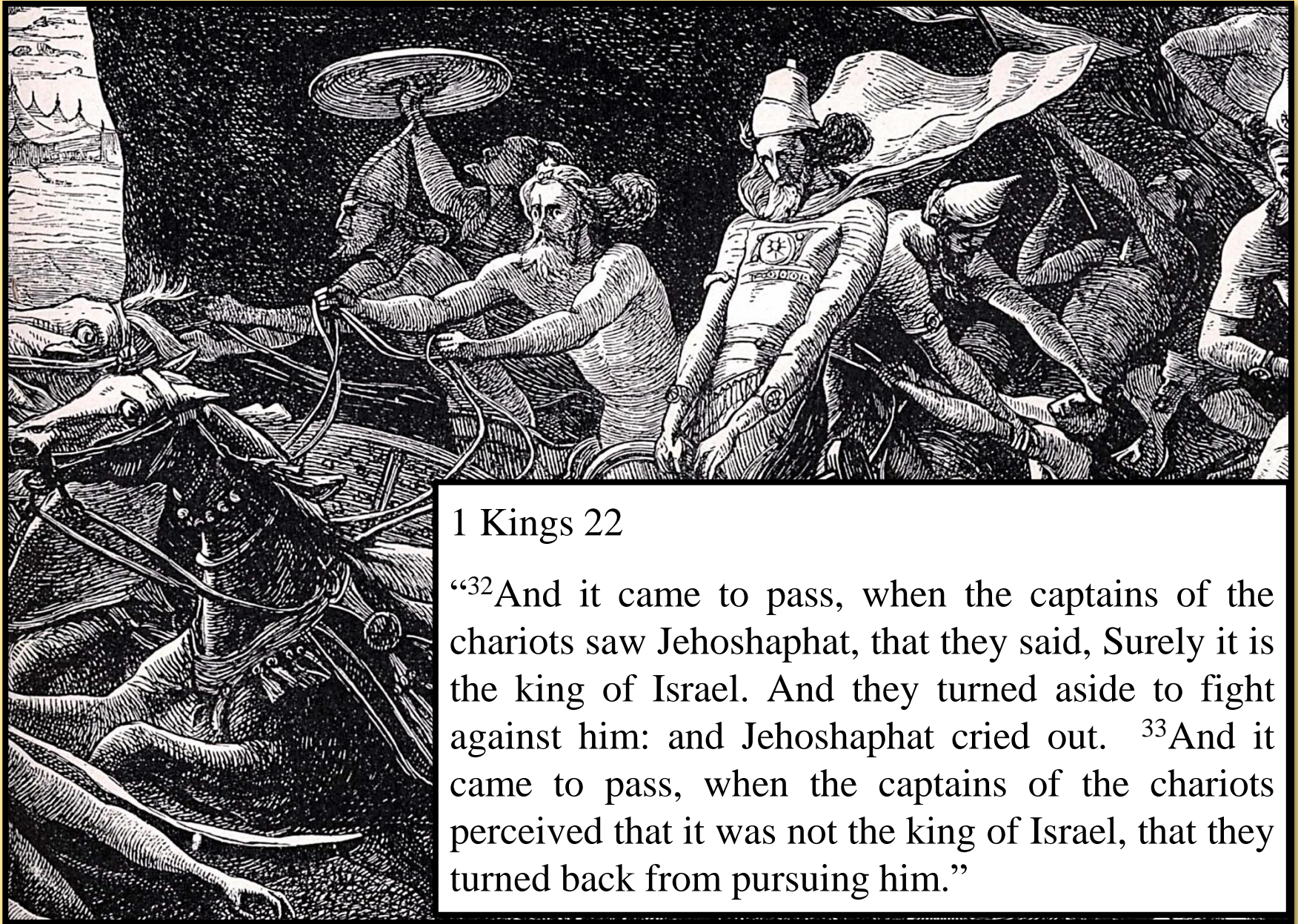
Ahab schemed to betray King Jehoshaphat for in the battle he wore a disguise, the clothing of a common soldier and had Jehoshaphat wear his kingly robes. He pretended this was to honor Jehoshaphat. Of course Ahab's intention was for Jehoshaphat to be killed.





1 Kings 22

“³¹But the king of Syria commanded his thirty and two captains that had rule over his chariots, saying, Fight neither with small nor great, save only with the king of Israel.”



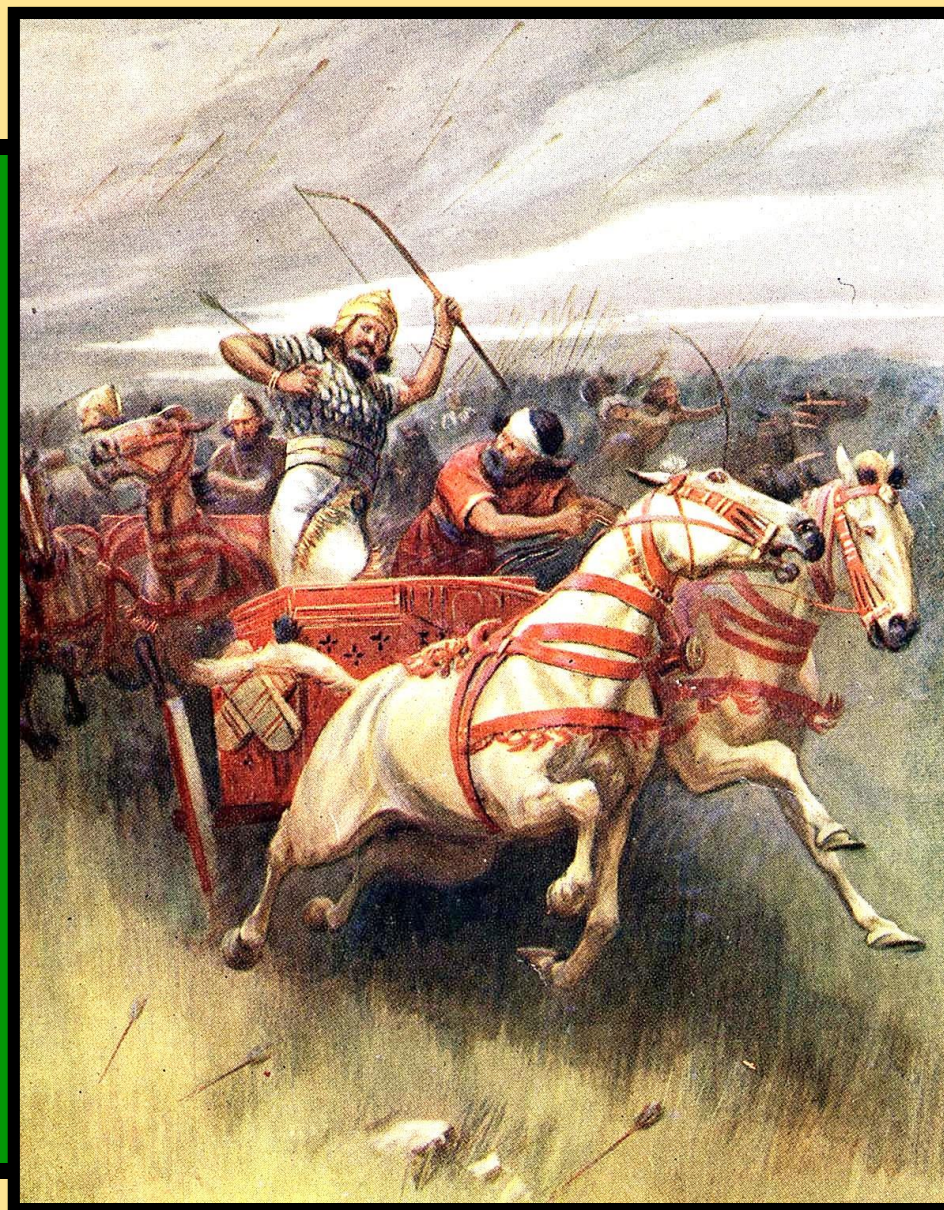
1 Kings 22

“³²And it came to pass, when the captains of the chariots saw Jehoshaphat, that they said, Surely it is the king of Israel. And they turned aside to fight against him: and Jehoshaphat cried out. ³³And it came to pass, when the captains of the chariots perceived that it was not the king of Israel, that they turned back from pursuing him.”

AHAB'S MORTAL WOUND

1 Kings 22

“³⁴And a certain man drew a bow at a venture, and smote the king of Israel between the joints of the harness: wherefore he said unto the driver of his chariot, Turn thine hand, and carry me out of the host; for I am wounded.”



1 Kings 22

“³⁵And the battle increased that day: and the king was stayed up in his chariot against the Syrians, and died at even: and the blood ran out of the wound into the midst of the chariot.”



1 Kings 22

“³⁶And there went a proclamation throughout the host about the going down of the sun, saying, Every man to his city, and every man to his own country.”



1 Kings 22

“³⁷So the king died, and was brought to Samaria; and they buried the king in Samaria. ³⁸And one washed the chariot in the pool of Samaria; and the dogs licked up his blood; and they washed his armour; according unto the word of the LORD which he spake.”



The story of Ahab King of Israel is here concluded.

He did evil in the sight of the Lord above all that were before him.

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Jehoiachin	599
Zedekiah	599-588

Remember
what Ahab
said in
verse 26

1 Kings 22

“²⁶And the king of Israel said, Take Micaiah, and carry him back unto Amon the governor of the city, and to Joash the king’s son; ²⁷And say, Thus saith the king, Put this fellow in the prison, and feed him with bread of affliction and with water of affliction, **until I come in peace.**”



MICAHIAH THE PROPHET WAS STILL IN PRISON

Ahab did not return in peace . . .
so what happened to Micaiah?

We are not told.

1 Kings 22

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The background is a stained glass pattern. It features a central horizontal band of yellow glass. Above and below this band are sections of light brown or tan glass, each divided into diamond shapes by dark, thick lead lines. Two horizontal bands of green glass separate the yellow band from the diamond-patterned sections. The overall effect is that of a decorative window or a stained glass panel.

THE END