



- 1st and 2nd Kings are ONE BOOK
- There is NO divide and NO delay between 1st and 2nd Kings
- 1st Kings focuses mostly on Kings of Israel
- 2nd Kings focuses mostly on Kings of Judah

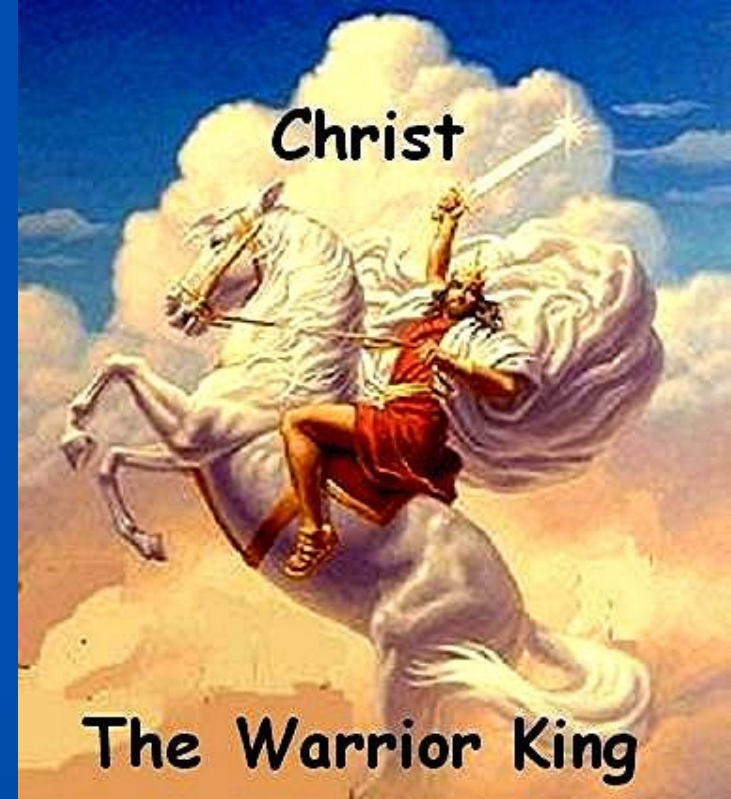
THE ISSUE OF RAMOT-GILEAD



- *Y'hoshafat* in Samaria meeting with *Achav*
- *Mikhayahu* brought from his prison cell to prophesy
- Jehoshaphat was reluctant to accept the “prophecy” of the 400 prophets that the attack on Ramot-Gilead would be victorious
- King *Achav* did not want the real Word of God, he preferred something more in line with his preferences

WHAT IS HOLY WAR?

- Holy War is NOT war waged because someone thinks a war is necessary
- Holy War is ordained, or specifically sanctioned, by YHWH
- Jehoshaphat needed to know if the proposed war on Ramot-Gilead was Holy War or not
- Why did Jehoshaphat agree to the war once *Mikhayahu* said Israel would lose?
- It became clear that this would NOT be a Holy War



MICAIAH OFFENDS KING ACHAV AND HIS PROPHET ZEDEKIAH

- 1Kings 22:17 “...let everyone go home in shalom (peace)”
- God was not against this war, but it was not Holy War
- Holy War is fought under the rules of the Law of Herem
- Since it was NOT Holy War, then the 2 kings could keep the city and the spoils of war



MIKHAYAHU'S VISION - PARABLE



- Hosts of Heaven = *tsava ha'shamayim*
- The Lord is sitting in council to determine the manner and time of *Achav's* death sentence
- ***“Who will lure Achav....so that he can die there..?”***
- A spirit (*ruach*) volunteered to be the one
- This deceiving spirit would put a lie in the mouths of the 400 prophets

METAPHOR OF THE DECEIVING SPIRIT

- Parable = a metaphor, wrapped in a story
- This deceiving spirit is not Satan
- It is the personification of the spirit of prophecy
- ***Yetser ha'rah*** = evil inclination
- ***Yetser ha'tov*** = good inclination
- Pharaoh hardened his own evil inclination when he pursued Israel



MICAIAH INFURIATES THE KING AND HIS PROPHET ZEDEKIAH



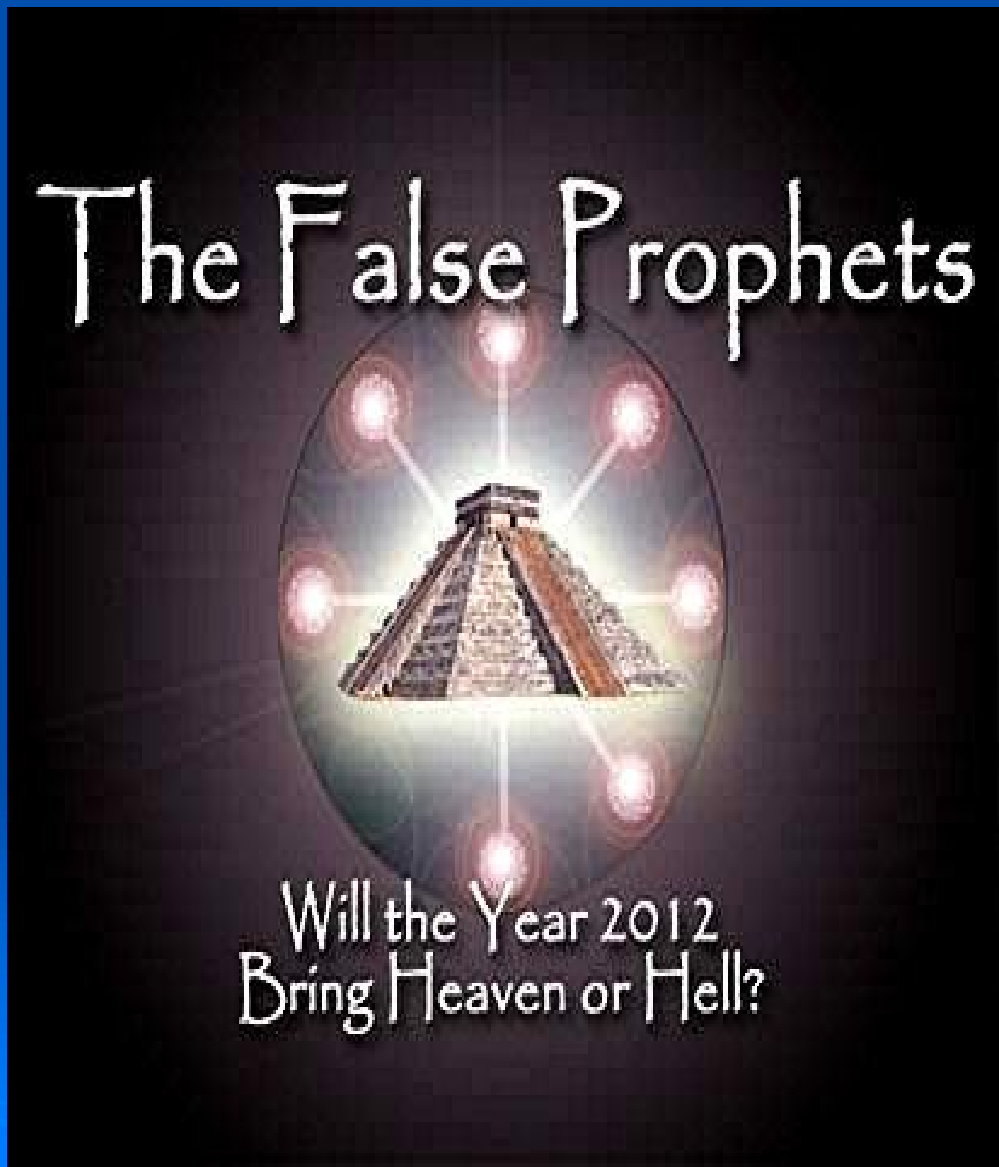
- Zedekiah slaps Micaiah on the face
- A loss of honor, often results in murder
- Zedekiah is a deluded charlatan
- ***Achav*** orders Micaiah back to prison
- ***Mikhayahu*** says if the King comes home from battle in peace then ***Mikhayahu*** has NOT heard from God

False Prophets: Who are They?



- An important issue of spiritual harmony with God
- Some folks have a habit of telling others what is going to happen, or of a coming calamity, or “I have a word for you from the Lord”
- Usually, they are **WRONG !**
- True prophets cannot fail

- A false prophet is a self-declared prophet
- Deut. 18:21, 22
- If YOUR prophecy doesn't come true (even one time), YOU are NOT a prophet of God
- Even if your intent is good
- Rabbis insist that Zedekiah was convinced he was telling the 2 kings the truth
- Zedekiah was completely deceived



KING ACHAV IS KILLED



- Cowardly King *Achav* went into battle in disguise
- But he asked Jehoshaphat to go in his royal robes!
- God's providence is never denied
- A random arrow mortally wounds King *Achav*
- His chariot driver tied *Achav* upright so that the Israelites didn't panic and scatter
- As night fell, the Hebrew soldiers fled for home
- *Achav* given a proper burial

SOME LOOSE ENDS ARE TIED UP

UNIFIED KINGDOM

Saul

David

Solomon

JUDAH (SOUTH)

Rehoboam

Abijah

Asa

Jehoshaphat

ISRAEL (NORTH)

Jeroboam

Nadab

Baasha

Elah

Zimri

Omri

Ahab

- *Achazyah* succeeded *Achav*
- *Y'hoshafat* started ruling in the 4th year of *Achav's* reign
- Is said to have lived as his father Asa, and was a righteous king
- However as a black mark, he let the *bamah* continue to operate around Judah

- Edom was a vassal state of Judah
- Jehoshaphat entered into a joint seafaring venture with **Achazyah** King of Israel
- 2Chron.20:35 – 37
- **Y'horam** succeeded **Y'hoshafat**
- **Achazyah** very evil and reigned only 2 years

