



Series: Learning from Leaders- Good, Bad & Ugly
Passage 1 Kings 16:29-34, 20:1-4, 13
Title Ahab
Speaker: Pastor David Menard – 11/25/2018

Discussion Starter – King Ahab started out bad and progressively became more and more wicked in his reign as king of Israel. How does God summarize Ahab's life? What was unique about king Ahab? How do you think he was perceived by the society and the general public around him?

Ahab's Reign in Israel (1 Kings 16:29-34)

- What common pattern do you see amongst all the kings of Israel that we have studied so far? To whom is their pattern of life compared to and why?
- Describe in your own words what you see about the sin that has been progressively decaying the nation of Israel. What parallels do you see in today's society and in your own life as to the progressive decay that sin brings on our lives?
- Why do you think king Ahab married Jezebel a Phoenician? What was wrong with this in God's eyes? How do you think the prevailing society would have looked at this marriage? What does God command us as Christians to do in choosing our marriage partner? Read 2 Corinthians 6:14-18. What parallels do you see in God's instruction to the nation Israel and with Christians today?
- Sin had clearly gotten its hooks in Ahab's life. How did sin progress in his life so that God would say that "Ahab did evil in the sight of the LORD, more than all who were before him"? What was different from all those who were before him? Read Joshua 6:26-27 and Psalm 106:34-39. What insights should these scriptures have had on Ahab, and what can we glean from them to apply to our own lives?
- Has sin ever had its hooks in you? What was the real problem God's people faced with sin? How do we as Christians face the same problem with sin today? Read Galatians 5:17 and James 1:13-15. Discuss the additional insights gained from these verses?
- Jesus Has Power to cleanse us of sin and Give Us New Life. How does He do this? And who does this apply to? Read Romans 8:11-14 and Galatians 5:16. What are some common mistakes Christians make in trying to apply these verses to our lives?

Living for Self Produces Sordid Character (1 Kings 20:1-4,13)

- God sent Elijah to king Ahab to proclaim a drought in Israel. Read 1 Kings 17:1. What do you think God's purpose was for this particular drought? Have you experienced any droughts in your life? Explain.
- Elijah comes to king Ahab and tells him that rain is coming and to eat and drink celebrating the end of the famine. What was being celebrated and what do you think was God's purpose in this instruction?
- What does Ahab's war with Syria reveal about his character as a leader? What was Ahab willing to do to save his own skin? How does God respond to Ahab's crisis? What does this show us about God's nature and His desire for Ahab?