

1 Kings 21:25

But there was no one like Ahab who sold himself to do wickedness in the sight of the LORD, because Jezebel his wife stirred him up.

King Ahab was one of the worst of the worst in regards to the kings in Israel, and what's even sadder is that his wife, Jezebel, who was even worse than king Ahab is probably more famous than king Ahab. So, how bad was King Ahab? Here is one example of how bad he was.

† **1 Kings 21:1-4** *And it came to pass after these things that Naboth the Jezreelite had a vineyard which was in Jezreel, next to the palace of Ahab king of Samaria. So Ahab spoke to Naboth, saying, "Give me your vineyard, that I may have it for a vegetable garden, because it is near, next to my house; and for it I will give you a vineyard better than it. Or, if it seems good to you, I will give you its worth in money." But Naboth said to Ahab, "The LORD forbid that I should give the inheritance of my fathers to you!" So Ahab went into his house sullen and displeased because of the word which Naboth the Jezreelite had spoken to him; for he had said, "I will not give you the inheritance of my fathers." And he lay down on his bed, and turned away his face, and would eat no food.*

You may read this and think, *"What's the big deal, Naboth should have just sold the garden to King Ahab, and he could have gotten an even better garden, or made big bucks off of it."*

But this is not just a piece of land, this is part of the inheritance from the Lord that the Lord gave to Naboth. It was not about the money, but was about giving up what God had given to him; *for he had said, "I will not give you the inheritance of my fathers."*

So King Ahab was so evil that he, *"lay down on his bed, and turned away his face, and would eat no food."* over a garden, just like a spoiled little child? Would you want a king like that ruling over the USA, or whatever country you may be in?

But King Ahab's wife, Jezebel, was even more evil than her husband, and if you read the rest of the story, you find out that she arranged for Naboth to be killed by falsely accusing him of being rebellious against the king.

† **1 Kings 21:9-10** *She wrote in the letters, saying, Proclaim a fast, and seat Naboth with high honor among the people; and seat two men, scoundrels, before him to bear witness against him, saying, "You have blasphemed God and the king." Then take him out, and stone him, that he may die.*

Which happened, and the end result was that after Naboth was murdered, and King Ahab went and took the garden that belonged to Naboth and his descendants. This is just one small example, and you can read more about King Ahab in 1 Kings.

But we also read that the Lord sent the Prophet, Elijah to King Ahab in regards to what he did to Naboth. But even though King Ahab was so bad, did you also know that he humbled himself before the Lord?

† **1 Kings 21:27** *So it was, when Ahab heard those words, that he tore his clothes and put sackcloth on his body, and fasted and lay in sackcloth, and went about mourning.*

And did you also know that the Lord had mercy on King Ahab?

† **1 Kings 21:29** *"See how Ahab has humbled himself before Me? Because he has humbled himself before Me, I will not bring the calamity in his days. In the days of his son I will bring the calamity on his house."*

One note is that Jezebel never repented, and what the Lord said would happen to her, did happen, which was; ***And concerning Jezebel the LORD also spoke, saying, 'The dogs shall eat Jezebel by the wall of Jezreel.'*** **1 Kings 21:23**

But I tell you all of this, just as a reminder that no matter how bad you have been all your life, the Lord will forgive you if you humble yourself, confess your sins and repent of them, and give your life to the Lord.

† **1 John 1:9** *If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*

And for those who are believers, but you still struggle with your past, this is for you as well, because you need to remember that "***As far as the east is from the west, So far has He removed our transgressions from us.***" **Psalm 103:12** Therefore, trust in the Lord for your present and your future as He has forgiven you for your past.

† **Luke 1:37** *For with God nothing will be impossible.*

† **Hebrews 8:12** *For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more.*