

2 CHRONICLES CHAPTER 18

¹ And Jehoshaphat had great wealth and glory, and he connected himself by marriage with the house of Ahab. ² And he went down after some years to Ahab in Samaria. And Ahab slaughtered for him sheep and calves, in abundance, and for the people with him, and he much desired him to go up with him to Ramoth of the country of Gilead. ³ And Ahab king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat king of Judah, "Will you go with me to Ramoth of the country of Gilead?" And he said to him, "As I *am*, so also *are* you, as your people, so also *are* my people with you for the war."

⁴ And Jehoshaphat said to the king of Israel, "Please inquire of the Lord today." ⁵ And the king of Israel gathered the prophets, four hundred men, and said to them, "Shall I go to Ramoth Gilead to battle, or shall I refrain?" And they said, "Go up, and God shall deliver *it* into the hands of the king."

⁶ And Jehoshaphat said, "Is there not still a prophet of the Lord here, that we may inquire of Him?" ⁷ And the king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, "There is yet one man by whom to inquire of the Lord, but I hate him, for he does not prophesy concerning me for good, for all his days *are* for evil: this *is* Micaiah the son of Imla." And Jehoshaphat said, "Let not the king say such things!" ⁸ And the king called a eunuch, and said, "*Fetch* quickly Micaiah the son of Imla." ⁹ And the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat king of Judah were sitting each on his throne, and clothed in their robes, sitting in the open space at the entrance of the gate of Samaria; and all the prophets were prophesying before them. ¹⁰ And Zedekiah son of Chenaanah made for himself iron horns, and said, "Thus says the Lord: 'With these you shall thrust Syria until they are destroyed.'" ¹¹ And all the prophets prophesied so, saying, "Go up to Ramoth Gilead, and you shall prosper; and the Lord shall deliver it into the hands of the king." ¹² And the messenger that went to call Micaiah spoke to him, saying, "Behold, the prophets have spoken favorably concerning the king with one accord; therefore, please let your words be as *the words* of one of them, and speak good things." ¹³ And Micaiah said, "As the Lord lives, whatever God shall say to me, that will I speak." ¹⁴ And he came to the king, and the king said to him, "Micaiah, shall I go up to Ramoth Gilead to battle, or shall I refrain?" And he said, "Go up, and you shall prosper, and they shall be given into your hands." ¹⁵ And the king said to him, "How often shall I solemnly charge you that you speak to me nothing but truth in the name of the Lord?" ¹⁶ And he said, "I saw Israel scattered on the mountains, as sheep without a shepherd. And the Lord said, 'These have no commander; let each return to his home in peace.'" ¹⁷ And the king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, "See, did I not say to you that he would not prophesy good concerning me, but evil?"

¹⁸ But he said, "Not so. Hear the word of the Lord: I saw the Lord sitting on His throne, and all the host of heaven stood by on His right hand and on His left. ¹⁹ And the Lord said, 'Who will deceive Ahab king of Israel, that he may go up, and fall in Ramoth Gilead?' And one spoke this way, and another spoke that way. ²⁰ And there came forth a spirit, and stood before the Lord, and said, 'I will deceive him.' And the Lord said, 'How?' ²¹ And he said, 'I will go forth, and will be a lying spirit in the mouth of all his prophets.' And *the Lord* said, 'You shall deceive *him*,

and shall prevail: go forth, and do so.' ²² And now, behold, the Lord has put a false spirit in the mouth of these your prophets, and the Lord has spoken evil against you."

²³ Then Zedekiah the son of Chenaanah drew near, and struck Micaiah on the cheek, and said to him, "By what way did the Spirit of the Lord pass from me to speak to you?" ²⁴ And Micaiah said, "Behold, you shall see in that day, when you shall go from chamber to chamber to hide yourself." ²⁵ And the king of Israel said, "Take Micaiah, and carry him back to Amon the governor of the city, and to Joash the captain, the king's son; ²⁶ and you shall say, 'Thus said the king: "Put this fellow into the prison house, and let him eat the bread of affliction, and *drink* the water of affliction, until I return in peace.'"" ²⁷ And Micaiah said, "If you do at all return in peace, the Lord has not spoken by me." And he said, "Hear, all you people."

²⁸ So the king of Israel, and Jehoshaphat king of Judah, went up to Ramoth Gilead. ²⁹ And the king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, "Disguise me, and I will enter into the battle; but you put on my robes." So the king of Israel disguised himself, and entered into the battle. ³⁰ Now the king of Syria had commanded the captains of the chariots that were with him, saying, "Fight against neither small nor great, but only against the king of Israel." ³¹ And it came to pass, when the captains of the chariots saw Jehoshaphat, that they said, "It is the king of Israel." And they compassed him round about to fight against him. And Jehoshaphat cried out, and the Lord delivered him; and God turned them away from him. ³² And it came to pass, when the captains of the chariots saw that it was not the king of Israel, that they turned away from him. ³³ And a man drew a bow with a good aim, and struck the king of Israel between the lungs and the breastplate. And *Ahab* said to the charioteer, "Turn your hand, drive me out of the battle, for I am wounded." ³⁴ And the battle turned in that day; and the king of Israel remained on the chariot against Syria until evening, and he died at sunset.