

Elijah - 4 (Confronting a king)

I. Introduction.

A. Do you ever recognizing God speaking to you about exhorting someone in authority for their sin (when not against you)?

B. What is your response when someone confronts you of sin?

II. Scripture.

A. Elijah's prophecies from the LORD to the King (**1Ki. 21:17-29**).

1. **1Ki. 21:17-24**—Title:

"¹⁷And the Word of the LORD came to Elijah the Tishbite, saying, ¹⁸'Arise, go down to meet Ahab king of Israel, which is in Samaria: behold, he is in the vineyard of Naboth, whither he is gone down to possess it. ¹⁹And thou shalt speak unto him, saying, Thus saith the LORD, Hast thou killed, and also taken possession? And thou shalt speak unto him, saying, Thus saith the LORD, In the place where dogs licked the blood of Naboth shall dogs lick thy blood, even thine.' ²⁰And Ahab said to Elijah, 'Hast thou found me, O mine enemy?' And he answered, 'I have found thee: because thou hast sold thyself to work evil in the sight of the LORD. ²¹Behold, I will bring evil upon thee, and will take away thy posterity, and will cut off from Ahab him that pisseth against the wall, and him that is shut up and left in Israel, ²²And will make thine house like the house of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, and like the house of Baasha the son of Ahijah, for the provocation wherewith thou hast provoked Me to anger, and made Israel to sin.' ²³And of Jezebel also spake the LORD, saying, 'The dogs shall eat Jezebel by the wall of Jezreel. ²⁴Him that dieth of Ahab in the city the dogs shall eat; and him that dieth in the field shall the fowls of the air eat.'"

2. **1Ki. 21:25-29**—Title:

"²⁵But there was none like unto Ahab, which did sell himself to work wickedness in the sight of the LORD, whom Jezebel his wife stirred up. ²⁶And he did very abominably in following idols, according to all things as did the Amorites, whom the LORD cast out before the children of Israel. ²⁷And it came to pass, when Ahab heard those words, that he rent

his clothes, and put sackcloth upon his flesh, and fasted, and lay in sackcloth, and went softly. ²⁸And the Word of the LORD came to Elijah the Tishbite, saying, ²⁹'Seest thou how Ahab humbleth himself before Me? because he humbleth himself before Me, I will not bring the evil in his days: but in his son's days will I bring the evil upon his house.'"

III. Application.

- A. What could have happened to Elijah calling out the king's sin?

- B. Do you identify more with Ahab (sick sinner) or Elijah (courageous confronter) in the story, why?

- C. Was king Ahab a spiritual leader or a follower?

- D. When confronted of sin and informed of coming bad consequences, what should be demonstrated by our attitude and actions (cf. **James 4:6-12**), why?