

# Naboth's Vineyard

1 Kings 21:1-24, 22:30-38; 2 Kings 9:30-37

What are some things that God says everyone needs to live on this earth?  
How many of these things do you have?  
What are some things that you have beyond those needed things?



## Prayer

Dear Lord, You have been so generous to me by providing everything I need for my body and my soul. Help me to remember this every day. Forgive me when I covet and when I hurt other people because of my selfishness. Lord, give me a contented and loving heart so that I may help and be of service to others and may avoid getting into things that help Satan. Lord, keep me faithful to You that I may join You in heaven. In Jesus' name, I pray. Amen.

## The Story - 1 Kings 21, 22; 2 Kings 9

1 Kings 21:1 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. {2} 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."

{3} But Naboth said to Ahab, "The LORD forbid that I should give the inheritance of my fathers to you!"

{4} 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.

{5} But Jezebel his wife came to him, and said to him, "Why is your spirit so sullen that you eat no food?"

{6} He said to her, "Because I spoke to Naboth the Jezreelite, and said to him, 'Give me your vineyard for money; or else, if it pleases you, I will give you another vineyard for it.' And he answered, 'I will not give you my vineyard.'"

{7} Then Jezebel his wife said to him, "You now exercise authority over Israel! Arise, eat

food, and let your heart be cheerful; I will give you the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite."

{8} And she wrote letters in Ahab's name, sealed them with his seal, and sent the letters to the elders and the nobles who were dwelling in the city with Naboth. {9} She wrote in the letters, saying, Proclaim a fast, and seat Naboth with high honor among the people; {10} 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.

{11} So the men of his city, the elders and nobles who were inhabitants of his city, did as Jezebel had sent to them, as it was written in the letters which she had sent to them. {12} They proclaimed a fast, and seated Naboth with high honor among the people. {13} And two men, scoundrels, came in and sat before him; and the scoundrels witnessed against him, against Naboth, in the presence of the people, saying, "Naboth has blasphemed God and the king!" Then they took him outside the city and stoned him with stones, so that he died. {14} Then they sent to Jezebel, saying, "Naboth has been stoned and is dead."

{15} And it came to pass, when Jezebel heard that Naboth had been stoned and was



dead, that Jezebel said to Ahab, "Arise, take possession of the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite, which he refused to give you for money; for Naboth is not alive, but dead." {16} So it was, when Ahab heard that Naboth was dead, that Ahab got up and went down to take possession of the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite.

{17} Then the word of the LORD came to Elijah the Tishbite, saying, {18} "Arise, go down to meet Ahab king of Israel, who lives in Samaria. There he is, in the vineyard of Naboth, where he has gone down to take possession of it. {19} "You shall speak to him, saying, 'Thus says the LORD: "Have you murdered and also taken possession?" ' And you shall speak to him, saying, 'Thus says the LORD: "In the place where dogs licked the blood of Naboth, dogs shall lick your blood, even yours.'" "

{20} So Ahab said to Elijah, "Have you found me, O my enemy?"

And he answered, "I have found you, because you have sold yourself to do evil in the sight of the LORD: {21} 'Behold, I will bring calamity on you. I will take away your posterity, and will cut off from Ahab every male in Israel, both bond and free. {22} 'I will make your house like the house of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, and like the house of Baasha the son of Ahijah, because of the provocation with which you have provoked Me to anger, and made Israel sin.'

{23} "And concerning Jezebel the LORD also spoke, saying, 'The dogs shall eat Jezebel by the wall of Jezreel.'

{24} "The dogs shall eat whoever belongs to Ahab and dies in the city, and the birds of the air shall eat whoever dies in the field."

22:30 And the king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, "I will disguise myself and go into battle; but you put on your robes." So the king of Israel disguised himself and went into battle.

{31} Now the king of Syria had commanded the thirty-two captains of his chariots, saying, "Fight with no one small or great, but only with the king of Israel." {32} So it was, when the captains of the chariots saw Jehoshaphat, that they said, "Surely it is the king of Israel!" Therefore they turned aside to fight against him, and Jehoshaphat cried out.

{33} And it happened, when the captains of the chariots saw that it was not the king of Israel, that they turned back from pursuing him.

{34} Now a certain man drew a bow at random, and struck the king of Israel between the joints of his armor. So he said to the driver of his chariot, "Turn around and take me out of the battle, for I am wounded." {35} The battle increased that day; and the king was propped up in his chariot, facing the Syrians, and died at evening. The blood ran out from the wound onto the floor of the chariot. {36} Then, as the sun was going down, a shout went throughout the army, saying, "Every man to his city, and every man to his own country!"

{37} So the king died, and was brought to Samaria. And they buried the king in Samaria. {38} Then someone washed the chariot at a pool in Samaria, and the dogs licked up his blood while the harlots bathed, according to the word of the LORD which He had spoken.

2 Kings 9:30 Now when Jehu had come to Jezreel, Jezebel heard of it; and she put paint on her eyes and adorned her head, and looked through a window. {31} Then, as Jehu entered at the gate, she said, "Is it peace, Zimri, murderer of your master?"

{32} And he looked up at the window, and said, "Who is on my side? Who?" So two or three eunuchs looked out at him. {33} Then he said, "Throw her down." So they threw her down, and some of her blood spattered on the wall and on the horses; and he trampled her underfoot.

{34} And when he had gone in, he ate and drank. Then he said, "Go now, see to this accursed woman, and bury her, for she was a king's daughter." {35} So they went to bury her, but they found no more of her than the skull and the feet and the palms of her hands. {36} Therefore they came back and told him. And he said, "This is the word of the LORD, which He spoke by His servant Elijah the Tishbite, saying, 'On the plot of ground at Jezreel dogs shall eat the flesh of Jezebel; {37} 'and the corpse of Jezebel shall be as refuse on the surface of the field, in the plot at Jezreel, so that they shall not say, "Here lies Jezebel.'" "

**Outer Aim - As instruments of Satan, Ahab and Jezebel carried out the Devil's murderous plans.**

**What the Story Tells Us - Identify the person from the lesson who fits the description.**

1. Rightfully owned a vineyard\_\_\_\_\_
2. Wanted to honor God with His inheritance\_\_\_\_\_
3. Was not happy with "no" as an answer\_\_\_\_\_
4. Pouted and was depressed\_\_\_\_\_
5. Set up an evil plan\_\_\_\_\_
6. Was lied about\_\_\_\_\_
7. Was killed because he had something someone else wanted\_\_\_\_\_
8. Was instructed by God to reprove a sinner\_\_\_\_\_
9. Went into battle with Jehoshaphat\_\_\_\_\_
10. Wore a disguise to try to protect himself\_\_\_\_\_
11. Died in the battle\_\_\_\_\_
12. Was thrown out a window\_\_\_\_\_
13. Was eaten, after dying, by dogs\_\_\_\_\_

**What God's Word Tells Us - Mark each as (T) rue or (F)alse.**

1. \_\_\_\_ It is OK to go after anything you want.
2. \_\_\_\_ Godliness with contentment is great gain.
3. \_\_\_\_ The end justifies the means
4. \_\_\_\_ God knows when we covet.
5. \_\_\_\_ Coveting often leads to other sins.
6. \_\_\_\_ Coveting is unforgivable.
7. \_\_\_\_ Contentment is the opposite of coveting.
8. \_\_\_\_ Everything that is legal is right in God's eyes.
9. \_\_\_\_ Greediness can lead people away from God.
10. \_\_\_\_ The love of money is the root of all evil.

## Your Turn

Friends of yours want you to help them get something they want that belongs to someone who wants to keep it. What do you do?

You realize that you are coveting a friendship. What sins might that coveting lead you to commit if you are not careful? Write a prayer to God that would help you to be free of coveting.

**Inner Aim - A life without God always leads to disaster in time and for eternity. A life with God is full of blessing now and in eternity.**

## Passages

Galatians 6:7-8 - Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life.

1 Timothy 6:6-9 - Now godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. And having food and clothing, with these we shall be content. But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and harmful lusts which drown men in destruction and perdition.

1 John 2:15 - Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

Deuteronomy 5:7, 17, 19-21 - You shall have no other gods before Me... You shall not murder... You shall not steal. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife; and you shall not desire your neighbor's house, his field, his male servant, his female servant, his ox, his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor's.

**Hymn** - Read TLH #447 and answer these questions together with the class.

1. What are the "good fight" and "straight race"?
2. Which stanza talks about contentment?
3. What are 6 descriptive names used for Christ in this hymn?

## Prayer

Dear Lord Jesus, You have been so kind to me in living a perfect life for me and dying for my sins. Lord, I do covet. Please forgive me when I do and keep me from sinning even more in an attempt to get what I want. Help me to trust in Your perfect wisdom, love, and power that will give me only what is good for me in my life. Amen