

# 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 Father in heaven, Thank You for all the blessings You have given us. Help us to be content with what we have. Please help us to love and care for each other. Forgive us when we want things You don't want us to have. Forgive us when we want things that belong to other people. Keep us from going after things that belong to other people and things You don't want us to have. In Jesus' name, we 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 - Ahab and Jezebel went against God and with Satan to get what they wanted.**

## What the Story Tells Us - Number these events in the order in which they happened.

- \_\_\_\_\_ Liars said that Naboth was a blasphemer.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Elijah told Ahab he would die because of what happened to Naboth.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Naboth was stoned to death.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Ahab tried to buy Naboth's vineyard.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Jezebel died.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Jezebel sent letters to the leaders to tell them to arrange Naboth's death.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Ahab died.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Ahab pouted when he couldn't get what he wanted.

## What God's Word Tells Us - Use the following questions for discussion.

1. Against which commandment did Ahab sin when he kept on wanting Naboth's vineyard after he found out he couldn't have it?
2. Against which commandment did Jezebel sin when she arranged to get Naboth's vineyard by a seemingly legal way?
3. Against which commandment did the liars sin when they testified falsely against Naboth?
4. Against which commandment was Naboth's death?
5. How are Ahab and Jezebel guilty of all these sins?
6. What did they deserve for their sins?
7. How could they have avoided eternal damnation?
8. Against which commandment did they sin by not depending on God for everything?

**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.**

**Your Turn** - List ten things for which you are thankful. From Whom have these things come?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.

## 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.

Matthew 22:37-39 - Jesus said to him, " 'You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' "

Psalms 1:6 - For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the ungodly shall perish.

## Hymn - Read TLH #395 v. 1-4, 7, 8 and answer these questions together with the class.

O God, Thou faithful God, Thou Fountain ever flowing,  
Who good and perfect gifts in mercy art bestowing,  
Give me a healthy frame, and may I have within  
A conscience free from blame, a soul unhurt by sin!

Grant Thou me strength to do with ready heart and willing  
Whate'er Thou shalt command, my calling here fulfilling;  
To do it when I ought, with all my might, and bless  
The work I thus have wrought, for Thou must give success.

Oh, let me never speak what bounds of truth exceedeth;  
Grant that no idle word from out my mouth proceedeth;  
And then, when in my place I must and ought to speak,  
My words grant pow'r and grace lest I offend the weak.

If dangers gather round, still keep me calm and fearless;  
Help me to bear the cross when life is dark and cheerless;  
And let me win my foe with words and actions kind.  
When counsel I would know, good counsel let me find.

Let me depart this life confiding in my Savior;  
Do Thou my soul receive that it may live forever;  
And let my body have a quiet resting-place  
Within a Christian grave; and let it sleep in peace.

And on that solemn Day when all the dead are waking.  
Stretch o'er my grave Thy hand, Thyself my slumbers breaking.  
Then let me hear Thy voice, change Thou this earthly frame,  
And bid me aye rejoice with those who love Thy name.

1. Which phrase of hymn 395, stanza 1, describes God's generosity?
2. Which stanza asks for a committed spirit to serving God?
3. Which stanza talks about guarding our speech? In what ways?
4. Read stanza 4. Who in the lesson had to face great danger?
5. Read stanza 7. Which person in our lesson did not have a Christian grave?
6. Who will be raised on the last day?
7. Which people do we pray to join?

## Prayer

Dear Lord Jesus, Thank You for all the blessings You have given me. Help me to see that I do not need to want things that other people have or try to get things in evil ways. You know what I need. You love me so much You want to give me whatever is good for me. You have the power to give me those things that are good for me. Forgive me when I forget and start to covet. Thank You especially for the forgiveness of my sins and the promise of heaven. Amen.