

Chapter 64: The Wickedness of Achab and Jezabel— Their Punishment

Commentary for Chapter 64

The Eighth Commandment. The witnesses against Naboth sinned grievously. They bore false witness in a court of justice in a serious matter that involved life and death. They were rightly called children of the devil, because it requires a devilish malice to commit such a sin.

The Tenth Commandment. Achab sinned grievously against this Commandment by coveting the inheritance of Naboth.

The Seventh Commandment. Achab also sinned grievously against this Commandment by taking for himself the property of the murdered man

Sharing in the Guilt of Others. The prophet said to Achab: “Thou hast slain etc.” But how could Achab be Naboth's murderer? He had not accused him or sentenced him to death! No, but Achab knew perfectly well that his wicked wife would use unlawful means to gain possession of the vineyard, and yet not only did he utter no word of protest, but consented to Jezabel's writing a letter in his name and sealed it with his royal seal! Thus, by his silence, he consented to his wife's wicked project. Neither did Jezabel kill Naboth with her own hands; but she commanded the ancients of the city to have him falsely accused and put to death. In this way she shared in the guilt of others by command and was guilty of murder.

Questions to be Answered Using the Bible History Book:

1. Why did Naboth refuse to sell the king the vineyard that he had inherited from his father?

2. Of what crimes did the wicked men falsely accuse Naboth?

3. When Naboth was condemned, where was he taken and how was he killed?

4. What punishment did Elias foretell would befall (a) Achab and (b) Jezabel?

(a) _____

(b) _____

5. How was Elias' prophecy of Achab's death fulfilled?

6. How was Elias' prophecy of Jezabel's death fulfilled?

Questions to be Answered Using the Commentary:

7. (a) How did the witnesses against Naboth sin against the eighth Commandment? (b) Was it a mortal or a venial sin?

(a) _____

(b) _____

8. How did Achab sin against the seventh and tenth Commandments?

9. How was Achab guilty of Naboth's death if he didn't accuse him or sentence him to death?

10. How was Jezabel guilty of Naboth's death if she didn't kill him with her own hands?
