

**WORST OF THE WORST**  
**1 KINGS 16:30 / 3-25-18 / PM**

**I. AHAB'S LIFE.**

A. Ahab's background.

1. He was the seventh king of Israel.
2. He reigned 22 years from around 871-852 B.C.
3. He was the son of King Omri who was also a wicked king.
4. He married a wicked woman named Jezebel. She was the daughter of the king of Sidonia.

B. Ahab's failures.

1. To appease his wife he built a pagan temple to Baal, the god she and her country worshipped.
2. This resulted in God sending a three year drought in Israel announced by the prophet Elijah.
3. After three years Elijah challenged Ahab and the 450 pagan priests of Baal to a contest on Mount Carmel to see who could call down fire to consume an offering. (1 Kings 18).
4. Ahab defeated Aram (Damascus today) twice (1 Kings 20).
5. Ahab, with Jezebel's, help murdered Naboth and stole his vineyard (1 King 21).
  - a. Naboth refused to trade or sell his vineyard because he received it as an inheritance. Inheritances were expected to be kept in the family and not sold to anyone else.
  - b. Jezebel had Naboth killed.
  - c. Elijah predicted Ahab and Jezebel would forfeit their lives because of this sin—1 Kings 21:20-21 and 23-24.
6. Ahab's evil legacy—1 Kings 21:24-26.
7. Ahab temporarily repented and won a slight reprieve from God for his family.
8. Ahab's repentance didn't last long and against God's advice he went to battle against Aram again but this time he was accidentally killed by a stray arrow (1 Kings 22).
9. Ahab' seventy sons were killed a few years later (2 Kings 10).

## II. AHAB'S LESSONS.

### A. Positive lessons.

1. He was a good military leader.
2. He repented briefly when confronted with his sins.

### B. Negative Lessons.

1. He was easily manipulated by his wife, advisors and false prophets.
2. He didn't prevent Jezebel from killing many of Israel's prophets and threatening to kill Elijah.
3. He acted like a spoiled child about Naboth's vineyard.
4. His brief repentance didn't rehabilitate him.
5. He refused to listen to God's advice not to go into battle and lost his life because of it. His death, along with Jezebel's, was fulfilled just as Elijah predicted in 1 Kings 21.--1 Kings 22:37-38 and 2 Kings 9:30-37.