

STOPPED DEAD IN YOUR TRACKS

Pastor David Joe May

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1Kings 16:30-33; 18:17-21

Ahab provoked God because of Jezebel (witchcraft.) Bel. marriage of the Godly with the occult.

I. **Two Opinions.** vs. 21.

A. Double mindedness. Spiritual schizophrenia.

1. Instability.

James 1:8 A double minded man is unstable in all his ways.

2. Division. Two visions.

a. Will cause failure. A house divided.

Mark 3:25 And if a house be divided against itself, that house cannot stand.

[1.] Divided loyalty.

Matt. 6:24 No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.

Mammon. n.

1. Bible: Riches, avarice, and worldly gain personified as a false god in the New Testament.

2. Often mammon. Material wealth regarded as having an evil influence.

B. Caused, in this case, by errant leadership.

1Kgs. 18:17-18 And it came to pass, when Ahab saw Elijah, that Ahab said unto him, Art thou he that troubleth Israel? 18 And he answered, I have not troubled Israel; but thou, and thy father's house, in that ye have forsaken the commandments of the LORD, and thou hast followed Baalim.

C. Torn between God's ways and the ways of the world, religion or our own devices.

1. Baalim. The god of the occult. Other worship.

2. Can be total or partial.

a. The condition of some believers.

II. Stopped Dead In Their Tracks. vs. 21

A. Halted. Stopped. Brought to a standstill.

1. No progress. Indecision will stop your progress with God.

2. “How long?” asked Elijah.

a. A time period of grace.

1Pet. 1:13 *Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ;*

Rev. 2:21 *And I gave her space to repent of her fornication; and she repented not.*

Ezra 9:8 *And now for a little space grace hath been shown from the LORD our God, to leave us a remnant to escape, and to give us a nail in his holy place, that our God may lighten our eyes, and give us a little reviving in our bondage.*

III. Lead, Follow Or Get Out Of The Way!

A. It took seeing another manifestation of God’s power to move them.

1. These people had a rich heritage of experiencing the miraculous.

a. What have you done for me lately?

b. How soon we forget. God still reigns. He hasn’t moved.

2. We walk by faith not by sight. 2 Cor. 5:7

a. Leaders.

[1.] Victorious people’s faith precedes a miracle.

b. Followers.

[1.] The weak need to see a miracle to produce faith.

1Cor. 2:4-5 *And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man’s wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power: :5 That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.*

Rom. 15:19 *Through mighty signs and wonders, by the power of the Spirit of God; so that from Jerusalem, and round about unto Illyricum, I have fully preached the gospel of Christ.*

B. Elijah calls on them to make a decision. A choice.

1. Make a choice.

Josh. 24:15 *And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.*

James 4:8 *Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded.*

1Kgs. 18:21 *And Elijah came unto all the people, and said, How long halt ye between two opinions? if the LORD be God, follow him: but if Baal, then follow him. And the people answered him not a word.*

a. Choose whom you will believe, in every circumstance of your life.

2. Follow through.

a. Continue in the Word. John 8:31-32

b. Develop and act on your belief system.

3. Fully Persuaded. Rom. 4:21 *And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform.*

a. Expect and experience the abundance of God's provision.

1Kgs. 18:41 *And Elijah said unto Ahab, Get thee up, eat and drink; for there is a sound of abundance of rain.*

John 10:10 *The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.*

