

Know the God of Scripture

Volume 1

Week 16: Standing Up to Evil - Answer Guide

Below is the answer guide for this week's lesson. By no means are the answers complete or the only possible responses to each question. They are a guide to fully understanding the intent of the questions posed.

1. Elijah in Hebrew means “Yahweh is God.” We know nothing of Elijah’s birth or family. He was a Tishbite from Gilead (1 Kings 17:1). He was a faithful prophet of God and important enough to have his name mentioned 29 times in the New Testament. He is considered to be a forerunner of John the Baptist (Matthew 11:14). He appeared with Moses at the Mount of Transfiguration (Matthew 17:3). He was a devout servant of Yahweh who performed several miracles.

2. In Hebrew Ahab means “father’s brother.” He married a Phoenician named Jezebel whose name in Hebrew means “Baal exalts.” Jezebel was an evil woman who worshipped Baal and who tried to assassinate Elijah. Ahab was the son of Omri, an evil king, whose Hebrew name means “servant” (1 Kings 16:25). He was from the lineage of David. Ahab is considered to be the worst evil king of Israel (1 Kings 16:33). He had a son, Ahaziah, whose Hebrew name means “God grasps, has taken.”

3. Ahab was atop Mt. Carmel when Elijah miraculously demonstrated the power of Yahweh (1 Kings 18). The 400 prophets of Baal were slaughtered by Elijah at the Wadi Kishon (1 Kings 18:40). In 1 Kings 20, an unknown prophet of Yahweh (the Jewish historian Josephus says it was Micaiah, Antiquities Book 8, 14.5) informs Ahab that he would be victorious in battle against Ben-Hadad.

4. Seeing that the 400 priests atop Mt. Carmel were priests of Baal and were slaughtered by Elijah, these priests were more than likely servants of other gods, possibly of a variety of gods from the Phoenician, Assyrian or Babylonian pantheon. Whatever they were, we are assured the 400 priests were not priests of the Lord Yahweh. Zedekiah, one of the priests, makes horns of iron, either representing the god of oxen or mimicking Moses’ blessing of Joseph in Deuteronomy 33:17. We are not told of Zedekiah’s outcome as prophesied by Micaiah. However, he was more than likely killed when Jehu raided Jerusalem and killed the prophets of Baal found in 2 Kings 10:17-27.

5. Jehoshaphat in Hebrew means “Yahweh has judged.” He was the son of Asa & Azubah from the lineage of David, a brother-in-law to Ahab, 4th King of Judah and a relatively good king. His son, Jehoram, married Ahab’s daughter Athaliah. It is worth noting that his personal prophet, Jehu, chastised him for his participation in this event.

6. Knowing the prophecies from the 400 and Micaiah, he tried to bring about the results he desired by acting in the flesh. His intentions were for Jehoshaphat to be killed because the King of Aram would think he was Ahab. As it turned out, God’s will would not be altered, and he died in battle.

7. Micaiah means “One who is like Yahweh” in Hebrew. Imlah means “fullness” in Hebrew. Micaiah was the voice of God in a dark situation, proclaiming the truth amongst a plethora of lies. He was a prophet of Yahweh. His vision of the divine throne in 1 Kings 22:19-23 is noteworthy to compare with other prophet’s visions (Isaiah 6:1, Ezekiel 1:26, Daniel 7:9, Acts 7:55, Revelation 4:2)

8. In prophesying against the other 400 prophets Micaiah risked death or a lifetime imprisonment. We know he was already in prison because that is where Ahab sent him back to after hearing his prophecy (1 Kings 22:26, 27).

9. When faced with adversity in life it is always recommend to seek the Lord's advice on major decisions. Always seek the advice, leading or prompting of the Lord in all life circumstances. In addition, listen and adhere to the promptings of the Lord. Your spirit must be in tune with His Spirit to hear the still, quiet voice of God.

Additional Questions:

1. Let us face the fact that the ways of the world do not line up with the ways of God. Christ calls believers to be a beacon of light while living in this dark world. It is easy to conform to the world, but we are called to be transformed by the renewing of our minds (Romans 12:1, 2). To help us in that calling we need to be in the Word of God on a daily basis.

2. Answers will vary depending on personal experience.

3. Answers will vary depending on personal experience. However, they should include such practices as daily prayer, Bible reading, church attendance and participation, service, ministry, discipleship, fellowship and a variety of forms of worship to our Lord Jesus Christ.

4. Answers will vary depending on personal experience.

