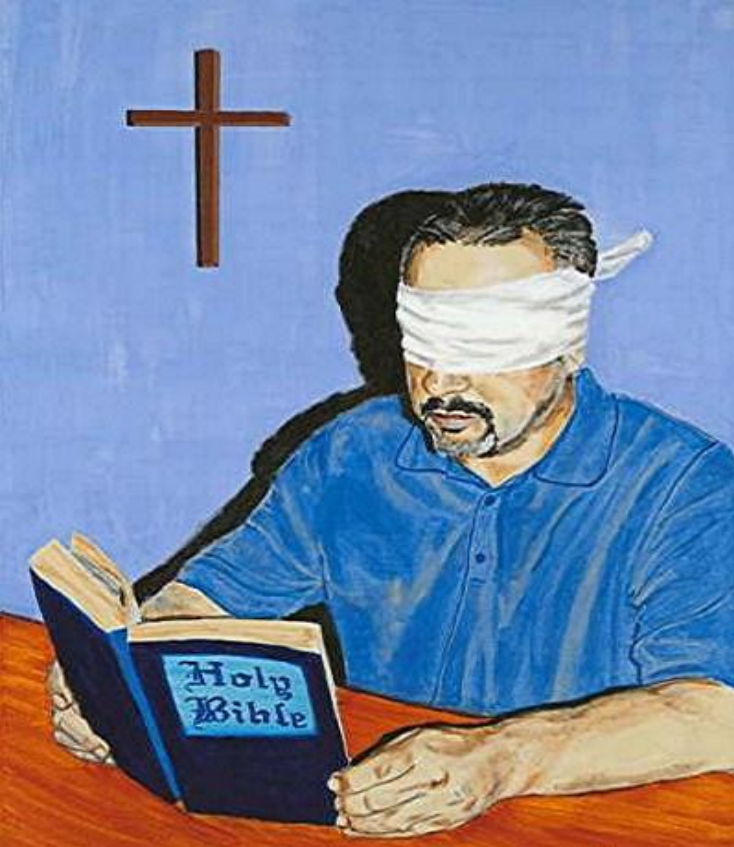


# 1<sup>ST</sup> KINGS 16: THE PERVERSE KINGS OF ISRAEL



- Ba'sha's shameful end is recorded
- C.F. Kiel *"...something strange in the perversity... of the Kings of Israel..."*
- The cause was spiritual blindness
- The golden calves were intended as graven images of the God of Israel
- The Israelites had not given up worshipping Yehoveh, but had mixed paganism in with it until their worship had become corrupt and futile



## Kingdoms of Israel and Judah

0 10 20 30 40 miles  
0 10 20 30 40 Kilometers



# BA'SHA RULER OF NORTHERN KINGDOM

- Asa ruled over the southern kingdom of Judah
- Ba'sha wiped out Jeroboam, his son Nadav, and his dynasty
- Yehu pronounced a curse upon Ba'sha for his evil ways
- Ba'sha ruled for 20 years and died of natural causes







# ZIMRI ASSASSINATES ELAH



- *Zimri* a commander of chariots, not a popular commander
- When the army was away besieging Gibbethon, *Zimri* killed *Elah*
- *Zimri* killed all of *Elah's* family *ga'al*
- *Ga'al* = kinsman redeemer
- As a result all of *Ba'sha's* family bloodlines were terminated



# “Following worthless vanities...”

- *Habel* = characteristics of vapor or breath
- *Yisshaq* in Amos 7, meaning to play-around
- Israel ceased worshipping God in the ways He ordained, and instead did it in ways that pleased themselves
- The leadership held responsible because they were the only source of information
- Today individuals have Bibles and other resources available, so the individual is held responsible





# ZIMRI RULES FOR ONLY 7 DAYS !

- *Ba'sha* killed of Jeroboam's line and *Zimri* killed off *Ba'sha's* line
- Army heard of *Elah's* death and did not want *Zimri* as king
- *Omri* led the army against *Tirzah*
- *Zimri* committed suicide by burning down the palace over his own head



# OMRI GAINS A RIVAL

- “All Israel” means different things based on the context
- The Israelite civilians did not agree with *Omri* seizing power
- *Tibni* son of *Ginath* was preferred by the people, while *Omri* was the army’s choice
- The Northern Kingdom is now split into two factions
- Name of Northern Kingdom evolves: sometimes is called *Israel* (a national name), sometimes is called *Ephraim* (a tribal name)
- *Tibni* died after 4 years of struggle, and *Omri* ruled a total of 12 years.



# A NEW CAPITAL CITY LOCATION

- *Omri* purchased a hilltop from *Shemer*
- Named the place *Shemeron*, which evolved to *Shomron* (Samaria)
- Steep approaches, lots of water
- *Omri* also led the people in the ways of Jeroboam





# AHAV MARRIES JEZEBEL



- Asa still king over Judah
- Ahav represented the worst leadership of Israel yet
- *Izevel* = Jezebel, daughter of King *Eshbaal*
- *Ahav* built upon the bad leadership before him and took the step of renouncing Yehoveh
- He set up Ba'al worship throughout the north
- God raises up prophets, starting with Elijah, to counter this atrocity



# THE INEVITABLE HAPPENS

- God is raising up a new movement of pastors, teachers, and leaders trained outside the seminaries to counter the great apostasy within His Church
- Israel, the Jewish people, and the Torah is what this movement revolves around
- **Barna Group survey of 2009:**
- 34% of Christians believe in absolute moral truth
- 50% believe that the Bible is accurate in principles
- Most believe that other religions' sacred books are on par with the Bible
- 40% believe in the spiritual influence of angels and demons
- 27% believe that Satan actually exists



# STEPS AND STAGES BY POOR LEADERSHIP

- Bill Clinton: champion of Gays and Lesbians, same-sex marriage, death of sexual morality
- George Bush: declares that the God of Christianity and the God of Islam are the same god
- Barak Obama: “Whatever we once were, we are no longer a Christian nation...”





# FOLLOW THE CROWDS, OR FOLLOW GOD?

- What will you choose?
- The God way is the harder way, but the true way
- **Hiel** of Beit-el decided to rebuild Jericho
- Joshua 6:26
- 2 of his sons lost as was the curse for any who would rebuild what God has torn down
- King **Ahav** must have sponsored this project

