

“I asked Naboth to sell me his vineyard or trade it, but he refused!” Ahab told her. “Are you the king of Israel or not?” Jezebel demanded. “Get up and eat something, and don’t worry about it. I’ll get you Naboth’s vineyard!” 1 Kings 21:6-7 NLT

lectio // 1 Kings 21:1-16

Serving a little whine with your cheese? You can hear the pitiful whining in Ahab’s answer to his wife, Jezebel. What’s wrong, why are you throwing a tantrum and acting like a child? Because I didn’t get my way. The next thing you know is Naboth is tricked into a public meeting, setup with two liars to swear that he cursed God and king and then he is stoned. No one asked, who were these two guys sitting next Naboth? No justice. Samuel warned Israel that there would be kings just like this, but they want one anyways. This kind of un-checked power and money only wants more. The king looks out and is NOT satisfied. He wants more so he takes more. He and his conniving wife look like they got away with it. But God tells a prophet (Elijah), who speaks truth, to put the king in check. “Give him this message: ‘This is what the Lord says: Wasn’t it enough that you killed Naboth? Must you rob him, too? Because you have done this, dogs will lick your blood at the very place where they licked the blood of Naboth!’” God says, I saw what you did, and here’s how we’re going to deal with you. Do you want to be a king? Do you want power and money to do whatever you want? God is watching. God has his way of enacting justice. Don’t take justice or revenge into your own hands, let God take care of it. It will be right and good.

oratio

pray as responding to the words, phrase, sentence that God has stirred within you

Dad,

Who is worse? Ahab for his unending selfish ways or Jezebel for her quick, evil, conniving, cunning ways? They make the perfect pair! I’ve heard pastor’s accuse women for having a “spirit of Jezebel,” but never accuse a leader of having a “spirit of Ahab.” Both make me sick!

contemplatio

rest in the presence of God, allowing the words revealed to take root