

(continued from the front)

Yes—there was one: Micaiah. “But I hate him,” said Ahab.

Sure enough, Micaiah prophesied that Ahab would meet his death and that Israel would be scattered if he went to war. As a result, Micaiah was unjustly imprisoned for telling the truth.

Here’s what’s interesting: the messenger sent to fetch Micaiah told him that the 400 other prophets had spoken with one voice, assuring Ahab of victory. He added, “Please, let your word be like the word of one of them, and speak encouragement.”

Talk about peer pressure. Micaiah had a tough choice to make. He could have saved himself a lot of grief by simply crossing his fingers and saying, “Yes, go ahead—do whatever you want.” In the end, Ahab did what he wanted anyway. So what difference did one voice make? It made all the difference. Micaiah made a moral choice: to speak what the Lord revealed.

Several years ago, a news clip titled “Girls Gone Wild” showed a rowdy spring break crowd. Parts of the footage were censored for television. One young woman was interviewed and asked whether she might take part in something like that. She answered, “I’m not sure.” Later, the camera showed her joining in with the crowd’s behavior. When do you make a moral choice? That girl made a choice long before she realized it by not having a moral position to reason from.

Micaiah was advised to go along with the crowd and say what the king wanted to hear. But he didn’t need to scratch his head and think about it. He had already determined long before that he would always try to do what was right before God. He had a moral base from which to reason.

Max McClendon
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Making a Moral Choice

Most people don’t like to stand alone in an opinion.
Do you?

I once read about a controlled experiment in which volunteers were shown three suits that were identical in quality, but they were told that one was much more expensive. The task was: see if you can pick out the more expensive suit. One by one, nearly all of them chose the same suit—not because it looked any different, but because they followed the lead of the volunteer who went before them.

How would you feel about standing up to give your advice on an issue, knowing that 400 people before you voiced the exact opposite view?

In 1 Kings 22, Ahab determined to go to war against Ramoth Gilead. Jehoshaphat said, “Please inquire for the word of the Lord today.” So Ahab gathered 400 prophets who all agreed that God would give Ramoth Gilead into his hands. But Jehoshaphat asked, “Is there not still a prophet of the Lord here, that we may inquire of Him?”

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Elders

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Phil Degelia
Tim Simmons

Deacons

Mike Fox
(Building and Grounds)
Jeff Kiel
(Building and Grounds)
Dean Rosser
(Safety)
Roland Snipes
(Benevolence)
Keith Tolbert
(Education)

Minister

Bryan Winn