Elijah/Elisha #7 Pastor Rick Baker

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1 Kings 21 **State Tyranny and a God Who Sees Everything**

History is splashed with the blood of the powerless innocents who encounter state-sponsored tyranny. In order to entrench power and increase wealth, the powerful take advantage of the weak “legally”, by declaring their actions legal. Once tyranny is made “legal”, the powerful are able to justify their actions and conscript other officials.

Naboth, an upstanding and otherwise loyal-to-the-king citizen, became an enemy of the state because he held land the king coveted.

*How does state-sponsored cannibalism happen, what does God see, and what is the take away lesson(s)? —***the anatomy of the abuse of power**

Sin scorecard—coveting (*sin is crouching at your door*), bearing false witness, murder, theft, disobeying God’s Word

1. Beware, when you possess something the state \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (21:1-2).

*When the state goes rogue, it is about* ***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.***

*The battle of every overseer is resisting the intoxication of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.*



1. There is further danger when \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_convictions (God’s word) clash with current government \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(21:3-7).

Naboth wasn’t being obstinate, disloyal, or disrespectful; he was being \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (Lev. 25:23-28; Num. 36:7) “Crown Land”

1. Wicked governments find ways to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ their evil and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_their actions—crisis forces action and legitimizes desired \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (21:8-16).

*How abusive governments get what they want...*

1. Spiritual \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ are sacred to God and violations, through the exploitation of people, attract His \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (21:17-26)
2. The God of all grace is always ready to relent from \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ when repentance is genuine (21:27-29).

Humility that crushes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ catches the attention of God every time.