

## YEAR 1, PROPER 19, WEDNESDAY: MORNING PRAYER

### For use with the First Lesson

Adapted from *The Vocabulary of the Church* (1960):

Jehosh'aphat	ji-HAHSH-uh-fat
Ra'moth-gilead	RAY-mahth-GIL-i-uhd
Micai'ah	migh-KAY-uh
Chena'anah	ki-NAY-uh-nah

*The First Lesson. The Reader begins*

### A Reading from the First Book of the Kings

For three years Syria and Israel continued without war. But in the third year Jehosh'aphat the king of Judah came down to the king of Israel. And the king of Israel said to his servants, “Do you know that Ra'moth-gilead belongs to us, and we keep quiet and do not take it out of the hand of the king of Syria?” And he said to Jehosh'aphat, “Will you go with me to battle at Ra'moth-gilead?” And Jehosh'aphat said to the king of Israel, “I am as you are, my people as your people, my horses as your horses.” And Jehosh'aphat said to the king of Israel, “Inquire first for the word of the LORD.” Then the king of Israel gathered the

prophets together, about four hundred men, and said to them, “Shall I go to battle against Ra'moth-gilead, or shall I forbear?” And they said, “Go up; for the Lord will give it into the hand of the king.” But Jehosh'aphat said, “Is there not here another prophet of the LORD of whom we may inquire?” And the king of Israel said to Jehosh'aphat, “There is yet one man by whom we may inquire of the LORD, Micai'ah the son of Imlah; but I hate him, for he never prophesies good concerning me, but evil.” And Jehosh'aphat said, “Let not the king say so.” Then the king of Israel summoned an officer and said, “Bring quickly Micai'ah the son of Imlah.” Now the king of Israel and Jehosh'aphat the king of Judah were sitting on their thrones, arrayed in their robes, at the threshing floor at the entrance of the gate of Sama'ria; and all the prophets were prophesying before them. And Zedeki'ah the son of Chena'anah made for himself horns of iron, and said, “Thus says the LORD, ‘With these you shall push the Syrians until they are destroyed.’” And all the prophets prophesied so, and said, “Go up to Ra'moth-gilead and triumph; the Lord will give it into the hand of the king.” And the messenger who went to summon Micai'ah said to him, “Behold, the words of the prophets with one accord are favorable to the king; let your word be like the

word of one of them, and speak favorably.” But Micai’ah said, “As the LORD lives, what the LORD says to me, that I will speak.” And when he had come to the king, the king said to him, “Micai’ah, shall we go to Ra’moth-gilead to battle, or shall we forbear?” And he answered him, “Go up and triumph; the LORD will give it into the hand of the king.” But the king said to him, “How many times shall I adjure you that you speak to me nothing but the truth in the name of the LORD?” And he said, “I saw all Israel scattered upon the mountains, as sheep that have no shepherd; and the LORD said, ‘These have no master; let each return to his home in peace.’” And the king of Israel said to Jehosh’aphat, “Did I not tell you that he would not prophesy good concerning me, but evil?” And Micai’ah said, “Therefore hear the word of the LORD: I saw the LORD sitting on his throne, and all the host of heaven standing beside him on his right hand and on his left; and the LORD said, ‘Who will entice Ahab, that he may go up and fall at Ra’moth-gilead?’ And one said one thing, and another said another. Then a spirit came forward and stood before the LORD, saying, ‘I will entice him.’ And the LORD said to him, ‘By what means?’ And he said, ‘I will go forth, and will be a lying spirit in the mouth of all his prophets.’ And he said, ‘You are to entice him, and you shall succeed;

go forth and do so.' Now therefore behold, the LORD has put a lying spirit in the mouth of all these your prophets; the LORD has spoken evil concerning you.'" Then Zedeki'ah the son of Chena'anah came near and struck Micai'ah on the cheek, and said, "How did the Spirit of the LORD go from me to speak to you?" And Micai'ah said, "Behold, you shall see on that day when you go into an inner chamber to hide yourself." And the king of Israel said, "Seize Micai'ah, and take him back to A'mon the governor of the city and to Jo'ash the king's son; and say, 'Thus says the king, 'Put this fellow in prison, and feed him with scant fare of bread and water, until I come in peace.'" ' " And Micai'ah said, "If you return in peace, the LORD has not spoken by me." And he said, "Hear, all you peoples!"

*The Reader concludes*

The Word of the Lord.

*The Second Lesson. The Reader begins*

**A Reading from the**

**First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians**

When I came to you, brethren, I did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God in lofty words or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. And I was with you in weakness and in much fear and

trembling; and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God. Yet among the mature we do impart wisdom, although it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to pass away. But we impart a secret and hidden wisdom of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glorification. None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written, “What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him,” God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what person knows a man’s thoughts except the spirit of the man which is in him? So also no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit which is from God, that we might understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. And we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who possess the Spirit.

*The Reader concludes*

The Word of the Lord.