



THE PARABLE OF THE PROPHET | 1 KINGS 13-14 | TODD STILES



INTRODUCTION

I love the show Dirty Jobs with Mike Rowe. Some of the situations Mike finds himself in make me fully appreciate the work I do.

This week, we are going to look at a deadly job in the Bible...that of a prophet. Much of the last part of the Old Testament records the words and interactions of God's prophets with the kings and people of Israel and Judah. They had a tough job. The news they brought was often not good news, and the criticism they leveled from God was both personal and painful. They were beaten, chased, hounded, and killed.

This week we will meet a young prophet simply identified as "the man of God from Judah." We don't know his name, his family, or anything else about him, except that he was sent by God to speak truth to a powerful, evil King Jeroboam of Israel.

Like many prophets, his mission of mercy sent by God ended up costing him his life, but with a twist. In his obedience, he fell for one of the oldest tricks in the book (Genesis 3:1), and listened when an old prophet caused him to question the word of God.

In this week's lesson, we will learn the sober fact that we, too, must deal with old lying prophets in the church who seek to lead us away from the truth of the revealed Word of God. The young prophet in our text failed in the discernment test. How about us? Can we learn to be discerning when an old prophet challenges us with, "did God really say...?"

MEMORY VERSE FOR THE WEEK

2 John 6 – This is love, that we walk according to His commandments. This is the commandment, that as you have heard from the beginning, you should walk in it.

