

## Busy Here And There

(1 Kings 20:40)

- Introduction:
1. Jesus is the central figure to the entire Bible.
  2. Every book, whether New Testament or Old Testament ultimately points to Jesus.
    - a. Books of Law – The Foundation of Jesus.
    - b. Books of History – The Preparation of Jesus.
    - c. Books of Poetry – The Aspiration for Jesus.
    - d. Books of Prophecy – The Expectation of Jesus
    - e. The gospel accounts – The Manifestation of Jesus.
    - f. Acts – The Propagation of Jesus.
    - g. Epistles – The Application of Jesus.
    - h. Revelation – The Consummation of all things in Jesus.
  3. This lesson comes from an obscure account in the book of Kings but teaches us some relevant lessons.

### I. Success Can Blind Us to Our True Standing Before God

- A. Ahab was a wicked King (1 Kings 16:30).
- B. However, on this occasion, Ahab twice defeats the Syrian King, Ben-Hadad.
- C. Apparently, he thought his victories somehow meant he was okay with God (1 Kings 20:43).
- D. How many people look at their circumstances or feelings and think that they validate their relationship with God (Mark 4:19; Gal. 6:7-8)?

### II. We Can Misplace Our Priorities

- A. (1 Kings 20:40).
- B. As King of Israel, Ahab let an enemy of God slip through his fingers.
- C. Can we busy ourselves with the wrong things, or lesser things when we should be “guarding” greater things?
- D. (Matthew 6:33; 2 Cor. 5:9; Phil. 1:21; Col. 1:10).

### III. We Can Make Peace With The Enemy

- A. (1 Kings 20:32,34).
- B. Ahab called Ben-Hadad his “brother.”
- C. Have we made peace with the world (James 4:4; Rom. 12:9)?

- Conclusion:
1. Let us give care that we don't fall into the trap into which Ahab fell.
  2. Let's not lose sight of our standing, duties, and enemies.
  3. Too much is at stake!