

BADVICE

MISTAKES MADE • LESSONS LEARNED • FREEDOM FOUND

~~FOLLOW YOUR GUT~~

LESSONS

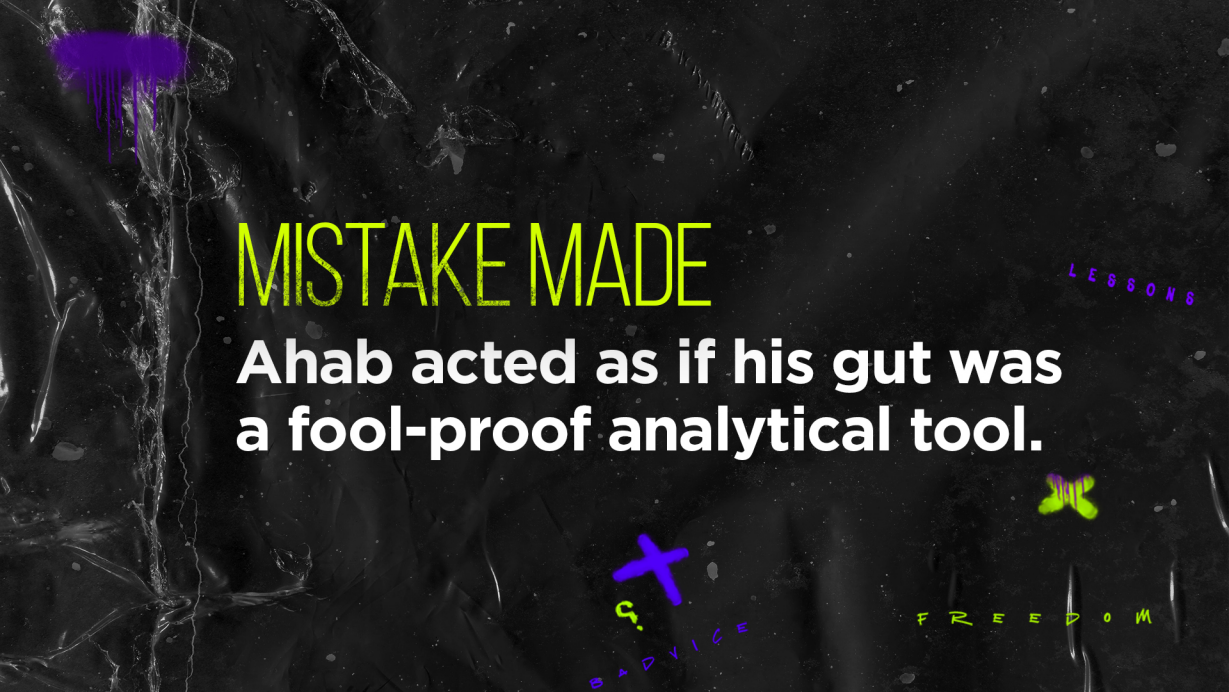


Q.

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FREEDOM



MISTAKE MADE

**Ahab acted as if his gut was
a fool-proof analytical tool.**

LESSONS

Q.
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LESSON LEARNED #1

**Being wronged often leads
to bad decisions.**

LESSONS

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FREEDOM

1 KINGS 22:1-3

For three years there was no war between Aram and Israel. But in the third year Jehoshaphat king of Judah went down to see the king of Israel. The king of Israel had said to his officials, "Don't you know that Ramoth Gilead belongs to us and yet we are doing nothing to retake it from the king of Aram?"



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F R E E D O M

1 KINGS 20:34

“I will return the cities my father took from your father,” Ben-Hadad offered. “You may set up your own market areas in Damascus, as my father did in Samaria.”

Ahab said, “On the basis of a treaty I will set you free.” So he made a treaty with him, and let him go.

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LESSON LEARNED #2

Discern what's really going on.

LESSONS



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1 KINGS 22:4-7

So he asked Jehoshaphat, "Will you go with me to fight against Ramoth Gilead?"

Jehoshaphat replied to the king of Israel, "I am as you are, my people as your people, my horses as your horses." But Jehoshaphat also said to the king of Israel, "First seek the counsel of the Lord."

So the king of Israel brought together the prophets—about four hundred men—and asked them, "Shall I go to war against Ramoth Gilead, or shall I refrain?"

"Go," they answered, "for the Lord will give it into the king's hand." But Jehoshaphat asked, "Is there no longer a prophet of the Lord here whom we can inquire of?"

1 KINGS 22:8^{A,B}

The king of Israel answered Jehoshaphat, "There is still one prophet through whom we can inquire of the Lord, but I hate him because he never prophesies anything good about me, but always bad. He is Micaiah son of Imlah."

LESSONS



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LESSON LEARNED #3

There's value in speaking with
those most likely to resist.

LESSONS



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1 KINGS 22:8c-18

“The king should not say such a thing,” Jehoshaphat replied.

**So the king of Israel called one of his officials and said,
“Bring Micaiah son of Imlah at once.”**

Dressed in their royal robes, the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat king of Judah were sitting on their thrones at the threshing floor by the entrance of the gate of Samaria, with all the prophets prophesying before them. Now Zedekiah son of Kenaanah had made iron horns and he declared, “This is what the Lord says: ‘With these you will gore the Arameans until they are destroyed.’ ”

All the other prophets were prophesying the same thing. "Attack Ramoth Gilead and be victorious," they said, "for the Lord will give it into the king's hand."

The messenger who had gone to summon Micaiah said to him, "Look, the other prophets without exception are predicting success for the king. Let your word agree with theirs, and speak favorably."

But Micaiah said, "As surely as the Lord lives, I can tell him only what the Lord tells me."

When he arrived, the king asked him, "Micaiah, shall we go to war against Ramoth Gilead, or not?"

“Attack and be victorious,” he answered, “for the Lord will give it into the king’s hand.”

The king said to him, “How many times must I make you swear to tell me nothing but the truth in the name of the Lord?”

Then Micaiah answered, “I saw all Israel scattered on the hills like sheep without a shepherd, and the Lord said, ‘These people have no master. Let each one go home in peace.’”

The king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, “Didn’t I tell you that he never prophesies anything good about me, but only bad?”

LESSONS

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2 CHRONICLES 19:1-3

When Jehoshaphat king of Judah returned safely to his palace in Jerusalem, Jehu the seer, the son of Hanani, went out to meet him and said to the king, "Should you help the wicked and love those who hate the Lord? Because of this, the wrath of the Lord is on you. There is, however, some good in you, for you have rid the land of the Asherah poles and have set your heart on seeking God."

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