

in that Channel and in the part of France near to it during that time. So under that situation it was possible for any ship of any size, even small boats in England to go safely ~~across~~ across to France and fill them up with those soldiers who were out on the docks and out on the piers, hoping vainly that they could get away, and the German planes which would have completely annihilated them unless they surrendered were unable to get at them during those days. A great number of those troops were rescued and safely returned to England. They lost all their equipment. It was a tremendous loss to them, but it was not a total defeat and they were able to come back in victory. And the nation praised the Lord for His deliverance. But it was not long after - just a few years after that they began to tell us about the wonderful, heroic efforts of the English people, and of the great efforts of the RAF which delivered them, and forgot all about what God had done in the deliverance at Dunkirk.

And how easy that is to happen to nations and to individuals. In the time of crisis we look to God. But when the crisis is past we are apt to forget all about it. So that's the way with Ahab here. So Ahab now uses his clever scheming to try to get along with Ben-hadad and to try to get benefits for himself which under the circumstances were not lasting or possible. Before that he would have been only too glad to hear the prophets tell him how to get out of his dilemma. Now he was in a situation where he was self-sufficient, and he did not need to hear any of them. So the prophet -- even like Isaiah in ch. 7 of Isaiah in order to get to the king he had to find a place where the king was sure to come. A way to get to him. And it was necessary to do more than that here. If the prophet here met Ahab and started to talk, Ahab could have ridden right on and ignored him and paid no attention to him. So he put on this little farce, this little act, in order to get his attention. And I think that God let this in the OT. He told this story in order to give us some lessons about our own