

JEHU: ISRAEL'S BEST CHANCE

II Kings 10:25-31

Woodland Park Church of Christ

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- ▶ ²⁵ Now it happened, as soon as he had made an end of offering the burnt offering, that Jehu said to the guard and to the captains, “Go in *and* kill them; let no one come out!” And they killed them with the edge of the sword; then the guards and the officers threw *them* out, and went into the inner room of the temple of Baal. ²⁶ And they brought the *sacred* pillars out of the temple of Baal and burned them. ²⁷ Then they broke down the *sacred* pillar of Baal, and tore down the temple of Baal and made it a refuse dump to this day. ²⁸ Thus Jehu destroyed Baal from Israel.

29 **However Jehu did not turn away from the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat**, who had made Israel sin, *that is*, from the golden calves that *were* at Bethel and Dan. 30 And the LORD said to Jehu, “Because you have done well in doing *what is* right in My sight, *and* have done to the house of Ahab all that *was* in My heart, **your sons shall sit on the throne of Israel to the fourth generation.**” 31 **But Jehu took no heed to walk in the law of the LORD God of Israel with all his heart**; for he did not depart from the sins of Jeroboam, who had made Israel sin.

Jehu was an interesting king of Israel (Northern Kingdom)

Son of Jehoshaphat and grandson of Nimshi; anointed by Elisha. II Kings 9:2, 6

Israel never had a king that had a heart truly for God – Generally spoken, “He did evil in the sight of the Lord.” II Kings 13:2; 13:11; 14:24; 15:9

From Jeroboam (I Kings 12:20) to Hoshea (II Kings 17:23).

Perhaps Jehu, of all the kings of Israel (the Northern Kingdom), came closest to being God’s man.

No family in the Northern Kingdom had a run of more than three kings in succession prior to Jehu.

Four (4) of Jehu's descendants would follow in succession to the throne in Israel --

- ▶ Jehoahaz: II Kings 13:1
- ▶ Jehoash (Joash): II Kings 13:10 (v. 14)
- ▶ Jeroboam II: II Kings 13:12–13
- ▶ Zechariah: II Kings 14:28–29

Unlike Judah (Southern Kingdom), where every king was a linear descendent of David/Solomon!

- ▶ Rehoboam (I Kings 12:21) to Zedekiah (II Kings 25:1)
- ▶ See I Chronicles 3:10–16 for a succession of Judah's kings

Jehu tapped to finish God's judgment on the house of Ahab, perhaps the most infamous and notoriously wicked king of Israel. II Kings 9:6-9

Jehu: Know now that nothing shall fall to the earth of the word of the Lord which the Lord spoke concerning the house of Ahab" by Elijah. II Kings 10:10.



- ▶ Naboth, the Jezreelite, had a tract of land next to the palace; King Ahab coveted it and tried to purchase it from Naboth. **1 Kings 21:1–2**
- ▶ Naboth did not want to sell or part with it because it was a part of his inheritance from his father. **1 Kings 21:3**
- ▶ Ahab sulked and refused to eat – UPSET & WENT ON A HUNGER STRIKE OVER SOMETHING THAT DID NOT BELONG TO HIM. **1 Kings 21:4**
 - “You shall not covet your neighbor’s house . . . wife . . . male servant . . . female servant . . . Nor anything that is your neighbor’s.” **Exodus 20:17**

- ▶ So, Ahab's wife, Jezebel, enquired about the source of Ahab's sullenness, and he recounts his conversation with Naboth. **I Kings 21:5–6**
 - ▶ Jezebel tells Ahab to not fret – arise, eat food and let your heart be cheerful, I will give you the vineyard. **I Kings 21:7**
 - ▶ Jezebel concocts a conspiracy whereby a fast would be proclaimed with Naboth sitting in high honor.
 - ▶ However, two scoundrels (co-conspirators) would be planted in the audience to accuse Naboth of blasphemy against God and the king, which would lead to Naboth being stoned to death. **I Kings 21:8–10**
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- ▶ *And He said to them, “Take heed and beware of covetousness, for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of the things he possesses.”* Luke 12:15
 - ▶ **Coveting what someone has can lead to hideous acts, ungodly conduct, and unwholesome behavior and can plague you mentally, spiritually and emotionally.**
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As Ahab and Jezebel would find out, God sets a time of judgment.

God through Elijah, to Ahab:

*“ . . . **Because you have sold yourself to do evil in the sight of the LORD: Behold , I will bring calamity on you.** I will take away your posterity, and will cut off from Ahab every male in Israel both bond and free: I will make your house like the house of Jeroboam the son of Nebat and, and like the house of Baasha the son of Ahijah . . . I Kings 21:20–22*

God through Elijah regarding Jezebel:

“The dogs shall eat Jezebel by the wall of Jezreel.” I Kings 21:23

After killing King Joram, Jehu had Jezebel thrown from window by two or three eunuchs and she was trampled to death. II Kings 9:32–33

When they came to bury her, only her skull, feet and the palms of her hands were left, and Jehu recounts the word of God concerning Jezebel. II Kings 9:35–36

JEHU'S ACTIONS

Actually killed both the king of Israel (Joram) and king of Judah (Ahaziah), while they were trying to flee. II kings 9:23-27

- ▶ Joram: son of Ahab and Jezebel. II Kings 1:17, 8:16
- ▶ Ahaziah: son-in-law to the house of Ahab. See II Kings 8:25

Ordered Jezebel's death, which we have seen. II Kings 9:32–33

Directed the decapitation of Ahab's 70 sons in Samaria, had their heads placed in baskets and arranged in two heaps at the city gate. II Kings 10:1–10



Jehu, along with Jehonadab, finished the destruction of Ahab's family. II Kings 10:15-17

Orchestrated the execution of all Baal worshipers (prophets, servants and priests) and the destruction of the temple of Baal, which is a part of today's lesson text. II Kings 10:18-28



Other “Prophetic” Messages

- ▶ Do not be deceived: Bad company corrupts good manners. 1 Corinthians 15:33 (AMP)
 - Even on social media, so beware of those you follow and friend!!
- ▶ Do not be deceived, God is not mocked [He will not allow himself to be ridiculed, nor treated with contempt nor allow His precepts to be scornfully set aside], for whatever a man sows this is and only this is what he will reap. Galatians 6:7 (AMP)

NOTICE JEHU'S DRIVE

*. . . and the driving is like the driving of Jehu the son of Nimshi, **for he drives furiously**. II Kings 9:20*

- ▶ **Make Your Life Matter**
- ▶ **Have a Purpose**
- ▶ **Awaken each day with renewed optimism**
- ▶ **Drive Furiously**

See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Ephesians 5:15-16

Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a city, spend a year there, buy and sell, and make a profit"; whereas you do not know what will happen tomorrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away. James 4:13-14



NOTICE THAT JERU'S HEART LIMITED HIM

But Jehu took no heed to walk in the law of the LORD God of Israel with all his heart; for he did not depart from the sins of Jeroboam, who had made Israel sin. II Kings 10:31

- ▶ God seeks the pure in heart!
- ▶ Those who will commit fully to him.

Lord's Invitation Extended to All

▶ Be added to the Lord's body

Hear the gospel (Acts 15:7; I
Corinthians 15:1–4)

Believe (Acts 15:7; Rom. 10:17)

Repent (Acts 2:38)

Confess (Acts 8:37; Rom. 10:10)

Be baptized (Acts 2:38, 8:38)

Lord's Invitation (cont'd)

- ▶ **Be reconciled unto the Lord (1 John 1:8–9); or**
 - ▶ **Desire prayer (James 5:16).**
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