

BOOK OF 2 KINGS
JEHU DESTROYS BAAL WORSHIP
2 KINGS 10:15-36

Introduction

We last saw how **JEHU** was used of God to wipe out the house of **AHAB** in Jezreel! Both **King Joram of Israel** and **King Ahaziah of Judah** were slain along with **Ahab's** widow, **Jezebel!** (We could say Jehu hit the “**trifecta!**”) Some might say, “*How convenient!*” or “*What a coincidence!*” But understand that **it was that way because the LORD was in it!** For the LORD's Word to be fulfilled, Naboth's vineyard (beside the palace) was involved in the “*Where!*”

Now, we know that **King Joram of Israel** was slain because he was one of **Ahab's** sons. (And the LORD told **JEHU**, in no uncertain terms, to **dispose of every male of Ahab's house!**

But what about King Ahaziah of Judah? Ahaziah was slain even though his **bloodline** came by way of his late grandfather **King Jehoshaphat of Judah** and his father **King Joram of Judah!** (The bloodline comes via the male) So, the **bloodline** was not the problem here. The **influence** was!

Ahaziah's grandfather **Jehoshaphat** had unwisely been allied with **Ahab!** His father **Joram** had unwisely married king **Ahab's** daughter **Athaliah** who influenced **Joram** in the same way **Jezebel** had influenced **Ahab!**

So, **King Ahaziah** had to be extinguished because he was one of **Ahab's** grandsons that had been evilly influence by his mother **Athaliah**, the daughter of **Ahab**, and his uncle **King Joram of Israel** who reigned after his grandfather **Ahab** was killed.

So the most wicked three were taken care of in short order because they were pretty much all together at Jezreel!

Then we saw **70 other sons of Ahab** who were in Samaria, were beheaded at **Jehu's** order from **Jezreel**. (Because again, every male of **Ahab's house** was included in the LORD's order to **Jehu!**)

Then Jehu slew all that remained of the house of Ahab in Jezreel, and all his great men, and all his kinsfolks, and his priests, until he left none remaining!

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Then **Jehu** went to Samaria where we saw **42 brethren to Ahaziah** were killed at the shearing house with no mention of why. But we said, possibly it was because it was **not known** how many of them were **Athaliah's** children and it was not known how much of **Ahab's** family influence had rubbed off on them from **Joram and Athaliah and/or Ahaziah!** So **Jehu killed them for good measure!** That brings us to *vs 15* where we pick up the story:

I. WE SEE JEHU MET JEHONADAB (JONADAB) THE SON OF RECHAB WHO CAME OUT TO MEET HIM! (Vs 15)

Jehonadab is a rather obscure individual in Scripture who came from the bloodline of Moses' Father-In-Law's family (Jethro)!

The only places in Scripture that we find him is here and in **Jeremiah 35:6-10**. What we know of him and his family is that they were strangers in the land of Israel and nomads (i.e. wanderers).

We can see that **the obedience of Jonadab's family** to what He taught them stood in stark contrast to the disobedience of Judah to the LORD!

In fact, the LORD gave a blessing to **Jonadab's** family for honoring their father! (**Jeremiah 35:18-19**)

But that is really about all we know of this rather obscure person!

II. WE SEE JEHU INVITED JEHONADAB (JONADAB) TO COME ALONG WITH HIM AND SEE HIS ZEAL FOR THE LORD! (Vs 16-17)

Now, it appears that **JEHU** knew **JEHONADAB** by the greeting there in **verse 15**. Also, it would be strange to invite someone you just met to come along with you as you are on a quest to kill more people.

Now, let's talk about **JEHU'S "Zeal for the LORD"**.

The LORD had definitely called the right man for this job!

JEHU got started immediately on what the LORD called him to do and it appears that he was truly pressing forward with “**ZEAL!**”

I don't think that anyone would say that **JEHU** lacked **ZEAL!**

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What is **ZEAL**? In man's relation to God, the act of **ZEAL** is more positively viewed as *the act of the advancement of God and His glory over against substitutes. It means to be filled with passion! It means to be filled with righteous jealousy for the LORD!*

Understand that one can have a **ZEAL** that IS NOT according to knowledge or have a **ZEAL** that IS according to knowledge.

A. A ZEAL That Is According To Knowledge.

Jesus' **ZEAL** for the house of the LORD was prophesied (*Psalm 69:9*) and then fulfilled and demonstrated when He cleansed the Temple! (*John 2:12-17*)

John 2:17 "And his disciples remembered that it was written, The zeal of thine house hath eaten me up."

B. A ZEAL That Is Not According To Knowledge.
(*Romans 10:1-3*)

Paul, before he was saved, was one of the Jews that had a **ZEAL** that was not according to knowledge! In fact he referred to his former life as a Pharisee in his letter to the Philippians:

Philippians 3:6—"Concerning zeal, persecuting the church; touching the righteousness which is in the law, blameless."

C. We See That Part Of Jehu's Zeal Was According To Knowledge! (All we've seen in Jezreel + *Vs. 17*)

He was *passionate* about fulfilling the Word of the LORD given him about wiping out Ahab's family!

D. We See That Part Of Jehu's Zeal Was Not According To Knowledge!

1. **He went beyond the scope of what the LORD called him to do!** His calling was to wipe out Ahab's house! He went beyond that calling with a wide definition!

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2. **He Also Did A Zealous Thing In The Wrong Way!**
It is possible to do a good thing but sin in carrying out that good thing! And that's what we see happen in what JEHU does next!

3. **Jehu Also Fell Short In His Zeal At The End!**
This will be evident when we get down to *verses 29ff.*

III. WE SEE JEHU DESTROYED BAAL WORSHIP IN ISRAEL AND ALL THAT WENT WITH IT! (*Vs 18-28*)

Now this went beyond the scope of what the LORD called him to do. It was a good thing, but I want you to notice how he went about it!

A. He Began By Telling The People An Outright Lie! (*Vs 18*)

Now some say that JEHU was just using strategy here.

But, is God OK with lying or does it go against His Word?

Even though God doesn't call Jehu's hand on this here, don't think that God is OK with lying!

B. The Lie Was Part Of What Otherwise Might Be Thought Of As A Brilliant Strategy! (*Vs 19*)

C. Let's See Jehu's Strategy Carried Out! (*Vs 20-28*)

- D. **So, We See A Good Thing Gone About In A Wrong Way!**
This was a **ZEAL**, but it was a **TWISTED ZEAL!**

IV. WE SEE THAT JEHU'S ZEAL AGAINST BAAL DIDN'T EXTEND TO THE GOLDEN CALF WORSHIP FROM JEROBOAM'S ERA! (*Vs 29; 31-36*)

V. WE SEE THAT JEHU'S OBEDIENCE TO THE LORD WITH REGARD TO AHAB'S HOUSE CAME WITH A REWARD. (*Vs 30*)

The LORD promised Jehu that his children would reign in Israel to the fourth generation. This amounted to 113 year dynasty of Jehu's house!
NEXT WEEK, LORD WILLING, WE'LL SEE ATHALIAH'S END!

SCORECARD ON AHAB'S HOUSE AND INFLUENCE

ISRAEL (Northern Kingdom)

OMRI X

[Came to reign by a narrow margin when he prevailed against the people that followed **Tibni**]
[12 yr. reign]

AHAB* X

(*Omri's son*)
[22 yr. reign]



AHAZIAH*+ X**

(*Ahab's eldest son*)
[2 yr. reign...had no sons]

JEHORAM (a/k/a JORAM)+*** X**

(Also *Ahab's son, Ahaziah's brother, and Athaliah's brother*)
[12 yr. reign killed by Jehu]

End of the house of **Ahab!**



JEHU**+***** X**

(Used of the LORD to bring an end to *Ahab's house, but walked in idolatry!*)
[reigned 28 yrs...dynasty of 113 yrs.]

JUDAH (Southern Kingdom)

ASA ✦

[Great-great grandfather **David**; great-grandfather **Solomon**; grandfather **Rehoboam**; father **Abijah**]
[41 yr. reign]

JEHOSHAPHAT* ✦

[25 yr. reign]

JEHORAM (a/k/a JORAM) X**

(Married *Athaliah, Ahab's daughter*)
[8 yr. reign]

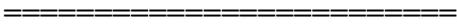
AHAZIAH* X**

(*Ahab's grandson*)
[1 yr. reign killed by Jehu]

ATHALIAH** X**

(*Ahaziah's mother and Ahab's daughter*)
{She destroyed all the royal seed except **Joash** the son of *Ahaziah* who was just 1 year old when *Ahaziah* died...he was hidden for six years}
[6 yr. reign]

End of **Ahab's influence!**



JOASH (JEHOASH)*** ✦**

(*Ahaziah's son; king at age 7*)
(reigned 40 yrs.)

Notes:

Asterisks on the left side reigned with those corresponding on right side!

✦ = Mostly good

X = Evil