~BAASHA (143) (Ba'a-sha)

- Third king of the ten-tribe kingdom of Israel, son of Ahijah of the tribe of Issachar and of insignificant background. He usurped the throne by killing his predecessor Nadab, after which he struck down the entire house of Jeroboam, as had been prophesied.
- And Baasha the son of Ahijah of the house of Issachar began to conspire against him, and Baasha got to strike him down at Gibbethon, which belonged to the Philistines, while Nadab and all Israel were besieging Gibbethon. (1 Kings 15:27)
- So Baasha put him to death in the third year of Asa the king of Judah and began to reign in place of him. (1 Kings 15:28)
- And it came about that as soon as he became king, he struck down all the house of Jeroboam. He did not let anyone breathing remain of Jeroboam's until he had annihilated them, according to Yehowah's word that he had spoken by means of his servant Ahijah the Shilonite. (1 Kings 15:29)
- On account of the sins of Jeroboam with which he sinned and with which he caused Israel to sin and by his offensiveness with which he offended Yehowah the God of Israel. (1 Kings 15:30)
- For that reason here I am bringing calamity upon the house of Jeroboam, and I shall certainly cut off from Jeroboam anyone urinating against a wall, a helpless and worthless one in Israel, and I shall indeed make a clean sweep behind the house of Jeroboam, just as one clears away the dung until it is disposed of. (1 Kings 14:10)
- Baasha, however, continued Jeroboam's calf worship, and extermination was also promised for his own house for this.
- The word of Yehowah now came to Jehu the son of Hanani against Baasha, saying; (1 Kings 16:1)
- Inasmuch as I raised you up out of the dust that I might constitute you leader over my people Israel, but you went walking in the way of Jeroboam and so caused my people Israel

- to sin by offending me with their sins. (1 Kings 16:2)
- Here I am making a clean sweep after Baasha and after his house, and I shall certainly constitute his house like the house of Jeroboam the son of Nebat. (1 Kings 16:3)
- Anyone of Baasha that is dying in the city the dogs will eat, and anyone of his that is dying in the field the fowls of the heavens will eat. (1 Kings 16:4)
- When he waged war against Judah, Asa induced the king of Syria to harass Baasha from the North. The fortified city of Ramah, which Baasha was building, Asa then razed.
- And warfare itself took place between Asa and Baasha the king of Israel all their days. (1 Kings 15:16)
- So Baasha the king of Israel came up against Judah and began to build Ramah, to allow no one to go out or come in to Asa the king of Judah. (1 Kings 15:17)
- At that Asa took all the silver and the gold that were left in the treasures of the house of Yehowah and the treasures of the house of the king and put them in the hand of his servants, and King Asa now sent them to Ben-hadad the son of Tabrimmon the son of Hezion, the king of Syria, who was dwelling in Damascus, saying; (1 Kings 15:18)
- There is a covenant between me and you, between my father and your father. Here I have sent you a present of silver and gold. Come, do break your covenant with Baasha the king of Israel, that he may withdraw from me. (1 Kings 15:19)
- Accordingly Ben-hadad listened to King Asa and sent the chiefs of the military forces that were his against the cities of Israel and went striking down Ijon and Dan and Abel-beth-maacah and all Chinnereth, as far as all the land of Naphtali. (1 Kings 15:20)
- And it came about that as soon as Baasha heard of it, he immediately quit building Ramah and continued dwelling in Tirzah. (1 Kings 15:21)
- And King Asa, for his part, summoned all Judah, there was none exempt, and they proceeded to carry the stones of Ramah and

the timbers of it, with which Baasha had been building, and King Asa began to build with them Geba in Benjamin, and Mizpah. (1 Kings 15:22)

- In the thirty-sixth year of the reign of Asa, Baasha the king of Israel came up against Judah and began to build Ramah, so as not to allow anyone to go out or come in to Asa the king of Judah. (2 Chronicles 16:1)
- As a now brought out silver and gold from the treasures of Yehowah's house and the king's house and sent to Ben-hadad the king of Syria, who was dwelling at Damascus, saying; (2 Chronicles 16:2)
- There is a covenant between me and you and between my father and your father. Here I do send you silver and gold. Go, break your covenant with Baasha the king of Israel, that he may withdraw from me. (2 Chronicles 16:3)
- So Ben-hadad listened to King Asa and sent the chiefs of the military forces that were his against the cities of Israel, so that they struck Ijon and Dan and Abel-maim and all the storage places of the cities of Naphtali. (2 Chronicles 16:4)
- And it came about that as soon as Baasha heard of it, he immediately quit building Ramah and stopped his work. (2 Chronicles 16:5)
- As for Asa the king, he took all Judah, and they proceeded to carry away the stones of Ramah and its timbers with which Baasha had built, and he began to build with them Geba and Mizpah. (2 Chronicles 16:6)
- After having ruled from about 975 to 953 B.C.E, Baasha died and was buried in his capital, Tirzah. His son Elah became king in the 26th year of Asa the king of Judah
- In the twenty-sixth year of Asa the king of Judah, Elah the son of Baasha became king over Israel in Tirzah for two years. (1 Kings 16:8)
- But in the 27th year of Asa;
- In the twenty-seventh year of Asa the king of Judah, Zimri

became king for seven days in Tirzah, while the people were encamping against Gibbethon, which belonged to the Philistines. (1 Kings 16:15)

Zimri rebelled and wiped out Baasha's house, fulfilling Yehowah's decree.

See Also ASA 1 [Intrigue and Warfare Against Baasha]