

~JEHU 3 (1071)

(Je'hu) [possibly, Yehowah Is He]

- Jehu's Anointing
- Destruction Of The House Of Ahab
- Baal Worshipers Annihilated
- The God Commissioned House Of Jehu Held Accountable For
- Syria And Assyria Harass Israel
- Assyrian Inscriptions Name Jehu

- The son of Jehoshaphat, **not King Jehoshaphat of Judah**, and grandson of Nimshi.
- And **Jehu** the son of Jehoshaphat the son of Nimshi proceeded to conspire against Jehoram. And Jehoram himself had happened to be keeping guard at Ramoth-gilead, he with all Israel, because of Hazael the king of Syria. (**2 Kings 9:14**)
- **Jehu** ruled as king of Israel from about, **904 B.C.E. to 877 B.C.E.** During the reign of King Ahab of Israel, Elijah the prophet had fled to Mount Horeb to escape death at the hands of Ahab's wife Jezebel.
- God commanded Elijah to go back and to anoint three men: Elisha as Elijah's successor, Hazael as king of Syria, and Jehu as king of Israel.
- Yehowah now said to him; Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus, and you must come in and anoint Hazael as king over Syria. (**1 Kings 19:15**)
- And **Jehu** the grandson of Nimshi you should anoint as king over Israel, and Elisha the son of Shaphat from Abel-meholah you should anoint as prophet in place of you. (**1 Kings 19:16**)
- Elijah anointed Elisha, or, appointed him. However, the anointing of **Jehu** remained for Elijah's successor Elisha actually to perform.

See Also ANOINTED, ANOINTING

- Was this leaving of **Jehu's** anointing to Elisha due to procrastination on Elijah's part? No. A while after giving Elijah the command, Yehowah told him that the calamity on Ahab's house, to be

executed by **Jehu**, would not come in Ahab's day, but in the days of Ahab's son.

- And it came about that as soon as Ahab heard these words, he proceeded to rip his garments apart and to put sackcloth upon his flesh, and he went on a fast and kept lying down in sackcloth and walking despondently. (**1 Kings 21:27**)
- And Yehowah's word came to Elijah the Tishbite, saying; (**1 Kings 21:28**)
- Have you seen how Ahab has humbled himself on my account? For the reason that he has humbled himself because of me, I shall not bring the calamity in his own days. In the days of his son I shall bring the calamity upon his house. (**1 Kings 21:29**)
- So it is evident that the delay was by Yehowah's guidance and not because of laxity on Elijah's part. But Yehowah timed the anointing exactly right, when the opportunity was ripe for **Jehu** to put the anointing immediately into effect by action.
- And, in harmony with **Jehu's** decisive and dynamic personality, he did not lose a moment, but acted immediately.
- The due time came. It was a time of war. Ahab was dead and his son Jehoram was ruling. Israel's army was gathered at Ramoth-gilead, keeping guard against the forces of Hazael, the king of Syria. **Jehu** was there as one of the military commanders.
- Accordingly he went with Jehoram the son of Ahab to the war against Hazael the king of Syria at Ramoth-gilead, but the Syrians struck down Jehoram. (**2 Kings 8:28**)
- And **Jehu** the son of Jehoshaphat the son of Nimshi proceeded to conspire against Jehoram. And Jehoram himself had happened to be keeping guard at Ramoth-gilead, he with all Israel, because of Hazael the king of Syria. (**2 Kings 9:14**)
- He and his adjutant Bidkar, as soldiers in the army of Ahab, had been present when Elijah had denounced Ahab, prophesying that Yehowah would repay Ahab in the tract of land belonging to Naboth. This tract had been taken by Ahab after his wife Jezebel had brought about Naboth's murder.

- So the men of his city, the older men and the nobles that were dwelling in his city, did just as Jezebel had sent to them, just as it was written in the letters that she had sent to them. (**1 Kings 21:11**)
- They proclaimed a fast and had Naboth sit at the head of the people. (**1 Kings 21:12**)
- Then two of the men, good-for-nothing fellows, came in and sat down in front of him, and the good-for-nothing men began to bear witness against him, that is, Naboth, in front of the people, saying; Naboth has cursed God and the king! After that they brought him out to the outskirts of the city and stoned him with stones, so that he died. (**1 Kings 21:13**)
- They now sent to Jezebel, saying; Naboth has been stoned so that he is dead. (**1 Kings 21:14**)
- And it came about that, as soon as Jezebel heard that Naboth had been stoned so that he died, Jezebel immediately said to Ahab; Rise up, take possession of the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite, which he refused to give you for money, for Naboth is no longer alive, but dead. (**1 Kings 21:15**)
- And it came about that, as soon as Ahab heard that Naboth was dead, Ahab at once rose up to go down to the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite, to take possession of it. (**1 Kings 21:16**)
- And Yehowah's word came to Elijah the Tishbite, saying; (**1 Kings 21:17**)
- Rise up, go down to meet Ahab the king of Israel, who is in Samaria. There he is in the vineyard of Naboth, where he has gone down to take possession of it. (**1 Kings 21:18**)
- And you must speak to him, saying; This is what Yehowah has said; Have you murdered and also taken possession? And you must speak to him, saying; This is what Yehowah has said; In the place where the dogs licked up the blood of Naboth, the dogs will lick up your blood, even yours. (**1 Kings 21:19**)
- And **Jehu** himself filled his hand with a bow and proceeded to shoot Jehoram between the arms, so that the arrow came out at his heart, and he collapsed in his war chariot. (**2 Kings 9:24**)

- He now said to Bidkar his adjutant; Lift him up, throw him into the tract of the field of Naboth the Jezreelite. For remember, I and you were riding teams behind Ahab his father, and Yehowah himself lifted up this pronouncement against him. (2 Kings 9:25)
- Certainly the blood of Naboth and the blood of his sons I saw yesterday, is the utterance of Yehowah, and I shall certainly repay you in this tract of land, is the utterance of Yehowah. So now, lift him up, throw him into the tract of land according to the word of Yehowah. (2 Kings 9:26)
- As Israel's military force kept guard at Ramoth-gilead, King Jehoram of Israel was at Jezreel recovering from wounds he had received at the hands of the Syrians at Ramah.
- The king of Judah, Ahaziah, was also there. He was a nephew of Jehoram of Israel, for his mother was Athaliah the sister of Jehoram of Israel and the daughter of Ahab and Jezebel. King Ahaziah had come to Jezreel on a visit to his sick uncle, Jehoram.
- In the twelfth year of Jehoram the son of Ahab the king of Israel, Ahaziah the son of Jehoram the king of Judah became king. (2 Kings 8:25)
- Twenty-two years old was Ahaziah when he began to reign, and for one year he reigned in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Athaliah the granddaughter of Omri the king of Israel. (2 Kings 8:26)
- Accordingly he went with Jehoram the son of Ahab to the war against Hazael the king of Syria at Ramoth-gilead, but the Syrians struck down Jehoram. (2 Kings 8:28)
- So Jehoram the king returned to get healed at Jezreel from the wounds that the Syrians got to inflict upon him at Ramah when he fought Hazael the king of Syria. As for Ahaziah the son of Jehoram the king of Judah, he went down to see Jehoram the son of Ahab in Jezreel, for he was sick. (2 Kings 8:29)

•• Jehu's Anointing

- Elisha called one of the sons of the prophets, his attendant, telling him to take a flask of oil, go to the Israelite camp at Ramoth-gilead, there anoint Jehu, and flee.
- Elisha's attendant obeyed, calling Jehu away from the other officers into a house, where he anointed him and stated Jehu's commission to destroy the entire house of Ahab. Then the attendant fled, as Elisha had directed.
- And Elisha the prophet, for his part, called one of the sons of the prophets and then said to him; Gird up your loins and take this flask of oil in your hand and go to Ramoth-gilead. (2 Kings 9:1)
- When you have come in there, see **Jehu** the son of Jehoshaphat the son of Nimshi there, and you must come in and make him get up from the midst of his brothers and bring him into the innermost chamber. (2 Kings 9:2)
- And you must take the flask of oil and pour it out upon his head and say; This is what Yehowah has said; I do anoint you as king over Israel. And you must open the door and flee and not wait. (2 Kings 9:3)
- And the attendant, the prophets attendant, got on his way to Ramoth-gilead. (2 Kings 9:4)
- When he came in, why, there the chiefs of the military force were seated. He now said; There is a word I have for you, O chief. At this **Jehu** said; For which one of all of us? Then he said; For you, O chief. (2 Kings 9:5)
- So he got up and came into the house, and he proceeded to pour the oil out upon his head and say to him; This is what Yehowah the God of Israel has said; I do anoint you as king over Yehowah's people, that is, over Israel. (2 Kings 9:6)
- And you must strike down the house of Ahab your lord, and I must avenge the blood of my servants the prophets and the blood of all the servants of Yehowah at the hand of Jezebel. (2 Kings 9:7)
- And the whole house of Ahab must perish, and I must cut off from Ahab anyone urinating against a wall and any helpless and worthless one in Israel. (2 Kings 9:8)

- And I must constitute the house of Ahab like the house of Jeroboam the son of Nebat and like the house of Baasha the son of Ahijah. (2 Kings 9:9)
- And Jezebel the dogs will eat up in the tract of land at Jezreel, and there will be no one burying her. With that he opened the door and went fleeing. (2 Kings 9:10)
- On coming out of the house, **Jehu** tried to pass off the matter lightly, as though the prophet had said nothing of importance. But the men saw from his appearance and manner that something of significance had occurred.
- On being pressed, **Jehu** revealed that he had been anointed as king of Israel, on hearing this pronouncement, the army immediately proclaimed him king.
- As for **Jehu**, he went out to the servants of his lord, and they began to say to him; Is everything all right? Why did this crazy man come in to you? But he said to them; You yourselves well know the man and his sort of talk. (2 Kings 9:11)
- But they said; It is false! Tell us, please. Then he said; It was like this and like that that he talked to me, saying; This is what Yehowah has said; I do anoint you as king over Israel. (2 Kings 9:12)
- At this they hurriedly took each one his garment and put it under him upon the bare steps, and they began to blow the horn and say; **Jehu** has become king! (2 Kings 9:13)
- And **Jehu** the son of Jehoshaphat the son of Nimshi proceeded to conspire against Jehoram. And Jehoram himself had happened to be keeping guard at Ramoth-gilead, he with all Israel, because of Hazael the king of Syria. (2 Kings 9:14)

.. Destruction Of The House Of Ahab

- Giving orders to keep the matter secret from Jezreel, **Jehu** rode furiously toward that city.
- Later Jehoram the king returned to get healed at Jezreel from the wounds that the Syrians got to inflict upon him when he fought

Hazael the king of Syria. **Jehu** now said; If your soul agrees, do not let anyone go out in escape from the city to go and make report in Jezreel. (2 Kings 9:15)

- And **Jehu** began to ride and go to Jezreel, for Jehoram was lying there, and Ahaziah the king of Judah himself had gone down to see Jehoram. (2 Kings 9:16)
- Messengers sent out from Jezreel by Jehoram to inquire. Is there peace? Were sent to the rear of **Jehu's** men. As the heaving mass of **Jehu's** horsemen and chariots came closer, the chariot driving of **Jehu** with madness identified him to the watchman on the tower.
- Jehoram the king of Israel and son of Ahab became suspicious and rode out in his war chariot, reaching Jehu at Naboth's tract of land. **Jehu** shot him with an arrow and, recalling the prophecy of Elijah, commanded his adjutant Bidkar to throw his body into the field of Naboth.
- Then **Jehu** continued on into the city of Jezreel. Apparently Ahab's grandson Ahaziah, who had come out of the city with Jehoram, tried to make his way back to his own capital, Jerusalem, but got only as far as Samaria and hid there.
- He was captured later and taken to Jehu near the town of Ibleam, not far from Jezreel. **Jehu** ordered his men to kill him in his war chariot.
- They wounded him mortally, on the way up to Gur, near Ibleam, but he escaped and fled to Megiddo, where he died. Then he was taken to Jerusalem and buried there.
- And the watchman was standing upon the tower in Jezreel, and he got to see the heaving mass of **Jehu's** men as he was coming, and he at once said; There is a heaving mass of men that I am seeing. At that Jehoram said; Take a cavalryman and send him to meet them, and let him say; Is there peace? (2 Kings 9:17)
- Accordingly a rider on a horse went to meet him and said; This is what the king has said; Is there peace? But **Jehu** said; What do you have to do with peace? Get around to my rear! And the watchman went on to report, saying; The messenger came as far as to them, but he has not returned. (2 Kings 9:18)

- So he sent out a second rider on a horse, who, when he came to them, proceeded to say; This is what the king has said; Is there peace? But **Jehu** said; What do you have to do with peace? Get around to my rear! (**2 Kings 9:19**)
- And the watchman went on to report, saying; He came as far as to them, but he has not returned, and the driving is like the driving of **Jehu** the grandson of Nimshi, for it is with madness that he drives. (**2 Kings 9:20**)
- At that Jehoram said; Hitch up! So his war chariot was hitched up and Jehoram the king of Israel and Ahaziah the king of Judah went out, each in his own war chariot. As they continued on out to meet **Jehu**, they got to find him in the tract of land of Naboth the Jezreelite. (**2 Kings 9:21**)
- And it came about that as soon as Jehoram saw **Jehu**, he immediately said; Is there peace, **Jehu**? But he said; What peace could there be as long as there are the fornications of Jezebel your mother and her many sorceries? (**2 Kings 9:22**)
- At once Jehoram made a turn with his hands, that he might flee, and said to Ahaziah; There is trickery, Ahaziah! (**2 Kings 9:23**)
- And **Jehu** himself filled his hand with a bow and proceeded to shoot Jehoram between the arms, so that the arrow came out at his heart, and he collapsed in his war chariot. (**2 Kings 9:24**)
- He now said to Bidkar his adjutant; Lift him up, throw him into the tract of the field of Naboth the Jezreelite. For remember, I and you were riding teams behind Ahab his father, and Yehowah himself lifted up this pronouncement against him. (**2 Kings 9:25**)
- Certainly the blood of Naboth and the blood of his sons I saw yesterday, is the utterance of Yehowah, and I shall certainly repay you in this tract of land, is the utterance of Yehowah. So now, lift him up, throw him into the tract of land according to the word of Yehowah. (**2 Kings 9:26**)
- And Ahaziah the king of Judah himself saw it and took to flight by the way of the garden house. Later **Jehu** went in pursuit of him and said; Him also! Strike him down! So they struck him down while in the chariot on the way up to Gur, which is by Ibleam. And he continued his flight to Megiddo and got to die

there. (2 Kings 9:27)

- Then his servants carried him in a chariot to Jerusalem, and so they buried him in his grave with his forefathers in the City of David. (2 Kings 9:28)
- Hence he returned to get healed at Jezreel from the wounds that they had inflicted upon him at Ramah when he fought Hazael the king of Syria. As for Azariah the son of Jehoram the king of Judah, he went down to see Jehoram the son of Ahab in Jezreel, for he was sick. (2 Chronicles 22:6)
- But it was from God that the downfall of Ahaziah occurred by his coming to Jehoram, and when he came, he went out with Jehoram to **Jehu** the grandson of Nimshi, whom Yehowah had anointed to cut off the house of Ahab. (2 Chronicles 22:7)
- And it came about that as soon as **Jehu** had entered into controversy with the house of Ahab, he got to find the princes of Judah and the sons of the brothers of Ahaziah, ministers of Ahaziah, and he proceeded to kill them. (2 Chronicles 22:8)
- Then he went looking for Ahaziah, and they finally captured him, as he was hiding in Samaria, and brought him to **Jehu**. Then they put him to death and buried him, for they said; He is the grandson of Jehoshaphat, who searched for Yehowah with all his heart. And there was no one of the house of Ahaziah to retain power for the kingdom. (2 Chronicles 22:9)
- On **Jehu's** arrival in Jezreel, Ahab's widow Jezebel called out: Did it go all right with Zimri the killer of his lord?
- 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)
- And his servant Zimri the chief of half the chariots began to conspire against him, while he was in Tirzah drinking himself drunk at the house of Arza, who was over the household in Tirzah. (1 Kings 16:9)
- And Zimri proceeded to come in and strike him down and put him to death in the twenty-seventh year of Asa the king of Judah, and he began to reign in place of him. (1 Kings 16:10)

- **And it came about that when he began to reign, as soon as he sat down upon his throne, he struck down all the house of Baasha. He did not let anyone of his remain that urinates against a wall or his avengers of blood or his friends. (1 Kings 16:11)**
- **Thus Zimri annihilated the whole house of Baasha, according to the word of Yehowah that he had spoken against Baasha by means of Jehu the prophet. (1 Kings 16:12)**
- **On account of all the sins of Baasha and the sins of Elah his son with which they sinned and with which they caused Israel to sin by offending Yehowah the God of Israel with their vain idols. (1 Kings 16:13)**
- **As for the rest of the affairs of Elah and all that he did, are they not written in the book of the affairs of the days of the kings of Israel? (1 Kings 16:14)**
- **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)**
- **In time the people that were encamped heard it said, Zimri has conspired and also struck down the king. So all Israel made Omri, the chief of the army, king over Israel on that day in the camp. (1 Kings 16:16)**
- **Omri and all Israel with him now went on up from Gibbethon and began to lay siege to Tirzah. (1 Kings 16:17)**
- **And it came about that as soon as Zimri saw that the city had been captured, he then came into the dwelling tower of the king's house and burned the king's house over himself with fire, so that he died. (1 Kings 16:18)**
- **For the sins of his with which he had sinned by doing what was bad in the eyes of Yehowah by walking in the way of Jeroboam and in his sin which he did by causing Israel to sin. (1 Kings 16:19)**
- **As for the rest of the affairs of Zimri and his conspiracy with which he conspired, are they not written in the book of the**

affairs of the days of the kings of Israel? (**1 Kings 16:20**)

- But **Jehu**, unmoved by this veiled threat, called upon the court officials to throw her down. They complied. Her blood spattered on the wall, and Jehu trampled her under his horses.
- Possibly giving a further insight into Jehu's character is the terse statement in the account, After that he came on in and ate and drank, then commanded her burial.
- In the meantime Jezebel had been eaten by the dogs, which circumstance brought back to **Jehu's** mind Elijah's prophetic expression concerning her death.
- At length **Jehu** came to Jezreel, and Jezebel herself heard of it. And she proceeded to paint her eyes with black paint and do her head up beautifully and to look down through the window. (**2 Kings 9:30**)
- And **Jehu** himself came in by the gate. She now said; Did it go all right with Zimri the killer of his lord? (**2 Kings 9:31**)
- At that he raised his face toward the window and said; Who is with me? Who? Immediately two or three court officials looked down at him. (**2 Kings 9:32**)
- So he said; Let her drop! Then they let her drop, and some of her blood went spattering upon the wall and upon the horses, and he now trampled upon her. (**2 Kings 9:33**)
- After that he came on in and ate and drank and then said; You men, please, take care of this accursed one and bury her, for she is the daughter of a king. (**2 Kings 9:34**)
- When they went to bury her, they did not find anything of her but the skull and the feet and the palms of the hands. (**2 Kings 9:35**)
- When they returned and told him, he went on to say; It is the word of Yehowah that he spoke by means of his servant Elijah the Tishbite, saying; In the tract of land of Jezreel the dogs will eat the flesh of Jezebel. (**2 Kings 9:36**)
- And the dead body of Jezebel will certainly become as manure upon the face of the field in the tract of land of Jezreel, that they

may not say; This is Jezebel. (2 Kings 9:37)

- And also as regards Jezebel Yehowah has spoken, saying; The very dogs will eat up Jezebel in the plot of land of Jezreel. (1 Kings 21:23)
- **Jehu** wasted no time in pursuing the completion of his mission. He challenged the men of Samaria to set one of Ahab's 70 sons on the throne and fight. But in fear they expressed loyalty to Jehu. Jehu boldly tested their loyalty by saying; If you belong to me, take the heads of the men that are sons of your lord and come to me tomorrow at this time at Jezreel.
- The next day messengers appeared, carrying in baskets the 70 heads, which **Jehu** commanded to be put in two heaps at the gate of Jezreel until morning.
- After this **Jehu** killed all of Ahab's distinguished men, his acquaintances, and his priests. Then he slaughtered 42 other men, the brothers of Ahab's grandson King Ahaziah of Judah.
- Thus he destroyed also the sons of Jehoram of Judah, the husband of wicked Jezebel's daughter Athaliah.
- Now Ahab had seventy sons in Samaria. Therefore **Jehu** wrote letters and sent them to Samaria to the princes of Jezreel, the older men and the caretakers of Ahab, saying; (2 Kings 10:1)
- Now, then, at the very time that this letter comes to you there are with you the sons of your lord, and there are with you the war chariots and the horses and a fortified city and the armor. (2 Kings 10:2)
- And you must see which is the best and most upright of the sons of your lord and put him upon the throne of his father. Then fight for the house of your lord. (2 Kings 10:3)
- And they became very greatly afraid and began to say; Look! Two kings themselves did not stand before him, and how shall we ourselves stand? (2 Kings 10:4)
- Consequently the one who was over the house and the one who was over the city and the older men and the caretakers sent to **Jehu**, saying; We are your servants, and everything that you say

to us we shall do. We shall not make anyone king. What is good in your own eyes do. (2 Kings 10:5)

- At that he wrote them a second letter, saying; If you belong to me, and it is my voice that you are obeying, take the heads of the men that are sons of your lord and come to me tomorrow at this time at Jezreel. Now the sons of the king, seventy men, were with the distinguished men of the city that were bringing them up. (2 Kings 10:6)
- And it came about that as soon as the letter came to them, they went taking the sons of the king and slaughtering them, seventy men, after which they put their heads in baskets and sent them to him at Jezreel. (2 Kings 10:7)
- Then the messenger came in and told him, saying; They have brought the heads of the sons of the king. So he said; Put them in two heaps at the entrance of the gate until morning. (2 Kings 10:8)
- And it came about in the morning that he proceeded to go out. Then he stood still and said to all the people; You are righteous. Here I myself conspired against my lord, and I got to kill him, but who struck down all these? (2 Kings 10:9)
- Know, then, that nothing of Yehowah's word will fall unfulfilled to the earth that Yehowah has spoken against the house of Ahab, and Yehowah himself has done what he spoke by means of his servant Elijah. (2 Kings 10:10)
- Moreover, **Jehu** went on to strike down all who were left over of the house of Ahab in Jezreel and all his distinguished men and his acquaintances and his priests, until he had let no survivor of his remain. (2 Kings 10:11)
- And he proceeded to rise and come in, then get on his way to Samaria. The binding house of the shepherds was on the way. (2 Kings 10:12)
- And **Jehu** himself encountered the brothers of Ahaziah the king of Judah. When he said to them; Who are you? Then they said; We are the brothers of Ahaziah, and we are on our way down to ask if all is well with the sons of the king and the sons of the lady. (2 Kings 10:13)

- **Immediately he said; Seize them alive, you men! So they seized them alive and slaughtered them at the cistern of the binding house, forty-two men, and he did not let a single one of them remain. (2 Kings 10:14)**
- **Great steps had been taken toward ridding Israel of Baal worship, but Jehu had much yet to do, and he went about it with characteristic promptness and zeal.**
- **On his ride to Samaria he encountered Jehonadab, a Rechabite. It may be recalled that the descendants of this man were later commended by Yehowah through the prophet Jeremiah for their faithfulness.**
- **The word that occurred to Jeremiah from Yehowah in the days of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, the king of Judah, saying; (Jeremiah 35:1)**
- **Go to the house of the Rechabites, and you must speak with them and bring them into the house of Yehowah, to one of the dining rooms, and you must give them wine to drink. (Jeremiah 35:2)**
- **So I took Jaazaniah the son of Jeremiah the son of Habazziniah and his brothers, and all his sons, and all the household of the Rechabites. (Jeremiah 35:3)**
- **And I proceeded to bring them into the house of Yehowah, to the dining room of the sons of Hanan the son of Igdaliah, a man of the true God, which was beside the dining room of the princes that was above the dining room of Maaseiah the son of Shallum the doorkeeper. (Jeremiah 35:4)**
- **Then I put before the sons of the house of the Rechabites cups full of wine and goblets and said to them; Drink wine. (Jeremiah 35:5)**
- **But they said; We shall drink no wine, because Jonadab the son of Rechab, our forefather, was the one that laid the command upon us, saying; You must drink no wine, neither you nor your sons, to time indefinite. (Jeremiah 35:6)**
- **And no house must you build, and no seed must you sow, and no**

vineyard must you plant, nor must it come to be yours. But in tents you should dwell all your days, in order, that you may keep living many days upon the surface of the ground where you are residing as aliens. ([Jeremiah 35:7](#))

- So we keep obeying the voice of Jehonadab the son of Rechab our forefather in everything that he commanded us by drinking no wine all our days, we, our wives, our sons and our daughters. ([Jeremiah 35:8](#))
- And by not building houses for us to dwell in, so that no vineyard or field or seed should become ours. ([Jeremiah 35:9](#))
- And we keep dwelling in tents and obeying and doing according to all that Jonadab our forefather commanded us. ([Jeremiah 35:10](#))
- But it came about when Nebuchadrezzar the king of Babylon came up against the land that we began to say; Come, and let us enter into Jerusalem because of the military force of the Chaldeans and because of the military force of the Syrians, and let us dwell in Jerusalem. ([Jeremiah 35:11](#))
- And the word of Yehowah proceeded to occur to Jeremiah, saying; ([Jeremiah 35:12](#))
- This is what Yehowah of armies, the God of Israel, has said; Go, and you must say to the men of Judah and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem; Did you not continually receive exhortation to obey my words? Is the utterance of Yehowah. ([Jeremiah 35:13](#))
- There has been a carrying out of the words of Jehonadab the son of Rechab, that he commanded his sons, to drink no wine, and they have drunk none down to this day, because they have obeyed the commandment of their forefather. And as for me, I have spoken to you men, rising up early and speaking, but you have not obeyed me. ([Jeremiah 35:14](#))
- And I kept sending to you all my servants the prophets, rising up early and sending them, saying; Turn back, please, each one from his bad way, and make your dealings good, and do not walk after other gods to serve them. And keep dwelling on the ground that I have given to you and to your forefathers. But you did not incline your ear, nor did you listen to me. ([Jeremiah 35:15](#))

- But the sons of Jehonadab the son of Rechab have carried out the commandment of their forefather that he commanded them, but as for this people, they have not listened to me. (**Jeremiah 35:16**)
- Jehonadab expressed himself as being on **Jehu's** side in his fight against Baalism and went along, assisting Jehu. All left over of those related to or connected with Ahab in Samaria were destroyed.
- As he was going along from there he got to encounter Jehonadab the son of Rechab coming to meet him. When he blessed him, he accordingly said to him; Is your heart upright with me, just as my own heart is with your heart? To this Jehonadab said; It is. If it is, do give me your hand. So he gave him his hand. At that he made him get up into the chariot with him. (**2 Kings 10:15**)
- Then he said; Do go along with me and look upon my toleration of no rivalry toward Yehowah. And they kept him riding with him in his war chariot. (**2 Kings 10:16**)
- Finally he came to Samaria. Now he went striking down all who were left over of Ahab's in Samaria, until he had annihilated them, according to Yehowah's word that he had spoken to Elijah. (**2 Kings 10:17**)

•• **Baal Worshipers Annihilated**

- Next, by the ruse of calling a great gathering for the worship of Baal, **Jehu** got all of Israel's Baal worshipers to assemble at the house of Baal.
- After ascertaining that there were no worshipers of Yehowah present, **Jehu** commanded his men to put to death everyone in the house.
- They thereafter destroyed the sacred pillars of Baal and pulled down the house, setting it aside for privies, for which the site was used down to the day of Jeremiah, writer of the account in the book of Kings. The record reads. Thus **Jehu** annihilated Baal out of Israel.
- Further, **Jehu** collected all the people together and said to them; Ahab, on the one hand, worshiped Baal a little. Jehu, on the other hand, will worship him a great deal. (**2 Kings 10:18**)

- So now call all the prophets of Baal, all his worshipers and all his priests to me. Do not let a single one be missing, because I have a great sacrifice for Baal. Anyone that is missing will not keep living. As for **Jehu**, he acted slyly, for the purpose of destroying the worshipers of Baal. (2 Kings 10:19)
- And **Jehu** went on to say; Sanctify a solemn assembly for Baal. Accordingly they proclaimed it. (2 Kings 10:20)
- After that **Jehu** sent through all Israel, so that all the worshipers of Baal came in. And not a single one was left over that did not come in. And they kept coming into the house of Baal, and the house of Baal came to be full from end to end. (2 Kings 10:21)
- He now said to the one who was over the wardrobe; Bring out garments for all the worshipers of Baal. So he brought the attire out for them. (2 Kings 10:22)
- Then **Jehu** entered with Jehonadab the son of Rechab into the house of Baal. He now said to the worshipers of Baal; Search carefully and see that there may be here with you none of the worshipers of Yehowah, but only the worshipers of Baal. (2 Kings 10:23)
- Finally they came in to render up sacrifices and burnt offerings, and **Jehu** himself stationed eighty men outside at his disposal and went on to say; As for the man that escapes from the men whom I am bringing into your hands, the ones soul will go for the others soul. (2 Kings 10:24)
- And it came about that as soon as he finished rendering up the burnt offering, **Jehu** immediately said to the runners and the adjutants; Come in, strike them down! Do not let a single one go out. And the runners and the adjutants began to strike them down with the edge of the sword and to throw them out, and they kept going as far as the city of the house of Baal. (2 Kings 10:25)
- Then they brought out the sacred pillars of the house of Baal and burned each one. (2 Kings 10:26)
- Further, they pulled down the sacred pillar of Baal and pulled down the house of Baal, and they kept it set aside for privies

down to this day. (2 Kings 10:27)

- Thus **Jehu** annihilated Baal out of Israel. (2 Kings 10:28)
- However, later on Baal worship again gave trouble in both Israel and Judah.
- And they kept leaving all the commandments of Yehowah their God and proceeded to make for themselves molten statues, two calves, and to make a sacred pole, and they began to bow down to all the army of the heavens and to serve Baal. (2 Kings 17:16)
- But he walked in the ways of the kings of Israel, and even molten statues he made of the Baals. (2 Chronicles 28:2)
- And the Chaldeans who are fighting against this city must come in and set this city aflame with fire and must burn it down and the houses upon the roofs of which they have made sacrificial smoke to Baal and have poured out drink offerings to other gods for the purpose of offending me. (Jeremiah 32:29)
- Likely to keep the ten-tribe kingdom of Israel distinct from the kingdom of Judah with its temple of Yehowah at Jerusalem, King **Jehu** let the calf worship remain in Israel with its centers at Dan and Bethel.
- It was only the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, with which he caused Israel to sin, that **Jehu** did not turn aside from following them, that is, the golden calves of which one was in Bethel and one in Dan. (2 Kings 10:29)
- And **Jehu** himself did not take care to walk in the Law of Yehowah the God of Israel with all his heart. He did not turn aside from the sins of Jeroboam with which he caused Israel to sin. (2 Kings 10:31)
- Nevertheless, for **Jehu's** zealous and thorough work in eradicating Baalism and in executing Yehowah's judgments on the house of Ahab, Yehowah rewarded Jehu with the promise that four generations of his sons would sit upon the throne of Israel.
- This was fulfilled in Jehu's descendants Jehoahaz, Jehoash, Jeroboam II, and Zechariah, whose rule ended in his assassination in about 791 B.C.E. The dynasty of **Jehu** therefore reigned over Israel for about 114 years.

- Consequently Yehowah said to **Jehu**; For the reason that you have acted well in doing what is right in my eyes, and according to all that was in my heart you have done to the house of Ahab, sons themselves to the fourth generation will sit for you upon the throne of Israel. (**2 Kings 10:30**)
- In the twenty-third year of Jehoash the son of Ahaziah the king of Judah, Jehoahaz the son of **Jehu** became king over Israel in Samaria for seventeen years. (**2 Kings 13:1**)
- In the thirty-seventh year of Jehoash the king of Judah, Jehoash the son of Jehoahaz became king over Israel in Samaria for sixteen years. (**2 Kings 13:10**)
- In the fifteenth year of Amaziah the son of Jehoash the king of Judah, Jeroboam the son of Jehoash the king of Israel became king in Samaria for forty-one years. (**2 Kings 14:23**)
- In the thirty-eighth year of Azariah the king of Judah, Zechariah the son of Jeroboam became king over Israel in Samaria for six months. (**2 Kings 15:8**)
- And he went on doing what was bad in Yehowah's eyes, just as his forefathers had done. He did not depart from the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, with which he caused Israel to sin. (**2 Kings 15:9**)
- Then Shallum the son of Jabesh conspired against him and struck him down at Ibleam and put him to death and began to reign in place of him. (**2 Kings 15:10**)
- As for the rest of the affairs of Zechariah, there they are written in the book of the affairs of the days of the kings of Israel. (**2 Kings 15:11**)
- That was Yehowah's word that he had spoken to **Jehu**, saying; Sons themselves to the fourth generation will sit for you upon the throne of Israel. And it came to be that way. (**2 Kings 15:12**)

.. The God Commissioned House Of Jehu Held Accountable For Bloodguilt

- However, after **Jehu's** day, by the prophet Hosea, Yehowah said;

- And Yehowah went on to say to him; Call his name Jezreel, for yet a little while and I must hold an accounting for the acts of bloodshed of Jezreel against the house of **Jehu**, and I must cause the royal rule of the house of Israel to cease. (**Hosea 1:4**)
- This bloodguilt on **Jehu's** house could not be for his carrying out the commission to destroy the house of Ahab, for God commended him for this. Neither could it be because he destroyed Ahaziah of Judah and his brothers.
- By their family connections, namely, the marriage of Jehoram of Judah, the son of King Jehoshaphat, to Athaliah, the daughter of Ahab and Jezebel, the royal line of Judah was contaminated with an infiltration of the wicked house of Omri.
- Rather, the key to the matter seems to lie in the statement that **Jehu** let calf worship continue in Israel and did not walk in the Law of Yehowah with all his heart.
- Probably **Jehu** came to believe that independence from Judah could be maintained only through religious separation. Like other kings of Israel, he sought to secure his position by perpetuating calf worship.
- This was really an expression of lack of faith in Yehowah, who had made it possible for **Jehu** to become king. So, it may be that, apart from the proper execution of Yehowah's judgment against the house of Ahab, the wrong motivations that prompted **Jehu** to let calf worship remain also caused him to spill blood.
- The real power of the kingdom of Israel was broken when **Jehu's** house fell, the kingdom lasting only about 50 years longer. Only Menahem, who struck down Zechariah's murderer Shallum, had a son who succeeded him on the throne.
- This son, Pekahiah, was assassinated, as was his murderer and successor Pekah. Hoshea, Israel's last king, went into captivity to the king of Assyria.
- Then Shallum the son of Jabesh conspired against him and struck him down at Ibleam and put him to death and began to reign in place of him. (**2 Kings 15:10**)

- **As for Shallum the son of Jabesh, he became king in the thirty-ninth year of Uzziah the king of Judah, and he continued to reign for a full lunar month in Samaria. (2 Kings 15:13)**
- **Then Menahem the son of Gadi came up from Tirzah and came to Samaria and struck down Shallum the son of Jabesh in Samaria and put him to death, and he began to reign in place of him. (2 Kings 15:14)**
- **As for the rest of the affairs of Shallum and his conspiracy with which he conspired, there they are written in the book of the affairs of the days of the kings of Israel. (2 Kings 15:15)**
- **It was then that Menahem proceeded to strike down Tiphseh and all that was in it and its territory out from Tirzah, because it did not open up, and he went striking it down. All its pregnant women he ripped up. (2 Kings 15:16)**
- **In the thirty-ninth year of Azariah the king of Judah, Menahem the son of Gadi became king over Israel for ten years in Samaria. (2 Kings 15:17)**
- **And he continued to do what was bad in Yehowah's eyes. He did not depart from all the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, with which he caused Israel to sin, all his days. (2 Kings 15:18)**
- **Pul the king of Assyria came into the land. Consequently Menahem gave Pul a thousand talents of silver, that his hands might prove to be with him to strengthen the kingdom in his own hand. (2 Kings 15:19)**
- **So Menahem brought forth the silver at the expense of Israel, at the expense of all the valiant, mighty men, to give to the king of Assyria fifty silver shekels for each man. At that the king of Assyria turned back, and he did not stay there in the land. (2 Kings 15:20)**
- **As for the rest of the affairs of Menahem and all that he did, are they not written in the book of the affairs of the days of the kings of Israel? (2 Kings 15:21)**
- **Finally Menahem lay down with his forefathers, and Pekahiah his son began to reign in place of him. (2 Kings 15:22)**

- **In the fiftieth year of Azariah the king of Judah, Pekahiah the son of Menahem became king over Israel in Samaria for two years. (2 Kings 15:23)**
- **And he continued to do what was bad in Yehowah's eyes. He did not depart from the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, with which he caused Israel to sin. (2 Kings 15:24)**
- **Then Pekah the son of Remaliah his adjutant conspired against him and struck him down in Samaria in the dwelling tower of the king's house with Argob and Arieah, and with him there were fifty men of the sons of Gilead. So he put him to death and began to reign in place of him. (2 Kings 15:25)**
- **As for the rest of the affairs of Pekahiah and all that he did, there they are written in the book of the affairs of the days of the kings of Israel. (2 Kings 15:26)**
- **In the fifty-second year of Azariah the king of Judah, Pekah the son of Remaliah became king over Israel in Samaria for twenty years. (2 Kings 15:27)**
- **And he continued to do what was bad in Yehowah's eyes. He did not depart from the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, with which he caused Israel to sin. (2 Kings 15:28)**
- **In the days of Pekah the king of Israel, Tiglath-pileser the king of Assyria came in and proceeded to take Ijon and Abel-beth-maacah and Janoah and Kedesh and Hazor and Gilead and Galilee, all the land of Naphtali, and to carry them into exile in Assyria. (2 Kings 15:29)**
- **Finally Hoshea the son of Elah formed a conspiracy against Pekah the son of Remaliah and struck him and put him to death, and he began to reign in place of him in the twentieth year of Jotham the son of Uzziah. (2 Kings 15:30)**
- **However, the king of Assyria got to find conspiracy in Hoshea's case, in that he had sent messengers to So the king of Egypt and did not bring the tribute up to the king of Assyria as in former years. Hence the king of Assyria shut him up and kept him bound in the house of detention. (2 Kings 17:4)**

- The primary sin of Israel all along was its practice of calf worship. This led to the drawing of the nation away from Yehowah, with consequent deterioration.
- So the guilt for the **bloodshed of Jezreel** was one of the things, along with murdering, stealing, adultery, and other crimes, that really found its root in the false worship in which the rulers permitted the people to indulge. Finally God had to cause the royal rule of the house of Israel to cease.
- And Yehowah went on to say to him; Call his name Jezreel, for yet a little while and I must hold an accounting for the acts of bloodshed of Jezreel against the house of **Jehu**, and I must cause the royal rule of the house of Israel to cease. (**Hosea 1:4**)
- There are the pronouncing of curses and practicing of deception and murdering and stealing and committing of adultery that have broken forth, and acts of bloodshed have touched other acts of bloodshed. (**Hosea 4:2**)

•• Syria And Assyria Harass Israel

- Because of not turning fully to Yehowah and walking in his ways, **Jehu** had to face trouble from Hazael, the king of Syria, all the days of his rule. Hazael took territory piece by piece from Israel's domain on the other side of the Jordan.
- In those days Yehowah started to cut off Israel piece by piece, and Hazael kept striking them in all the territory of Israel. (**2 Kings 10:32**)
- From the Jordan toward the rising of the sun, all the land of Gilead, the Gadites and the Reubenites and the Manassites, from Aroer, which is by the torrent valley of Arnon, even Gilead and Bashan. (**2 Kings 10:33**)
- This is what Yehowah has said; On account of three revolts of Damascus, and on account of four, I shall not turn it back, on account of their threshing Gilead even with iron threshing instruments. (**Amos 1:3**)
- And I will send a fire onto the house of Hazael, and it must devour the dwelling towers of Ben-hadad. (**Amos 1:4**)

- At the same time the Assyrian threat to Israel's existence mounted.

• Assyrian Inscriptions Name Jehu

- In inscriptions of Shalmaneser III, king of Assyria, he claims to have received tribute from Jehu. The inscription reads; *The tribute of Jehu, Ia-ú-a, son of Omri, Hu-um-ri.*
- I received from him silver, gold, a golden saplu-bowl, a golden vase with pointed bottom, golden tumblers, golden buckets, tin, a staff for a king, and wooden *puruhtu*, the meaning of the latter word being unknown [Ancient Near Eastern Texts, edited by J. B. Pritchard, 1974, p. 281]
- Actually, **Jehu** was not the son of Omri. But from Omri's time the expression was sometimes used to designate the kings of Israel, doubtless because of Omri's prowess and his building of Samaria, which continued as Israel's capital until the fall of that ten-tribe kingdom to Assyria.
- Along with this same inscription on what is known as the Black Obelisk is a pictorial representation, perhaps of an emissary of **Jehu**, bowing before Shalmaneser and offering tribute.
- Some commentators remark that this is the first pictorial portrayal of Israelites, as far as is known. However, we cannot be absolutely sure of the truthfulness of Shalmaneser's claim.
- Also, the appearance of the figure in the picture cannot be relied on to be an accurate likeness of an Israelite, for these nations may have depicted their enemies as undesirable in appearance, much as drawings or pictures today portray people of an enemy nation as weak, grotesque, or hateful.