

16 – JEHORAM, AHAZIAH & JEHU (2 KINGS 8:16-10:36; 2 CHRONICLES 21:1-22:9)

I. Jehoram, King of Judah (2 Kings 8:16-24; 2 Chronicles 21:1-20)

A. The Wickedness of Jehoram (2 Kings 8:16-19; 2 Chronicles 21:1-7)

- In the 5th year of King Jehoram of Israel, Jehoram, son of Jehoshaphat became Judah's king.
- Jehoshaphat gave his other sons gifts of gold, silver and fortified cities in Judah.
- Jehoram was 32 years old when he became king and ruled over Judah for 8 years.
- When Jehoram became king, he had his brothers killed with the sword.
- He did evil in the sight of the Lord because he walked in the ways of Ahab, king of Israel.
- This was because he was married to the daughter of Ahab.
- In spite of this, the Lord would not destroy Judah because of his promise to David.

B. The Revolt of Edom and Libnah (2 Kings 8:20-22; 2 Chronicles 21:8-11)

- During the days of Jehoram, Edom revolted against Judah and made themselves a king.
- Jehoram went to Edom with his army, where he was surrounded by the Edom.
- This forced Jehoram to flee back to Jerusalem.
- The writer notes that Edom has since been in rebellion and Libnah also rebelled against Judah.
- These rebellions took place because Jehoram had forsaken the God of his fathers.
- Jehoram also made high places in Judah and led the kingdom to commit harlotry.

C. The Letter from Elijah (2 Chronicles 21:12-15)

- Elijah sent a letter to Jehoram with a word from the Lord.
- The Lord is bringing judgment on Jehoram because he did not walk in the ways of his fathers.
- The Lord pointed out that he walked in the ways of Ahab and killed his brothers.
- The Lord will strike the people with serious afflictions.
- Jehoram will become very sick with a disease of his intestines and they will come out.

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D. Jerusalem Attacked (2 Chronicles 21:16-17)

- The Lord stirred up the Philistines and Arabians, who lived near Ethiopia, to invade Judah.
- They carried off possessions, as well as Jehoram's wives and sons.
- This resulted in one son being left to Jehoram, Ahaziah.

E. The Death of Jehoram (2 Kings 8:23-24; 2 Chronicles 21:18-20)

- After the rebellion and invasion, the Lord struck Jehoram with a disease of his intestines.
- After suffering for two years, he died in severe pain having some extreme form of dysentery.
- Jehoram was not mourned by the people when he died as his fathers before him were mourned.
- He was also not buried in the tomb of his fathers.
- The writer of Kings records where the acts of Jehoram are recorded.
- Ahaziah, his youngest son, became king over Judah in his place.

II. Ahaziah, King of Judah (2 Kings 8:25-29; 2 Chronicles 22:1-9)

A. The Wickedness of Ahaziah (2 Kings 8:25-27, 2 Chronicles 22:1-4)

- In the 12th year of Jehoram's reign as king of Israel, Ahaziah became king over Judah.
- Ahaziah was 22 years old when he became king and his mother was Athaliah.
- The Chronicler records he was made king because his brothers were killed in the invasion.
- Athaliah was the granddaughter of Omri, king of Israel, and daughter of Ahab and Jezebel.
- He did evil in the sight of the Lord because he walked in the ways of Ahab, king of Israel.
- He listened to the advice of his father's counselors, which led to his destruction.

B. The War with Hazael (2 Kings 8:28-29, 2 Chronicles 22:5-6)

- Ahaziah went with Jehoram, king of Israel, against Hazael at Ramoth Gilead.
- During the battle, Jehoram was wounded and he went back to Jezreel to recover.
- Ahaziah went down to Jezreel to visit Jehoram while he was recovering.

C. The Death of the Ahaziah (2 Chronicles 22:7-9)

- Ahaziah's visit of Jehoram in Jezreel was the Lord's occasion for his downfall.

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- When he arrived, he went out with Jehoram against Jehu.
- As Jehu was executing judgment on the house of Ahab, he killed the princes of Judah.
- Jehu's men searched for Ahaziah and brought to Jehu where he was executed.
- Jehu allowed Ahaziah to be buried because he was the son of Jehoshaphat.
- There was no one to assume the throne, because Jehu killed the sons of Ahaziah's brothers.

III. Jehu, King of Israel (2 Kings 9:1-10:36)

A. The Anointing of Jehu (2 Kings 9:1-13)

- Elisha called one of the sons of prophets to take a flask of oil to Ramoth Gilead.
- When he arrives, he was to take Jehu aside and anoint him as king over Israel.
- When the servant reached Ramoth Gilead, he took Jehu aside and he anointed him as king.
- He then told Jehu that he was to strike the Ahab's house in vengeance for the Lord.
- He also announced that the dogs will eat Jezebel and no one will bury her.
- After anointing Jehu, the servant opened the door and fled.
- When Jehu told his men what the man had told him, they proclaimed Jehu king of Israel.

B. Jehu Takes Jezreel (2 Kings 9:14-20)

- Jehu went with his men to Jezreel, where Jehoram and Ahaziah were.
- When Jehu approached Jezreel, a messenger was sent to find out his intentions.
- After the messenger join Jehu, they sent a second messenger to find out his intentions.

C. The Death of Jehoram, Ahaziah and Jezebel (2 Kings 9:21-37)

- Jehoram and Ahaziah went in their own chariots to meet Jehu at Naboth's vineyard.
- Jehoram asked Jehu if he came in peace, then cried out it was treachery at his response.
- Jehu drew his bow and killed Jehoram.
- Jehoram was then thrown in Naboth's vineyard as Jehu recalled the Lord's judgment on Ahab.
- Jehu then pursued Ahaziah and then killed him with a bow as well.

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- Ahaziah was then taken to Jerusalem where he was buried in his father's tomb.
- The writer of Kings states that Ahaziah became King of Judah in the eleventh year of Jehoram.
- When Jehu entered Jezreel, Jezebel called him the murderer of his master.
- Jehu called out and asked her eunuch attendants if they were on his side.
- Jehu told the eunuchs cast Jezebel down from the window and she was trampled by horses.
- After feasting, he had his servants go and bury Jezebel body since she was a king's daughter.
- When they looked for her, they only found her skull, her feet and the palms of her hands.
- This was a fulfillment of Elijah's prophecy that the dogs would eat Jezebel's body.

D. The Killing of Ahab's Household (2 Kings 10:1-17)

- King Ahab had 70 sons who lived in Samaria.
- Jehu sent letters to leaders of Samaria, calling for them to set a son on the throne.
- The leaders were afraid of Jehu and they offered their loyalty to him.
- Jehu told them to bring the heads of Ahab's sons to him in Jezreel.
- Jehu then placed the heads at the entrance of the gate for all to see.
- Jehu killed all who remained of Ahab's household in Jezreel.
- When Jehu went to Samaria, he met the brothers of Ahaziah, King of Judah.
- When the brothers identified themselves, Jehu had all 42 of them killed.
- Once in Samaria, he had those of Ahab's household killed according to the prophecy.

E. The Killing of Baal's Prophets (2 Kings 10:18-28)

- Jehu then called for a feast to Baal as he declared that he would serve Baal more than Ahab.
- The prophets and followers of Baal gathered from all of Israel for the feast.
- Once they gathered in the temple, Jehu made sure to remove the worshippers of the Lord.
- Jehu placed 80 men around the temple with orders to kill any who escaped.
- Jehu then sent men to kill everyone in the temple and burned the sacred pillars of Baal.
- Jehu had the temple of Baal torn down and made into a garbage dump.

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F. The Wickedness of Jehu (2 Kings 10:29-36)

- Sadly, Jehu did not turn away from the sins of Jeroboam.
- The Lord told Jehu that his sons would sit on the throne until the 4th generation.
- Jehu did not walk in the Law of God because he would not depart from the sin of Jeroboam.
- In those days, the Lord reduced the size of Israel as Hazael conquered more territory.
- The writer records where the acts of Jehu were recorded.
- Jehu died and was buried in Samaria as they made his son Jehoahaz king in his place.
- The writer records that Jehu ruled Israel from Samaria for 28 years.