

JUDGMENT ON THE HOUSE OF AHAB (II Kings 9)

Parts: **Narrator**
 Elisha
 Servant of the Prophet
 Jehu
 Jehu's servants, Jehu's captains
 Joram
 Jezebel
 Watchman
 Ahaziah, Eunuchs (no lines)

Elisha (to one of the sons of the prophets):

"Get yourself ready, take this flask of oil in your hand, and go to Ramoth Gilead. Now when you arrive at that place, look there for Jehu the son of Jehoshaphat, the son of Nimshi, and go in and make him rise up from among his associates, and take him to an inner room. Then take the flask of oil, and pour it on his head, and say, `Thus says Yehowah: "I have anointed you king over Israel.'" Then open the door and flee, and do not delay."

Narrator:

So the young man, the servant of the prophet, went to Ramoth Gilead. And when he arrived, there were the captains of the army sitting.

Servant of the Prophet:

"I have a message for you, O commander."

Jehu:

"For which one of us?"

Servant of the Prophet:

"For you, commander."

(Jehu arises, goes into inner room. Prophet pours oil on his head, says:)

"Thus says the Lord God of Israel: 'I have anointed you king over the people of Yehowah, over Israel. You shall strike down the house of Ahab your master, that I may avenge the blood of My servants the prophets, and the blood of all the servants of Yehowah, at the hand of Jezebel....' "

(opens door and flees)

Servants of Jehu *(after Jehu comes out):*

"Is all well? Why did this madman come to you?"

Jehu:

"You know the man and his babble."

Servants of Jehu:

"A lie! Tell us now."

Jehu:

"Thus and thus he spoke to me, saying, `Thus says Yehowah: "I have anointed you king over Israel." ' "

Servants of Jehu *(each man quickly takes his garment and puts it under Jehu on the top of the steps; someone blows a trumpet; they shout):*

"Jehu is king!"

Jehu:

"If you are so minded, let no one leave or escape from the city to go and tell it in Jezreel."

Narrator:

So Jehu rode in a chariot and went to Jezreel, for Joram was laid up there [with an injury]; and Ahaziah king of Judah had come down to see Joram.... Now a watchman stood on the tower in Jezreel, and he saw the company of Jehu as he came.

Watchman:

"I see a company of men."

Joram:

"Get a horseman and send him to meet them, and let him say, 'Is it peace?' "

Horseman:

"Thus says the king: 'Is it peace?' "

Jehu:

"What have you to do with peace? Turn around and follow me."

Watchman:

"The messenger went to them, but is not coming back."

Joram:

"Send out another horseman."

Horseman:

"Thus says the king: 'Is it peace?' "

Jehu:

"What have you to do with peace? Turn around and follow me."

Watchman:

"He went up to them and is not coming back; and the driving is like the driving of Jehu the son of Nimshi, for he drives furiously!"

Joram:

"Prepare my chariot."

Narrator:

And his chariot was made ready. Then Joram king of Israel and Ahaziah king of Judah went out, each in his chariot; and they went out to meet Jehu, and met him on the property of Naboth the Jezreelite.

Joram:

"Is it peace Jehu?"

Jehu:

"What peace, as long as the harlotries of your mother Jezebel and the witchcraft are so many?"

Joram (*turns around and flees*):

"Treachery, Ahaziah!"

Narrator:

Now Jehu drew his bow with full strength and shot Joram between his arms; and the arrow came out at his heart, and he sank down in his chariot.

Jehu (*to his captain Bidkar, one of "Jehu's servants"*):

"Pick him up, and throw him into the tract of the field of Naboth the Jezreelite; for remember, when you and I were together behind Ahab his father, that Yehowah laid this burden upon him: 'Surely I saw yesterday the blood of Naboth and the blood of his sons,' says Yehowah, 'and I will repay you in this plot,' says Yehowah. Now therefore, take and throw him on the plot of ground, according to the word of Yehowah."

Narrator:

But when Ahaziah king of Judah saw this, he fled by the road to Beth Haggan. So Jehu pursued him.

Jehu:

"Shoot him also in the chariot."

Narrator:

And they did so at the ascent to Gur, which is by Ibleam. Then he fled to Megiddo, and died there. And his servants carried him in the chariot to Jerusalem, and buried him in his tomb with his fathers in the City of David.... And when Jehu had come to Jezreeel, Jezebel heard of it; and she put paint on her eyes and adorned her head, and looked through a window.

Jezebel (*as Jehu enters at the gate*):

"Is it peace, Zimri, murderer of your master?"

Jehu (*looks up at the window*):

"Who is on my side?! Who?!" (*two or three eunuchs look out at him*)

"Throw her down!"

Jezebel (*resisting*):

"No! No! Traitors!" (*screams*)

Narrator:

So they threw her down, and some of her blood spattered on the wall and on the horses: and he trampled her under foot....

(Jehu goes into the palace, eats and drinks.)

Jehu:

"Go now, see to this accursed woman, and bury her, for she was a king's daughter."

Narrator:

So they went to bury her, but they found no more of her than the skull and the feet and the palms of her hands. Therefore they came back and told him.

Jehu's servants:

"Sir, there was nothing left of Queen Jezebel."

Jehu:

"This is the word of Yehowah, which He spoke by His servant Elijah the Tishbite, saying, `On the plot of ground at Jezreel dogs shall eat the flesh of Jezebel: and the corpse of Jezebel shall be as refuse on the surface of the field, in the plot at Jezreel, so that they shall not say, "Here lies Jezebel." ‘ ‘

(The End)