

(10) Jehu

BIBLICAL RECORD:

- 2 Kings 9:1 – 10:36
- Hosea 1:4
- 1st reference: 1 Kings 19:16
- Last reference: Hosea 1:4
- Mentioned 50 times in the Bible

POSITION:

- 10th King in the Northern Kingdom of Israel
- 1st of 5 kings in the 5th dynasty of the Northern Kingdom

DYNASTY: 9 dynasties totaling 19 kings

- 5th of 9 dynasties in the northern Kingdom.
- 1st of 5 kings in the 5th dynasty. (Jehu, Jehoahaz, Jehoash, Jeroboam II, and Zechariah).
- The most kings (five) of any of the 9 Northern Kingdom dynasties.

REIGN:

- 28 years

CHARACTER:

- Mostly Bad

DEATH:

- **2 Kings 10:35-36** – “So Jehu rested with his fathers, and they buried him in Samaria. Then Jehoahaz his son reigned in his place. And the period that Jehu reigned over Israel in Samaria was twenty-eight years.”

FAMILY:

- Son of Jehoshaphat, son of Nimshi

RULER(s) IN THE SOUTHERN KINGDOM:

- Athaliah (6), 7th ruler (usurper to the throne) in the Southern Kingdom of Judah
- Continued into the reign of Joash (40), the 9th King in the Southern Kingdom

PROPHET(s):

- Elisha

FACTS:

- Elisha sent a man from the company of the prophets to Ramoth Gilead to secretly anoint Jehu as Israel’s 10th King while Joram, Israel’s 9th king was still living. 2 Kings 9:1-13
- Jehu killed Joram by shooting him with an arrow that pierced his heart. 2 Kings 9:14-26
- Jehu is commissioned to destroy the house of Ahab. **2 Kings 9:5-10** – “When he arrived, he found the army officers sitting together. "I have a message for you, commander," he said. "For which of us?" asked Jehu. "For you, commander," he replied.

6 Jehu got up and went into the house. Then the prophet poured the oil on Jehu's head and declared, "This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: 'I anoint you king over the LORD's people Israel.

7 You are to destroy the house of Ahab your master, and I will avenge the blood of my servants the prophets and the blood of all the LORD's servants shed by Jezebel.

8 The whole house of Ahab will perish. I will cut off from Ahab every last male in Israel — slave or free.

9 I will make the house of Ahab like the house of Jeroboam son of Nebat and like the house of Baasha son of Ahijah.

10 As for Jezebel, dogs will devour her on the plot of ground at Jezreel, and no one will bury her." Then he opened the door and ran."

- Jezebel is killed. 2 Kings 9:30-37 But she died looking "pretty."
- **2 Kings 9:31**- "As Jehu entered the gate, she (Jezebel) asked, 'Have you come in peace, Zimri, you murderer of your master?'" Explanation: If you have slain thy master, it is no new thing; for Zimri also slew Elah, the son of Baasha;" which words were more intended to conciliate than to provoke. But the words are understood by most of the versions thus: Health to Zimri, the slayer of his master!
- The whole house of Jehu was killed. 2 Kings 10:1-11 **2 Kings 10:11** – "So Jehu killed everyone in Jezreel who remained of the house of Ahab, as well as all his chief men, his close friends and his priests, leaving him no survivor."
- Jehu also killed Ahaziah, the 6th king of Judah who was with Joram for the battle. He was wounded and made it to Megiddo where he died. 2 Kings 9:27-29 Joram was Ahaziah's uncle. Ahaziah's mother, Athaliah, was a brother to Joram. So an **uncle** and nephew both died at the hand of Jehu. Note: **2 Kings 11:1** – "When Athaliah the mother of Ahaziah was dead, she proceeded to destroy the whole royal family." (Royal family of David)" This is when Joash will be hidden for 6 years in Jerusalem.
- **2 Chronicles 22:8-9** – "While Jehu was executing judgment on the house of Ahab, he found the princes of Judah and the sons of Ahaziah's relatives, who had been attending Ahaziah, and he killed them.

He then went in search of Ahaziah, and his men captured him while he was hiding in Samaria. He was brought to Jehu and put to death. They buried him, for they said, 'He was a son of Jehoshaphat, who sought the LORD with all his heart.' So there was no one in the house of Ahaziah powerful enough to retain the kingdom." **Note**: A different order of these events in 2 Kings 10:1-17 than those found in 2 Chronicles 22:8-9

- **2 Kings 10:17** – "When Jehu came to Samaria, he killed all who were left there of Ahab's family; he destroyed them according to the word of the Lord spoken to Elijah."
- Jehu assigned 80 men to destroy the ministers of Baal that he had lured to the temple of Baal. 2 Kings 10:18-27
- God's promise to Jehu. **2 Kings 10:11** – "The LORD said to Jehu, 'Because you have done well in accomplishing what is right in my eyes and have done to the house of Ahab all I had

in mind to do, your descendants will sit on the throne of Israel to the fourth generation.’”

Note: God was true to His word. The four after him would be:

1. Jehoahaz – 11th
2. Jehoash (Joash) – 12th
3. Jereboam II – 13th
4. Zechariah – 14th

KEY PASSAGE(s):

- Jehu said to Jehonadab, son of Recab in **2 Kings 10:16** – “. . . Come with me and see my zeal for the Lord . . .”