







I don't see Jesus in

**J E H U**





## Issues in Kings

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Also you shall anoint **Jehu** the son of Nimshi as king over Israel. And Elisha the son of Shaphat of Abel Meholah you shall anoint as prophet in your place. It shall be that whoever escapes the sword of Hazael, **Jehu** will kill; and whoever escapes the sword of **Jehu**, Elisha will kill.

1 Kgs 19.16-17





## Issues in Kings

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### Context

- **Ahab** - reigns in Israel (1 Kgs 16.29ff)
- Reigned over Israel in Samaria for 22 years (16.29)
- “Did evil in the sight of the Lord, more than all who were before him.” (16.30)
- “Walked in the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat” (16.31)
- “Took as wife, Jezebel, the daughter of Ethbaal” (16.31)
- “He went and served Baal and worshiped him” (16.31)
- “Set up an altar for Baal in the temple of Baal, which he had built in Samaria” (16.32)
- “Made a wooden image ... did more to provoke the Lord God of Israel to anger than all the kings of israel who were before him (16.33)





## Issues in Kings

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### Context

- **Elijah** - prophet in Israel (1 Kgs 17.1ff)
  - Declared a drought in Israel before Ahab, not ending without Elijah's word (17.1)
  - Went into hiding • God providentially/miraculously sustains Elijah (17.2ff)
  - Elijah and the widow of Zarephath (17.8ff) • both providentially/miraculously sustained • Elijah revives the widow of Zarephath's son
  - Elijah sends word to Ahab: "I will send rain on the earth" (18.1ff)
  - Jezebel kills the prophets of God (18.4) • Elijah meets Ahab (18.16ff)
  - Elijah challenges the prophets of Baal (18.19ff)





## Issues in Kings

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### Context

- **Elijah & the prophets of Baal** (1 Kgs 18.20ff)
  - Baal fails to respond to his prophets (18.23-29)
  - Jehovah God responds to his prophet, Elijah (18.30-40)
  - Baal's prophets executed (18.40)
  - The drought ends/rain comes (18.41ff)
  - Elijah flees from the wrath of Jezebel/goes into hiding (19.1ff)
  - God appears to Elijah and gives him a three-fold commission:
    - anoint Hazael over Syria • **Jehu** over Israel • Elisha as your successor (19.16-17)





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### Context

- **Three-fold commission fulfilled**
- Hazael becomes king in Syria (2 Kgs 8.7ff)
- Jehu becomes king in Israel (2 Kgs 9.1ff)
- Elisha follows Elijah as God's prophet (2 Kgs 2.1ff)
- **Before Jehu** becomes king:
  - Ahab battles/defeats the Syrians • Forms a treaty with Ben-Hadad • Condemned by God for that treaty • His death prophesied • Desires Naboth's vineyard • Jezebel has Naboth killed • Ahab condemned (again) by Elijah • Ahab humbled • Micaiah prophesies Ahab's death • Ahab dies in battle





## Issues in Kings

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### Context

- Elisha anoints **Jehu** king in Israel (2 Kgs 9.1ff)
- **Jehu** was “commissioned” ...
  - “Then he arose and went into the house. And he poured the oil on his head, and said to him, “Thus says the LORD God of Israel: ‘I have anointed you king over the people of the LORD, over Israel. 7 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 the LORD, at the hand of Jezebel. 8 For the whole house of Ahab shall perish; and I will cut off from Ahab all the males in Israel, both bond and free. [continued]





## Issues in Kings

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### Context

- Elisha anoints **Jehu** king in Israel (2 Kgs 9.1ff)
- **Jehu** was “commissioned” ...
  - 9 So I will make the house of Ahab like the house of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, and like the house of Baasha the son of Ahijah. 10 The dogs shall eat Jezebel on the plot of ground at Jezreel, and there shall be none to bury her.’ ”  
And he opened the door and fled. (9.6-10)
- **Jehu** kills Joram, Ahaziah (9.14ff) • **Jehu** has Jezebel killed (9.30ff)





## Issues in Kings

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### Context

- Elisha anoints **Jehu** king in Israel (2 Kgs 9.1ff)
- **Jehu** was “commissioned” ...
- **Jehu** has the 70 sons of Ahab killed (10.1ff) • kills 42 brothers of Ahaziah (10.12ff) • “killed all who remained to Ahab in Samiara, till he had destroyed them, according to the word of The Lord, which He spoke to Elijah.” (10.17)
- **Jehu** gathered all the prophets/servants/priest/worshipers of Baal (10.18ff)
  - Brought them to the temple of Baal • Made sure that there were “no servants of the Lord” present, “only the worshipers of Baal” • Had them all killed
  - Destroyed the temple of Baal • “Thus Jehu destroyed Baal from Israel” (10.28)





## Issues in Kings

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### Context

- **Jehu's "reward" and death**
- "However **Jehu** did not turn away from the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who had made Israel sin, that is, from the golden calves that were at Bethel and Dan. 30 And the LORD said to **Jehu**, "Because you have done well in doing what is right in My sight, and have done to the house of Ahab all that was in My heart, your sons shall sit on the throne of Israel to the fourth generation." 31 But **Jehu** took no heed to walk in the law of the LORD God of Israel with all his heart; for he did not depart from the sins of Jeroboam, who had made Israel sin." (10.29-31)





## Issues in Kings

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### I don't see Jesus in Jehu

- We are accustomed to positive/uplifting messages in Scripture
- We welcome/rejoice when we read narratives of spiritual/moral heroes
- We are saddened/frustrated/overwhelmed when messages are negative
- We do **not** cheer for villains (Ahab, Jehu)
- We are encouraged when we see God's people **respect** God, his word and then worship him accordingly • We are discouraged when we do **not** see that





## Issues in Kings

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### I don't see Jesus in Jehu

- We assume Rom 8.28's "all things work together for good" means "**every thing**"
- But that's **not** true
- Scripture reveals sin and its consequences **without** whitewashing either
- God "**uses**" sinners, through — and in spite of — their sins to accomplish his ultimate will
  - **Initial** will - do not sin
  - **Circumstantial** will - do not sin again/do not continue in sin
  - **Ultimate** will - the righteous will be rewarded/the unrighteous will not



