

'But Elisha said, "Hear the word of the Lord: thus says the Lord, Tomorrow about this time a measure of choice meal shall be sold for a shekel, and two measures of barley for a shekel at the gate of Samaria."¹ Then the captain on whose hand the king leaned said to the man of God, "Even if the Lord were to make windows in the sky, could such a thing happen?" But he said, "You shall see it with your own eyes, but you shall not eat from it."²

³ Now there were four leprosy men outside the city gate, who said to one another, "Why should we sit here until we die?⁴ If we say, "Let us enter the city," the famine is in the city, and we shall die there; but if we sit here, we shall also die. Therefore, let us desert to the Aramean camp; if they spare our lives, we shall live; and if they kill us, we shall but die.⁵ So they arose at twilight to go to the Aramean camp; but when they came to the edge of the Aramean camp, there was no one there at all. For the Lord had caused the Aramean army to hear the sound of chariot and of horse, the sound of a great army, so that they said to one another, "The King of Israel has hired the kings of the Hittites and the kings of Egypt to fight against us."⁶ So they fled away in the twilight and abandoned their tents, their horses, and their donkeys, leaving the camp just as it was, and fled for their lives. When those leprosy men had come to the edge of the camp, they went into a tent, ate and drank, carried off silver, gold and clothing, and went and hid them. Then they came back entered another tent, carried off things from it, and went and hid them.

⁷ Then they said to one another, "What we are doing is wrong. This is a day of good news; if we are silent and wait until the morning light, we will be found guilty; therefore let us go and tell the king's household."⁸ So they came and called to the gatekeepers of the city, and told them, "We went to the Aramean camp, but there was no one to be seen or heard there, nothing but the horses tied, the donkeys tied, and the tents as they were."⁹

¹¹ Then the gatekeepers called out and proclaimed it to the king's household. ¹² The king got up in the night, and said to his servants, "I will tell you what the Arameans have prepared against us. They know that we are starving; so they have left the camp to hide themselves in the open country, thinking, 'When they come out of the city, we shall take them alive and get into the city.' ¹³ One of his servants said, 'Let some men take five of the remaining horses, since those left here will suffer the fate of the whole multitude of Israel that have perished already; let us send and find out.' So they took two mounted men, and the king sent them after Aramean army, saying, 'Go and find out.' ¹⁴ So they took went after them as far as the Jordan; the whole way was littered with garments and equipment that the Arameans had thrown away in their haste. So the messengers returned, and told the king.

¹⁵ Then the people went out, and plundered the camp of the Arameans. So a measure of choice meal was sold for a shekel, and two measures of barley for a shekel, according to the word of the LORD. Now the king had appointed the captain on whose hand he leaned to have charge of the gate; the people trampled him to death in the gate, just as the man of God had said when the king came down to him. ¹⁶ For when the man of God had said to the king, 'Two measures of barley shall be sold for a shekel, and a measure of choice meal for a shekel, about this time tomorrow in the gate of Samaria,' ¹⁷ the captain had answered the man of God, 'Even if the LORD were to make windows in the sky, could such a thing happen?' And he answered 'You shall see it with your own eyes, but you shall not eat from it.' ¹⁸ It did indeed happen to him; the people trampled him to death in the gate.

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1 Now Elisha had said to the woman whose son he had restored to life, "Get up and go with your household, and settle whenever you can; for the Lord has called for a famine, and it will come on the land for seven years."

2 So the woman got up and did according to the word of the man of God; she went with her household and settled in the land of the Philistines seven years.

3 At the end of the seven years, when the woman returned from the land of the Philistines, she set out to appeal to the king for her house and her land. 4 Now the king was talking with Gehazi the servant of the man of God, saying, "Tell me all the great things that Elisha has done." 5 While he was telling the king how Elisha had restored a dead person to life, the woman whose son

he had restored to life appealed to the king for her house and her land.

Gehazi said, "My lord king, here is the woman, and here is her son whom Elisha restored to life." 6. When the king questioned the woman, she told him. So the king appointed an official for her, saying, "Restore all that was hers, together with all the revenue of the fields from the day that she left the land until now." 7. Elisha went to Damascus while King Ben-hadad of Aram was ill. When it was told him, "The man of God has come here," 8. the king said to Hazael, "Take a present with you and go to meet the man of God. Inquire of the Lord through him, whether I shall recover from this illness."

9. So Hazael went to meet him, taking a present with him, all kinds of goods of

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Damascus , forty camel loads . When he entered and stood before him , he said , " Your son King Ben-hadad of Aram has sent me to you , saying , " Shall I recover from this illness ? " 10 Elisha said to him , " Go , say to him , " You shall certainly recover ; but the Lord has shown me that he shall certainly die . " 11 He fixed his gaze and stared at him , until he was ashamed . Then the man of God wept . 12 Hazael asked , " Why does my lord weep ? " He answered , " Because I know the evil that you will do to the people of Israel ; you will set their fortresses on fire , you will kill their young men with the sword , dash in pieces their little ones , and rip up their pregnant women . " 13 Hazael said , " What is your servant , who is a mere dog , that he should do this great thing ? " Elisha answered , " The Lord has shown me that you are to be king over Aram . " 14 Then he left Elisha ,

and went to his master Ben-hadad , who said to him , " what did Elisha say to you ? " And he answered , " He told me that you would certainly recover ." ¹⁵ But the next day he took the bed-cover and dipped it in water and spread it over the king's face , until he died . And Hazael succeeded him .

¹⁶ In the fifth year of King Joram son of Ahab of Israel , Jehoram son of King Jehoshaphat of Judah began to reign . ¹⁷ He was thirty-two years old when he became king , and he reigned eight years in Jerusalem . ¹⁸ He walked in the way of the kings of Israel , as the house of Ahab had done , for the daughter of Ahab was his wife . He did what was evil in the sight of the Lord . ¹⁹ Yet the Lord would not destroy Judah , for the sake of his servant David , since he had promised to give a lamp to him and to his descendants forever .

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20. In his days Edom revolted against the rule of Judah, and set up a king of their own. 21 Then Joram crossed over to Zair with all his chariots. He set out by night and attacked the Edomites and their chariot commanders who had surrounded him; but his army fled home. 22 So Edom has been in revolt against the rule of Judah to this day. Libnah also revolted at the same time. 23 Now the rest of the acts of Joram, and all that he did, are they not written in the Book of the Annals of the Kings of Judah? 24 So Joram slept with his ancestors, and was buried with them in the City of David; his son Ahaziah succeeded him. 25 In the twelfth year of King Joram Son of Ahab of Israel, Ahaziah son of King of Jehoram of Judah began to reign. 26 Ahaziah was twenty-two years old when he began to reign; he reigned one year in Jerusalem. His mother's name was

Athaliah, a granddaughter of King Omri of Israel. 27 He also walked in the way of the house of Ahab, doing what was evil in the sight of the Lord, as the house of Ahab had done, for he was son-in-law to the house of Ahab. 28 He went with Joram son of Ahab to wage war against King Hazael of Aram at Ramoth-gilead, where the Arameans wounded Joram. 29 King Joram returned to be healed in Jezreel of the wounds that the Arameans had inflicted on him at Ramah, when he fought against King Hazael of Aram. King Ahaziah son of Jehoram of Judah went down to see Joram son of Ahab in Jezreel, because he was wounded.

The prophet Elisha summoned a man from the company of the prophets and said to him, "Tuck your cloak into your belt, take this flask of oil with you and go to Ramoth Gilead. When you get there, look for Jehu son of Jehoshaphat, the son of Nimshi. Go to him, get him away from his companions and take him into an inner room. Then take the flask and pour the oil on his head and declare, 'This is what the LORD says: I anoint you king over Israel.' Then open the door and run; don't delay!" So the young man, the prophet, went to Ramoth Gilead. 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.

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

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.

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

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

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.

When Jehu went out to his fellow officers, one of them asked him, Is everything all right? Why did this madman come to you? You know the man and the sort of things, he says, Jehu replied. "That's not true," they said. Tell us, Jehu said.

"Here is what he told me; This is what the Lord says: I anoint you King over Israel."

They hurried and took their cloaks and spread them under him on the bare steps. Then they blew the trumpet and shouted, "Jehu is King!"

So JEHU SON JEHOSHAPHAT, THE SON OF NIMSHI, CONSPIRED AGAINST JORAM (NOW JORAM AND ALL ISRAEL HAS BEEN DEFENDING

RAMOTH GILEAD AGAINST HAZAEL king of Aram. but King Joram had returned to Jezreel to recover from the wounds the Arameans had inflicted on him in the battle with Hazael king of Aram. Jehu said 'If this is the way you feel don't let anyone slip out of the city to go and tell the news in Jezreel.'

Then he got into his chariot and rode to Jezreel, because Joram was resting there and Ahaziah king of Judah had gone down to see him. When the lookout standing on the tower in Jezreel saw Jehu's troops approaching, he called out, "I see some troops coming."

"Get a horseman," Jordan ordered, "Send him to meet them and ask, 'Do you come in peace?'"

The horseman rode off to meet Jehu and said, "This is what the king says- Do you come in peace?" What do you have to do with peace?" Jehu replied "Fall in behind me."

The lookout reported, "The messenger has reached them,

but he isn't coming back."

Yna efe a arfonodd yr all wr march, ac efe a ddaeth atlynw hwy, ac a ddyweddodd. Fel hyn y dywedodd y brenhin. A oes heddwch? A dywedodd Jehu, Beth sydd iti a ofynych am heddwch? tro yn fy di.

The lookout reported, "He has reached them, but he won't come back either". The driving is like that of jehu son of Nimshi - he drives like a madman.

"Hitch up my chariot" Joram ordered. And when it was hitched up, Joram king of Israel and Ahaziah king of Judah rode out, each in his own chariot, to meet Jehu. They met him at the plot of ground that had belonged to Naboth the Tzareelite. When Joram saw Jehu he asked "Have you come in peace, Jehu?"

"How can there be peace," Jehu replied, "as long as all the idolatry and witchcraft of your mother Jezebel abound?"

Joram turned about and fled, calling out to Ahaziah,

"Treachery, Ahaziah!" Then Jehu drew his bow and shot Joram between the shoulders. The arrow pierced his heart and he slumped down in his chariot. Then Jehu drew his bow and shot Joram between the shoulders. The arrow pierced his heart and he slumped down in his chariot. Jehu said to Bidkar, his chariot officer, "Pick him up and throw him on the field that belonged to Naboth the Jezreelite. Remember how you and I were riding together in chariots behind Ahabs his father when the Lord made this prophecy about him.

Yesterday I saw the blood of Naboth and the blood of his sons, declares the Lord, and I will surely make you pay for it on this plot of ground, declares the Lord. Now then, pick him up and throw him on that plot, in accordance with the word of the Lord."

When Ahaziah King of Judah saw what had
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happened, he fled up the road to Beth Haggan. Jehu chased him, shouting, "Kill him too!" They wounded him in his chariot on the way up to Gur near Ibleam, but he escaped to Megiddo and died there. His servants took him by chariot to Jerusalem and buried him with his father in his tomb in the city of David.

(In the eleventh year of Joram son of Ahab, Ahaziah had become king of Judah.) Then Jehu went to Jezreel. When Jezebel heard about it, she painted her eyes, arranged her hair and looked out of a window.

As Jehu entered the gate, she asked, "Have you come in peace, Zimri, you murderer of your master?"

He looked up at the window and called out, "Who is on my side? Who?" Two or three eunuchs looked down at him.

"Throw her down" Jehu said. So they threw her down, and some of her blood spattered the wall.

and the horses as they trampled her underfoot. Jehu went in and ate & drank. "Take care of that cursed woman," he said "and bury her, for she was a king's daughter."

But when they went to bury her, they found nothing except her skull, her feet and her hands.

They went back and told Jehu, who said, "This is the word of the Lord that he spoke through his servant Elijah the Tishbite: on the plot of ground at Jezreel dogs will devour Jezebel's flesh."

Jezebel's body will be like refuse on the ground in the plot at Jezreel, so that no-one will be able to say, 'This is Jezebel'."