

Jehu Is King

2 Kings 9:1-13

Dr. Edwin P. Elliott

I. The Lord of Providence Limits Evil

A. The time came for a change in Israel and Elisha set the change in motion. And *Elisha* the prophet **called one of the children of the prophets**, and said unto him, Gird up thy loins, and **take this box of oil** in thine hand, and **go** to Ramothgilead: (2 KINGS 9:1) The Jews say that this was Jonah, the prophet, the son of Amittai.

B. The Lord sent prophets to anoint kings, reminding everyone in the process that earth's kings serve at the pleasure of the High King. Then *Samuel* took a **vial of oil**, and **poured it upon his head**, and kissed him, and said, *Is it* not because **the LORD hath anointed thee to be captain over his inheritance?** (1 SAMUEL 10:1)

C. Jehu was to be anointed in the classical way to take the throne of Israel. And when thou comest thither, **look out there Jehu** the son of Jehoshaphat the son of Nimshi, and go in, and make him arise up from among his brethren, **and carry him to an inner chamber**; Then **take the box of oil, and pour it on his head**, and say, Thus saith the LORD, **I have anointed thee king over Israel. Then open the door, and flee, and tarry not.** (2 KINGS 9:2-3)

D. Faithfulness is indispensable to safety and prosperity; God will enforce His law. Now therefore **hearken, O Israel**, unto the statutes and unto the judgments, which I teach you, for to do **them, that ye may live, and go in and possess** the land which the LORD God of your fathers giveth you. (DEUTERONOMY 4:1)

E. The day of reckoning had arrived; God had endured all He proposed to endure from Jezebel's family. And it shall come to pass, **that him that escapeth the sword of Hazeel shall Jehu slay: and him that escapeth from the sword of Jehu shall Elisha slay.** (1 KINGS 19:17)

II. The Under-prophet Obeyed

A. The young prophet went to Ramothgilead. So the young man, *even* the young man **the prophet, went to Ramothgilead.** And when he came, behold, the captains of the host were sitting; and he said, **I have an errand to thee**, O captain. And Jehu said, Unto which of all us? And he said, **To thee, O captain.** (2 KINGS 9:4-5)

B. The young man anointed the chosen king. And he arose, and went into the house; and **he poured the oil on his head**, and said unto him, **Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, I have anointed thee king over the people of the LORD, even over Israel.** (2 KINGS 9:6) **along with For promotion cometh neither from the east, nor from the west, nor from the south. But God is the judge: he putteth down one, and setteth up another.** (PSALM 75:6-7)

C. The house of Ahab was sentenced to destruction. And thou shalt **smite the house of Ahab** thy 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.** For **the whole house of Ahab shall perish:** and I will cut off from Ahab him that pisseth against the wall, and him that is shut up and left in Israel: (2 KINGS 9:7-8) **along with Rejoice**, O ye nations, *with* his people: for **he will avenge the blood of his servants**, and will **render vengeance to his adversaries**, and will be merciful unto his land, *and* to his people. (DEUTERONOMY 32:43)

D. When he had finished the sentence, the prophet fled. And *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: And *the dogs shall eat Jezebel in the portion of Jezreel, and there shall be none to bury her*. And *he opened the door, and fled*. (2 KINGS 9:9-10) *along with To me belongeth vengeance*, and recompence; *their foot shall slide* in due time: for *the day of their calamity is at hand*, and the things that shall come upon them make haste. (DEUTERONOMY 32:35)

E. Never forget Who actually directs Providence. *By me kings reign*, and princes decree justice. By me princes rule, and nobles, *even all the judges of the earth*. (PROVERBS 8:15-16)

III. Jehu Accepted the Assignment

A. The event sparked curiosity and expectation. Then Jehu came forth to the servants of his lord: and *one said unto him, Is all well?* wherefore came this mad *fellow* to thee? And he said unto them, *Ye know the man, and his communication*. (2 KINGS 9:11)

B. Jehu boldly announced the change in government when those around him doubted the good will of the prophet. And they said, *It is false; tell us now*. And he said, Thus and thus spake he to me, saying, *Thus saith the LORD, I have anointed thee king over Israel*. (2 KINGS 9:12)

C. The military then rallied to Jehu. *Then they hasted, and took every man his garment, and put it under him on the top of the stairs, and blew with trumpets, saying, Jehu is king*. (2 KINGS 9:13)

D. Jehu gathered support and took steps to keep the revolution secret till the right time. So *Jehu* the son of *Jehoshaphat* the son of Nimshi *conspired against Joram*. (Now Joram had kept Ramothgilead, he and all Israel, because of Hazael king of Syria. But king *Joram was returned to be healed in Jezreel* of the wounds which the Syrians had given him, when he fought with Hazael king of Syria.) And Jehu said, *If it be your minds, then let none go forth nor escape out of the city to go to tell it in Jezreel*. (2 KINGS 9:14-15)