

## 2 Kings Chapter 09 Verses 1-10 Bible Study

**2Ki 9:1 ¶ "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 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; 3 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."**

We go back in time to **1Ki 19:15-16; "15 And the LORD said unto him, Go, return on thy way to the wilderness of Damascus: and when thou comest, anoint Hazael to be king over Syria: 16 And Jehu the son of Nimshi shalt thou anoint to be king over Israel: and Elisha the son of Shaphat of Abelmeholah shalt thou anoint to be prophet in thy room. 17 And it shall come to pass, that him that escapeth the sword of Hazael shall Jehu slay: and him that escapeth from the sword of Jehu shall Elisha slay."** As we pointed out last week in bible study, God commanded Elijah to anoint Hazael, Jehu, and Elisha; however, we are only told of the anointing of Elisha by Elijah.

We see that Hazael and Jehu are to carry out the judicial judgments against Israel and Judah. However, because of Ahab's humiliation before God, God postponed the judicial judgment against Israel, seen in **1Ki 21:29 "Seest thou how Ahab humbleth himself before me? because he humbleth himself before me, I will not bring the evil in his days: but in his son's days will I bring the evil upon his house."** This in turn would leave the anointing of Hazael and Jehu to Elisha after Elijah's death. It would also explain why we are told in scripture that Elijah only anointed Elisha to take his place. We believe that Elisha anointed Hazael in the previous chapter, and he in turn rebelled against Benhadad and killed him. With the anointing of Jehu in this chapter, we see all the prophesies of God are set in order, and their leaders are brought to kingship to carry out God's prophesied judicial judgments.

Elisha sends one of the sons of the prophets to take this box of oil and anoint Jehu to be king over Israel. We ask why did Elisha not go himself? We believe that such were the times that Elisha was being spied upon by the kings of Israel and Judah. Elisha could send one of the sons of the prophets on this errand without raising any suspicion that he was anointing a new king over Israel. Some commentators say that Elisha was very old at this time and would have been unable to make the trip. No matter his age, if God purposed him to go, he would have given him the strength.

Elisha commands him to take Jehu to a private place, pour the anointing oil upon his head, and tell him he is anointed king over Israel, then get away from there as fast as you can. Why flee? If he remained as Jehu revealed his anointing as king over Israel, then the kings could be trace the rebellion of Jehu back to Elisha.

**4 "So, the young man, even the young man the prophet, went to Ramothgilead. 5 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. 6 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. 7 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. 8 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: 9 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: 10 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."**

Ramothgilead is in the property given to the tribe of Gad. Jezreel was near Samaria, the capital of Israel, and is located in the property given to the tribe of Manasseh.

We are told in **2Ki 8:29 "And king Joram went back to be healed in Jezreel of the wounds which the Syrians had given him at Ramah, when he fought against Hazael king of Syria. And Ahaziah the son of Jehoram king of Judah went down to see Joram the son of Ahab in Jezreel, because he was sick."** Because the king of Judah was absent, Jehu, who was believed to be his captain of the host, would have been overseeing the affairs of Israel. We believe this because the prophet addresses him as captain.

**"The son of the prophet"** is believed to be the one who replaced Gehazi as servant to Elisha. The son of the prophet takes Jehu aside to a private place to do the anointing. Jehu goes with him to the house and is anointed as king over Israel. Jehu is given specific instructions that will fulfill the prophecy of Elijah, which God gave to Ahab when he murdered Naboth and took his family inheritance away. But God had stayed the execution thereof, because Ahab humbled himself before God when he heard Elijah's prophecy seen in **1Ki 21:21-29; 21** **"Behold, I will bring evil upon thee, and will take away thy posterity, and will cut off from Ahab him that pisseth against the wall, and him that is shut up and left in Israel, 22 And will make thine house like the house of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, and like the house of Baasha the son of Ahijah, for the provocation wherewith thou hast provoked me to anger, and made Israel to sin. 23 And of Jezebel also spake the LORD, saying, The dogs shall eat Jezebel by the wall of Jezreel. 24 Him that dieth of Ahab in the city the dogs shall eat; and him that dieth in the field shall the fowls of the air eat. 25 But there was none like unto Ahab, which did sell himself to work wickedness in the sight of the LORD, whom Jezebel his wife stirred up. 26 And he did very abominably in following idols, according to all things as did the Amorites, whom the LORD cast out before the children of Israel. 27 And it came to pass, when Ahab heard those words, that he rent his clothes, and put sackcloth upon his flesh, and fasted, and lay in sackcloth, and went softly. 28 And the word of the LORD came to Elijah the Tishbite, saying, 29 Seest thou how Ahab humbleth himself before me? because he humbleth himself before me, I will not bring the evil in his days: but in his son's days will I bring the evil upon his house."**

**"Thus, saith the LORD God of Israel, I have anointed thee king over the people of the LORD, even over Israel."** We believe the intent here is that Jehu was to rule over Israel, as a servant of God, and turn Israel back to the true worship of God. However, we shall see that this did not happen because of the fallen nature of Jehu.

**"And thou shalt smite the house of Ahab"** We see here the fulfilling of God's commandment seen in **Ge 9:6** **"Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed: for in the image of God made he man."** We believe this to still be true in today's world. It is an action to be undertaken by the government, and thus it is not considered murder, to kill one who has murdered another.