

## Royal Lessons for Life

# Jehu

(Israel)

### Jehu's Biography

- Jehu is a general in Israel's army, which is still in the field against the Syrians at Ramothgilead – II Kings 9:1-2,5
- Elisha sends one of the sons of the prophets to anoint him to be the new king – II Kings 9:1-10
- The army proclaims Jehu as the new king – II Kings 9:11-13
- He assassinates Jehoram, king of Israel, and Ahaziah, king of Judah – II Kings 9:14-29
  - Jehoram is killed by an arrow shot by Jehu outside of Jezreel – II Kings 9:24
  - Ahaziah temporarily escapes but is captured and killed – II Kings 9:24, II Chronicles 22:7-9
- Jezebel is killed on his orders – II Kings 9:30-37
- He kills the remnants of the house of Ahab – II Kings 10:1-14,17
- He makes an alliance with Jehonabab, a Kenite – II Kings 10:15-16
  - The Rechabites have a long history of faithfulness – I Chronicles 2:55, Jeremiah 35
- He destroys Baal worship, turning its main temple in Samaria into a latrine – II Kings 10:18-27
- He did not, however, restore true worship of Jehovah – II Kings 10:29-31
- His weak rule led to Syria taking territory – II Kings 10:32-33
- While not recorded in Scripture, it appears that he was subjugated by Assyria and paid them tribute. This was recorded on the "Black Obelisk of Shalmaneser III" which includes the oldest portrait of a Jew and the only contemporary portrait of a Jewish ruler. (see back).
- He reigns for 28 years and is succeeded by his son Jehoahaz – II Kings 10:35-36

### Lessons from the Life of Jehu

- Jehu is an example of someone divinely commissioned for a task that fails because they act in their own strength and wisdom – Zechariah 4:6

