

2 KINGS 10 vs 1

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The first and second books of the kings originally were one book, which Jewish tradition credits to the prophet Jeremiah. The subject follows the successes and failures of the kings of both Judah and Israel. This second book of kings follows the decline of **Israel** leading up to their captivity in Syria; and 170 years later, to the decline of **Judah** leading up to their captivity in Babylon.

Jehu challenged the tutors of the children of Ahab, to secure his rule,

¹ Now Ahab had seventy sons in Samaria. And Jehu wrote letters, and sent them to Samaria, to the rulers of Jezreel, to the elders, and to the guardians of the children of Ahab, saying,

² Now, as soon as this letter comes to you, since the sons of your master are with you, and there are also with you chariots and horses, a fortified city and weapons,

³ select the best and most fit of the sons of your master, and set him on his father's throne, and fight for your master's household.

⁴ But they were exceedingly afraid, and said, Behold, the two kings did not stand before him: how then will we stand?

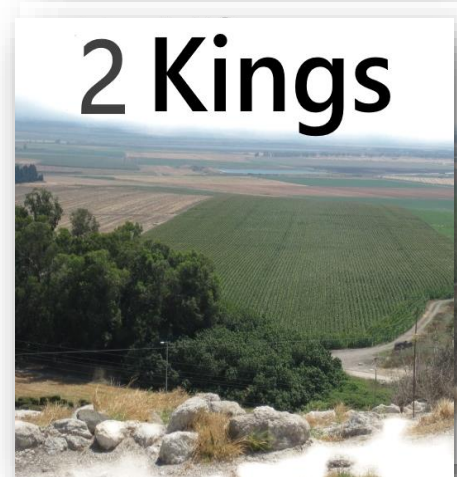
⁵ And the one who was over the household, and he who was over the city, the elders also, and the tutors of the children, sent to Jehu, saying, We are your servants, and will do all that you will ask us; we will not make any man king: you do what you see is good.

⁶ Then he wrote to them a letter a second time saying, If you are on my side, and if you will listen to my voice, take the heads of the sons of your master, and come to me to Jezreel by tomorrow this time. Now the sons of the king, seventy persons, were with the great men of the city, who were raising them.

⁷ And it happened, when the letter came to them, that they took the sons of the king, and killed seventy persons, and put their heads in baskets, and sent him them to Jezreel.

⁸ When the messenger came, and told him, saying, They have brought the heads of the king's sons. And he said, Put them in two heaps at the entrance of the gate until the morning.

⁹ And it happened in the morning, that he went out, and stood, and said to all the people, You are right: behold, I conspired against my master and killed him: but who killed all these?



¹⁰ Know then that not a word of the LORD, which the LORD spoke concerning the house of Ahab will fall to the ground: for the LORD has done what He spoke by his servant Elijah / Dr. Moffat wrote: Be sure of this, that every word of the Eternal will be fulfilled; which is something our genius 21st century should also remember.

¹¹ So Jehu killed every survivor who remained of the house of Ahab in Jezreel, and all his great men, and his relatives, and his priests, until he left him no one remaining.

¹² And he arose and departed, and came to Samaria. And on the way, while he was at Beth-eked of the shepherds,

¹³ Jehu met with the relatives of Ahaziah king of Judah, and asked, Who are you? And they answered, We are the brothers of Ahaziah; and we are going down to greet the children of the king and the children of the queen.

¹⁴ And he said, Take them alive. And they took them alive, and killed them at the pit of the shearing house, 42 men; and he left none of them.

¹⁵ Now when he was departed there, he met Jehonadab the son of Rechab, who was coming to meet him: and he greeted him, and said to him, Is your heart right, as my heart is with your heart? And Jehonadab answered, It is. Jehu said, If it is, give me your hand. And he gave him his hand; and he took him up into his chariot.

¹⁶ And Jehu said, Come with me, and see my zeal for the LORD. So he made him ride in his chariot.

¹⁷ And when he came to Samaria, he killed all the survivors of Ahab in Samaria, till he had destroyed them, according to the word of the LORD, which He spoke to Elijah.

¹⁸ And Jehu gathered all the people together, and said to them, Ahab served Baal a little; but Jehu will serve him much.

¹⁹ So now summon all the prophets of Baal, all his servants, and all his priests; let none be absent: for I have a great sacrifice for Baal; whoever is absent, will not live. But Jehu did it cleverly, with the intent that he would destroy the worshipers of Baal.

²⁰ And Jehu said, Proclaim a solemn assembly for Baal. And they proclaimed it.

²¹ And Jehu sent through all Israel: and all the worshipers of Baal came, so that there was not a man was left who did not come. And they entered the house of Baal; and the house of Baal was full from one end to another.

²² And he said to the one who was in charge of the vestry / the wardrobe, Bring vestments for all the worshipers of Baal. And vestments were brought out.

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²³ Then Jehu entered into the house of Baal with Jehonadab the son of Rechab, and said to the worshipers of Baal, Search and see that there are here with you none of the servants of the LORD, but only the worshipers of Baal / Wow! this was definitely an exclusive gathering.

²⁴ And then they proceeded to offer sacrifices and burnt-offerings. In the meantime, Jehu assigned 80 men outside, and said, If any of those I have brought in... escapes your hands, he who lets him go, will forfeit his life.

²⁵ And it happened, as soon as he finished offering the burnt offering, that Jehu said to the guard and to the captains, Go in, and kill them; let none come out. And they struck them down with the edge of the sword; and the guard and the captains threw them out, and entered the inner room of the house of Baal.

²⁶ And they brought out the images from the house of Baal, and burned them.

²⁷ And they broke down the image of Baal, and broke down the house of Baal, **and made it a latrine to this day.**

²⁸ Thus Jehu destroyed Baal from Israel.

²⁹ However from the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel to sin, Jehu did not depart, that is: the golden calves were still at Bethel and at Dan.

³⁰ And the LORD said to Jehu, Because you have done well in executing what is right in My eyes, and have done to the house of Ahab according to all that was in My heart, your children to the fourth generation will sit on the throne of Israel.

³¹ But Jehu was careless to walk in the law of the LORD, the God of Israel with all his heart: for he did not depart from the sins of Jeroboam, which made **Israel** to sin.

³² In those days the LORD began to prune **Israel**: and Hazael cut them off in all the borders of Israel;

³³ from the Jordan eastward, all the land of Gilead, those of Gad, those of Reuben, and those of Manasseh, to Aroer which is by the river Arnon, even to Gilead and Bashan.

³⁴ Now the rest of the acts of Jehu, and all he did, and all his prowess, are they not written in the Book of Chronicles of the kings of Israel?

³⁵ And Jehu slept with his fathers: and they buried him in Samaria. And Jehoahaz his son reigned in his place.

³⁶ And Jehu reigned for 28 years over **Israel** in Samaria.