



73 Twenty Ministries
BIBLE STUDIES FOR THE ENTHUSIAST

JEHU AND THE JUDGMENT OF AHAB: DID THE PROPHET LIE?

The Prophet's Message, Divine Justice, and Human Responsibility

73 TWENTY MINISTRIES

A TEACHING MINISTRY OF DR. ROBERT C CROWDER

73TWENTY MINISTRIES: CHARTING THE WORD, NAVIGATING FAITH

Rooted in a lifelong passion for teaching and guiding others in Biblical truth, 73Twenty Ministries is devoted to helping believers navigate the depths of Scripture with both clarity and conviction.

The name 73Twenty holds deep personal significance: it comes from my childhood home at 7320 Greenwood Boulevard in Denver, Colorado. It was here that the foundations of my faith, study, and service were first laid. With the majestic Rocky Mountains ever-present on my horizons, God's Word has been a constant guide and presence throughout my life. The logo of 73Twenty Ministries, with its three mountain peaks in gray, blue, and orange, symbolizes not only the Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, but also the unwavering foundation of Biblical truth upon which our faith is built.

For more than twenty years, I've served as a pastor, teacher, mentor, and author, committed to making Biblical truths accessible and applicable. Through sermons, Bible studies, books, articles, and other teaching resources, 73Twenty Ministries exists to equip believers, strengthen churches, and proclaim the Gospel. Our mission is both simple and profound: to chart the Word, guiding faith, and helping others anchor their lives in Scripture.

At 73Twenty Ministries, we believe that faithful Biblical study should engage the mind, transform the heart, and shape daily life. Whether through exegetical teaching, character studies, theological exploration, or practical application, every resource is crafted to deepen understanding, strengthen conviction, and encourage obedience to God's Word.

As a ministry grounded in a conservative Baptist, dispensationalist approach, we focus on Biblical exposition, doctrinal clarity, and practical discipleship. We uphold the belief that Scripture is the authoritative, inerrant, and sufficient Word of God, and it's our privilege to help others navigate its timeless truths.

I invite you to explore the resources at 73TwentyMinistries.com and join us on this journey of discovery, growth, and unwavering faith. Together, let's stand on the mountain of God's truths and proclaim His name to every generation.

For His glory alone,

Dr. Robert C. Crowder, Th.D.

Founder, 73Twenty Ministries

JEHU, THE ANOINTING, AND THE PROPHET'S MESSAGE

UNDERSTANDING 2 KINGS 9 AND GOD'S SOVEREIGN JUSTICE

THE SETTING

In 2 Kings 9, God commands the prophet Elisha to send one of his servants to Ramoth-gilead to anoint Jehu king over Israel. The instruction is clear: anoint him and then flee (2 Kings 9:1–3). The young prophet obeys, but the message he delivers to Jehu goes beyond the public commissioning of a king. He includes explicit instructions that Jehu is to “strike down the house of Ahab” as judgment for the bloodshed of Naboth and the idolatry promoted by Jezebel (2 Kings 9:6–10).

WAS THIS A LIE?

It may seem at first glance that the prophet overstepped his instructions or even lied. However, the fuller picture reveals that the young prophet did not act on his own. Elisha had already received a more comprehensive word from the Lord regarding Jehu's role in divine judgment (see 1 Kings 19:16–17).

1 Kings 19:16-17 (KJV) And Jehu the son of Nimshi shalt thou anoint to be king over Israel: and Elisha the son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah shalt thou anoint to be prophet in thy room. 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.

Elisha simply told the servant to relay part of the message and then flee, likely for his own safety. The servant did in fact deliver God's full intent: Jehu was God's chosen instrument to bring an end to the house of Ahab and purge Baal worship from Israel.

So, the prophet did not lie. Rather, he was a faithful messenger, revealing God's judicial decree. Though difficult, God sanctioned his message.

WHY DID GOD ALLOW THIS JUDGMENT?

The question arises: If Jehu's mission was divinely approved, why does his story seem to end in failure? Why did God command judgment that involved bloodshed and then condemn Jehu for going too far?

God's allowance of Jehu's actions, and his later judgment of Jehu, reflects both His justice and His holiness. Jehu was God's instrument in fulfilling prophecy (1 Kings 21:21–24), bringing justice upon Ahab's dynasty. Yet, Jehu's downfall came not from carrying out God's judgment but from his own pride, political ambition, and failure to fully walk in the Lord's ways (2 Kings 10:29–31). He removed Baal worship but retained the golden calves of Jeroboam.

WAS JEHU DOOMED TO FAIL?

Not at all. Jehu was not set up to fail. He was given a divine calling, confirmed by prophetic word, and granted opportunity to lead Israel in righteousness. However, like Saul before him, Jehu's heart revealed its own trajectory. God, in His omniscience, knew the choices Jehu would make, but foreknowledge is not the same as predetermination. Jehu was accountable for his own decisions.

CONCLUSION

God raised up Jehu as an instrument of judgment. The prophet did not lie. He revealed God's judgment in full. Jehu's mission began in obedience but unraveled because of his compromise. This story serves as a powerful reminder that starting well is not the same as finishing well. God desires obedience not only in action but in the heart.

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