

**Wednesday, December 28, 2022 ▫ Read 2 Kings 10**

Questions from the Scripture text: How many sons did Ahab have where (v1)? Who sent letters where to whom? What were these elders doing? What did Jehu invite these men to do against him (v2-3)? How do the elders feel about this and why (v4)? What do they decide to do instead (v5)? What does Jehu then tell them to bring to where, when (v6)? Who are these elders who receive the message? What do they do (v7)? What does a messenger tell Jehu in v8? And what does Jehu say to do with the heads? To the crowd that gathers, what does he say about them (v9)? And about himself? But what else does he ask? Of Whose Word does he remind them, and Whose action does he ultimately credit (v10)? By whose mouth? What does Jehu proceed to do to whom, where? To where does he go in v12? Whom does he meet where (v13)? What are they on the way to do? What does Jehu say to do (v14)? What do they do, but then what? Whom does Jehu meet in v15? What does Jehu ask about him? What does he tell him to do? What does Jehu tell Jehonadab that he's going to show him (v16)? What does this zeal for Yahweh look like (v17)? What does it fulfill? Now, what does Jehu do (v18)? What does he tell them he will do? Whom does he say to gather (v19)? How many? For what? What was his very Jacobish (more literal than "deceptive" here) intent? What did he say to proclaim (v20)? Where was this proclaimed (v21)? With what result? What was the condition of Baal's temple now? What else does Jehu make sure is included (v22)? Whom does he make sure are excluded (v23)? Where does he post whom, with what threat (v24)? What does he command in v25? What do they do in v26? And what in v27? What did people do at that site from then on? What had Jehu done (v28)? But from what did he not turn away? Still, what had he done in the matter of the house of Ahab (v30)? And how would the Lord reward him for that? So what was the Lord's ultimate verdict about him (v31)? Why? What did the Lord begin to do in response to this sin (v32)? By whose hand? Which parts did they lose (v33)? What else did Jehu do (v34)? Where are those things written? What two things happen to him in v35? Who reigns in his place? How long had he been king (v36)?

**What does true zeal for Yahweh look like?** 2Kings 10 looks forward to the first serial reading in morning public worship on the coming Lord's Day. In these thirty-six verses of Holy Scripture, the Holy Spirit teaches us that **one may do well for some time and to some extent, but true zeal for the Lord departs from the sin of manmade tradition in religion.**

**A show of great zeal.** One of the things that comes across in this passage is how much Jehu relishes his job of fulfilling Yahweh's Word through Elijah about the house of Ahab (cf. v10, 16-17, 30). Among the political chess of vv7-10, the grandstanding of vv7-10, the toying of vv12-14, the personal showing off communicated in vv15-17, the ultimate Jacob-ing (less literally translated "deceptive" in v19) craftiness of vv18-25, and even the repurposed latrine of vv26-27... the implication in this chapter is that Jehu enjoyed this part of his calling immensely.

**Which hid from view great sin.** Although Jehu himself seems to have believed that he was very pro-Yahweh, and Yahweh does commend him for a total cleanup job on the house of Ahab (v30), we must not mistake this for being entirely pro-Yahweh. He apparently did oversee a great sacrifice for Baal in v25, even though the plan was to exact from Baal the ultimate sacrifice.

But there is something far worse here. He continued the manmade Yahweh-worship by way of manmade methods (golden calves) in man-selected locations (Bethel and Dan) on the manmade holy days (v29, cf. 1Ki 12:28-33). Hundreds of years of continual religious practice, resting upon almost a millennium of religious tradition for celebrating the redemptive acts of Yahweh (cf. Ex 32:4-6) couldn't be bad could it? The Lord's own view of it is that it was sinning (v29a), causing the church to sin (v29b), and not caring to walk in the law of the Lord with all the heart (v31).

Though one do many things, completely the way the Lord has commanded; though many see him being very zealous for the Lord; though the Lord Himself commend much of what he does... still that one may sin greatly against God simply by continuing the church's traditional observances "in honor of the Lord and His redemption."

The text ties the timing of the judgment in v32 to the assessment in v31. Though Jehu reigned 28 years (v36), and did many mighty acts (v34), all the press is given to his good start wiping out Ahab, and then his boring but wicked continuation of the manmade liturgy of Israel. This is what mattered before the eyes of God.

What false gods are worshiped in our culture? In our churches? What does zeal for the Lord desire to be done to them? What man-made ways of worshiping God are in the church? What would zeal for the Lord do with that?

*Sample prayer: Lord, You alone are worthy of worship. Forgive us for not being much bothered by how the world around us depends on other gods, is devoted to other gods, and delights in other gods. Stir up zeal for You in our hearts. And grant that this zeal would be genuine, so that we would not continue in any traditional worship of You that originated with man. Forgive us for sins like those for which You judged even otherwise faithful Jehu, and the ten tribes with him. Turn our hearts back to Your Word to be led in worship by Jesus alone, in Whose Name we ask it, AMEN!*

Suggested songs: ARP119W "Lord, Let My Cry Before You Come" or TPH103E "O, Come My Soul, Bless Thou the Lord"

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Second kings chapter 10. These are the words of god. Now, a have had 70 sons in Samaria and Jehu wrote in sent letters to Samaria to the rulers of jezreal. To the elders to those who reared ahab's, son saying, Now, as soon as this letter, comes to you, Since your master sums are with you and you have chariots and horses.

A fortified city also and weapons. Choose the best qualified of your master's son, set him on his father's throne and fight for your master's house. But they were exceedingly afraid and said, look. Two kings could not stand up to him. How then can we stand? And he, who was in charge of the house and he was in charge of the city.

The elders also and those who reared, the sons, sent to ji, who saying we are your servants. We will do all you tell us, We will not make anyone king. Do what is good in your site. Then he wrote a second letter to them saying if you are for me and will obey my voice, Take the heads of the men, your master's sons, and come to me.

It just real By this time tomorrow. Now, the king's son's, 70 persons were with the great men of the city. Who were rearing them? So it was letter, came to them that they took the king's sons and slaughtered 70 persons. Put their heads in baskets and send them to images, real.

Then a messenger came and told him saying they had brought the heads of the king's sons. And he said, lay them in two heaps at the entrance of the gate until morning. So it was in the morning that he went out and stood and said to all the people You are righteous indeed.

I conspired against my master and killed him. But, Who killed all these? No, now that nothing shall fall to the earth of the word of yahweh. What you always? Spoke concerning the house of ahab. For yahweh has done what he spoke by his servant, elijah. So gee who killed all who remained to the house of ahabbage, it's real.

And all his great men and his close acquaintances and his priests Until he left him. None remaining. Any arose and departed and went to Samaria? On the way at bait decade of the shepherds. Yeah, you met with the brothers of, in his ayah king of judah and said, Who are you?

So they answered, we are the brothers of azziah. We've come down to greet the sons of the king and the sons of the queen mother. And he said, take them alive so they took them alive. And killed them. At the well of bait decade. 42 men. And he left.

None of them. Now, when he departed from there, he met the son of a cab coming to meet him, and he greeted him and said to him, Is your heart, right? As my heart is toward your heart. And Johannes answered, it is Jay who said if it is give me your hand.

So he gave him his hand. And he took him up into the chariot. Then he said come with me and see my zeal for yahweh. So they had him ride in his chariot. And when he came to some area, he killed all who remained to Ahab in Samaria. Until he had destroyed them, according to the word of yahweh.

Which he spoke to Elijah. And Jehu gathered all the people together and said to them. Ahab served bail a little Gee who will serve him much. Now, therefore call to me all the prophets of bail, all his servants, all his priests, let no one be missing. For, i have a great sacrifice for bell.

Whoever is missing shall not live. But gee, who acted deceptively With the intent of destroying the worshipers of the hell. And jay who said proclaim us solemn assembly for bail. So they proclaimed it. And jay who sent throughout all Israel. And the worshipers of the elk came. So that there was not a man left, you did not come.

So, they came into the temple of bail and the temple of bail was full from one end to the other. And he said to the one in charge of the wardrobe, bring out vestments. For all the worshipers of hell. So, he brought outvestments for them. And Jehu and jeerna dab.

The son of rahab went into the temple of bail and said to the worshipers of bail Search and see. That no servants of y'all way are here with you, but only the worshipers of bail. So they went in to offer sacrifices and burnt offerings. Now, Jehu had appointed for himself.

80 men on the outside. And had said, if any of the men whom i have brought into your hands escapes Whoever lets him escape, it shall be his life for the life of the other. Now, it happened as soon as he had made an offering and end of offering the burnt offering.

That jig who said to the guard, into the captains, go in and kill them. Let no one come out. And they killed them with the edge of the sword. Than the guards and the officers through them out and went into the inner room of the temple of the hell.

And they brought the sacred pillars out of the temple of ale and burned them. And they broke down the sacred pillar of bell and tore down the temple of bail and made it a refuge dump to this day. Last Jew who destroyed the alpha israel. However, Jehu did not turn away.

From the sins of jeroboam, the son of nibette. It made israel to sin. That is from the golden caps that were at Bethel and dan. You always said to Jehu because you have done well and doing what is right in my sight. And i've done to the house of ahab, all that was in my heart.

Your son shall sit on the throne of israel. To the fourth generation. Forget who took no heed to walk in the law of Yahweh, god of israel. With all his heart. For he did not depart from the sins of jerboa. Who had made Israel to sin? And in those days, you always began to cut off parts of Israel.

Patio conquered them and all the territory of israel. From the Jordan eastern, all the land of gilead. God rumen. Manasse from marawere, which is by the river arnin including gilead and Bashan. Now, the rest of the act of gene who all that he did, And all his might. Are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of israel?

So gee who rested with his fathers. And they buried him in Samaria. And jehovah has his son, reigned in his place. And the period that Jehu reigned over israel and Samaria. Was 28 years. So far the reading of god's inspired in the narrant worked.

So, not one word of the lord ever falls to the ground. And this is, A great encouragement to those who believe in the lord jesus christ. Words, like everyone who calls upon the name of the lord jesus. Will be saved. And no one who puts their trust in. We'll be put to shame.

And those whom he justified, he also glorified. And, There is no condemnation for those. Who are in christ jesus. And if we have been justified, Uh, through faith in jesus christ, we have peace with god. Through our lord, jesus christ. Words like that. Uh, will not fall to the ground but also, The words like by works of the law shall know, man.

Be justified. The wages of sin is death. And those Who are outside of christ. Uh, he who believes in the sun has eternal life, you who does not believe in son, does not have life, but the wrath of god, Remains upon him. Those words will also not fall to the ground.

Jig, who should have known better? He starts out in this passage. Uh, making it clear that not one word. Of. Uh, what yahweh had said would fall to the earth verse 10. Concerning the house of elijah and he made it clear that what the lord had said had in part been carried out by his own hand.

But through Jehu's own cleverness. Um, What the lord said was also carried out even by those upon whom the judgment of god would come. Uh, those ahab. Loyal. Elders and leaders who didn't come over to Jehu's side, and participate in the execution of the sons because they were suddenly loyal to the lord or because they were suddenly loyal to Jehu.

But because they reasoned the math of The military might and said, well, If jahora may his ayah couldn't stand up to him, then we don't stand a chance. Let's save our own skins. And they end up being. The means by which the 70 are executed. And gee, who makes that point, he says, You all are innocent.

You all didn't kill these 70 and i didn't kill these 70 who did so And so that we don't have to do like a lot of commentators and say, wonder what he means by that, he immediately follows it by saying. Thus, you know, that none of the words of yahweh will fall to the ground.

In other words, he will accomplish it by one hand or another. Jehu should have known better. Did that only apply to the words of Yahweh against ab for bail? Because the lord had pronounced it against ahab for naboth. And the lord had also pronounced it against ahab for continuing in the same sense.

For which he had destroyed the house of jeroboam and the son of knee back. And for which he had destroyed the house of bash, namely, The creation, not a veil worship. In Bethel and dan. But of calf based worship or calf, supplemented enhanced worship. In Bethel. And then Of the establishing of a new priesthood, apart from the levites.

To minister at Bethel and den. Of establishing his own, holy days that he had come up with for the praise of yahweh. A feast in the second month. In Bethel and Dan. That had been like, the feast. That was in the first month. And so, we have a passage that starts With a man, who is zealous for the word of yahweh and zealous for the lord alone.

You all went alone being god. In fact, he doesn't just teach the people, but when he finds A guy named Jehonadab. Who apparently is very zealous for yahweh. He says, i'm like you to hunt a dad, Are you like me? And he brings, Joe hone a dab up into his own chariot and he describes what he's about to go to do as zeal for y'all way.

Now, gee, who seems to believe it in Jehonadab. Apparently, buys it as well. But this warns us, That even if we, Hate the names of other gods and think that we are against. The worship of any other god, even if we think. And act as if we are very zealous for the name of yahweh.

Even if we do much that the lord himself commands, Look at verse 30. You always said to Jehu because you have done well. And doing what is right in my sight and have done to the house of ahab, all that was in my heart. And yet the end of it.

Is a muted mercy. A reduced reward. Your son shall sit on the throne of Israel to the fourth generation. Not. Forever before me. The way god said to david. The way god had offered to Jeroboam the first before he set up his calf worship, his god way worth it, by means it.

Of unauthorized images and unauthorized men and unauthorized days. Not your house before me forever. But just four, Generation. You remember? The lord punishing. To the third and fourth generation. Of those who hate him. Worship idolatrously. But, Uh, showing mercy to thousands. Of them who love him and keep his commandments.

And so there's an echo of the second commandment here, but it's Kind of a sad echo. Because it's not thousands for Jehu, it's third or fourth, for g2, third, or fourth, good, it leads. So gee who had done a lot, that was right. And there are many in the churches.

Who do a lot that is right. And think that that somehow excuses, whatever else they feel. Is zealous for the lord. Even if it's not commanded in his word,

So gee, who hated bail? He destroyed everything. That. Was unto bail? He acts Jacob Lee. In verse 19, it doesn't use the word for lie. It uses the word for heel grabbing Um, cunningly maybe a better translation there for cleverly. Uh, or just translate it the way it is, and let the bible's own text.

Help you fill in the meeting. He acted jacobly. With the intent of destroying the worshipers of bail and he did have his own bell sacrifice. Once all the profits have been over and all the people who were loyal to male were slaughtered. He burnt. Uh, the sacred pillars of bail.

And then he turned the former temple location into Israel's latrine. That's where they would collect. The The refuse and a lot of cases, manure. If it wasn't. Useful for fertilizing. One, human manure. And made it a refuge dump to this day. In verse 27. And so, he hid to bail.

According to the word of Yahweh. But he also did to yahweh, according to the word of Jeroboam, And for that, not only is his family judged. But he gets to be the one. And whom the exile begins slow motion, right? A Syria isn't even here yet. It's just Syria.

But the two and a half tribes, That region that was the first to be taken. While Moses was still alive were long kingdom. Besan was killed. And they settled God and Reuben. And half of Manasseh. And so it was kind of the first fruits of the land. Um, The first great victory of the conquest.

That gets wiped out during his days. That's his legacy. He ranked 28 years. And what does God tell about? He tells about The slaughter of the house of ahab. And The removal of bail all which happens almost immediately. And then, he tells about And extended rain. Of continued, unfaithfulness due to man-made worship.

And the beginning of the loss. Of the kingdom of Israel. That's true. Whose lasting legacy. So, let us not. Whatever other things that we do, that are commendable, whatever other faithfulness to the lord, even courage and zeal on behalf of the lord and cleverness. We execute. We carry out.

Let us never ever excuse. Worship that is according to our own ideas. Less the last word of that us. Be. The word that we knew would not fall to the ground. We did not follow fully. And ended up being ourselves. Those who brought disaster. Upon our families. And upon the people of God.

If you follow man-made worship, if you participate in man, made religion, Then you are walking in that which brings disaster upon families. And disaster upon the people of God. About grant by the grace of Christ. That we would not do so.

Our father in heaven. We thank you for this portion of your word. We thank you for giving it to us and worship. We pray that you would bless it to us. We pray that. You would. Give us courage and zeal. To oppose those who have been stronged and influential.

Leading your people astray. We thank you that you did that much for Jehu. But O Lord, we cling to Christ and ask That you would not. Leave us where Jehu was left. With a partial obedience. That is a disastrous disobedience. Book grant, that we would follow your word and only your word.

When it comes to how to know you and how to worship you. Make us blessings, not to three or four generations. Put to a thousand generations. A grant that we would not be among those. Quivering disaster upon your people. For failing. To live rightly before your face. But make us among those.

Whom you use? To stand in the gap. And restore delight in the day that you have commanded. As a way of restoring delight in you, Oh, pour out your holy spirit and restore delight and you yourself? That that which is from man. Would pale by comparison. And be abolished from your people's hearts and lives.

We ask it in jesus name. Amen.