Elisha Anoints Jehu King of Israel (841n BC)

2 Kings 9:1–13

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.

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.

11 Then Jehu came forth to the servants of his lord: and *one* said unto him, *Is* all well? wherefore came this mad *fellow* to thee? And he said unto them, Ye know the man, and his communication.

12 And they said, *It is* false; tell us now. And he said, Thus and thus spake he to me, saying, Thus saith the LORD, I have anointed thee king over Israel.

13 Then they hasted, and took every man his garment, and put *it* under him on the top of the stairs, and blew with trumpets, saying, Jehu is king.

Jehu Kills Joram [Israel] and Ahaziah [Judah] (841n BC)		
2 Kings 9:14–29	2 Chronicles 22:7, 9	
Jehu Travels to Jezreel 14 So Jehu the son of Jehoshaphat the son of Nimshi conspired against Joram. (Now Joram had kept Ramothgilead, he and all Israel, because of Hazael king of Syria. 15 But king Joram was returned to be healed in Jezreel of the wounds which the Syrians had given him, when he fought with Hazael king of Syria.) And Jehu said, If it be your minds, <i>then</i> let none go forth <i>nor</i> escape out of the city to go to tell <i>it</i> in Jezreel. 16 So Jehu rode in a chariot, and went to Jezreel; for Joram lay there. And Ahaziah king of Judah was come down to see Joram. 17 And there stood a watchman on the tower in Jezreel, and he spied the company of Jehu as he came, and said, I see a company. And Joram said, Take an horseman, and send to meet them, and let him say, <i>Is it</i> peace? 18 So there went one on horseback to meet him, and said, Thus saith the king, <i>Is it</i> peace? And Jehu said, What hast thou to do with peace? turn thee behind me. And the watchman told, saying, The messenger came to them, but he cometh not again. 19 Then he sent out a second on horseback, which came to them, and said, Thus saith the king, <i>Is it</i> peace? And Jehu answered, What hast thou to do with peace? turn thee behind me. 20 And the watchman told, saying, He came even unto them, and cometh not again: and the driving <i>is</i> like the driving of Jehu the son of Nimshi; for he driveth furiously.	7 And the destruction of Ahaziah was of God by coming to Joram: for when he was come,	

Joram and Ahaziah Meet Jehu in Naboth's Vineyard	
21 And Joram said, Make ready. And his chariot was made ready.	
And Joram king of Israel and Ahaziah king of Judah went out,	he went out with Jehoram
each in his chariot, and they went out against Jehu,	against Jehu the son of Nimshi,
	whom the LORD had anointed to cut off the house of Ahab.
and met him in the portion of Naboth the Jezreelite.	
22 And it came to pass, when Joram saw Jehu, that he said,	
Is it peace, Jehu? And he answered, What peace, so long as the	
whoredoms of thy mother Jezebel and her witchcrafts are so	
many?	
23 And Joram turned his hands, and fled, and said to Ahaziah,	
There is treachery, O Ahaziah.	
Jehu Kills Joram [Israel]	
24 And Jehu drew a bow with his full strength, and smote	
Jehoram between his arms, and the arrow went out at his heart,	
and he sunk down in his chariot.	
25 Then said Jehu to Bidkar his captain, Take up, and cast him in	
the portion of the field of Naboth the Jezreelite: for remember	
how that, when I and thou rode together after Ahab his father,	
the LORD laid this burden upon him;	
26 Surely I have seen yesterday the blood of Naboth, and the	
blood of his sons, saith the LORD; and I will requite thee in this	
plat, saith the LORD. Now therefore take and cast him into the	
plat of ground, according to the word of the LORD.	
Jehu Kills Ahaziah [Judah]	
27 But when Ahaziah the king of Judah saw <i>this</i> , he fled by the	
way of the garden house. And Jehu followed after him, and said,	
Smite him also in the chariot. And they did so at the going up to	
Gur, which is by Ibleam.	
And he fled to Megiddo, and died there.	9 And he sought Ahaziah: and they caught him,
	(for he was hid in Samaria,) and brought him to Jehu:
	and when they had slain him,
28 And his servants carried him in a chariot to Jerusalem,	
and buried him	they buried him:
in his sepulcher with his fathers in the city of David.	
	Because, said they, he <i>is</i> the son of Jehoshaphat,
	who sought the LORD with all his heart.
29 And in the eleventh year [by accession reckoning] of Joram	
the son of Ahab began Ahaziah to reign over Judah.	
	So the house of Ahaziah had no power to keep still the kingdom.

Jehu Kills Joram's Mother Jezebel (841n BC)

2 Kings 9:30-37

30 And when Jehu was come to Jezreel, Jezebel heard *of it*; and she painted her face, and tired her head, and looked out at a window.

31 And as Jehu entered in at the gate, she said, Had Zimri peace, who slew his master?

32 And he lifted up his face to the window, and said, Who *is* on my side? who? And there looked out to him two *or* three eunuchs. 33 And he said, Throw her down. So they threw her down: and *some* of her blood was sprinkled on the wall, and on the horses: and he trode her under foot.

34 And when he was come in, he did eat and drink, and said, Go, see now this cursed *woman*, and bury her: for she *is* a king's daughter.

35 And they went to bury her: but they found no more of her than the skull, and the feet, and the palms of her hands.

36 Wherefore they came again, and told him. And he said, This *is* the word of the LORD, which he spake by his servant Elijah the Tishbite, saying, In the portion of Jezreel shall dogs eat the flesh of Jezebel:

37 And the carcass of Jezebel shall be as dung upon the face of the field in the portion of Jezreel; so that they shall not say, This is Jezebel.

Athaliah, Ahaziah's Mother and Ahab's Daughter, Assumes the Throne of Judah (841n BC)		
2 Kings 11:1–3	2 Chronicles 22:10–12	
1 And when Athaliah the mother of Ahaziah	10 But when Athaliah the mother of Ahaziah	
saw that her son was dead,	saw that her son was dead,	
she arose and destroyed all the seed royal.	she arose and destroyed all the seed royal of the house of Judah.	
2 But Jehosheba, the daughter of king Joram, sister of Ahaziah,	11 But Jehoshabeath, the daughter of the king,	
took Joash the son of Ahaziah,	took Joash the son of Ahaziah,	
and stole him from among the king's sons which were slain;	and stole him from among the king's sons that were slain,	
and they hid him, even him and his nurse, in the bedchamber	and put him and his nurse in a bedchamber.	
	So Jehoshabeath, the daughter of king Jehoram, the wife of	
	Jehoiada the priest, (for she was the sister of Ahaziah,)	
from Athaliah, so that he was not slain.	hid him from Athaliah, so that she slew him not.	
3 And he was with her hid in the house of the LORD six years.	12 And he was with them hid in the house of God six years:	
And Athaliah did reign over the land.	and Athaliah reigned over the land.	

Jehu [Israel] Kills Ahab's Sons (841n BC)

2 Kings 10:1–11

1 And Ahab had seventy sons in Samaria. And Jehu wrote letters, and sent to Samaria, unto the rulers of Jezreel, to the elders, and to them that brought up Ahab's *children*, saying,

2 Now as soon as this letter cometh to you, seeing your master's sons *are* with you, and *there are* with you chariots and horses, a fenced city also, and armor;

3 Look even out the best and meetest of your master's sons, and set *him* on his father's throne, and fight for your master's house. 4 But they were exceedingly afraid, and said, Behold, two kings stood not before him: how then shall we stand?

5 And he that *was* over the house, and he that *was* over the city, the elders also, and the bringers up *of the children*, sent to Jehu, saying, We *are* thy servants, and will do all that thou shalt bid us; we will not make any king: do thou *that which is* good in thine eyes.

6 Then he wrote a letter the second time to them, saying, If ye *be* mine, and *if* ye will hearken unto my voice, take ye the heads of the men your master's sons, and come to me to Jezreel by to morrow this time. Now the king's sons, *being* seventy persons, *were* with the great men of the city, which brought them up.

7 And it came to pass, when the letter came to them, that they took the king's sons, and slew seventy persons, and put their heads in baskets, and sent him *them* to Jezreel.

8 And there came a messenger, and told him, saying, They have brought the heads of the king's sons. And he said, Lay ye them in two heaps at the entering in of the gate until the morning.

9 And it came to pass in the morning, that he went out, and stood, and said to all the people, Ye *be* righteous: behold, I conspired against my master, and slew him: but who slew all these?

10 Know now that there shall fall unto the earth nothing of the word of the LORD, which the LORD spake concerning the house of Ahab: for the LORD hath done *that* which he spake by his servant Elijah.

11 So Jehu slew all that remained of the house of Ahab in Jezreel, and all his great men, and his kinsfolks, and his priests, until he left him none remaining.

Jehu [Israel] Kills Ahaziah's [Judah] Relatives (841n BC)		
2 Kings 10:12–14	2 Chronicles 22:8	
12 And he arose and departed, and came to Samaria.	8 And it came to pass, that, when Jehu was executing judgment upon the house of Ahab,	
And as he was at the shearing house in the way,		
13 Jehu met with the brethren of Ahaziah king of Judah, and said, Who <i>are</i> ye? And they answered,	and found the princes of Judah,	
We <i>are</i> the brethren of Ahaziah; and we go down to salute the	and the sons of the brethren of Ahaziah,	
children of the king and the children of the queen. 14 And he said, Take them alive. And they took them alive,	that ministered to Ahaziah,	
and slew them at the pit of the shearing house, <i>even</i> two and forty men; neither left he any of them.	he slew them.	

© Nathan E. Brown

Jehu [Israel] Kills Ahab's Family in Samaria (841n BC)

2 Kings 10:15-17

15 And when he was departed thence, he lighted on Jehonadab the son of Rechab *coming* to meet him: and he saluted him, and said to him, Is thine heart right, as my heart *is* with thy heart? And Jehonadab answered, It is. If it be, give *me* thine hand. And he gave *him* his hand; and he took him up to him into the chariot. [cf. Jer 35]

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

17 And when he came to Samaria, he slew all that remained unto Ahab in Samaria, till he had destroyed him, according to the saying of the LORD, which he spake to Elijah.

Jehu [Israel] Exterminates Baal Worship (841n BC)

2 Kings 10:18–30

18 And Jehu gathered all the people together, and said unto them, Ahab served Baal a little; *but* Jehu shall serve him much. 19 Now therefore call unto me all the prophets of Baal, all his servants, and all his priests; let none be wanting: for I have a great sacrifice *to do* to Baal; whosoever shall be wanting, he shall not live. But Jehu did *it* in subtlety, to the intent that he might destroy the worshippers 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 worshippers of Baal came, so that there was not a man left that came not. And they came into the house of Baal; and the house of Baal was full from one end to another.

22 And he said unto him that *was* over the vestry, Bring forth vestments for all the worshippers of Baal. And he brought them forth vestments.

23 And Jehu went, and Jehonadab the son of Rechab, into the house of Baal, and said unto the worshippers of Baal, Search, and look that there be here with you none of the servants of the LORD, but the worshippers of Baal only.

24 And when they went in to offer sacrifices and burnt offerings, Jehu appointed fourscore men without, and said, *If* any of the men whom I have brought into your hands escape, *he that letteth him go*, his life *shall be* for the life of him.

25 And it came to pass, as soon as he had made an end of offering the burnt offering, that Jehu said to the guard and to the captains, Go in, *and* slay them; let none come forth. And they smote them with the edge of the sword; and the guard and the captains cast *them* out, and went to the city of the house of Baal.

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

27 And they brake down the image of Baal, and brake down the house of Baal, and made it a draught house unto this day. 28 Thus Jehu destroyed Baal out of Israel.

29 Howbeit *from* the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel to sin, Jehu departed not from after them, *to wit*, the golden calves that *were* in Bethel, and that *were* in Dan.

30 And the LORD said unto Jehu, Because thou hast done well in executing *that which is* right in mine eyes, *and* hast done unto the house of Ahab according to all that *was* in mine heart, thy children of the fourth *generation* shall sit on the throne of Israel.

The Shunammite Woman Returns to Israel (c. 837 BC)

2 Kings 8:3–6

3 And it came to pass at the seven years' end, that the woman returned out of the land of the Philistines: and she went forth to cry unto the king for her house and for her land.

4 And the king talked with Gehazi the servant of the man of God, saying, Tell me, I pray thee, all the great things that Elisha hath done.

5 And it came to pass, as he was telling the king how he had restored a dead body to life, that, behold, the woman, whose son he had restored to life, cried to the king for her house and for her land. And Gehazi said, My lord, O king, this *is* the woman, and this *is* her son, whom Elisha restored to life.

6 And when the king asked the woman, she told him. So the king appointed unto her a certain officer, saying, Restore all that was hers, and all the fruits of the field since the day that she left the land, even until now.

God Reduces Israel's Territory Under Jehu (c. 837–836 BC)

2 Kings 10:31–33

31 But Jehu took no heed to walk in the law of the LORD God of Israel with all his heart: for he departed not from the sins of Jeroboam, which made Israel to sin.

32 In those days the LORD began to cut Israel short: and Hazael smote them in all the coasts of Israel;

33 From Jordan eastward, all the land of Gilead, the Gadites, and the Reubenites, and the Manassites, from Aroer, which *is* by the river Arnon, even Gilead and Bashan.

Scripture quotations are from The King James Version (KJV). The KJV is in the public domain.