

July 2 Answers

- 1) Elisha anointed Jehu king of Israel. Jehu was sitting around with his fellow army captains at Ramoth-gilead when Elisha's man arrived and asked him for a private word. The next thing Jehu knew, he was being anointed king and told to destroy the entire house of Ahab. God said, "I will **avenge** the blood of my servants the prophets and the blood of all the Lord's servants shed by Jezebel" (2 Kgs 9:7b). This teaches us that no one can lay a hand on one of God's servants and get **away** with it. God allows the wicked to make their own choices, but He also makes sure that **justice** is done in the end (cf. Luke 18:7-8). Jehu was only too eager to carry out God's desire for vengeance against Ahab's house. Indeed, he **remembered** when Elijah had rebuked Ahab for killing Naboth (2 Kgs 9:25-26), and he made sure that Naboth's field was soaked with the **blood** of Ahab's son Joram. Jezebel fared no better. She was thrown from her window and trampled under Jehu's "madly-driven" chariot. Her life of luxury and wickedness ended in a muddy street, and the dogs devoured her mangled body: only her skull, feet and the palms of her hands remained. What a fitting end to a fiendish woman. This reminds us that we want to be on God's side when His **wrath** falls on the wicked, for rest assured, it will come! Jehu was willing to be God's fearful **sword** of vengeance, but he wasn't willing to be God's faithful **servant**. He continued in Jeroboam's sin and refused to get rid of the golden **calves** (2 Kgs 10:31). This teaches us that an active and **zealous** ministry cannot make up for disobedience. If we refuse to obey God in **all** things, we're no better than Saul or Jehu.