

Lesson 11
2 Kings 10:1-36

APOCALYPSE FOR AHAB

Jehu Wipes Out Ahab's Family (2 Kings 10:1-17)

139. Do you think Jehu's challenge in verses 2-3 was a serious one? Why or why not?
140. Re-read verses 6-11. How did Jehu's choice of words allow him plausible deniability in the murder of Ahab's sons? Why was it necessary that Ahab's seventy sons be killed? Was Jehu justified in his killing of Ahab's court officials and priests? Why or why not?
141. Did Jehu order the killing of Ahaziah's relatives or not? How do you know? Was it necessary that they be killed? Explain your answer. Who were Jehu's final victims in this section of verses? Was it necessary that they be killed? Explain your answer.
142. Read Jeremiah 35. Who was Jehonadab, son of Recab? Why did Jehu think it was important to secure Jehonadab's support?

Jehu Destroys the Ministers and Temple of Baal (2 Kings 10:18-36)

143. In what way did Jehu deceive the worshippers of Baal? How had Jehu used deception previously to execute God's judgment on the house of Ahab?
144. What do you make of the fact that the word "Baal" is repeated seventeen times between 2 Kings 10:18-28?
145. What became of the ruins of the temple of Baal? How is this connected to the unburied remains of Jezebel in 2 Kings 9:37?
146. In what way did Jehu succeed? What was the reward for his success? In what way did he fail? What was the penalty for his failure? In the final analysis, was Jehu a "good" king or not? Explain your answer.
147. In what ways should we emulate Jehu? In what ways should we not emulate him?

Where is Jesus?

148. How did Jehu's destruction of the temple of Baal anticipate Christ's actions in and teachings about the temple in Jerusalem?
149. The catalog Jehu's acts of violence against the house of Ahab in 2 Kings 9 and 10 can be summarized as follows: (1) Joram; (2) Ahaziah; (3) Jezebel; (4) seventy sons of Ahab; (5) forty-two relatives of Ahaziah; (6) remaining Ahab loyalists and family in Jezreel and Samaria; (7) temple and worshippers of Baal. What does the number seven symbolize in the Bible? What might Jehu's seven acts of violence signify? What does this teach us about the work of Christ?
150. Re-read Jehu's instructions in 2 Kings 10:23. How does this verse look forward to the parable Jesus tells of the sheep and goats recorded in Matthew 25:31-46? What comfort should Christians derive from both these texts?
151. Review the fourth part of the section on baptism in Luther's *Small Catechism*. What does Luther say we should do to our "old Adam?" What does Jehu's homicidal zeal teach us about the nature and power of baptism?

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