Kings and Prophets 14-08-01b

We pick up our study now in 2nd Kings chapter 10, and I have asked a question in Contrary to the advice they give lawyers. They tell lawyers never ask a question you don't know the answer to Because it usually backfires in a court trial you ask the witness a question And they give an unexpected answer and your whole case goes down in flames or up in smoke or up in flames down in smoke And Dismantles your your argument, and I will tell you that I'm not sure about this, but I'm I'm going to offer you the Circumstances here that I'm looking at and you can draw your own conclusion And then I'm going to move into something by way of Current events that I think is is pertinent to this But we've seen Jehu Slaying pretty much everybody in the Royal house of the southern kingdom as well as everybody in the house of Ahab which is the royal house of the northern kingdom and Despite the intermarriage and whatnot you can make a case I'm not saying it's a conclusive case, but you can argue that those are not the same houses There's a reason why the kingdom is divided and continues to be so even though you've got this whole Son-in-law Situation going on with a Isaiah. He still counts from an Israelite point of view as house of Jehoshaphat He's never said to be a part of the house of Ahab there's a lot of other stuff going on down there a lot of evil a lot of wickedness but Remember the details of the Commission to Jehu we reviewed them in the first session The son of the prophets that goes in and commissions him in the inner room tells him specifically It is the house of Ahab bond and free everybody in the house and nobody escapes to avenge the blood of the prophets and those who were murdered by Jezebel this includes Naboth so He's certainly accomplished that objective with zest their heads rolling into baskets all over the place but He also with great Glee and malice of forethought is wiping out everybody Associated with a has I he meets these guys on the road and yes these guys made a mistake by going up there and So maybe they needed to be slain anyway But let me just point something out and you see what you think about this let's think about the house of Jehoshaphat again turn back to 2nd Chronicles chapter 21 When Josh that rests with his father's Jehoram his son reigns in his place.

He had brothers the sons of Jehoshaphat gives their names he murders them all fratricide He's a fat fratricidal maniac, right? murders all of his brothers what is the Consequence For this, how does God? respond in verse 12 the letter comes from our old retired prophet Elijah Thus says the Lord God of your father David this is Joram now Joram Who's his father? not Ahab your father David Your father Jehoshaphat, that's his line You've not walked in the ways of Josh about your father or in the ways of Asa king of Judah You've walked in the way of the kings of Israel You've walked in their way You're doing the same thing they're doing You've made Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem play the harlot like the harlotry of the house of Ahab similar to not same as You have killed your brothers those of your father's household who are better than yourself behold the Lord will do what? Send Jehu to wipe out all of your descendants. No, what is the judgment of God on the house of Joram? The Lord will strike your people with a serious affliction your children your wives and All your possessions you will be very sick with the disease of your intestines until your intestines come out by reason of the sickness day by day This is a living Judgment This isn't a judgment of death. This is you're going to stay alive and

suffer, right? That's the word of the Lord that's Let me say it again the word of the Lord on the house of Joram He his wives his children are going to suffer Illness, but it doesn't say anything about taking their lives, right? Moreover the Lord stirred up against Joram the spirit of the Philistines and the Arabians who were near the Ethiopians They came up into Judah and invaded it and carried away all the possessions that were found in the king's house Also his now diseased sons and his now diseased wives Right these people are already Suffering with you know was there some Bacteria in the water they were all drinking.

I don't know how God accomplished. This could have been supernatural could have been Something natural that God used but something made them all deathly ill but then before they can even Suffer for very long the Arabians and Philistines come up and carry them all away Nobody left except Jehoahaz which is Ahaziah the youngest of his sons After all this the Lord struck him in his intestines with an incurable disease It happened in the course of time after the end of two years his intestines came out because of his sickness He died in severe pain his people made no burning for him like the burning for his father's He was 32 years old when he became king he reigned in Jerusalem eight years and to no one's sorrow He departed At the age of 40 they did bury him in the city of David, but not in the tomb of the Kings So they made Ahaziah his youngest son king in his place Now it says in verse 2 Ahaziah was 42 years old when he became king, but you've got a text note there Indicating that it's more likely that he was 22 When you get that from 2nd Kings chapter 8 this makes more sense if you die at the age of 40 You can't have a 42 year old son. It doesn't really work that way You've seen the lady talking about I unfriend you and she says it doesn't work that way none of this works that way well That that's the case here.

He was 22, so he's a fairly young man He reigned one year in Jerusalem His mother's name was Athaliah the granddaughter of Omri she's this is from the house of Ahab He walked in the ways of the house of Ahab for his mother advised him to do wickedly He did evil in the sight of the Lord like the house of Ahab They were his counselors after the death of his father notice He did evil in the sight of the Lord like the house of Ahab Ahaziah Isn't counted in the house of Ahab. I'm just Pointing this out He also followed their advice he went with Jehoram the son of Ahab king of Israel to war against Hazal We saw all of the roms in this section you remember all of that rom Repetition we had here it just becomes really incessant So There seems to be a distinction here Ahab and Jezebel did horrible things up in the north did God send a disease or invaders into the house of Ahab What was God's chosen judgment on the house of Ahab? Jehu did God send Jehu to the house of Joram and Ahaziah No, he sent disease and invaders God decides what judgment he is going to Place upon Those who fail is there a difference between? the north and the south Historically speaking are they in different places spiritually let me put it that way how long have they been worshiping Baal and having the golden Calves in the north and the south up in northern Israel how long have they been disobedient and led astray by bad advice Bad kings following bad counsel down in the south There there is a difference in the history, right? So I'm just suggesting That God Was Careful in exactly what he said to Jehu. He said I'm sending you to take out the house of Ahab He didn't say I'm sending you to take out

the house of Joram or the house of Ahaziah or the house of Jehoshaphat or The house of David that he said the house of Ahab, right? That's what he said So everything that Jehu does Under that authority is Good to go But I Wonder if like Moses the second time he's supposed to bring water forth from the rock He decides he's going to strike it with the stick and Although Moses was a wonderful leader and very faithful to God and did and carried out God's Divine Commission Very well He is penalized at the end of his life because he got overzealous and Struck the rock when he and he exceeded his instructions So I Just am noticing these Details they're they're fine distinctions here.

I may be you know being a little too Magnifying glass Wielding here, but just bear this in mind now as we go forward in the account of Jehu back to Second Kings chapter 10 He meets Jehonadab Nadab means To be generous There's a namesake way back in the early days of the Israelite wanderings you remember Nadab and Abihu Nadab it's it's that name. This is Jehonadab the Lord is Generous That's that's the the idea So This is the individual that he meets he is the son of Rechab Rechab is mentioned over in 1st Chronicles chapter 2 verse 55 The families of the scribes who dwelt at Jabez were the Tirithites the Shemiathites and the Sukkothites These were Kenites who came from Hamath the father of the house of Rechab Well This doesn't shed a great deal of light As far as I know except you remember who the Kenites are We're back again to the days of Moses, we're back to his Father-in-law, we're back to the descendants of the Midianites or the Kenites who dwelt Alongside Israel and were Generally on friendly terms because of that great historic association, although there were interruptions to that But The key here I think is is the first note there in 1st Chronicles 255 the families of the scribes Who dwelt? The families of the scribes now, this is back, you know 1st Chronicles. You're back in the early days of David's reign this is back when he's setting up the Choirs and the priesthood and the rotation and everything else and he has set up scribes So is this Jehonadab a Scribe is he a record keeper is he does he have something to do with the book of Chronicles perhaps or the book of Kings is he actually one of the recorders my my guess because of this link Back to that notation in Chronicles is that he is perhaps one of the historians the reason Jehu Reaches out and grabs him and says come along.

Let me show you my zeal for the Lord is Jehu wants it recorded It's a stretch I'm out on a bendy limb here, but I asked myself. Why is this episode here? There's nothing particularly Notable, maybe I totally missed it But the names here don't in terms of their meaning sometimes you look up the meaning you say, oh well That's why these things happen in this place That's why this person was involved look at the meaning of the names but here the name seems to be a link back to the Literate record-keeping those responsible not only for the Word of the Lord, but for keeping the annals the Chronicles of the Kings and So when Jehu recognizes this guy and says he's a son of Rehob This may have been shorthand for he's whether or not he's an actual lineal descendant the house of Rahab. These are the scribes these are the those guys and so when he says first of all, are you going to be writing a love letter to my Actions or are you going to be writing a critical? tell all The negative review are you gonna write positively or negatively is your heart upright? He says yes, it is.

He says. All right Let me show you my zeal for the Lord because this is kind of like not not exactly the Catholic Church I was reading some history the Catholics back in the 15th 16th centuries and especially in Italy It was pretty hard to distinguish government from the papacy You know, the Pope is the government the government is the Pope all the Pope's henchmen are Functionaries in the government you're gonna do anything living in that realm. You better play nice with the Pope because you've Volunteered to stay and live under his government, you know people could leave but if you stay there and you're Galileo Galilei Then you start writing books that sort of mock the Pope and you put his words into the mouth of a guy named simpleton in your book Surprise surprise the Pope is gonna be unhappy and Start looking at you closely and find something to run you up on charges.

And this is why big reason why Galileo? Became a martyr to science so to speak because he he ticked off The government who was a combination of religion. So they trumped up a religious charge what you're writing in your science book violates the Bible well, they It would it wasn't that big a deal he had been talking about this stuff for 17 years but it wasn't until he put the Pope's words in the mouth of simplicio that he Got himself and then he was under house arrest and told not to talk that way anymore Repudiate Copernicus and you'll be fine. So, you know, he lived a half dozen more years and Went blind and conked out but my point being that that it was similar in in terms of those who Were literate enough to be scribes were had a one foot in the religious tradition maintaining the manuscripts of the Word of God and Maintaining the secular records.

This is why in the Chronicles you often find moral statements Moral judgments about a king this happened because of this that and the other these guys are are sort of living in both worlds So when Jehu asks him the question he's saying Are you for me or again me, you know, and he says I'm for you and he says all right, let me show you my zeal for the Lord and he brings him up in the chariot and then he goes down and Finishes wiping out Who the house of Ahab in Samaria, which is his actual commission? He doesn't say hey come up here and let me show you the bodies of the family of Ahaziah that I just wiped out Let me go show you what I just did in zeal for the Lord Let me show you what I'm going to finish up. That's actually within the scope of my commission so he's Justifying himself as look I'm doing what I'm supposed to do But he doesn't seem to really be talking about where he has exceeded his authority in as a possibility at least Give me your hand. He gave him his hand and took him up to him into his chariot.

We saw this in the last Set of conflicts where they would embed reporters with the military units Let me let me let you get up close and personal with what I'm doing so you'd be sure and get get our you know, a sympathetic view of what we're doing and And this is very personal and when it's no accident that it gives us this level of detail he says If it is give me your hand well when he gives him his hand and he's pulled up into the chariot This is a rare honor to be in the chariot of the king Usually, you know, you've got to be careful even approaching the king He takes the king's hand the king pulls him up into his own Chariot, this I think is designed to cultivate this guy's goodwill So that he'll get a favorable Mention and then he's going to go down and finish up the stuff because he knows that Jonah dab knows as a scribe what the Word

of the Lord was To Elijah and three Elisha and so on these these guys keep their finger on the pulse So he in Samaria he had destroyed them according to the Word of the Lord which he spoke to Elijah notice the account says That the house of Ahab being wiped out in Samaria is according to the Word of the Lord through Elijah It didn't say that in verses 12 through 14. You don't see the Word of the Lord anywhere Jehu doesn't quote it. Nobody else quotes it.

The account doesn't put it in that seems to be You know bonus material there Well verse 18 Jehu gathered all the people together and said to them Ahab served Baal a little Jehu will serve him much Therefore call to me all the prophets of Baal all his servants all his priests that no one be missing But I have a great sacrifice for Baal. Whoever is missing shall not live But Jehu acted Deceptively with the intent of destroying the worshipers of Baal Jehu said proclaim a solemn assembly for Baal So they proclaimed it Jehu sent throughout all Israel all worshipers of Baal came so that there was not a man left who did not come They came into the temple of Baal and the temple of Baal was full from one end to the other He said to the one in charge of the wardrobe bring out vestments for all the worshipers of Baal. So he brought out Clothes for them then Jehu and Jehonadab the son of Rahab went into the temple of Rahab I'm sorry went into the temple of Baal and said to the worshipers of Baal search and see that no Servants of the Lord are here with you, but only the worshipers of Baal.

Why did he take Jehonadab? the son of Rahab He's he's the scribe but because he's a scribe who does he see on a regular basis? Coming and going in the holy precincts He will recognize If there are any worshipers of God because they will have been In the area of the temple, they will have been down in Jerusalem. He Jonadab will be able to spot them Right. He's sort of a subject matter expert on Worshippers of God and so Jehu brings him in and gets his assistance in making sure That there are no worshipers of God in there because this is something with which Jehonadab Who I think is from the house of the scribes is familiar So I think this lends a little bit of support to my hypothesis So they went through and made sure And all of these Baal worshipers went in to offer sacrifices verse 24 and burnt offerings Jehu had appointed for himself 80 men on the outside and said if any of the men whom I brought into your hands escapes It's a life for a life Five guys escape.

I'm going to kill five of you Kind of a Saul chopping up the oxen and sending it throughout Israel approach And it happened as soon as he had made an end of offering the burnt offering Notice who offers the offering to Baal here? Jehu does Jehu makes a big show of supporting You know, which is something the king probably did on a ceremonial basis. This is something Ahab might have done in these people might have been a little bit uncertain, but Jehu leads the festivities as Soon as he had made an end of offering the burnt offerings Jehu said to the guard and to the captains Go in and kill them. Let no one come out They killed them with the edge of the sword then the guards and the officers threw them out and went into the inner room of the temple of Baal and They brought the sacred pillars out of the temple of Baal and burned them They broke down the sacred pillar of Baal tore down the temple of Baal made it a refuse dump to this day thus Jehu destroyed Baal from Israel However verse 29 Jehu did not turn away from the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat who had made Israel sin That is from the golden calves

that were at Bethel and Dan The Lord said to Jehu Because you have done well in doing what is right in my sight and have done to the house of Ahab all that was in my heart Your sons shall sit on the throne of Israel to the fourth Generation what year is this 840? How long is the generation? 40 years so three generations from now.

What year is it going to be? 840 minus 120 is 721 right what happens in 721 BC? The last sitting King in the north is going to be Carried off, but of course these Kings don't typically last 40 years each do they but to the fourth generation Jehu's great-grandson God says Will sit on the throne there's sort of a double entendre here Jehu will have a son a grandson and a great-grandson on the throne according to the Word of the Lord To the fourth generation because he was obedient but Jehu took no heed to walk in the law of the Lord God of Israel with all his heart For he did not depart from the sins of Jeroboam who had made Israel sin And You can see in those days that the sword of Hazael is operating just as the sword of Jehu did in accordance with the Word of the Lord and Hazael as we've seen we jumped ahead to look at this he began to cut off parts of Israel He conquered them in all the territory of Israel from the Jordan eastward Remember this is the two tribes on the east of the Jordan Gilead Gad Reuben and the half tribe of Manasseh From Aurora, which is by the River Arnon including Gilead and Bashan Bashan was one of the most fertile productive parts of What God gave to Israel the bulls of Bashan? Were renowned for generations because they were so well fed and strong The rest of the acts of Jehu all that he did are they not written in the book of the Chronicles of the kings of Israel Jehu rested with his father's they buried him in Samaria Jehoiah has his son reigned in his place the period that Jehu reigned over Israel in Samaria was 28 years Well, let me just very quickly mention The dangers of Excessive zeal and this is going to be very quick because I've run myself out of time You may have Heard you may remember that a few years ago. There was a book that came out written by a pair of brothers Claiming that they grew up in an Islamic household and Then later came to Christ and this book was very popular In evangelical circles because It looked like you know Here's the the light of the gospel shining in this Deal where guys were being raised to be terrorists and they they came to Christ and this this book sold a lot of copies And then it was later Discovered that a lot of it was fiction The fellow's name is Ergen Caner e r g u n c a n e r and I don't name him to cast aspersions I name him because You may want to look at the full story of this Because I'm not interested in him There was a lot of the He's in the Southern Baptist world and so people came from idolizing him to wanting to Trash and despise him for deceiving them and making a lot of money off of this book and it turned out that He had just fictionalized a lot of his life And it wasn't wasn't really the way he said in his testimony that a lot of people had used in an evangelistic Context what was all? Was many a lot of it was bunkum Well to cut a long story short There are people who in these last four or five years have not been able to let this go and there's he went on he's he's become the president of a Of a baptist college in georgia and has somewhat rehabilitated himself and he's you know down there Doing his thing leading this college Well, he's got a family and he's got a a couple of kids Well, there's a guy that has been Saying that the baptist world failed to properly repudiate Shun cast out and chastise ergen kainer for his sin of lying in this book He's a pastor up in montana and in his Here's my point in his righteous indignation and zeal to see that

justice is done quote unquote to ergen kainer for falsifying this testimony this Wonderful evangelistic thing that turned out to be a hoodwink He's been up there attacking this guy all these years well to the extent that ergen kainer's 15 year old son Has a twitter account and put a picture of himself and his girlfriend and and the picture that he used, you know, you can put a Picture on your account. Well, it's him kissing his girlfriend.

Well this guy up in montana Named jd hall with a cowboy hat and his three kids and wife. He's got a picture of himself he Started tweeting back to this guy and started engaging the 15 year old son on social media and saying you know, let me tell you about your father and you're immoral because of the picture you put up and well ergen kainer's 15 year old son this past week committed suicide A combination of the embarrassment over his father's rise and fall and then this guy Hounding him in social media. Well now the kid has taken his own life the only reason I bring this up and again i've i've named names only because if you want to read about this and fill yourself in you can and you kind of need to Know about this because this is the kind of thing that atheists love to see Look at what christianity does And There's an extent to which they have a point because american christianity is not necessarily biblical faith And a walk on the narrow road Toward the gate that leads to the lord jesus christ and eternal life Christianity has become something almost foreign to the new testament But I say all that to say this Whether you're looking at moses striking the rock whether you're looking at what I think may have happened with jehu in exceeding his commission And costing himself in the end Because he was overzealous in some areas and he was underzealous in others because he was so busy Trying to wipe out the house of ahaziah What did he do in his own kingdom? He's the king for 28 years.

What about the bulls? What about the golden calves that that bracket his kingdom in the north and the south? He never got rid of them. He Followed in the sins of jeroboam the son of nebat go read that account again We want to learn from these examples whether they are the inspired scriptures Showing us the career of jehu and the career of ahab and the career of ahaziah and of joram And these others or whether it is a reflection that we see in our current culture christian culture, especially caution caution caution In looking over the defense over the fence and deciding that someone needs judgment that someone needs Uh to be put in their place uh that someone needs to be dealt with by the community when you are not This guy is in montana. The caner family is in georgia And let me just read you one comment that was made sadly by an atheist To this fellow jd hall up in montana.

Let me get this right. You're not Talking about the 15 year old You're not his parent. You're not his pastor.

You're not his friend You have no vested interest in the child. You don't even know this teen You spent time searching and reading the twitter feed of a 15 year old You decided his picture and tweets were inappropriate You engaged another man's 10th grade son in conversation online You asked this 15 year old to private message you so you could correspond with him about his father You stated his mother and father are separated which is false. They're not You have no

god-given authority over this child in any way This is what zeal Can do when it is misdirected and when it is not based on and a reflection of and an expression of the word of the lord What is the word of the lord this is the question we have to ask ourselves Anytime we are dealing with others Anytime we are dealing with one another's and this fella in montana Should realize that good bad or ugly the people he's dealing with over here are brethren avowed christian father and pastor Malfunction though he may have he's got a son who is also an avowed christian All of the one another's apply It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living god And if we judge one another if we take it upon ourselves to exceed Whatever our god-given authority is or to step outside it the consequences both now and in the age to come can be Calamitous can be disastrous It is no light thing The word of the lord it is no light thing the responsibilities that we have to the one another commands It is a sad Fact that christianity has become something Strange in in our generation, whatever it may have been in the past just looking at our generation uh Rick warren the pastor of saddleback church purpose-driven life purpose-driven church Uh that huge, you know america's pastor and the presidents and all the rest of it his son Teenage also committed suicide not long ago There's something wrong with a christianity that Creates these kinds of pressures on kids People misunderstanding and misusing in some way their position of authority Losing control of their household Not able to meet the emotional needs the spiritual needs of troubled Children creating trouble for their children by their bad judgment and by their bad decisions I just mentioned these examples again.

I not to say anything about pastor warren and his wife or Ergin kainer and his family I merely point them out as uh Warnings Warnings to be careful warnings to take our responsibilities Our assignment and the word of the lord that we possess Seriously These things are not Casual they are not light. They're not ephemeral and Ephemeral and unimportant. They're very important.

God takes them seriously And whether now or later at the judgment seat of christ there will be consequences If we don't Accord god's word the honor that it deserves if we don't accord the lord. Jesus christ God the father god the holy spirit the honor the respect And the Obedience and worship that they deserve it will Reflect it will come out And as much fun as it is to learn and to try to grow in grace and knowledge there is Also that side of responsibility that we don't want to forget or take lightly. Let's close in a word of prayer Father thank you for the truth of your word.

Thank you for the instruction rebuke Correction the doctrine that it imparts to our souls. We pray that god the holy spirit will Minister it to us individually help us to see in its light How we should walk the path that we should take the decisions. We should make the priorities.

We should set the goals. We should pursue So that we can truly live our lives in a way that reflects your glory The glory of the lord jesus christ who purchased us with his own precious blood we pray these things in jesus name. Amen