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9 And Elisha the prophet called one of the sons of the prophets, and said to him, "Get yourself ready, take this flask of oil in your hand, and go to Ramoth Gilead. 10 Now when you arrive at that place, look there for Jehu the son of Jehoshaphat, the son of Nimshi, and go in and make him rise up from among his associates, and take him to an inner room. 11 Then take the flask of oil, and pour it on his head, and say, 'Thus says the LORD: "I have anointed you king over Israel.'" Then open the door and flee, and do not delay." 12 So the young man, the servant of the prophet, went to Ramoth Gilead. 13 And when he arrived, there were the captains of the army sitting; and he said, "I have a message for you, Commander." Jehu said, "For which one of us?" And he said, "For you, Commander." 14 Then he arose and went into the house. And he poured the oil on his head, and said to him, "Thus says the LORD God of Israel: 'I have anointed you king over the people of the LORD, over Israel. 15 You shall strike down the house of Ahab your 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. 16 For the whole house of Ahab shall perish; and I will cut off from Ahab all the males in Israel, both bond and free. 17 So 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. 18 The dogs shall eat Jezebel on the plot of ground at Jezreel, and there shall be none to bury her.'" And he opened the door and fled. 19 Then Jehu came out to the servants of his master, and one said to him, "Is all well? Why did this madman come to you?" And he said to them, "You know the man and his babble." 20 And they said, "A lie! Tell us now." So he said, "Thus and thus he spoke to me, saying, 'Thus says the LORD: "I have anointed you king over Israel.'" " 21 Then each man hastened to take his garment and put it under him on the top of the steps; and they blew trumpets, saying, "Jehu is king!"

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1. Kings of little note

- a. Beginning in the 5th year of the reign of Joram in Israel, Jehoram reigned in Judah
 - a1. He married Ahab's daughter
 - a2. Both Edom & Libnah rebelled against him & never regained full control of those lands
 - a3. He engaged in the same evil as Ahab
 - a4. 2 Chn. 21:1-7 Jehoram killed all his brothers so they couldn't threaten his throne & idolatry
 - b1. vs. 12-15 God struck him with an incurable painful bowel disease
 - b2. Invaders would also take his wives, children, & wealth
 - a5. He only reigns 8 years
- b. Ahaziah reigned after Jehoram in Judah
 - a1. Ahaziah had married Athaliah, the granddaughter of Israel King Omri
 - a2. He also did evil like Ahab
 - a3. He went with Joram to war against Hazael of Syria in Ramoth-Gilead
 - b1. Joram was wounded & went home

b2. Ah. visited Joram in Jezreel (2 Chn. 22:7 Jehu kills Joram & Ah.)

a4. Due to God's covenant with David, the line of accession was allowed to continue

2. A new king anointed as a rod of judgment

- a. God had pronounced judgment of Ahab's household under Elijah, but fulfilled it under Elisha
 - a1. Often there is a considerable time between pronouncement & fulfillment
 - a2. God's will is always fulfilled in His time
- b. 1 Kn. 19 God told Elijah to anoint Jehu as king, but it is Elisha who sends a young prophet to do so
 - a1. The prophet (young man, "servant") goes to Ramoth-Gilead to fulfill the commission
 - a2. He seeks out Jehu, an army captain
- c. Jehu was in war counsel with other captains
 - a1. The prophet asks to speak to the "commander", but they were of equal rank
 - a2. Since Jehu was conducting the meeting, it appears that he was the senior commander
- d. The young man takes Jehu into the house & anoints him to be king, giving him charge to wipe out Ahab's line as had been done to Jeroboam & Baasha
- e. The other captains who watched the prophet flee assumed that he was a madman
 - a1. Jehu hesitates to divulge the conversation
 - a2. Jehu dismisses the encounter as nonsense
- f. The other captains sensed something dramatic had occurred and pressed Jehu for an answer
 - a1. When Jehu reveals that the young man had anointed him to be king, they concur
 - a2. The captains put their robes under Jehu in sign of submission, declaring him to be king

3. A king with a mandate

- a. Jehu was anointed with a purpose
- b. Jehu carried out his commission with zeal & dispatch, indicating general consensus for change
- c. Due to Jehu's obedience, 4 generations of his line sits on the throne, even though he too was an idolater