



Lesson 114

From Nadab to Ahab

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Text: 1 Ki. 15:25-16:28 • Setting: circa 910 - 874 B.C. • Main Characters: God, Nadab, Baasha, Zimri, Omri, and Ahab • Plot: <i>Coups d'etat</i> characterize Israel's kings from Jeroboam all the way to Ahab's father, Omri. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key word(s): <i>in the way of _____</i>” (15:34; 16:2, 19, 26) • Climax: 1 Kings 16:33 <i>And Ahab made a grove; and Ahab did more to provoke the LORD God of Israel to anger than all the kings of Israel that were before him.</i> |
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Sowing and Reaping

1. (1 Ki. 15:25-26) After Jeroboam's _____-year reign, his son Nadab took the throne of Israel in his stead. Nadab was a wicked man that followed in the sinful steps of his father by leading Israel further into sin.
 - (a) (1 Ki. 15:27-30) _____, a Hebrew from the tribe of Issachar, conspired against Nadab and killed him in a battle at Gibbethon.
 - (b) Baasha, according to a vicious custom, then eliminated all rivals to his throne by killing Jeroboam's descendants. This fulfilled the prophecy of _____ which he spake against Jeroboam. (1 Ki. 14:10)

The Shortest Reign of All

2. (1 Ki. 15:33—34) Baasha was a wicked king who ruled over Israel for _____ years.
 - (a) (1 Ki. 15:16-24) Baasha was the king who made war with Asa by fortifying _____, but Asa hired the Syrians to invade Baasha's northern border, effectively distracting him from his occupation in the south.
 - (b) (1 Ki. 16:1-4) As with Jeroboam, the LORD sent a prophetic condemnation to Israel's leader via a prophet – this time it was by _____ the son of Hanani. Jehu's condemnation of Baasha involved the same circumstances of Jeroboam's demise: the violent extermination of his family line.
 - (c) (1 Ki. 16:6b, 8, 14, 9, 10) Baasha's son Elah assumed the throne, and like Nadab, he only ruled for _____ years – his reign was cut short by a murderous conspiracy carried out by his chariot commander Zimri. And of course, Zimri did to Baasha's line what Baasha had done to Jeroboam's line – complete extermination.
 - (d) (1 Ki. 16:15-20) Zimri holds the dubious distinction of having the briefest reign of all of Israel's kings – after only _____, news of his usurpation reached Israeli troops at Gibbethon. They made their captain Omri king and marched on Tirzah. Zimri, knowing he was beaten, set the palace on fire and killed himself.

The Rise of Samaria and the Infamous Ahab

3. (1 Ki. 16:21-28) Omri reigned for 12 years. During his reign, he battled with Tibni for control of the throne. Omri's reign is characterized by three things:
- (a) He built _____ and moved Israel's capital there.
 - (b) He was the father of _____.
 - (c) He set a pattern for his wicked son by not only being as disobedient as Jeroboam but _____ all his predecessors in their wickedness.
4. (1 Ki. 16:29-34) Ahab took his father's sin to excess: *“And it came to pass, as if it had been a light thing for him to walk in the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, that he took to wife Jezebel the daughter of Ethbaal king of the Zidonians, and went and served Baal, and worshipped him...1 Kings 16:33 And Ahab made a grove; and Ahab did more to provoke the LORD God of Israel to anger than ____ the kings of Israel that were before him.”* (1 Kings 16:31)

Application

5. Through all the wickedness of Israel's kings, we see a God who is faithful to his promises – promises for blessing or cursing. Matthew Henry said, “Divine threatenings are not _____.”

Deuteronomy 28:2 And all these blessings shall come on thee, and overtake thee, if thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God...Deuteronomy 28:15 But it shall come to pass, if thou wilt not hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe to do all his commandments and his statutes which I command thee this day; that all these curses shall come upon thee, and overtake thee:

Notes: _____

Answer Key: Key word(s): Jeroboam • 1. 22 a) Baasha; b) Ahijah • 2. 24; a) Ramah; b) Jehu; c) two; d) 7 days; • 3. a) Samaria; b) Ahab; c) surpassing • 4. all • 5. bugbears

How to use this worksheet for personal Bible study: (1) Read the Bible passage given in the **Story Elements** section. (2) Read through the worksheet and try to fill in the blanks without looking at the **Answer Key**. (3) Check your answers with the key and make the necessary corrections. Keep in mind that some answers are a matter of opinion, and often more than one answer is correct. (4) Write down your own thoughts, applications, and questions for further study in the **Notes** section.