### 1 Kings

## Chapter 16

1Then Jehovah sent word to BaAsha by Jehu (son of AnaNi), saying:  
  
 2‘Even though I elevated you to be over the land and gave you the leadership of My people IsraEl, you’ve still chosen to follow in ways of JeroBoam and to lead My people IsraEl into sin, provoking Me to anger with your foolishness!  
  
 3‘So, {Look!} I’m arousing enemies against BaAsha and his house, and I’m going to do to your house [the same] as I did to the house of JeroBoam (son of NaBat). 4For when those of BaAsha die in the city, dogs will eat them; and when they die in the fields, they’ll be eaten by the flying creatures of the skies.’  
  
5Well, the rest of the things that BaAsha said and did, and the areas of his conquests {Look!} have been written about in the scrolls of the words of The Days of the Kings of IsraEl.  
  
6Then BaAsha went to sleep with his ancestors and they buried him in a tomb in TirZah; and his son ElAh started reigning after him. 7For Jehovah had sent a proclamation against BaAsha and his house through Jehu (son of AnaNi) because of all the bad things that he was doing before Jehovah.  
  
These things made Jehovah very angry; so BaAsha’s house would soon become like the house of JeroBoam, whom he’d slaughtered.  
  
  
8It was in the 28th year of the reign of King Asa of Judah, after ElAh (BaAsha’s son) had ruled IsraEl for 2 years in TirZah, 9that ElAh’s servants plotted a coup by getting together with ZimRi, the captain over half of [the king’s] cavalry...  
  
And it was while [the king] was in TirZah, drinking and getting drunk in the house of Osa (the Mayor of TirZah), 10that ZimRi went in and stabbed him to death! Thereafter, he became the ruler [of IsraEl].  
  
11Then when he took over, he killed the entire house of BaAsha… He didn’t leave anyone who could urinate against a wall, including [BaAsha’s] friends and relatives... 12So, ZimRi wiped out the whole house of BaAsha, just as Jehovah had foretold through the prophet Jehu.  
  
13He did this because of all the sins of BaAsha and of his son ElAh, who had made Jehovah the God of IsraEl angry by leading IsraEl into sin with all their foolishness.  
  
14The rest of the things that ElAh said and did {Look!} have been written about in the scrolls of the words of The Days of the Kings of IsraEl.  
  
  
15Well, ZimRi only ruled in TirZah for 7 days!  
  
You see, at the time, IsraEl’s army was camped at the Philistine city of GabaThon;   
16and when the people in the camp heard about how ZimRi had rebelled and killed their king, they appointed the commander of IsraEl’s army, OmRi, to be the king that day – there, in the camp!  
  
17So OmRi ascended to the throne, and all IsraEl met with him at GabaThon;  
then they went and besieged TirZah! 18Now, when ZimRi realized that his city was lost, he went inside the king’s palace and set it on fire, burning it down around him, killing himself!  
  
19This happened because of all the sins that ZimRi had committed. For he’d also acted wickedly before Jehovah and he followed in the ways of JeroBoam (son of NaBat), committing the same sins and leading IsraEl into sin.  
  
20The rest of the story of ZimRi and of the people who supported him {Look!} has been written about in the scrolls of the words of The Days of the Kings of IsraEl.  
  
  
21Thereafter, the people of IsraEl became divided, for half of them started following TibNi (son of GoNath), wanting him to be their king, while the other half followed OmRi!  
  
22However, the people who followed OmRi won out over the followers of TibNi (son of GiNath). Then TibNi died, leaving OmRi as the only remaining ruler.  
  
23(This all happened in the 31st year of the reign of [Judean] king Asa.)  
  
And thereafter, OmRi reigned over IsraEl for 12 years, 6 of which were from TirZah. 24Then he acquired Mount SemerOn from Semer (who owned the mountain) for a 150 pounds (68kg) of silver, and there he built [his city], which he named Semer [later to be named Samaria], after the man who’d owned SemerOn.  
  
25Well, OmRi also acted wickedly before Jehovah... In fact, he was worse than all those who’d come before him!  
  
26He followed in the ways of JeroBoam (son of NaBat) and committed all of his sins by leading IsraEl into foolishness and sin, which made Jehovah the God of IsraEl very angry.  
  
27The rest of the things that OmRi said and did, and the areas of his rulership {Look!} have been written about in the scrolls of the words of The Days of the Kings of IsraEl.  
  
28Then OmRi went to sleep with his ancestors and they buried him in a tomb in Samaria. So his son Ahab started ruling after him.  
  
  
29Ahab (son of OmRi) started his rule over IsraEl in the 38th year of Judah’s King Asa, and he reigned over IsraEl from Samaria for 22 years.  
  
30However, he also acted wickedly before Jehovah… Even more wicked than all those who’d come before him! 31For the sins of JeroBoam (son of NaBat) weren’t bad enough for him.  
  
Then he took a woman, JezeBel (daughter of IthoBaAl, the king of the Sidonians), and he went and started serving BaAl, bowing before him.  
  
32He also erected an Altar to BaAl in the disgusting temple that he’d built in Samaria, 33and he set up fields of sacred poles, doing everything that he could to anger Jehovah the God of IsraEl, and to bring about his own destruction!  
  
He was much worse than all the other kings of IsraEl that had come before him.  
  
34It was during Ahab’s reign that AchiEl the BethElite rebuilt JeriCho with the loss of his first-born son AbiRon (for laying its foundation), and with the loss of his youngest son SegUb for erecting its gates, just as Jehovah had said through JoShua (son of NaWeh).