

BUT JEHU TOOK NO HEED

2 KINGS 10

Text: 2 Kings 10:31

2 Kings 10:31

But Jehu took no heed to walk in the law of the Lord God of Israel with all his heart: for he departed not from the sins of Jeroboam, which made Israel to sin.

Introduction:

Jehu was raised up by God to be a great reformer in the kingdom of Israel. No sooner did he receive his commission than he was at work.

He was commanded to cut off the whole house of Ahab.

2 Kings 9:7-10

And thou shalt smite the house of Ahab thy 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. 8For the whole house of Ahab shall perish: and I will cut off from Ahab him that pisseth against the wall, and him that is shut up and left in Israel: 9And 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: 10And the dogs

shall eat Jezebel in the portion of Jezreel, and there shall be none to bury her. And he opened the door, and fled.

This task was one that he accepted with joy. He slew right and left, and spared none.

Unlike Saul with the Amalikites, who spared Agag and the best of the cattle, Jehu utterly exterminated Ahab and his household.

When he had fulfilled the task upon Jezebel and all of Ahab's household, he paused by the way to congratulate himself and say to Jehonadab, "Come with me and see my zeal for the Lord," and preceded at once to gather together all the priest of Baal, and annihilate them.

But while he was ready and earnest in a work which suited his furious taste, he had no true heart toward God; while he was a destroyer of Baal he didn't love God.

He didn't care to know or desire to walk in the way of God.

His actions as God's executioner were right, but his heart was wrong.

Having overthrown the worship of Baal, he almost immediately established another form of idolatry in its place, and asks the nation to bow itself before the golden calves of Bethel.

Hating one sin he loved another, thus proving that the fear of the Most High did not reign in him.

He was merely a hired servant, and received the throne as his wages, but a child of God he never was; he did God's work as did the lion who slew the wicked prophet, but he remained a lion.

Do not suppose that this heedless man was alone and without a companion, he was only one of a very large class.

There have been many throughout history and there still remain many today who heed not the will and Word of God.

Notice three crucial things in regards to this heedlessness.

1. DISPLAY OF HEEDLESSNESS

A. Jehu took no heed to what?

- He took great heed to kill Ahab's family.

- He took great heed to destroy Baal's worshippers.
- But He took no heed to walk in the law of the Lord God with all his heart.

B. Many today take no heed to God's Word.

- Many today have a take it or leave it attitude when it comes to heeding the Word of God.
- Many today only heed the things that fit them or bring a sense of status or joy to them.

C. Others today do not wish to know God's will because there are certain duties that would be unpleasant, and therefore they do not want to have their consciences too enlightened.

- They shun the light lest they be reprov'd.
- If one is afraid of the light, it is most likely for some evil reason they are afraid of it.
- Knowledge involves a responsibility.

May we sit and consider what it is that I know that the Lord's will is for my life which I have neglected to perform?

D. There are some who both know the will of God and practice it, but they do not practice it the right way.

- Many practice God's will not because they have a genuine love for God, but because they attempt only to avoid the guilt of rebelling against God's Word.
- To obey mechanically is unbecoming in the servant of so great and gracious a God.

Illustration:

It like working a job

Some work to survive, while others work because the desire to.

- The half heartedness of most of us is that which prevents our glorifying Christ.
 - We do preach, but not as dying men to dying men.
 - We pray, but not a Jacob wrestled with the angel.
 - We do give, but not as God has given to us.

- We seek to live in holiness, but not with the enthusiasm which becomes the cross of Christ.
- There are some who know God's will and do it in measure, yet they do not attend to it with their whole heart.

Psalm 9:1

I will praise thee, O Lord, with my whole heart; I will shew forth all thy marvellous works.

Psalm 119:2

Blessed are they that keep his testimonies, and that seek him with the whole heart.

Psalm 119:10

With my whole heart have I sought thee: O let me not wander from thy commandments.

Psalm 119:34

Give me understanding, and I shall keep thy law; yea, I shall observe it with my whole heart.

Psalm 119:69

The proud have forged a lie against me: but I will keep thy precepts with my whole heart.

Jehu did obey God up to a certain point. It happened to be a profitable thing to him to exterminate to old

royal house of Ahab, because it would confirm himself upon his own throne, but anything beyond that did not pay, and therefore Jehu did not do it.

2. DANGER OF SUCH ACTIONS

- A. Heedlessness indicates who is really in control.
- B. Some only follow and obey for the excitement.
- C. Some only heed because of taste.
 - They believe a doctrine because they like it, or they follow a practice because they think it appropriate of value to themselves.
 - It is not possible to be a servant of God, while I set up my own whims to be my rule of action.
- D. Some only heed because others are doing so.

3. DECISION IN REGARDS TO THE MESSAGE

- A. What are you going to do with the light that you have received today?
 - A heedful individual finds out God's will.

- A heedful individual will prevent much evil.
- A heedful individual will be a great blessing.
- A heedful individual will be full of joy.

Close:

May we not be as those who have a name that is a live, but we are dead, and who prove that they are dead by lacking the heart which clings to God.

You will never be perfect in life, but we should have the desire to be perfect. We cannot give up sinning, but the heart must give up every sin.

If the Lord has changed the inside so the outside will follow.