

2 Kings 8

King James Version (KJV)

Parenthetical Chapter -7 years earlier than chapter 6

8 Then spake Elisha unto the woman, whose son he had restored to life, saying, Arise, and go thou and thine household, and sojourn wheresoever thou canst sojourn: for the LORD hath called for a famine; and it shall also come upon the land seven years. (The Shunamite woman who built a guestroom in her house for Elisha) (This is not the famine of chapter 6 which was caused by a siege of Samaria. This is a famine all over the country of Israel)

²And the woman arose, and did after the saying of the man of God: and she went with her household, and sojourned in the land of the Philistines seven years. (She was forced to abandon her house and land)

³And it came to pass at the seven years' end, that the woman returned out of the land of the Philistines: and she went forth to cry unto the king for her house and for her land. (Someone had probably moved into her house)

⁴And the king talked with Gehazi the servant of the man of God, saying, Tell me, I pray thee, all the great things that Elisha hath done. (This happened before Naaman was healed of leprosy. Gehazi was not a leper yet)

⁵And it came to pass, as he was telling the king how he had restored a dead body to life, that, behold, the woman, whose son he had restored to life, cried to the king for her house and for her land. And Gehazi said, My lord, O king, this is the woman, and this is her son, whom Elisha restored to life. (Gehazi is spilling his guts to the king, who is an enemy of Elisha; probably hoping to get himself a reward)

⁶And when the king asked the woman, she told him. So the king appointed unto her a certain officer, saying, Restore all that was hers, and all the fruits of the field since the day that she left the land, even until now. (He had the woman repaid with interest. Jehoram probably felt that he owed Elisha a favor for saving his life in chapter 7, also Chapter-3:16-19)

⁷And Elisha came to Damascus; and Benhadad the king of Syria was sick; and it was told him, saying, The man of God is come hither.

⁸ And the king said unto Hazael, Take a present in thine hand, and go, meet the man of God, and enquire of the LORD by him, saying, Shall I recover of this disease?

⁹ So Hazael went to meet him, and took a present with him, even of every good thing of Damascus, forty camels' burden, and came and stood before him, and said, Thy son Benhadad king of Syria hath sent me to thee, saying, Shall I recover of this disease? (Forty camels can hold a great deal of goods. This is a huge payment by the king)

(Hazael is the man that God told Elijah to anoint king of Syria, Jehu as king of Israel, and Elisha as his replacement in 1Kings. Elijah did one <Elisha>, and Elisha will do the other two in the next chapters <Jehu and Azael>)

¹⁰ And Elisha said unto him, Go, say unto him, Thou mayest certainly recover: howbeit the LORD hath shewed me that he shall surely die. (Benhadad is a dead man)

¹¹ And he settled his countenance stedfastly, until he was ashamed: and the man of God wept. (Elisha wasn't weeping for Benhadad. He saw the future of Israel. See Chapter-10)

¹² And Hazael said, Why weepeth my lord? And he answered, Because I know the evil that thou wilt do unto the children of Israel: their strong holds wilt thou set on fire, and their young men wilt thou slay with the sword, and wilt dash their children, and rip up their women with child.

¹³ And Hazael said, But what, is thy servant a dog, that he should do this great thing? And Elisha answered, The LORD hath shewed me that thou shalt be king over Syria. (Israel has earned the wrath of God with their idolatry; HE will remove His protection from Israel. Without God's protection, man can only do very little)

¹⁴ So he departed from Elisha, and came to his master; who said to him, What said Elisha to thee? And he answered, He told me that thou shouldest surely recover. (That's partially true- he might recover, but he will be murdered)

¹⁵ And it came to pass on the morrow, that he took a thick cloth, and dipped it in water, and spread it on his face, so that he died: and Hazael reigned in his stead. (Water boarding - Hazael murdered Benhadad)

¹⁶ And in the fifth year of Joram the son of Ahab king of Israel, Jehoshaphat being then king of Judah, Jehoram the son of Jehoshaphat king of Judah began to reign. (Joram = Jehoram – same name in the Hebrew. At this time there is a Joram in both Israel and Judah)

¹⁷ Thirty and two years old was he when he began to reign; and he reigned eight years in Jerusalem. (His first 2 years as acting king, while Jehosaphat went to war alongside Ahab against the Syrians at Ramothgillead)

¹⁸ And he walked in the way of the kings of Israel, as did the house of Ahab: for the daughter of Ahab was his wife: and he did evil in the sight of the LORD. (Her name was Athaliah – pure evil) (Baal worship, idolatry, sexual perversion, human sacrifice)

¹⁹ Yet the LORD would not destroy Judah for David his servant's sake, as he promised him to give him alway a light, and to his children. (This promised was fulfilled by our Lord, Jesus Christ – a descendant of David through his son Nathan) 2Samual-7:13

²⁰ In his days Edom revolted from under the hand of Judah, and made a king over themselves. (Edom – descendants of Esau, Jacob's brother)

²¹ So Joram went over to Zair, and all the chariots with him: and he rose by night, and smote the Edomites which compassed him about, and the captains of the chariots: and the people fled into their tents. (Zair= Zoar, today) (Bad translation – Judah sent out a few chariots and men; Edom surrounded them and beat Judah in this battle. The survivors from Judah ran back home)

²² Yet Edom revolted from under the hand of Judah unto this day. Then Libnah revolted at the same time. (Libnah was a priest city in Israel. They refused to worship Jeroboam's golden calves or Jezebels and Athaliah's Baal, and revolted against Israel) 2Chronicles-23:1

²³ And the rest of the acts of Jehoram, and all that he did, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah? (He was a piece of crap and didn't rule long)

²⁴ And Joram slept with his fathers, and was buried with his fathers in the city of David: and Ahaziah his son reigned in his stead. (Ahaziah is

also called Azariah in Chronicles and other books of the Old Testament)

²⁵ In the twelfth year of Joram the son of Ahab king of Israel did Ahaziah the son of Jehoram king of Judah begin to reign. (He was Atahiah's son - Ahab and Jezebel's grandson) 2Chronicles-21 (Ahaziah is also called Azariah in 2Chronicles)

²⁶ Two and twenty years old was Ahaziah when he began to reign; and he reigned one year in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Athaliah, the daughter of Omri king of Israel. (daughter = granddaughter of Omri through Ahab, Omri's son. There is no word for granddaughter in old Hebrew)

²⁷ And he walked in the way of the house of Ahab, and did evil in the sight of the LORD, as did the house of Ahab: for he was the son in law of the house of Ahab. (Ahab's family controlled both Israel and Judah at this time) 2Chronicles-22:3 (Jezebel was his counselor to do wickedly)

²⁸ And he went with Joram the son of Ahab to the war against Hazael king of Syria in Ramothgilead; and the Syrians wounded Joram.

²⁹ And king Joram went back to be healed in Jezreel of the wounds which the Syrians had given him at Ramah, when he fought against Hazael king of Syria. And Ahaziah the son of Jehoram king of Judah went down to see Joram the son of Ahab in Jezreel, because he was sick. (sick = wounded – bad translation)