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2 Kings 9

*“Getting God’s Peace”*

Pastor Gary Hamrick

At this point in Israel’s history, Jehu had just become the 10<sup>th</sup> king of the northern kingdom. Jehu wasn’t the son of a king who inherited the throne; he was the commander of the Israeli army whom the Lord providentially selected to become king. At the same time he was anointed to be king, he was given a mission from the Lord: *“You are to destroy the house of Ahab your master, and I will avenge the blood of my servants the prophets and the blood of all the Lord’s servants shed by Jezebel.”*<sup>1</sup>

In an earlier message, Pastor Gary told the story of King Ahab and his wicked wife, Queen Jezebel, who was the daughter of Ethbaal, the king of the Sidonians as well as a priest of Ashtoreth, the Sidonian goddess of fertility. The biblical record of their evil ways is found in [1 Kings 16:30-33](#): *“Ahab son of Omri did more evil in the eyes of the Lord than any of those before him. He not only considered it trivial to commit the sins of Jeroboam son of Nebat, but he also married Jezebel daughter of Ethbaal king of the king of the Sidonians, and began to serve Baal and worship him. He set up an altar for Baal in the temple of Baal that he built in Samaria. Ahab also made an Asherah pole and did more to provide the Lord, the God of Israel, to anger than did all the kings of Israel before him.”*

A summary of their lives is found in [1 Kings 21:25-26](#), which says: *“(There was never a man like Ahab, who sold himself to do evil in the eyes of the Lord, urged on by Jezebel<sup>2</sup> his wife. He behaved in the vilest manner by going after idols, like the Amorites the Lord drove out before Israel.)”*

In this study, we’ll learn about the peace of God and how we can personally know and experience the peace of God in our lives.

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<sup>1</sup> [2 Kings 9:7](#)

<sup>2</sup> We read in [1 Kings 18:4](#), that Jezebel even went so far as to murder the Lord’s prophets!

## Historical Background

1. Ahab had died in battle, but Jezebel was still alive, and together with their descendants, they perpetuated the evil of idolatry and immorality that Ahab and Jezebel introduced.
2. Ahab and Jezebel's son, Joram, was the king of Israel, and their grandson, Ahaziah, was the king of Judah.
3. The reason God assigned Jehu to destroy the house of Ahab was because the survival of a nation was at stake.
4. The evil ways of Ahab and Jezebel had radically infected both the northern and southern kingdoms, so extreme measures were necessary.
5. [2 Kings 9:14-29](#) provides the accounts of the death of Joram and Ahaziah.
6. [2 Kings 9:30-37](#) provides the account of the death of Jezebel.

## Peace

7. The word peace is found eight times in [2 Kings 9](#).
8. We all like to experience peace, and we would always choose to have more peace and less strife in our lives, but what are we willing to do to get peace?
9. We will never experience genuine peace until we are first willing to root out evil influences in our lives.
10. [2 Kings 9:22b](#) - “ ‘How can there be peace,’ Jehu replied [to Joram], ‘as long as all the idolatry and witchcraft of your mother Jezebel abound?’ ”

## Real Peace Comes From Uprooting Ungodly Influences Or Habits From Our Lives

11. [Psalm 34:14](#) - “*Turn from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it.*”

## Real Peace Comes From Jesus and Knowing Him

12. [John 14:27](#) - “*Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.*”

13. The peace the world offers is not sustainable and is very circumstantial.
14. Jesus offers a peace that is “out of this world!” and it’s also an eternal peace!

#### Real Peace Comes From Loving God’s Word

15. [Psalm 119:165](#) - *“Great peace have they who love your law, and nothing can make them stumble.”*

#### Real Peace Comes From Trusting The Lord

16. [Isaiah 26:3](#) - *“You will keep in perfect peace him whose mind is steadfast, because he trusts in you.”*

#### Real Peace Comes From Living A Righteous Life

17. [Isaiah 48:17-18](#) - *“This is what the Lord says - your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel: ‘I am the Lord your God, who teaches you what is best for you, who directs you in the way you should go. If only you had paid attention to my commands, your peace would have been like a river...’ ”*
18. [Isaiah 57:2a](#) - *“Those who walk uprightly enter into peace...”*

#### Real Peace Comes From Praying

19. [Philippians 4:6-7](#) - *“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”*

#### Jesus Is The Prince Of Peace

20. [Isaiah 9:6-7a](#) - *“For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end...”*

## The Benediction

21. **2 Thessalonians 3:16** - *“Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times and in every way. The Lord be with all of you.”*

## Discussion Questions

1. Review the introduction to the study guide with your group to provide the appropriate background.
2. Read **2 Kings 9:1-13** to provide the foundation for this study.
3. What are some of the evil influences you've allowed to remain in your life since you came to faith in Christ? <sup>3</sup>
4. How can there be peace as long as you allow (fill in the blank) to remain in your life?
5. Spend time talking about ways peace will never be found in your marriage, your home, at your place of employment, because you haven't or won't take action to remove evil influences. <sup>4 5 6</sup>
6. How has the Lord helped you uproot ungodly influences in your life?
7. Share examples of times when you've prayed and the Lord ministered his peace to you.
8. Spend time talking about the Scriptures found in each section regarding the ways real peace comes into our lives.
9. Close your time in prayer as the Holy Spirit leads.

\* Unless noted, all Scriptures quoted are from the New International Version (NIV 1984).

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<sup>3</sup> Examples include: Friends, relationships, habits, places you visit, and things you do.

<sup>4</sup> Peace in marriage - flirting at the office or over social media, which may encourage an inappropriate relationship with a former boyfriend or girlfriend; women gossiping with other women about their husband, instead of praying for them; men looking at pornography instead of being captivated by their wife.

<sup>5</sup> Peace in the home - allowing kids to watch bad cable TV programs, or permitting them to listen to raunchy songs on their phone, etc.; a parent who uses foul language or a parent who has a nasty and quick temper.

<sup>6</sup> Peace on the job - disrespecting authority, backstabbing co-workers, showing up late or leaving early.