

## 1 Kings 16:1-28 **Successive kings of Israel during the reign of Asa king of Judah**

### Baasha

<sup>1</sup> Then the word of the Lord came to Jehu the son of Hanani, against Baasha, saying:

<sup>2</sup> "Inasmuch as I lifted you out of the dust and made you ruler over My people Israel, and you have walked in the way of Jeroboam, and have made My people Israel sin, to provoke Me to anger with their sins, <sup>3</sup> surely I will take away the posterity of Baasha and the posterity of his house, and I will make your house like the house of Jeroboam the son of Nebat. <sup>4</sup> The dogs shall eat whoever belongs to Baasha and dies in the city, and the birds of the air shall eat whoever dies in the fields."

<sup>5</sup> Now the rest of the acts of Baasha, what he did, and his might, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel? <sup>6</sup> So Baasha rested with his fathers and was buried in Tirzah. Then Elah his son reigned in his place.

<sup>7</sup> And also the word of the Lord came by the prophet Jehu the son of Hanani against Baasha and his house, because of all the evil that he did in the sight of the Lord in provoking Him to anger with the work of his hands, in being like the house of Jeroboam, and because he killed them.

### Elah Reigns in Israel

<sup>8</sup> In the twenty-sixth year of Asa king of Judah, Elah the son of Baasha became king over Israel, and reigned two years in Tirzah.

<sup>9</sup> Now his servant Zimri, commander of half his chariots, conspired against him as he was in Tirzah drinking himself drunk in the house of Arza, steward of his house in Tirzah.

<sup>10</sup> And Zimri went in and struck him and killed him in the twenty-seventh year of Asa king of Judah, and reigned in his place.

<sup>11</sup> Then it came to pass, when he began to reign, as soon as he was seated on his throne, that he killed all the household of Baasha; he did not leave him one male, neither of his relatives nor of his friends.

<sup>12</sup> Thus Zimri destroyed all the household of Baasha, according to the word of the Lord, which He spoke against Baasha by Jehu the prophet, <sup>13</sup> for all the sins of Baasha and the sins of Elah his son, by which they had sinned and by which they had made Israel sin, in provoking the Lord God of Israel to anger with their idols.

<sup>14</sup> Now the rest of the acts of Elah, and all that he did, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel?

### Zimri Reigns in Israel

<sup>15</sup> In the twenty-seventh year of Asa king of Judah, Zimri had reigned in Tirzah seven days. And the people were encamped against Gibbethon, which belonged to the Philistines.

<sup>16</sup> Now the people who were encamped heard it said, "Zimri has conspired and also has killed the king." So all Israel made Omri, the commander of the army, king over Israel that day in the camp. <sup>17</sup> Then Omri and all Israel with him went up from Gibbethon, and they besieged Tirzah.

<sup>18</sup> And it happened, when Zimri saw that the city was taken, that he went into the citadel of the king's house and burned the king's house down upon himself with fire, and died, <sup>19</sup> because of the

sins which he had committed in doing evil in the sight of the Lord, in walking in the way of Jeroboam, and in his sin which he had committed to make Israel sin.

20 Now the rest of the acts of Zimri, and the treason he committed, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel?

### Omri Reigns in Israel

21 Then the people of Israel were divided into two parts: half of the people followed Tibni the son of Ginath, to make him king, and half followed Omri. 22 But the people who followed Omri prevailed over the people who followed Tibni the son of Ginath. So Tibni died and Omri reigned.

23 In the thirty-first year of Asa king of Judah, Omri became king over Israel, and reigned twelve years. Six years he reigned in Tirzah. 24 And he bought the hill of Samaria from Shemer for two talents of silver; then he built on the hill, and called the name of the city which he built, Samaria, after the name of Shemer, owner of the hill.

25 Omri did evil in the eyes of the Lord, and did worse than all who were before him. 26 For he walked in all the ways of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, and in his sin by which he had made Israel sin, provoking the Lord God of Israel to anger with their idols.

27 Now the rest of the acts of Omri which he did, and the might that he showed, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel?

28 So Omri rested with his fathers and was buried in Samaria. Then Ahab his son reigned in his place.  
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### Facts Revealed:

#### Baasha [1 Kings 16:1-7]

- ✧ 1 Then the word of the Lord came to Jehu the son of Hanani, against Baasha, saying:
  - 2 "Inasmuch as **I lifted you out of the dust and made you ruler over My people Israel, and you have walked in the way of Jeroboam, and have made My people Israel sin, to provoke Me to anger with their sins,** 3 surely I will take away the posterity of Baasha and the posterity of his house, and **I will make your house like the house of Jeroboam the son of Nebat. 4 The dogs shall eat whoever belongs to Baasha and dies in the city, and the birds of the air shall eat whoever dies in the fields.**" [1 Kings 16:1-4]
  - ✧ Baasha had conspired against Nadab the son of Jeroboam and fulfilled the words of the prophecy against Jeroboam completely. [1 Kings 14:7-11, 14, 15:25-30, 16:1-7]
  - ✧ Here we learn that Baasha's conspiracy was guided by the Lord Himself.
  - ✧ The reason was because Nadab had continued to follow the sins of Jeroboam his father who made Israel to sin with his idolatry. [1 Kings 15:25-26, 12:25-33]
  - ✧ Now Baasha receives the same judgment as Jeroboam because he continues to cling to the sins of Jeroboam and his idolatry. [1 Kings 16:1-4, 12:25-33, 14:11]
- ✧ 5 Now the rest of the acts of Baasha, what he did, and his might, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel? 6 So Baasha rested with his fathers and was buried in Tirzah. Then Elah his son reigned in his place. [1 Kings 16:5-6, 2 Chronicles 16:1-6]
- ✧ 7 And also the word of the Lord came by the prophet Jehu the son of Hanani against Baasha and his house, because of all the evil that he did in the sight of the Lord in provoking Him to

anger with the work of his hands, in being like the house of Jeroboam, and because he killed them. [1 Kings 16:7]

✧ God's case against Baasha was that Baasha behaved no differently than Jeroboam.

#### Elah Reigns in Israel [1 Kings 16:8-14]

✧ 8 In the twenty-sixth year of Asa king of Judah, **Elah the son of Baasha became king over Israel**, and reigned two years in Tirzah.

9 Now his servant **Zimri**, commander of half his chariots, conspired against him as he was in Tirzah drinking himself drunk in the house of Arza, steward of his house in Tirzah.

10 And Zimri went in and struck him and killed him in the twenty-seventh year of Asa king of Judah, and reigned in his place.

11 Then it came to pass, when he began to reign, as soon as he was seated on his throne, that he killed all the household of Baasha; he did not leave him one male, neither of his relatives nor of his friends.

12 Thus Zimri destroyed all the household of Baasha, according to the word of the Lord, which He spoke against Baasha by Jehu the prophet, 13 for all the sins of Baasha and the sins of Elah his son, by which they had sinned and by which they had made Israel sin, in provoking the Lord God of Israel to anger with their idols. [1 Kings 16:8-13]

✧ Because of the wickedness of the kings of Israel and their continual pursuit of the idolatrous example of Jeroboam, the wrath of God follows after them.

✧ 14 Now the rest of the acts of Elah, and all that he did, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel? [1 Kings 16:14]

✧ I could find no record of the reign of Elah in the books of the Chronicles.

#### Zimri Reigns in Israel [1 Kings 16:15-20]

✧ 15 In the twenty-seventh year of Asa king of Judah, **Zimri** had reigned in Tirzah seven days. And the people were encamped against Gibbethon, which belonged to the Philistines.

16 Now the people who were encamped heard it said, "Zimri has conspired and also has killed the king." So all Israel made **Omri**, the commander of the army, king over Israel that day in the camp. 17 Then Omri and all Israel with him went up from Gibbethon, and they besieged Tirzah.

18 And it happened, when Zimri saw that the city was taken, that he went into the citadel of the king's house and burned the king's house down upon himself with fire, and died, 19 **because of the sins which he had committed in doing evil in the sight of the Lord, in walking in the way of Jeroboam, and in his sin which he had committed to make Israel sin.** [1 Kings 16:15-19]

✧ Jeroboam's idolatrous example continues through the kings of Israel along with the wrath and judgment of God.

✧ 20 Now the rest of the acts of Zimri, and the treason he committed, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel? [1 Kings 16:20]

✧ I could find no record of Zimri in the books of the Chronicles.

#### Omri Reigns in Israel [1 Kings 16:21-28]

✧ 21 Then the people of Israel were divided into two parts: half of the people followed **Tibni** the son of Ginath, to make him king, and half followed **Omri**. 22 But the people who followed Omri prevailed over the people who followed Tibni the son of Ginath. So Tibni died and Omri reigned. [1 Kings 16:21-22]

✧ Israel a divided kingdom for 4 years under Tibni and Omri until Tibni died in battle with Omri.

☆ 23 In the thirty-first year of Asa king of Judah, Omri became king over Israel, and reigned twelve years. Six years he reigned in Tirzah. 24 And he bought the hill of Samaria from Shemer for two talents of silver; then he built on the hill, and called the name of the city which he built, Samaria, after the name of Shemer, owner of the hill.

25 Omri did evil in the eyes of the Lord, and did worse than all who were before him. 26 For **he walked in all the ways of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, and in his sin by which he had made Israel sin, provoking the Lord God of Israel to anger with their idols.** [1 Kings 16:23-26]

✧ For the generations who do not know God, the tendency is to sink ever deeper into sin and fall farther and farther from God's grace because wickedness knows no boundaries.

✧ The sins of Jeroboam continue to grow in Israel. [1 Kings 12:25-33]

☆ 27 Now the rest of the acts of Omri which he did, and the might that he showed, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel?

28 So Omri rested with his fathers and was buried in Samaria. Then Ahab his son reigned in his place. [1 Kings 16:27-28]

✧ Again I found no record of the reign of Omri or Tibni in the books of Chronicles.