

The Downward Spiral of Worldly Ambition

Source Text: 1 Kings 15:25-16:28

Speaker: Mike Scheer

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Sermon Points:

1. The Fall of Jeroboam's Dynasty: Nadab (15:25-31)
2. The Fall of an Aggressive, Unkingly Dynasty: Baasha and Elah (15:33-16:10)
3. The Fall of Israel's Shortest Dynasty: Zimri (16:11-20)
4. The Beginning of the Fall of Israel's Longest Dynasty: Omri and Tibni (16:21-28)

Discussion Questions:

1. What are some recurring themes you see in the lives of these six kings?
2. What does the lack of religious reform and no mention of God in these verses suggest about what these kings valued?
3. Look at the repeated statements at the end of each king's account ("because of the sins he sinned, doing evil in the sight of the Lord, walking in the way of Jeroboam and in his sin which he did making Israel sin"). What is "the way of Jeroboam", and what is the author highlighting by repeating this summary?
4. What are some lessons we can draw from these kings? If your name was written somewhere in this passage, where would it be and why?
5. When you consider your own life right now, how are you living for God's glory and seeking to make His name great? How are you living for your own glory and building your own name?
6. What is something from this text that can help you view God more accurately or better seek His glory and His name this week?

Additional Resources:

When People Are Big and God is Small by Ed Welch

