I. JEHU’ LIFE.

A. His name means “Yahweh is He”.

B. He was a reformer who God used to clean up the mess left by Ahab.

C. His service began as the captain of the guard for Israel’s army under the reigns of Jehoram in Israel and Ahaziah in Judah.
   1. Jehoram, king of Israel was Ahab’s son—2 Kings 3:1-3.
   2. Ironically, Ahaziah, king of Judah, was Ahab’s grandson and Jehoram’s son—2 Kings 8:25-26.

D. Due to Jehoram’s evil reign God instructed the prophet Elisha to anoint Jehu as the next king of Israel—2 Kings 9:1-3.

E. Jehu assumed leadership in Israel by assassinating several people with God’s blessing.
   1. Jehu assassinated both King Jehoram and King Ahaziah.
   2. He had Jezebel killed.
   3. He had Ahab’s sons killed.
   4. He also killed the remaining false prophets of Baal.

II. JEHU’S FAILURE.

A. He rid Israel of Baal worship but not all idolatry—2 Kings 10:29.

B. In allowing the golden calves to be worshipped in Israel, Jehu only partially obeyed God—2 Kings 10:30-31.

C. He apparently overstepped his bounds in the extent of his zeal in killing Ahab’s family and also the prophets of Baal. In other words, he became “blood thirsty”.
   1. This earned him a rebuke from God—Hosea 1:4.

   2. In the above verse God instructed the prophet Hosea to name one of his sons “Jehu” as a reminder that Israel had failed to consistently worship God as Jehu did.
III. JEHU’S LESSONS

A. One positive lesson from Jehu is that initially he obeyed God in getting rid of Baal worship in Israel.

B. Negatively, however, he only partially obeyed God—Gal. 4:18 and James 1:25.