

Text: 1 Kings 15:1-25-16:27

Topics: Grace, Sinfulness, Justice, Righteousness

Series: Don't Lose Sight of Your Calling!

Monroe Bible Church

August 17, 2025

Pastor Dan Krahenbuhl

Lessons from Five Bad Kings

I. Nadab (15:25-30)

Don't repeat the sins of your predecessors.

II. Baasha (15:33-16:7)

Don't receive God's blessing then reject His will.

III. Elah (16:8-10)

Don't neglect in the work of your calling.

IV. Zimri (16:10-18, 20)

Don't conspire against your leader.

V. Omni (16:15-20)

Don't use your might to win, then again for sin.

Carry out your calling with a constant awareness that God sees everything, requires righteousness, and executes justice.

Only by the grace of God in Christ can you do it!

Application Questions - *These questions are provided for your further study and application of the subject of today's message. Thoughtfully writing out answers to these questions will help drive home the point. They are designed to be discussed in your home, with other believers, and in a Life Group for even more benefit.*

1. Read 1 Kings 15:25-30. While Nadab's reign was short and means of death seem tragic, his life was not righteous. (See v. 26; 14:7-14) Can you think of an example of sin in your family, or a predecessor in your calling, in which a sin was, or wasn't, addressed? Did you see a consequence, good or bad?

2. Read about Baasha in 1 Kings 15:33-16:7. Notice that God blessed him, but his conduct toward God didn't show appreciation. What are some of God's blessings that you've received? Have there been temptations in those blessings to do things that contradict God's will?

3. Read of Elah's short reign in 1 Kings 16:8-10, and v. 13. All that is said of Elah is that he was struck down drinking himself drunk and that he provoked God to anger with idols. Can you think of temptations you've faced to neglect the work that went with the responsibility of your calling?

4. Read 1 Kings 16:10-18, and v. 20. Zimri is an example of a subordinate who overthrew his superior. Have you been in a position of being a subordinate and tempted to undermine or overthrow the one over you? Did you think it was justified? Explain.

5. The reign over Israel of the next king is given in 1 Kings 16:21-26. While it appears Omri administered justice to Zimri, the assessment of his life was terrible (v. 25). Can you give an example of a temptation you faced to misuse the power you had in your position of authority or influence?

6. What do these bad examples teach you about the Lord and living out your calling?