

Number 7, Elisha's pastoral work and we finished up "c" and we began our ~~xxx~~ discussion of number 8, the end of the Israelite branch of the house of Ahab. We noticed under number 7 the account of how Elisha went and gave the message to Hazael that he was going to be king of Syria, which was ~~not~~ so much a message for Hazael as it was a message for Elisha and for the people of Israel and for all believers since, a message of the power of God to control all the nations of the world. Then we had ~~thixxfilix~~ his power shown similarly in number 8 here in the end of the Israelite branch of the house of Ahab which was indeed a part of the direct dealing of God with His people and a very ~~importantix~~ important part of the heading, the Baal crisis. The time has now come when that is to be done which God had revealed to Elijah. The situation is already for it. King Joram and his ~~xxxix~~ nephew Ahaziah of Judah have gone out to fight against Hazael, king of Syria, in Ramoth Gilead. If you didn't know anything about Ramoth Gilead, but did know a little bit about Hebrew, what would you say Ramoth Gilead was? Well, without knowing anything about Hebrew, what does the word Gilead suggest? Yes, but Gilead is ^athe place; it is the name of an area. So Ramoth Gilead would suggest possibly something related to this area and Ramoth with a little knowledge of Hebrew you ~~xxxxix~~ would recognize from Rama--to lift up or to be high. Ramoth Gilead--the high place in Gilead. So it is very evident then that it is the high point Gilead at which ~~thixxx~~ there was an important city there. The high city of Gilead. This high city of Gilead is one which has often been involved in fighting between Israel and Syria. Now they are fighting there at Ramoth Gilead and the king of Israel is wounded and he goes back to be healed in Jezreel of the wound. ~~Hxxx~~ Which side of the Jordan River is Ramoth Gilead? It is on the east side of the Jordan River, ~~hix~~ what we sometimes speak of as trans-Jordan. By "trans", of course, we don't mean east, we mean across. Across from that ~~en~~ ~~which~~ of the viewpoint from which we are thinking. This side could be called trans-Jordan from the other. ~~Butxxxx~~ since we speak of western Palestine more properly of Canaan or Palestine, we speak of eastern as trans-Jordan, an area which