JEZEBEL

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Who is Jezebel?

Jezebel meant "chaste, free from carnal connection".

JEZEBEL 1:

Jezebel was the daughter of Ethbaal, the king of Sidon. She was the wife of King Ahab, the king of Israel. She had 2 sons, namely Ahaziah (1 Kings 22:40, 51) and Jehoram (2 Kings 1:17).

Jezebel was a Baal worshipper and after marrying King Ahab, she domineered in Baal worship across the nation of Israel. King Ahab supported her in Baal worship by building temples and altars for Baal in Samaria. He made a wooden image and provoked anger in the true God of Israel.

Jezebel had been nurturing 450 prophets of Baal and 400 prophets of Asherah daily (1 Kings 18:19). She was so cruel that she systematically killed all the prophets of God of Israel, YHWH to be put to death. During that period, Elijah the prophet had a divine warning and he hid from Jezebel in the caves. At Mount Carmel, after prophet Elijah assembled all the Baal prophets (1 Kings 18:4, 19) and destroyed them, Jezebel was so keen on killing him.

It came in those days that King Ahab wanted to have the vineyard of Naboth, who is a Jezreelite. His vineyard was next to the palace of King Ahab and he refused to give the land, as it was his inheritance from his family. When Jezebel saw her husband with a sullen face and knew the reason for it, she devised a cunning plan against Naboth. She sent letters to the elder and noble men in the city sealed in the name of King Ahab stating to proclaim a fast and to seat Naboth amidst the noble men and 2 bad men who would witness him to have spoken against the king and God. She also added that they would take him out to stone to death. It happened the same manner and once Naboth died, Jezebel told King Ahab to take over Naboth's vineyard.

God's anger grew more against King Ahab and He spoke to him through the prophet Elijah. He warned what kind of death Jezebel and King Ahab's household would face. Hearing that King Ahab tore his clothes, put on sackcloth, fasted and mourned before God. But, he didn't stop doing wickedness in the sight of God because Jezebel was stirring him up all the time. Jezebel still didn't have a change in her heart but grew worse than before. King Ahab died and his son began reigning and he was not doing well in the sight of God. (2 Kings 9:22). Jezebel's daughter, Athaliah was brought up like her mother – wicked ways and as a Baal worshipper.

God told Elijah to anoint Elisha as his descendent and Jehu as the king of Israel. Jehu killed Jehoram, Jezebel's son and when she heard that he was coming to her, she adorned herself well and looked from the upper window on the palace square. As soon as Jehu arrived, she asked him if that was peace and he shouted who was with him. Immediately, two or three eunuchs came next to her and at the order of Jehu, they dropped her from above. Her blood splashed on the wall and the horses; Jehu trampled her underfoot and, went in and ate and drank. After that he commanded them to bury the dead Jezebel, as she was the daughter of a king. But, they replied to him that God's word through Elijah was fulfilled: "Her flesh will be eaten by dogs and no one can say that she was laid there". So, they gathered whatever was left out and buried her.

Bible Accounts:

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1 Kings 16: 30,31; 1 Kings 18: 4, 19; 1 Kings 19: 1,2;
1 Kings 21: 1-16, 23-25; 2 Kings 9:22, 30-37; (1Kings 22:40; 2 Kings 1:17);
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1 Kings 16: 30,31 - ³⁰ Now Ahab the son of Omri did evil in the sight of the Lord, more than all who were before him. ³¹ And it came to pass, as though it had been a trivial thing for him to walk in the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, that he took as wife Jezebel the daughter of Ethbaal, king of the Sidonians; and he went and served Baal and worshiped him.

1 Kings 18:4, 19 – ⁴ For so it was, while <u>Jezebel massacred the prophets of the Lord</u>, that Obadiah had taken one hundred prophets and hidden them, fifty to a cave, and had fed them with bread and water.)

¹⁹ Now therefore, send *and* gather all Israel to me on Mount Carmel, the four hundred and fifty prophets of Baal, and the four hundred prophets of Asherah, who eat at <u>Jezebel's table</u>."

1 Kings 19:1,2 - And Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, also how he had executed all the prophets with the sword. ² Then <u>Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah</u>, saying, "So let the gods do *to me*, and more also, if I do not make your life as the life of one of them by tomorrow about this time."

1 Kings 21:1-16 - And it came to pass after these things *that* Naboth the Jezreelite had a vineyard which *was* in Jezreel, next to the palace of Ahab king of Samaria. ² So Ahab spoke to Naboth, saying, "Give me your vineyard, that I may

have it for a vegetable garden, because it *is* near, next to my house; and for it I will give you a vineyard better than it. *Or*, if it seems good to you, I will give you its worth in money."

³ But Naboth said to Ahab, "The Lord forbid that I should give the inheritance of my fathers to you!" ⁴ So Ahab went into his house sullen and displeased because of the word which Naboth the Jezreelite had spoken to him; for he had said, "I will not give you the inheritance of my fathers." And he lay down on his bed, and turned away his face, and would eat no food. ⁵ But Jezebel his wife came to him, and said to him, "Why is your spirit so sullen that you eat no food?"

⁶ He said to her, "Because I spoke to Naboth the Jezreelite, and said to him, 'Give me your vineyard for money; or else, if it pleases you, I will give you *another* vineyard for it.' And he answered, 'I will not give you my vineyard.' "

⁷ Then Jezebel his wife said to him, "You now exercise authority over Israel! Arise, eat food, and let your heart be cheerful; I will give you the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite."

⁸ And <u>she wrote letters in Ahab's name</u>, sealed *them* with his seal, and sent the letters to the elders and the nobles who *were* dwelling in the city with Naboth. ⁹ She wrote in the letters, saying,

Proclaim a fast, and seat Naboth with high honour among the people; ¹⁰ and seat two men, scoundrels, before him to bear witness against him, saying, "You have blasphemed God and the king." *Then* take him out, and stone him, that he may die.

¹¹ So the men of his city, the elders and nobles who were inhabitants of his city, did as Jezebel had sent to them, as it *was* written in the letters which she had sent to them. ¹² They proclaimed a fast, and seated Naboth with high honour among the people. ¹³ And two men, scoundrels, came in and sat before him; and the scoundrels witnessed against him, against Naboth, in the presence of the people, saying, "Naboth has blasphemed God and the king!" Then they took him outside the city and stoned him with stones, so that he died. ¹⁴ Then they sent to Jezebel, saying, "Naboth has been stoned and is dead."

¹⁵ And it came to pass, when Jezebel heard that Naboth had been stoned and was dead, that Jezebel said to Ahab, "Arise, take possession of the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite, which he refused to give you for money; for Naboth is not alive, but dead." ¹⁶ So it was, when Ahab heard that Naboth was dead, that Ahab got up and went down to take possession of the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite.

²³ And concerning Jezebel the Lord also spoke, saying, "The dogs shall eat Jezebel by the wall of Jezreel.' ²⁴ The dogs shall eat whoever belongs to Ahab and dies in the city, and the birds of the air shall eat whoever dies in the field." ²⁵ But there was no one like Ahab who sold himself to do wickedness in the sight of the Lord, because Jezebel his wife stirred him up.

2 Kings 9:22, $30-37 - {}^{22}$ Now it happened, when Joram saw Jehu, that he said, "*Is it* peace, Jehu?"

So he answered, "What peace, as long as the harlotries of your mother Jezebel and her witchcraft *are so* many?"

³⁰ Now when Jehu had come to Jezreel, Jezebel heard *of it;* and she put paint on her eyes and adorned her head, and looked through a window. ³¹ Then, as Jehu entered at the gate, she said, "*Is it* peace, Zimri, murderer of your master?"

³² And he looked up at the window, and said, "Who *is* on my side? Who?" So two *or* three eunuchs looked out at him. ³³ Then he said, "Throw her down." So they threw her down, and *some* of her blood spattered on the wall and on the horses; and he trampled her underfoot. ³⁴ And when he had gone in, he ate and drank. Then he said, "Go now, see to this accursed *woman*, and bury her, for she was a king's daughter." ³⁵ So they went to bury her, but they found no more of her than the skull and the feet and the palms of *her* hands. ³⁶ Therefore they came back and told him. And he said, "This *is* the word of the Lord, which He spoke by His servant Elijah the Tishbite, saying, 'On the plot *of ground* at Jezreel dogs shall eat the flesh of Jezebel; ³⁷ and the corpse of Jezebel shall be as refuse on the surface of the field, in the plot at Jezreel, so that they shall not say, "Here *lies* Jezebel." "

- 1 Kings 22: 40 So Ahab rested with his fathers. Then <u>Ahaziah his son</u> reigned in his place.
- 2 Kings 1:17 So *Ahaziah* died according to the word of the Lord which Elijah had spoken. Because he had no son, <u>Jehoram became king</u> in his place, in the second year of Jehoram the son of Jehoshaphat, king of Judah.

Lessons from Jezebel:

- Jezebel is a very bad example in the bible characters.
- ➤ She was a bad mother as she had brought up her daughter Athaliah in the same way as her.
- Jezebel had a domineering character and she forced everyone around her into the false worship.
- ➤ She was a very proud, jealous, covetous, wicked and an evil woman which could be witnessed by her actions.
- ➤ She was a murderer killed all the prophets of true God of Israel.

JEZEBEL 2:

A woman calling herself a prophetess lived in the church of Thyatira. She was named Jezebel as her conduct resembled Jezebel, the wife of King Ahab. She taught and misled people into fornication and idolatry. She refused to repent for her sinning against the true God even when God gave her time. She brought reproach on herself from God. God warned her that He would cast her into a sickbed and her children with death. He also warned that He will cast those who committed adultery with her into a great tribulation too unless they repent of their sins. He had clearly warned them that they would be rendered according to their works.

God is so good that He blesses those who haven't had any connection with this woman's teaching. He is asking them to hold fast to the truth until He comes.

Bible Account:

Revelation 2: 18-29;

Revelation 2: 18-29 - ¹⁸ "And to the angel of the church in Thyatira write, "These things says the Son of God, who has eyes like a flame of fire, and His feet like fine brass: ¹⁹ "I know your works, love, service, faith, and your patience; and *as* for your works, the last *are* more than the first. ²⁰ Nevertheless I have a few things against you, because you allow that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess, to teach and seduce My servants to commit sexual immorality and eat things sacrificed to idols. ²¹ And I gave her time to repent of her sexual immorality, and she did not repent. ²² Indeed I will cast her into a sickbed, and those who commit adultery with her into great tribulation, unless they repent of their deeds. ²³ I will kill her children with death, and all the churches shall know that I am He who searches the minds and hearts. And I will give to each one of you according to your works.

²⁴ "Now to you I say, and to the rest in Thyatira, as many as do not have this doctrine, who have not known the depths of Satan, as they say, I will put on you no other burden. ²⁵ But hold fast what you have till I come. ²⁶ And he who overcomes, and keeps My works until the end, to him I will give power over the nations— ²⁷ 'He shall rule them with a rod of iron; They shall be dashed to pieces like the potter's vessels'— as I also have received from My Father; ²⁸ and I will give him the morning star. ²⁹ "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches." '

Lessons from Jezebel:

➤ God gave us the freewill to choose anything – either good or bad. He gives us according to our choices we make. Here, He punishes who commit sin

- and don't repent; but He blesses and encourages others to stay firm in the truth.
- ➤ He is a kind and loving God He gives time for us to repent if we had sinned against Him and return to Him. He is not cruel God.
- ➤ Not all who calls oneself a prophet or disciple or teacher or minister of God are truly the followers of Christ and Father God. So beware of the false ones.

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