



# The Lion of Judah



*“Behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has prevailed to open the scroll and to loose its seven seals.” (Revelation 5:5)*

## AHAB – THE REAL PROBLEM

Now **Ahab** the son of Omri *did evil* in the sight of the LORD, *more than all who were before him.* <sup>31</sup>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.** <sup>32</sup>Then he set up an altar for Baal in the temple of Baal, which he had built in Samaria. <sup>33</sup>And Ahab made a wooden image. **Ahab did more to provoke the LORD God of Israel to anger than all the kings of Israel who were before him.** (1Kings 16:30-33)

**Characteristics of Ahab** (for Biblical basis see 1Kings 16:29 through 2Kings 9:37 and tape of 6/15/03)

- ⇒ **Apathetic** – has handed over responsibility and authority to Jezebel
- ⇒ **Confused** – because he has surrendered his “manhood” and “headship” responsibilities
- ⇒ **Defeated** – beaten down into submission
- ⇒ **Disgusted** – totally fed up with his life and his circumstances, but powerless to do anything about it
- ⇒ **Fearful** – Ahab fears Jezebel, but fear is the underlying need that Jezebel fulfills – a typical “double-bind”
- ⇒ **Frustrated** – the Ahab man is constantly frustrated because his needs become secondary and only are fulfilled if Jezebel decides to do something about it for him
- ⇒ **Hateful** – Ahab hates himself and hates his Jezebel and, therefore, hates everything and everyone
- ⇒ **Hopeless** – once control and authority was handed over to Jezebel, he is a puppet at her command which leaves him feeling helpless and hopeless
- ⇒ **Indecisive** – can no longer make decisions; has ceded that right to Jezebel and is afraid to come against her
- ⇒ **Irresponsible** – enjoys not having the weight of responsibility, which makes Ahab conscienceless
- ⇒ **Lazy** – it’s always someone else’s responsibility, which gets to be a way of life for Ahab
- ⇒ **Lustful** – as a counterfeit of the love he doesn’t receive from his Jezebel
- ⇒ **Rationalization** – can always explain things away, especially in his own mind
- ⇒ **Rejection** – a root cause of Ahab tendencies which Jezebel at first seems to fulfill, but which later turns into loss of self, another form of rejection
- ⇒ **Spiritual blindness** – the Jezebel and Ahab spirits are so anti-Christ that it is very difficult for the light of Truth to penetrate the darkness
- ⇒ **Suicidal** – if Ahab does not find an outlet for his pent up anger, frustration and hatred, he may turn on himself
- ⇒ **Wounded ego/spirit** – Ahab’s self-esteem and self-worth are extremely low which can cause him to do things to feed his pride which will manifest in settings outside Jezebel’s influence

### **Ahab Opens the Door for Jezebel**

- ⇒ While Jezebel is more visible, she cannot attain power and position unless an Ahab man allows her to do so
  - *“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.” (Revelation 2:20)*

- ⇒ The primary reasons Ahab does so are **cowardice** (he's afraid to do what he wants done); **fear** (he thinks he might fail); and **image** (he wants to be seen as good to protect his position of authority)
- ⇒ This pattern has been with us since the very beginning with Adam and Eve playing these roles in the complicity with the Devil
  - *Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived, fell into transgression.*
- ⇒ Adam **allowed** Eve to go first so he could see what happened; when she didn't "surely die" right away, he then **deliberately sinned** whereas Eve was simply **deceived**
  - *Then the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate. (Genesis 3:4-6)*
  - According to Richard Ing in his book, *Spiritual Warfare*, "It was **Adam's failure** to love and protect Eve that **led to this curse**. To protect the women against Satan, we men are called to love and provide spiritual protection or coverage for them. Failure to do so will leave our women exposed to the devil, and **men will be judged.**"
- ⇒ What Adam and Ahabs in general don't realize at first is that **abdicating their authority to Jezebel** in a "small thing" opens the door for her to **fully usurp** all his power and authority
  - *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. <sup>5</sup>But Jezebel his wife came to him, and said to him, "Why is your spirit so sullen that you eat no food?" <sup>6</sup>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.'" <sup>7</sup>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.**" (1Kings 21:4-7)*
  - Ahab men become "**cry-babies and pouters** when they cannot get what they want" according to Richard Ing in "*Spiritual Warfare*" who also says that "**behind every Jezebel woman is an Ahab man**"
- ⇒ "There is a **spirit** which works with Jezebel. The effect of this demon is that it floods the soul of a man with weakness and fear. Its name is Ahab; his nature is 'one who **gives his authority** to Jezebel.' The man feels almost **drugged** in his struggle against Jezebel." (Francis Frangipane, *The Jezebel Spirit*)
- ⇒ Jezebel requires a man with a **position of authority** (e.g. husband, pastor, leader) to **open the door** for her to take over his authority and power
  - Jezebel does this in many ways, from using her **feminine charms to flatter or even seduce** the man of authority, to **manipulating** him into a position where he **hands over** some of his authority out of fear or a desire to keep his image clean (i.e. allowing Jezebel to do the dirty work)
- ⇒ The "**headship**" of the man is actually a result of the **curse** that God placed on women as a result of the fall in the Garden of Eden
  - *To the woman He said: "I will greatly multiply your sorrow and your conception; in pain you shall bring forth children; your desire shall be for your husband, and **he shall rule over you.**" (Genesis 3:16)*
- ⇒ Men didn't get off any easier from the curses of God:
  - ***Cursed is the ground** for your sake; in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life. Both thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you, and you shall eat the herb of the field. In the **sweat of your face** you shall eat bread till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for dust you are, and to dust you shall return." (Genesis 3:17-19)*
- ⇒ God's **original plan** for men and women was for them to be "**helpmates**" and to be "**comparable**" to one another – not for **either** one of them to **rule oppressively** over the other

- *And the LORD God said, “It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a **helper comparable to him.**”*

⇒ Husbands are supposed to **love, protect and nurture** their wives as the means to **undo the curse of “rulership”**

- *Husbands, **love your wives**, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, <sup>26</sup>that He might **sanctify and cleanse her** with the washing of water by the word, <sup>27</sup>that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish. (Ephesians 5:22)*

⇒ The **problem** in the world, church and families today is **not** women taking over authority, but rather **men either giving it up or using it oppressively**

- *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.** (1Kings 21:25)*
- The “**selling out**” to wickedness comes **first**; then the Ahab man can be “**stirred up**” by his wife

### **Ahab in the Home**

⇒ The Ahab **husband** of a Jezebel wife will either be:

- **Fearful** in all his other relationships in life, rendering him weak, wimpy and wishy-washy
- Or he will have a **resentment and hatred** toward women in general, which can lead him to become an abuser – physical, sexual or emotional

⇒ The man who cannot **govern his household** in godly, protective authority will not be able to exercise spiritual authority elsewhere in a **godly manner**

- The Ahab husband needs to **repent of his fears** and **firmly, but lovingly**, set his home in order
- The man **wins the war** against Jezebel not by conquering her but rather by **assuming his rightful role** in a **Christ-like manner**

⇒ **Headship** in the home is simply the man taking **loving responsibility** for the condition of his home

- **No home** will have **peace** if the husband has **ceded his authority** to his wife
- However, the **Ahab husband** will usually desire **peace at any cost**, cementing unholy alliances with the Jezebel spirit

⇒ “An individual under the influence of an Ahab spirit, often **makes truces instead of covenants**, thus **prostituting** rather than **sanctifying** relationships. But how can you have a truce with someone whose goals is to destroy you? Nevertheless, an Ahab spirit will always **sacrifice the future good** for the sake of **peace today.**” (John Paul Jackson, Unmasking the Jezebel Spirit)

- **Secretly**, the Ahab husband **despises and hates his wife’s Jezebelic domination**, meanwhile becoming more and more **reclusive, sluggish and repressed**
- Because of his **anger**, he may turn to **flirtatious acts, pornography, cybersex, voyeurism** or other ways to alleviate his emotional and relational pain

⇒ The Jezebelic wife will use the **marriage bed** as another tool

- She **rewards his obedience** with sexual gratification, but **withholds** it if he rebels
- Her ultimate goal is to **emasculate** her husband and render him **weak, powerless and submissive**

⇒ When she has **fully usurped** his role as head of the household, **corruption and strife** can only follow

- Even the “**partial**” **Jezebels** who seek to live a “**godly life**” undermine the prescribed order of the home, leading to all kinds of **conflict and ongoing arguments**

- Such “**partial**” Jezebels are “**double-minded**” (more accurately double-souled) and are “*unstable in all [her] ways,*” according to James 1:7 causing the household to **like a wave** tossed too and fro on the sea
- ⇒ The “**worldly**” Jezebel will seek to **humiliate her husband** in public
  - But the more “**godly**” Jezebel will allow him to appear to be in charge to the outside world, exacting an even **steeper price** from him at home as her just due
- ⇒ Eventually, the “**godly**” Ahab will become so **brow-beaten** that he will **give up** all attempts to remain “spiritual” and to keep up appearances and **sink into the couch** in front of the TV (or drugs, alcohol, etc.)
  - Then, his Jezebel wife will **proclaim to the world what a “loser” he is** and how he has **failed** to meet his obligations and responsibilities as “head of the household”

### Ahab in the Church

- ⇒ **Working together**, the Ahab pastor and the Jezebel “prophetess” will form a **co-dependent relationship** and **feed off each other** in order to accomplish **each one’s goals** – which is usually to enlarge or entrench a “**power base**” – it’s all about **power and control**
  - When Jezebel is not around, the Ahab pastor will tend to be **overly harsh and control-oriented** in general, and **toward females** in particular – quick to put them “in their place”
- ⇒ Many pastors will **embrace a Jezebel** because she appears to have a “**prophetic anointing**” and **leadership skills** (she’s usually **aggressive, not assertive**, as true leaders ought to be)
  - As the Jezebel begins to more **openly manifest** her **controlling, destroying nature**, the pastor will either convince themselves that they will be able to **spiritually “mature” her** or attempt to **ignore it** if they are **indecisive and non-confrontational**
- ⇒ Pastors often have few “**friends**” within the church – a **role** that Jezebel **loves to fill**
  - Initially, she offers a **sympathetic ear** and **words of encouragement**; eventually, these words become **outright flattery** accompanied by **flirtation and seduction**
  - *With her enticing speech she caused him to yield, With her flattering lips she seduced him. Immediately he went after her, as an ox goes to the slaughter...he did not know it would cost his life.* (Proverbs 7:21-23)
- ⇒ For many Ahab pastors, it **seems unbelievable** that such a “**spiritually mature**” and “**gifted**” person could have anything but the **highest motives**
  - In some instances, pastors find themselves **lacking the mental sharpness** to overcome the **persuasive arguments** of a Jezebelite
  - Over time, it becomes **more difficult** for the Ahab pastor to **recognize** that this individual operates with a **controlling spirit** that seeks to **conquer** the pastor and divide the church
- ⇒ It takes a **courageous pastor** to **confront** a Jezebel spirit
  - Sometimes, in order to **avoid** the dreaded confrontation, the pastor will simply **abolish all prophetic gifts or ministries** in the church
  - Worse, the pastor may choose to “**use**” the **Jezebel** to accomplish his own **hidden agendas** of control
- ⇒ If the pastor **won’t confront Jezebel**, someone(s) need to do so, because **Jezebel defiles everything** she touches, **destroying the true anointing** and replacing it with **counterfeits from the Devil**
  - When a Jezebel spirit has become **entrenched** in a church, it becomes very **difficult to dislodge** – the **longer** it remains, the **more difficult** it is to remove
  - Jezebel’s **ultimate objective** is to **bring down the church** while maintaining her **outward façade of hyper-spirituality**

- ⇒ When Jezebel has become **entrenched** in the church, the pastor will need to **prayerfully build a case** with **witnesses** on specific issues
  - Until then, a spirit of **Jezebelic confusion and audacity** acts as a **smokescreen** through which the Jezebelite will **emerge unscathed** while the pastor is left **embarrassed** and likely **undermined** in the eyes of the board and the congregation
  - Because the past **doesn't clearly remember** word-for-word what was said, Jezebelites will **twist or give "new" meanings** to their previous words and prophecies.
- ⇒ The pastor who continues to allow the Jezebel to **operate unimpeded** within the church will become subject to **strong delusion, heavy depression and indecision** in even the smallest matters
  - Then their churches will face a **spiritual famine** that will cause people to leave in droves, not really understanding why
- ⇒ To **overcome a Jezebel** spirit in the church, the pastor and leaders must **address all rebellion and usurped authority** committed by their church members
  - *For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the LORD, He also has rejected you from being king.*"
- ⇒ The pastor who can **overcome the Jezebel spirit** in the church is offered **great rewards**:
  - *To him I will give power over the nations—'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; and I will give him the morning star.* (Revelation 26-28)

### Ahab in the World

- ⇒ Unfortunately, in order to crack the "**glass ceiling**" in business and governmental organizations, women have had to become **overly aggressive** and/or **greedily seductive** (opening the door to the Jezebel spirit)
  - When an **Ahab leader** teams up with a **Jezebel woman** they can become a **formidable force** – often appearing to be "**right-minded**" on the surface, but given over to **unrighteous policies and behaviors**
- ⇒ There are many men who **wish to be leaders**, but who have been **beaten down** by their mothers, wives and the world in general
  - Since they are **too weak** to accomplish their goals on their own, **teaming up** with a Jezebel often appears to be the **best way to get ahead**
- ⇒ However, in **giving in** to the Ahab and Jezebel spirits, these "leaders" **unwittingly** have opened themselves up to further penetration and **eventual domination** by that crafty serpent of old, the Devil
  - Then they become **blinded to spiritual truths** and become the Devil's victims of "**tolerance**" and "**feel-good**" agendas
- ⇒ The real Ahab allowed his Jezebel queen to **sacrifice children** as a form of worship and a means to acquire more power
  - So too are these spirits the forces behind **abortion** in the world today
  - The Jezebel spirit is also **turning Ahab men into homosexuals** as they nurse their wounds and **hatred** of all things feminine
- ⇒ The Jezebel spirit of **rebellion leads to witchcraft** (in spirit if not in the natural realm) in its unceasing **desire for power**
  - Thus we have an ever-expanding **culture of drugs** within our society – and Jezebel women who hear "**voices**" telling them what to do and giving the **false words of wisdom and knowledge**
- ⇒ The Ahab leader, like King Ahab, are **double-minded compromisers**

- In 1 Kings 20, the Syrian army twice came against Israel and both times **King Ahab consulted the prophets** who said God was going to give a mighty miracle to Ahab and defeat the Syrians. Still, he went back to **worshipping Baal and Ashteroth**.
  - So too do many of today's double-minded men **go to church** because it's **politically correct** or for **personal reputation**, not because they love God
  - They **want God's miracles** but still **refuse** to call upon him as **Lord and Savior**
- ⇒ All of this in turn leads to the **Anti-Christ spirit** which now **drives** most of our **governmental institutions** – just as foretold in the Book of Revelation
- The coming “**one-world government**” prophesied in Daniel 7:7 – 8:24 and Revelation 13:12 is being build on a **foundation of the Anti-Christ spirit**
  - This is leading to **more and more persecution** of **Christians** in both obvious and subtle ways even as the world is calling for more “**tolerance**” (i.e. **no claims of absolute truths**)

### The Biblical Solution

- ⇒ The Bible tells us **what must happen** even as the **Elijah Spirit** is being poured out on all flesh, heralding the second coming of the Lord Jesus Christ
- *Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD. And he will **turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the earth with a curse.*** (Malachi 4:5-6)
- ⇒ Only when men (fathers) assume their **rightful roles and responsibilities** and **reconcile with their children** under **God's influence** will we **avoid** the “**curse**” of that coming “**great and dreadful day of the Lord.**”
- We know that this **will not happen to all fathers** – perhaps not even to most fathers – but we must seek to **turn the tide** in order to “*prepare ye the way of the Lord*” (Matthew 3:3)
  - And this can only be fully accomplished through **prayer and fasting**