

## The "Demonic behavior of control" (PART 1 OF 2) March 19, 2018

22 KINGS 9:32-37 NIV – (32) He looked up at the window and called out, "Who is on my side? Who?" Two or three eunuchs looked down at him. (33) "Throw her down!" Jehu said. So they threw her down, and some of her blood spattered the wall and the horses as they trampled her underfoot. (34) Jehu went in and ate and drank. "Take care of that cursed woman," he said, "and bury her, for she was a king's daughter." (35) But when they went out to bury her, they found nothing except her skull, her feet and her hands. (36) They went back and told Jehu, who said, "This is the word of the LORD that he spoke through his servant Elijah the Tishbite: On the plot of ground at Jezreel dogs will devour Jezebel's flesh. (37) Jezebel's body will be like dung on the ground in the plot at Jezreel, so that no one will be able to say, 'This is Jezebel."

Instead of hiding herself, as one afraid of Divine vengeance, Jezebel mocked at fear. I want us to see how a heart, hardened against God, will bold it out to the last. There is not a guaranteed warning of ruin, than an unhumbled heart under humbling provisions. Let us look at Jezebel's conduct and fate, who use arts to seduce others to commit wickedness, and to draw them aside from the ways of truth and righteousness. Jehu called for aid against Jezebel. When reformation-work is on foot, it is time to ask, Who sides with it? Her attendants delivered her up. Thus she was put to death. We see the end of pride and cruelty, and say, The Lord is righteous. When we spoil our bodies, let us think how vile they are; shortly they will be a feast for worms under ground, or beasts above ground. May we all flee from that wrath which is revealed from heaven, against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men.

There is a variety of opinions about what constituted Jezebels controlling behavior, everything from sexual looseness in a woman to the teaching of false doctrine—by a man or a woman. The Bible <u>does not</u> mention a Jezebel spirit, although it has plenty to say about Jezebel herself.

There are two incidents in the life of Jezebel that characterize her and may define what is meant by the "Jezebel spirit." (1) Was it her obsessive passion for domineering and controlling others, especially in the spiritual realm. (2) Jezebel taunted and ridiculed Naboth for his weakness, then proceeded to have the innocent Naboth framed and stoned to death. Naboth's sons were also stoned to death, so there would be no heirs, and the land would revert to the possession of the king. Such a single-minded determination to have one's way, no matter who is destroyed in the process, is a behavior of Jezebels character.

This controlling mind (behavior) evolves today. Next week, we will go into a little more detail about the demonic controlling behavior.

**SCRIPTURE READING:** 2 THESSALONIANS 2:9

**THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:** If God is powerful enough to get you to heaven, then He is powerful enough to sustain you on earth.