

SOHL
WEEKLY MINISTRY MEDITATIONS



"A JOURNEY OF THE HEART"

The "Demonic behavior of control"

(PART 2 OF 2)

March 26, 2018

REVELATION 2:20 NIV – (20) Nevertheless, I have this against you: You tolerate that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophet. By her teaching she misleads my servants into sexual immorality and the eating of food sacrificed to idols.

It seems best to view the name (Jezebel) as symbolical, always remembering that the attitude of proud, **self-constituted controlling authority**, boasting claims of superior holiness, or higher knowledge, linked with a disregard of—and perhaps a proud contempt for—"legalism," and followed by open immorality, has again and again run riot in the churches of God.

Although Jezebels behavior has been said to be more prevalent in women, there is no doubt that it functions just as proficiently through men.

1. Refuses to admit guilt or wrong: One who is never wrong, unless it is a temporary admittance of guilt to gain "favor" with someone. **2. Takes credit for everything:** Quick to take credit for benefits for which he contributed no effort. **3. Uses people to accomplish its agenda:** Others do its dirty work. The Jezebel gets another person's emotions stirred up, then lets that person go into a rage. **4. Withholds information:** This is a form of control. One who wields power over you by knowing something you don't know in a situation. In the eyes of a Jezebel, having information you don't have is a powerful weapon of control. **5. Talks in confusion:** It is impossible to converse with a controlling person in logic. Confusion keeps them "undiscovered" and unexposed. **6. Volunteers for anything:** One who volunteers in order to establish control. They seemingly have endless (nervous) energy and eagerly looks for opportunities to be in charge of projects. Although they will work hard, the motive is never pure, and eventually their secret agenda cannot be hidden. **7. Lies:** A person who lies convincingly. **8. Ignores people:** A classic strategy of a controller is to ignore you when you disagree with him. **9. Never gives credit or shows gratitude:** One who will rarely acknowledge another person's actions, not even for something that turned out to greatly benefit the controlling one. **10. Criticizes everyone:** This is a characteristic of a controller. They have to be the one who looks good, so they will quickly sharply criticize anyone who makes a suggestion or plan. Even though he likes the plan, he can only criticize it because the idea did not originate from him. Criticizing others elevates the controller in his own mind.

Though you have been given a total of ten descriptions of a controlling person, the list is much longer. The purpose of the list is not to discover people we know who identify with these characteristics, but to make sure (God's children) do not!

SCRIPTURE READING: LEVETICUS 20:6

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: When Satan attempts to overwhelm you, remind him that you are overwhelmingly conquered through Christ.