



ACCURATE BUILDING CONCEPTS

JEZEBEL – GOVERNMENTAL ENEMIES

JEZEBEL - GOVERNMENTAL ENEMIES LESSON 7 (ABC)

READ: 1KINGS 16 to 1KINGS 21, 2 KINGS 9, REV.2

QUESTIONS

1. What is headship?
2. In what way is a man the head of his wife?
3. What causes a man to lose his headship? What are the features?
4. What features in the lives of Isaac, Lot, Eli and Ahab demonstrate weakness/timidity?
5. What is the meaning of Jezebel?
6. What is the similarity between Old Testament and New Testament Jezebel?
7. What factors activate Jezebel?
8. What are the features of a Jezebellian invasion?
9. What is an operating system?
10. What are the features of a Jezebellian operating system?
11. Why was Jehu able to overcome Jezebel?
12. How does a believer overcome Jezebel?
13. What church governmental systems use a Jezebellian operating system?
14. Explain why Jezebel can penetrate a prophetic church (a church whose dominant grace is prophetic), but not an apostolic house (a church whose dominant grace is apostolic).
15. How does a local church overcome Jezebel?
16. What are the benefits of overcoming Jezebel/Jezebellian operating system?
17. What is the difference between an independent church and an autonomous church?
18. What is an Ishbosheth system of Government?
19. What are the signs of a Jezebellian parachurch, fraternal or network?

ANSWERS - JEZEBEL(LESSON 7)

1. Headship is the state of chief authority.
2. The man is the head of the wife just as Christ is the head of the church.

Eph 5:23

For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body. (NKJ)

CHRIST'S RELATIONSHIP WITH THE CHURCH IS DESIGNATED BY METAPHORS:

2.1 SHEPHERD - SHEEP RELATIONSHIP

Jesus is the shepherd, the church is the sheep.

John 10:11

"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep. (NKJ)

John 10:14

"I am the good shepherd; and I know My sheep, and am known by My own. (NKJ)

Thus, metaphorically, the husband is the shepherd and his wife the sheep. As a shepherd the husband must love, care and lead his wife.

HE MUST LEAD LIKE A SHEPHERD.

2.2 VINE - BRANCH RELATIONSHIP

Jesus is the vine, the church the branches.

John 15:5

"I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.(NKJ)

Metaphorically, the husband is the vine and his wife, the branch. This pictures an abiding relationship in which the husband is the source and the wife the recipient. Fruitfulness is the result of an abiding relationship.

HE MUST PROVIDE FOR HIS WIFE LIKE THE VINE DOES FOR THE BRANCH.

2.3 CORNERSTONE - STONE RELATIONSHIP

Jesus is the chief cornerstone, the church the lively stones.

1 Pet 2:5-6

5you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

6Therefore it is also contained in the Scripture, "Behold, I lay in Zion a chief cornerstone, elect, precious, and he who believes on Him will by no means be put to shame." (NKJ)

CORNERSTONE

A stone placed at the corner, or the intersecting angle, where two walls of a building come together. In biblical times, buildings were often made of cut, squared stone. By uniting two intersecting walls, a cornerstone helped align the whole building and tie it together.

(From Nelson's Illustrated Bible Dictionary)

Christ is the cornerstone of the church in uniting Jew and Gentile. The cornerstone is a symbol of union and stability.

The husband is the cornerstone, the wife the stone.

THE HUSBAND, AS TRUE HEAD, MUST PROVIDE STRENGTH AND STABILITY IN THE RELATIONSHIP.

2.4 HIGH PRIEST - PRIEST RELATIONSHIP

Jesus is the high priest.

Heb 5:10

called by God as High Priest "according to the order of Melchizedek," (NKJ)

The church is the royal priesthood of God.

1 Pet 2:9

But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; (NKJ)

The husband is the high priest, his wife the royal priest.

THE HUSBAND MUST PROVIDE SPIRITUAL OVERSIGHT AND COVERING FOR HIS WIFE.

2.5 HEAD - BODY RELATIONSHIP

Jesus is the head.

Eph 5:23

For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body.(NKJ)

Christ is the body.

Eph 5:30

For we are members of His body, of His flesh and of His bones (NKJ)

Metaphorically the husband is the head, and the wife the body.

Ultimate decisions are made by the head. The final authority in decision making, rests with the man.

THE HUSBAND AS THE HEAD MUST NOT ABDICATE HIS RESPONSIBILITY TO MAKE THE FINAL DECISIONS FOR HIS FAMILY IN ANY SITUATION.

2.6 BRIDEGROOM - BRIDE RELATIONSHIP

Jesus is the bridegroom. See Matt. 25

Matt 9:15

And Jesus said unto them, Can the children of the bridechamber mourn, as long as the bridegroom is with them? but the days will come, when the bridegroom shall be taken from them, and then shall they fast. (KJV)

The church is the bride.

Isa 62:4

You shall no longer be termed Forsaken, nor shall your land any more be termed Desolate; but you shall be called Hephzibah, and your land Beulah; for the LORD delights in you, and your land shall be married. (NKJ)

The lord delights/rejoices in his bride.

2 Cor 11:2

For I am jealous for you with godly jealousy. For I have betrothed you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ. (NKJ)

The husband is the bridegroom, the wife the bride.

Isa 62:5

For as a young man marries a virgin, so shall your sons marry you; and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you. (NKJ)

Prov 5:18

Let your fountain be blessed, and rejoice with the wife of your youth. (NKJ)

THE HUSBAND MUST REJOICE/DELIGHT IN HIS WIFE. HE MUST NOT SPEAK EVIL OF THAT WHICH GOD HAS GIVEN HIM.

SUMMARY:

THE MAN'S HEADSHIP IS DEMONSTRATED BY:-

- LEADING/VISION(*SHEPHERD*)
- PROVISION OF SUSTENANCE(*VINE*)
- PROVISION OF STRENGTH AND STABILITY(*CORNERSTONE*)
- SPIRITUAL OVERSIGHT(*HIGH PRIEST*)
- ULTIMATE DECISION MAKING(*HEAD*)
- REJOICING (IN HIS WIFE)(*BRIDEGROOM*)

3. TIMIDITY(WEAKNESS)

FEATURES OF A WEAK MAN:

- MURMURING - INABILITY TO CONFRONT.
- OVERINDULGENCE e.g. alcoholism
- RESIGNATION - GIVES UP EASILY
- PREJUDICE - UNFAIR CHOICE BASED ON SENTIMENT AND MANIPULATION.
- HYPOCRISY - DOUBLE STANDARDS
- INCOMPETENCE - TO DISCIPLINE
TO DEFEND
TO MAKE DECISIONS
TO USE HIS LEGITIMATE AUTHORITY
- EMOTIONALISM - GOVERNED BY SENTIMENT RATHER THAN TRUTH.

4. LOSS OF HEADSHIP

4.1 ISAAC

Timidity/weakness is frequently demonstrated in the life of Isaac.

4.1.1 Gen. 22:1-19

Offers no resistance to being killed by his father.

4.1.2 Gen.26:18 22

Offers no resistance to being defrauded of the wells by the herdsmen of Abimelech.

4.1.3 Gen. 26:6,7

Calls his wife his sister in fear of the men of Gerar.

4.2 LOT

Weakness is frequently seen in the life of Lot.

4.2.1 Allows his employees to determine his future. He separated from Abraham because of the quarrel between his herdsmen and that of Abraham's.(Gen.13:6-9)

4.2.2 He demonstrates weakness in his choice. His choice of the fertile plains of Jordan was not deterred by its proximity to evil Sodom and Gomorrah.

Gen 13:10

And Lot lifted his eyes and saw all the plain of Jordan, that it was well watered everywhere (before the LORD destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah) like the garden of the LORD, like the land of Egypt as you go toward Zoar. (NKJ)

4.2.3 Though a political leader he had no influence. (Gen.19:1-9)

4.2.4 He had no influence over his sons-in-law.

Gen 19:14

So Lot went out and spoke to his sons-in-law, who had married his daughters, and said, "Get up, get out of this place; for the LORD will destroy this city!" But to his sons-in-law he seemed to be joking. (NKJ)

4.2.5 He could not influence his wife not to look back. (Gen. 19:17,26)

4.2.6 He had no restraint over his appetites. (Gen.19:32,33)

4.2.7 He was raped by his daughters. (Gen. 19:35)

4.3 ELI

Eli failed to discipline his own sons.

1 Sam 2:22

Now Eli was very old; and he heard everything his sons did to all Israel, and how they lay with the women who assembled at the door of the tabernacle (NKJ)

1 Sam 2:29

'Why do you kick at My sacrifice and My offering which I have commanded in My dwelling place, and honor your sons more than Me, to make yourselves fat with the best of all the offerings of Israel My people?' (NKJ)

4.4 AHAB

Ahab is childish overcome by grief because he was refused the vineyard of Naboth.

IKing 21:4

And Ahab came into his house heavy and displeased because of the word which Naboth the Jezreelite had spoken to him: for he had said, I will not give thee the inheritance of my fathers. And he laid him down upon his bed, and turned away his face, and would eat no bread. (KJV)

Childish grief - exaggerated sorrow in an insignificant failed venture, is one of the characteristic features of a powerless man.

5. Jezebel means "without cohabitation". In other words - "I submit to no one".

6 Old Testament Jezebel corrupted Ahab and the nation of Israel through Baal worship.

Baal worship involved idolatry and sexual immorality.

IKing 16:31

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. (NKJ)

New Testament Jezebel did the same.

Rev 2:20

"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. (NKJ)

7. Jezebel is activated by weak leadership and covetousness. A weak husband activates Jezebel at home. A weak set man/leader activates Jezebel in the church. In 1 Kings 21 Jezebel is inactive and silent until Ahab manifests his weakness and covetousness.

WEAKNESS AND COVETOUSNESS ARE OPEN DOORS FOR JEZEBELLIAN INVASION.

8. FEATURES OF A JEZEBELLIAN INVASION:

8.1 INACCURATE MIGRATION

IKing 19:3

And when he saw that, he arose and ran for his life, and went to Beersheba, which belongs to Judah, and left his servant there. (NKJ)

IKing 19:9

And there he went into a cave, and spent the night in that place; and behold, the word of the LORD came to him, and He said to him, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" (NKJ)

IKing 19:13

So it was, when Elijah heard it, that he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood in the entrance of the cave. Suddenly a voice came to him, and said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" (NKJ)

He moved from the top of Mount Carmel to a cave in Mount Horeb - a move that was not sanctioned by God.

Those under a Jezebellian spell, migrate inaccurately.

8.2 FEAR/SUICIDAL IDEATION/RESIGNATION

IKing 19:3

And when he saw that, he arose and ran for his life, and went to Beersheba, which belongs to Judah, and left his servant there. (NKJ)

IKing 19:4

But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a broom tree. And he prayed that he might die, and said, "It is enough! Now, LORD, take my life, for I am no better than my fathers!" (NKJ)

8.3 SHATTERED SELF-CONFIDENCE

IKing 19:4

But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a broom tree. And he prayed that he might die, and said, "It is enough! Now, LORD, take my life, for I am no better than my fathers!" (NKJ)

8.4 VISION OF SPOKEN THREATS

IKing 19:3

And when he saw that, he arose and ran for his life, and went to Beersheba, which belongs to Judah, and left his servant there. (NKJ)

He saw that which Jezebel had spoken.

8.5 DELUSIONS OF GRANDEUR

IKing 19:10

So he said, "I have been very zealous for the LORD God of hosts; for the children of Israel have forsaken Your covenant, torn down Your altars, and killed Your prophets with the sword. I alone am left; and they seek to take my life." (NKJ)

Elijah thought he was the only one.

9. An operating system is a system that causes an organization/unit to function e.g. in a car the operating system is the engine or in a computer, the operating system is the software.

10. FEATURES OF A JEZEBELLIAN OPERATING SYSTEM

10.1 SENTIMENTALISM - LOVE IS PRIZED ABOVE TRUTH.

Rev 2:18-19

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. (NKJ)

This church had works, love, service, faith, and patience - yet Jezebel was a teacher in this church - **REASON: ALL THE AFOREMENTIONED GRACES WERE PRIZED ABOVE TRUTH.**

THE CROSS DEMONSTRATES LOVE AND TRUTH.

10.2 LIES AND CONSPIRACY

IKing 21:8-10

8And she wrote letters in Ahab's name, sealed them with his seal, and sent the letters to the elders and the nobles who were dwelling in the city with Naboth.

9She wrote in the letters, saying, Proclaim a fast, and seat Naboth with high honor among the people;

10and 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. (NKJ)

Jezebel conspired with the elders to destroy Naboth with false accusations.

10.3 FEAR

Fear gets the job done. Fear destroys memories of past victories. Elijah, under a Spell of Jezebellian fear forgot the dramatic victory on Mount Carmel.

10.4 SEXUAL TEMPTATION

Rev 2:20

"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. (NKJ)

Historically, Jezebel used sex to bring God's people into idolatrous submission. She used sex to manipulate men into submission. That mechanism of operation is still rampant today, through visual media. Jezebel, like the prince of the power of the air, operates through the air waves. The television is her pulpit in your home. This does not mean that the television is evil, rather you should make a righteous decision in what you watch.

10.5 PROPHETIC SUPPRESSION

Jezebel suppresses the prophetic voice.

- Elijah's voice was suppressed after Jezebel's threats.
- Obadiah hid the prophets in caves under the threat of a Jezebellian massacre.
- In the Church of Thyatira she usurped prophetic authority by calling herself a prophetess. By calling herself a prophetess, she overruled the set man of the church in Thyatira.
- John the Baptist was decapitated for his prophetic stance. Herodias' daughter was motivated by a spirit of Jezebel to destroy John. Jezebel hates repentance.

Rev 2:20

"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. (NKJ)

ANY SYSTEM THAT DOES NOT ALLOW THE VOICE OF GOD (THE PROPHETIC VOICE) TO PREVAIL IS A JEZEBELLIAN SYSTEM.

10.6 OVERTHROWS/UNDERMINES THE SET MAN

Jezebel overcomes the set man through the structures in the church.

IKing 21:8

And she wrote letters in Ahab's name, sealed them with his seal, and sent the letters to the elders and the nobles who were dwelling in the city with Naboth. (NKJ)

The impression given is that the decision comes from the set man. She puts her messages on Ahab's letterhead. This mechanism of operation subtly overcomes the voice of the set man. Remember the set man is the sent man - sent by God to the local church, with the message for that church. He is the angel (angelos-messenger) for the local church. He is the legitimate voice for that local church. Jezebel substitutes the voice of the set man. Ultimately this locks out the voice of God from the local church.(We will deal more extensively with this subject under the module on THE SET MAN.

An overthrown set man unwittingly uses Jezebel's operating system. In other words his computer (church) operates with Jezebel's software.

EXAMPLES:

(A) AHAZIAH

IKing 22:51-52

51 Ahaziah the son of Ahab became king over Israel in Samaria in the seventeenth year of Jehoshaphat king of Judah, and reigned two years over Israel.

52 He did evil in the sight of the LORD, and walked in the way of his father and in the way of his mother and in the way of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who had made Israel sin; (NKJ)

AHAZIAH, THE KING OF ISRAEL (SET MAN) WALKED IN THE WAY OF HIS MOTHER JEZEBEL i.e. although he was the set man he was using Jezebel's operating system - Jezebel was ruling through him.

(B)JEHORAM

2 Chr 21:5-6

5Jehoram was thirty-two years old when he became king, and he reigned eight years in Jerusalem.

6And he walked in the way of the kings of Israel, just as the house of Ahab had done, for he had the daughter of Ahab as a wife; and he did evil in the sight of the LORD. (NKJ)

JEHORAM WALKED IN THE WAY OF HOUSE OF AHAB. THIS AGAIN WAS A JEZEBELLIAN OPERATING SYSTEM FOR JEZEBEL DETERMINED THE WAY IN THE HOUSE OF AHAB.

SUMMARY

ANY SYSTEM THAT UNDERMINES TRUTH, OPERATES IN LIES AND CONSPIRACY, INSPIRES FEAR (folk do the work of the Lord out of fear), EMBRACES IDOLATRY (e.g. CHRISTIAN CELEBRITIES) AND SEXUAL

IMMORALITY, SUPPRESSES THE PROPHETIC VOICE AND VIOLATES SET MAN PRINCIPLES (UNDERMINES THE SET MAN) IS A JEZEBELIAN SYSTEM.

Jezebel is not omnipresent. Her system of operation however can be activated in any church where the set man is not under the direct authority of God. Such a set man is usually a weak man, who is usually manipulated by his carnal needs. Jezebel just has to threaten him about his assets and he will come into line. Such a man does not allow the voice of God to prevail in his life.

This system must be looked at as software that operates a computer. When Bill Gates dies, windows 98 will still continue to operate. Satan has been defeated but his Jezebellian software continues to operate in many churches and homes. Just because this "software" is operational globally, does not mean that Satan is omnipresent.

11. JEHU WAS ANOINTED BY ELISHA'S SERVANT.

II Ki 9:1-3

1 And Elisha the prophet called one of the sons of the prophets, and said to him, "Get yourself ready, take this flask of oil in your hand, and go to Ramoth Gilead.

2 "Now when you arrive at that place, look there for Jehu the son of Jehoshaphat, the son of Nimshi, and go in and make him rise up from among his associates, and take him to an inner room.

3 "Then take the flask of oil, and pour it on his head, and say, 'Thus says the LORD: "I have anointed you king over Israel."' Then open the door and flee, and do not delay."

4 So the young man, the servant of the prophet, went to Ramoth Gilead. (NKJ)

In the ensuing verses, Jehu submitted to the process of being anointed by ELISHA'S SERVANT. He accepted the anointing of Elisha's servant as a valid manifestation of God's appointment. He submitted to Elisha's servant. Jehu submitted to a "sent one's" (sent by Elisha) anointing. HIS ACT OF SUBMISSION EQUIPPED HIM TO DEAL WITH SOMEONE WHO DOES NOT SUBMIT- JEZEBEL.

12. JESUS DISABLED THE "WORKS OF THE DEVIL".

I Jn 3:8

He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil. (NKJ)

Heb 2:14

Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, (NKJ)

I Pet 2:21

For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps: (NKJ)

Jezebel is not deactivated by fasting, prayer and binding and loosing.

A JEZEBELIAN SYSTEM IS DISABLED BY CHRISTLIKENESS. CHRISTLIKENESS IS THE RESULT OF TRUE DISCIPLESHIP.

TO OVERCOME JEZEBEL YOU MUST BE A DISCIPLE OF JESUS CHRIST.

THE MARKS OF A DISCIPLE OF JESUS CHRIST.

A disciple is a follower and imitator of Jesus Christ.

Members of the early Church were called disciples. (Acts 6:1)

MNEMONIC - 'DISCIPLE'

OUTLINED BELOW ARE SOME OF THE MARKS OF A DISCIPLE OF CHRIST: -

D DEATH TO SELF
I IMITATES JESUS
S SERVANTHOOD
C COMPLIANCE
I INDWELLING WORD
P PRODUCTIVITY
L LOVE FOR OTHERS
E EXCLUSIVE DEVOTION

AMPLIFICATION

D DEATH TO SELF

Matt 16:24

Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. (NKJ)

Luke 14:27

"And whoever does not bear his cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple. (NKJ)

It was common knowledge during the ministry of Jesus, that anyone carrying the cross was sentenced to death.

Jesus bore the cross in submission to the Father.

True discipleship is following Jesus in rejecting our own desires and will and submitting to the will of God.

This demands death to self.

1. Jesus demonstrated self-death.

Luke 22:42

saying, "Father, if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me; nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done." (NKJ)

2. Paul demonstrated self - death.

Gal 2:20

"I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me. (NKJ)

I IMITATES JESUS

1 Pet 2:21

For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps: (NKJ)

2 Cor 3:18

18 But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord. (NKJ)

Eph 4:1,11-16

I I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, 11 And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, 12 for the equipping of the saints for

the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, 13 till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; 14 that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, 15 but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head-- Christ-- 16 from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love. (NKJ)

The aim of discipleship is not knowledge, but likeness to Christ.

In discipleship there is the reproduction of Christ's lifestyle in His followers, who then become living examples of Christ - "epistles read of men".

S SERVANTHOOD

John 13:13-17

13 "You call me Teacher and Lord, and you say well, for so I am. 14 "If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. 15 "For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you. 16 "Most assuredly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master; nor is he who is sent greater than he who sent him. 17 "If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them. (NKJ)

Matt 20:28

"just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many." (NKJ)

Christ came to serve - not to be served.

The world associates servanthood with shame and weakness. Christ revealed that servanthood is the culture of the Kingdom of God. He established servanthood as a pattern for his disciples.

C COMPLIANCE (Obedience & Submission)

True discipleship requires an heart that is transformed by a personal, intimate relationship with God. Compliance (obedience, submission) is an outward expression of an inward change. A disciple obeys the commandments of Jesus Christ - this obedience being motivated by love for Christ.

Matt 4:19-20

19 Then He said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men." 20 They immediately left their nets and followed Him. (NKJ)

Matt 9:9

9 As Jesus passed on from there, He saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax office. And He said to him, "Follow Me." So he arose and followed Him. (NKJ)

Matt 21:5-6

5 "Tell the daughter of Zion, 'Behold, your King is coming to you, lowly, and sitting on a donkey, a colt, the foal of a donkey.'" 6 So the disciples went and did as Jesus commanded them. (NKJ)

Luke 5:5

But Simon answered and said to Him, "Master, we have toiled all night and caught nothing; nevertheless at Your word I will let down the net." (NKJ)

Heaven is the place where God exercises His perfect will. On earth, God's will is opposed by the flesh, world and Satan. When a disciple obeys God's will, he manifests God's kingdom on earth.

One of the acts of compliance (obedience) is making disciples.

Matt 28:19

"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, (NKJ)

Obedience demonstrates the disciple's personal, intimate relationship with Christ.

John 14:15

If you love Me, keep My commandments. (NKJ)

I INDWELLING WORD

A multitude followed Jesus when they saw the lame walk, the blind see, the deaf hear and the demonized set free. When they saw Jesus feed the five thousand, they wanted to make Him king. Jesus said: -

John 6:56

56 "He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood abides in Me, and I in him. (NKJ)

The crowd stopped following Him. Even many of His disciple deserted Him.

John 6:66

66 From that time many of His disciples went back and walked with Him no more. (NKJ)

These were not true disciples. They could not live by every word that flowed from the mouth of Christ.

A disciple abides (dwells) in the word of God.

John 8:31

Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. (NKJ)

This includes: -

1. **READING** the word. (Lk.4:16 / Col.4:16 / Jos.8:34 / Jer.36:8)
2. **STUDYING** the word. (Jhn.5:39 / Acts 17:11 / 2Tim.2:15)
3. **MEDITATING** on the word. (Josh.1:8 / Ps.19:14 / 1Tim.4:15)
4. **OBEYING** the word. (Josh.1:8 / Ps.78:7 / 1Jhn.5:3 / Rev.14:12)
5. **TEACHING** the word. (Ps.78:4-6 / Col. 3:16 / 1Tim.4:11)
6. **PREACHING** the word. (Mk. 16:15 / Acts 5:20 / 2 Tim 4:2)

P PRODUCTIVITY

John 15:8

"By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples (NKJ)

Fruitfulness (productivity) is a mark of discipleship that glorifies the Father. Fruitfulness is the result of a personal, intimate (abiding) relationship with Christ.

John 15:4-5

4 "Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. 5 "I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing. (NKJ)

John 12:24

"Most assuredly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it produces much grain. (NKJ)

Fruitfulness is evidence of death to self.

L LOVE OTHERS

John 13:35

"By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another." (NKJ)

In the old covenant, one had to "love your neighbour as yourself" This limited one's love because it was not greater than love for self.

John 13:34

"A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. (NKJ)

Jesus commands us to love one another as He loved us. Jesus loved us by giving Himself for us.

Our love for one another is summed up in *I Jn 3:16* *By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down our lives for the brethren. (NKJ)*

This love is beyond the love for oneself.

The existence of this love amongst the disciples of Christ is a sign to the world of our discipleship.

E EXCLUSIVE DEVOTION

Love Christ above anything else.

Luke 14:33

"So likewise, whoever of you does not forsake all that he has cannot be My disciple. (NKJ)

Love Christ above anyone else.

Luke 14:26

"If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and his own life also, he cannot be My disciple. (NKJ)

Luke 14:26

"Anyone who wants to be my follower must love me far more than he does his own father, mother, wife, children, brothers, or sisters-- yes, more than his own life-- otherwise he cannot be my disciple. (TLB)

One of the offerings in the New Testament was the burnt offering. The priest could not partake of any part of this offering. It was offered wholly to the Lord. This is what is required of a disciple.

Rom 12:1

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. (NKJ)

13. JEZEBELLIAN CHURCH GOVERNMENTAL SYSTEMS

In the main these are systems that have the following characteristics:

- (a) Governmental systems that cannot be validated by the word of God e.g. an Episcopalian system of hierarchy that controls the church, a system of elders and deacons(Presbyterian) that provide plural leadership, a system of congregational decision making. Such systems are antagonistic to the set man

system of government i.e. MAN LEADS AND OTHERS FOLLOW AS LONG AS HE IS FOLLOWING CHRIST.

(b) The word of God is given second place in practice. Music, prayer, fasting, manifestations etc. are the primary focus.

(c) The local church is governed by authorities outside the church - headquarters system.

(d) God's voice is not permitted to prevail in the local house.

14. JEZEBEL SILENCED THE PROPHETS, BUT WAS NO MATCH FOR JEHU. JEHU DEMONSTRATES DOMINANT APOSTOLIC GRACE.

II Ki 9:32-33

32And he looked up at the window, and said, "Who is on my side? Who?" So two or three eunuchs looked out at him.

33Then 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.(NKJ)

Jehu's emergence brought a "power" impartation into the lives of emasculated men(the eunuchs). They killed Jezebel. Whilst Elijah was running away from Jezebel,

Jehu went looking for her. The Apostolic house, with a strong set man system of government brings deliverance to powerless men.

THE OPERATING SYSTEM OF AN APOSTOLIC HOUSE(SET MAN WHO IS A FATHER IN THE HOUSE AND A GENUINE SENT MAN) DISABLES ALL JEZEBELLIAN "SOFTWARE".

15. THE SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT MUST CHANGE.

This demands the recognition of leadership grace upon one man whom God has sent to the church. Such a man is called a "set man" because he is set by God.

Num 27:16

"Let the LORD, the God of the spirits of all flesh, set a man over the congregation, (NKJ)

The set man must not be controlled by headquarters, elders(although he will seek their counsel from time to time), deacons or congregation. He must be allowed to speak the mind of God in the local house for he is the legitimate messenger to the local house.

16. BENEFITS OF OVERCOMING JEZEBEL

Rev 2:26-28

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. (NKJ)

The Church in Thyatira was called to overcome Jezebel. 2 benefits apply:

(a) POWER OVER THE NATIONS.

Such a church will be given the power to make disciples of nations. God is not going to give this power to a church with a Jezebellian operating system.

(b) THE MORNING STAR

Rev 22:16

"I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things in the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the Bright and Morning Star." (NKJ)

The Morning Star is Christ. The church that overcomes Jezebel will be given the Morning Star. This is the abiding, glorious, manifest presence of Christ.

17. DIFFERENCES BETWEEN AN INDEPENDENT CHURCH AND AN AUTONOMOUS CHURCH

An autonomous church is a self-governing, self-supporting, and self-propagating church that embraces the set man system of leadership. There is no outside body involved in the decisions of that church, neither is the church controlled by any outside agency. Such a church is on the constant lookout for others to complement her work in the purposes of God. She is in voluntary accountability to those with similar purposes. The set man of an autonomous house is committed to giving all glory to God.

An independent house is the same as the above but has several inaccuracies:-

- a) The set man and his church do not relate to anyone in their locality.

Zeph 2:15

This is the rejoicing city that dwelt securely, that said in her heart, "I am it, and there is none besides me." How has she become a desolation, a place for beasts to lie down! Everyone who passes by her shall hiss and shake his fist.

(NKJ)

THE CHURCH SUFFERS FROM DELUSIONS OF GRANDEUR.

IF THAT CHURCH RELATES TO ANYONE IN HER CITY, THAT CHURCH'S INTENTION IS TO CONTROL OTHERS.

An independent church is accountable to no one. She is a law to herself.

- b) The set man does not glorify God, but himself. He raises no Joshua. He has no spiritual sons. The people in his core are his slaves. They are generally weak men (eunuchs).

- c) Sentiment is prized over truth.

- d) Fear motivates the work of the ministry.

- e) The set man is idolized and therefore not amenable to any form of correction.

- f) The prophetic voice is cut off if it is from any other source but the set man.

- g) The people are controlled by the set man, not the Holy Spirit. They are unable to make decisions without consultation with the set man.

WHILE IN A PRESBYTERIAN, EPISCOPALIAN AND CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH JEZEBEL WORKS FROM THE BACKGROUND, IN AN INDEPENDENT CHURCH SHE IS THE SET MAN I.E. THE SET MAN OPERATES IN THE WAY OF JEZEBEL.

18. AN ISHBOSHETH SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT

2 Sam 2:8-9

8But Abner the son of Ner, commander of Saul's army, took Ishbosheth the son of Saul and brought him over to Mahanaim;

9and he made him king over Gilead, over the Ashurites, over Jezreel, over Ephraim, over Benjamin, and over all Israel. (NKJ)

Abner was not a king, priest or prophet. He had no mandate to appoint anyone as

king. By this time David's appointment as king was apparent. Ishbosheth should have declined.

2 Sam 3:7-11

7And Saul had a concubine, whose name was Rizpah, the daughter of Aiah. So Ishbosheth said to Abner, "Why have you gone in to my father's concubine?"

8Then Abner became very angry at the words of Ishbosheth, and said, "Am I a dog's head that belongs to Judah? Today I show loyalty to the house of Saul your father, to his brothers, and to his friends, and have not delivered you into the hand of David; and you charge me today with a fault concerning this woman?"

9"May God do so to Abner, and more also, if I do not do for David as the LORD has sworn to him--

10"to transfer the kingdom from the house of Saul, and set up the throne of David over Israel and over Judah, from Dan to Beersheba."

11And he could not answer Abner another word, because he feared him.

(NKJ)

Although Ishbosheth was king, he could not adjust Abner's immorality because he feared him. He had position without power. He was controlled by fear. He was weak.

WEAK LEADERSHIP, CONTROL, FEAR AND ILLEGITIMATE APPOINTMENT ARE AGAIN FEATURES OF A JEZEBELLIAN SYSTEM.

Ishbosheth submitted to a Jezebellian system.

His name means "man of shame".

19. CHARACTERISTICS OF JEZEBELLIAN ORGANIZATIONS

19.1 JEZEBELLIAN PARACHURCH

An autonomous church is self-governing, self-supporting, self-propagating and self-sacrificing. A Jezebellian parachurch is self-governing. It is not self-supporting and self-sacrificing. It propagates at the expense of the local church, contributing nothing to the life of the local church and is eventually detrimental to the local church. It may even control the agenda of the local church.

19.2 JEZEBELLIAN FRATERNAL

A fraternal is a loose association of ministers in a city. Its primary purpose is fellowship. It becomes Jezebellian when it tries to control, manipulate or override the authority of a local church e.g. ordaining someone whom a local church has disciplined.

19.3 JEZEBELLIAN NETWORK

A network is an association of ministers led by a set man. A Jezebellian network has the following characteristics:-

- It is not based on voluntary accountability. Submission is coerced or manipulated. It controls its members.
- It desires to rule over other networks.
- Relationships are based on sentiment, not on truth - thus immorality and aberrant behaviour are not disciplined.
- It intends to monopolize a city - regarding itself as the official voice of God.
- It does not respect those of other networks.
- It eventually adopts titular hierarchy.
- It is inflexible, the leader having a "my way" philosophy.

THIS IS IN FACT THE SPIRIT OF A DENOMINATION IN A NETWORK.