

REVELATION 21 – THYATIRA: JEZEBEL EFFECT

Dr. Leon L. Sanders Revelation 2:19-20

CHRIST SEES TRUTH: CHRIST SPEAKS TRUTH

- Flaming Eyes: Christ sees inside the church seeing both good and the evil
- The good: {Maturing despite severe obstacles-but not unto death; yet} (Jude 20-23)
 - Faithful: Works, love, faith, *humble* service and **endurance** {Hypomene}
 - Growing: Your latter works exceed the first works; maturing in Christ and the Bible
- The evil: {Can't we all just get along?} (2Pe 2:19-20; Jude 16-21)
 - Some tolerate False Teachers, Jezebel being the metaphor of their methodology
 - Economic-social pressure of not belonging to guilds weakening resolve of those probably faced with economic hardships {Eat or believe} choosing mammon over Christ {Short-term Gain for Long-term Loss} (Lk 16:13)

WHO WAS JEZEBEL? WHY IS SHE THE METAPHOR?

- Need to understand history to grasp why God chose Jezebel as the metaphor
 - Jezebel {Baal my husband} married to King Ahab {Like my father} to secure their border; he wanted to be a great ruler like his father Omri {Naboth} (IKi 16:29-33; 21:1-16)
 - Daughter of Phoenician King Ethbaal (With Baal); Baal his state legitimizing religion
- Alliance marriages common, Solomon, but exposed Israel to state-sponsored idolatry, Solomon; Israel, Northern Kingdom, already mired in idolatry (IKI IIII-18)
 - Israel struggled with Egyptian Calf idolatry, Golden Calf in the Wilderness; Danites instituted Calf Worship at Dan with Moses' grandson as priesthood (Ex 32; Jdg 18)
 - Solomon's idolatrous state worship precipitated Jeroboam's rebellion, split the nation leading to the establishment of Israel's Calf Temples: Bethel; Dan (1Ki 11:9-13, 26-40; 12:19-31)

BAAL WHO? ASHERAH WHO?

- Baal, lord even among Hebrews but replaced by El after this period; this god had differing functions depending on regional needs {Denominations} (Hos 2:16-17)
 - God of storms, rain, and fertility as Levant dependent on early and latter rains for harvests; any delay or cessation would result in famine; depicted as bull (Joel 2:23-27)
 - Asherah, Baal's consort, depicted as a carved pole, Asherah, {Tree-Grove} in Levant
 - Since Baal's bull like Egyptian's calf; Jezebel's simply realigned people's worship from their form to hers using same idols-temples {Redefining-Equivocation}
 - Worship consisted of sacrificial meals accompanied by sexual acts with temple priests-priestesses for men and women seeking crop and family fertility; hence reference to sexual immorality and eating food sacrificed to idols

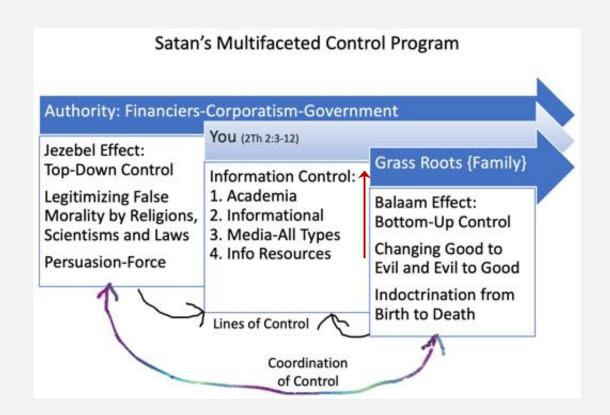
Bible views Physical Immorality as a visible extension of Spiritual Immorality {Babylon Harlot-Zion} (Re 17) God references both forms using similar terminology; "...played the harlot..." (Je 3:6-11; Jn 8:1-11)

WHY JEZEBEL EFFECTIVE: JEZEBEL EFFECT

- Balaam Effect {Pergamum} in place in Israel evidenced by acceptance of Ahab's marriage to Jezebel: Bottom-Up (Re 2:14)
- Queen Jezebel used state control legitimizing the Balaam Effect and eliminating unapproved God worship: **Top-Down** (IKi 18:12-13)
 - God, via Elijah, called a drought challenging Baal, storms-rains god (1Ki 17:1-2)
 - After three years Elijah challenged Jezebel's priests to sacrifice to Baal and he to Elohim; which ever god supplied the fire was real: God did, and Baal's prophets killed (IKi 18:17-40)
 - Undeterred, Jezebel promised to execute, *state control*, Elijah; in fear he fled to <u>Mount Horeb</u>; he did not understand he was not alone, God's power is in His word, not miracles or force {Long suffering} (IKi 19:1-18)

JEZEBEL EFFECT: IN PRACTICE

- <u>Balaam</u> <u>Effect</u> remakes society Bottom-Up; Jezebel provides legal protection and structure Top-Down {Societal Structure}
 - Synergistic coordination <u>remakes</u> society: Dissenters <u>appear</u> unreasonable, dangerous
 - <u>Balaam</u> <u>Effect</u> *alone* produces revolutions-Fail {French Revolution; *Popular uprisings*}
 - <u>Jezebel Effect</u> *alone* requires force, cannot be maintain-Fail {Socialism; Communism}
 - Together-Success {American Revolution}



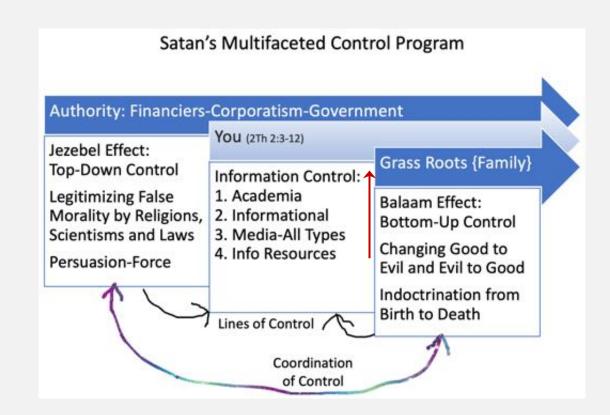
JEZEBEL EFFECT: AMERICAN HISTORY

- American Revolution
 - Balaam Effect achieved with the First Great Awakening and Paine's Common Sense
 - <u>Jezebel</u> <u>Effect</u> stuttering until coalescing into Declaration of Independence and Army
- America's Second Revolution {Lincoln}
 - <u>Balaam</u> <u>Effect</u>: Second Great Awakening over-amplifying the First; *Forced* Abolition
 - <u>Jezebel Effect</u>: Lincoln's use of war against citizens changed nation to a centralized democracy; *Progressive Era-National Socialism*



JEZEBEL EFFECT: TODAY'S HISTORY

- 20th century: Continual failure of Jezebel –
 Balaam Effect alone: Ineffective (BE; JE)
 - <u>JE</u>:World Wars; UN conflicts-Korea; Iraq
 - <u>BE</u>: *Popular* socialism revolutions-Marcuse
- Success of Progressive Era-U.S.
 - State Control Concentration Executive Br
 - Gramsci-Frankfurt School methods taught people to embrace state control-BE
 - Rapidity of crises amplified <u>JE</u> extending state control: Dissention labeled as Conspiracy Theory;
 Rule is by Executive Order and Bureaucracy



JEZEBEL EFFECT: GREAT RESET – THE FIRST STEP

- Isaiah wrote, "...infants are their oppressors, and women rule over them..."; this precedence underlies both Balaam-Jezebel Effects (Is 3:12)
 - People chase changing winds of belief {Critical Theory}, like infants, and following women's leadership while castigating men; sin's effect on women {Eve} {CEO-COO} (Ge 3:16; ICo 14:33-35; Ep 4:11-14)
 - Great Reset {Fourth Industrial Revolution } seeks a world Bureaucracy as a first-step in subordinating governments to central Control {Ancient Empire Example} (Da 2)
 - Satan <u>deceives</u> women and nations; those behind these Effects, financiers, mainly men seek rule over **you** and LGBTQAI+ Replaces Women; Satan rules via Elites (ITi 2:12-14)
 - Christians, churches succumbing to <u>BE</u> and <u>JE</u> exchange their *first love*, Christ, for mammon {Social Gospel-Justice}; they ignore Paul's (Christ's) warning against pride (Mt 6:24-34; 7:21-23: Ro 11:17-22; IPe 4:12-17; Re 2:4-5)