

AWARENESS.SKILLS.KNOWLEDGE.
Intergenerational Women's Ministry
St. Matthew AME Church
Reverend Melvin E. Wilson, Pastor/Teacher
22 May 2021

This month provides an overview of how her

Spiritual Gifts

Personality (Presence/Perspective)

Experiences (Positions/Protection)

Cares/Passions

Interest

Abilities

Life Talents

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contributes to her special God-given purpose; equipping her to **minister to all God's children.**

“I like to solve problems. I know it is a skill set, but it's also an obligation. I grew up with parents who believe that you don't simply complain: you try to find solutions and fix what's in front of you.” Stacy Abrams



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All Women of the Bible by Herbert Lockyer – Jezebel
Pages 73-77

AWARENESS

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“As for Jezebel, dogs will devour her on the ploy of ground at Jezreel, and no one will bury her.”
2 Kings 9:10 (NIV)

Name Meaning

- Chaste, free from carnal connection.
- No name could have been more inappropriate for such a despised woman.

Family Connection

- She was the daughter of Ethbaal, king of the Zidonians, and both king and priest of Baal worshippers.
- They were idolaters who regarded Jehovah as only a local deity, “the god of the land.”
- She married Ahab, king of Northern Israel and who in so doing was guilty of a rash act which resulted in evil consequences. (Read 1 King 16:29-33)

Her Extraordinary Force of Character

- The Bible sets forth the events in which she bore a prominent part.
- A gifted woman, she prostituted all her gifts for the furtherance of evil and her misdirected talents became a curse.
- Persuasive, her influence was wrongly directed.
- Resolute above other women, she used her strength of character to destroy a king and her own offspring, as well as pollute the life of a nation.

She Was An Ardent Idolater

- Baal had no more dedicated devotee than Jezebel.
- Not content with establishing the idol worship of her own country in her husband's court, she sought to convert Israel to Baal worship.
- In a most relentless fashion Jezebel tried to drive out the true prophets of Jehovah from the land and thus became the first religious female persecutor in history. (Read 1 King 18:4;13)
- Her inherited fanatical religious enthusiasm inspired her to exterminate the worship of the true and living God, an attempt she almost succeeded in.

She Was A Dominating Wife

- Ahab was like a puppet in the hands of her overpowering wife.
- It was Jezebel who became the feared commander in Israel and not her cowardly husband who she could wrap around her thumb.

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- Without Ahab's power as king, Jezebel would have been like a serpent without fangs.
- In this marriage Ahab was the weaker vessel with a wife who mocked at his conscientious scruples and bound him in all wickedness as with strong chains.

She Was A Corrupt Tree

- Jezebel was rotten root and branch and thus everything connected with her was contaminated. (Read Matthew 7:16-20)
- Her offsprings imbibed and continued the wickedness they grew up in.
- It was in her daughter Athaliah, her eldest son Ahaziah and her second son Jehoram. It was Jehoram who heard from Jehu who has been raised up to obliterate the Ahab dynasty, that there would be no peace in Israel "so long as all the idolatry and witchcraft of your mother Jezebel abounds." (2 Kings 9:22)

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She Was a Treacherous Schemer

- The tragedy of Naboth and his vineyard reveals how despicable a woman Jezebel was. See 1 Kings 21:1-16)
- But the blood of godly Naboth did not cry out in vain. Elijah, called out by God, to the king of his fate, "In the place where the dogs licked the blood of Naboth, shall dogs lick thy blood, even thine." (Read 1 Kings 22:37-38)
- War broke out between the Israelites and the Syrians and Ahab received his death wound while riding his chariot. The blood-soaked chariot was taken to the spring in Naboth's vineyard and the dogs came and licked up the bloody water.

She Loved Personal Adornment

- Jehu had been appointed and anointed as the avenger of Jehovah and he set about his grim task of meting out justice to those who had polluted the land.
- Jezebel's son and grandson were killed in the blood-stained vineyard Naboth had once possessed.
- The still proud, defiant queen mother knew her last hours were not far away and she took time to arrange her hair and paint her face. "She was determined to die like a queen." (2 King 9:30)

She Died a Horrible Death

- As Jehu entered the gate, she asked, "Have you come in peace, Zimri, you murderer of your master?" (2 King 9:31)
- He looked up at the window and called out, "who is on my side? Who?" Two or three eunuchs looked down at him. "Throw her down!" he shouted. So they threw her down and some of her blood spattered the wall and the horses as they trampled her underfoot. (2 King 9:33)
- When they went to bury her they found nothing except her skull, her feet and her hands. The word of the Lord spoken through his servant Elijah came true. (2 Kings 9:34-37)

NEXT MONTH: ANNA (PAGES 29-33)

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SKILL

Step Three: Prepare¹

“Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us ...” Romans 12:6 (KJV)

| | I Am Strong | I Am Somewhat Strong | I Am Not As Strong |
|--|-------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| Administration: Managing People, Money, Time, Resources | | | |
| Evangelism: Introducing Christ to Others | | | |
| Exhortation: Motivating Others | | | |
| Giving: Providing for the Needs of Others | | | |
| Help: Serving Others | | | |
| Mercy Showing: Supporting Others Through Problems | | | |
| Prophecy: Defending Justice and the Honor of God | | | |
| Shepherding: Leading Others | | | |
| Teaching: Getting Others to Learn and Grow | | | |

Reflection:

¹ From “Women Gifted for Ministry” by Ruth and Elmer Towns

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Dear (insert your name) _____;

Today I engaged in a conversation on gifts and talents and what that means as God moves me from where I am to where He wants me to be. Because of what I heard, shared, learned, witnessed, thought about, I want to remember most



Blessings Overflow,

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