

The case of Jehoshaphat, Ahab, Jezebel and the Church of the last days.

By Danie Strydom

Has God sent a spirit upon the so called "church" as He sent one on Ahab so that he could fall in battle? This because he refused to listen to God although he was warned many times. All the signs point that way! Remember Ahab typifies the bad ones. Note how many times he was warned by the few whom were still true to God and how many prophets of Baal there were. This was in the midst of Israel. They were there and they are here now. Always more soothsayers than people whom truly brought the message of God. Then we sit with the problem of Jezebel's table that is set, according to Revelation 2, for people to eat at, this not with food conducive and fit for human consumption but arsenic laden! Jehoshaphat on the other hand was not bad but he aligned himself with the bad, costing him dearly!

Ahab calls Elijah the troubler of Israel. Today it seems to be the same as then, when you point to the Word of God you are called anything but nice names and a troublemaker!

1 Kings 18:17 When Ahab saw Elijah, Ahab said to him, "Is this you, you troubler of Israel?"

1 Kings 18:18 He said, "I have not troubled Israel, but you and your father's house have, because you have forsaken the commandments of the LORD and you have followed the Baal's.

The facts being that they have departed not the ones whom stay true to the Word of God. But it will be evident who are the approved!

1 Corinthians 11:18 For, in the first place, when you come together as a church, I hear that divisions exist among you; and in part I believe it.

1 Corinthians 11:19 For there must also be factions among you, so that those who are approved may become evident among you.

Elijah killed the false prophets.

1 Kings 18:40 Then Elijah said to them, "Seize the prophets of Baal; do not let one of them escape." So they seized them; and Elijah brought them down to the brook Kishon, and slew them there.

Jezebel now turns her wrath against Elijah.

1 Kings 19:1 Now Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword.

1 Kings 19:2 Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, "So may the gods do to me and even more, if I do not make your life as the life of one of them by tomorrow about this time."

1 Kings 19:3 And he was afraid and arose and ran for his life and came to Beersheba, which belongs to Judah, and left his servant there.

Elijah flees and God takes care of him!

1 Kings 19:4 But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a juniper tree; and he requested for himself that he might die, and said, "It is enough; now, O LORD, take my life, for I am not better than my fathers."

1 Kings 19:5 He lay down and slept under a juniper tree; and behold, there was an angel touching him, and he said to him, "Arise, eat."

Ahab has done this to himself because he refused to listen and did evil before God.

1 Kings 21:20 Ahab said to Elijah, "Have you found me, O my enemy?" And he answered, "I have found you, because you have sold yourself to do evil in the sight of the LORD."

Ahab got which he coveted with assistance of his wife Jezebel! Then we see the unimaginable reward that they both brought on themselves and what would happen to them.

1 Kings 21:16 When Ahab heard that Naboth was dead, Ahab arose to go down to the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite, to take possession of it.

1 Kings 21:17 Then the word of the LORD came to Elijah the Tishbite, saying,

1 Kings 21:18 "Arise, go down to meet Ahab king of Israel, who is in Samaria; behold, he is in the vineyard of Naboth where he has gone down to take possession of it."

1 Kings 21:19 "You shall speak to him, saying, 'Thus says the LORD, "Have you murdered and also taken possession?"' And you shall speak to him, saying, 'Thus says the LORD, "In the place where the dogs licked up the blood of Naboth the dogs will lick up your blood, even yours."'"

1 Kings 21:20 Ahab said to Elijah, "Have you found me, O my enemy?" And he answered, "I have found you, because you have sold yourself to do evil in the sight of the LORD."

1 Kings 21:21 "Behold, I will bring evil upon you, and will utterly sweep you away, and will cut off from Ahab every male, both bond and free in Israel;

1 Kings 21:22 and I will make your house like the house of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, and like the house of Baasha the son of Ahijah, because of the provocation with which you have provoked Me to anger, and because you have made Israel sin.

1 Kings 21:23 "Of Jezebel also has the LORD spoken, saying, 'The dogs will eat Jezebel in the district of Jezreel.'

1 Kings 21:24 "The one belonging to Ahab, who dies in the city, the dogs will eat, and the one who dies in the field the birds of heaven will eat."

There has been no one like Ahab who let himself be misled by his wife Jezebel! So what do we have to do with Jezebel? Nothing!! We are warned by Revelation 2.

1 Kings 21:25 Surely there was no one like Ahab who sold himself to do evil in the sight of the LORD, because Jezebel his wife incited him.

Ahab was warned by Micaiah and Micaiah was given a hard time because of that.

Ahab refused to listen and didn't realise that he would be convinced to go to war and die there! He would listen to the false prophets of Israel in whose mouths the spirit gave a deceiving word. They all said he should go and he would win and come back!

1 Kings 22:14 But Micaiah said, "As the LORD lives, what the LORD says to me, that I shall speak."

1 Kings 22:15 When he came to the king, the king said to him, "Micaiah, shall we go to Ramoth-gilead to battle, or shall we refrain?" And he answered him, "Go up and succeed, and the LORD will give it into the hand of the king."

1 Kings 22:16 Then the king said to him, "How many times must I adjure you to speak to me nothing but the truth in the name of the LORD?"

1 Kings 22:17 So he said, "I saw all Israel Scattered on the mountains, Like sheep which have no shepherd. And the LORD said, 'These have no master. Let each of them return to his house in peace.'"

1 Kings 22:18 Then the king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, "Did I not tell you that he would not prophesy good concerning me, but evil?"

1 Kings 22:19 Micaiah said, "Therefore, hear the word of the LORD. I saw the LORD sitting on His throne, and all the host of heaven standing by Him on His right and on His left.

1 Kings 22:20 "The LORD said, 'Who will entice Ahab to go up and fall at Ramoth-gilead?' And one said this while another said that.

1 Kings 22:21 "Then a spirit came forward and stood before the LORD and said, 'I will entice him.'

1 Kings 22:22 "The LORD said to him, 'How?' And he said, 'I will go out and be a deceiving spirit in the mouth of all his prophets.' Then He said, 'You are to entice him and also prevail. Go and do so.'

1 Kings 22:23 "Now therefore, behold, the LORD has put a deceiving spirit in the mouth of all these your prophets; and the LORD has proclaimed disaster against you."

One of the false prophets as usual gives Micah a hard time.

1 Kings 22:24 Then Zedekiah the son of Chenaanah came near and struck Micaiah on the cheek and said, "How did the Spirit of the LORD pass from me to speak to you?"

1 Kings 22:25 Micaiah said, "Behold, you shall see on that day when you enter an inner room to hide yourself."

Jehoshaphat, a good king as it seems from the context, aligns himself with Ahab!?

Jehoshaphat is a good guy looking at the context! This was his first mistake with wrong association!

2 Chronicles 18:1 Now Jehoshaphat had great riches and honor; and he allied himself by marriage with Ahab.

2 Chronicles 18:2 Some years later he went down to visit Ahab at Samaria. And Ahab slaughtered many sheep and oxen for him and the people who were with him, and induced him to go up against Ramoth-gilead.

2 Chronicles 18:3 Ahab king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat king of Judah, "Will you go with me against Ramoth-gilead?" And he said to him, "I am as you are, and my people as your people, and we will be with you in the battle."

Jehoshaphat wants to know what the Lord says. He hears what the so called prophets say but he is still not satisfied. This is when Micaiah is summoned even though Ahab hates him, for usually telling the truth which Ahab doesn't like. This sounds very familiar in our context!

2 Chronicles 18:4 Moreover, Jehoshaphat said to the king of Israel, "Please inquire first for the word of the LORD."

2 Chronicles 18:5 Then the king of Israel assembled the prophets, four hundred men, and said to them, "Shall we go against Ramoth-gilead to battle, or shall I refrain?" And they said, "Go up, for God will give it into the hand of the king."

2 Chronicles 18:6 But Jehoshaphat said, "Is there not yet a prophet of the LORD here that we may inquire of him?"

2 Chronicles 18:7 The king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, "There is yet one man by whom we may inquire of the LORD, but I hate him, for he never prophesies good concerning me but always evil. He is Micaiah, son of Imla." But Jehoshaphat said, "Let not the king say so."

This happens before the throne of God! A spirit would go forth and become a lying spirit in the mouths of **his** prophets, to entice him to go to battle and die! This of course would be the false prophets and they stood against Micaiah, 400 to 1 on a good day! Much the same as we have today.

2 Chronicles 18:18 Micaiah said, "Therefore, hear the word of the LORD. I saw the LORD sitting on His throne, and all the host of heaven standing on His right and on His left.

2 Chronicles 18:19 "The LORD said, 'Who will entice Ahab king of Israel to go up and fall at Ramoth-gilead?' And one said this while another said that.

2 Chronicles 18:20 "Then a spirit came forward and stood before the LORD and said, 'I will entice him.' And the LORD said to him, 'How?'

2 Chronicles 18:21 "He said, 'I will go and be a deceiving spirit in the mouth of all his prophets.' Then He said, 'You are to entice him and prevail also. Go and do so.'

2 Chronicles 18:22 "Now therefore, behold, the LORD has put a deceiving spirit in the mouth of these your prophets, for the LORD has proclaimed disaster against you."

Jehoshaphat returns after he nearly was killed as he was to assume the identity of the king in his robes in battle, where Ahab was killed as Micaiah said! Ahab was scared and he disguised himself.

Many of these wolves in sheep's clothing disguise themselves; they don't say whom they really are and where they really stand. It's definitely not with the Word of God and His followers.

2 Chronicles 18:29 The king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, "I will disguise myself and go into battle, but you put on your robes." So the king of Israel disguised himself, and they went into battle.

2 Chronicles 18:30 Now the king of Aram had commanded the captains of his chariots, saying, "Do not fight with small or great, but with the king of Israel alone."

2 Chronicles 18:31 So when the captains of the chariots saw Jehoshaphat, they said, "It is the king of Israel," and they turned aside to fight against him. But Jehoshaphat cried out, and the LORD helped him, and God diverted them from him.

2 Chronicles 18:32 When the captains of the chariots saw that it was not the king of Israel, they turned back from pursuing him.

2 Chronicles 18:33 A certain man drew his bow at random and struck the king of Israel in a joint of the armor. So he said to the driver of the chariot, "Turn around and take me out of the fight, for I am severely wounded."

2 Chronicles 18:34 The battle raged that day, and the king of Israel propped himself up in his chariot in front of the Arameans until the evening; and at sunset he died.

Just see what the Lord says!

"Should you help the wicked and love those who hate the LORD and so bring wrath on yourself from the LORD?"

2 Chronicles 19:1 Then Jehoshaphat the king of Judah returned in safety to his house in Jerusalem.

2 Chronicles 19:2 Jehu the son of Hanani the seer went out to meet him and said to King Jehoshaphat, "Should you help the wicked and love those who hate the LORD and so bring wrath on yourself from the LORD?"

2 Chronicles 19:3 "But there is some good in you, for you have removed the Asheroth from the land and you have set your heart to seek God."

Jehoshaphat then went on and did many good things and he prospered before the Lord because he was seeking God and he listened to God.

2 Chronicles 20:30 So the kingdom of Jehoshaphat was at peace, for his God gave him rest on all sides.

Then he forgot the near death experience he had aligning with Ahab and the warning from God! "He acted wickedly in so doing."

2 Chronicles 20:35 After this Jehoshaphat king of Judah allied himself with Ahaziah king of Israel. He acted wickedly in so doing.

2 Chronicles 20:36 So he allied himself with him to make ships to go to Tarshish, and they made the ships in Ezion-geber.

2 Chronicles 20:37 Then Eliezer the son of Dodavahu of Mareshah prophesied against Jehoshaphat saying, "Because you have allied yourself with Ahaziah, the LORD has destroyed your works." So the ships were broken and could not go to Tarshish.



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Jezebel's table is set. Jezebel and Ahab were closely associated, then and now! Will we see the danger of their influence and the example of their doings and be warned!

Will the few good ones align with the types of Ahab and Jezebel and die prematurely or even suffer everlasting separation from God. If you don't believe you can fall away, you're halfway there!

Revelation 2:19 'I know your deeds, and your love and faith and service and perseverance, and that your deeds of late are greater than at first.

Revelation 2:20 'But I have this against you, that you tolerate the woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess, and she teaches and leads My bond-servants astray so that they commit acts of immorality and eat things sacrificed to idols.

Revelation 2:21 'I gave her time to repent, and she does not want to repent of her immorality.

Revelation 2:22 'Behold, I will throw her on a bed of sickness, and those who commit adultery with her into great tribulation, unless they repent of her deeds.

Revelation 2:23 'And I will kill her children with pestilence, and all the churches will know that I am He who searches the minds and hearts; and I will give to each one of you according to your deeds.

For those who stay true to God:

Revelation 2:24 'But I say to you, the rest who are in Thyatira, who do not hold this teaching, who have not known the deep things of Satan, as they call them--I place no other burden on you.

Revelation 2:25 'Nevertheless what you have, hold fast until I come.

There has to be called for sides! Choose a side and bear the consequences.

2 Kings 9:31 As Jehu entered the gate, she said, "Is it well, Zimri, your master's murderer?"

2 Kings 9:32 Then he lifted up his face to the window and said, "Who is on my side? Who?" And two or three officials looked down at him.

2 Kings 9:33 He said, "Throw her down." So they threw her down, and some of her blood was sprinkled on the wall and on the horses, and he trampled her under foot.

We also besides this see the ship in Acts shipwrecked and the grain thrown overboard. It seems that the church being typified by the ship will be shipwrecked but they will still have grain to give to other people. Most of what I see, of this wave rolling over the world and as would be expected South-Africa, is that there seems to be no more grain but only tares!

We have the story of Judah and Israel typified in the good and bad church, those whom were true to God and those whom were not. The 10 virgins also ring a bell! Don't be with the foolish virgins whom get no oil!

Surely we can still take note of the Word of God. There will always be the good and the bad church as typified in the Word of God. You have to side on the one or the other side, there is no in-between. Either you are standing on the Word of God or on a slippery slope to who knows where.

What you find today is Word of Faith, Emergent Church, Purpose Driven, Prosperity Teaching, Alpha, Faith Healing etc. and this propagated on TBN and as expected by most of the local church. I am talking about Christians who actually to some extent believe in God but I doubt whether they still truly believe in His Word! This is happening because people have for themselves teachers whom tickle their ears.

2 Timothy 4:1 I solemnly charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by His appearing and His kingdom:

2 Timothy 4:2 preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction.

2 Timothy 4:3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but wanting to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires,

2 Timothy 4:4 and will turn away their ears from the truth and will turn aside to myths.

Are they collaborating bringing forth the lawless one? Is it God whom has sent this deluding influence because they surely believe what is false? What will we do in the end?!

2 Thessalonians 2:8 Then that lawless one will be revealed whom the Lord will slay with the breath of His mouth and bring to an end by the appearance of His coming;

2 Thessalonians 2:9 that is, the one whose coming is in accord with the activity of Satan, with all power and signs and false wonders,

2 Thessalonians 2:10 and with all the deception of wickedness for those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth so as to be saved.

2 Thessalonians 2:11 For this reason God will send upon them a deluding influence so that they will believe what is false,

2 Thessalonians 2:12 in order that they all may be judged who did not believe the truth, but took pleasure in wickedness.

You have to some extent the leaders you deserve although it is clear from the Word of God that there will be those whom will be wolves in sheep's clothing. They have to be removed or else they will devour you and what will you do in the end. Will you ride with Ahab in his chariot and dine at Jezebels table? The choice is yours; don't cry when you get burned by the wrath intended for Ahab, Jezebel and friends!

Is this what the Emergent Church keeps itself busy with? Their backs to the altar and they bow down to the East. It's an insane mixture of eastern religion and practices condoned by most of the Church. Dominees go on courses without question and

accepting the Emergent model and spreading it in their churches. Do you show the facts you are prone to be stoned, but see what God says:

"Therefore, I indeed will deal in wrath. My eye will have no pity nor will I spare; and though they cry in My ears with a loud voice, yet I will not listen to them."

Ezekiel 8:16 Then He brought me into the inner court of the LORD'S house. And behold, at the entrance to the temple of the LORD, between the porch and the altar, were about twenty-five men with their backs to the temple of the LORD and their faces toward the east; and they were prostrating themselves eastward toward the sun.

Ezekiel 8:17 He said to me, "Do you see this, son of man? Is it too light a thing for the house of Judah to commit the abominations which they have committed here, that they have filled the land with violence and provoked Me repeatedly? For behold, they are putting the twig to their nose.

Ezekiel 8:18 "Therefore, I indeed will deal in wrath. My eye will have no pity nor will I spare; and though they cry in My ears with a loud voice, yet I will not listen to them."

There are 2 kinds of Levites, those whom stay true to God and those whom don't.

Ezekiel 44:10 "But the Levites who went far from Me when Israel went astray, who went astray from Me after their idols, shall bear the punishment for their iniquity."

Very interesting, they will still be busy in the church!!

Ezekiel 44:11 "Yet they shall be ministers in My sanctuary, having oversight at the gates of the house and ministering in the house; they shall slaughter the burnt offering and the sacrifice for the people, and they shall stand before them to minister to them.

Ezekiel 44:12 "Because they ministered to them before their idols and became a stumbling block of iniquity to the house of Israel, therefore I have sworn against them," declares the Lord GOD, "that they shall bear the punishment for their iniquity.

They will not be close to God anymore, but bear the punishment for their iniquity!

Ezekiel 44:13 "And they shall not come near to Me to serve as a priest to Me, nor come near to any of My holy things, to the things that are most holy; but they will bear their shame and their abominations which they have committed.

Ezekiel 44:14 "Yet I will appoint them to keep charge of the house, of all its service and of all that shall be done in it.

Then we have the Levitical priests, they will stand before the Lord and come near to Him!

Ezekiel 44:15 "But the Levitical priests, the sons of Zadok, who kept charge of My sanctuary when the sons of Israel went astray from Me, shall come near to Me to minister to Me; and they shall stand before Me to offer Me the fat and the blood," declares the Lord GOD.



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Fortunately there will always be the 7000 who will not bow the knee to Baal. The only question now being: Where are they? Definitely not busy with the Emergent, Purpose Driven or any other fad! They will be busy with the Word of God and teaching people to stand on the Word of God! Will we be blown all over the place by the winds coming over the earth or will our refuge be in the Word of God where we will find a firm Foundation!

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