

We have begun to study what I have entitled “The Profile of Elijah” which reveals to us a prophet who failed people testing and passed people testing.

First of all;

1. There is no mention of Elijah in God’s Hall of Fame; HEB 11.

He is not mentioned specifically in Heb 11, but some of his miracles that he performed are.

HEB 11:32 And what more shall I say? For time will fail me if I tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets,

Note that Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, Samuel and the **prophets** are all mentioned in HEB 11:32.

Concerning them and others in HEB 11:33 who by faith conquered kingdoms, performed acts of righteousness, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, (Daniel 6 and the three men in the furnace).

HEB 11:34 quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, from weakness were made strong, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight.

And then, though his name is not mentioned in HEB 11, his works are mentioned in HEB 11:35 when it says;

HEB 11:35 Women received back their dead by resurrection or resuscitation

This was not resurrection but resuscitation.

What is the difference?

Resurrection refers to being raised from the dead and receiving a body that will never die again.

Our Lord is the only one so who has been resurrected.

The others who have been raised from the dead were really resuscitated from the dead.

Resuscitation refers to dying and the coming back from the dead only to receive a body that would die again, like Lazarus.

Notice again the first part of HEB 11:35 should say....

HEB 11:35 Women received back their dead by resuscitation;

2. All his life, Elijah was active in defending God as his teachings brought him into the constant conflict with the apostate kings of Israel.

Apostasy is a very serious doctrine that Elijah had to deal with constantly, not only among Israel.

Apostasy is an act of reversing or turning in the opposite direction or a state of being so turned.

The apostate believer is classified as a loser in the Christian life.

He doesn't lose his salvation; that's impossible.

But, By failing to execute the PPOG, the loser believer loses his escrow blessings for time and eternity.

So much for the influence of apostasy in the profile of Elijah.

Now, we begin with our third point here's where we left off Friday evening.

3. As a part of the profile of Elijah we must deal with the influence of Jezebel in the life of Elijah.

Jezebel was a Phoenician princess, who was the great great granddaughter of the king of Tyre who was possessed by Satan according to EZE 28.

There are very few individuals who were ever possessed by Satan himself.

We know that the serpent in the garden was possessed by Satan in GEN 3:1.

GEN 3:1 Now the serpent was more crafty than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said to the woman, "Indeed, has God said, 'You shall not eat from any tree of the garden'?"

We also know that Satan entered into Judas in JOH 13:27 And after the morsel, Satan then entered into him. Jesus therefore said to him, "What you do, do quickly."

Now, this is one of the only individuals in the Bible who was possessed by Satan.

Therefore, we must begin in EZE 28:1 to see something about Jezebel's great grandfather.

EZE 28:1 The word of the Lord came again to me saying,

EZE 28:2 "Son of man, say to the leader of Tyre, 'Thus says the Lord God, #' Because your heart is lifted up And you have said, 'I am a god, I sit in the seat of gods, In the heart of the seas'; Yet you are a man and not God, Although you make your heart like the heart of God--

EZE 28:3 Behold, you are wiser than Daniel; There is no secret that is a match for you.

EZE 28:4 "By your wisdom and understanding You have acquired riches for yourself, And have acquired gold and silver for your treasuries.

EZE 28:5 "By your great wisdom, by your trade You have increased your riches, And your heart is lifted up because of your riches--

EZE 28:6 Therefore, thus says the Lord God, 'Because you have made your heart Like the heart of God,

EZE 28:7 Therefore, behold, I will bring strangers upon you, The most ruthless of the nations. And they will draw their swords Against the beauty of your wisdom And defile your splendor.

EZE 28:8 'They will bring you down to the pit, And you will die the death of those who are slain In the heart of the seas.

EZE 28:9 'Will you still say, "I am a god," In the presence of your slayer, Although you are a man and not God, In the hands of those who wound you?

EZE 28:10 'You will die the death of the uncircumcised By the hand of strangers, For I have spoken!' declares the Lord God! "

Now, beginning in verse 11, our Lord now addresses Satan who is living inside this wicked king.

Let's look at the family tree of Jezebel to see some things that Jezebel was trained in to reveal the importance of what Elijah had to deal with.

So, In Eze 28, we must meet the devil in all of his glamour and beauty and glory first to understand the influence he had on Jezebel and then Elijah.

We must see him as he really is.

In Eze 28, we must meet the devil in all of his glamour and beauty and glory first to understand how this relates to Jezebel and Elijah.

We must see Satan as he really is a he is living inside of Jezebel's great grandfather.

EZE 28:11 Again the word of the Lord came to me saying,

EZE 28:12 "Son of man, take up a lamentation [sorrow and grief] over the king of Tyre

The king of Tyre was one the few individuals in human history who was possessed by Satan just like the serpent in the garden and Judas Iscariot who betrayed our Lord.

and say to him, "Thus says the Lord God, "You had the seal of perfection, Full of wisdom and perfect in beauty.

This is the Lord speaking to Satan inside the king of Tyre.

And the phrase "You had the seal of perfection" is very important.

Of all of the creatures to come from the hand of God, Satan was also the wisest creature ever created.

EZE 28:12 'Thus says the Lord God, "You had the seal of perfection, Full of wisdom [he's a genius] and perfect in beauty [his overt beauty is perfect]."

EZE 28:13 "You were in Eden, the garden of God;

Satan was indeed in Adam's Eden; however, he did not appear there as a minister of God but as an apostate and venomous serpent eager for the ruin of the new creation.

As he tries and does today.

This could have been the same Garden of Eden or may not have been, all we do know is at this time he was worshipping God.

EZE 28:13 "You were in Eden, the garden of God; Every precious stone was your covering: The ruby, the topaz, and the diamond; The beryl, the onyx, and the jasper; The lapis lazuli, the turquoise, and the emerald; And the gold, the workmanship of your settings and sockets, Was in you. On the day that you were created They were prepared.

He's a genius....he has the most beautiful body of any creature....

the most beautiful face.....

the best sounding voice....

the greatest personality.....

he could sell snow to Alaskans.

And.....

The adorning with jewels suggests his great importance and the glory of his appearance.

Even in the Garden of Eden, his name *nahash*, translated "serpent," means *'the shining one'*.

The Apostle Paul even states that he is even now transformed into an angel of light at times, 2Co 11:14.

2CO 11:14 And no wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light.

It's interesting that these precious stones mentioned in verse 13 are displayed three times as recorded in the Bible:

(a) In the high priest's breastplate as a manifestation of divine grace.

(b) In the New Jerusalem, which reflects the **glory** of God.

(c) As the covering of this great angel, which signalizes the highest of all creation.

No distinction could be imposed on any creature more exalting than is imposed by these covering stones.

The phrase "the workmanship of your settings and sockets" refers to the fact that he did not need an instrument to praise and glorify God, he was given a built-in Royal crown of praise to praise to his Creator.

This is why his voice is like a pipe organ!

He did not need an instrument of praise to glorify his Creator; he was an instrument of praise.

Notice the last phrase in EZE 28:13.....On the day that you were created They were prepared.

He is still a creature created by God.

In the next verse we seem to pass from the **royalty** of Satan to his **priestly dignity**.

He is said to have been the Anointed Cherub that covers by God's appointment.

EZE 28:14 "You were the anointed cherub [that is the highest rank of angelic creatures] who covers, And I placed you there. You were on the holy mountain of God [third heaven]; You walked in the midst of the stones of fire.

The word anointed means the Messiah's angel.

Satan was in the throne room of God.

He is also said to have been upon the Holy Mountain of God and to have walked up and down in the midst of the Stones of Fire.

This is very significant in light of the fact that the holy mountain of God is the place of His presence in visible glory, where His High Priest would stand before Him to minister, EXO 4:27, PSA 2:6.

Satan's presence on the holy mountain would indicate his enjoyment of the full Cherubic privilege of nearness to the throne of God.

Remember that.....

The cherubim were the group of angels related to the throne of God as protectors and defenders of His holiness.

Therefore, we can conclude that this great angel was created above all angels to be a proctor and defender of the throne of God.

So, Do not be surprised when you run into someone who is supposed to *protect* and *defend* the authority over them but instead attacks it and discredits it, it started with their father the devil.

And I say their father in the sense that....

John the apostle said it when he called Christians under the thinking of Satan, sons [teknon] of the devil, 1JO 3:10.

Sons is used as students!

Now, notice the phrase in EZE 28:14 "You were the anointed cherub who covers, *And I placed you there.*"

Isn't it interesting that God placed Lucifer there *knowing* that he eventually was going to rebel and start a conspiracy against God.

EZE 28:14 "You were the anointed cherub who covers, And I placed you there. You were on the holy mountain of God; You walked in the midst of the stones of fire.

EZE 28:15 "You were blameless in your ways [not innocent, blameless] From the day you were created, Until unrighteousness was found in you."

The first sinner of all creatures was Satan.

He had everything to make him happy but he lusted for power!

And the unrighteousness found within him is told to us in EZE 28:17 "Your heart was lifted up because of your beauty and you corrupted your wisdom by reason of your splendor.

His sin obviously was pride!

In fact, the scripture tells us that he was conceited.

In 1TI 3:6, Paul is warning Timothy not to put men in positions of authority too soon, and he says "And not a new convert, lest he become conceited and fall into the condemnation incurred by the devil."

By the way,.....

Jezebel was in a position of authority that she created for herself.

EZE 28:16 "By the abundance of your trade You were internally filled with violence,

The phrase the abundance of your trade refers to his genius plans.

Satan has come up with many plans.

Plans for his angels.....

Plans for the human race.....

Plans for you.....

Plans for me....

This is why when Satan sinned one third of the angelic creatures went with him, he had plans for them.

Perhaps he promised them what a lot of conspirators promise their victims, promotion!

Satan organized them against God.

And once man was created, Satan had plans for man and women.

In verse 16, the word for trade is rekullah meaning slander, to go about in order to traffic something against someone, to try and destroy someone's reputation by trafficking gossip and slander about them.

It speaks peddling things for the sake of personal gain.

It indicates that going about among the angels was necessary for Satan to do to secure their allegiance to his program of rebellion and conspiracy against God.

Satan is a master of conspiracy!

The king of Tyre was a master of conspiracy.

Judas Iscariot was also a master of conspiracy!

And, of course, Jezebel is a master of conspiracy.

So, EZE 28:16 "By the abundance of your *slander* You were internally filled with violence, And you sinned; Therefore I have cast you as profane From the mountain of God [this is future, it has not been accomplished yet...he still has access into heaven]. And I have destroyed you, O covering cherub, From the midst of the stones of fire."

EZE 28:17 "Your heart [right lobe] was lifted up because of your beauty;

He'd walk around with all of those stones and see his reflection and say ***"Boy, you're fine!"***

When he said mirror mirror on the wall, he knew the answer before he started.

And his self-consciousness was parlayed into a tremendous case of pride.

EZE 28:17 "Your heart [right lobe] was lifted up because of your beauty; You corrupted your wisdom [this means to distort it] by reason of your splendor [your breath-taken beauty]. I cast you to the ground; I put you before kings, that they may see you [this is future]."

EZE 28:18 "By the multitude of your iniquities, In the unrighteousness of your trade [your dishonest transactions, a reference to the fact that Satan entered into conspiracy], You profaned your sanctuaries [that's Satan's first fall, his second fall is mentioned next which will come in the Tribulation period]. Therefore, I have brought fire from the midst of you; It has consumed you, And I have turned you to ashes on the earth in the eyes of all who see you."

EZE 28:19 "All who know you among the peoples Are appalled at you; You have become terrified, And you will be no more."

This will all take place before the Millennial reign of Christ and after it as well!

What I really wanted you to see this morning was how Jezebel was a very important person in the profile of Elijah.

Jezebel was a tyrant who corrupted her husband, as well as the nation, by promoting pagan worship.

She was reared in Sidon, a commercial city on the coast of the Mediterranean Sea, known for its idolatry and wickedness.

When she married Ahab and moved to Jezreel, a city that served Jehovah, she decided to turn it into a city that worshiped BAAL, a Phoenician god.

The wicked, idolatrous queen soon became the power behind the throne.

Obedient to her wishes, her husband, king Ahab, erected a sanctuary for Baal and supported hundreds of pagan prophets; 1KI 18:19.

1KI 18:19 "Now then send and gather to me all Israel at Mount Carmel, together with 450 prophets of Baal and 400 prophets of the Asherah, who eat at Jezebel's table."

Notice that Jezebel has a table.

There were at least 850 prophets of Jezebel, who we are also told here, had a table to eat at.

Remember what the apostle Paul said in 1CO 10:21.

1CO 10:21 You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons; you cannot partake of the table of the Lord and the table of demons.

Jezebel had a cup of demons and a table of demons that she tried to force upon the nation of Israel with all their apostate kings leading the way to Jezebel's table.

When the prophets of Jehovah opposed Jezebel, she had them "massacred;" 1KI. 18:4,13.

1KI 18:4 for it came about, when Jezebel destroyed the prophets of the Lord, that Obadiah took a hundred prophets and hid them by fifties in a cave, and provided them with bread and water.)

1KI 18:13 "Has it not been told to my master what I did when Jezebel killed the prophets of the Lord, that I hid a hundred prophets of the Lord by fifties in a cave, and provided them with bread and water?"

After Elijah defeated her prophets on Mount Carmel, she swore revenge. She was such a fearsome figure that the great prophet was afraid and "ran for his life." 1KI 19:3.

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

1KI 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."

1KI 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.

Note that Jezebel revealed the weakness of Elijah which was fear and arrogance.

Fear in verse 3.

Arrogance in verse 4.

1KI 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."

After her husband Ahab was killed in battle, Jezebel reigned for 10 years through her sons Ahaziah and (or Jehoram who were both killed by Jehu.

Before his reign as king, Jehu functioned as a commander in the army of Ahab in the northern kingdom of Israel.

Jehu was a reformer of sorts who was used by God to clean up the mess that Ahab had made.

Of King Ahab it is recorded that he “did more evil in the eyes of the Lord than any of those before him” especially marrying Jezebel, who seduced Ahab into her idolatrous worship of the Ba’al’s.

God chose Jehu as one of three men who would enact His judgment upon Ahab’s family.

God told Elijah to anoint Jehu king over Israel, one of the only kings who did not fall into apostasy as most of the other Jewish kings did.

After he was anointed king, Jehu immediately took steps to secure the throne but had a very difficult time doing so.

Now, all these verses point out the influence that Jezebel had.

One of the reasons is simply because God wants us to see the devastating effects of arrogance and pride as found in Jezebel.

Arrogance basically has to do with thought while pride has to do with action.

PRO 8:13 "Respect for the Lord is to hate evil; Pride and arrogance and the evil way, And the perverted mouth, I hate."

ISA 13:11 Thus I will punish the world for its evil, And the wicked for their iniquity; I will also put an end to the arrogance of the proud.

Notice that there is a difference between pride and arrogance.

The difference has to do with thought and action, though they are very closely related.

Now, here's the point, this passage brings out the fact that.....

God did not create Jezebel wicked, He created her with a free-will to make her own choices.

She opposed the will of God.

Let's get some principles down concerning Satan in Eze 28 and his influence on Jezebel.

a. Through the degenerating power of sin, Satan, as did Adam, became an entirely different being from that which God created.

This was done through the power of choice or the free will.

God originally created Jezebel with a free-will to save her and bless her; 2PE 2:9; 1TI 2:4 God desires all of you to be saved and to come to the epignosis knowledge of the truth.

However, as a part of divine blessing Jezebel must be given a free will or a choice to either accept or reject the offer of God.

b. When God creates a being to fulfill a certain purpose, that being must be a perfect fulfillment of that divine pattern which Jezebel was not.

God always provides whatever we need to fulfill the purpose He has for our lives.

This is why we have logistical grace, the problem-solving devices and 100% availability of divine power if we desire it.

c. This is why we need to identify the purpose that God created Jezebel for which was for His own glory and not for the glory of Jezebel.

In reality Jezebel fulfills PRO 16:4.

PRO 16:4 The Lord has made everything for its own purpose, Even the wicked for the day of evil.

The reason why God created Satan as a beautiful intelligent angel is not so he would have enough power to deceive us but because God originally created Satan to be a protector and defender of the throne of God.

d. By his sin, Satan lost his original holiness and heavenly position but he *retains* his wisdom and his beauty and he has turned his surpassing abilities into ways of evil.

It is these ways of evil that Jezebel ate up.

His wisdom and his understanding have been perverted to the level of lies, deceptions, snares, and conspiracies.

This describes the eulogy of Jezebel and what she was known for.

e. Satan's office was originally to protect the Throne of God and to forbid the approach of evil or any unrighteousness.

However, Jezebel rejected the plan of God for her life and lived for herself instead.

And every time, a believer says no to the PPOG for his life, he is agreeing with the viewpoint of Satan who said to no to the plan of God for his life.

f. The unrighteousness found in Satan was the sin of independence and self-exaltation which was also found in Jezebel.

We tend to look at sin as some form of immorality, and immorality is sin.....

However, such sins like the sin of independence from the plan of God are the most destructive sins believers can fall into.

g. Satan also appears to have been the highest angel and therefore the King over his creation which was also how Jezebel felt about herself.

So, Jezebel really scared this prophet of God, Elijah.

Jezebel, the wife of king Ahab, caused her husband to abandon the worship of Jehovah.

Jezebel is portrayed as a deceitful woman who uses her husband and later her sons to gain and retain power over Israel.

In addition to instituting the worship of her god in Israel and causing temples to be built in his honor, she is responsible for the execution of many prophets of Jehovah, the God of the Jewish people she rules.

But as usual, one reaps what they sow because what goes around comes around and therefore notice how Jezebel died.

When she died, Jehu, who was a captain in Israel's army, who God anointed as king over Israel and he reigned for twenty-eight years and was rewarded for his obedience to God.

Though many of the kings of Israel and Judah were wicked and led God's people astray, King Jehu was used by God to draw His people back to God.

Jezebel's body of desecration and destruction was seen which reflected Elijah's earlier prophecy in 1KI 21:23 where he said that dogs would lick the blood of Ahab and tear the flesh of Jezebel.

The Account of Jezebel's Death is in 2 Kings.

2KI 9:10 'And the dogs shall eat Jezebel in the territory of Jezreel, and none shall bury her.'

Jezebel is portrayed as a deceitful woman who uses her husband and later her sons to gain and retain power over Israel.

In addition to instituting the worship of her god in Israel and causing temples to be built in his honor, she is responsible for the execution of many prophets of Jehovah, the God of the Jewish people she rules.

In summary, the Jezebel spirit comes into the church through leadership that prefers the doctrines of men above the word of God.

The Jezebel spirit marries individuals resulting in the seduction of God's people into a spirit of compromise with the world and its standards.

Title Sunday --- The profile of Elijah prt 2. Meet the woman in Elijah's life.