

Please listen to the audio lesson "A Letter from Jesus: Thyatira" first. Then after finishing the audio lesson, have the Scriptures handy to best utilize the following questions to answer and consider thoughtfully for your further study.

### **A Letter from Jesus: Thyatira**

#### 1. Read 1 Kings 16:29-33

- a. Who is now king in Israel?
- b. How would you describe this king's relationship with God?
- c. What three major things did the king do to further provoke God?
- d. What false female goddess came from the Sidonians? [1 Kings 11:5]
- e. Where was Jezebel from? Who did she lead Ahab to worship?

#### 2. Read 1 Kings 18:17-20

- a. Did Jezebel affect Ahab?
- b. Who did Jezebel's table provide for?
- c. Who was the true troubler of Israel?

#### 3. Read 1 Kings 18:36-40

- a. What/Who is Elijah praying for Israel to know?
- b. Does Elijah want the hearts of the people to turn back?
- c. Who helped Israel's hearts to turn away from God?
- d. What happened to the prophets of Baal?

#### 4. Read 1 Kings 19:1-3

- a. How does Jezebel find out about what happened at Mt. Carmel?
- b. What was Jezebel's message for Elijah?
- c. Does your life ever get more difficult when you stand with the living God?
- d. Did Elijah want to die? Why was He afraid?
- e. Did Jezebel keep her oath to her false gods?

Thoughts to Consider: Ahab provoked the Lord more than any king of Israel that was before him, that includes Jeroboam. (And that's saying something!) Ahab even worshipped the gods of the Sidonians (Baal & Ashtaroth; the false female goddess of the morning & evening star). Jezebel was feeding 850 false prophets at her (the "queen" of Israel's) table. When Israel sees the power of God consume the rocks & the evening sacrifice, Elijah calls for the death of the prophets of Baal. Jezebel's prophets are put to death by the sword of those who turned to the Lord.

But now Jezebel is angry & seeks to kill Elijah, even giving an oath by her false gods; which she will not fulfill, because the Lord was with Elijah. Application ... when Jezebel comes, it is not easy to shut off her influence. God destroyed her prophets, but He used Elijah to confront King Ahab, unbelieving Israel, and Queen Jezebel. God can use us to be His instruments to stand with Him, while He conquers the hearts and overthrows the wicked. Was Elijah afraid? Yes! But did he give up? NO! When you are afraid, will you give up the fight for truth?

5. Read 1 Kings 21:1-29

- a. Why was Ahab so sullen & vexed?
- b. Was Jezebel going to let her husband be told "No" by Naboth?
- c. Did Jezebel's plan work to get the vineyard?
- d. Does it sometimes look like evil wins? Is it a long term win tho?
- e. Does Elijah let his fear or faith control him to do the Lord's Will in confronting Ahab with his sin?
- f. What is the doom planned for Ahab's house?
- g. What is the prophecy concerning Jezebel?
- h. Who did Ahab allow to incite him to evil?
- i. What changed God's plans for Ahab?
- j. Does humbling ourselves before God have an effect on our lives?

6. Read 1 Kings 22:34-40

- a. Was Elijah's prophecy about the death of Ahab fulfilled?

7. Read 2 Kings 9:30-37

- a. Was Elijah's prophecy about the death of Jezebel fulfilled?
- b. What was Jehu's question(s) to the officials? How did they respond?

8. Read Revelation 2:20-23, 28

- a. What happens in the church if Jezebel is allowed (tolerated) to continue?
- b. Were Ahab & Jezebel (OT & NT Both) leading God's people away?
- c. What did God want Ahab & the Thyatira followers of Jezebel to do?
- d. Was the judgement on Jezebel at hand? Did Jesus keep His promise?
- e. Do you wonder who in Thyatira had been like "Elijah" or "Naboth"?
- f. The Sidonians worshipped Ashtoreth a false goddess of the morning star.
- g. Who is the certain and true morning star? [Revelation 22:16]

Final Thought: Parallels from the OT Jezebel & the NT Jezebel can't be ignored.