

Jehoram, Ahab and Ahaziah: “Behind Every Bad Man is a Rotten Woman”

Jehoram: Basic Bio

- He began his reign of the Southern Kingdom Judah in 849 BC when his father Jehoshaphat died. He was 32 years of age when this occurred (2 Chr 21:5) and would reign for eight years. He was a very bad man.
- He immediately slew his other six brothers to eliminate any competition to the throne. *2 Chronicles 21:4 Now when Jehoram had taken over the kingdom of his father and made himself secure, he killed all his brothers with the sword, and some of the rulers of Israel also.*
- It was because of idolatry that the nations around him rebelled.
 - 2 Chronicles 21:10 So Edom revolted against Judah to this day. Then Libnah revolted at the same time against his rule, because he had forsaken the LORD God of his fathers.
 - 2 Chronicles 21:16 Then the LORD stirred up against Jehoram the spirit of the Philistines and the Arabs who bordered the Ethiopians;
- Whereas his grandfather and father tore down the high places, he started re-establishing them. *2 Chronicles 21:11 Moreover, he made high places in the mountains of Judah, and caused the inhabitants of Jerusalem to play the harlot and led Judah astray.*
- He would die a bad man’s death.
 - 2 Chronicles 21:12-15 Then a letter came to him from Elijah the prophet saying, “Thus says the LORD God of your father David, ‘Because you have not walked in the ways of Jehoshaphat your father and the ways of Asa king of Judah,¹³ but have walked in the way of the kings of Israel, and have caused Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem to play the harlot as the house of Ahab played the harlot, and you have also killed your brothers, your own family, who were better than you,¹⁴ behold, the LORD is going to strike your people, your sons, your wives and all your possessions with a great calamity;¹⁵ and you will suffer severe sickness, a disease of your bowels, until your bowels come out because of the sickness, day by day.’ ”
 - 2 Chronicles 21:18-20 So after all this the LORD smote him in his bowels with an incurable sickness.¹⁹ Now it came about in the course of time, at the end of two years, that his bowels came out because of his sickness and he died in great pain. And his people made no fire for him like the fire for his fathers.²⁰ He was thirty-two years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem eight years; and he departed with no one’s regret, and they buried him in the city of David, but not in the tombs of the kings.

Jehoram was a bad man with a rotten woman standing behind him.

- 2Chronicles 18:1 Now Jehoshaphat had great riches and honor; and he allied himself by marriage with Ahab.
- 2Chronicles 21:6 He walked in the way of the kings of Israel, just as the house of Ahab did (for Ahab’s daughter was his wife), and he did evil in the sight of the LORD.
- His wife’s name was Athaliah and she came from an extremely wicked family with a long line of idolatry.

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- It was with her influence that Jehoram was able to more easily move down a bad path.

Ahab: Basic Bio

- He was the son of Ormri and took over the Northern Kingdom in 873 BC. He reigned for the next twenty-two years and was one of the most evil men to have ever served in the history of Israel.
- It says of him in *1 Kings 16:32-33* *So he erected an altar for Baal in the house of Baal which he built in Samaria.* ³³ *Ahab also made the Asherah. Thus Ahab did more to provoke the LORD God of Israel than all the kings of Israel who were before him.*
- It was with the death of two of his sons that he rebuilt Jericho against the command of God. *1 Kings 16:34* *In his days Hiel the Bethelite built Jericho; he laid its foundations with the loss of Abiram his firstborn, and set up its gates with the loss of his youngest son Segub, according to the word of the LORD, which He spoke by Joshua the son of Nun.*
- He placed a hit on the prophet Elijah for preaching the word of God (1 Kings 17-18).
- He was well-known for his materialism at the hands of the people. *1 Kings 22:39* *Now the rest of the acts of Ahab and all that he did and the ivory house which he built and all the cities which he built, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Israel?*
- He allowed Baalism to run rampant throughout the land. *1 Kings 21:26* *He acted very abominably in following idols, according to all that the Amorites had done, whom the LORD cast out before the sons of Israel.*
- He allowed the illegal killing of Naboth and the seizure of his land. *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. He felt justified in making his backyard larger at the expense of a vulnerable old man.*
- This so angered God that he sent Elijah to pronounce judgment upon Ahab for his great wickedness. *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.” ’ ”* 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.* 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; 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.*
- He died a horrible death of a bad man just as predicted by the prophet. *1 Kings 22:38* *They washed the chariot by the pool of Samaria, and the dogs licked up his blood (now the harlots bathed themselves there), according to the word of the LORD which He spoke.*

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Ahab was a bad man with a rotten woman standing behind him.

- 1 Kings 16:31 It came about, as though it had been a trivial thing for him to walk in the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, that he married Jezebel the daughter of Ethbaal king of the Sidonians, and went to serve Baal and worshiped him.
- 1 Kings 18:4 "...Jezebel destroyed the prophets of the LORD..."
- 1 Kings 18:19 "...450 prophets of Baal and 400 prophets of the Asherah, who eat at Jezebel's table."
- 1 Kings 21:7-8 Jezebel his wife said to him, "Do you now reign over Israel? Arise, eat bread, and let your heart be joyful; I will give you the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite."⁸ So she wrote letters in Ahab's name and sealed them with his seal, and sent letters to the elders and to the nobles who were living with Naboth in his city.

Ahaziah the son of Jehoram: Basic Bio

- Jezebel was the daughter of Ethbaal the pagan king of Sidon. She married Ahab the pagan reprobate king and they had a daughter named Athaliah. Jehoram the pagan southern king married Athaliah the third generation wicked pagan. This has the makings of a "Happily Ever After" ending.
- He was twenty-two when he began his reign and ruled only one year (850 BC). He was a very bad man.
- 2 Kings 8:27 He walked in the way of the house of Ahab and did evil in the sight of the LORD, like the house of Ahab *had done*, because he was a son-in-law of the house of Ahab.
- Chronicles 22:3-4 He also walked in the ways of the house of Ahab, for his mother was his counselor to do wickedly.⁴ He did evil in the sight of the LORD like the house of Ahab, for they were his counselors after the death of his father, to his destruction.

Do you want to know what mom did when she saw that her son was dead? *2 Chronicles 22:10 Now when Athaliah the mother of Ahaziah saw that her son was dead, she rose and destroyed all the royal offspring of the house of Judah.*

There is a saying, "Behind every good man is a good woman." This is because the woman whom a man marries and vice-versa can in large part be the making or breaking factor of their lives. Hence the opposite, "Behind every bad man is a rotten woman."

Be careful whom you marry.

The selection of your spouse is the second most important decision you can make, second only to the choice to become a Christian. Be extremely careful whom you marry. Listen to these closing scriptures and meditate on the seriousness of that decision.

- Corinthians 6:14-15 Do not be bound together with unbelievers; for what partnership have righteousness and lawlessness, or what fellowship has light with darkness?¹⁵ Or what harmony has Christ with Belial, or what has a believer in common with an unbeliever?
- 1 Corinthians 7:39 A woman is bound to her husband as long as he lives. But if her husband dies, she is free to marry anyone she wishes, but he must belong to the Lord.
- Amos 3:3 Do two walk together unless they have agreed to do so?

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- Psalm 34:3 Glorify the LORD with me; let us exalt his name together.
- 1 Kings 11:4 For when Solomon was old, his wives turned his heart away after other gods; and his heart was not wholly devoted to the LORD his God, as the heart of David his father *had been*.
- Genesis 6:1-5 Now it came about, when men began to multiply on the face of the land, and daughters were born to them, ² that the sons of God saw that the daughters of men were beautiful; and they took wives for themselves, whomever they chose... ⁵ the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great on the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.
- Num 14:18 "The LORD is slow to anger and abundant in lovingkindness, forgiving iniquity and transgression; but He will by no means clear {the guilty,} visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth } generations.