

## The Story of Ahab and Jezebel

In the ninth century, Ahab, the prince of Israel married Jezebel, the princess of Phoenicia. Afterwards, the two became the kings and queens of Israel. During the time in which Jezebel was the queen, she worshipped Baal, a Canaanite God. Being that the Israelites worshipped Yahweh ( the true God), this would soon create an issue. Jezebel called for over eight hundred Baal prophets to arrive in Israel as ordered seven Yahwen prophets to be killed. This horrific action led to Elijah, a Jewish prophet to appear. Once he arrived, Elijah prophesized over Ahab's future. He let it be known that drought and famine would surface. In addition, Elijah called for four hundred and fifty Baal prophets to arrive at Mount Carmel. He said, "I have not troubled Israel, but you have, and your father's house, because you have abandoned the commandments of the Lord and followed the Baals. Now therefore send and gather all Israel to me at Mount Carmel, and the 450 prophets of Baal and the 400 prophets of Asherah, who eat at Jezebel's table." (1 Kings 18:18-19). From there, Ahab complied to Elijah and the prophets were killed as drought and famine struck Jezebel's homeland. Later, Nabboth, a landowner who lived close to Ahab was asked to give his land away for the promise of compensation. Nabboth refused the offer because of the Jewish law. Jezebel didn't like this decision. In fact, she accused Nabboth of blasphemy and treason. This made Jezebel call for Nabboth to be stoned. Nabboth was killed and his land became the land of Ahab and Jezebel. Jezebel's terrible decision in regards to Nabboth caused Elijah to come before Ahab once again. This time, he came to let Ahab know that he and his wife would face death themselves. Years later, Ahab died in a battle against the Syrians. Jezebel met her demise as well. Soon after Ahab died, the power of Israel was given to Jehu. The power given to Jehu meant that Jezebel's reign would come to a cease. Powerless, Jezebel knew that she would soon die. So, she put on makeup and dressed up, thinking that she could seduce Jehu, the new king. However, things didn't go the way Jezebel thought that they would go. Instead, Jezebel was pushed out of her bedroom window. Afterwards, she fell to the ground only to be trampled by horses and eaten by dogs.