

Miscellaneous Examples of Marriages Part 2

The marriage of Jehoram from the daughter of Ahab.

And the marriage of Tobiah the Ammonites to the daughter of Shecaniah the high priest son

“For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.” (Romans 15:4 KJV)

We will continue in this message to go through other marriages that had been mentioned in the Scriptures, so we will learn from them and can apply in our lives and ministry.

VII. The marriage of Jehoram from the daughter of Ahab: *“1 Now Jehoshaphat had riches and honour in abundance, and joined affinity with Ahab.” (2 Chronicles 18:1 KJV)* King Jehoshaphat had done many good things in obedience to God, but here, his decision to let his son marry from the family of Ahab was wrong and had brought many troubles into the life of the people of God and to the whole Southern Kingdom represented by Judah. The Scripture will show us all these troubles. King Jehoshaphat because of this marriage was forced twice to go out and fight in support to the army of Israel; *First*, in the battle for Ramothgilead that we can read in ***2 Chronicles 18***, when he was about to die in it; he went to this battle with Ahab because of the marriage of his son to the daughter of the wicked Ahab. At his return was rebuked by the seer *“1 And Jehoshaphat the king of Judah returned to his house in peace to Jerusalem. 2 And Jehu the son of Hanani the seer went out to meet him, and said to king Jehoshaphat, Shouldest thou help the ungodly, and love them that hate the LORD? therefore is wrath upon thee from before the LORD. 3 Nevertheless there are good things found in thee, in that thou hast taken away the groves out of the land, and hast prepared thine heart to seek God.” (2 Chronicles 19:1-3 KJV)* *Second*, when he went out with Jehoram (Joram) the son of Ahab to fight against Moab that we can read in ***2 Kings 3***. Previous to that Jehoshaphat joined himself with Ahaziah son of Ahab, who was also wicked like his father Ahab and made with him a fleet of ships to go to Tarshish, but the ships were broken, *“35 And after this did Jehoshaphat king of Judah join himself with Ahaziah king of Israel, who did very wickedly: 36 And he joined himself with him to make ships to go to Tarshish: and they made the ships in Eziongaber. 37 Then Eliezer the son of Dodavah of Mareshah prophesied against Jehoshaphat, saying, Because thou hast joined thyself with Ahaziah, the LORD hath broken thy works. And the ships were broken, that they were not able to go to Tarshish.” (2 Chronicles 20:35-37 KJV)* The Lord had broken that fleet of ships because of the affinity of Jehoshaphat with wicked people. **Affinity in marriage with the wicked people, who do not fear God, shall bring the wrath of God into our lives.**

Because of that marriage with a non-believer, the daughter of Ahab, we will read what had happened after the death of Jehoshaphat, *“1 Now Jehoshaphat slept with his fathers, and was buried with his fathers in the city of David. And Jehoram his son reigned in his stead. 2 And he had brethren the sons of Jehoshaphat, Azariah, and Jehiel, and Zechariah, and Azariah, and Michael, and Shephatiah: all these were the sons of Jehoshaphat king of Israel. 3 And their father gave them great gifts of silver, and of gold, and of precious things, with fenced cities in Judah: but the kingdom gave he to Jehoram; because he was the firstborn. 4 Now when Jehoram was risen up to the kingdom of his father, he strengthened himself, and slew all his brethren with the sword, and divers also of the princes of Israel. 5 Jehoram was thirty and two years old when he began to reign, and he reigned eight years in Jerusalem.” (2 Chronicles 21:1-5 KJV)* Jehoram the son of

Jehoshaphat who married Athalia the daughter of Ahab, killed all his brethren, so he will reign and he will rule alone. Sure that was the influence of the daughter of Ahab, so the Southern Kingdom in Judah will be easily influenced, and later on to be swallowed by the Northern Kingdom in Samaria. **Such kind of unlawful marriages will bring troubles in the life of the people of God and the life of the whole church.**

God judged Jehoram the son of Jehoshaphat for his sins and put him to death. His son, Ahaziah reigned in his stead. ***“25 In the twelfth year of Joram the son of Ahab king of Israel did Ahaziah the son of Jehoram king of Judah begin to reign. 26 Two and twenty years old was Ahaziah when he began to reign; and he reigned one year in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Athaliah, the daughter of Omri king of Israel. 27 And he walked in the way of the house of Ahab, and did evil in the sight of the LORD, as did the house of Ahab: for he was the son in law of the house of Ahab.” (2 Kings 8:25-27 KJV)*** Notice that the mother of Ahaziah, the wife of Jehoram the son of Jehoshaphat, was Athalia the daughter of Omri who was the father of Ahab. Now we can see the bad effects of that marriage. The King of Judah who is here Ahaziah was a follower not of David's house but a follower of the seed of the house of Ahab. He also joined Joram the son of Ahab in a war against the Syrian as Jehoshaphat his grandfather was forced to do, ***“28 And he went with Joram the son of Ahab to the war against Hazael king of Syria in Ramothgilead; and the Syrians wounded Joram.” (2 Kings 8:28 KJV)***

But the Lord was faithful. The Lord intervened and worked it out that both Joram the son of Ahab and Ahaziah the King of Judah, the son of Athalia were killed in one day by Jehu the son of Nimshi. When Athalia saw that her son was killed she proceeded to kill all the royal seed and became the king over Judah, so in such a situation Judah would be under the influence of Samaria. ***“1 And when Athaliah the mother of Ahaziah saw that her son was dead, she arose and destroyed all the seed royal. 2 But Jehosheba, the daughter of king Joram, sister of Ahaziah, took Joash the son of Ahaziah, and stole him from among the king's sons which were slain; and they hid him, even him and his nurse, in the bedchamber from Athaliah, so that he was not slain. 3 And he was with her hid in the house of the LORD six years. And Athaliah did reign over the land.” (2 Kings 11:1-3 KJV)*** **The intention of the devil in marriages with non-believers is finally to let the church be under the leadership of people who are pagan in their ways of leading the church.**

Seeing the church today with the unlawful marriages and yoked with non-believers finally had led to a group of leaders who had brought a lot of idols of the world and incorporated them inside the church, exactly the way that Athalia the daughter of Omri was leading the church with all worldliness, corruption, abuses, cruelty, and injustice. We can see that Athalia had proceeded and killed many to take their place in the ruling.

The Lord gave another chance to His people to recover and get cleansed from the bad effects of such marriages. As we had read, that the king's son was hidden in the temple while Athalia was ruling the land. Surely it was one of the most terrible years in the history of Judah. But finally, God ended that through the wise and valiant arrangement of the priest Jehoiada who restored the king to the throne, killed Athalia, removed Baal worship in Jerusalem, and made a covenant once again between the people and the king with God, and between the people and the king: ***“4 And the seventh year Jehoiada sent and fetched the rulers over hundreds, with the captains and the guard, and brought them to him into the house of the LORD, and made a covenant with them, and took an oath of them in the house of the LORD, and shewed them***

the king's son. 5 And he commanded them, saying, *This is the thing that ye shall do; A third part of you that enter in on the sabbath shall even be keepers of the watch of the king's house; 6 And a third part shall be at the gate of Sur; and a third part at the gate behind the guard: so shall ye keep the watch of the house, that it be not broken down. 7 And two parts of all you that go forth on the sabbath, even they shall keep the watch of the house of the LORD about the king. 8 And ye shall compass the king round about, every man with his weapons in his hand: and he that cometh within the ranges, let him be slain: and be ye with the king as he goeth out and as he cometh in. 9 And the captains over the hundreds did according to all things that Jehoiada the priest commanded: and they took every man his men that were to come in on the sabbath, with them that should go out on the sabbath, and came to Jehoiada the priest. 10 And to the captains over hundreds did the priest give king David's spears and shields, that were in the temple of the LORD. 11 And the guard stood, every man with his weapons in his hand, round about the king, from the right corner of the temple to the left corner of the temple, along by the altar and the temple. 12 And he brought forth the king's son, and put the crown upon him, and gave him the testimony; and they made him king, and anointed him; and they clapped their hands, and said, God save the king. 13 And when Athaliah heard the noise of the guard and of the people, she came to the people into the temple of the LORD. 14 And when she looked, behold, the king stood by a pillar, as the manner was, and the princes and the trumpeters by the king, and all the people of the land rejoiced, and blew with trumpets: and Athaliah rent her clothes, and cried, Treason, Treason. 15 But Jehoiada the priest commanded the captains of the hundreds, the officers of the host, and said unto them, Have her forth without the ranges: and him that followeth her kill with the sword. For the priest had said, Let her not be slain in the house of the LORD. 16 And they laid hands on her; and she went by the way by the which the horses came into the king's house: and there was she slain. 17 And Jehoiada made a covenant between the LORD and the king and the people, that they should be the LORD's people; between the king also and the people. 18 And all the people of the land went into the house of Baal, and brake it down; his altars and his images brake they in pieces thoroughly, and slew Mattan the priest of Baal before the altars. And the priest appointed officers over the house of the LORD. 19 And he took the rulers over hundreds, and the captains, and the guard, and all the people of the land; and they brought down the king from the house of the LORD, and came by the way of the gate of the guard to the king's house. And he sat on the throne of the kings. 20 And all the people of the land rejoiced, and the city was in quiet: and they slew Athaliah with the sword beside the king's house. 21 Seven years old was Jehoash when he began to reign.” (2 Kings 11:4-21 KJV)*

I believe that such was one of the most terrible times that the Southern Kingdom of Judah was passing through. **Such is what wrong marriages and wrong partners can do badly to the church. The devil uses such to penetrate and get important offices in the church and that will cause havoc inside the body of Christ. Therefore the more we need to be watchful to avoid such events from happening.**

IX. The marriage of Tobiah the Ammonites to the daughter of Shechaniah who was the son of Eliashib, the high priest: “17 Moreover in those days the nobles of Judah sent many letters unto Tobiah, and the letters of Tobiah came unto them. 18 For there were many in Judah sworn unto him, because he was the son in law of Shechaniah the son of Arah; and his son Johanan had taken the daughter of Meshullam the son of Berechiah. 19 Also they reported his good deeds before me, and uttered my words to him. And Tobiah sent letters to put me in fear.” (Nehemiah 6:17-19 KJV)

Tobiah who was an Ammonites and one of the enemies of the people of God in their project to rebuild the walls around Jerusalem, as we can read here his opposition to Nehemiah: “10 When Sanballat the Horonite, and Tobiah the servant, the Ammonite, heard of it, it grieved them exceedingly that there was come a man to seek the welfare of the children of Israel. 19 But when Sanballat the Horonite, and Tobiah the servant, the Ammonite, and Geshem the Arabian, heard it, they laughed us to scorn, and despised us, and said, What is this thing that ye do? will ye rebel against the king?” (Nehemiah 2:10, 19 KJV) Tobiah grieved that someone came to seek the welfare of the children of Israel and mocked them when they decided to start the rebuilding because he knew that his corruption and wrongdoing will be exposed and he will be kicked out from the house of God that he was taking advantage of.

Such a person was marrying the daughter of “*Shechaniah the son of Arah*” (Nehemiah 6:18 KJV) The family of Shechaniah the son of Ara had come with Zerubbabel from captivity, they were seven hundred seventy and five and very probably of considerable impact, “5 The children of Arah, seven hundred seventy and five.” (Ezra 2:5 KJV)

The son of Tobiah Johanan had taken “*the daughter of Meshullam the son of Berechiah.*” (Nehemiah 6:18 KJV) We can read about the family of Meshullam the son of Berechiah that they were taken part in the rebuilding of the wall around Jerusalem, “4 And next unto them repaired Meremoth the son of Urijah, the son of Koz. And next unto them repaired Meshullam the son of Berechiah, the son of Meshezabeel. And next unto them repaired Zadok the son of Baana. 30 After him repaired Hananiah the son of Shelemiah, and Hanun the sixth son of Zalaph, another piece. After him repaired Meshullam the son of Berechiah over against his chamber.” (Nehemiah 3:4, 30 KJV)

So here Tobiah was infiltrating the people of God through marriages, therefore many people were loyal to him, and so Nehemiah was having a hard time with that, “17 Moreover in those days the nobles of Judah sent many letters unto Tobiah, and the letters of Tobiah came unto them. 18 For there were many in Judah sworn unto him, because he was the son in law.” (Nehemiah 6:17-18 KJV) Tobiah had influenced people in a bad way toward any work of God to hinder rebuilding the wall around Jerusalem.

Not only that but if we read further in the Scriptures we can see that Tobiah with his marriage to the daughter of Shechaniah the son of Arah was allied in that marriage to Eliashib the high priest at that time, “4 And before this, *Eliashib the priest, having the oversight of the chamber of the house of our God, was allied unto Tobiah.*”(Nehemiah 13:4 KJV) So Tobiah who married the daughter of Shechaniah the son of Ara, Ara then was a son or a descendant of the high priest.

The high priest, Eliashib, because of corruption and the taking advantage of the resources of God, had given Tobiah a room in the temple of God, “5 And he had prepared for him a great chamber, where aforetime they laid the meat offerings, the frankincense, and the vessels, and the tithes of the corn, the new wine, and the oil, which was commanded to be given to the Levites, and the singers, and the porters; and the offerings of the priests. 6 But in all this time was not I at Jerusalem: for in the two and thirtieth year of Artaxerxes king of Babylon came I unto the king, and after certain days obtained I leave of the king: 7 And I came to Jerusalem, and understood of the evil that Eliashib did for Tobiah, in preparing him a chamber in the courts of the house of God. 8 And it grieved me sore: therefore I cast

forth all the household stuff to Tobiah out of the chamber.” (Nehemiah 13:5-8 KJV) Such corruption in the church is not only will give rise to grieve but certain times even may give rise to despair; because honest people may think to give up; doubting whether reformation can still be done and possible to take place in such circumstances.

But Nehemiah was a man with a strong and genuine faith. He did not surrender to corruption, but he moved on valiantly to cleanse the house of God from corruption and the work of the devil. Nehemiah was willing to face people, even high people, who have a big influence on the people, **“9 Then I commanded, and they cleansed the chambers: and thither brought I again the vessels of the house of God, with the meat offering and the frankincense.” (Nehemiah 13:9 KJV)** Nehemiah was aware that God will be with him and He will aid him to cleanse His people and His temple from sin. **In the same way for us now, whatever we can see from corruption inside the church and the body of Christ and in the office of marriage, still we need not to give up, because God will be with us and He will aid us in our mission as we decided to do His work and to cleanse His church and His people from all the evil and the worldliness that was introduced by corrupted and wicked people into His church.**

Such people like Eliashib the high priest should be faced and rebuked and all their corrupted work needed to be exposed and cut it off. **Such people we should deal with them properly and remove them and those who follow them from the church offices because corruption is their motto and they had lost their sensitivity toward sin.**

Eliashib the high priest even further, one of his grandsons, the son of Joiada, the son of Eliashib had married the daughter of Sanballat, who was the avowed enemy of the Jewish nation, **“28 And one of the sons of Joiada, the son of Eliashib the high priest, was son in law to Sanballat the Horonite: therefore I chased him from me.” (Nehemiah 13:28 KJV)** Nehemiah was a valiant leader and he had no fear of man. He did what was right and took that person away out of the office. **We too need to be valiant men for God and stand firm against corruption to clean the Church of God and the office of marriage from any corruption, wickedness, and worldliness, in removing wicked people from their offices who had abused the grace of God and used it as a license for their gain using the Church of God and its offices for a living.**

Nehemiah prayed to God that He will remember their corruption and how they defiled the priesthood and the Levites and their covenant with God and introduced such corruption, **“29 Remember them, O my God, because they have defiled the priesthood, and the covenant of the priesthood, and of the Levites.” (Nehemiah 13:29 KJV)** Nehemiah not only prayed but he did his part to cleanse the temple of God from all the strangers and the corrupted people whose hearts were away from God, and he replaced them with honest, hard-working, and diligent people whose hearts and minds were set to seek the Lord, to obey Him and to keep the work of God going on in the way that God wants it to go, **“30 Thus cleansed I them from all strangers, and appointed the wards of the priests and the Levites, every one in his business.” (Nehemiah 13:30 KJV)** **Therefore in the same way we as a church, after we cleanse the church and the office of marriage from corrupted people, we need to trust God, that He will provide us with honest people who are willing to continue the work of God with us in the manner the Scriptures ordained and in the way that God is pleased with.**

My Dear and Beloved: Come now to God and realize what havoc marriages with non believers can bring to the Church of God, to its ministries and to its offices. Therefore you

need to stand firm and refrain from such to avoid all that destructions that such marriages can bring. Also be ready to fight the good fight to clean the church and the ministry under your care from worldly people who introduced worldliness and corrupted the church with their worldly practices that contradict the Word of God. Time for you also to trust God that He will replace those whom we had sent away because of their worldliness, with faithful people and workers who are willing to go on and serve God with us. Let us pray

My Prayer: *Father God, I come before you in the name of Jesus, who died on the cross for my sins and rose from the dead to give me eternal life. Lord, thank you for your Word that you send to me on time to teach me your ways and how you want me to live for you and serve you. Lord thank you for all the admonishments, corrections and the rebukes that I received in this message. Lord, thank you for your encouraging Word and the impartation of faith and trust in you that I received from your Word.*

Come now to God and confess and renounce all your sins. Confess and renounce marrying with non believer and marrying with wrong motive to get material things. Confess and renounce your compromises, corruption, and using the church offices for living and allowing wrongdoings in order to draw people's help and support. Confess and renounce your worldliness, and your love for material things. Confess and renounce your fear of man and your lack the fear of God. Confess and renounce your bad example, your wrong choices and your bad stewardship in wasting the resources that God gave you in a sinful life and on your idols. Confess and renounce your yoke with non believers and the sinful culture of your tradition and the Media. Confess and renounce your moving away from serving God and your non willingness to suffer for Him. Lord forgive me, I repent of the following sins

Lord I repent from my sinful ways and commit myself to move away from corruption and compromises and to clean the ministry under my care and the church that you placed me in from all such unlawful marriages that contradict your will and your Word. Lord I commit myself to drive out people who are not willing to amend their ways, trusting you that you will replace them with committed people who are living in holiness and willing to go along your Word. Lord protect me from all persecution as I go forward to do this wonderful works of yours.

Lord thank you for my Brothers and Sisters who committed their ways to serve you and keep holiness in your church and in the office of marriage. Lord continue to provide them their needs and sustain them and make their life a good example to others to follow you.

Lord, bless us as your church, provide us and sustain us as we are willing to go along your Word and cleanse your church from people who corrupted the office of marriage and who are using the church for living. Lord we pray that you add to us laborers to replace those corrupted workers whom we sent away. Lord we commit ourselves to continue to teach and implement the preparation for Godly marriage. Lord increase our faith and trust in you so we can wait upon you until you come and bless us. Lord we ask you to refill us with the Holy Spirit and give us the spiritual gifts that we need in order to go on and evangelize, and make new disciples and train new workers to go and plant more Bible studies and congregations for the church. Lord we pray for more people to get water baptized and receive the Holy Spirit baptism. Lord fulfill the vision of the church, 'Multiplication in peace with implementing the whole will of God.' Lord take the message and spread it to reach all the

members, workers, congregations, the families of the church, and others who need your Word. Lord bless us, enlarge our territory, let your hand be with us and free us from harm so that we will not feel pain. May the grace of the Lord Jesus and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all in Jesus name, Amen.

Miscellaneous Examples of Marriages Part 2. Romans 15:4. 2 Chronicles 18. 2 Chronicles 19:1-3.2 Kings 3. 2 Chronicles 20:35-37 . 2 Chronicles 21:1-5. 2 Kings 8:25-28. 2 Kings 11:1-21. Nehemiah 6:17-19. Nehemiah 2:10, 19. Ezra 2:5. Nehemiah 3:4, 30. Nehemiah 13:4-9, 28-30.

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