

Jezebel Facts and Characteristics:

1. Jezebel's name means "exalted of Ba'al."
2. Jezebel was not an original Israelite. She was a foreign princess, daughter of the King of Tyre (Zi-do'-ni-an / Phoenicians People).
 - a. *Note:* Israelites typically view foreigners as enemies and foreign women as temptresses.
3. King Ahab married the foreign Princess making her Queen of Israel (I King 16:31-33).
 - a. *Note:* These sorts of marriages were usually for alliances with other nations. This alliance between Jezebel's king father (Eth-ba'-al) and king husband (Ahab) was to establish military protection from their enemies as well as valuable trade routes (Gaines, 2018, p. 1).
4. Jezebel worshipped Ba'al.
 - a. *Note:* Ba'al is the fertility deity and the most important god of the Canaanites. Often referred to as the *Lord of Rain and Dew* because of the moisture that was indispensable for fertile soil in Canaan (Tesch, 2016, p. 1).
5. Jezebel established a house of Ba'al in Samaria through her husband which included an altar for Ba'al and a grove (i.e. a pagan shrine for pleasure) (I King 16:32-33).
6. Jezebel was the creator of conflict – Ba'al worship versus Yahweh worship.
7. She supported and provided for 450 prophets of Ba'al and 400 prophets of Asherah (grove) (Gaines, 2018, p. 1) (I King 18:19).
8. Jezebel persecuted (killed) the prophets of God (I King 18:4). She threatened God's prophets (I King 19:2) giving voice to her queen authority and power. Also, she helps establish the false authority in others (I King 21:7).
9. Jezebel provided the vineyard at Jezreel for King Ahab through manipulation, trickery and deceit of Elders and Nobles (i.e. by falsifying documents with the King's letterhead and seal thus stealing the King's identity) (I King 21:7-8).
10. Jezebel does not respect tradition and law (i.e. Israel's right to keep their family inheritance – Numbers 27:5-11).
11. Jezebel falsely accused Naboth of blasphemy against God and King Ahab.
 - a. *Note:* Naboth was stoned to death. Jezebel does not repent for having Naboth killed through manipulation, trickery, and deceit. However, Ahab repents before the Lord with rent clothes, sackcloth upon his flesh, fasting, and lying in sackcloth (I King 21:27).
12. Jezebel stirs up wickedness (I King 21:25) and is cursed (II King 9:33).
13. Jezebel is a whore, witch (II King 9:22), paints her face, and dresses her hair (II King 9:30).

Reference:

Gaines, J. H. (2018, March 19). How Bad Was Jezebel? Biblical Archaeology Society – Bible History Daily. Retrieved from <https://www.biblicalarchaeology.org/daily/people-cultures-in-the-bible/people-in-the-bible/how-bad-was-jezebel/>

Tesch, N. (2016, February 26). Baal Ancient Deity. Retrieved from <https://www.britannica.com/topic/Baal-ancient-deity/>

Water, T. (n.d.). Who was Jezebel? – Biblical Story, Characteristics & Death. Retrieved from <https://study.com/academy/lesson/who-was-jezebel-biblical-story-characteristics-death.html/>

Table 1.1 – Jezebel At-A-Glance

Jezebel the Unbeliever	
Creator of Conflict	Trickery
Supports Divination	Deceit
Provides for Divination	Does not respect tradition or law
Threatens	Help establish the authority of others
Manipulates	Falsely Accuse
Does not repent	Stir Up Wickedness
Whore and Witch	Paints her face to entice (temptress)