



**Untangling  
The Truth  
Elijah**

*by John Collins*

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*For I say unto you, among those that are born of women there is not a greater prophet than John the Baptist: but he that is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he. – Luke 7:28*

# Tyre

Ancient Tyre was founded around 2750 B.C. according to the Greek historian, Herodotus. It was an island city off the coast of what is now southern Lebanon, with a northern and southern harbor that kept the island alive with maritime activity.

The island was well fortified with defensive walls of up to 150 feet. It was a well-protected place for trade, which made it one of the most popular trade ports in the Mediterranean.

Tyrian merchants were the first of the ancient world to navigate the Mediterranean, founding colonies in what are now Africa, Tunisia, Sicily, Corsica, Italy, Spain, and the Pillars of Hercules. Through the ports at these colony cities, Tyre was made into a central hub for commerce.

Tyre was also known for expensive purple dye that was uncommon during that age of antiquity. Murex shellfish produced the dye that was known to the world as Tyrian purple, and was used by the royalty throughout the ancient world.

Directly inland, the city of Ushu, or “Old Tyre” was rich in timber. The port city was well supplied with wood not only for the merchant

vessels, but also to supply the ancient world with structural materials.

During the days of David, King Hiram of Tyre offered cedar trees, masons, and carpenters for the building of the House of David. Later, when Solomon was building the Temple, Hiram helped with the furnishings of the Holy Temple.

The people of Tyre were very skilled. Hiram sent men of great wisdom for the building of the temple, including men familiar with bronze workings, gold, silver, iron, stone, wood, and more.

In the beginning, Tyre was blessed. The King loved David, and knew the Lord God. In a letter to Solomon, King Hiram said “Yahweh loves His people, and has made you (Solomon) king over them.”

Over time, however, the people of Tyre began to serve other Gods. The One True God was forgotten, and other gods from the pagan world had become familiar to the people.

Their wealth became their undoing. The people of Tyre would gain favor among the nations with their great wealth, and placed more value on the

worldly things they produced than they did on serving God.

# Hercules

Ba'al, pronounced "Baal" in English, refers to several gods in ancient times that were not Yahweh.

During the Bronze Age, Hadad was the god of the storm and was one of the gods known as Baal. Baal Hammon was known as the god of fertility, and Dagon god of crop fertility was believed to be father of Baal.

Melqart is known as "Baal of Tyre." In Greek mythology, Baal of Tyre is identified with Hercules, and referred to in Greek mythology as the "Tyrian Herakles." It is said that this particular "Baal" is the one introduced to the children of Israel by King Ahab.

In Hebrew tradition, Melqart was the "god of the underworld." It is believed that this god of Tyre was originally a sea god riding on a sea horse, and later became synchronized with Hercules.

In a voyage to Tyre, Herodotus recorded that he witnessed several temples of Heracles. He found several more temples as he visited the lands colonized by the Phoenicians; the oldest said to have been built when the colony was established. The dates of the temple pre-dated Heracles of Hellas as an indication that the hero of the stories was a separate person than the Olympian

god. Two separate temples of worship were dedicated to Hercules, one for the Olympian and one for the hero.

The Phoenician and Greek artifacts found for their versions of Hercules differ very little. Melqart is said to have originated in Tyre, and was the god protecting their trade industry throughout their trade routes. His face was found on their currency, and that currency is identical to the currencies of ancient Greece.

Along with Hercules, the Olympian god Zeus also became synchronized with Tyrian worship. Dagon was believed to be the father of Melqart, while Zeus was the father of Hercules. Over time, Zeus and Dagon both become the same god of worship.

King Hiram presented himself as a flesh-and-blood reincarnation of Dagon, father of Melqart. His throne sat before large windows, watching over the sea.

God spoke through Ezekiel to Hiram, letting him know that he was a jealous and angry God. He was angry with Hiram for pretending to be a god, sitting in the seat of god, in the midst of the seas.

Dagon, the father of Melqart, was the chief god of the Philistines. Just as Zeus is portrayed, Dagon was believed to have the upper torso of a man and the lower torso of a fish. Dagon worship was violently oppressive, including not just human sacrifice, but child sacrifice. Sacrifice was a major rite in the temples of Dagon.

## The Breasted God

Baal worship did not only include a male deity, there was typically a female deity associated with their spirituality. While the male counterparts typically involved human sacrifice, the female goddesses were believed to be goddesses of fertility.

Ashtoreth, mother of Melqart was a goddess of erotic love and fertility. Prostitution was openly practiced in the temples in her name, and worshippers would practice immoral sexual acts as their rites of servitude.

Ashtoreth also was a fish goddess. The upper torso of Ashtoreth was female with breasts, and the lower parts of the body were that of a sea creature.

Philistines also worshipped Ashtoreth as the female counterpart to Dagon. The first book of Samuel refers to the Philistines when speaking of the "Temple of the Ashtoreths."

With the city of Tyre, this combination of father, mother, and son was a triune object of worship. Each deity had a separate "office," personality, and disposition.

The breasts of the idols in the various temples throughout the ancient world were a symbol of fertility, love, and nurture. As pagan worship entered into Jewish worship, many of these pagan ideas distorted the male representation of the God of Abraham. In Jewish mysticism, the word "Shaddai is connected with the word "shadayim," meaning "breasts." Those who had been led into idolatry by the worshippers of Dagon, Baal, and Ashtoreth began to worship "El Shaddai." While "El Shaddai" originally meant simply "God of Abraham," the meaning changed to "Breasted God."

This idea of a female, breasted god was not limited to the ancient world. Carried down through the centuries, pagan worship became integrated into Christianity by those who studied under the teachings of Semitic goddesses.

In a sermon by William Marrion Branham, the pagan goddess of the Philistines and the city of Tyre became entangled with the One True God:

*When He appeared to Abraham when He was a hundred years old, He said, "I am the El Shaddai." "El Shaddai" mean... "El" comes from God. "Shaddai" from Shadah, means "the--the bosom, like on a woman." In other words, "Abraham, I am the breasted One.*

52-0817A EXPECTANCY

*He said, "I am El Shaddai." Now, El is "the," and-- and Shaddai is "breast," and Shaddai is plural, which means "I am the breasted God."*

*Like a baby that's fretting and it's sick, and its strength is gone from it, lean upon the mother's bosom and nurse its strength back. Sure. Not only... When it's nursing, it isn't fretting no more. At the mother's breast, it's satisfied while it is getting its strength.*

65-0123 BROKEN.CISTERNS

In fact, Rev. Branham preached of the "breasted god" over ninety-nine times throughout his ministry.

**Ahab**

King Ahab reigned from approximately 869 B.C. to 850 B.C. His father was a successful military leader noted for conquering the Moabites.

History shows that Ahab himself was a mighty military power that helped to either defeat or overpower Samaria. Forces from Ahab's army of Israel and many of the trade countries of Tyre were involved in a large battle that included as many as two thousand chariots carrying ten thousand men of war.

His involvement with Tyre proved to be a political advancement, but would ultimately lead to his downfall. Ahab married Jezebel as a political alliance with Tyre, the rich and powerful city that controlled the trade routes. Ahab's union with Jezebel would instantly put the nation of Israel in favor with the king of Tyre, thus gaining riches and power through his father-in-law.

The woman's culture was of Yahweh, and her worship included the triune worship of Dagon, Ashtoreth, and Melqart. Temples of worship were built throughout the land for the children of Israel to offer sacrifice to these foreign gods, and their worship began to include these three false deities and Yahweh, the One True God.

Through Jezebel, Israel was introduced to the child sacrifices of Dagon. Temples were filled with male prostitutes for Ashtoreth the breasted god of fertility. Temples of Melqart were erected for the children of Israel to worship and give offerings. Yahweh, the One True God, was pushed to the side.

God became angry and jealous because of the idolatry that Ahab had brought to Israel through Jezebel's worship of the gods of Tyre. Ahab's motivation was for the wealth and prosperity of Israel through the commerce flowing through the port city of Tyre, so God turned the tables upside down.

God decided to bring a catastrophic drought to the land, so severe that not even the dew would fall. As Ahab was raising up temples of idolatry for the children of Israel to worship the "god of fertility," God was raising up a man as a vessel that would speak to King Ahab and condemn this evil.

# Elijah

Elijah, simply stated, means “Yahweh is my God.”

When King Ahab started to allow priests and prophets of the gods of Tyre into Israel, God raised up Elijah to condemn the evil that had been brought to God’s children. God sent Elijah to Ahab to warn him of the drought that would befall the land because of his allowing Jezebel to bring her false religions into the land.

Ahab and Jezebel were not repentant, however. As the suffering began when drought covered the land, they started killing the prophets of Yahweh. Through Jezebel’s influence, Ahab was led to believe that her gods of fertility would remove the drought.

Elijah returned at the end of the drought. When accused of causing trouble for Israel, Elijah turned the focus of the argument back towards Ahab for bringing idolatry into the land. He asked Ahab and the children of Israel how long they would continue limping along with two different opinions: The One True God or the gods of Tyre.

Elijah knew where he stood. He was serving the God with power, not a false god leading others into fornication. He challenged Ahab to a test of powers between Yahweh and their false gods.

The children of Israel, along with four hundred prophets of Baal, and four hundred and fifty prophets of Ashereth gathered on top of Mount Carmel. Two altars were built, one for Yahweh, and one for their false gods. Wood and slain oxen were placed on the altars, and Elijah asked the prophets of Baal to soak the wood for Yahweh with large vessels of water.

Though the prophets of the false gods prayed until evening, even mutilating their own bodies and placing their own blood on the altar, their gods would not burn their sacrifice.

When Elijah prayed, however, fire from heaven consumed the water, sacrifice, wood, and even the stones surrounding the altar. Elijah ordered the deaths of the prophets of Baal and prayed for God to send rain to the land.

## Jezebel vs. Elijah

The very first time William Branham mentions Jezebel in his ministry, nothing is said of the horrendous idolatry that she brought to the children of Israel. Nothing is said about the child sacrifice, the male prostitutes, or the false prophets that she brought into the land of Israel. In fact, nothing is said about her idolatry at all.

*This little girl come up to the Tabernacle. She kinda dressed kinda old fashion. She used to go down the street, her hair combed back just as tight as she could get it without these, ever what you call the manicure on her face, and--or ever what the stuff is that they wear. On down the street she would go.*

*Yes, it's the truth; we teach against it. God help preachers to get down to the Gospel. Listen, ladies, there was only one woman in the Bible that ever painted herself to meet a man, and that was Jezebel; and God fed her to the dogs. So when you see them wear that, say, "How do you do, Miss Dog meat." That's exactly what it was: God fed her to the dogs. You don't want to be like her.*

50-0827A PRODIGAL

The only thing that seemed to bother William Branham about Jezebel was the fact that she painted her face immediately before her life. Though she turned the hearts and minds of the children of Israel from the One True God towards the "breasted god," Rev. Branham felt that her worst evil was the paint she applied to her face.

The Bible does mention Jezebel painting her eyes, as was the custom of royalty in that age of antiquity. She would have painted her eyes with Tyre purple, more than likely in the same fashion that the Egyptians painted around their eyes to make them look larger.

Jezebel's use of paint described in the Bible is a very minor part of the story, a final act of dignity immediately before her death. As Jehu came to take her life, she prepared herself for death.

*When Jehu came to Jezreel, Jezebel heard of it. And she painted her eyes and adorned her head and looked out of the window. And as Jehu entered the gate, she said, "Is it peace, you Zimri, murderer of your master?" And he lifted up his face to the window and said, "Who is on my side? Who?" Two or three eunuchs looked out at him. He said, "Throw her down." So they threw her down. And some of her blood splattered on the wall and on the horses, and they trampled on her. Then he went in and ate and drank. And he said, "See now to this cursed woman and bury her, for she is a king's daughter." But when they went to bury her, they found no more of her than the skull and the feet and the palms of her hands. When they came back and told him, he said, "This is the word of the Lord, which he spoke by his servant Elijah the Tishbite: 'In the territory of Jezreel the dogs shall eat the flesh of Jezebel, 37 and the corpse of Jezebel shall be as dung on the face of the field in the territory of Jezreel, so that no one can say, This is Jezebel.'"*

*2 Kings 9:30-37*

Branham continued with the “dog meat” story, adding great beauty to Jezebel. The union between Ahab and Jezebel quickly became more about her “famous beauty” than a political alliance.

*But there King Ahab had went down and married this little queen, or little princess, and she was a idolater. He married out of the--out of the covenant. And when he did it, brought trouble into Israel. And she torn down. Boy, she was a spitfire, my, if there ever was one. Maybe a beautiful girl, beautiful woman for all I know.*

*Say, I don't mean to rub off this to some of the women now, or something another. But I want to ask you something. Now, what you do, that's between you and our Lord. Is that right? That's your own business. But I think... Did you ever notice the first woman that ever used makeup on her face, what happened to her. She was Jezebel. And you know what God did to her? He fed her to the dogs. So, you see, that's dog meat. So... All right. So just...*

*52-0719 MAKE.THE.VALLEY.FULL.OF.DITCHES*

*Some fellow, the other day, I was talking about some lady; I was quoting a story about some lady up playing the piano. And now you can... Now, this is your own business. That's up to you. See? But the lady, she had on so much make-up, that woman had enough paint on to paint a barn almost. And there, he said, this man said, "Brother Branham, this is my wife." Said, "She's a saint."*

*I said, "Brother, I don't want to hurt your feelings; she looks like a haint. She don't look no saint to me." That's what...*

*You know what a haint is? Down in the south, that's "a spook." All right. Let me tell you. Listen. The only woman in the Bible that ever painted her face to meet a man, was Jezebel, and God fed her to the dogs. So if you see any of these people that's supposed to be so good, and got the Holy Ghost. You can say, "How do you do, Miss Dog Meat." That's what God calls her, is dog meat, for him. You see? All right.*

*52-0810A I AM THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE*

This continued as his ministry progressed. Over just a short period of time, the idolatry that Elijah battled was not the focus of the story. The focal point quickly became the paint on her face as she prepared for death.

*One time there was an old preacher down there preaching, by the name of Elisha. He got up there and he looked out over the country, and he said, "I tell you, it's the awfulest I ever seen."*

*The old king down there went and married a little old painted-up Jezebel, enough paint on her face to make... The only woman in the Bible that ever painted her face. And you know what God did to her? God fed her to the dogs. That's the only one I know.*

*You see a woman with a lot of paint on her face, you know what you can call her? Say, "Hello, Miss dog meat." That's what she is, like dog meat. Oh, my. Listen, brother, I just turned back from Africa. That*

*stuff come from the strain of heathenism. The heathens paint themselves.*

*Oh, brother, when a man or woman gets right with God, you don't have to tell them that; ashamed, themselves. Hallelujah. That's right.*

*52-0900 GOD'S WAY THAT'S BEEN MADE FOR US*

Rev. Branham continues for over a year with the same joke about the “dog meat.” Each time, a bit of his own perception and theology is mixed in, taking the story of Jezebel further from the Bible.

At one point, he says that Elijah’s inspiration “left him” so he retreated to the wilderness.

*Look at--look at Elijah, the prophet, who stood on Mount Carmel that day and called fire out of heaven, called rain out of heaven at the same day, and then run out into the wilderness after the inspiration left him at the threat of Jezebel. Run out into the wilderness and wandered around out there in the wilderness for forty days and nights, and God found him. He'd crawled back in a cave somewhere. Is that right? See?*

*53-1129A THE FAITH THAT WAS ONCE  
DELIVERED TO THE SAINTS*

As the story progressed, preachers of today were compared to Ahab. Though Ahab purposefully turned away from God into idolatry, Rev. Branham twisted the story to say that Ahab was “wishy-washy.”

Then, seeing how it begin with the church of Ephesus, then the second church age, the third church age, the fourth church age, the fifteen hundred years of dark ages, out through the Lutheran Age, and Philadelphian Age, and down into the Laodicean Age, the last age. Seeing the Old Testament, how they were perfectly typed at the beginning in Solomon, on down through in the time of Ahab, the dark age... And found out, as Jezebel, Ahab, a borderline preacher, or a man who was on and off, just like a lot of lukewarm church members today, people, on and off: in the church today, tomorrow you can expect them anywhere, compromising, letting down, going with the world, yet calling themselves Christians... And Ahab, in that condition, fell for a beautiful little woman, though wicked as all get-out, and wedded her, and brought idolatry into Israel, right in the darkest times of Israel, dark age. Now, we find out that they come out of there with a brass stand, and on out, and finally lukewarm, down till God spued them from His mouth and accepted the Gentiles.

54-0514 THE.SEAL.OF.GOD

Rev. Branham confuses the story by making it sound as though she painted herself to “meet a man.”

Listen. There never was but one woman in the Bible that ever painted herself up to meet a man, and that was Jezebel. God fed her to the dogs. So if you see a woman all painted up. You just say, "Howdy do, Miss Dog meat." That's what God made out of her. Just an old dog meat. don't you

pay any attention to that; that's of the devil. That's right. Oh, she ought to clean up and act like what Jacob said to his wife and daughter. Make yourself like what you ought to be. Amen.

55-0611 WHAT.IS.THAT.IN.THY.HAND

He continued to believe and teach that the inspiration had left Elijah when God sent him to the mountain.

*Let's take prophets. The prophet Elijah, after he'd called fire out of heaven, called rain out of heaven the same day, and they closed the heavens for three years and six months... After that, he wandered in the wilderness, after the inspiration left him, he wandered for forty days and nights, not even knowing where he was at. And you know where God found Him? Pulled back in a cave. He ask him, "What are you doing in here?" Inspiration had left him. He, while he was under the inspiration, all right. But look at it. He killed forty priests on the hill, and come back down and run at the threat of a woman, Jezebel, because she threatened his life. After standing there... 'Cause the anointing was on him, but after the anointing leaving him, it was a different thing.*

*Did you notice Jonah? After God had performed a miracle of keeping him in the fish, he went into the city the size of St. Louis, Missouri, and gave a prophecy as he walked through the streets, "Yet forty days and this city will perish." He gave his prophecy in such force, until the people even put sackcloth on their animals. And did you notice, when the inspiration left him, set there under this little gourd tree, and prayed for God to take his life. See?*

The Bible does not mention Elijah losing his inspiration. Though he did flee Jezebel's wrath, God was with him. From there, he went to Mount Horeb, the only mention in the Bible of a prophet of the Lord visiting the mountain besides Moses.

He then starts integrating his teachings against dancing into the story:

*Now, a long line of kings had come down. Ahab, the wicked one, had been shot by a bow and killed. And Jezebel was thrown out of the room as she tried to -to make love, or dance. Or Jehu, when he drove down, and he had the eunuchs to throw her out the window into the street.*

*And did you know what? Let me tell you, Life Tabernacle. Seeing some of you women begin to wear your makeup and stuff like the rest of the women of the world, that nearly killed me when I walked in here the other day and saw that. Look. There's only one woman in the Bible that ever painted her face. You don't paint your face to meet God; you do to meet men. And the woman that did that, God fed her to the dogs. So when you go to wearing that, just remember, God's turned you over to some dog meat, when you see anybody doing that.*

56-0801 THE ARROW OF GOD'S DELIVERANCE  
SHOT FROM A BOW

In a 1956 sermon entitled “Painted Face Jezebel,” William Branham dedicates his entire message to the paint. The word “Baal” was only mentioned once at the beginning of the story, the word “idol” only once in an outside comparison unrelated to Jezebel, but the word “paint” is used from the beginning to the end. The focus moved entirely from idolatry to paint.

Eventually, the idolatry of the story was almost forgotten. He began to spin the wrath of the jealous God from the focal point of idolatry to murder of Naboth.

*Now, Elijah, the great and mighty prophet had prophesied, and he told Ahab because he'd killed Naboth, that what was going to happen to him, how that the dogs licked his blood and so forth. And he told Jezebel what was going to happen to her. Then along after the going away of Elijah...*

*57-0115 GOD.KEEPS.HIS.WORD*

When idolatry is mentioned in the sermons, Rev. Branham uses the paint as the focal point for Israel's turning to false gods. Jezebel tricked Ahab into idolatry by her painted face, according to Rev. Branham.

*So Jehoshaphat, his father, was a righteous man, which was the king of Judah, came down to visit Ahab the king of Israel. And Ahab had had a great glamorous kingdom (Now watch.), a great*

*glamorous kingdom. For he had a little old painted up wife by the name of Jezebel. And she had simply wooed the entire nation, except the elect, to the idols of her nation. Do you... Oh, brethren, can you see the spirit of that same devil working in America today, the little Jezebels, that spirit a wooing the sons of God away from Christ?*

*57-0120E GOD.KEEPS.HIS.WORD*

An oddity of nature is introduced into the story: specially made dogs that ate Jezebel's blood. Not fully understanding nature, Rev. Branham tried to convince the people that dogs do not eat human beings. Having claimed to be a game warden, he should have known that this statement was not true, and that the dogs of that day were not domesticated.

*Now, the dogs, the hounds of hell, hound after the church. Certainly it does. But look, now really, a... When some of the wild dogs eat Jezebel... Did you ever know a dog won't eat human flesh? They won't even lick the blood of a human being. You can't get them near it. No, sir. But this was a certain kind of dog. It was a wild dog, not a domestic dog, but a wild dog. Wild dogs are wolves, just like a wolf. And they will eat human beings. But if you notice, this wild dogs had come in and eat Jezebel. It was a certain type of dog.*

*57-0630 THIRSTING.FOR.LIFE*

As time went on, and William Branham started promoting himself as Elijah, the Elijah of his stories grew much more powerful. Rather than

ordering the priests to be killed as the Bible says, this Elijah became a great warrior like Samson.

*Did you ever know, Elijah called fire out of heaven, and rain out of the heaven on the same day, and killed four hundred priests himself, and chopped their heads off, and run after the inspiration left him, by the threat of the queen, Jezebel. And was in the wilderness forty days and nights, not knowing where he was at, and God found him pulled back in a cave...? Then you wonder why it makes you weak? See, see, inspiration?*

58-0209A HEAR.YE.HIM

According to the Bible, Elijah ordered the people to seize the prophets and take them to the brook to be slaughtered.

*And when all the people saw it, they fell on their faces and said, "The Lord, he is God; the Lord, he is God." And Elijah said to them, "Seize the prophets of Baal; let not one of them escape." And they seized them. And Elijah brought them down to the brook Kishon and slaughtered them there.*

1 Kings 18:39-40

He then demotes the power of God through Elijah, and twists the story for those who are not fully accepting of his teachings or ways of a pastor.

*Anything sickening is a hypocrite. I'd rather be an infidel any time. But an old hypocrite will go to church, and stick their nose up in the air, and act*

*like they're somebody, take off for the things of the world and say, "Well, my pastor's broader minded than your narrow minded pastor." You poor, decrepit I don't know what. You need an old fashion pastor that'll shake your hair for you, that'll tell you the truth.*

*Jezebel hated her pastor. Her pastor was Elijah, but he told her what was going to happen. She had to listen anyhow. She wouldn't accept him as the pastor, but God sent him as the pastor. He was God's pastor.*

58-0519 LIFE\_ BANGOR.ME MONDAY

Elijah was not her pastor, and God would not have sent Elijah had she been a Jewish worshipper of Yahweh.

William Branham admitted that he suffered a nervous condition, and that condition grew worse towards the end of his life. As a result, the story started to include Elijah nearing a nervous breakdown.

*But Elijah was weary, and he was feeling blue. And then Jezebel put this threat that almost threw him into a nervous breakdown.*

59-0609

In 1960, around the same time William Branham started studying Clarence Larkin, he evidently found some historical facts on Jezebel. Some of the history given is correct, but portions of his study are not fully correct.

60-1208 THE.THYATIREAN.CHURCH.AGE\_  
JEFFERSONVILLE.IN ROJC 287-327 THURSDAY\_

60 Now, "Jezebel." If you'll notice, this is a great history. Now, if you want to write it down, start in First Kings, about the... First Kings, about 16. Jezebel was not a daughter of Abraham; neither was this group over here, the pagan Rome. The Nicolaitanes was a cold, formal bunch of Christians that had separated themselves from the real Christians, "seemingly not having the Faith." And they wanted to make the church like a lodge, the same as they got today; like a lodge, no Spirit in it at all; "Days of miracles is past. All that was for another age. We got a brotherhood." A good Mason, Odd Fellow, or anything like that produces that. And that's all right, but that'll never take the place of a new birth in Jesus Christ, salvation to the soul, this Truth.

*All right, this Jezebel. Now she was a daughter of Abraham, that's true, a princess of an idolater. At that time when the royal family, her royal family, was famed by cruel savage loyalty to Baalim. Her father was a priest of the idol of A-s-t-a-r-t-e (I don't know how you pronounce it, I just picked it up in the history). Ahab used his strategy like Constantine. This great powerful nation laid next to Israel, so therefore...*

*What did Constantine do last night? He wasn't converted. He was a politician. What was he trying to do? He took the Christians, when they told him*

*they'd pray... (And now there, remember, he's ta... we're talking now of the Nicolaitane). And he said if they would pray, and he would win this battle, then he would--he'd be a Christian. He had a dream. Painted his shields white, that night, of the cross. Where the Knights of Columbus was born, right at that time; now that's where they take their stand. But he never did anything like a Christian! On one of the Nicolaitane churches, called St. Sophia, he put a cross. As I said last night, that's the only thing he ever done that sounded anything like he was for the church, as far as I could ever glean out of any of the pages of histories; and many other scholars say the same thing. We know nothing about his conversion, now.*

60-1208 THE.THYATIREAN.CHURCH.AGE

It was at that point that William Branham started talking about the “Third Pull Ministry,” the last great healing revival that was to sweep the country. Until the time of his death, this “vision” never was fulfilled.

He started associating this teaching to the story of Elijah in the Bible. The only problem: The focal point of the “first pull” for the Elijah of the Bible was her painted face.

*Then after he'd got on the other side... Now, he was weary. He had fussed with Jezebel and them till he was--about her painting up and carrying on, till he was tired, just was going home. And so the young prophet had to take his place. So he knowed just across the river there was a chariot hooked to some*

*bush over there somewhere, and he--he was going to take a little ride up home. See? But the young prophet was watching for his new ministry, seen what this old one was doing, so he knowed he had to take his place. So the young prophet caught his vision, and seen him go up, caught his garment passed back down, picked up the same garment and struck the Jordan, said, "Where is the God of Elijah?" Oh, my. And she opened up again. That's right. Where is the God of Pentecost? Where is the God that was in Jesus Christ? What's the matter with the ministry today in the churches?*

*61-0215 THOU SON OF DAVID HAVE MERCY*

When President Kennedy took office William Branham started using the word "Jezebel" loosely, comparing Ahab's wife to the First Lady of the United States. Elijah of old was seemingly against Mrs. Kennedy.

*Let's carry another one, Elijah, standing up there on the mountain. He had fussed with Jezebel and her painted face, and he was kind of getting tired of it. About all the women pattern after the first lady, maybe water-head hair-cuts and whatever they had in that day. He had fussed at it so much till it--it about to get him down.*

*63-0114*

*A.TRUMPET.GIVES.AN.UNCERTAIN.SOUND\_*

*Elijah, after he had condemned bobbed hair and painted faces, for all of his life, of that Jezebel, the first woman, her and the renowned president of that time, who put a poor example before the*

*people and got them all carried off. And--and, actually, he thought he was the only one preaching that.*

*63-0115 ACCEPTING GOD'S PROVIDED WAY AT  
THE END TIME*

*But Elijah was considered a crazy man. Could you imagine him, standing up to the... The women was all cutting their hair like the modern days, I guess, and painting up like Jezebel, the first lady of the land; and--and the--the preachers all gone worldly and everything, and then what taken place? Then here come old Elijah out condemning the whole thing all the way from Jezebel down.*

*63-0317M*

*GOD.HIDING.HIMSELF.IN.SIMPLICITY.THE  
N.REVEALING.HIMSELF.IN.THE.SAME*

*I've passed across this country. I've made remarks about Mrs. Kennedy, with her Jezebel haircut, and all like that, and her big waterheads, and these women. I wonder, if Mrs. Kennedy would have heard the Messages I have preached, she might have let her hair grow out, a long time ago. But I've crossed this country, back and forth, showing by the Word, that it's wrong, and a condemnation for women to cut their hair, and the Pentecostal women continue, go on the same way. She might rise in the day of Judgment, not knowing it, but you know better. It shows the Blood hasn't been applied. The Token is not there.*

*64-0208 THE.TOKEN*

In a summarization of the story of Ahab, Jezebel, and Elijah, idolatry is taken completely out. The focal point again is the paint. Though idolatry

was mentioned from time to time, the story condemns the paint more than the idolatry.

*Greater was He that was in Elijah, than the brassy skies was, 'cause he could bring rain out of a brassy skies that hadn't rained for three years and six months.*

*Greater is He that was in Elijah, than death. For, when it come time for him to die, God seen that old, tired prophet. He had been rebuking Jezebel and all of her paint and modern things, and he was kind of tired, so He didn't even let him walk Home, like He did Enoch. He sent a chariot and picked him up, and took him up Home. Greater is He that was in Elijah, than he that was in Jerusalem and in Judaea, and in the mountains. Greater was He is n Elijah, than death itself. Greater is He that was in Elijah, than the grave; 'cause he escaped the grave, he escaped death, and he just went up Home in a chariot. See, greater was He, and He was in Elijah.*

*63-1110E HE.THAT.IS.IN.YOU\_*

Towards the end, it was the paint that Elijah was called by God to speak against, not the idolatry. William Branham did not seem to understand that the people were worshipping other gods, practicing fornication, sacrificing children, or other blasphemous acts.

*The church did not believe him, because he was not known of them. They had no record of his ordination on their books, so therefore they refused him. See, they didn't believe God's vindicated Word, plainly, letter by letter. See? Malachi 3, two*

*Scriptures to vindicate him, Malachi 3 and Isaiah 40:3. See, both those Scriptures spoke of a man coming, preparing the way of the Lord. He met every specification of it.*

96 *He was to be a prophet. "I'll send to you Elisha." And there he was, in every rugged way. Watch how his nature blended in with Elijah. Elijah was a man of the wilderness, so was John; the outdoors. He wasn't a smooth man, he was a rugged man.*

97 *Notice again, Elijah was a woman hater, he told Jezebel about all of her paint, and where to get on and off at. So was John. Jezebel tried to kill Elijah, swore by her gods that she'd take his head off of him. So did Herodia. See?*

65-0801E EVENTS.MADE.CLEAR.BY.PROPHECY

## Conclusion

The idolatry of Tyre was quickly spreading throughout the ancient world. It had long-lasting effects on ancient Greece, Italy, and other nations. God would not let this evil befall his children, and sent many prophets to condemn the false gods of the ancient world.

Many preachers and evangelists of today do not speak of the violent evil that was spreading in an audience of women and children. It would not be pleasant to listen to child sacrifice. Christians of today do not want to listen to men's blood spilled on ancient altars, prostitution openly in temples of Jewish goddesses, homosexuality as a form of worship, or worse evils.

At the same time, very few study the ancient world to learn of the cultures, styles, beliefs, or histories of the nations. A single quote of painted eyes by a woman spreading these evils cannot be the foundation for a doctrine, especially when many other women of the ancient world had similar customs.

They were different customs than today, eyes painted to become larger in an effort to mimic the appearance of their false gods. The paint on their face reached the temples of their forehead, and was nothing like the small amount of cosmetics applied to the eyelids, as is the custom

today. The Christian woman William Branham condemned openly in front of her husband would not have been painting her eyes to mimic a false god.

The truth of the matter is that William Branham taught a doctrine of the “breasted god,” which essentially is the same thing that Jezebel did in her day – mix the religions of the female goddesses into the belief system of the Ancient Jews. Had William Branham painted his eyes before his own death, it would have been a much lesser sin than bringing the worship of a false goddess into Christianity – even if painting of the face was a sin.

There is no mention of beautifying ones self through use of paint condemned anywhere in the Bible, and Elijah the prophet certainly did not devote his life to condemning Jezebel for her use of paint. The Bible teaches to use a modest dress style, as is custom for the times. No specific guidelines are given, because cultures change as time progresses. Men and women of the ancient world Paul ministered to may be considered immodest compared to the dress cultures today, while other ancient ages of times past may be more modest than even the Christians of the Pentecostal faith.

## About the Author

John Collins is the author and Webmaster of [www.seekyethetruth.com](http://www.seekyethetruth.com).

Almost 36 years in “the Message”, the name of the group of people (cult) following the teachings of William Marrion Branham, John has dedicated his life towards helping those who are still in this cult, and to those who are no longer bound but serving Jesus Christ with many questions. His goal is to remind both groups that we serve a living God who does not look to any organization, doctrine, mystery, or gift of the Spirit; we serve a God who looks at the heart.

His main purpose is to point others back to the Bible, which is the Absolute. All words of men may fail, but the Word of God will never fail. We should put our hearts and minds back on Jesus Christ, who died on the cross so that ALL could be saved by grace through faith.

Seek Ye The Truth started as a central place for all cult followers to ask the questions openly and anonymously, many of which they had in their hearts and minds for several years and were afraid to ask. The original goal was to go "hand in hand" with the local pastors, spreading the answers and vindicating the teachings of William Marrion Branham.

As research started to progress, more false teachings were found than truths. More prophecies had failed than had succeeded. None could be proven. Bible teachings came from Gnostic texts and other strange beliefs, and did not line up with the Word of God. Cult pastors had no answer.

While some live normal lives walking "middle ground," many are starting to become very hurt and abused. Many suffer depression. Physical and sexual abuse, and self-condemnation stories started surfacing.

Over time, Seek Ye The Truth slowly transformed from a site of questions into a site dedicated to help those in need. There are almost two million cult followers of William Branham around the world, making it larger than some of the other cult followings, and there are almost no support groups for those desperately seeking help. Please join us as we help others.

God Bless You!