WARFARE, WITCHCRAFT, AND JEZEBEL

...I came not to send peace, but a sword.
Matthew 10:34b

"We are at war.

How I've missed this for so long is a mystery to me. Maybe I've overlooked it; maybe I've chosen not to see. ***We are at war.*** *I don't like the fact any more than you do, but the sooner we come to terms with it, the better hope we have of making it through to the life we do want. This is not Eden. You have probably figured that out. This is not Mayberry; this is not Seinfeld's world; this is not Survivor. The world in which we live is a combat zone, a violent clash of kingdoms, a bitter struggle unto the death. I'm sorry if I am the one to break the news to you; you were born into a world of war, and you will live all your days in the midst of a great battle, involving all the forces of heaven and hell and played out here on earth.*

Where did you think all this opposition was coming from?"

John Eldredge in *Walking the Dead*

The Stings of Witchcraft

1. Discouragement
2. Confusion
3. Depression
4. Loss of Vision
5. Disorientation
6. Withdrawal
7. Despair
8. Defeat

"The source of witchcraft used against us may not always be through the obvious satanic cults or New Age operatives. It can come from well-meaning, though deceived Christians. These are the ones who start praying against leaders instead of for them. These misguided prayers have power because whatever is released on earth is released in Heaven, and whatever is bound on earth is bound in Heaven. If intercession is motivated by a spirit of control or manipulation, it is witchcraft and can have the same devastating power as black magic…. The basic strategy we must use to begin freeing ourselves from the power of witchcraft is to bless those who curse us. This does not mean that we bless their works, but that we pray for them and not

against them….We must not return evil for evil, but we must overcome evil with good."

Rick Joyner in *Overcoming Evil in the Last Days*

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life and have it to the full. John 10:10

Yahweh is a warrior. Exodus 15:3

Surely the LORD is in this place, and I was not aware of it. Exodus 28:16

Wake up, O sleeper….Be very careful, then how you live…because the days are evil. Ephesians 5:14-16

For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds. 2nd Corinthians 10:4

JEZEBEL

"Jezebel is an archetype of witchcraft in scripture. She used her power to control her husband Ahab, the king, and therefore had the real authority over Israel. She was also able to bring such depression upon Elijah that he sought death over life even after his greatest spiritual victory. There is power in witchcraft. Those who are ignorant of it, or who presumptuously disregard its potential to affect them, are very often brought down by it. Many churches, ministries, movements, and even revivals have been stopped and/or destroyed by this evil. All who walk in true spiritual authority must understand it or it will become a significant threat to all that they accomplish.

Jezebel may have easily overpowered Ahab, but Elijah was certainly no wimp. He single-handedly confronted and destroyed more than eight hundred false prophets in one of the greatest demonstrations of God's power over evil in all of history. Yet immediately after this, one woman operating in the power of witchcraft was able to send the great prophet fleeing in discouragement. This story reveals the kind of power to discourage that witchcraft can have on anyone

...It was not rational for Elijah to have become so discouraged because of Jezebel's threat, but that is precisely the point: This attack did not come through reasoning: it was a spiritual attack. Reasoning usually has little to do with the power of witchcraft.

Jezebel slammed Elijah immediately after his greatest victory, and it overpowered him. We will often be most vulnerable to this kind of attack after a great victory because it is then that we tend to drop our guard and become more open to pride. Our first defense against the attacks of the enemy through witchcraft, or any other tactic, should be to maintain the humility of knowing that we are standing only by God's grace. Pride leaves a breach in our armor that the enemy can easily penetrate."

Rick Joyner in *Overcoming Evil in the Last Days*