

~BAAL 4 (1316)

(Ba'al) [Owner, Master]

.. Baal Worship

.. What Effect Did Baal Worship Have On Israel?

- In the Scriptures, the Hebrew word *ba'`al* is employed with reference to a husband as owner of his wife
- Afterward God came to Abimelech in a dream by night and said to him; Here you are as good as dead because of the woman whom you have taken, since she is **owned by another owner as his wife**. (Genesis 20:3)
- Landowners;
- Then you went crossing the Jordan and came to Jericho. And the **landowners** of Jericho, the Amorites and the Perizzites and the Canaanites and the Hittites and the Girgashites, the Hivites and the Jebusites began fighting against you, but I gave them into your hand. (Joshua 24:11) Footnote
- Owners of the nations,
- Because the terraces themselves of Heshbon have withered. The vine of Sibmah, the **owners of the nations** themselves have smitten down its bright-red branches. As far as Jazer they had reached, they had wandered about in the wilderness. Its own shoots had been left to luxuriate for themselves, they had gone over to the sea. (Isaiah 16:8) Footnote
- Confederates, literally, owners or masters of the covenant.
- After that a man who had escaped came and told Abram the Hebrew. He was then tabernacling among the big trees of Mamre the Amorite, the brother of Eshcol and brother of Aner, and they were **confederates** of Abram. (Genesis 14:13) Footnote
- Owners or possessors of tangibles.
- And in case a bull should gore a man or a woman and that one actually dies, the bull is to be stoned without fail, but its flesh is not to be eaten, and the **owner** of the bull is free from

punishment. (**Exodus 21:28**)

- The **owner** of the pit is to make compensation. The price he is to return to its owner, and the dead animal will become his own. (**Exodus 21:34**)
- If the thief should not be found, then the **owner** of the house must be brought near to the true God to see whether he did not put his hand upon the goods of his fellow. (**Exodus 22:8**)
- So they said to him; A man **possessing** a hair garment, with a leather belt girded about his loins. Immediately he said; It was Elijah the Tishbite. (**2 Kings 1:8**) Footnote
- Persons or things having something that is characteristic of their nature, manner, occupation, and the like, for example, an **archer** literally, **owner of arrows**.
- But the **archers** kept harassing him and shot at him and kept harboring animosity against him. (**Genesis 49:23**)
- **A creditor of the debt, literally, owner of a debt of his hand.**
- And this is the manner of the release. There will be a releasing by every **creditor of the debt** that he may let his fellow incur. He should not press his fellow or his brother for payment, because a release to Yehowah must be called. (**Deuteronomy 15:2**)
- **Anyone given to anger, literally, owner of anger.**
- Do not have companionship with anyone **given to anger**, and with a man having fits of rage you must not enter in. (**Proverbs 22:24**)
- **Judicial antagonist, literally, owner of judgment.**
- The One declaring me righteous is near. Who can contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who is my **judicial antagonist**? Let him approach me. (**Isaiah 50:8**) Footnote
- **Yehowah**
- And it must occur in that day, is the utterance of Yehowah, that you will call me **My husband**, and you will no longer call me **My**

owner. (Hosea 2:16)

- **False gods**
- And the sons of Israel fell to doing what was bad in the eyes of Yehowah and serving the **Baals**. (Judges 2:11)
- Thus they abandoned Yehowah and took up serving **Baal** and the Ashtoreth images. (Judges 2:13)
- The **Hebrew** term *hab-Ba'`al*, **the Baal** is the designation applied to the **false god Baal**. The expression *hab-Be`a-lim'*, **the Baals**, refers to the various local deities thought of as owning or possessing and having influence over particular places.
- The term **Baal** occurs once in the **Christian Greek Scriptures**, in;
- Yet, what does the divine pronouncement say to him? I have left seven thousand men over for myself, men who have not bent the knee to **Baal**. (Romans 11:4)
- Where it is preceded in the Greek text by the feminine article *he*. Commenting on the use of the feminine article before **Baal** in the **Greek Septuagint** and;
- Yet, what does the divine pronouncement say to him? I have left seven thousand men over for myself, men who have not bent the knee to **Baal**. (Romans 11:4)
- John Newton wrote in an essay on **Baal** worship: **Though he is of the masculine gender in the Hebrew, *hab-Ba'`al*, the lord, yet Baal is called *he Ba'al*, the lady, in the Septuagint, Hos. ii. 8)**
- Just as he chose us in **union** with him before the founding of the world, that we should be holy and without blemish before him in love. (Ephesians 1:4)
- And in the New Testament.
- Yet, what does the divine pronouncement say to him? I have left seven thousand men over for myself, men who have not bent the knee to **Baal**. (Romans 11:4)

- At the licentious worship of this **androgynous, or two-sexed god**, the men on certain occasions wore **female garments**, whilst the **women appeared in male attire, brandishing weapons**. [Ancient Pagan and Modern Christian Symbolism, by T. Inman, 1875, p. 119]
- At times in Israel's history Yehowah was referred to as **Baal**, in the sense of his being the **Owner or Husband of the nation**.
- For your Grand Maker is your **husbandly owner**, Yehowah of armies being his name, and the Holy One of Israel is your Repurchaser. The God of the whole earth he will be called. (**Isaiah 54:5**)
- Also, the Israelites may have improperly associated Yehowah with **Baal** in their apostasy. The latter appears to be borne out by Hosea's prophecy that the time would come when Israel, after going into and being restored from exile, would repentantly call Yehowah My husband, and no more **My owner, My Baal, AT**. The context suggests that the designation **Baal** and its associations with the false god would **never again pass the lips of the Israelites**.
- Therefore I shall turn back and certainly take away my grain in its time and my sweet wine in its season, and I will snatch away my wool and my linen for covering her nakedness. (**Hosea 2:9**)
- And now I shall uncover her private parts to the eyes of her passionate lovers, and there will be no man to snatch her out of my hand. (**Hosea 2:10**)
- And I shall certainly cause all her exultation, her festival, her new moon and her Sabbath and her every festal season to cease. (**Hosea 2:11**)
- And I will lay desolate her vine and her fig tree, of which she has said, They are a gift to me, which my passionate lovers have given to me, and I will set them as a forest, and the wild beast of the field will certainly devour them. (**Hosea 2:12**)
- And I will hold an accounting against her for the days of the **Baal** images to which she kept making sacrificial smoke, when she kept decking herself with her ring and her ornament and kept going after her passionate lovers, and I was the one that she forgot, is the utterance of Yehowah. (**Hosea 2:13**)

- Therefore here I am prevailing upon her, and I will cause her to go into the wilderness, and I will speak to her heart. (**Hosea 2:14**)
- And I will give her, her vineyards from then onward, and the low plain of Achor as an entrance to hope, and she will certainly answer there as in the days of her youth and as in the day of her coming up out of the land of Egypt. (**Hosea 2:15**)
- And it must occur in that day, is the utterance of Yehowah, that you will call me My husband, and you will no longer call me; **My owner**. (**Hosea 2:16**)
- And I will remove the names of the **Baal** images from her mouth, and they will no longer be remembered by their name. (**Hosea 2:17**)
- The bad connotation that appears to have become attached to the **Hebrew** word *ba'`al* because of its association with the degraded worship of **Baal** is thought by some to be the reason the writer of **Second Samuel** used the names **Ish-bosheth** and **Mephibosheth**, *bo'sheth* means shame, instead of **Eshbaal** and **Merib-baal**.
- As for **Abner** the son of **Ner** the chief of the army that had belonged to **Saul**, he took **Ish-bosheth**, **Saul's** son, and proceeded to bring him across to **Mahanaim**. (**2 Samuel 2:8**)
- When **Mephibosheth** the son of **Jonathan** the son of **Saul** came in to **David**, he at once fell upon his face and prostrated himself. Then **David** said; **Mephibosheth!** to which he said, Here is your servant. (**2 Samuel 9:6**)
- As for **Ner**, he became father to **Kish**. **Kish**, in turn, became father to **Saul**. **Saul**, in turn, became father to **Jonathan** and **Malchi-shua** and **Abinadab** and **Eshbaal**. (**1 Chronicles 8:33**)
- And **Jonathan's** son was **Merib-baal**. As for **Merib-baal**, he became father to **Micah**. (**1 Chronicles 8:34**)

See Also ISH-BOSHETH

•• **Baal Worship**

- Undoubtedly each Canaanite city built its **Baal** sanctuary in honor of its local patron Baal. Priests were appointed to conduct the worship at these sanctuaries and the many shrines on neighboring hilltops known as high places.
- And they came to be fearers of Yehowah and went making for themselves from the people in general priests of high places, and they came to be functionaries for them in the **house of the high places**. (2 Kings 17:32)
- Inside the shrines there may have been images or representations of **Baal**, whereas near the altars outside were to be found stone pillars, likely phallic symbols of **Baal**, sacred poles representing the goddess Asherah, and incense stands.
- Further, they pulled down before him the altars of the **Baals**, and the incense stands that were up above he cut down from off them, and the sacred poles and the graven images and the molten statues he broke in pieces and reduced to powder, and then sprinkled it upon the surface of the burial places of those that used to sacrifice to them. (2 Chronicles 34:4)
- And the bones of priests he burned upon their altars. Thus he cleansed Judah and Jerusalem. (2 Chronicles 34:5)
- Also, in the cities of Manasseh and Ephraim and Simeon and clear to Naphtali, in their devastated places all around. (2 Chronicles 34:6)
- He even went pulling down the altars and the sacred poles, and the graven images he crushed and reduced to powder, and all the incense stands he cut down in all the land of Israel, after which he returned to Jerusalem. (2 Chronicles 34:7)
- **Male and female prostitutes served at the high places**, and besides ceremonial prostitution, even child sacrifice was practiced.
- And they too kept building for themselves high places and sacred pillars and sacred poles upon every high hill and under every luxuriant tree. (1 Kings 14:23)
- And even the male temple prostitute proved to be in the land. They acted according to all the detestable things of the nations whom Yehowah had driven out from before the sons of Israel. (1

Kings 14:24)

- **On the tops of the mountains they sacrifice, and on the hills they make sacrificial smoke, under massive tree and storax tree and big tree, because its shade is good. That is why your daughters commit fornication and your own daughters-in-law commit adultery. (Hosea 4:13)**
- **I shall not hold an accounting against your daughters because they commit fornication, and against your daughters-in-law because they commit adultery. For, as to the men, it is with the harlots that they get off to themselves, and with the female temple prostitutes that they sacrifice, and a people that does not understand will be trodden down. (Hosea 4:14)**
- **Those who are working up passion among big trees, under every luxuriant tree, slaughtering the children in the torrent valleys under the clefts of the crags? (Isaiah 57:5)**
- **And they have built the high places of Topheth, which is in the valley of the son of Hinnom, in order to burn their sons and their daughters in the fire, a thing that I had not commanded and that had not come up into my heart. (Jeremiah 7:31)**
- **And they built the high places of the **Baal** in order to burn their sons in the fire as whole burnt offerings to the Baal, something that I had not commanded or spoken of, and that had not come up into my heart. (Jeremiah 19:5)**
- **Worship of **Baal** was also carried out right on the housetops of the people, from where sacrificial smoke to their god was frequently seen to rise.**
- **And the Chaldeans who are fighting against this city must come in and set this city aflame with fire and must burn it down and the houses upon the roofs of which they have made sacrificial smoke to **Baal** and have poured out drink offerings to other gods for the purpose of offending me. (Jeremiah 32:29)**

See Also SACRED POLE

- **There are indications that **Baal** and other gods and goddesses of the Canaanite pantheon were associated in the minds of their worshipers with certain heavenly bodies. For instance, one of the Ras**

Shamra texts mentions an offering to Queen Shapash, the Sun, and to the stars, and another alludes to the army of the sun and the host of the day.

- It is, therefore, noteworthy that the Bible makes several references to the heavenly bodies in connection with **Baal** worship. Describing the wayward course of the kingdom of Israel, the Scriptural record states; They kept leaving all the commandments of Yehowah, and they **began to bow down to all the army of the heavens and to serve Baal.**

- And they kept leaving all the commandments of Yehowah their God and proceeded to make for themselves molten statues, two calves, and to make a sacred pole, and they began to bow down **to all the army of the heavens and to serve Baal. (2 Kings 17:16)**

- Concerning the kingdom of Judah, it is noted that right in the temple of Yehowah there came to be utensils made for **Baal** and for **the sacred pole and for all the army of the heavens.** Also, the people throughout Judah made **sacrificial smoke to Baal, to the sun and to the moon and to the constellations of the zodiac and to all the army of the heavens.**

- And the king went on to command Hilkiah the High Priest and the priests of the second rank and the doorkeepers to bring out from the temple of Yehowah all the utensils made for **Baal** and for **the sacred pole and for all the army of the heavens.** Then he burned them outside Jerusalem on the terraces of Kidron, and he brought the dust of them to Bethel. **(2 Kings 23:4)**

- And he put out of business the foreign-god priests, whom the kings of Judah had put in that they might make sacrificial smoke on the high places in the cities of Judah and the surroundings of Jerusalem, and also those making sacrificial smoke to **Baal,** to the sun and to the moon and to the constellations of the zodiac and to all the army of the heavens. **(2 Kings 23:5)**

- So he built again the high places that Hezekiah his father had pulled down, and set up altars to the **Baals** and made sacred poles, and he began to bow down to all the army of the heavens and serve them. **(2 Chronicles 33:3)**

- And I will stretch out my hand against Judah and against all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and I will cut off from this place the

- remaining one's of the **Baal**, the name of the foreign-god priests along with the priests. (**Zephaniah 1:4**)
- And those who are bowing down upon the roofs to the army of the heavens, and those who are bowing down, making sworn oaths to Yehowah and making sworn oaths by Malcam. (**Zephaniah 1:5**)
- Each locality had its own **Baal**, and the local **Baal** was often given a name denoting his being attached to a specific locality. For instance, the **Baal of Peor**, who was worshiped by Moabites and Midianites, took his name from Mount Peor.
- Now Israel was dwelling in Shittim. Then the people started to have immoral relations with the daughters of Moab. (**Numbers 25:1**)
- And the women came calling the people to the sacrifices of their gods, and the people began to eat and to bow down to their gods. (**Numbers 25:2**)
- So Israel attached itself to the **Baal of Peor**, and the anger of Yehowah began to blaze against Israel. (**Numbers 25:3**)
- But, look! A man of the sons of Israel came, and he was bringing near to his brothers a Midianite woman before Moses eyes and before the eyes of all the assembly of the sons of Israel, while they were weeping at the entrance of the tent of meeting. (**Numbers 25:6**)
- The names of these local **Baals** later came to be transferred through a figure of speech, metonymy, to the localities themselves, as, for example, **Baal-hermon**, **Baal-hazor**, **Baal-zephon**, **Bamoth-baal**. However, although there were many local **Baals**, officially, among the Canaanites, it was understood that there was actually just one god **Baal**.

•• What Effect Did Baal Worship Have On Israel?

- **Baalism** is implied early in the Bible, although apparently it had not reached the level of degradation in the days of the patriarchs that existed when the Israelites entered the land of Canaan.
- But in the fourth generation they will return here, because the

error of the Amorites has not yet come to completion. (**Genesis 15:16**)

- And he went acting very detestably by going after the dungy idols, the same as all that the Amorites had done, whom Yehowah drove out from before the sons of Israel. (**1 Kings 21:26**)
- The listing of the city of **Ashteroth-karnaim**, possibly named after **Baals** consort **Ashtoreth**, gives the first suggestion of it.
- And in the fourteenth year Chedorlaomer came, and also the kings who were with him, and they inflicted defeats on the Rephaim in **Ashterothkarnaim**, and the Zuzim in Ham, and the Emim in Shavehkiriathaim. (**Genesis 14:5**)
- Before the Israelites crossed the Red Sea, the location **Baal-zephon** could be seen in the wilderness.
- Speak to the sons of Israel, that they should turn back and encamp before Pihahiroth between Migdol and the sea in view of **Baal-zephon**. In front of it you are to encamp by the sea. (**Exodus 14:2**)
- And the Egyptians went chasing after them, and all the chariot horses of Pharaoh and his cavalymen and his military forces were overtaking them while camping by the sea, by Pihahiroth in view of **Baal-zephon**. (**Exodus 14:9**)
- With respect to the inhabitants of Canaan, **specific warnings** were given to Moses on Mount Sinai to **pull down their altars, shatter their sacred pillars, and cut down their sacred poles**.
- **Watch yourself** that you do not conclude a covenant with the inhabitants of the land to which you are going, for fear it may **prove itself a snare in your midst**. (**Exodus 34:12**)
- But their altars you people are to pull down, and their sacred pillars you are to shatter, and their sacred poles you are to cut down. (**Exodus 34:13**)
- For you must **not prostrate yourself to another god**, because Yehowah, whose name is Jealous, he is a jealous God. (**Exodus 34:14**)

- Thus all appendages of **Baal** worship were to be eradicated from the Promised Land.
- While the Israelites were camped on the Plains of Moab, King Balak took **Balaam** up to **Bamoth-baal**, meaning **High Places of Baal**, to see the mighty throng.
- And it came about in the morning that Balak went taking **Balaam** and bringing him up to **Bamoth-baal**, that he might see from there the whole of the people. (**Numbers 22:41**)
- After proving unsuccessful in bringing a curse directly upon the Israelites, **Balaam** advised **Balak** to lure them into idolatry through temptation to commit sexual immorality with the female idol worshipers of **Baal** of Peor. Thousands of Israelites succumbed to this temptation and lost their lives.
- And it came about in the morning that Balak went taking Balaam and bringing him up to **Bamoth-baal**, that he might see from there the whole of the people. (**Numbers 22:41**)
- Nevertheless, I have a few things against you, that you have there those holding fast the teaching of **Balaam**, who went teaching Balak to put a stumbling block before the sons of Israel, to eat things sacrificed to idols and to commit fornication. (**Revelation 2:14**)
- Despite this bitter experience and the clear warnings by Moses and Joshua
- The graven images of their gods you should burn in the fire. You must not desire the silver and the gold upon them, nor indeed take it for yourself, for fear you may be ensnared by it, for it is a thing detestable to Yehowah your God. (**Deuteronomy 7:25**)
- And you must not bring a detestable thing into your house and actually become a thing devoted to destruction like it. You should thoroughly loathe it and absolutely detest it, because it is something devoted to destruction. (**Deuteronomy 7:26**)
- Now if it is bad in your eyes to serve Yehowah, choose for yourselves today whom you will serve, whether the gods that your forefathers who were on the other side of the River served

or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are dwelling. But as for me and my household, we shall serve Yehowah. (**Joshua 24:15**)

- Then Joshua said to the people; You are not able to serve Yehowah, for he is a holy God, he is a God exacting exclusive devotion. He will not pardon your revolting and your sins. (**Joshua 24:19**)
- In case you should leave Yehowah and you do serve foreign gods, he also will certainly turn back and do you injury and exterminate you after he has done you good. (**Joshua 24:20**)
- The Israelites, in taking up residence in the land, began to imitate the remaining Canaanites, apparently with a view to ensuring fertility in their cattle and crops. At the same time, they carried on a pretense of worshiping Yehowah. Following the death of Joshua, wholesale apostasy set in.
- And the sons of Israel **fell to doing what was bad** in the eyes of Yehowah and **serving the Baals**. (**Judges 2:11**)
- Thus they **abandoned Yehowah the God of their fathers** who had brought them out of the land of Egypt and went following other gods from among the gods of the peoples who were all around them and they began bowing down to them, so that they offended Yehowah. (**Judges 2:12**)
- Thus they abandoned Yehowah and took up serving **Baal** and the Ashtoreth images. (**Judges 2:13**)
- And the sons of Israel dwelt in among the Canaanites, the Hittites and the Amorites and the Perizzites and the Hivites and the Jebusites. (**Judges 3:5**)
- And they proceeded to take their daughters as wives for themselves, and their own daughters they gave to their sons, and they took up serving their gods. (**Judges 3:6**)
- So the sons of Israel did what was bad in Yehowah's eyes, and they were forgetful of Yehowah their God and went serving the **Baals** and the sacred poles. (**Judges 3:7**)
- At this Yehowah's anger blazed against Israel, so that he sold

them into the hand of Cushan-rishathaim the king of Mesopotamia, and the sons of Israel continued to serve Cushan-rishathaim eight years. (**Judges 3:8**)

- The people kept **altars, poles, and other appendages** of **Baal** worship in their fields, and apparently they listened to their Canaanite neighbors as to how they might please the owner, or **Baal**, of each piece of land. The Israelites were also ensnared by the immoral practices associated with **Baal** worship. As a result, **Yehowah abandoned them to their enemies.**
- However, when the people turned back to him, Yehowah mercifully delivered them by raising up judges such as Gideon, whose name was changed to **Jerubbaal**, meaning, **Let Baal Make a Legal Defense, Contend.**
- And it came about during that night that Yehowah went on to say to him; Take the young bull, the bull that belongs to your father, that is, the second young bull of seven years, and you must tear down the altar of **Baal** that is your fathers, and the sacred pole that is by it you should cut down. (**Judges 6:25**)
- And you must build an altar to Yehowah your God at the head of this stronghold, with the row of stones, and you must take the second young bull and offer it up as a burnt offering on the pieces of wood of the sacred pole that you will cut down. (**Judges 6:26**)
- Accordingly Gideon took ten men of his servants and went doing just as Yehowah had spoken to him, but it came about that, as he feared the household of his father and the men of the city too much to do it by day, he went doing it by night. (**Judges 6:27**)
- When the men of the city got up early in the morning as usual, why, look! The altar of **Baal** had been pulled down and the sacred pole that was beside it had been cut down, and the second young bull had been offered up on the altar that had been built. (**Judges 6:28**)
- And they began to say one to another; Who has done this thing? And they went inquiring and seeking. Finally they said; Gideon the son of Joash is the one that has done this thing. (**Judges 6:29**)

- So the men of the city said to Joash; Bring your son out that he may die, because he has pulled down the altar of **Baal**, and because he has cut down the sacred pole that was by it. (**Judges 6:30**)
- At this Joash said to all those who stood against him; Will you be the ones to make a legal defense for **Baal** to see whether you yourselves may save him? Whoever makes a legal defense for him ought to be put to death even this morning. If he is God, **let him make a legal defense for himself**, because someone has pulled down his altar. (**Judges 6:31**)
- And he began to call him **Jerubbaal** on that day, saying; **Let Baal make a legal defense in his own behalf, because someone has pulled down his altar.** (**Judges 6:32**)
- And they went forgetting Yehowah their God, so that he sold them into the hand of Sisera the chief of the army of Hazor and into the hand of the Philistines and into the hand of the king of Moab, and they kept fighting against them. (**1 Samuel 12:9**)
- And they began to call to Yehowah for aid and say; We have sinned, for we have left Yehowah that we might serve the **Baals** and the Ashtoreth images, and now deliver us out of the hand of our enemies, that we may serve you. (**1 Samuel 12:10**)
- And Yehowah proceeded to send **Jerubbaal** and Bedan and Jephthah and Samuel and deliver you out of the hand of your enemies all around, that you might dwell in security. (**1 Samuel 12:11**)
- **But no permanent reform then took place.**
- And it came about that as soon as Gideon had died the sons of Israel again took up having immoral intercourse with the **Baals**, so that they appointed **Baal-berith** as their god. (**Judges 8:33**)
- And the sons of Israel again proceeded to do what was bad in the eyes of Yehowah, and they began to serve the **Baals** and the Ashtoreth images and the gods of Syria and the gods of Sidon and the gods of Moab and the gods of the sons of Ammon and the gods of the Philistines. So they left Yehowah and did not serve him. (**Judges 10:6**)

- **Baalism** continued to be practiced even beyond the days of Samuel, although it is written that, at his urgings, the people put away the **Baals** and Ashtoreth images and began serving Yehowah alone.
- And Samuel proceeded to say to all the house of Israel; If it is with all your heart you are returning to Yehowah, put away the foreign gods from your midst and also the Ashtoreth images, and direct your heart unswervingly to Yehowah and serve him alone, and he will deliver you from the hand of the Philistines. (**1 Samuel 7:3**)
- At that the sons of Israel put away the **Baals** and the Ashtoreth images and began serving Yehowah alone. (**1 Samuel 7:4**)
- Although we do not hear of **Baalism** again until the end of Solomon's reign, it may have lingered on in parts of the kingdom. Many varieties of **Baalism** were introduced into the country as Solomon married his many heathen wives, and they induced him and their children to serve other gods and goddesses, such as **Ashtoreth** and **Molech**, who were associated with **Baal** worship.
- And it came about in the time of Solomon's growing old that his wives themselves had inclined his heart to follow other gods, and his heart did not prove to be complete with Yehowah his God like the heart of David his father. (**1 Kings 11:4**)
- And Solomon began going after Ashtoreth the goddess of the Sidonians and after Milcom the disgusting thing of the Ammonites. (**1 Kings 11:5**)
- The reason why is that they have left me and begun to bow down to Ashtoreth the goddess of the Sidonians, to Chemosh the god of Moab and to Milcom the god of the sons of Ammon, and they have not walked in my ways by doing what is right in my eyes and my statutes and my judicial decisions like David his father. (**1 Kings 11:33**)
- Furthermore, they built the high places of **Baal** that are in the valley of the son of Hinnom, in order to make their sons and their daughters pass through the fire to Molech, a thing that I did not command them, neither did it come up into my heart to do this detestable thing, for the purpose of making Judah sin. (**Jeremiah 32:35**)

- With the split of the kingdom in **997 B.C.E**, Jeroboam set up calf worship in the northern kingdom of Israel at Dan and Bethel. The native **Baalism** and the calf worship were carried on side by side, just as in Judah a semblance of true worship was carried on at Jerusalem as **Baalism** was also practiced throughout the land.
- And Judah went on doing what was bad in the eyes of Yehowah, so that they incited him to jealousy more than all that their forefathers had done by their sins with which they sinned. (**1 Kings 14:22**)
- And they too kept building for themselves high places and sacred pillars and sacred poles upon every high hill and under every luxuriant tree. (**1 Kings 14:23**)
- And even the male temple prostitute proved to be in the land. They acted according to all the detestable things of the nations whom Yehowah had driven out from before the sons of Israel. (**1 Kings 14:24**)
- A different **Baal** cult was introduced into Israel in King Ahab's day **circa 940-920 B.C.E**, that of Melkart, the **Baal of Tyre**. Ahab formed a marriage alliance with the daughter of the king of Tyre, named **Ethbaal**, meaning **With Baal**. This resulted in **Ethbaal's** daughter, Jezebel, importing this **more virile cult into Israel**, with many priests and attendants.
- And it came about that, as if it were the most trivial thing for him to walk in the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, he now took as wife Jezebel the daughter of **Ethbaal** the king of the Sidonians and began to go and serve **Baal** and to bow down to him. (**1 Kings 16:31**)
- Further, he set up an altar to **Baal** at the house of **Baal** that he built in Samaria. (**1 Kings 16:32**)
- And Ahab went on to make the sacred pole, and Ahab came to do more to offend Yehowah the God of Israel than all the kings of Israel that happened to be prior to him. (**1 Kings 16:33**)
- Finally, a famous showdown came at Mount Carmel between Yehowah and **Baal**.

- Likely because **Baal**, believed to be the owner of the sky, was regarded by his worshipers as the giver of rains and fertility, a drought was ordered by Elijah in the name of Yehowah.
- And Elijah the Tishbite from the inhabitants of Gilead proceeded to say to Ahab. As Yehowah the God of Israel before whom I do stand is living, there will occur during these years neither dew nor rain, except at the order of my word! (**1 Kings 17:1**)
- After three years and six months of drought, **Baal** having proved unable to bring an end to the drought in answer to the many appeals undoubtedly made by his priests and worshipers, Elijah summoned all the people to Mount Carmel to witness the great test as to who is the true God. The test resulted in the humiliation of the **Baal** worshipers and the slaughter of 450 **Baal** prophets. Yehowah, and not **Baal**, then brought rain to end the drought.
- To this he said; I have not brought ostracism upon Israel, but you and the house of your father have, because you men have left the commandments of Yehowah, and you went following the **Baals**. (**1 Kings 18:18**)
- And now send, collect together all Israel to me at Mount Carmel and also the four hundred and fifty prophets of **Baal** and the four hundred prophets of the sacred pole, who are eating at the table of Jezebel. (**1 Kings 18:19**)
- And Ahab proceeded to send among all the sons of Israel and collect the prophets together at Mount Carmel. (**1 Kings 18:20**)
- Then Elijah approached all the people and said; How long will you be limping upon two different opinions? If Yehowah is the true God, go following him, but if **Baal** is, go following him. And the people did not say a word in answer to him. (**1 Kings 18:21**)
- And Elijah went on to say to the people; I myself have been left as a prophet of Yehowah, I alone, while the prophets of **Baal** are four hundred and fifty men. (**1 Kings 18:22**)
- Now let them give us two young bulls, and let them choose for themselves one young bull and cut it in pieces and put it upon the wood, but they should not put fire to it. And I myself shall dress the other young bull, and I must place it upon the wood, but I shall not put fire to it. (**1 Kings 18:23**)

- **And you must call upon the name of your god, and I, for my part, shall call upon the name of Yehowah, and it must occur that the true God that answers by fire is the true God. To this all the people answered and said; The thing is good. (1 Kings 18:24)**
- **Elijah now said to the prophets of Baal; Choose for yourselves one young bull and dress it first, because you are the majority, and call upon the name of your god, but you must not put fire to it. (1 Kings 18:25)**
- **Accordingly they took the young bull that he gave them. Then they dressed it, and they kept calling upon the name of Baal from morning till noon, saying; O Baal, answer us! But there was no voice, and there was no one answering. And they kept limping around the altar that they had made. (1 Kings 18:26)**
- **And it came about at noon that Elijah began to mock them and say; Call at the top of your voice, for he is a god, for he must be concerned with a matter, and he has excrement and has to go to the privy. Or maybe he is asleep and ought to wake up! (1 Kings 18:27)**
- **And they began calling at the top of their voice and cutting themselves according to their custom with daggers and with lances, until they caused blood to flow out upon them. (1 Kings 18:28)**
- **And it came about that, as soon as noon was past and they continued behaving as prophets until the going up of the grain offering, there was no voice, and there was no one answering, and there was no paying of attention. (1 Kings 18:29)**
- **At length Elijah said to all the people; Approach me. So all the people approached him. Then he proceeded to mend the altar of Yehowah that was torn down. (1 Kings 18:30)**
- **So Elijah took twelve stones, according to the number of the tribes of the sons of Jacob, to whom Yehowah's word had come, saying; Israel is what your name will become. (1 Kings 18:31)**
- **And he went on to build the stones into an altar in the name of Yehowah and to make a trench, of about the area sowed with two seah measures of seed, all around the altar. (1 Kings 18:32)**

- **After that he put the pieces of wood in order and cut the young bull in pieces and placed it upon the pieces of wood. He now said; Fill four large jars with water and pour it upon the burnt offering and upon the pieces of wood. (1 Kings 18:33)**
- **Then he said; Do it again. So they did it again. But he said; Do it a third time. So they did it a third time. (1 Kings 18:34)**
- **Thus the water went all around the altar, and the trench also he filled with water. (1 Kings 18:35)**
- **And it came about at the time that the grain offering goes up that Elijah the prophet began to approach and say; O Yehowah, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel, today let it be known that you are God in Israel and I am your servant and it is by your word that I have done all these things. (1 Kings 18:36)**
- **Answer me, O Yehowah, answer me, that this people may know that you, Yehowah, are the true God and you yourself have turned their heart back. (1 Kings 18:37)**
- **At that the fire of Yehowah came falling and went eating up the burnt offering and the pieces of wood and the stones and the dust, and the water that was in the trench it licked up. (1 Kings 18:38)**
- **When all the people saw it, they immediately fell upon their faces and said, Yehowah is the true God! Yehowah is the true God! (1 Kings 18:39)**
- **Then Elijah said to them; Seize the prophets of **Baal!** Do not let a single one of them escape! At once they seized them, and Elijah then brought them down to the torrent valley of Kishon and slaughtered them there. (1 Kings 18:40)**
- **Elijah now said to Ahab; Go up, eat and drink, for there is the sound of the turmoil of a downpour. (1 Kings 18:41)**
- **And Ahab proceeded to go up to eat and drink. As for Elijah, he went up to the top of Carmel and began crouching to the earth and keeping his face put between his knees. (1 Kings 18:42)**
- **Then he said to his attendant; Go up, please. Look in the**

- direction of the sea. So he went up and looked and then said, There is nothing at all. And he went on to say; Go back, for seven times. (1 Kings 18:43)
- And it came about at the seventh time that he got to say; Look! There is a small cloud like a man's palm ascending out of the sea. He now said; Go up, say to Ahab, Hitch up! And go down that the downpour may not detain you! (1 Kings 18:44)
 - And it came about in the meantime that the heavens themselves darkened up with clouds and wind and a great downpour began to occur. And Ahab kept riding and made his way to Jezreel. (1 Kings 18:45)
 - And the very hand of Yehowah proved to be upon Elijah, so that he girded up his hips and went running ahead of Ahab all the way to Jezreel. (1 Kings 18:46)
 - Elijah was a man with feelings like ours, and yet in prayer he prayed for it not to rain, and it did not rain upon the land for three years and six months. (James 5:17)
 - Ahab's son and successor, Ahaziah, continued to serve **Baal**.
 - As for Ahaziah the son of Ahab, he became king over Israel in Samaria in the seventeenth year of Jehoshaphat the king of Judah, and he continued to reign over Israel for two years. (1 Kings 22:51)
 - And he kept doing what was bad in Yehowah's eyes and went walking in the way of his father and in the way of his mother and in the way of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who had caused Israel to sin. (1 Kings 22:52)
 - And he continued serving **Baal** and bowing down to him and kept offending Yehowah the God of Israel according to all that his father had done. (1 Kings 22:53)
 - Ahaziah's brother, Jehoram, succeeded him, and it is reported that he removed the sacred pillar of **Baal** that his father had made, although he persisted in calf worship.
 - As for Jehoram the son of Ahab, he became king over Israel in Samaria in the eighteenth year of Jehoshaphat the king of Judah,

- and he continued to reign for twelve years. (2 Kings 3:1)
- And he kept on doing what was bad in Yehowah's eyes, only not like his father or like his mother, but he removed the sacred pillar of **Baal** that his father had made. (2 Kings 3:2)
 - Only he stuck to the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, with which he caused Israel to sin. He did not depart from them. (2 Kings 3:3)
 - Later circa 905 B.C.E, Jehu was anointed king. He avenged the murder of Yehowah's prophets by killing off Jezebel and the house of her husband Ahab. All the worshipers of **Baal** were then summoned to Samaria under pretense of holding a solemn assembly for **Baal**.
 - At Jehu's command all the **Baal** worshipers were killed. The sacred poles were burned, and the sacred pillar and house of **Baal** were pulled down, the house being set aside for a public privy. With this it is said that Jehu **annihilated Baal out of Israel**.
 - Further, Jehu collected all the people together and said to them, Ahab, on the one hand, worshiped **Baal** a little. Jehu, on the other hand, will worship him a great deal. (2 Kings 10:18)
 - So now call all the prophets of **Baal**, all his worshipers and all his priests to me. Do not let a single one be missing, because I have a great sacrifice for **Baal**. Anyone that is missing will not keep living. As for Jehu, he acted slyly, for the purpose of destroying the worshipers of **Baal**. (2 Kings 10:19)
 - And Jehu went on to say; Sanctify a solemn assembly for **Baal**. Accordingly they proclaimed it. (2 Kings 10:20)
 - After that Jehu sent through all Israel, so that all the worshipers of **Baal** came in. And not a single one was left over that did not come in. And they kept coming into the house of Baal, and the house of **Baal** came to be full from end to end. (2 Kings 10:21)
 - He now said to the one who was over the wardrobe; Bring out garments for all the worshipers of **Baal**. So he brought the attire out for them. (2 Kings 10:22)
 - Then Jehu entered with Jehonadab the son of Rechab into the house of **Baal**. He now said to the worshipers of Baal; Search

carefully and see that there may be here with you none of the worshipers of Yehowah, but only the worshipers of **Baal**. (2 Kings 10:23)

- Finally they came in to render up sacrifices and burnt offerings, and Jehu himself stationed eighty men outside at his disposal and went on to say; As for the man that escapes from the men whom I am bringing into your hands, the one's soul will go for the others soul. (2 Kings 10:24)
- And it came about that as soon as he finished rendering up the burnt offering, Jehu immediately said to the runners and the adjutants; Come in, strike them down! Do not let a single one go out. And the runners and the adjutants began to strike them down with the edge of the sword and to throw them out, and they kept going as far as the city of the house of **Baal**. (2 Kings 10:25)
- Then they brought out the sacred pillars of the house of **Baal** and burned each one. (2 Kings 10:26)
- Further, they pulled down the sacred pillar of **Baal** and pulled down the house of Baal, and they kept it set aside for privies down to this day. (2 Kings 10:27)
- Thus Jehu annihilated **Baal** out of Israel. (2 Kings 10:28)
- So, at least for the time, **Baal** worship was suppressed. However, it was on account of such **Baalistic** religion that Yehowah finally let the ten-tribe kingdom of Israel go into exile.
- And they kept leaving all the commandments of Yehowah their God and proceeded to make for themselves molten statues, two calves, and to make a sacred pole, and they began to bow down to all the army of the heavens and to serve **Baal**. (2 Kings 17:16)
- And they continued to make their sons and their daughters pass through the fire and to practice divination and to look for omens, and they kept selling themselves to do what was bad in the eyes of Yehowah, to offend him. (2 Kings 17:17)
- Therefore Yehowah got very incensed against Israel, so that he removed them from his sight. He did not let any remain but the tribe of Judah alone. (2 Kings 17:18)

- In Judah, **Baalism** evidently remained entrenched, despite the efforts of King Asa to remove its appendages.
- And Asa proceeded to do what was good and right in the eyes of Yehowah his God. (2 Chronicles 14:2)
- So he removed the foreign altars and the high places and broke up the sacred pillars and cut down the sacred poles. (2 Chronicles 14:3)
- Further, he said to Judah to search for Yehowah the God of their forefathers and to do the Law and the commandment. (2 Chronicles 14:4)
- Accordingly he removed from all the cities of Judah the high places and the incense stands, and the kingdom continued without disturbance before him. (2 Chronicles 14:5)
- When Ahab married off Athaliah, his daughter by Jezebel, to Jehoram, the seventh Judean king, her wicked influence established Tyrian **Baalism** among the royal family in Judah. Even reforms at the beginning of the reign of Athaliah's grandson, King Jehoash, and those later by King Hezekiah, did not effect permanent removal of **Baal** worship.
- After that all the people of the land came to the house of **Baal** and pulled down his altars, and his images they broke up thoroughly, and Mattan the priest of **Baal** they killed before the altars. And the priest proceeded to put overseers over the house of Yehowah. (2 Kings 11:18)
- He it was that removed the high places and broke the sacred pillars to pieces and cut down the sacred pole and crushed to pieces the copper serpent that Moses had made, for down to those days the sons of Israel had continually been making sacrificial smoke to it, and it used to be called the copper serpent-idol. (2 Kings 18:4)
- Hezekiah's son Manasseh rebuilt the very high places that his father had destroyed.
- So he built again the high places that Hezekiah his father had destroyed, and set up altars to **Baal** and made a sacred pole, just

as Ahab the king of Israel had done, and he began to bow down to all the **army of the heavens** and to serve them. (**2 Kings 21:3**)

- **While apparently most of the Judean kings were contaminated with **Baal worship**, Manasseh was excessive in his pursuit of this degraded cult.**
- **And they did not listen, but Manasseh kept seducing them to do what was bad more than the nations whom Yehowah had annihilated from before the sons of Israel. (**2 Kings 21:9**)**
- **And Yehowah kept speaking by means of his servants the prophets, saying; (**2 Kings 21:10**)**
- **For the reason that Manasseh the king of Judah has done these detestable things, he has acted more wickedly than all that the Amorites did that were prior to him, and he proceeded to make even Judah sin with his dungy idols. (**2 Kings 21:11**)**
- **King Manasseh's later reform and even the extensive purge by his grandson, King Josiah, did not bring about a permanent return to true worship. Punishment by exile and desolation of the land was the result of this thorough contamination with false worship.**
- **And Yehowah kept speaking to Manasseh and his people, but they paid no attention. (**2 Chronicles 33:10**)**
- **Finally Yehowah brought against them the chiefs of the army that belonged to the king of Assyria, and so they captured Manasseh in the hollows and bound him with two fetters of copper and took him to Babylon. (**2 Chronicles 33:11**)**
- **And as soon as it caused him distress, he softened the face of Yehowah his God and kept humbling himself greatly because of the God of his forefathers. (**2 Chronicles 33:12**)**
- **And he kept praying to Him, so that He let himself be entreated by him and He heard his request for favor and restored him to Jerusalem to his kingship, and Manasseh came to know that Yehowah is the true God. (**2 Chronicles 33:13**)**
- **And after this he built an outer wall for the City of David to the west of Gihon in the torrent valley and as far as the Fish Gate, and he ran it around to Ophel and proceeded to make it very**

- high. Further, he put chiefs of the military force in all the fortified cities in Judah. (2 Chronicles 33:14)
- And he proceeded to remove the foreign gods and the idol image from the house of Yehowah and all the altars that he had built in the mountain of the house of Yehowah and in Jerusalem and then had them thrown outside the city. (2 Chronicles 33:15)
 - Moreover, he prepared the altar of Yehowah and began to sacrifice upon it communion sacrifices and thanksgiving sacrifices and went on to say to Judah to serve Yehowah the God of Israel. (2 Chronicles 33:16)
 - Nevertheless, the people were still sacrificing upon the high places, only it was to Yehowah their God. (2 Chronicles 33:17)
 - And the king went on to command Hilkiah the High Priest and the priests of the second rank and the doorkeepers to bring out from the temple of Yehowah all the utensils made for Baal and for the sacred pole and for all the army of the heavens. Then he burned them outside Jerusalem on the terraces of Kidron, and he brought the dust of them to Bethel. (2 Kings 23:4)
 - And he put out of business the foreign-god priests, whom the kings of Judah had put in that they might make sacrificial smoke on the high places in the cities of Judah and the surroundings of Jerusalem, and also those making sacrificial smoke to Baal, to the sun and to the moon and to the constellations of the zodiac and to all the army of the heavens. (2 Kings 23:5)
 - Furthermore, he brought out the sacred pole from the house of Yehowah to the outskirts of Jerusalem, to the torrent valley of Kidron, and burned it in the torrent valley of Kidron and ground it to dust and cast its dust upon the burial place of the sons of the people. (2 Kings 23:6)
 - Further, he pulled down the houses of the male temple prostitutes that were in the house of Yehowah, where the women were weaving tent shrines for the sacred pole. (2 Kings 23:7)
 - Then he brought all the priests from the cities of Judah, that he might make unfit for worship the high places where the priests had made sacrificial smoke, from Geba as far as Beer-sheba, and

- he pulled down the high places of the gates that were at the entrance of the gate of Joshua, the chief of the city, which was at the left as a person came into the gate of the city. (2 Kings 23:8)
- Only the priests of the high places would not come up to the altar of Yehowah in Jerusalem, but they ate unfermented cakes in among their brothers. (2 Kings 23:9)
 - And he made unfit for worship Topheth, which is in the valley of the sons of Hinnom, that no one might make his son or his daughter pass through the fire to Molech. (2 Kings 23:10)
 - Further, he caused the horses that the kings of Judah had given to the sun to cease from entering the house of Yehowah by the dining room of Nathan-melech the court official, which was in the porticoes, and the chariots of the sun he burned in the fire. (2 Kings 23:11)
 - And the altars that were upon the roof of the roof chamber of Ahaz that the kings of Judah had made, and the altars that Manasseh had made in two courtyards of the house of Yehowah, the king pulled down, after which he crushed them there, and he cast their dust into the torrent valley of Kidron. (2 Kings 23:12)
 - And the high places that were in front of Jerusalem, that were to the right of the Mount of Ruination, that Solomon the king of Israel had built to Ashtoreth the disgusting thing of the Sidonians and to Chemosh the disgusting thing of Moab and to Milcom the detestable thing of the sons of Ammon, the king made unfit for worship. (2 Kings 23:13)
 - And he broke the sacred pillars to pieces and went on to cut down the sacred poles and to fill their places with human bones. (2 Kings 23:14)
 - And also the altar that was in Bethel, the high place that Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who caused Israel to sin, had made, even that altar and the high place he pulled down. Then he burned the high place, he ground it to dust and burned the sacred pole. (2 Kings 23:15)
 - When Josiah turned, he got to see the burial places that were there in the mountain. So he sent and took the bones from the burial places and burned them upon the altar, that he might

- make it unfit for worship, according to Yehowah's word that the man of the true God had proclaimed, who proclaimed these things. (2 Kings 23:16)
- Then he said; What is the gravestone over there that I am seeing? At this the men of the city said to him; It is the burial place of the man of the true God that came from Judah and proceeded to proclaim these things that you have done against the altar of Bethel. (2 Kings 23:17)
 - So he said; Let him rest. Do not let anyone disturb his bones. Consequently they let his bones alone along with the bones of the prophet that had come from Samaria. (2 Kings 23:18)
 - And also all the houses of the high places that were in the cities of Samaria that the kings of Israel had built to cause offense Josiah removed, and he went on to do to them according to all the doings that he had done at Bethel. (2 Kings 23:19)
 - Accordingly he sacrificed all the priests of the high places that were there upon the altars and burned human bones upon them. After that he returned to Jerusalem. (2 Kings 23:20)
 - The king now commanded all the people, saying; Hold a Passover to Yehowah your God according to what is written in this book of the covenant. (2 Kings 23:21)
 - For no Passover like this had been held from the days of the judges that had judged Israel, nor all the days of the kings of Israel and the kings of Judah. (2 Kings 23:22)
 - But in the eighteenth year of King Josiah this Passover was held to Yehowah in Jerusalem. (2 Kings 23:23)
 - And also the spirit mediums and the professional foretellers of events and the teraphim and the dungy idols and all the disgusting things that had appeared in the land of Judah and in Jerusalem Josiah cleared out, in order, that he might actually carry out the words of the Law that were written in the book that Hilkiyah the priest had found at the house of Yehowah. (2 Kings 23:24)
 - And like him there did not prove to be a king prior to him who returned to Yehowah with all his heart and with all his soul and

- with all his vital force, according to all the Law of Moses, neither after him has there risen up one like him. (**2 Kings 23:25**)
- Nevertheless, Yehowah did not turn back from the great burning of his anger, with which his anger burned against Judah over all the offensive things with which Manasseh had made them offend. (**2 Kings 23:26**)
 - But Yehowah said; Judah, too, I shall remove from my sight, just as I have removed Israel. I shall certainly reject this city that I have chosen, even Jerusalem, and the house of which I have said; My name will continue there. (**2 Kings 23:27**)
 - And the Chaldeans who are fighting against this city must come in and set this city aflame with fire and must burn it down and the houses upon the roofs of which they have made sacrificial smoke to **Baal** and have poured out drink offerings to other gods for the purpose of offending me. (**Jeremiah 32:29**)
 - Jeremiah, carrying on his prophetic work from the days of Josiah to the exile to Babylon, denounced Israel for degrading herself by **Baal** worship, likening Israel to an adulterous wife who prostituted herself under every luxuriant tree and on every high place, committing adultery with stones and trees, and forgetting Yehowah, the husbandly owner of the people.
 - For long ago I broke your yoke to pieces. I tore your bands apart. But you said; I am not going to serve, for upon every high hill and under every luxuriant tree you were lying sprawled out, prostituting yourself. (**Jeremiah 2:20**)
 - And as for me, I had planted you as a choice red vine, all of it a true seed. So how have you been changed toward me into the degenerate shoots of a foreign vine? (**Jeremiah 2:21**)
 - But though you should do the washing with alkali and take to yourself large quantities of lye, your error would certainly be a stain before me, is the utterance of the Sovereign Lord Yehowah. (**Jeremiah 2:22**)
 - How can you say; I have not defiled myself. After the **Baals** I have not walked? See your way in the valley. Take note of what you have done. A swift young she-camel aimlessly running to and fro in her ways. (**Jeremiah 2:23**)

- **A zebra accustomed to the wilderness, at the craving of her soul, snuffing up the wind, at her time for copulation, who can turn her back? All those who are looking for her will not go tiring themselves out. In her month they will find her. (Jeremiah 2:24)**
- **Hold your foot back from becoming barefoot, and your throat from thirst. But you proceeded to say; It is hopeless! No, but I have fallen in love with strangers, and after them I am going to walk. (Jeremiah 2:25)**
- **As with the shame of a thief when he is found out, so those of the house of Israel have felt shame, they, their kings, their princes and their priests and their prophets. (Jeremiah 2:26)**
- **They are saying to a tree; You are my father. And to a stone; You yourself brought me to birth. But to me they have turned the back of the neck and not the face. And in the time of their calamity they will say; Do rise up and save us! (Jeremiah 2:27)**
- **And her prostitution occurred because of her frivolous view, and she kept polluting the land and committing adultery with stones and with trees. (Jeremiah 3:9)**
- **Return, O you renegade sons, is the utterance of Yehowah. For I myself have become the husbandly owner of you people, and I will take you, one out of a city and two out of a family, and I will bring you to Zion. (Jeremiah 3:14)**
- **After the exile to Babylon and the return of the Jews to Palestine, **Baalism** is not mentioned in the Bible as being practiced by the Israelites.**