

Evil Women

Do Women Have The Same Capacity For Evil And Harm As Men?

- “I know this: The wickedness of men is that their power breeds stupidity and blindness. Women are weaker, but their weakness is full of cunning and an equally rigid moral certainty. Since their arena is smaller, their capacity for real damage is less alarming. Though being dearer they are the more treacherous.” (*Elphaba, On Wickedness*)
- It may be a different form, means, and methodology, but it is the same evil.

Eve

- Committed the first sin
 - Gen. 3:2 - “And the woman said to the serpent, We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden; 3 but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God has said, You shall not eat it, nor shall you touch it, lest you die.”
- Involved someone else in her sin
 - Gen. 3:6 - “So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate.”

Job's Wife

- Ridiculed her husband and was blasphemous toward God
 - Job 2:9-10 - “Then his wife said to him, Do you still hold fast to your integrity? Curse God and die! 10 But he said to her, You speak as one of the foolish women speaks. Shall we indeed accept good from God, and shall we not accept adversity? In all this Job did not sin with his lips.”

Job's Wife

- The Targums (Jewish writings) call her Dinah and include a larger soliloquy from her: “How long dost thou stand steadfast, saying, 'Behold, I wait yet a little longer looking for the hope of my Salvation?' Behold thy memorial is already blotted out from the earth, together with thy sons and thy daughters, the fruits of my pains and labors, for whom with anxiety I have labored in vain. Thyself also sittest in the rottenness of worms night and day, while I am a wanderer from place to place, and from house to house, waiting for the setting of the sun, that I may rest from my labors, and from the grief which oppresses me. Speak therefore some word against God, and die.”

Delilah

- Woman from a tiny, obscure country village; offered three year's salary for a grown man; may have been overwhelmed, but probably abandoned her country values very quickly
 - Judges 16:4-5 - “Afterward it happened that he loved a woman in the Valley of Sorek, whose name was Delilah. 5 And the lords of the Philistines came up to her and said to her, Entice him, and find out where his great strength lies, and by what means we may overpower him, that we may bind him to afflict him; and every one of us will give you eleven hundred pieces of silver.”
- Proceeded to deceive and manipulate a man in love with her
 - Judges 16:6-21

Athaliah

- Raised her son to be evil and arranged to marry him into an evil family
 - 2Kings 8:26-27 - “Ahaziah was twenty-two years old when he became king, and he reigned one year in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Athaliah the granddaughter of Omri, king of Israel. 27 And he walked in the way of the house of Ahab, and did evil in the sight of the LORD, like the house of Ahab, for he was the son-in-law of the house of Ahab.”

Athaliah

- Took the throne by multiple assassinations
 - 2Kings 11:1-3 - “When Athaliah the mother of Ahaziah saw that her son was dead, she arose and destroyed all the royal heirs. 2 But Jehosheba, the daughter of King Joram, sister of Ahaziah, took Joash the son of Ahaziah, and stole him away from among the king's sons who were being murdered; and they hid him and his nurse in the bedroom, from Athaliah, so that he was not killed. 3 So he was hidden with her in the house of the LORD for six years, while Athaliah reigned over the land.”

Athaliah

- Hypocritically cried treason when it happened to her
 - 2Kings 11:12-15 - “And he brought out the king's son, put the crown on him, and gave him the Testimony; they made him king and anointed him, and they clapped their hands and said, Long live the king! 13 Now when Athaliah heard the noise of the escorts and the people, she came to the people in the temple of the LORD. 14 When she looked, there was the king standing by a pillar according to custom; and the leaders and the trumpeters were by the king. All the people of the land were rejoicing and blowing trumpets. So Athaliah tore her clothes and cried out, Treason! Treason! 15 And Jehoiada the priest commanded the captains of the hundreds, the officers of the army, and said to them, Take her outside under guard, and slay with the sword whoever follows her. For the priest had said, Do not let her be killed in the house of the LORD.”

Zeresh

- Haman's wife and evil counselor
 - Esther 5:14 - "Then his wife Zeresh and all his friends said to him, Let a gallows be made, fifty cubits high, and in the morning suggest to the king that Mordecai be hanged on it; then go merrily with the king to the banquet. And the thing pleased Haman; so he had the gallows made."
- Coldly, calculatingly abandoned him to his death
 - Esther 6:13 - "When Haman told his wife Zeresh and all his friends everything that had happened to him, his wise men and his wife Zeresh said to him, If Mordecai, before whom you have begun to fall, is of Jewish descent, you will not prevail against him but will surely fall before him."

Solomon's Evil Woman

- Seducer, betrayer, promise breaker with the power to ensure a lifetime of sorrow and an eternity of suffering for a man
 - Prov. 2:16-19 - “To deliver you from the immoral woman, From the seductress who flatters with her words, 17 Who forsakes the companion of her youth, And forgets the covenant of her God. 18 For her house leads down to death, And her paths to the dead; 19 None who go to her return, Nor do they regain the paths of life.”
 - Prov. 7:6-23

Woman's Capacity For Evil:

- First sin
- First to lead another person into sin
- Ridiculed the suffering
- Blasphemed God
- Sold integrity for money
- Deceit
- Manipulation
- Corruption of a minor
- Murderer
- Hypocrite
- Planned genocide
- Seduction
- Betrayal
- Promise breaker

Woman's Capacity For Good

- “There is no reason for women to consider themselves inferior to men. Woman is the companion of man, gifted with equal mental capacity. If by strength were measured by moral power, then woman would be stronger than man.” *(Gandhi)*
- Prov. 21:10-31