

# Jeremiah 23:27

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Which think to cause my people to forget my name by their dreams which they tell every man to his neighbour, as their fathers have forgotten my name for Baal.

## Analysis

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**Which think to cause my people to forget my name by their dreams**—the verb נָשָׁח (shakach, 'forget') appears twice. Current false prophets function like previous Baal-worshippers in erasing Yahweh's name (נֶשֶׁךְ, shem—character, reputation, covenant identity). The mechanism differs but the result is identical: God's people forget Him.

The phrase 'which they tell every man to his neighbour' describes grassroots dissemination—viral spread through personal testimony. Friendly neighbors sharing 'what God showed me' creates peer pressure more effective than formal teaching. The Baal comparison isn't hyperbolic—syncretism replacing God's true character with comfortable fictions is functional idolatry.

## Historical Context

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Israel's history featured repeated Baal syncretism—worshiping Yahweh while adopting Canaanite practices. Elijah confronted this (1 Kings 18). By Jeremiah's day, official Baal worship had diminished after Josiah's reforms, but theological corruption continued. False prophets redefined Yahweh to match what Baal offered—prosperity without righteousness.

## Related Passages

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**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

## Study Questions

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1. How might you be forgetting God's name while using Christian vocabulary?
2. What modern equivalents exist to making people forget God through peer influence?
3. Does your vision of God resemble Baal (prosperity) more than Yahweh (holiness)?

## Interlinear Text

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בְּחַל וּמֵתָם	שְׁמִי	עַמִּי	אֶת	שָׁכַח וְ	הַחֲשֹׁבִים
by their dreams	my name	to cause my people	H853	have forgotten	Which think
H2472	H8034	H5971		H7911	H2803
שָׁכַח וְ	כְּאִשׁוֹ	לְרֵעֵהוּ	אֵשׁ	יִסְפָּרוּ וְ	אֲשֶׁר
have forgotten	H834	to his neighbour	every man	which they tell	H834
H7911		H7453	H376	H5608	
בְּכַעַל:	שְׁמִי	אֶת	אֲבוֹתָם		
for Baal	my name	H853	as their fathers		
H1168	H8034		H1		

## Additional Cross-References

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**Judges 3:7** (Parallel theme): And the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the LORD, and forgot the LORD their God, and served Baalim and the groves.

**Acts 13:8** (Parallel theme): But Elymas the sorcerer (for so is his name by interpretation) withstood them, seeking to turn away the deputy from the faith.

**Jeremiah 29:8** (Parallel theme): For thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Let not your prophets and your diviners, that be in the midst of you, deceive you, neither hearken to your dreams which ye cause to be dreamed.

**2 Kings 21:3** (Parallel theme): For he built up again the high places which Hezekiah his father had destroyed; and he reared up altars for Baal, and made a grove, as did Ahab king of Israel; and worshipped all the host of heaven, and served them.

**Judges 10:6** (Parallel theme): And the children of Israel did evil again in the sight of the LORD, and served Baalim, and Ashtaroth, and the gods of Syria, and the gods of Zidon, and the gods of Moab, and the gods of the children of Ammon, and the gods of the Philistines, and forsook the LORD, and served not him.

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