

The Future of our Children is in our Hands Part 6

Going back to Jacob and his suffering in Haran and the consequences of his multiple marriages, we will continue to discuss his suffering and the hurts that he got from all the wrong choices, the sins and the multiple marriages that he entangled himself with and was exposed to when he was sent to Haran, especially was alone and was placed and worked under Laban. Previously we spoke about:

1. The suffering of hard work in bad circumstances:

2. Polygamy, and wrong choices in marriage and sexual immoralities:

3. Idolatry:

4. Children without parents: “16 And they journeyed from Bethel; and there was but a little way to come to Ephrath: and Rachel travailed, and she had hard labour. 17 And it came to pass, when she was in hard labour, that the midwife said unto her, Fear not; thou shalt have this son also. 18 And it came to pass, as her soul was in departing, (for she died) that she called his name Benoni: but his father called him Benjamin. 19 And Rachel died, and was buried in the way to Ephrath, which is Bethlehem. 20 And Jacob set a pillar upon her grave: that is the pillar of Rachel's grave unto this day.” (Genesis 35:16-20 KJV) Rachel died after she gave birth to Benjamin, and Jacob buried her. But what happened to Benjamin, who will give him milk, and how he will grow and to whom he will call mommy? These all are painful scenarios that we can see by our mind from true events from the Scripture. The future of our children is in our hands. That was the curse that fell on Rachel because she stole the gods of her father as Jacob announced it, ***“32 With whomsoever thou findest thy gods, let him not live: before our brethren discern thou what is thine with me, and take it to thee. For Jacob knew not that Rachel had stolen them.” (Genesis 31:32 KJV)***, the other cause of death was her sin being the second wife of Jacob. The wrong doing of Jacob by his second marriage that his father in law had push him to do caused that death to happen to purge Jacob from the sin of polygamy. One more painful thing that I want you to see from the Scripture, that after the birth of Benjamin and perhaps within months and less than one year, Jacob arrived with his family to the place of Isaac in Hebron, and what tragedy that Isaac would be faced to see his grandson a baby and without a mother. Isaac was at that time 167 years old and he saw the consequences of sending Jacob alone to Haran. Therefore he lived in pain seeing his grandson without a mother. This what is God showing is a movie by the true Word of God as this event had happened. If Isaac had send someone to bring a wife to Jacob they will send him Leah being the eldest daughter of Laban, and such trouble to see his grandson born without mother he will be spared from to see. If Isaac has arranged the marriage of Jacob as his father Abraham arranged his marriage then Jacob would be spared the thirty years of troubles that he passed through when he was away from his father and continued in suffering to the rest of his life. ***You see here the wrong decision that you will take in leading your children will come back on you and will hurt you. Not only your children but even your grandchildren will be affected and got hurt. Imagine you are grandmother or a grandfather and you see your grandchildren without father or without mother. Now many children are suffering from such having no father or no mother.***

5. Envy and jealousy inside the family of Jacob because of his favoritism between his children who came from different wives due to multiple marriages. Since he favored Joseph over the rest because he was the son of his old age from his second wife Rachel, that he favored over Leah, Joseph was envied by his other brothers as we read here, ***“1 And Jacob***

dwelt in the land wherein his father was a stranger, in the land of Canaan. 2 These are the generations of Jacob. Joseph, being seventeen years old, was feeding the flock with his brethren; and the lad was with the sons of Bilhah, and with the sons of Zilpah, his father's wives: and Joseph brought unto his father their evil report. 3 Now Israel loved Joseph more than all his children, because he was the son of his old age: and he made him a coat of many colours. 4 And when his brethren saw that their father loved him more than all his brethren, they hated him, and could not speak peaceably unto him.” (Genesis 37:1-4 KJV)

Finally they attached him and wanted to kill him, but finally he was sold to the Ishmaelites and the Midianites, ***“27 Come, and let us sell him to the Ishmeelites, and let not our hand be upon him; for he is our brother and our flesh. And his brethren were content. 28 Then there passed by Midianites merchantmen; and they drew and lifted up Joseph out of the pit, and sold Joseph to the Ishmeelites for twenty pieces of silver: and they brought Joseph into Egypt.” (Genesis 37:27-28 KJV)*** Those took him down and sold him in Egypt, and that caused great mourning in the life of Jacob. ***“34 And Jacob rent his clothes, and put sackcloth upon his loins, and mourned for his son many days. 35 And all his sons and all his daughters rose up to comfort him; but he refused to be comforted; and he said, For I will go down into the grave unto my son mourning. Thus his father wept for him.” (Genesis 37:34-35 KJV)*** Children from different partners cause jealousy, strife and fights between them.

What do you think at the time of the lost of Joseph, Isaac was alive or dead? How many of you say he was alive and how many of you say he was dead? Please let me and allow me to give you the answer:

Genesis 37, in sequence is after the death of Isaac, ***“29 And Isaac gave up the ghost, and died, and was gathered unto his people, being old and full of days: and his sons Esau and Jacob buried him.” (Genesis 35:29 KJV)***, but in reality the event in ***Genesis 37*** happened before the death of Isaac. That incident of the lost of Joseph happened in the last twelve years in the life of Isaac, so Isaac witnessed the lost of his grandson Joseph. If Isaac refused to send Jacob to Haran then all these troubles would not happen. ***So be aware about the importance of standing firm in faith and learn to say ‘No’ to things that contradict the Word of God.*** Isaac not only suffered the loss of Joseph but as well as the pain for his own son Jacob who refused to be comforted and wanted to go down into the grave unto his son mourning. Probably Rebekah was dead because of the curse that fell on her, but Isaac who was alive troubled by such painful event; Benjamin without a mother and his brother Joseph got lost, and Jacob Isaac’s son wanted to go morning into the grave for Joseph. Some they think that I am speaking about Rebekah only. That is not correct. I not only speak about the sins of Rebekah but as well as the mistake that Isaac did. We are analyzing the shortcoming of each of them and expound them so we can take a lesson and avoid doing the same. **** What a terrible times would we pass if we don’t know how to behave. * God would arrange events to show you the outcome of your mistakes and wrong decisions in order for you to repent and to teach others not to do the same.*** I believe God made it clear to Isaac if he had arranged the marriage of Jacob, then Leah would be the wife and no others scenarios that Jacob would be troubled with. ***God is so keen to show you the outcome and the consequences of your sins and your wrong decisions.***

Why Jacob was so hurt by the loss of Joseph, because that boy was of many great talents, not only he can see and explain dreams and can do good works in various places and he was handsome but he was a dependable person that you can depend and trust that he will complete

the task. *“13 And Israel said unto Joseph, Do not thy brethren feed the flock in Shechem? come, and I will send thee unto them. And he said to him, Here am I. 14 And he said to him, Go, I pray thee, see whether it be well with thy brethren, and well with the flocks; and bring me word again. So he sent him out of the vale of Hebron, and he came to Shechem. 15 And a certain man found him, and, behold, he was wandering in the field: and the man asked him, saying, What seekest thou? 16 And he said, I seek my brethren: tell me, I pray thee, where they feed their flocks. 17 And the man said, They are departed hence; for I heard them say, Let us go to Dothan. And Joseph went after his brethren, and found them in Dothan.” (Genesis 37:13-17 KJV)* The distance between Hebron from where Joseph was to Shechem was 95 kilometers, and the distance from Shechem to Dothan was 19 kilometers, and Joseph travelled all that distance of 114 kilometers walking without horse or riding on ass, and he was just seventeen years old. That was why when he was lost it was a big blow to his father to receive a loss of such a person.

6. Poverty during times of famine and this followed by slavery: How this came on Jacob? That happened when the famine came. Jacob was easily affected by the famine that happened in Canaan because of the large number of the children he got out from four wives, having thirteen children, and they have their families with them which added more burdens on Jacob. His wives, Leah and Rachel, were competing between themselves to have more children to draw Jacob's favor on them, but they were unaware that every new child was a new mouth that Jacob needed to feed, and they were not aware that their children in the future will be threatened of death because of famine. That is why God directed him to send his children to buy food from Egypt. We can see here the threat of death and from the mouth of Jacob. *“1 Now when Jacob saw that there was corn in Egypt, Jacob said unto his sons, Why do ye look one upon another? 2 And he said, Behold, I have heard that there is corn in Egypt: get you down thither, and buy for us from thence; that we may live, and not die.” (Genesis 42:1-2 KJV)* That was why God ultimately directed him to go down to Egypt in order to provide for them there during the years of famine, *“1 And Israel took his journey with all that he had, and came to Beersheba, and offered sacrifices unto the God of his father Isaac. 2 And God spake unto Israel in the visions of the night, and said, Jacob, Jacob. And he said, Here am I. 3 And he said, I am God, the God of thy father: fear not to go down into Egypt; for I will there make of thee a great nation: 4 I will go down with thee into Egypt; and I will also surely bring thee up again: and Joseph shall put his hand upon thine eyes. 5 And Jacob rose up from Beersheba: and the sons of Israel carried Jacob their father, and their little ones, and their wives, in the wagons which Pharaoh had sent to carry him. 6 And they took their cattle, and their goods, which they had gotten in the land of Canaan, and came into Egypt, Jacob, and all his seed with him:” (Genesis 46:1-6 KJV)*

While his father Isaac was able to be sustained during the famine in his time with his two children, and God provided for him and did not send him to Egypt but asked him to stay in the land of Canaan, *“1 And there was a famine in the land, beside the first famine that was in the days of Abraham. And Isaac went unto Abimelech king of the Philistines unto Gerar. 2 And the LORD appeared unto him, and said, Go not down into Egypt; dwell in the land which I shall tell thee of: 3 Sojourn in this land, and I will be with thee, and will bless thee; for unto thee, and unto thy seed, I will give all these countries, and I will perform the oath which I swore unto Abraham thy father; 4 And I will make thy seed to multiply as the stars of heaven, and will give unto thy seed all these countries; and in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed;” (Genesis 26:1-4 KJV)*

You may tell me that God had said to Abram that his seed will be strangers in a foreign land and shall serve that nation and such had happened to Jacob to fulfill what God had said, *“13 And he said unto Abram, Know of a surety that thy seed shall be a stranger in a land that is not theirs, and shall serve them; and they shall afflict them four hundred years; 14 And also that nation, whom they shall serve, will I judge: and afterward shall they come out with great substance.” (Genesis 15:13-14 KJV)* But God said that because He knew what Jacob will do with his four marriages and many children, and so deserved to go into such situation and will be in need and his descendants will become slave under the Egyptians and finally when they will cry to God then He will deliver them.

Jacob worked hard for twenty years and sure he took the blessings from his father and got inheritance but when the famine came he was not able to stand. Why? Let us explain the answer: It is easier for a man to support one family or four families? Of course it is easier to support one family. It is easier for the man to support one wife or four wives? It is easier to support one wife. If Jacob had married Leah only he would have only eight mouths to feed but in his marriage to others he needed to feed in addition nine more mouths and total seventeen persons. Not only that, but the wives were competing with one another who will give birth to more children. There was no family planning, nor birth control. If Leah alone she may have had less children. **And God will not bless because of such sin.** Finally Jacob was brought to poverty and was forced to go with them down to Egypt and there became slave to the Egyptians who fed them in the time of their poverty and hunger and later on were placed under bondage. **This is how poverty will come on the people.** Isaac was very rich and very great and he had great store of servants but his grandchildren were poor and ultimately their children and descendants became servants and slaves in Egypt.

I believe if such had not happened in Isaac family and Jacob was not sent to Haran and if Jacob had married in accordance to God's will, then he would be spared in such famine as Abraham and Isaac were spared in the times of famine.

If we go back to the design of God in the book of Genesis we can read the following: *“27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. 28 And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.” (Genesis 1:27-28 KJV)* Although God told them to be fruitful, multiply and replenish the earth but God made one wife for Adam. Why? To keep control over the speed of increase that God had ordained on the earth. **More partners will give birth for more children, while the resources of the earth are fixed.** What will happen with polygamy, divorce and remarriage, single parents marry not the parent of their children, all that will lead to increase in the population over a shorter period of time. Two children from the first partner, two from other, one child here, three children there so population doubled, and so famine will come, then, poverty and people started to be in need. Next step after that, envy and jealousy, coveting, stealing, fights and wars and the rate of death increase to decrease the population, and that is what is going on in the world now. **This is also demand the implementation of birth control and family planning in order to control that so poverty will not reach our children and descendants.**

My Dear and Beloved: Do you think if Rebekah thought deeply about all such will be pushing Jacob to cheat his father? No she will not. Her thought that once he will get the

blessing from his father then all things will go well with the boy. **But that was very wrong. The truth is that God shall not bless sin.**

This is here the same of the domino effect, when small tiles of large numbers of dominos arranged in a way that you let one of them fall will bring continuous falling of the rest of the domino pieces producing bigger and faster response. Rebekah pushed Jacob to cheat his father, troubles started in the family, Jacob was threatened to be murdered, Isaac confused or pressurized by the wife did wrong and sent Jacob to Haran and sent him alone, there he suffered much, sinned against God committing polygamy, harshly was punished by God for such sin, his daughter was raped and his own son defiled his third wife, Rachel his second wife died, Benjamin born motherless, Jacob's family infected with idols, jealousies and strives among his children, Joseph lost, famine came, Jacob could not stand the need because of the big size of his family, they were forced to go to Egypt. They became poor people, the Egyptians gave them food and met their needs but later on enslaved them, became servants and put them under sever bondage. This is how poverty cycle happens in the world due to the effect of sin.

You fool, this is the same pitfall that you have, and thinking when you do wrong things will not have effects and will go well with yourself and your children. That is not correct and you need to repent of such. Renew your mind from such and let it be clear to you: If you want your children to be blessed then behave, stop doing wrong and stop pushing them to do wrong. Do what is right and push your children to do right so things will go well with you and them.

My prayer: Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins, who was buried and rose from death to give me eternal life. Lord thank you for all the teaching, corrections and the admonishments that I received in this message.

Repent now and renounce all your sins. Repent of your disobedience, delay obedience and your stubbornness. Repent of doing your own will and plan and not the will nor the plan of God. Repent of your lust and your immoralities. Repent of all your idols. Repent and renounce your carelessness to take the full responsibility for your children by sending them away from you to dangerous places and to dangerous people. Repent of your non willingness to stand firm on the truth. Repent of your non willingness to serve God and suffer for Him. Lord forgive me, I repent and renounce the following sins

_____.

Lord I commit myself to carefully consider my decisions and will go according to your Word and according to your will to avoid troubles. Lord I commit myself to care for my children and guard them in their lives and not put them in dangers. Lord I trust you that as I obey you that you will bless my children and will give them good future.

Lord, thank you for my Brothers and Sisters who committed their lives to do your will, Lord bless them and protect them with their families and children. Lord use their lives as good testimonies to others to follow you.

Lord help us as your church to continue to teach your Word and direct your people with your will. Lord lead us with the Holy Spirit to go on and evangelize, and make disciples and train

workers to go and plant new Bible studies and congregations for the church. Lord fulfill the vision of the church, 'Multiplication in peace with implementing the whole will of God.' Lord take the message and spread it to bring the fruits you desire. Lord prepare us for your coming to go with you when you come. Lord bless us, enlarge our territory, let your hand be with us and free us from harm so that we will not feel pain. May the grace of the Lord Jesus and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all in Jesus name, Amen.

The Future of our Children is in our Hands Part 6. Genesis 35:16-20. Genesis 31:32. Genesis 37:1-4, 27-28, 34-35. Genesis 35:29. Genesis 37:13-17. Genesis 42:1-2. Genesis 46:1-6. Genesis 26:1-4. Genesis 15:13-14. Genesis 1:27-28.

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