

The Veil Part 1

The veil or the veil is the cover of the head and the face that women use. Certain times the veil covers the whole body. It is mentioned in the Bible; is repeated several times in the Scriptures and is used to hide the face and the beauty of the woman's body and to abolish its attraction effects toward men. The Scriptures can explain to us facts and truth about the veil and the dress of women.

“64 And Rebekah lifted up her eyes, and when she saw Isaac, she lighted off the camel. 65 For she had said unto the servant, What man is this that walketh in the field to meet us? And the servant had said, It is my master: therefore she took a veil, and covered herself.” (Genesis 24:64-65 KJV) This is when Rebekah saw Isaac and she asked who he was, and when she found out that he will be her husband then she covered herself because the bride used to be brought to her husband's house wearing veil. The value she covered herself was also to keep Isaac pure and his mind clean and clear and not to fill it with imagination till the wedding time. The Hebrew Word here for ‘veil’ is ‘Tsa'iyph’, and its meaning is wrapper, shawl, or veil. **According to the Word of God, men or women would not be marrying one another after seeing and choosing the one they like. Men were not seeing their partner till then after wedding time as you read here about the marriage of Isaac to Rebekah,** ***“66 And the servant told Isaac all things that he had done. 67 And Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah's tent, and took Rebekah, and she became his wife; and he loved her: and Isaac was comforted after his mother's death.” (Genesis 24:66-67 KJV)*** **In the wedding day they will bring the bride with a veil to her husband's house that he will not see her face perhaps even when he will sleep with her for the first time in their tent or chamber.**

The same Word, ‘Tsa'iyph’, repeated in ***Genesis 38:14,19***, that is when Tamar played the harlot on Judah to have a child from him. She disguised herself with a veil and she was not known to him. ***“14 And she put her widow's garments off from her, and covered her with a veil, and wrapped herself, and sat in an open place, which is by the way to Timnath; for she saw that Shelah was grown, and she was not given unto him to wife. 15 When Judah saw her, he thought her to be an harlot; because she had covered her face. 16 And he turned unto her by the way, and said, Go to, I pray thee, let me come in unto thee; (for he knew not that she was his daughter in law.) And she said, What wilt thou give me, that thou mayest come in unto me? 17 And he said, I will send thee a kid from the flock. And she said, Wilt thou give me a pledge, till thou send it? 18 And he said, What pledge shall I give thee? And she said, Thy signet, and thy bracelets, and thy staff that is in thine hand. And he gave it her, and came in unto her, and she conceived by him. 19 And she arose, and went away, and laid by her veil from her, and put on the garments of her widowhood.” (Genesis 38:14-19 KJV)*** So it is clear from the Scripture that Judah did not recognize her because her face was covered when he slept with her. **So it was something the people used on, that women were not exposing their faces to the men even during sexual intercourse.**

The point that I am pointing here to you, that man would be exposed less to temptation when society lives in such kind of custom and dress. This is not the Middle East custom or tradition, but the Word of God who helps you and restrains you from temptation and from falling into sin.

The veil when it will be used for a Godly purpose has a protective value and effect. Let us read this story from the book of Genesis, ***“11 And it came to pass, when he was come near to enter into Egypt, that he said unto Sarai his wife, Behold now, I know that thou art a fair woman to look upon: 12 Therefore it shall come to pass, when the Egyptians shall see thee, that they shall say, This is his wife: and they will kill me, but they will save thee alive. 13 Say, I pray thee, thou art my sister: that it may be well with me for thy sake; and my soul shall live because of thee. 14 And it came to pass, that, when Abram was come into Egypt, the Egyptians beheld the woman that she was very fair. 15 The princes also of Pharaoh saw her, and commended her before Pharaoh: and the woman was taken into Pharaoh's house. 16 And he entreated Abram well for her sake: and he had sheep, and oxen, and he asses, and menservants, and maidservants, and she asses, and camels. 17 And the LORD plagued Pharaoh and his house with great plagues because of Sarai Abram's wife. 18 And Pharaoh called Abram and said, What is this that thou hast done unto me? why didst thou not tell me that she was thy wife? 19 Why saidst thou, She is my sister? so I might have taken her to me to wife: now therefore behold thy wife, take her, and go thy way. 20 And Pharaoh commanded his men concerning him: and they sent him away, and his wife, and all that he had.” (Genesis 12:11-20 KJV)*** The real reason that Abram asked Sarai to say that she was his sister because she was as he said in verse 11, ***“a fair woman to look upon”***, and so when the Egyptians will see her they will say she was his wife and so they will kill him in order to take her. Sarai for Abram was ***“a fair woman to look upon”***, but for the Egyptians according to verse 14, ***“she was very fair”***, possibly their ladies were less beautiful than Sarai, so she was more attractive to their men, and so she was recommended to Pharaoh and they took to his palace. But God interfered in that critical moment and Pharaoh realized after he and those who were with him plagued by God that she was a married woman to Abram. It could be that God after he called Abram and led him out of his place in Haran and started to follow God, he thought that he was free from any limitations, as many who are born again when they come to Christ they think that they are free to do what they want; they wear naked dress, they put make up and perfume and they say they had freedom in Christ and God knows our hearts, but they are unaware that with such immodesty are enticing other men to do wrong. They are unaware that with their non decent dress, make up and perfume are polluting the holy atmosphere that God instruct us to keep in order not to let others got enticed, tempted, cross the border limit and sin, which will be a hurt to everyone as what happened here with this story about Abram and Sarai in Egypt. Now if the following had happened as we will narrate the same story but in this Scenario: ***“11 And it came to pass, when he was come near to enter into Egypt, that he said unto Sarai his wife, Behold now, I know that thou art a fair woman to look upon: 12 Therefore it shall come to pass, when the Egyptians shall see thee, that they shall say, This is his wife: and they will kill me, but they will save thee alive.”*** Verse 13 ***“I pray thee, put veil and cover thy face, that it may be well with me for thy sake; and my soul shall live”***, and if Sarai hearkened to the request of her husband and put veil then all what we read next of shameful matter, dangerous situation, and plague on the Egyptians on ***Genesis 12:14-20*** will not happen. **Listen and behold, many women are raped because of their indecent dress, exposed body parts, their makeup and perfumes, that will entice other men around them and bring them into impulsive, emotional, and immoral acts. We are responsible before God to behave decently and dress in modesty so we will contribute holiness to the society around us.**

Abram did not heed of what had happened and he repeated the same when he sojourned in Gerar in Abimelech place. Let us read, ***“1 And Abraham journeyed from thence toward the south country, and dwelled between Kadesh and Shur, and sojourned in Gerar. 2 And***

Abraham said of Sarah his wife, *She is my sister: and Abimelech king of Gerar sent, and took Sarah.* 3 *But God came to Abimelech in a dream by night, and said to him, Behold, thou art but a dead man, for the woman which thou hast taken; for she is a man's wife.* 4 *But Abimelech had not come near her: and he said, LORD, wilt thou slay also a righteous nation?* 5 *Said he not unto me, She is my sister? and she, even she herself said, He is my brother: in the integrity of my heart and innocency of my hands have I done this.* 6 *And God said unto him in a dream, Yea, I know that thou didst this in the integrity of thy heart; for I also withheld thee from sinning against me: therefore suffered I thee not to touch her.* 7 *Now therefore restore the man his wife; for he is a prophet, and he shall pray for thee, and thou shalt live: and if thou restore her not, know thou that thou shalt surely die, thou, and all that are thine.* 8 *Therefore Abimelech rose early in the morning, and called all his servants, and told all these things in their ears: and the men were sore afraid.* 9 *Then Abimelech called Abraham, and said unto him, What hast thou done unto us? and what have I offended thee, that thou hast brought on me and on my kingdom a great sin? thou hast done deeds unto me that ought not to be done.* 10 *And Abimelech said unto Abraham, What sawest thou, that thou hast done this thing?* 11 *And Abraham said, Because I thought, Surely the fear of God is not in this place; and they will slay me for my wife's sake.* 12 *And yet indeed she is my sister; she is the daughter of my father, but not the daughter of my mother; and she became my wife.* 13 *And it came to pass, when God caused me to wander from my father's house, that I said unto her, This is thy kindness which thou shalt shew unto me; at every place whither we shall come, say of me, He is my brother.* 14 *And Abimelech took sheep, and oxen, and menservants, and womenservants, and gave them unto Abraham, and restored him Sarah his wife.* 15 *And Abimelech said, Behold, my land is before thee: dwell where it pleaseth thee.* 16 *And unto Sarah he said, Behold, I have given thy brother a thousand pieces of silver: behold, he is to thee a covering of the eyes, unto all that are with thee, and with all other: thus she was reproved.* 17 *So Abraham prayed unto God: and God healed Abimelech, and his wife, and his maidservants; and they bare children.* 18 *For the LORD had fast closed up all the wombs of the house of Abimelech, because of Sarah Abraham's wife.” (Genesis 20:1-18 KJV)* Again Abraham and Sarah did the same wrong doing in Gerar and for the same reason because Sarah was beautiful and Abraham was afraid to say she was his wife because they may kill him for her sake. God was also here graceful to rescue them. He came in a dream to Abimelech and exposed everything and saved Abraham and Sarah from such shameful trouble. Abimelech rebuked both of them for the lies they said, and in addition among the things that he gave to Abraham the following as we read in verse 16, *“Behold, I have given thy brother a thousand pieces of silver: behold, he is to thee a covering of the eyes, unto all that are with thee”*, the Hebrew Word for ‘covering’ is ‘**K@cuwth**’, which means covering, clothing, or covering for concealment. Abimelech addressing the matter that Abraham is a covering of the eyes for Sarah which means he is her husband, a cover over her to protect her and to protect her purity and keep her uncorrupted, virtuous, spotless and without a blemish, *“25 Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; 26 That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, 27 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.” (Ephesians 5:25-27)* It is like a cover for a pot to cover the pot and not to allow dirt or other unwanted things to come inside it. Therefore, Abraham was known now to be the husband of Sarah, and he would be in the future a covering to her, that no one should look at her, and desire her, to take her to be his wife. Abraham also would be a protector to all what Sarah had with her. But how this will be accomplished? This is the answer: In this statement that Abimelech told to Sarah: *“Behold, I have given thy brother a*

thousand pieces of silver: behold, he is to thee a covering of the eyes, unto all that are with thee”, Abimelech told her that he had given Abraham so much money, *“a thousand pieces of silver”*, to buy her a veil with, and to supply her with veils from time to time to cover her eyes, which will be a cover for her face, that nobody might be tempted to see her and to lust after her beauty; and so not to be taken again by another. Not only that but this money was given to buy veils for her female servants also; though this latter phrase *“unto all that are with thee”*, may be understood, even of all the girls which Abimelech had given her while she was in his house; for those he gave not to take them back again, but continued them with her. It seemed that God used Abimelech to teach Abraham and Sarah a lesson in life. **Why not, if those who are called Christians they don't know how to behave in such atmosphere among non believers, let it be that God shall use the non believers to rebuke them.** We can understand further about the value of the veil for the woman if we read what Jesus said, *“27 Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery: 28 But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart.” (Matthew 5:27-28 KJV)* **Those who expose themselves with indecent dress make up and perfumes will allow those around them who look on them to lust after them that they will commit adultery with them in their hearts.** Abraham if he had asked his wife to wear veil in Gerar such shameful situation would not happen. Even previously when Abram was in Egypt and the same as such took place when Sarai was taken to Pharaoh's house as we explained such event on *Genesis 12:11-20*, if Abraham had asked her to were a veil and covered herself properly when they entered Egypt all as such shameful things would not happen and would be totally avoided.

The same what Abraham and Sarah did, Isaac and Rebekah did the same wrong because Rebekah was beautiful to look upon. Let us read: *“6 And Isaac dwelt in Gerar: 7 And the men of the place asked him of his wife; and he said, She is my sister: for he feared to say, She is my wife; lest, said he, the men of the place should kill me for Rebekah; because she was fair to look upon. 8 And it came to pass, when he had been there a long time, that Abimelech king of the Philistines looked out at a window, and saw, and, behold, Isaac was sporting with Rebekah his wife. 9 And Abimelech called Isaac, and said, Behold, of a surety she is thy wife; and how saidst thou, She is my sister? And Isaac said unto him, Because I said, Lest I die for her. 10 And Abimelech said, What is this thou hast done unto us? one of the people might lightly have lien with thy wife, and thou shouldest have brought guiltiness upon us. 11 And Abimelech charged all his people, saying, He that toucheth this man or his wife shall surely be put to death.” (Genesis 26:6-11 KJV)* The same what we recommended for Abraham's situation with Sarah in Gerar and Egypt if Isaac and Rebekah would do then all such embarrassing things would not happen. It seemed that Rebekah forgot her veil after she got married and had children. She should continue to use especially while she was in Gerar.

My Dear and Beloved: In this message, I am not suggesting or dictating that women should wear veils and dress as we read in the Scripture, however,

A. If you are led by the Holy Spirit to adopt such a dress and find it helpful to impart holiness then I encourage you to do that.

B. Let everyone be responsible to protect others by avoiding and rejecting the worldly ways for women in the way they dress or put perfume and makeup, *“9 In like manner also, that*

women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array;" (1 Timothy 2:9 KJV)

C. Let us not be tempted to use our senses or depend on man's senses to choose the partner of marriage, but rather seeking God on our knees.

Commit yourself to the Lord for this cause and fully trust Him. God had a purpose to place this message in your hand, to impart to your holiness, and to use you to be an instrument of God to impart holiness to your family and the people around you and under your care.

Let us pray

My Prayer: *Father God, I come before you in the name of Jesus, who died on the cross for my sins and rose from the dead to give me eternal life. Lord thank you for the salvation that I received from Jesus, thank you for all what you had given me, thank you for the good plan that you have for me, and thank you for the teaching and the corrections and the admonishments that I received from this message.*

Confess and renounce all your sins. Confess your worldliness, and your love for material things. Confess your lack of reading God's Word and your lack of prayers. Confess and renounce your yoke with non believers, having many friends and in bondage with the Media. Confess and renounce doing your own will and plan and not the will nor the plan of God, especially in pertain to marriage. Confess and renounce your bad example and causing temptations to others in the way you dress yourself. Confess and renounce your non willingness to serve God and suffer for Him in the way that He wants you to serve Him. Lord forgive me, I repent of the following sins _____.

Lord I commit myself to serve you and to live the style of life according to your plan and will for me and according to the teaching that I received in this message. Lord I am willing to suffer for you and to serve your will and your purpose in my life. Lord I commit myself to reproduce more fruit of the Spirit; love, joy, peace, gentleness, kindness, faith, humility, self-control, long-suffering and perseverance so people can see Christ in my life. Lord uphold me with your grace and provide for me so I will continue to live my life for you.

Lord thank you for my Brothers and Sisters who repented of their sins, humbled themselves and willing to follow your will and plan for them. Lord bless them, continue to provide for them and use them to serve you. Lord I pray that you will reward all those who are faithful in following you and doing your will.

Lord, bless us as your church, and help us to continue to teach and implement your Word and to prepare your people for your coming. Lord refill us with the Holy Spirit and give us the spiritual gifts that we need in order to go on and evangelize, and make new disciples and train new workers to go and plant more Bible studies and congregations for the church. Lord we pray for more people to get water baptized and receive the Holy Spirit baptism. Lord fulfill the vision of the church, 'Multiplication in peace with implementing the whole will of God.' 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 Veil Part 1. Genesis 24:64-67. Genesis 38:14-19. Genesis 12:11-20. Genesis 20:1-18. Ephesians 5:25-27. Matthew 5:27-28. Genesis 26:6-11. 1 Timothy 2:9.

Dr. Ramiz Khalaf
The Church Overseer
Church of God
United Arab Emirates
www.churchofgoduae.com
Email: thebread1@gmail.com
Mobile Tel #: [00971551902647](tel:00971551902647)

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