

Violations in the Office of Marriage Part 3

We continue in this message to speak about the violations in the office of marriage. and will continue to discuss what

B. God recommended to them not to approach the near to kin: And we will continue to discuss that tackling other examples from the Scripture.

9. Absalom slept with the ten concubines of his father: David did not deal with Amnon's sin, and that caused Absalom to work it out to kill his brother Amnon and he fled away. After that, Absalom was restored without the due punishment of his murder. That promoted him more to do evil; he moved to attempt to kill his father and took the leadership from him. While he was in the process to achieve that, he slept with the ten concubines of his father, ***"20 Then said Absalom to Ahithophel, Give counsel among you what we shall do. 21 And Ahithophel said unto Absalom, Go in unto thy father's concubines, which he hath left to keep the house; and all Israel shall hear that thou art abhorred of thy father: then shall the hands of all that are with thee be strong. 22 So they spread Absalom a tent upon the top of the house; and Absalom went in unto his father's concubines in the sight of all Israel."*** (2 Samuel 16:20-22 KJV) Ahithophel was a counselor of great honor and of high esteem, ***"23 And the counsel of Ahithophel, which he counselled in those days, was as if a man had enquired at the oracle of God: so was all the counsel of Ahithophel both with David and with Absalom."*** (2 Samuel 16:23 KJV) Ahithophel this time preferred to teach Absalom to do such evil as revenge from David. Some say that Ahithophel was the grandfather of Bathsheba that David committed adultery with her, ***"3 And David sent and enquired after the woman. And one said, Is not this Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite?"*** (2 Samuel 11:3 KJV) Bathsheba was the daughter of Eliam, and Eliam was the son of Ahithophel the Gilonite, ***"Eliam the son of Ahithophel the Gilonite."*** (2 Samuel 23:34 KJV) ***"12 And Absalom sent for Ahithophel the Gilonite, David's counsellor, from his city, even from Giloh, while he offered sacrifices. And the conspiracy was strong; for the people increased continually with Absalom."*** (2 Samuel 15:12 KJV) So Absalom knew from whom he will ask counsel, from the enemy of David his father, so he will give him something more destructive against David.

Ahithophel this time preferred to teach Absalom to do such evil not only against his father David but it turned to be against God, profaning further the Word of God that teaches, ***"8 The nakedness of thy father's wife shalt thou not uncover: it is thy father's nakedness."*** (Leviticus 18:8 KJV) ***"11 And the man that lieth with his father's wife hath uncovered his father's nakedness: both of them shall surely be put to death; their blood shall be upon them."*** (Leviticus 20:11 KJV) Ahithophel was revenging from David, and in his revenge, he defiled the ordinances of God by promoting immoralities and defiling the near to kin principles that God recommended and prohibited them to approach the near to kin and have sex with them.

Many they who know the Word of God and know what God had ordained in His Word, but they go blindly to revenge, but the faithful God would give them what they deserve and pay them the evil they did against His Word as He paid Ahithophel the Gilonite for his wickedness, when God frustrated his counsel, ***"23 And when Ahithophel saw that his counsel was not followed, he saddled his ass, and arose, and gat him home to his house, to***

his city, and put his household in order, and hanged himself, and died, and was buried in the sepulchre of his father." (2 Samuel 17:23 KJV)

Now let us go back to Absalom; with all that Absalom did, David his father was not willing that his son would receive the discipline that he deserves. Finally, God caused Absalom to be put to death. ***What I want to say here, when the Word of God profaned in such a way, then the sin of fornication and immoralities will spread like gangrene in the body of Christ, as we can witness that today in the body of Christ and in the life of the people who are called Christians and servants of God. And for that reason, God's wrath is coming to judge and bring justice profoundly.***

Now let us go back and speak about the David's concubines after Absalom defiled them, what King David did to them after returning to Jerusalem? Let us read the Scripture:

"3 And David came to his house at Jerusalem; and the king took the ten women his concubines, whom he had left to keep the house, and put them in ward, and fed them, but went not in unto them. So they were shut up unto the day of their death, living in widowhood." (2 Samuel 20:3 KJV)

Why did David act in such a way toward these concubines? These concubines were left by David to look after the house. ***"16 And the king went forth, and all his household after him. And the king left ten women, which were concubines, to keep the house."*** (2 Samuel 15:16 KJV) Now when Absalom approached them, true that David first, would not be able to approach them because his son slept with them, and second, they did not resist Absalom and they did not deny him, as if they liked what was happening and as if their faith that David would not come back to Jerusalem and to them, for it seemed that they forgot that they were left there to keep the house. That is why when David came back, he treated them as widows, and more than that, they were not allowed to get married. Why? Because their husband was alive and willingly defiled themselves with other man considering that their husband is dead.

Great is the judgment of God on the man when the marriage bed is defiled and when marriage is treated with contempt, ***"4 Marriage is honourable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge."*** (Hebrews 13:4 KJV)

10. Adonijah who tried to marry Abishag, his father's wife: ***"13 And Adonijah the son of Haggith came to Bathsheba the mother of Solomon. And she said, Comest thou peaceably? And he said, Peaceably. 14 He said moreover, I have somewhat to say unto thee. And she said, Say on. 15 And he said, Thou knowest that the kingdom was mine, and that all Israel set their faces on me, that I should reign: howbeit the kingdom is turned about, and is become my brother's: for it was his from the LORD. 16 And now I ask one petition of thee, deny me not. And she said unto him, Say on. 17 And he said, Speak, I pray thee, unto Solomon the king, (for he will not say thee nay,) that he give me Abishag the Shunammite to wife. 18 And Bathsheba said, Well; I will speak for thee unto the king. 19 Bathsheba therefore went unto king Solomon, to speak unto him for Adonijah. And the king rose up to meet her, and bowed himself unto her, and sat down on his throne, and caused a seat to be set for the king's mother; and she sat on his right hand. 20 Then she said, I desire one small petition of thee; I pray thee, say me not nay. And the king said unto her, Ask on, my mother: for I will not say thee nay. 21 And she said, Let Abishag the Shunammite be given to Adonijah thy brother to wife. 22 And king Solomon answered and said unto his mother,***

And why dost thou ask Abishag the Shunammite for Adonijah? ask for him the kingdom also; for he is mine elder brother; even for him, and for Abiathar the priest, and for Joab the son of Zeruiah. 23 Then king Solomon sware by the LORD, saying, God do so to me, and more also, if Adonijah have not spoken this word against his own life. 24 Now therefore, as the LORD liveth, which hath established me, and set me on the throne of David my father, and who hath made me an house, as he promised, Adonijah shall be put to death this day.” (1 Kings 2:13-24 KJV) Bathsheba was not aware of the wrong motive of Adonijah that he wanted to become a king. She was also not aware that according to the Word of God, that Adonijah cannot marry his father’s wife, *“8 The nakedness of thy father’s wife shalt thou not uncover: it is thy father’s nakedness.” (Leviticus 18:8 KJV)* *“11 And the man that lieth with his father’s wife hath uncovered his father’s nakedness: both of them shall surely be put to death; their blood shall be upon them.” (Leviticus 20:11 KJV)* Even, King Solomon who discerned the wrong motive of Adonijah and decided to put him to death was not angry that Adonijah was breaking the Word of God in his desire to marry his stepfather’s wife. Solomon put Adonijah to death because Adonijah wanted to get the throne from him. And if supposed that Solomon would keep silent and agree, then the priests would speak nothing against the marriage of Adonijah to Abishag. *The people of God when they put aside the Word of God and not practice them, then they will become insensitive to sin.* Adonijah was put to death because he wanted to get the throne, but no one had explained to him that he has not right to marry his father’s wife based on God’s Word. They put Adonijah to death without explaining to him the truth. ** What I want to say, that at certain times the people of God and God’s servants would put aside the Word of God and start to get deviated and start to do things from a human point of perspectives. * The church today should be more discerning about how sin was introduced to God’s church and had taken a sneaky course, like a thread that had been entangled with many knots. * The church today in dealing with such issues needs to untwine it out and dealing with it knot by knot. * The churches who are ignoring such important steps to be clean from such issues, as we can see in many churches today, are sitting over flooded water, that they will be consumed with such sins.*

11. Herod married his brother wife and was rebuked by John the Baptist: “3 For Herod had laid hold on John, and bound him, and put him in prison for Herodias’ sake, his brother Philip’s wife. 4 For John said unto him, It is not lawful for thee to have her.” (Matthew 14:3-4 KJV) John stood his ground and defended the Word of God that says, *“16 Thou shalt not uncover the nakedness of thy brother’s wife: it is thy brother’s nakedness.” (Leviticus 18:16 KJV)* *“21 And if a man shall take his brother’s wife, it is an unclean thing: he hath uncovered his brother’s nakedness; they shall be childless.” (Leviticus 20:21 KJV)* John the Baptist was the priest of God to prepare the way for Jesus. He taught people to follow God’s Word and rebuked sinners of the Jews and the Gentiles alike and taught them God’s Word. The very interesting and peculiar thing in this story is that Herod was a non-believer person and he was from the Gentiles, but still John the Baptist rebuked him for this sin of him. *What we understand from this, that this law of God, about not to approach the near to kin and have sex with them, applies also to the non-believers the same as on the believers.*

C. God recommended to them not to take a neighbor’s wife: “20 Moreover thou shalt not lie carnally with thy neighbour’s wife, to defile thyself with her.” (Leviticus 18:20 KJV) *“10 And the man that committeth adultery with another man’s wife, even he that committeth adultery with his neighbour’s wife, the adulterer and the adulteress shall surely be put to death.” (Leviticus 20:10 KJV)* The Scripture informed us about incidents of that as we can read in the following real stories.

1. Pharaoh got Abraham’s wife thinking that she was his sister: “10 And there was a famine in the land: and Abram went down into Egypt to sojourn there; for the famine was grievous in the land. 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 12:10-20 KJV) God’s Word condemns a man to have a woman who is the wife of another man, *“20 Moreover thou shalt not lie carnally with thy neighbour’s wife, to defile thyself with her.” (Leviticus 18:20 KJV)* *“10 And the man that committeth adultery with another man’s wife, even he that committeth adultery with his neighbour’s wife, the adulterer and the adulteress shall surely be put to death.” (Leviticus 20:10 KJV)*

2. Abimelech wanted to get Abraham’s wife thinking that she was his sister: Read here and meditate on the story, “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 reprov'd. 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) From this story, we can learn good lessons and we can be informed about essential things. Abimelech, who was a non-believer he had a fear of God and he knew and applied God's Word that condemns a man to have a woman who is the wife of another man, "20 Moreover thou shalt not lie carnally with thy neighbour's wife, to defile thyself with her." (Leviticus 18:20 KJV) "10 And the man that committeth adultery with another man's wife, even he that committeth adultery with his neighbour's wife, the adulterer and the adulteress shall surely be put to death." (Leviticus 20:10 KJV) Abraham was afraid that the people around him had no fear of God, but the reality was something different; Abimelech not only considered such a sin but a great sin. He told Abraham: "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." (Genesis 20:9 KJV) God shook Abimelech in a dream and warned him not to do anything wrong with 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." (Genesis 20:3 KJV) God told him that he is a dead man because she is another man's wife. Many are not aware that a married woman or a married man is a property of others, and approaching her or him is bringing death into their lives. Abimelech justified himself before God because he had no intention to do wrong with her: "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." (Genesis 20:4-5 KJV) The Lord knew what was in his heart and protected him because he had no intention to do wrong. "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." (Genesis 20:6 KJV) Abimelech returned Sarah to Abraham and gave them gifts and rebuked them for what they did wrong.

When Abimelech took Sarah, Abraham's wife, God caused them to be barren, for God afflicted them on Sarah's account, but when he returned Sarah to Abraham God opened their wombs and they conceived children, "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 20:17-18 KJV) The purpose of God in such discipline was to give warning to people not to do such.

3. David committed Adultery with Bathsheba: "1 And it came to pass, after the year was expired, at the time when kings go forth to battle, that David sent Joab, and his servants with him, and all Israel; and they destroyed the children of Ammon, and besieged Rabbah. But David tarried still at Jerusalem. 2 And it came to pass in an eveningtide, that David arose from off his bed, and walked upon the roof of the king's house: and from the roof he saw a woman washing herself; and the woman was very beautiful to look upon. 3 And David sent and enquired after the woman. And one said, Is not this Bathsheba, the

daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite? 4 And David sent messengers, and took her; and she came in unto him, and he lay with her; for she was purified from her uncleanness: and she returned unto her house. 5 And the woman conceived, and sent and told David, and said, I am with child." (2 Samuel 11:1-5 KJV) David forgot what the Word of God says, "Thou shalt not commit adultery." (Exodus 20:14 KJV) "Neither shalt thou commit adultery." (Deuteronomy 5:18 KJV) Further than that, David killed her husband and married her to cover that she was pregnant from him. But the prophet Nathan, sent by God, rebuked him and exposed him for that sin, "7 And Nathan said to David, Thou art the man. Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, I anointed thee king over Israel, and I delivered thee out of the hand of Saul; 8 And I gave thee thy master's house, and thy master's wives into thy bosom, and gave thee the house of Israel and of Judah; and if that had been too little, I would moreover have given unto thee such and such things. 9 Wherefore hast thou despised the commandment of the LORD, to do evil in his sight? thou hast killed Uriah the Hittite with the sword, and hast taken his wife to be thy wife, and hast slain him with the sword of the children of Ammon. 10 Now therefore the sword shall never depart from thine house; because thou hast despised me, and hast taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be thy wife. 11 Thus saith the LORD, Behold, I will raise up evil against thee out of thine own house, and I will take thy wives before thine eyes, and give them unto thy neighbour, and he shall lie with thy wives in the sight of this sun. 12 For thou didst it secretly: but I will do this thing before all Israel, and before the sun. 13 And David said unto Nathan, I have sinned against the LORD. And Nathan said unto David, The LORD also hath put away thy sin; thou shalt not die. 14 Howbeit, because by this deed thou hast given great occasion to the enemies of the LORD to blaspheme, the child also that is born unto thee shall surely die." (2 Samuel 12:7-14 KJV)

My Dear and Beloved: * The people of God should all stand firm against such kinds of sins and renounce them and denounce those who do them and expel them from their midst if they will not repent and renounce these sins. * All of us should stand firm as prophets of God and rebuke sinners for such kinds of sins, knowing that in rebuking them we are rebuking Satan, demons, and the power of darkness behind such sins.

* We need to clear the ground from such evil things so that our children, disciples, and the next generation will not be confused about the truth, and they will not be tempted and double-minded about all that is deviated from God's design about marriage and family. * If we will not be diligent to clean our families and our churches and congregations from such sins and deviations then we are exposing our children, disciples, and the next generation to become polluted and infected with such sin and evil practices and become fit for us to be admonished with this statement: "And thou shalt not let any of thy seed pass through the fire to Molech, neither shalt thou profane the name of thy God: I am the LORD." (Leviticus 18:21 KJV) If we allow such things to come and stay in our congregations and families then we are exposing our seeds to pass through the fire of hell, exposing them to temptations and falling into grievous sins, and for the wrath of God to fall upon them and upon us.

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 your Word that set me free from sin and the fear of man. Lord thank you for the teaching and the rebukes and the corrections that I received in this message in order to apply in my life and ministry.

Come now to God and confess and renounce all your sins. Confess and renounce your immoralities and the rest of the violations that you did in your life against God, against His Word and against your neighbor. Confess and renounce all your corruption, compromises and lack of discipline to your children and in your ministry. Confess your lack of reading God's Word and your lack of prayers. Confess and renounce your lack of the fear of God in your life and non willingness to respond to correction. Confess and renounce your yoke with non believers, and in bondage with the Media. Confess your bad stewardship and your bad example to others. Confess your non willingness to suffer for God and serve Him according to His Word. Lord forgive me, I repent of the following sins _____.

Lord I commit myself to apply the principles that I learned today from your Word. Lord I commit myself to fear you and not to fear man. I commit myself to speak your Word and rebuke sinners for their sin. Lord protect me from persecutions and provide me my needs so I will continue to do your will in my life and in the life of my family and ministry.

Lord thank you for my Brothers and Sisters who committed their lives to you to escape from all those violations in pertain to marriage. Lord transform their lives and make them good testimony for others to follow you. Lord help them in their lives, protect them from persecution and from all the power of darkness and provide all their needs.

Lord bless us as your church and help us to continue to do the mission works that you entrusted to us to go and do. Lord refill us once again with the Holy Spirit and give us the spiritual gifts that we need to go and serve you. Lord enable us to evangelize and to reach new people with the gospel of Jesus. Lord fulfill the vision of the church, 'Multiplication in peace with implementing the whole will of God.' Lord help us to plant new Bible studies and congregations for the church. Lord we pray for more people to get water baptized and receive the Holy Spirit baptism. Lord take the message and spread it to the rest of the members, families, workers, the congregations of the church and to new people and places to bring the fruit that you desire. 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 communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all in Jesus name, Amen.

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