

Watchman Part 12

The Watchman Should Be Sure of God's Choice For Marriage

We will compare in this message two examples of two men, of how they chose a partner in marriage. One was a good and successful watchman for this purpose but the other person did not do well and was not able to perform God's will in pertain to this matter.

1. The first example is the servant of Abraham whom Abraham commissioned to find and bring the right partner for Isaac. We will read his account here: *"1 And Abraham was old, and well stricken in age: and the LORD had blessed Abraham in all things. 2 And Abraham said unto his eldest servant of his house, that ruled over all that he had, Put, I pray thee, thy hand under my thigh: 3 And I will make thee swear by the LORD, the God of heaven, and the God of the earth, that thou shalt not take a wife unto my son of the daughters of the Canaanites, among whom I dwell: 4 But thou shalt go unto my country, and to my kindred, and take a wife unto my son Isaac. 5 And the servant said unto him, Peradventure the woman will not be willing to follow me unto this land: must I needs bring thy son again unto the land from whence thou camest? 6 And Abraham said unto him, Beware thou that thou bring not my son thither again. 7 The LORD God of heaven, which took me from my father's house, and from the land of my kindred, and which spake unto me, and that sware unto me, saying, Unto thy seed will I give this land; he shall send his angel before thee, and thou shalt take a wife unto my son from thence. 8 And if the woman will not be willing to follow thee, then thou shalt be clear from this my oath: only bring not my son thither again. 9 And the servant put his hand under the thigh of Abraham his master, and sware to him concerning that matter. 10 And the servant took ten camels of the camels of his master, and departed; for all the goods of his master were in his hand: and he arose, and went to Mesopotamia, unto the city of Nahor. 11 And he made his camels to kneel down without the city by a well of water at the time of the evening, even the time that women go out to draw water. 12 And he said O LORD God of my master Abraham, I pray thee, send me good speed this day, and shew kindness unto my master Abraham. 13 Behold, I stand here by the well of water; and the daughters of the men of the city come out to draw water: 14 And let it come to pass, that the damsel to whom I shall say, Let down thy pitcher, I pray thee, that I may drink; and she shall say, Drink, and I will give thy camels drink also: let the same be she that thou hast appointed for thy servant Isaac; and thereby shall I know that thou hast shewed kindness unto my master. 15 And it came to pass, before he had done speaking, that, behold, Rebekah came out, who was born to Bethuel, son of Milcah, the wife of Nahor, Abraham's brother, with her pitcher upon her shoulder. 16 And the damsel was very fair to look upon, a virgin, neither had any man known her: and she went down to the well, and filled her pitcher, and came up. 17 And the servant ran to meet her, and said, Let me, I pray thee, drink a little water of thy pitcher. 18 And she said, Drink, my lord: and she hasted, and let down her pitcher upon her hand, and gave him drink. 19 And when she had done giving him drink, she said, I will draw water for thy camels also, until they have done drinking. 20 And she hasted, and emptied her pitcher into the trough, and ran again unto the well to draw water, and drew for all his camels. 21 And the man wondering at her held his peace, to wit whether the LORD had made his journey prosperous or not."* (Genesis 24:1-21 KJV)

Abraham truly put clear instructions to his servant about finding the woman:

A. The woman should not from the Canaanites and that entail not a woman who will pull Isaac into worldly practices and false religions.

B. The woman should be back from his country and relatives and that entail the woman should leave her old religion and cultural practices.

C. Never to bring Isaac back to his previous country; and that entail that God's plan for Isaac to be continued and consolidated and not to go back to the idol worship that Abraham and Sarah left.

D. The woman should be God's choice and provision as Abraham assured his servant with this faith statement: *"7 The LORD God of heaven, which took me from my father's house, and from the land of my kindred, and which spake unto me, and that sware unto me, saying, Unto thy seed will I give this land; he shall send his angel before thee, and thou shalt take a wife unto my son from thence."* (Genesis 24:7 KJV)

The servant went with such instructions and truly abided himself with them. When he came to seek a wife for his master, **First**, he did not go to the playhouse or the park, and pray that he might meet one there, but to the well of water, expecting to find one there well employed and hard working in her house. **Second**, when he reached the place did not look or search for a kind of girls that man would desire, like young, beautiful or having that or this beauty character. **Third**, instead the servant prayed to the Lord and sought the help and the favor of God for that purpose. He prayed the following: *"12 And he said O LORD God of my master Abraham, I pray thee, send me good speed this day, and shew kindness unto my master Abraham. 13 Behold, I stand here by the well of water; and the daughters of the men of the city come out to draw water: 14 And let it come to pass, that the damsel to whom I shall say, Let down thy pitcher, I pray thee, that I may drink; and she shall say, Drink, and I will give thy camels drink also: let the same be she that thou hast appointed for thy servant Isaac; and thereby shall I know that thou hast shewed kindness unto my master."* (Genesis 24:12-14 KJV) **Fourth**, he did not ask God to show beautiful or young girl, but this what he prayed, *"And let it come to pass, that the damsel to whom I shall say, Let down thy pitcher, I pray thee, that I may drink; and she shall say, Drink, and I will give thy camels drink also: let the same be she that thou hast appointed for thy servant Isaac;"* the servant of Abraham was looking for a girl who is hard working (not a lazy spoiled girl), generous (not a stingy), hospitable (not a woman without discretion), a helper (not a burden), and a wise woman (not a dull person) to be a suitable wife for Isaac. **This is what we can learn here, when there is a person who is prepared and ready for marriage, we should be in the right mind and prayerfully would search for a woman who is God's servant and who would help the man in his life and mission unto the Lord.**

The servant prayed what was in his heart and God answered his prayers because it was in accordance to God's will and brought to him Rebekah, *"21 And the man wondering at her held his peace, to wit whether the LORD had made his journey prosperous or not."* (Genesis 24:21 KJV) The servant was a faithful watchman and wanted to be sure that the Lord answered his prayer and enabled him to find a suitable wife for Isaac.

In the same way the Lord would hear our prayers as we abide in His will and plan and shall enable us and lead us to find His choice to those men among us who are prepared and mature for marriage.

2. The second example is Jacob whom his father Isaac sent him to find a wife from the relative of his mother. Already Isaac and Rebekah they were disgusted because Esau married Hittites women, ***“46 And Rebekah said to Isaac, I am weary of my life because of the daughters of Heth: if Jacob take a wife of the daughters of Heth, such as these which are of the daughters of the land, what good shall my life do me?” (Genesis 27:46 KJV)*** ***“1 And Isaac called Jacob, and blessed him, and charged him, and said unto him, Thou shalt not take a wife of the daughters of Canaan. 2 Arise, go to Padanaram, to the house of Bethuel thy mother's father; and take thee a wife from thence of the daughters of Laban thy mother's brother. 3 And God Almighty bless thee, and make thee fruitful, and multiply thee, that thou mayest be a multitude of people; 4 And give thee the blessing of Abraham, to thee, and to thy seed with thee; that thou mayest inherit the land wherein thou art a stranger, which God gave unto Abraham.” (Genesis 28:1-4 KJV)*** Isaac truly sent Jacob with clear instructions as Abraham sent his servant and with expectation that God will do to Jacob as God did for him in leading him to marry Rebekah.

Jacob was also observant as we can read here: ***“1 Then Jacob went on his journey, and came into the land of the people of the east. 2 And he looked, and behold a well in the field, and, lo, there were three flocks of sheep lying by it; for out of that well they watered the flocks: and a great stone was upon the well's mouth. 3 And thither were all the flocks gathered: and they rolled the stone from the well's mouth, and watered the sheep, and put the stone again upon the well's mouth in his place. 4 And Jacob said unto them, My brethren, whence be ye? And they said, Of Haran are we. 5 And he said unto them, Know ye Laban the son of Nahor? And they said, We know him. 6 And he said unto them, Is he well? And they said, He is well: and, behold, Rachel his daughter cometh with the sheep. 7 And he said, Lo, it is yet high day, neither is it time that the cattle should be gathered together: water ye the sheep, and go and feed them. 8 And they said, We cannot, until all the flocks be gathered together, and till they roll the stone from the well's mouth; then we water the sheep. 9 And while he yet spake with them, Rachel came with her father's sheep; for she kept them. 10 And it came to pass, when Jacob saw Rachel the daughter of Laban his mother's brother, and the sheep of Laban his mother's brother, that Jacob went near, and rolled the stone from the well's mouth, and watered the flock of Laban his mother's brother. 11 And Jacob kissed Rachel, and lifted up his voice, and wept. 12 And Jacob told Rachel that he was her father's brother, and that he was Rebekah's son: and she ran and told her father. 13 And it came to pass, when Laban heard the tidings of Jacob his sister's son, that he ran to meet him, and embraced him, and kissed him, and brought him to his house. And he told Laban all these things.” (Genesis 29:1-13)*** Jacob saw the well of water in the field and saw also Rachel, ***“10 And it came to pass, when Jacob saw Rachel the daughter of Laban his mother's brother, and the sheep of Laban his mother's brother, that Jacob went near, and rolled the stone from the well's mouth, and watered the flock of Laban his mother's brother.” (Genesis 29:10 KJV)*** But was Jacob a good watchman to choose his wife as the servant of Abraham chose Rebekah to Isaac? Let us read further to know the answer.

“14 And Laban said to him, Surely thou art my bone and my flesh. And he abode with him the space of a month. 15 And Laban said unto Jacob, Because thou art my brother, shouldest thou therefore serve me for nought? tell me, what shall thy wages be? 16 And Laban had two daughters: the name of the elder was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. 17 Leah was tender eyed; but Rachel was beautiful and well favoured. 18 And Jacob loved Rachel; and said, I will serve thee seven years for Rachel thy younger daughter.” (Genesis 29:14-18 KJV) Jacob made his choice to work hard for seven years and earn to marry Rachel: ***First***, he did it without prayer or seeking God's will or choice. ***Second***, exclusively his decision was based on the external beauty of Rachel. ***Third***, he should not choose the woman before he is prepared and ready for marriage. ***Many people now a day they make wrong choices for marriage based on emotions, feelings, and worldly desires, seeking girls beauties and without seeking God's will or plan.*** ***Genesis 29:20*** shows clearly the main reason of Jacob choice, ***“20 And Jacob served seven years for Rachel; and they seemed unto him but a few days, for the love he had to her.”***

Laban knew very well that he cannot give Rachel to Jacob for marriage. He should face him with the truth but he did not do it because he did not want to lose Jacob's service. ***Many pastors and church leaders they behave like Laban they would agree about marriages not in accord to God's will and plan just because they would not want to lose members or workers in the church.***

Let us read what happened further: ***“19 And Laban said, It is better that I give her to thee, than that I should give her to another man: abide with me. 20 And Jacob served seven years for Rachel; and they seemed unto him but a few days, for the love he had to her. 21 And Jacob said unto Laban, Give me my wife, for my days are fulfilled, that I may go in unto her. 22 And Laban gathered together all the men of the place, and made a feast. 23 And it came to pass in the evening, that he took Leah his daughter, and brought her to him; and he went in unto her. 24 And Laban gave unto his daughter Leah Zilpah his maid for an handmaid. 25 And it came to pass, that in the morning, behold, it was Leah: and he said to Laban, What is this thou hast done unto me? did not I serve with thee for Rachel? wherefore then hast thou beguiled me? 26 And Laban said, It must not be so done in our country, to give the younger before the firstborn. 27 Fulfil her week, and we will give thee this also for the service which thou shalt serve with me yet seven other years. 28 And Jacob did so, and fulfilled her week: and he gave him Rachel his daughter to wife also. 29 And Laban gave to Rachel his daughter Bilhah his handmaid to be her maid. 30 And he went in also unto Rachel, and he loved also Rachel more than Leah, and served with him yet seven other years.” (Genesis 29:19-30 KJV)*** Jacob was misled and forced for polygamy in marrying another wife just because Laban was greedy for Jacob's service and he took advantage of Jacob's emotions and feelings. But finally we know that Rachel died and Jacob left with Leah, God's choice for him.

We can also conclude from what had happened to Jacob that Isaac should not sent Jacob back to his family in Mesopotamia and should not break his father Abraham instruction to his servant ***“6 And Abraham said unto him, Beware thou that thou bring not my son thither again.” (Genesis 24:6 KJV)*** Since Abraham did not allow Isaac to go back to his family in his country then Isaac should not sent Jacob to that place to spare him many troubles.

My Dear and Beloved: * God call you and His church today to be a good and faithful watchman like the servant of Abraham to allow and ordain marriages that are ordained of God. * You are also accountable not to let your sons and your daughters to go alone and expose themselves to the danger of choosing their partners to avoid troubles and abuse as had happened to Jacob under the abuse of Laban. Let us pray

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 the dead on the third day to give me eternal life. Lord thank you for your Word that makes things clear to me in regard to your choice and will for marriages. Lord thank you for all the teaching about the watchman in this message, and thank you for all the corrections, the rebukes and the admonishments that we received from you.*

Confess your sins and renounce them. Confess and renounce your carelessness to follow the instruction about preparation for Godly marriage. Confess and renounce your sins in doing your own will and not the will nor the plan of God in your life and especially in pertains to marriage. Confess and renounce you exposed your sons and daughters to the danger of choosing their own marriage partner alone. Confess and renounce your worldliness and your love of material things. Confess your lack of reading God's Word and your lack of prayers. Repent of your non willingness to serve Christ and suffer for Him. Lord forgive me, I repent of the following sins _____ .

Lord I commit my life to abide with your plan and will in regard to marriage. Lord I commit myself to help my children and lead them to be in Godly marriages as Abraham worked that for his son Isaac. Lord help me and provide my need so I will continue to serve you.

Lord thank you for my brothers and sisters who repented of their sins in doing their own will, and who committed their lives to follow your will in pertain to the choice of marriage. Lord lead them with your Holy Spirit to raise their children in a Godly way, and to follow your instruction in placing them in Godly marriages. Lord use their lives as good testimony to others to follow you.

Lord bless us as a church and help us to teach your people your Word and your will about preparation for Godly marriages. Lord we pray for more Godly marriages to happen and more Godly families to be formed in our church. Lord refill us with the Holy Spirit and lead us to reach new people with your Word, to evangelize, making disciples, and training workers to go and plant new Bible studies and congregations for the church. Lord we pray for more people to be 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 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.

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