

---

Third Exodus Assembly

---

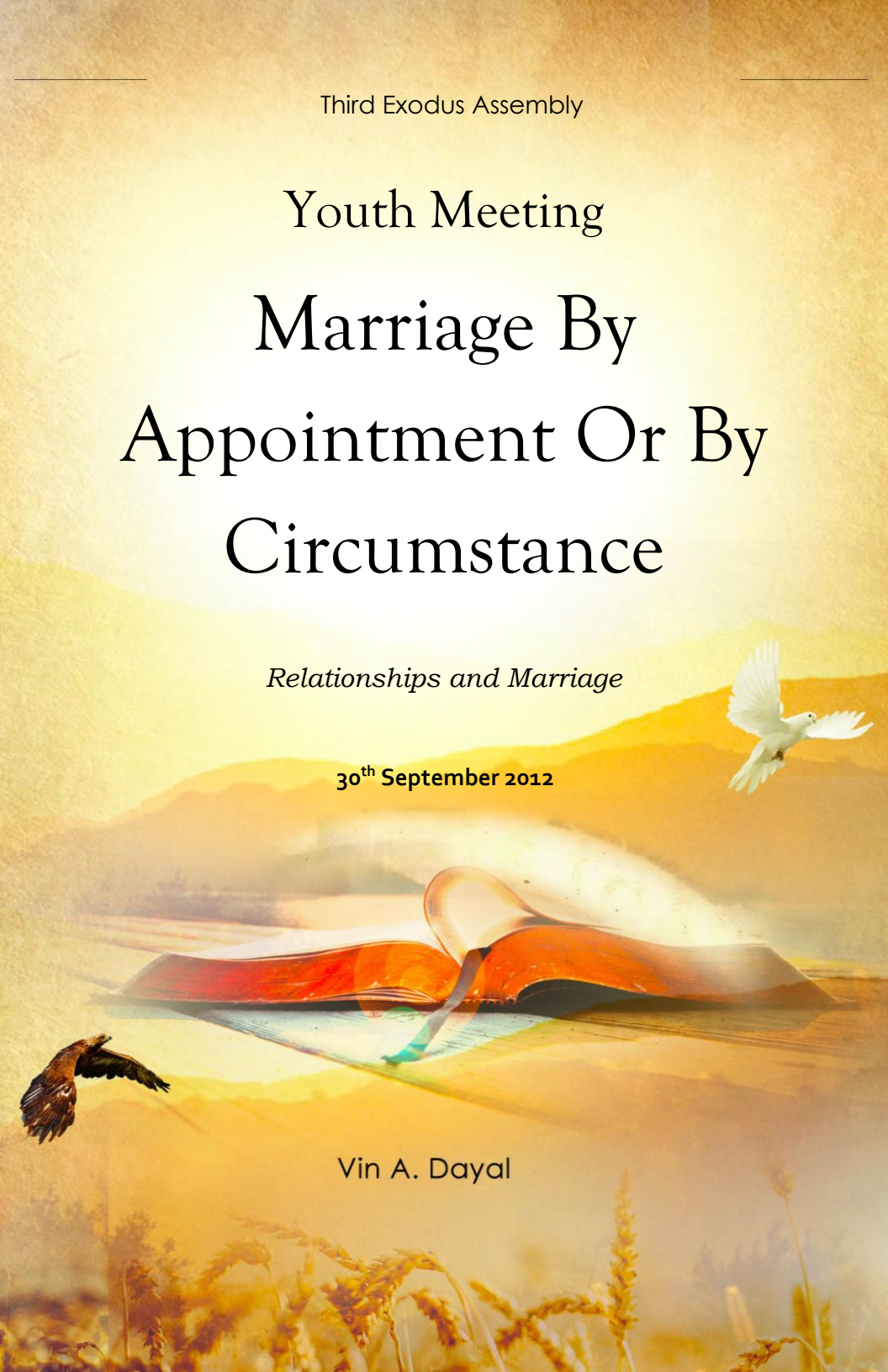
Youth Meeting

# Marriage By Appointment Or By Circumstance

*Relationships and Marriage*

30<sup>th</sup> September 2012

Vin A. Dayal





---

Third Exodus Assembly

---

Youth Meeting  
**Marriage By Appointment Or By Circumstance**  
*Relationships and Marriage*

30<sup>th</sup> September 2012  
TRINIDAD

---

Bro. Vin A. Dayal

---



Youth Meeting  
**MARRIAGE BY APPOINTMENT OR BY  
CIRCUMSTANCE**

*Relationships and Marriage*

TRINIDAD  
SUNDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2012  
**Bro. VIN A. DAYAL**

[#270 - Songs That Live -Ed.]

*No, He'll never let go of my hand.*

One more time. He'll never let go

Let's lift up our hands as we sing it. Sing it with confidence. Sing it knowing, He is hearing you. He is the One who guided you down through life. Let Him be your Guide from this day on.

*...fair land...*

Oh, thank you, Lord.

*Till I'm safe forever more,*

*On that happy golden shore,*

*No, He'll never let go of my hand.*

Let us pray. Gracious Father, we are so thankful to know that You are our God revealed to us in the Lord Jesus Christ, God becoming man, so that Lord, we could better understand You; that we can know that You know the things that we face in life, the things that we go through, the things that we experience, so that when we would come before Your great Presence we could have confidence that You know everything about us, and You are acquainted with everything that we have gone through, is going through and will go through in this life. And yet, dear God, to know that You are interested in leading us and guiding us; directing our paths. You said, acknowledge You in all our ways and

You shall direct our paths. “Trust in the Lord with all thine heart and lean not to thine own understanding.”

Oh God, we come this morning, Father, taking time off and gathering here so that we could have this special service. We pray that You will make it special in a way that it will be meaningful to each and every one; that it would be something—that it would be like balm in the soul, to help us, to strengthen us, knowing, oh God, these are Your sons and Your daughters, Father. These are a crop that You have raised up in these last days – Elected seeds of God, Lord, walking in this Light. And You’ve made them part of this great thing that You are doing in the earth, Lord.

How, dear God, through many of them You have made us so proud down through these years, to see where their hearts are, where their minds are; the things they are striving for. Yet, oh God even those who might have failures and mistakes, it is not intentional many times; it is because, Lord God, they just need to be more acquainted with the tactics of the enemy, how he fights, to be able to get the right strategy, and to be able to know how to resist that devil.

Father, we pray, oh God, even as we gather today in this Hour when we can be confident that this Seventh Dove has descended, oh God, this blessed Holy Spirit, Who wants to come into our lives and take up His abode, to lead us and guide us into all things, all that You have planned for our lives, oh God, how we want to submit. You, dear God, who knows, Father, the things that we struggle with, that enemy in our lives, Lord, that we struggle and battle with, oh God, having temporary relief but looking for a full complete deliverance, looking for complete victory, oh God, so that we can be so surrendered to You in all of Your Will, Father, may You help us today. And may this service provide some benefit for us so that when we leave, we could leave strengthened, we could leave more edified, we could leave seeing clearer, Father; we could leave, most of all,

with Your Holy Spirit, Lord, that You will impart into our hearts – Your Word becoming Spirit and life in us, where the Kingdom of God could be established within us. Grant it, Lord.

Help each one, Father. I just felt that You put this on my heart yesterday, and Lord God, called for the meeting so impromptu, but may You cause each one to be relaxed and settled; that Lord we could create the right atmosphere, and we could be so in Your Presence, Lord, so yielded to You, Lord, so that the Spirit of God can, Lord, just talk to us as a Father with children. Grant it, oh God, we pray, in the name of Jesus Christ; for Your honour and for Your glory, amen.

God bless you. You may have your seats. I want to say again, a special good morning to all of you and I really appreciate... You know, sometimes if we don't do something, maybe even something like this, I won't even realize that it has so many of you all in that age group. But it is certainly a great thing to be in your company this morning.

You know, more and more, as the days advance and the world is becoming darker and darker and more evil, that means our struggle has become greater and we seek the Lord for more strength, a better 'know how'; to be better equipped to deal with things. Then, you all, I can't call you little children any more. Most of you all here are already past seventeen, eighteen, nineteen, twenty. Looking at some of you all, we just have one or two between seventeen to twenty and the rest of you all are beyond your twenties. And, you know, it just shows that you are not like little children.

I just trust that the Lord will just help me to be out of the way, this morning. Because, you know, you feel things in your heart, and sometimes you don't know what you are going to say. And I didn't come, like, prepared to say any set of things but I know that I want to talk with you.

I had a little talk with the saints who were gathered there, Friday night, and sometimes I find the Holy Spirit moves far greater when we are relaxed and when we are in a nice atmosphere to receive from the Lord, you know. So, I'm kind of telling you, don't be tense right now; just, you know... The reason I do this is because I want to talk to you; I want to help you. And more and more, as you know, I grow older myself and some of you have reached up to a certain age now, I kind of think, you know, I'm out so much, preaching in so many different places, and when you get out in some of these places, you meet a lot of fine young people too and you try to help them the same way. And they would come around you and rally, and they'd want to talk and they'd want to ask questions, and you'd want to help them. Because, you know, we can't have a revelation like we have, when we talk things like: 'Hell is on the earth', and 'two hundred million devils are loosed', and you know, 'the whole world is being deceived', and 'the world is again falling apart', and when we are so near to the coming of the Lord, 'the door is fixing to swing shut' – how could we have a revelation of all these things and then, don't have a care for you; don't wonder how you are doing in the battle?

Some of us, you know, we have been walking in this Light, I guess longer than... None of you, maybe, were born when we started to walk in this Light, and so, age brings reason. And age and experiences bring understanding because God has kept us. The world wasn't as bad. I mean, it was evil since in the Prophet's time; the way he cried out against it. It got worse in our time, which is a few years after the Prophet, and we have kind of grown and come through it and raised children. But, by the time children were being born, it was becoming more evil. And while they were growing up, that evil world was getting more highly organized, waiting for the little ones to start to spring out from their home, to get into school, to get into secondary school;



to get there, where their parents and they are not even close to them. And then, when you spend a great part of your day outside there, it could be a great struggle. I know this. I'm acquainted with this, and I'm constantly looking and trying to find ways that we can help you to see the Lord Jesus.

Sometimes, you know, we talk of Him in a way so real, so close. And this is something like you are right there, and He is like a million miles from you sometimes – some of you. And you say, “They have something I want.” And, you know, “How could it be so real to them and so far from me?” Well, if my grandfather was still alive and I give him the key to open this door, he could open it and come in here. And if I have a son that is eight years and I give him the key, he could open the door and come in here. The key has nothing to do with old or youth. The key is what is important.

The old man who is seventy-five years old, eighty years old, who doesn't have the key; he is shut out the same way. Do you understand? Abraham was seventy-five years old when God called him. He was a hundred years old when he gave birth to Isaac. Isaac was forty years old when he gave birth to Jacob—sixty years rather, when he gave birth to Jacob. And so, we realize that Jacob brought Joseph, and Joseph at seventeen years, what he was seeing what Abraham at seventy-five years hadn't experienced yet. Because as the Age advanced, younger and younger they were catching things. And that is why today, if you look at the Church Ages, some Ages like the Methodist Age was from 1750 to 1906. That is quite a lot of years. That is about how many years? That is a hundred and fifty-six years or so. And then, you had the Age before that; Luther's Age was 1520 to 1750. So, look at those Ages before they got another Truth. In this Age, the whole Book is opened and we are drowning in the Truth. And you are born from a baby, you are hearing things that people who

lived in those Ages, hundreds of years passed and they didn't know.

When I came to the Lord, my mother was about, maybe about sixty, sixty-something, maybe about sixty-five going on there. My father was about, close to eighty. He was about fifteen years older than her, I guess. And they didn't know what I knew as a little boy. As a young boy I came to the Lord at twenty-one going on twenty-two.

So, I'm saying this just to relax you a little bit, okay? So just get relaxed. I am trying to show you where my heart is and why I'm here, and what I'm trying to do. And I trust that it is going to be of benefit to you.

I knew God had to send a prophet. I was baptized in Christian baptism. My mother had Anglican baptism – they sprinkle the child with water. My father was a man who lived all his life in sports. He can tell you everything about football, cricket, billiards, horse racing, you name it. He knew the jockeys. He knew the names of the horses. He knew the footballers; he knew the cricketers. He knew the records of the batsmen; all these different things. But ask him to find, maybe, John 3:16, he would take a little while to find John 3:16. You know what I mean. And here I was, a young boy in the house, wasn't even the first son, I was the fourth in the family of six, and I began to have this experience from a little boy. They knew from small that I was a little different and a little strange. But, you know, like parents, you have children... You become a brand new father when you have your first child. You get a second one and you are glad that you have one who could play with the one who had nobody to play with. By the time you get three or four, then you find that you get concerned about your salary to take care of all of these and the increasing demand. So the other children, you don't have much attention to give to them. Do you understand what I'm saying? So, if you have somebody kind of, a little

strange, you don't even have time to get into his world and find out what is happening.

In many ways, that is like me and you. The demand on my life right now with the ministry here, regionally and internationally, God knows. Like this, I would like this, because I know inside of me has what you have need of. But even though it is inside of me, if I don't get with you, the things that I could have imparted to you takes my attention so much. And that is why, sometimes, I kind of make certain stands, and in-between is to tell some of the old ones, "I've been helping you for the last thirty years; give me a break. Go to a next doctor. Let some of my time be used for the younger ones." Because I believe that, you know, if the medicine didn't work on some for thirty years... And since then, the medicine has upgraded; it's become more potent. Do you understand what I mean? There are no more side effects again. The medicine is pure, good medicine; that if it is taken as prescribed, it is going to bring the results.

Do you know how hard it is to see children going through things, facing things, failing, distressed, frustrated sometimes, needing answers and can't seem to get a hold of the answers to deal with the things? Sometimes making sincere effort, failing, which increases further frustration; then you want to know—it is questions that start to come because Satan now, knows how to exploit these circumstances. He starts, "You think there is anything to this in truth? Don't you see, if you are a child of God, or if God had really loved you, or if so and so and so, you wouldn't have been struggling like this?" Because you are not too sure if God is keeping what He is saying. But you are very sure in your heart, "I tried. I could have stayed down on the ground when I got knocked down, but I really tried and got up. I ate humble pie. I ate my shame to try again, and still no results."

So, sometimes what happens now, you unplug and you kind of say, “Well,”—you become a Calvinist. Calvinism is like, “What will be, will be. If I’m of God, He will help me. If I’m not of God, well, that is it. I can’t do better but I tried my best.” Do you understand what I’m saying? Now, sometimes, what you need there is a little closer fellowship. You see, we are all in church and everybody likes to help and everybody wants to help everybody. Trying to help somebody doesn’t necessarily mean your method or your prescription is going to work, because the same way you are trying to serve God, somebody is sincerely trying to help too.

Bro. Branham told the little story about this kitten. This girl saw this kitten; it was wet in the snow, freezing. He was shivering. The poor kitten was already like a stray kitten; that means it has not been fed. It was not being taken care of. It was outside there. Somebody must have kicked it outside the house or run the kitten and closed the door. And then, when she saw this kitten so freezing, well, her heart was breaking with compassion for this kitten. And she knew... She had on her nice little sweater. You know, if you ever traveled and you experienced the winter a little bit. She had on a nice sweater keeping her warm. And, you know, they had a fireside in the living room and so on, and she was kind of feeling real good. So, she knew, “I have something this kitten doesn’t have. Look at what the winter is doing to her and look how the winter isn’t doing me anything.” So she reached down and lifted this kitten up and embraced this little kitten trying to comfort this kitten, but in her hand the kitten was shivering. So immediately she thought, “Heat is going to solve this.” And from the time she said that, she said, “I have the solution.”

Now, heat was really what the kitten needed but the girl now, didn’t know how much heat to apply, what kind of heat; where to put the kitten. Do you understand? Poor little thing, do you know what she

did? She figured, "I'll light the oven and put him inside the oven." She put the kitten in the oven, so the kitten started to feel warm and nice inside. So she said, "Ah, like you are enjoying that, boy." You know, she was seeing him drying off. "So, since he is enjoying it, I will give him a little more." You don't have to be a rocket scientist to figure out what happened, right? She baked the kitten.

She had good intentions. She meant well. She was touched with the need of the kitten. She had feelings. She had compassion – one hundred percent on all of those things. She had care. Whatever she was doing, she sacrificed that time of herself to give attention to the kitten. Now, that is how we try to help people sometimes, and we do them more harm. That is why sometimes I say, "We have to have discernment." The one thing she didn't have was discernment.

Now, love is a thing that looks for expression. And when she felt this love and this love was bursting in her soul, and she wanted to show this love, and then she found someone who needed love and care and attention, she just started to pour in that love. But kissing up the kitten 'cushy, cushy', was not going to do the kitten anything. That fellow needed heat. And trying to put him under her sweater, the body heat was not sufficient to help that fellow. Maybe she tried that too and when she realized she needed more heat than body heat and sweater heat, next thing, she killed the kitten. All the love she had, she couldn't bring it back. And then, the guilt and the complex that she was responsible for the kitten going there. Or, if she was a little self-righteous she could say, "Well, it is not my fault. I tried to help you. I saw three people pass you straight. And at least, if you had a little fifteen, twenty minutes of love and warmth, well, at least that is better because you had nothing before." And she could find a way to justify herself after she was really responsible for the death of the kitten. Because she didn't evaluate, "I tried to

approach a situation and deal with something that I am not really equipped to deal with or have the diagnosis of the thing.”

Now, self-judgment is one of the greatest things anybody can have. When we can examine ourselves, our thoughts, our methods, our ways, even though we have good intentions and all these things, all of this amounts to maturing, maturing.

That is why I wanted to talk to you all, because you all are at the age where you all are maturing. On the physical aspect, some of you all are mature. In your job, some of you all, maybe, are viewed as people with the potential to be promoted in the workplace, because they see your capability in handling your responsibilities delegated to you in the institution, in the place where you work. But I'm not talking about that kind of responsibility and that kind of maturity. I'm talking about maturity in life. Because you have people sixty, seventy years old, who can't really deal with themselves; can't really make the right judgment on situations. And I'm not talking about duncy people. I'm talking about people with degrees, because this Knowledge is a different kind of knowledge. This is the Knowledge of God. Once you are dealing with God, you are dealing with 'after death'. You can't be dealing with God and not be dealing with 'after death', because you are conscious that there is life after death. And once there is life after death, you don't just want to think about living; you also want to think about dying and life after death.

It is a great thing when you can envision life beyond this world. If you can't, then it means to say, you only have this world to look to. And if you only have this world to look to, then you would, if you are a person who believes in standards, you would look for a certain standard in this world and try to attain it. And if you look at this world and you see rich people looking like they are enjoying life plenty and poor people like they are suffering and downtrodden, then, if you experience

a little poverty you would hate that and you would want to make more money to enjoy what the richer people are enjoying. But if you can see beyond this life, you might be a person who could leave big money and wealth and possessions to go down and live small.

You may say that might be a foolish thing to do. No, I'll give you two examples now. The Bible says, "By faith Moses esteemed the reproach of Christ greater riches." [Hebrews 11:24-26 -Ed.] Now, in natural life, none of us here will ascend to where Moses was in natural life. To ascend to where Moses was is like being Vice President of the United States. And I'm sure none of you have not aimed or are trying to aim that high in this world to attain to be the Vice President of a super power. You have your own ranch. You have your own security detail. You have your own fleet of SUVs. You have your own—all your perks, all the...you know. I don't think anybody here is aiming for that kind of thing. Because even the Prime Minister of Trinidad is a real, real small fry to somebody like the Vice President of the United States. Do you understand what I'm saying? It says, Moses, when he saw that and he ascended to this place, was one more step to the throne. And he was already the one who they looked to, to rule Egypt. If you saw Ten Commandments you'd have an idea of this.

But this man, at that moment in his life, experienced the call of God. And when this began to happen to him, he esteemed the reproach of Christ greater than—he made a decision that seemed so shocking. Because you would think, being in power, he'd only have to sign a decree and say, "Let the slaves go free. Let all Jewish slaves go free." But it was not just to free the slaves; it was to lead the slaves out of bondage – that is what he was called for. Do you get that?

In other words... Because he was Hebrew. He started to realize, "I'm not Egyptian; I am Hebrew and my people are in bondage." And they weren't in bondage for the last ten years; for the last four hundred years they were

in bondage. And when he thought of, “My family and my great, great ancestors, God used to come home by them,” because God came home by Abraham and sat down and ate. Angels used to appear to them. Jacob wrestled with an angel. Do you understand? But what it is and what God wants to show there is: somebody, when they find this... I’m getting to where I don’t want to go, you know, but I’ll go for the while. Because I’m talking to you just to adjust you a little bit. But I started to say something here that I want to come back to certain things I feel I want to talk to you about. Just relax. Are you feeling okay, so far? Okay. Praise the Lord.

But at that moment, hear what he was discovering: he started to discover, “I am not just flesh and blood.” Because when he understood that call, he knew he was the one whom God told Abraham four hundred years before, “I will deliver the people with a mighty hand.” So he started to realize, “Somebody knew me four hundred years before.” Later on, when he met that God he would find out, “I was with that God before there was a world.” But for that moment he was seeing, “Somebody knew I was going to be coming here, I was going to be born into the earth, and my life’s purpose was described in the Word. There was a plan for my life when I came.” And the system and the Pharaoh family had a plan for him. So now, man’s plans for him, his plan for himself, and God’s plan for him was clashing. He had to decide, “Do you have your own plan, your career; do you have your own plan that your family has for you, or do you have the plan that God has for you.” He was faced with this.

Every one of us are faced with that in our walk. Because you don’t be called of God—you are called out of something; into something. And that call is a call to separation. And sometimes, when that call is coming, you all are already starry eyed. You are getting a cell, an iphone, you are getting a laptop computer or an iPad, and you are getting a car for traveling, and all of this



the job is offering. And you will be the marketing manager in the future after two years of good work, if you bring in the kind of income, because the company says, "We are seeing potential in you."

Well, Pharaoh, think of a big place like America, Egypt was a super power in the world. Do you know how many people it had with potential? But they were seeing that this man, out of everybody, had the best potential for this. So, by the time they presented this to him... And they were grooming him for this, you know. He was being groomed for this from small. But this is how the enemy gets a hold of a life quickly. And you could imagine, he could have anything he wanted, because where he was, fame, popularity, money, women, chariots, houses, he had everything. But It says, "By faith he forsook Egypt." He laid these things aside.

The thought there is, God is showing, there is such a power in the call of God, and such a power in the life that responds to the call, no matter what the pleasures of this life is, no matter what could be offered to keep you away from that call, there is something that rises up where you can see beyond the glamour and the prosperity and the fame. Some people, do you know what it means to them to see their picture in the papers? Now, what value does that have? What is the value of that? Do you understand what I'm saying? Now, either things are real or it is not real. Okay?

Then the next thing – Abraham. The next example is Abraham. He was looking for a city whose builder and maker was God. He had an experience that made him look beyond the world here while he was alive. He had a vision of another World – a World beyond this world. And he met the King of that World – Melchisedec, King of Salem; Heavenly Jerusalem. And when he caught this, it didn't strike him just as a thought. It wasn't just, maybe, a thing he surmised about. It was something that went deep down on the inside that he decided, "I am not settling down here, you know. No, I'm living as

a nomad. I'm a pilgrim and a stranger in this world." He started to see this world for what it is.

Now, watch the same faith in Moses. Abraham started as a nomad; God called him out of the city where he used to live. Moses grew up in the big city of Rameses in Egypt – so big. Do you understand? But when revelation struck Moses, his faith... Now, this is faith now. This is what most people lack. And you can't be a Christian without this. And if you walk by sight you are lost, no matter how good you are. Because it means to say, you didn't see the invisible, and God is invisible. It says, "Moses endured because he saw Him Who is invisible." [Hebrews 11:27 –Ed.]

So Moses, this Thing when it dropped into the heart, he started to realize, "A call of God?" Now, that decision could have been debated. Hear how you could have seen that. "Look, the same God who called him told him he can't go into the promised land. Do you see how God is unfaithful? The man gave up everything for God and then God cut the man out in the end. So, look at the people God who called the man to lead. Every minute they want to stone him. We didn't read about one place in Egypt where they wanted to stone him; everybody was worshipping him, 'Mr. Moses, Dr. Moses, General Moses; oh, Mr. Moses.' He was the darling of Egypt." You say, "That man made a bad decision. That is the worst decision he made."

But, do you know something? Fourteen hundred years after, here was God in the flesh, Jesus, on Mount Transfiguration with His disciples, and then Moses was there with Him still alive; with the One he followed back there, still alive. Here was Abraham, eighteen hundred years after. Jesus was teaching about him. He said, "Do you know where Abraham is? Abraham is receiving all who are to come into the Kingdom." When Lazarus died, (remember the story? I preached it in the funeral here,) he went to the bosom of Abraham because Abraham was the father of the race. He saw a vision of a world.

Now, what do we have? Do we have a vision that there is another world? Did we have a witness of one who went over in that world? Now, you read things, let us say in school; some of you are going to school. I was preaching this in the funeral. I said, "You know, there was a time when there was no motor car, there was no aero-plane; there was no spaceship." In the days when there was only horse and buggy, when a man invented the wheel and they brought a cart so that you could carry ten people on that cart with two horses pulling it, that was a big, big, big invention, you know, because ten [persons -Ed.] can't ride on the horse's back. But when the person invented the wheel, now, that was just going. The horse doesn't even feel the strain to pull it because it has wheels. It comes like you are trying to lift up a two hundred pound suitcase; you can't move it, but if you put that suitcase on wheels with a little strap, you'll walk so, and you don't feel a strain. Do you understand?

So when this thing happened and they invented the horse and buggy, that was great; nobody could see beyond that. But men later on started to visualize a motor car; men started to visualize an aero-plane. Do you know something? That is normal today. If you talk and say, "I'm going to the States."

They say, "How are you going?"

"I'm going by ship."

They say, "You are going on a cruise?"

You say, "No, that is my transport. I am not going on any cruise."

They say, "Girl, what happen to you. You know there are airports and planes and things? You know there are flights everyday to the States?" Because it would seem like that is a backward thing. They'd say "You have plenty time to waste to get to the States by ship."

You say, "How many stops is that making?"

They say, "It has non-stop flights - three hours and you are in Miami. What happen to you?"

Do you see? That comes normal. Now, it didn't exist at one time but people could see it. Now, understand me in what I'm trying to explain to you. So I was saying, Heaven, some people will wonder, "Heaven – did that really happen? Could that really be? Abraham really saw that place? Bro. Branham really went in that place and came back and told us about that place? And why didn't that happen to other people in other Ages?" Because in every Age they were going to die and go there, but we have come to the Age, "*We shall not all sleep.*" We have come to that Age.

That is why Seven Angels didn't come in any past Age. That is why no Seven Sealed Book wasn't open in any past Age. It couldn't; God kept it for the last days. Then that tells you, if you and I are born in this Age, there is something about us. Now, as I said, you all are maturing. And I am saying these things so when I get to where I want to talk this morning, to say: if you are maturing, your thoughts have to be here.

I was explaining about maturing on your job. And they say, "I think you could hold the manager position in this department, you know – the manageress. Or, we are going to put you in charge. You would be the senior person. You will get a grade two pay or something," and you kind of feel good; you kind of feel secure.

So, that is why I told you about Moses and them, and Abraham and them. Moses had riches. He didn't become a poor man but he left those things, because he got 'greater Riches'. The Bible says, he esteemed the reproach of Christ greater Riches than the riches he had before. There are greater Riches for all of us. That is why God, in this Age said, "You say you are rich, but you are poor." He said, "Buy of Me gold tried in the fire; then we are talking riches." [Revelation 3:17-18 -Ed.] Do you see? In other words, riches that can't perish. Paul said, they trust in uncertain riches. [1<sup>st</sup> Timothy 6:17 -Ed.] One devaluation of the money, which is coming, and you strike off about five zeroes, do you know what happens?

All what you laboured for, it is gone; then your temptation is far greater now, to walk away from that. It is not easy to walk away from that, you know. The rich young ruler who was keeping the law since he was small couldn't walk away, you know. So, mature in an understanding.

Some of you travel, no doubt. You went to Tobago. Some of you went in the States. Some of you went to different places. Maybe none of you ever went Africa; maybe none of you—well, some of you. We went there recently. Some of you went to India. But even though we went to the place, how are we certain that that is the shape of the continent, so that if they put all the continents on the board you could say which one is South America, which one is North America, which one is Africa, which one is France, which one is Germany? And even though they put the islands too, you could watch it and say which one is Barbados, which one is Trinidad, because they all have a shape. Well, when you are on the ground, you can't see the shape; it is when you go up in the air and you fly around. That is how they are able to draw a map. They don't imagine a map, you know. You have to fly. And when you start to fly over the coast you start to see the contours. Then, today with satellites, that is very easy, and you can see the shape of places.

Now, people are living there. You can't see them. Can you see anybody in Venezuela right now? You can't even see people in Tobago right now, sitting down here. Do you understand? Well, that is how Heaven is. It is a next Country. It is called a Country in the Bible, you know. It says, "We desire a better *country*." [Hebrews 11:16 -Ed.] And there are people living there, because the people who leave this world, migrate from here that have immigration that takes them in there because they are qualified to go in. Their papers get fixed up here and they get acceptance there.

The Bible even tells you about a man going in and his papers were not fixed. And when he went in they said, "Where is your robe?"

He said, "Robe?"

He said, "Bind his hand and foot, he can't go in here."

It

showed that his things weren't fixed. If his things were fixed, he

would've had a robe to come in there.

Now, all these things the Scripture is teaching us. In other words, there are requirements for the things of God. The things of God are not dropping from the sky so [that way -Ed.]. There are requirements. Now, your maturity starts to understand this because you could apply this in your life.

So, we want to change over a little bit now. But I told you some of these things to tell you, you are at the age where you all are maturing. Many of you know about marriage. Many of you are interested in marriage. Many of you will be married soon, no doubt, whether in church, out of church; whatever. But the thing is, while you are here, I have a responsibility to help you.

Now, look how God's thing is. God's thing is, if you make mistakes because you never had Truth presented to you, God will hold me responsible, you know. Because I stand here knowing, I know the truth about those things. These are the things God equipped me with for the position He called me to. So that means, if the people who sit down under me do not know about these things and get into things, God will hold me responsible, because their ignorance will cause them to perish.

Then again, if I teach these things and people don't believe it the way the Word of God says it, because maybe, they see in a movie a different thing, or they see in a talk show something else, or they read in a book something else and they kind of choose that way, then

they will have to give account too. So the thing is, if you all are my children here, I as a father, have to be interested, to make sure my girls and they, they know what the Word says about things. And then I have to teach them and show them that if this is a promise of God, how they could have faith. Because, you know, sometimes people could have complexes. “Girl, I find I’m too short. Nobody will like me. If I were four inches higher, you know, my chances would have been forty out of a hundred. But the way I’m so small, I stand about five out of a hundred.” Do you understand? A girl now, who says, “Well, I’m just right.” She says, “I will be eighty or ninety out of a hundred,” you know, but the thing is, everybody is not just looking for one on one thing.

Sometimes it might be an attitude; sometimes it might be... Because some of the most beautiful people that you could find today, in today’s world, are who are advertised. People don’t spend millions of dollars to advise somebody who has no appeal or no appearance or can’t influence anybody. They look for the best because those men are not spending their money foolishly. They know, “You are going to make money for us, and we are investing money in you to make money for us. And if we are going to give you an endorsement or something, you better bring in. Because from the time we are not getting the returns, we’ll cut you off and we’ll find somebody who has more appeal than you.” That is how the world is, because they are not playing around. They are in business to make money.

We, in life, to live for the Lord and to continue on to live, we are not thinking about—because you might die today and not... If you die today and the Rapture takes place tomorrow and you don’t make it, you still have a thousand years in torment before you come up. And after you come up at the White Throne judgment, if they find that you had enough opportunity to receive the

Word and accept the Word then you could go into a few million years of continued torment.

So when a person, as I say, can't look beyond, you throw away opportunities here when life is so short and you are just living, maybe, thirty years or so on earth. And you will throw away that, the opportunities there, to run after some illusion and then put yourself there and go out of existence; whereas somebody will make an investment in eternal life here and have never-ending life. And that is why my conviction is, the Hour is late. And as I see the lateness of the Hour, I want in some way to help you to evaluate.

I can't live your life for you. You will have to live your own life as I have to live mine. But the lessons I learnt from the Word of God and in my life, if I am appointed by God to teach you, I can share with you things that can help you get a hold of this God and see His Promises for this Hour be made manifest in your life. Because I know, when it comes down to it, a girl really wants marriage for happiness. A man wants marriage for happiness. He wants to have a family. He wants to have children. He wants to have a nice home and settle. Because they want to serve God; they've come to this reality already.

Now, anybody who is trying to rob somebody from that is cruel. Do you understand what I'm saying? Because that is normal in life, because the Bible opens with marriage and the Bible ends with marriage. And in the middle of the Bible is marriage and all down through the Old Testament and New Testament is teaching us about marriage. So this is God's plan. Marriage is a great thing but in the Age we live in, false union is a devastating thing; wrong relationships are a deceitful thing.

This is where I want to speak to you, this morning, for a little thought, in a way to help you. And it is, like, not preaching; I want to talk to you. I find that I could get over better to you if I'm talking to you. Because my



objective and my intent is to really see you all come into happiness while you live here on earth; find your place. Some of you will serve God better married. That is no joke. But that is married to the right person. That is alright? This is not as easy as it sounds – to find the right person, or who is the right person, or who is Mr. Right. You have to know God first to know this. You do not know this without knowing God first. Because you see, without God in your life you are selfish; you want what you want, you want what you like, you want what you see, without God. And the beautiful Book the Bible is, the Bible has everything inside of it pertaining to all these things.

I want to look at two examples today – two examples. And if time would permit that we get through quickly, then we'll have some questions. Remember when we used to have the sisters meeting? And then we used to have the brothers meeting. Today we are all gathered together. All there is where I was trying to help; trying to help. I told you about Esther. I told you about womanhood. I told you about Abigail's beautiful countenance, good understanding; crisis management.

I guess some of you might be in crisis, right now. I don't know what your managerial skills are. You might be able to manage an office: do this, that, that, that, that, that, post this out, get that here, file this, put this in that file-cabinet, do this, make those calls, set up the appointment for the boss; whatever it is. And you might be managing, but to manage your life, you find out it is a little different. Then that means, honesty with ourselves is a great, great asset.

When you are selfish and you are self-centered, it is hard to be honest because you are always going to evaluate yourself higher than you really are. And people who are prone to hide their faults, that is not too good a thing. The Bible admonishes us not to hide your faults but to confess your faults.

Now, it is a wisdom in there. You don't go telling everybody your business because some people are born journalists [Bro. Vin and youths laugh -Ed.]. Before you know it, they are like, they get the hot story and they are breaking the news. Some people just like breaking news. Some people like documentaries too; it is in series. Do you understand? So you have to be wise in these things.

Now, it is because of not being able to handle these things, our unity gets fragmented. Do you know why? You confide in somebody; they talk with the wrong person. You didn't give them any news to tell anybody else. So from the time you get burned, you say, "You see me and that person, we are done." And then, in this kind of environment, if you get ten or fifteen of that, well, we'd need prayer meetings because the Spirit can't move. The Spirit is bound because love dropped down; because people don't have confidence in one another and these kinds of things. Nobody is praying for nobody. They are more putting you on Facebook; talking about some other thing. Do you understand what I mean? They become like your PRO person[public relations officer -Ed.]. They are talking about your business to somebody else, and this is not good.

If we have an environment... Now, you see, we have to know what we are about. If we have an environment and we are a family, and we have a concept that we are a family with problems, now that is a good concept. If we have a concept that we are a family with problems that is a good concept, because we start off, "We are a family." So if we have problems, we will work on our problems to improve the relationship and the harmony in the family. If we start off, "We are not a family. I only go there because it is close to me. I go up there for the Word; I am not meddling with anybody up there," well then, here is the supermarket. Everybody just comes and gets their groceries and goes but they don't have to relate to anybody. But because of what we are, we have

to be unified. One mind and one accord is essential for us. So that means, “Apart from my problems, I have to be interested in a brother’s and sister’s problem. Apart from my prayer for my deliverance, I have to be interested in another member of the Body who is hurting and to be interested.”

We have to be mature. If we are not mature, we are going to think carnal, we are going to think selfish, we are going to do more damage; we are going to be putting blame on a lot of people, because this is what immature and selfish people do. Immature and selfish people are people who cannot accept responsibility for their actions. Growing up and having the Holy Ghost makes you responsible for your actions. You know, “I am the one who committed the offence. I am the one to make it right. I am the one to apologize. I am the one to go back and make restitution concerning this.” This is what the Holy Ghost does.

“I heard about this one and I laughed and I added my piece,” you know. When you can do that freely, there is nothing here convicting; there is no convicting Power in here, so that means that that is a life without the Spirit. Because if you can join in those things and there is nothing convicting you... Because if the Holy Ghost is there, It would say, “How could you run the person down? Don’t you have the same fault? And if it was you and somebody does that to you, would you like it?” Once the Holy Ghost is there, that convicting Thing comes up, and then you don’t find yourself rejoicing in iniquity. Do you understand?

Now, when we could deal with these areas, we are on our way to becoming a powerful, unified group, you know. Because the thing with God is, God wants to come in and move, but all of these things become clogs and short circuits and grounds off our power. See? Now, we could have enough power—in other words, we get up and sing. We go on the stage and sing; yeah, we sing and we have a great time. You say, “Boy that was a

time!” But if in the end that only amounts to personal enjoyment, that doesn’t move the church forward, that doesn’t fulfill the Word; that doesn’t inspire other people. And then, when you step off of there, your victory’s gone; you don’t really have real victory. Then you realize now, “I am not watching myself deep enough.” Because the person who can’t look into their own heart will always be an unconscious person; they would be blaming people for things they do too. And that makes your damnation five times worse when you are blaming people for things you do too.

When you are vexed and you are crying now, for things, and you do the same things, that is a spirit of hypocrisy. Now, all these are demons, okay? It has lust demons. It has hypocritical demons. It has pretentious demons. It has all kinds of demons. It has social demons. It has wajang [rowdy or ill-mannered –Ed.] demons. Do you understand what I mean? It has all different kinds. So the thing is, it has the Holy Ghost too. So it depends on which spirit you want to reside in you.

But the person now, who understands that they’ve come through hurt, they’ve come through pain, they’ve come through disappointment, they’ve come through seeing that they don’t have the ability for certain things, in other words, they discover weakness in their lives, these are good things. These are not things you hide. This means, this is on the way to progress with God.

It comes like you are in school and the teacher is teaching on the board, and you can’t work out the sums and you are only watching somebody’s paper; you write down the thing. And then the person says, “Hey, you are doing pretty well, man. Would you come and explain on the board how we do this?” And then you go there and you can’t do it. Do you understand? Well, it is the same. It is that simple. It is the same.

So let’s see where we can go this morning here. Let’s stand. I want to take for a title this morning and call it, **“MARRIAGE BY APPOINTMENT OR BY**

**CIRCUMSTANCE” – MARRIAGE BY APPOINTMENT OR BY CIRCUMSTANCE.** And as we go, you will understand what I mean by Appointment. It says “Rebekah was the bride appointed for Isaac” – Divine Appointment. Everybody wants a wife and everybody wants a husband. Do you know the ironic thing about this? Some people who have a husband already, they want a husband too, still. And some people who have a wife already, they want a wife too, still. That is why, when things are so complicated, you have to dig down and find out what causes this; how to solve this.

Is everybody still relaxed; flexible, right? This is just a little talk for edification. And for a little subject we want to speak about **“Relationships and Marriage” – “Relationships and Marriage”.** Marriage is one thing; relationship is a next thing. Marriage has responsibility with it. True relationships will have responsibility. But again, I say, if you are selfish then people just want relationships to benefit themselves. But as we look at this, we’ll see.

Genesis 24, verse 1.

*<sup>1</sup> And Abraham was old, and well stricken in age: and the LORD had blessed Abraham in all things.*

*<sup>2</sup> 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:*

*<sup>3</sup> 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:*

Now, when we read something like this, we know, Abraham was a man that God was in his life. He was God’s prophet just like Branham today. And he was the greatest man on the face of the earth at that time. God

used to come and talk to him. The Bible says, Abraham was a friend of God.

So Abraham's son now, was about to be married. He'd reached the age. Abraham wanted to see him married. Abraham wanted to see him settled down. Abraham wanted to see him with a family. Because up until that time, Abraham had Ishmael as a son but Ishmael was not the son; Isaac was the promised son. And now, Isaac had come, he was forty years and he had no children as yet. He wasn't even married. But Abraham now, was thinking... Because the mother was dead. Sarah had died. And Abraham was thinking, "It is time to get my son married." In other words, he was putting his house in order. And he was sending his servant now, Eliezer, his eldest servant; he was saying,

*<sup>3</sup> And I will make thee swear [verse 3] 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:*

*<sup>4</sup> But thou shalt go unto my country, and to my kindred, and take a wife unto my son Isaac.*

*<sup>5</sup> 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?*

Do you see how the servant was a wise man? The servant knew, "Well, what if the girl doesn't want to come?" So he wanted to know everything that was in Abraham's mind concerning this.

*<sup>6</sup> And Abraham said unto him, Beware thou that thou bring not my son thither again.*

*<sup>7</sup> 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, ...*

Abraham was going back to his experience. This was about, maybe about forty—no, what am I saying? Forty and twenty five; this was sixty-five years after Abraham was called. And Abraham was giving this experience. He was going back sixty-five years from when God called him out to the present time, and the things he learned walking with this God.

*<sup>7</sup> 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.*

*<sup>8</sup> 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.*

*<sup>9</sup> And the servant put his hand under the thigh of Abraham his master, and sware to him concerning that matter.*

*<sup>10</sup> 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.*

Keep your Bibles open. May the Lord bless the reading of His Word. You may have your seats.

*<sup>11</sup> And he made his camels to kneel down without the city by a well of water [unto] the time of the evening, even the time that women go out to draw water.*

*<sup>12</sup> And he said, O Lord God...*

Watch the servant now, okay? He was praying. The first part of the story, we see where Abraham was giving him clear instructions: what should be done and what

should not be done. And he promised him that the Angel of God will go with him. Now, what is the whole scene here? Marriage. The father was interested in getting the right wife for his son. Why does he want the right wife for his son? He wanted the thing to last. He knew God promised that the land was for him and his seed, and the only son he had so far was this boy who was considered in the plan of God. And any seed that was going to inherit the land would come through Isaac: "In Isaac shall thy seed be called." [Genesis 21:12 -Ed.]

This is an example. If you are living in your father's house, male or female, and you are a Christian, and we believe in the God of Abraham, the God of Branham the same way because it is parallel, watch how marriage is viewed; watch how marriage is approached.

Now remember, in that land there were a lot of married people, you know. But in the world we live today, as in Abraham's time it was the same time. It comes back to the same. The men of Sodom were exceedingly wicked. In the world we live in today, man marries man and woman marries woman, you know, and man marries divorced woman and woman marries divorced man. And then, some people don't marry. They just shack up because they don't believe in marriage, because nobody wants obligations. In other words, "We will have pleasure. I'll give you money; a little support and so on. And since nobody wants you and you are with me, well, I don't need to do this." Everybody relates a certain way. There are all kinds of relationships. Some people have to accept, "This man has three women; he could take care of three."

But Abraham now, had a revelation and Abraham was thinking about marriage the right way. Because the God who talked to Abraham was the God who made the first man and the first woman and Who married them in the garden of Eden. That is the same God. We have to understand, the God who came down in this Day, that Pillar of Fire that hung over the Prophet's head,



that was God with Branham just like God was with Abraham in the Bible; that is the God who made the first man and the first woman, you know. That is that same God. Do you know where that puts us? That alone puts us in a very special class; that we have the truth of marriage and divorce.

You know, when the truth of marriage and divorce was preached, everybody was going in a seminary, “What do you think, boy? The Greeks say this. The Hebrews say that. Well, it doesn’t make a difference here.” When Branham went to preach *Marriage and Divorce* [1965-0221m -Ed.], the Pillar of Fire came down and hung there. After Seven Angels came and opened Seven Seals and gave the revelation, the Pillar of Fire came down there and hung when he was coming now, to bring the truth on marriage and divorce to the church. So that puts us right in line with that same God in the beginning of the Bible. Because when that God came in flesh in the middle of the Bible and they said, “Can a man put away his wife for anything?” Jesus said, “It wasn’t so from the beginning.” He said, “Moses did that for the hardness of your heart.”

Now, here was the same God Who instituted marriage in the beginning of the Bible, standing in the middle of the Bible and talking to them about marriage. And then, here is the same God coming in the End-time – in the beginning of the Bible, in the middle of the Bible, and at the end of the Bible – and He was hanging in that Pillar of Fire to His Prophet, to go and teach it. He said, “If I preach the truth on this, it will break up every church in the country.”

What we have among us today, we have the truth concerning these things, you know. And you could only do this once. You don’t marry and divorce and get a next woman or get a next man. No, and especially under a ministry like this. I sit down and talk to you first and go through step by step with you and say, so and so and so. I give you... I printed a little book because of all the

confusion, called *The Sacredness of the Marriage Vow* and gave it to everybody in the church to read on what God says about marriage.

Now, if after I do this and everybody wants to run through the church and have their own ideas, the blood is off my hand, you know. And I will not be involved in anything other than what the Word says. When we come down to the Word we have to know, concerning these things, it is not what we want; it is what God blesses. Did you catch that?

Now a man, when he wants a woman badly, he will even kill the man to get the woman. A woman will poison her husband so he could die, so she could get the man she wanted too. In the world, all these things go on. So what I am trying to say is that people will do what they want to get what they want. But that is not something being blessed of God. What is not blessed of God is cursed of God. There is a way of blessing and cursing. There is 'obey and live' and there is 'disobey and die'. There is the Tree of knowledge of good and evil and there is the Tree of Life. It comes down the middle like that. Do you get me? Okay.

Watch. I'm explaining this to you. Don't get tense, okay? And we are not on anybody's case here; we are just talking. I need to edify you to help you. This is like giving you some booster shots; some immunity. This is putting some immunity in the congregation in this Hour. And you all, as I say, are mature and you have to choose a mate. As I say, it will be better—some of you all will serve God better married, but that is to the right person. Some of you all could go and marry because you want what you want. And when that breaks, you better have something to hold you. And if you had that to begin with, you wouldn't have wanted your way. Do you get that? If you had that to begin with, you would have never wanted your way. Because there is a way that seems right unto a man but the end is what? Life? Death. See?

Now, I've lived long enough to know these things, you know. I am happily married, going thirty-five years now, you know. I am like a teenager with my wife, you know. Do you mind two old people feeling like two teenagers? No, it is where you think. It is where your thoughts are. It is your concept of each other.

Now, when you recognize that you've got a blessing from God and you are walking in the Will of God, this is an inheritance. This is a part of your inheritance. Natural inheritance – you get a house, and cars, and jeeps, you know, furniture and these things. But Spiritual inheritance – this is one of it. When we are talking mate, we know the mysteries of mate selection have been revealed. And this is what we are finding out here. I'll show you how it is.

Now, what am I talking about? MARRIAGE BY APPOINTMENT OR BY CIRCUMSTANCE. I'm starting here with marriage by Appointment and show you how marriage comes by appointment. In other words, this is God's provided way. Then I'm going to show you marriage by circumstance, and show you how a lot of people come into it the wrong way. But I'm showing you, the right way is to come in—because you understand, this is by appointment. And when you are going into a relationship... We are talking about relationships and marriage. When you are going into a relationship, you want to see these characteristics, these qualities, these examples identified, to show that you are coming into a relationship under the leadership of the same God Who has a plan for your life.

Notice how Abraham was a little, kind of, not fussy but a little straight with that there. He said, "If the girl doesn't want to come, don't put my son under any obligation. You can't carry my son there." In other words, "We believe something. Sixty-five years ago this God came down. He called me; He swore to me." This is not a man saying, "I got indoctrinated. I met an old Man; He explained something in the Bible for me." No, no, he

was talking about the literal God coming down because that God used to be with Adam, with Enoch and Noah and them. That same God came to Shem; through Shem, Noah's son, came straight to Abraham. The Bible gives you that clear genealogy from Adam straight to Abraham.

From Genesis 1 to Genesis 12 is one straight line from Adam to Abraham. And Abraham is the father of all them that believe. So we are Abraham's seed by being in Christ. And the promises were made to Abraham and his seed. And God deals with Abraham's seed the same way He dealt with Abraham. Is that right? That should put faith in your heart. "Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word."

Now, it is the Word but feel good too, you know. Don't just kind of hear It like a little lecture on marriage. When the Word is coming on and you are catching it, say, "Yes! That is right! That is how I believe it! I see it. Write it in my heart, Lord." You want to catch it so.

Now, look. So this servant... Now, wouldn't we be of a real blessing if we can be servants like that? Look how that servant carried out the Word. He was given a commission and this was an important thing. This was somebody... If I am God's servant and God tells me the truth on marriage and divorce and I have to get people married here and so on and settled down in life, like Naomi... Didn't Naomi say, "Shall I not find rest for you?" Shall I not find rest for you? I have to find rest for you. I don't want you in unrest. I want you in rest. But there are laws that govern coming into true rest. And hear the 'rest' the Bible talks about. When you come into this rest, you cease from your own works. [Hebrews 4:10 -Ed.]

Now, when you have no works, you could do a lot of things, you know. When you don't find rest yet, you could work, you know. Let me tell you, I had people who used to be in this church; I had to make a stand with them. There were people who used to be going around

trying to match people, like their commission was, in the church, to make-match for people. No regard for the ministry; no regard for who and who. They just take that on themselves. There is no such a ministry. It is God Who joins two people together. So I had to make my stand.

The thing got so bad, when I made my stand I said, "Let us part ways." We had to part ways. We've parted ways up till this day. Do you see? Because if I do that, a lot of people who would get their lives damaged and ship wrecked, if I stand up like an old poor-me-one, and can't say something, when I see that now, I have to say, "No, these are souls of God. I can't get their lives shipwrecked like that. I'm supposed to step in and bring some protection and say, 'No, that is not your place. You can't make any match for people inside of here.'"

This man Eliezer, he did not go to make any match, you know. He was commissioned to find the right kind of character. And then, he would swear and was put under certain kinds of obligation. And this man was so taken up in his master's purpose, watch what happened when he went by the well.

Verse 11,

*<sup>11</sup> 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.*

Watch the prayer. This is important. This is a key thing in this.

*<sup>12</sup> 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.*

*<sup>13</sup> 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; ...*

Do you hear what he was praying? He said, “Let it come to pass.” In other words, he was telling the Lord, “I’m here and I do not even know how this thing is going to be fulfilled. I have the responsibility. My master sent me here. He gave me certain requirements that must be met, but I’m in a city.”

Like when a man is going to Port-of-Spain [capital city of Trinidad –Ed.], where is he going to start? In Woodbrook? St. James? South East? Nelson Street? “Where will I find this?” So he prayed now. He, being around Abraham, knew the ways of approach to God. And Abraham assured him, “The Angel of God will go with you.”

What is all of this about? Marriage; finding the right mate – mate selection; choosing a Bride. What did it start off with? Prayer, purpose, objective; a promise of God. “I’ll give you and your seed this land.” But how are you going to get seed?” Through marriage, seed will come. Through marriage, there will be population. If we start with the wrong marriage, what is going to happen?

Now, Abraham was looking in Sodom and all those places and was seeing man with man and woman with woman, okay? So he said, “Nobody from among the Canaanites here, you know.” He said, “Don’t get my son mix-up with this kind of business, you know.” He said, “Go among my family.” Because now, he knew that his family went all the way back to Adam. It was a lineage. The world was full of all kinds of things, but he knew... Because remember, Serpent Seed was in the world, okay? Remember, after the Ark, when they came over, Ham went right there and then giants started in the land again. Even in David’s time, Goliath, all those big giants and them were there, showing that the Serpent Seed had come through the Ark. You know that; we’ve gone through these things.

So Abraham now, knew the world was full of all kinds of people, all kinds of women; it had all kinds of religion. Nimrod started his own religion. He made himself god and he had the biggest religion in Babylon. Like the Catholic Church today, they don't bother with divorce and these things. You could do what you want; be a good catholic. If you are bad and you die, you go to purgatory, and you pay money to come out and they get richer. They developed a system for you to pay for your sins, you know. Not pay in punishment, you know; pay in money for your sins. And then they say, "Okay, we'll make you a saint now. You are a saint. You paid enough money to become a saint." See?

Abraham knew all of that was in the land, because, "As it was in the days of Sodom; as it was in the days of Noah, so shall it be." So that is why we are in the false-union Age. We are in the Age where the sons of God are seeing the daughters of men, and the daughters of God are seeing the sons of men. We are in the Age when many people will not make it to the Ark because they were marrying and giving in marriage. So we have to qualify the right marriage - the way of marriage. And that is why I'm taking you to the Bible to show you the bride being sought; how this marriage began.

This marriage didn't begin when they walked down the aisle in the dress, you know. Watch where this marriage started from: from the thought of the father - bride selection. "Don't choose from here." Why? "This is a cursed race. There are all kinds of pollution inside of here. Choose from there. Go to my family."

When he went, he too went into prayer because he didn't know who was who. He said, "I know women are coming out by the well. This is the custom for water at evening time." He said, "Let it be the one..."

*<sup>14</sup> 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; ...*

He said, "I am going to say these words to the damsel. Let it be..." In other words, "Direct me to the one. When I say this, she must say this." He was not going... In other words, he didn't care if she was the prettiest girl. He was not going on outward beauty. He was not going to go through a whole set of things and say, "What is your education? Nah! You are too duncy for my thing. He has plenty of money; you can't do business. You might have to handle some of his business; you'll cause bankruptcy here. Could you cook? What kind of food do you cook? Well, maybe we could give you a course in cooking and develop your cooking skills because he likes to eat and he likes certain kinds of food." Or, "How do you dress? Let me see your wardrobe? Nah, nah, nah, you can't come with that wardrobe. You have to get rid of that wardrobe."

Before he went through all this, he knew, "This is not secure enough." He was keeping the thing in God's hand. God gave the promise. God promised seed; seed has to come through marriage. This was a faithful servant being instructed. The Angel was going with the servant. This servant knew, "I am not here on my own." So he was praying now, because, why? This servant grew up in Abraham's house and he knew the ways, because this God of Heaven came in this man's house.

Let me tell you; this house here, that God who was with the Prophet, which was the God with Paul and them, which was the God in Jesus, which was the God with Moses and them, which was the God back with Adam and them, that is the God in this house, you know. Now, I don't know if you could believe that or how much of you could believe that, but that is the God in this house, you know. I try my best. I have my faults and mistakes like everybody else. I'm a human being but I don't have sin in my life. And I try my best because I know the responsibility. And because of the love for you all, I have no limit to go to any extent that it will



take to see you walk right and overcome and make it, you know.

I'm not sitting down here and saying, "Oh, that one can't make it. That one can't make it. That is Serpent Seed here. That one is on flesh." No, no. People could look a certain way. I have learnt too many times in my growing up in the Message, that the stone that the builders reject most times is the stone, and that God doesn't look on outward appearance; God judges by the heart. And we have examples like that in the Bible. So I don't start off with, 'I like and I don't like'. I'm not on that foolishness at all, because I know the one eyed, one footed man on the crutch might be God's son, and the one who is walking in the three piece suit with his Bible saying, "Good evening, friends," might be of the devil. So I'm not... The thing is, you have to know the tree by the fruit. You have to see what is coming out of a life. Do you understand? You have to find where the faith is. Not a set of knowledge and quoting left and right. Not that.

Sometimes a person isn't a quoter, so we are not going in by quoting. We are not going in by how many scriptures we could recite. We are not going in by how much service we attend. None of these things are qualifications. That is why you are a Christian by election and calling. God chooses. It is not me who chooses. God confirms His choice. God's choice is identified by His own characteristics.

See, when you get under people's human influence, you get 'this group doesn't like them', and you have a list and you have to put them with these five, six spiritual people in the church. Do you know how much of that I go through in this church, from a boy preacher in Baratara? And do you know, all that list never came to pass? And when you find the faith, it is somebody you wouldn't even think is the Christian there. And you realize how God deals differently. And you learn by observing these things when you are coming along.

So, watch. Watch the unfolding of this marriage here. This is your marriage. This is your marriage, right here. This is your marriage, right here. You are that Rebekah. You are down there and the marriage plan is being made. Nobody knows who you are and you don't even know who it is you are going to get married to yet, but you are content. You are in your family. You are serving; you are believing. Faith is locked up in you. Out of the whole world, God knows you are there. And Abraham, God's prophet, he knew that the bride was down there, somewhere. She was not among the Canaanites. And the Angel of the God was going with the servant and his path was directed.

Do you know what it is to travel under angelic direction? Paul was in a storm and they already threw off all the food in the water. Next thing you know, they wanted to kill all the men who were prisoners because they saw that nobody could survive. The ship was breaking apart in pieces. The Angel of God came in the night and said, "Don't kill. Tell them don't kill anybody here. Not one life will be lost. They will be in the water for many days but every life, take the count when you come on the shore; I'll bring everybody back on that shore." And God knew which island He wanted them on. And when they came on that island, a big revival started when God healed the governor of that island.

So sometimes, we don't know what is going to unfold but if we know we are travelling under angelic influence... And this is what we are under. That Pillar of Fire is the Angel of God. That is God Himself in the form of the Angel. God in that form comes down to lead His church. That is why, if God is leading us, we should be a community. It is like, when it is time for his marriage to come, we are happy. When it is time for her marriage to come, we are happy. Why? Because these children are growing up and they are growing in the knowledge of the Lord, and we see, "Okay, this time this

one has come. That time, this one has come.” And so it is.

But the thing is, when we have to deal with things, and this one have a thought, and this one have this, and fire is pushing this one, and this one is spraying that one with fire, this one is taking fire in their bosom, and this one’s fenced around this one already, and this one is battling with somebody at the side who we see them talking to, and he doesn’t have any right nor privilege over anybody, then we have real problems. Then, what is going on here now, this is kind of carnal, dog eat dog thing. This is more like circumstance; not Appointment.

I’m taking the first example to show you how Marriage by Appointment unfolds in a straight order of the Word; in a straight channel. That is why I say, this is your marriage. Your marriage should be by Appointment; not by circumstance. Look. Am I making sense to you? [Youths said, “yes” -Ed.] Okay. Thank you.

He was saying now, verse 14:

*<sup>14</sup> 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: ...*

That is not an easy thing to ask, you know. The camel is called the ship of the desert. They just crossed that desert for some days and arrived there sunburned; those camels were sweaty. It was ten camels, the Bible says, he came with; it knelt down by the well. Do you know how much water that is? That well is not a standpipe, and WASA [The Water and Sewerage Authority -Ed.] real... That is not that, you know. This is pulling and pulling and pulling up a long rope.

I was in Myanmar, right on the border of China there, preaching to some people, and where we used to be had a well. I was even afraid. They had nothing, not even a little barrier around the hole. When you look down

there, it is about eighty feet down inside of there. You know if you fall into there, it has no way to come out of there. So I'm very sensitive to those kinds of things. I was watching it so [Bro. Vin demonstrates how he looked down carefully -Ed.] and I couldn't see the bottom at all. It was dark down inside of there. And I started to think about this Scripture; I said, somebody had to pull up that water to give a man... One bucket might give each one of those people a drink, but the camel, you have to throw that water in a trough [a long, narrow open container for animals to eat or drink out of -Ed.]. You have to fill up about two troughs of water. Which young girl, coming at the setting of the sun, it is already becoming evening time, the sun is going down, and you are seeing men you don't even know...

So when he was praying this, he so didn't want circumstance marriage, he so wanted the Will of God, He had so much of faith that if God was in that thing, God would bring it to pass, and he so knew, this would be a display of real hospitality and real Godly character. And it also had to be from Abraham's family; not from a next family in the city, you know. So he was praying the prayer...

When you are going to... When you are seeking marriage, how do you approach it? So [that way -Ed.]? Do you go with that kind of faith, "Let it say so and so and so"? He said, "I will say this and that person must say this." He said... Now, I'm going to show you how exactly that came to pass, you know. Exactly what he said, this girl came and said, you know. Because God was in it from since Abraham said, "Put your hand and swear." In other words, the whole thing was, it must be the one that God wants. You have to have the faith to want the one that God wants for you. If you love God, you know God has the best for you. But the best for you might not look like how you expect him to be. [Bro. Vin and youths laugh -Ed.] Do you get that?

Remember when Samuel went to anoint a king? Jesse said, "I'm here."

“One of your sons, God chose one of your sons to be king.”

He said, “King? Of course, man.” He said, “It is Eliab. Eliab, come!”

The fellow walked out, kind of tall, snazzy looking, you know; he came out there confident. It was the first born. Samuel took the horn of oil and he did so; God said, “That is not him.”

He said, “What? That is king material, boy. God bypassed him, boy? Look at that fellow looks.”

Shammah came. He went to anoint him too; God said, “Not him.”

You have to be able to hear that Voice when different ‘hims’ show up, you know. You can’t say, “I’m waiting a long time,” and you grab a thing. You don’t know what is in that, you know. You do not know what is in that. The security factor here is that God is in the thing because God is not... Hear what the Scripture says: *“Whatsoever God joins together let no man put asunder.”*

Have you ever seen what happened to Abraham and Sarah when Abimelech took Sarah, locked her up and already started to dress her up for the wedding, and fixed up the bridal chamber and everything? What! God came down in a dream; God said, “You are a dead man, you and your whole kingdom.” He said, “Restore that man his wife immediately, otherwise this whole kingdom is finished.” When God joins people, God will deal with any power that comes to break what God joins; put asunder what God joins. Is that God still alive? [Youths say, “amen” –Ed.] Does that God still join people so? That is what you want.

Hear this. You see, sometimes, sisters feel, “We just need certain other skills – cooking skills”.

Say, “Girl, you are going to get married?”

“Girl, I’m taking a couple courses in food preparation, and I’m doing some soft furnishings too. And I’m doing it because I want my house to look good.

And I'm doing some other interior decorating." And they are preparing for marriage, you know.

Now, all of that is good if you are doing it with faith if you have faith, because faith is the first thing – faith to know the Will of God. "Faith is the only thing," the Prophet said, "that is designed to know the Will of God." Faith is given to you to know the Will of God, because faith is a revelation of God's Will for you. And God's Will is His Word. And when that Word opens to you, you see your life fit by design. It is like God's fingerprint all over your marriage. And as the days unfold, he gets sweeter as the days go by, and she gets sweeter as the days go by.

It isn't like, all the fire is gone out, you know. He isn't working as he ought to and bringing in enough money as he ought to, or he comes and gets a disability and now some of the responsibility falls on her. And she is getting real pressure with that because, you know... And then, when she becomes the earner because she has more education and she has the job now, she finds that automatically she has to come down with the orders, and what, and what, and what; how it should be. And then, he finds now, he has to go soft because really and truly, she has a right to call the shots because she is the breadwinner in the family, you know. The whole picture gets turned upside down to the wrong angle. Do you see? And you have this type of thing.

That is why you want God. It must start there first. It must be rooted and grounded in God from the very beginning. We'll get to relationships just now. Watch. You see, I don't want to go too fast to go over some of these things. I want you to feel it. I want to bring it clear to you.

*<sup>15</sup> 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.*

She didn't even know she was walking in the line of inspiration. Here was the man... Abraham – it started with Abraham there; here was the servant now. He was in the place. Here was the prayer. Now, not anybody is going to do that, okay? "What happened to this old man? Drink for you and your camel? Look, you have strong men there. Look, the well is right here. Draw your own water." No, no, no, He prayed that this girl... Because he was not on water alone. He knew he and his men could pull the water, but his mission was to get a wife for the son. And to get a wife for the son now, he put the test there that the wife must have this kind of quality: one who could serve, one who is humble, one who has submission, one who could take instruction, one who is interested in the things of others; who is not selfish. All of that is involved in that, you know – one who is hospitable.

Now, before she pulled the water, It said, she was fair to look upon, you know. She was a virgin, you know. He didn't just come for a fair virgin. He didn't just come for a nice beautiful, looking girl who wasn't touched by man. Because inside of there could have temper, inside of there could have selfishness, inside of there could have no service; inside of there could have, you know, anger and disrespect, and irreverence, and these things.

Have you ever seen beautiful people who have no character? That is right. And then you see some who do not classify as attractive... Did you hear what I said? They try to put attractive to say, "Well, she isn't really pretty but she is attractive," and they kind of put that in a little grade lower, and then you come down there. But the thing is, we understand that beauty is character. There is inward beauty and outward beauty. Outward beauty fades and you have to keep looking good by makeup and all kinds of different things, but inward beauty, trials brings that out more beautifully and purges that character and refines that nature; make that person more graceful and more, you know, sweet. And when you meet people like that, they have an atmosphere about them, you know.

A lot of you, because of the impact of society's influence, you get moved to more of what you can project and how you look, (I'm talking about males and females,) rather than the atmosphere. Because subconsciously, you are projecting the natural and not the Spirit beauty, and that is the real you. Because when you are putting that body in the grave, you better have some beauty when you are going out, you know. If that beauty was only in that body, when you put that body in the grave, you are finished. When your body is done, you are done. But when you know the power, your beauty is inside, your grace, your respect, your gentleness, you see; your style. Sometimes you see that a person may not be as attractive as a next person but they have more style, man. You feel more happy around them. They are gracious, they are entertaining; they are hospitable. And when they sit down to talk about the Word of God, or you hear them pray or something, oh brother! If you are not a married man, you'd say, "Here she is. Here she is," because you are already seeing something.

But what has it so? This world has exhibited so much of physical, outward beauty that people with genuine



beauty and maybe not as pretty as what is projected there... Because half of the time, when you see people close up, they spray them, you know. I wonder if you all know that. Well, some you all know that by now. You all enquire into these things. When you see them taking out a photo shoot and so on, they are sprayed. And so, that spray is hiding all cuts, defects, everything, and then they shoot them from angles. If the face is a little broad, they make that face look thin. Then they cut that hair to make the neck look like a swan, and then they make up the eyes to look like doves. Do you understand? And then they teach them to walk in a certain way too, and all of this now... Because this is a projection of Satan eden's beauty. But real beauty, they don't have to spray and they don't have to culture you into it. When you start to discover the things God put in you...

Some of you get complexes because of the kind of beauty the world projects. You are beautiful but you don't have confidence. So, it is like, "I don't like my face. My face is too broad. I wish my nose was so. The day I get work and start to get money, I'm going to get my nose straightened out and fixed here, and I'm going to get two dimples stuck in here," [Bro. Vin and youths laugh -Ed.] you know. And what is causing that? That is designed to make you feel inferior or to drive you to buy their products.

Now, when you can't see through that, you get caught. But when you can see through that now, you say, "Or, that is how they become multimillionaires. They use advertising. They use billboards. They get through our eye gate. They mess up our minds. They glamorize this and have us feeling like we are nothing." Do you understand? And half of them are drug addicts; half of them have about six men in their lives. But this one, they put this one and say, "You will model lingerie, and you will model evening gowns." And they know, "This tall one here, like Iman, [Iman Abdulmajid is a Somali-

American fashion model -Ed.] here, we are going to put her here. And this other one over here, we are going to put this one over here," you know. "Naomi Campbell, [a British model -Ed.] we are going to put her over here." And everybody has their different things, and they are projecting their different kind of women, their different brand and breed of women, their different stereotypes of women and these things.

Now, you can't help but feel the bombardment in this Age because this is what it is designed to do. And it is not a little influence; it is a global, it is a powerful influence. It is all the demon powers behind this because Satan knows one woman could lead a million men's souls to Hell. He knows that. This is where now, without faith, without revelation, you hit that wall, boop, and fall back here. You have nothing to break through that, so you live your life here trying to be something in the cosmos.

I am saying, don't go for that. I am saying, don't go for that. I am saying, let us here, create our world and let us live in our world. We have power to create a world. Let's create our world and live in our world here! And in our world here, we go for principle, we go for values; we go for standard. We sing, "*Undefiled, living pure lives.*" We know what sacred womanhood is. We know what sacred motherhood is. You don't see them with any baby. If you have a baby you will realize—If they have three babies, you'll realize it is for three different fathers; then you'll realize, "Oh, look what was influencing me."

In this Age, you can't trust anything out there. That fellow looks so nice; next thing you hear he is gay [youths laugh -Ed.]. Do you understand what I'm saying? This is the world. Well, how long are we going to stay under the influence and be deceived and bombarded and feel that we are on the back foot when we are the heirs of this earth? And all that is going to burn. And God is raising up true womanhood, true manhood in this Hour. See?

Do you think it is men with big biceps, and triceps, and abdominals and things going in? Do you think it is men with physical muscles going in? It is man with faith muscles going in: man who prays, man who has the Holy Ghost, man who have conviction and principles; man who will stand up for a woman to remain pure. Not man who is trying to break down the woman's defenses to manipulate her and get her under his control. No. A man with manhood? You know that is a young... I will show you that.

You, bear with me today. I think I want to go slow and talk to you because, you see, you all are daughters of God. This is your marriage here – by Appointment. You want to come by Appointment. You say, "Lord, I get the picture. I have a Word vision of marriage in Your Mind, how it dropped down there, the kind of line; how the Spirit is working."

This was the Spirit working. Before that long journey was made, they were talking about marriage: "Get the right girl." They made that long journey. They reached in the city now, foreign territory, but God was so interested because that marriage was God's Will. And God was working out that, to do what? Bring Isaac and Rebekah together. God was working to get those two together because in God's plan, the two of them were together.

She was a young girl growing up there, fair to look upon and a virgin. Do you know what it is in Babylon, for a young virgin in Babylon going around? She had to leave her father's house, come out the gate, come up there, walk down by the well outside the city, stand up there and fill her water; go back. Do you think it didn't have wolves in those days? They had that. But what does it tell you? She kept that virginity there in the midst of all those wolves. Do you know why? She was appointed for him.

She looked around; maybe she might've seen some nice boys in Mesopotamia – nice rich fellow, nice family;

offered this, offered that. Maybe the mother and they liked a certain friend of the family who had a son for the girl too, and were kind of saying, "That is your husband down there, you know." And she wasn't getting that witness. She didn't have that witness. She knew what was going on. Do you understand?

You see, I tell you, everything is in the Bible, you know. And I'm showing you how she had a part in it; Isaac had a part in it. Isaac was grieving. Isaac, quite back there was grieving, you know, since his mother died. Three years after his mother died, Abraham was watching; Abraham said, "His mother had a place in his life while she was alive but the mother is gone." Abraham was already going to marry Keturah, you know. Abraham already saw a next wife, you know. But he was watching Isaac; he said, "This boy has to get married because I am an old man and I'm going down just now, and that is the promised son." He didn't know where his wife was coming from. Could you imagine a big forty year old man in submission to his father, showing respect to his father? Do you know, that forty year old man knew there wasn't anybody like his father on the earth; he knew his father was a direct link to God?

You know, that girl down there knew there was a family, Abraham, who God called out. They heard God called him out, and they didn't have much contact. And they were wondering, or they heard that Sarah died three years ago, but there was no association because they were in two different worlds. So there are a lot of things inside of there. But this girl, God was keeping this girl.

Do you think she wouldn't be frustrated sometimes too? Do you think she wasn't seeing her friends and them when they were going for that water by the well, and they were filling their water and getting a chance to talk and say, "So, I see you and this one talking a lot these days." Do you think they weren't talking that too?

They said, "I see you over here. I see that one is interested in you, you know. Hear who asked me about you. They want to find out something about you." You know, girls talk. Girls are girls. They talk that way.

So she said, "Yeah, but you know, I'm waiting on the Lord."

They said, "Come on man. Waiting on the Lord what? Girl, you have to get moving or you'll get left behind. Do you want to be an old granny down here or what?"

She said, "Well, you know, the Lord has a way to appoint these things."

You say, "How could you say that, Bro. Vin?" Hear how I can say that. The character she showed to say 'yes'. While taking out her water, she didn't say, "Well, look, the well is here. You draw for yourself." No. And then she said, "I will water your camels too." It took a lot to see those men sun-burnt, to tell that they travelled from far... She grew up in a home where it was hospitable. Watch Abraham when he saw three strangers coming. He said, "Let me get some water and wash your feet." That was in that family. That was in that family. So this girl grew up in an environment of service, of sacrifice, of submission; not selfish. They grew up with a certain amount of understanding.

So, when you have that in your environment, you have something inside that you listen to. Sometimes you find that people's minds are so busy up here, [Bro. Vin points to the head -Ed.] they can't listen to anything down here [Bro. Vin points to the heart -Ed.]. But when you get quiet and you start to reflect inside, you will be surprised to see that God will tell you a lot of things about your present state; about your future. He'll even cause you to review your past and bring back mistakes you might have made so He could help you correct them, because God is a teacher, God is a parent, God is a friend, God is an adviser, God is a counselor; God is interested.

God doesn't want to see you make mistakes in the past and you go on and you never understood why you

made that mistake. No. God will have a Word to come to tell you, and you'll start to realize, "I made a mistake there." God will have something to happen over on this side and you'll realize, "Hey, how come that took place?" And all these things will help you. And then you realize, "But there is Somebody watching over me. There is Somebody directing me." Amen?

Verse 23. I want to drop down a little bit because I want to save a little time. I want to get to the next one.

*<sup>23</sup> And said, ...*

This is Eliezer here.

*<sup>23</sup> And said, Whose daughter art thou? ...*

He realized she said exactly what he prayed she should say. He said,

*<sup>23</sup> ... Whose daughter art thou? Tell me, I pray thee: ...*

He found that, "This prayer is being answered. I'm in the Supernatural. I'm in the midst of a Supernatural thing happening here. If she is Abraham's family, my goodness, this would be something." Part of the thing was already fulfilled, but if she had said, "Am...no," and she called the family she was from and it was not Abraham's family, he'd say, "Gosh, I thought I had her there." Do you see? So he wanted to know the next question. He said,

*<sup>23</sup> ...Whose daughter art thou? tell me, I pray thee: is there room in thy father's house for us to lodge in ?*

*<sup>24</sup> And she said unto him, I am the daughter of Bethuel the son of Milcah, which she bare unto Nahor .*

*<sup>25</sup> She said moreover unto him, We have both straw and provender enough, and room to lodge in.*

*<sup>26</sup> And the man bowed down his head, and worshipped the LORD.*

She must have said, "What on earth...what kind of man is this?" Because this man had an atmosphere.

You know who is Eliezer, right, in this Day? That was the Prophet. So, you got close around him, there was always that Presence of that Angel there. And the Angel was with this man. Do you see? And he started to worship now. Why was he worshipping? He was seeing, “Look how exact, look how faith led me to do this. Look how God answered prayer. Look at how much God is in joining two people together.” Look at God’s provided way in bringing about an example marriage to put to become the Bible. And look at Rebekah, a type of the Bride at Evening time. So when all these young ladies in the last days comes to that place for marriage, they can look right there and see their lives being reflected in the page. Watch.

*27 And he said, Blessed be the LORD God of my master Abraham, who hath not left destitute my master of his mercy and his truth: I being in the way, the LORD led me [I being in the way, the Lord led me] to the house of my master’s brethren.*

He realized, “I didn’t go down investigating, ‘Anybody knows Abraham – a man who used to live down here sixty-five years ago? He left here when he was about seventy-five. He has family down here. He moved. Do you all remember the man? He is a big, wealthy man now. Which neighborhood did they live in? Do you know where his family lives?’” He didn’t go like that, you know. He came in there and prayed, and he saw how the Lord led him. First led him to pray, led him to the right girl, and then that girl was leading him to the family.

Now, watch this, okay? Nothing was happening there outside the family, you know. Catch this, you know. If the Lord is in this, watch how the Lord works it out; that in the end it becomes an example for everybody. If the Lord is not in it, watch how people get ahead of the Spirit of God and do their own thing and then try to call it the Lord. But watch when you have faith and you put

it in God's hand, watch how God is interested and God brings His Word to pass. Not by your might, not by your power, but God willfully, because God has planned the right person for you.

*27 ...the LORD led me to the house of my master's brethren.*

Drop down to verse 50, 51 and 52.

What happened in-between there is, she went to the house. You know the story and you could read it further when you go home. And he gave his testimony, how he came by the well, how he prayed, how the girl came out, how exactly what he prayed, she said, and then, when he found out, she was exactly Abraham's family. So all of that testimony is in-between.

*50 Then Laban and Bethuel answered and said, The thing proceedeth from the LORD: ...*

The family now, wasn't saying, "What strange man, you coming down here; you give me this big story. Do you think it is so we marry down here?" He said, "No, no, no, no, no!" When he gave that testimony, they said, "This thing proceeds from the Lord." Now it was witnessed to the hearts of the girl's family. Do you get where we are going? Not when she got the bracelets and she saw the things, "Mammy and they can say what they want, I'm not giving back this because it has nobody down here that has things like this. What! And if he could send this for me and I'm not the bride yet; this is just because I gave some water. I'm not going to marry any poor man and suffer in today's world. That man has wealth. I'm going because I find that I'm too long in my mother's house." No, no, no.

She didn't try to circumvent anything. She didn't try to shortcut anything. This is showing now, this girl had faith. She said, "Come, come meet my family. Come meet my family." He sat down now; he started to testify. You could imagine that. Here was the evening messenger, here was the bride being called at evening



time, here they were in the house, and here a great decision had to be made, and here the testimony was going forth of the working of God's supernatural in bringing this thing about.

When they heard it, they watched the man, they watched the girl, they watched the journey, they listened to the story; they turned it upside down. They said, "This thing proceeds from the Lord. This is not of human origin. This is not politics. This is not somebody proselyting. This is not some kind of smart business; some manipulation and exploitation. This is not the man mesmerizing the girl with these jewels and fabricating some story." No, no, no. The Spirit of truth went forth. The truth convicted their hearts. Their hearts were opened. Their eyes were enlightened and they recognized, "My goodness, God is here amongst us this evening. The Spirit of God is moving. This thing took place. This is the hand of God." They could see the fingerprint of God in this whole thing. Because remember, nobody's giving up their virgin daughter, fair to look upon... Just the day before or this same day, they had no knowledge of her having to do something, you know. They could see the working of God, you know. They said,

*...we cannot speak unto thee bad or good.*

*<sup>51</sup> Behold, Rebekah is before thee, take her, and go, and let her be thy master's son's wife, as the LORD hath spoken.*

Not as you hath spoken, you know; "as the LORD hath spoken."

*<sup>52</sup> And it came to pass, that, when Abraham's servant heard their words, he worshipped the LORD, bowing himself to the earth.*

He wasn't giggling in a corner when they weren't looking, you know. No, he worshipped the Lord in all sincerity and truth. In other words, "I am part of a supernatural thing. We have witnessed the hand of

God. This is of Divine origin. God is interested in it. This is the working of God. This thing is done.” This is the marriage.

Look back at verse 14, when he was praying the prayer. He said:

*<sup>14</sup> 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; ...*

He was praying; he said, “Lord, I’ve come in this city, but it is the one appointed.” Not, ‘the first one’, not, ‘the prettiest one’; not, ‘the one from the richest family’; not, ‘Isaac’s tall so she has to be tall, or Isaac’s thin so she has to be thin, or Isaac’s dark so she has to be dark, or Isaac’s light so she has to be light’. Not any of these things; “The one that Thou hast appointed”. You don’t want anyone; God has an appointed one for you.

In the prayer, the prayer was ‘the appointed one’. Not the one you like, not the one who texts you plenty and only gives you sweet talk, not the one who is bombing up your mailbox with emails; not the one who calls you late in the night and is always talking. Not that. Appointed – prayer, leadership, Spiritual discernment; the Hand of God. Why? Why is this so? Because marriage is an important part of our lives. Marriage is a sacred thing. Marriage is a Mystery of God, and God must lead us into marriage.

She was led into marriage. Isaac was led into marriage. The whole bringing about was the leading of God, fulfilling His purpose He had for these two people. The prayer was specific, “Let this one be the one appointed.” Do you feel your faith is too weak for that? What about the brothers? Do you feel your faith is too weak for that? Sisters, do you feel your faith is too weak for that? If your faith is weak this morning, let it be strengthened in the Word. Let it be strengthened with

the Word before I show you the next one, because when I show you the next one, you will see the next one.

The Bible says, “And Isaac was comforted because they had loved each other” – Isaac and Rebekah. It is a beautiful story, don’t you think? Marriage by Appointment. But not all marriage is by appointment. A lot of marriages are by circumstance. Now, the people who get into marriage by circumstance are the people who the Word is not a Lamp to their feet and a Light unto their pathway. They don’t have the wisdom of God concerning the things they want to get involved into. And if you don’t have the Word and the knowledge of the Word concerning the things... Could you go to build a house, and you buy your cement and you buy this, and you don’t know how to mix cement? You don’t know how to bend steel. You put up the thing without steel and you are going to build a house? And you are not asking anybody anything; it is you who’s going to build your own house.

Now, wouldn’t you think that you should get some counsel from a house builder, somebody who knows how to lay a foundation; somebody who knows what type of house will suit your needs? Are you understanding what I’m saying? And if the place you are going to build that house is suitable and appropriate so that the house wouldn’t fall apart by being built in the wrong conditions? Because it is a lot of time, a lot of energy, a lot of money being invested into it. When you are investing a lot of sacrifice in something, you don’t want disappointment, right? Because you took a little while to have all that, to save all that, to invest all that and then to find out, you made a wrong decision. That is very difficult.

Well, Satan knows this. Satan knows marriage is a sacred thing, and Satan knows, it is only one time you could really marry. But Satan knows he has been successful in the past. In the days of Noah, he was so successful that all those sons of God ended up getting

married to the wrong people. They came into marriage by circumstance instead of by Appointment and they never made it to the Ark.

In the days of Sodom, Satan knew how powerful his influence was; he married woman with woman and man with man and mixed-up everybody, until God had to start to rain down fire and burn up everything. Even Lot, children of God, his wife perished. He and his two daughters ended up in incest. In the days of Noah, sons of God failed to make it to the ark. "Only Noah," God said, "have I found perfect in this generation." Do you get that?

So when you look and see how these things come about, you realize, you could have things by circumstance if you want, or you could want God's Will. Now, it is a great thing. Your security is desiring God's Will; not your will. There are two ways: your way and God's way; your will and God's Will. Self-will will always lead you wrong because as a human being, you do not know what tomorrow holds. But God's Will, He is the Author and Finisher of our faith, He knows the beginning from the end, and when He joins, nothing could put that asunder because a real marriage takes three – the two people and God. God is involved in the first... He was involved in the first marriage, showing that He is involved in every marriage He joins together.

That is why, you don't see Boaz leaving Ruth after a while and you don't see Isaac and Rebekah end up in divorce. And you don't see, you know... Well Joseph, he got a little confused. He went to put away Mary when she got pregnant. But to show you how God, when God is joining people, God came down in the dream and said, "Don't put her away. That is not any man; that is of Me. That is Isaiah 7:14 coming to pass." That shows God is continually involved in the relationships of people that He joins together. Do you know why? Marriage is a Mystery of Christ and the Church, and marriage is the

second best thing that God gives to anybody after salvation.

So there is no frustration about this. The frustration comes when we do not enter into the Word concerning this and have the heart and mind to let God lead us in His Word, according to His plan for us. A lot of things... If people are sick, they want to be healed. If they don't have a work, they want God to provide. When it is coming to things like these things, they want their personal thing.

I see in the church right here, some marriages didn't even last a month. Do you understand what I'm saying? So it is not because you are in the Message. It requires a lot. And this is the lives of people. This is somebody's daughter's life. This is somebody's son's life. This is God's Name at stake. That is why I'm saying, you all are maturing. You all are ready for this. But the thing is, to be ready for this, you have to be thinking on the level that goes with this.

If you are loose with your salvation, you are going to be loose with your marriage. Some people are not interested about salvation, you know. Some people want religion so they will go and join a church. "I'm going and join the Seventh Days, man. I'm going and join the Baptist. I'm going and join the Jehovah Witness. I'm going and join Pentecostal. I'm serving Jesus. I bought a Jesus badge; I'm serving Jesus." They are interested in religion, not walking with God. Not, God coming into your life and leading you by His Word and making you live in the realization of your full potential.

You see, we all have potential we never knew, you know. Bro. Sammy could bear witness; when we were in the world, people used to tell me, "You see you, you will preach. You will preach." I started to laugh; I said "Me, preach? You are making joke, man. I am no preacher." I wasn't looking to preach.

When they asked me in school, "What do you want to do when you get big?" All those bright boys in QRC

[Queen's Royal College -Ed.] who wanted to be a doctor, who wanted to be a lawyer, who wanted to be a pilot; who wanted... I don't even know what to said but every term: too talkative, too talkative, too talkative. [Bro. Vin and youths laugh -Ed.] Do you see? So eventually, here I am doing what I'm doing. Do you see? And do you know when I find out, what I find? I like this better than anything else.

This comes like if God made you to be a fish to live in water; you say, "I don't like to live in water." Then you are not a real fish. You must be a tadpole or something. You want to spend part of your life in water but you want plenty land, more than water. But you see, when you realize what you are made up for, you wouldn't be happy anywhere else but in the place God designed you for. Because in there, you will see the world from that position; you will see God from that position. You will be able to reflect. Because you see, that is why God natured us differently.

Now, let me give you the next one and we'll close after this next one. I want to give you these two and you'll think about them.

Look at marriage by Appointment. We see God in the marriage. We see, God planned the lives of these two people. We see, up till this Day, these Scriptures, to show that they are inspired, in this Day there is a man like Eliezer who went out with a commission to choose a Bride for Jesus Christ. And when that man came, he came with the gifts; he came with the authority of God. When that man chose the Bride and brought Her to Christ, we find ourselves as part of this Bride.

We look and see what the organization is. We see how the Lord is so pleased, because the Messenger is gone but we and the One he introduced us to is here. I believe He is here, this morning. I believe He is speaking in simplicity to you about marriage, about your life, about your maturity, about the way to think about it. I'm showing you the way to think about it, because these things... Marriage was instituted by God.

Marriage is not a hand-me-down [old or handed-down -Ed.] thing. Marriage is a revelation from God. The first man and the first woman were married. God made the first man and God made the first woman, and God performed the first marriage, showing it wasn't a previous invention that they received by tradition; it is a revelation of God that God designed you for this. And God wants to bring this, not just to give you a mate but that you will serve God's purpose; you will reflect the Mystery and the relationship between Christ and the Church with your husband and husband with his wife.

We don't have time, this morning, for me to get down to the strong places, because we don't want to be too strong yet with some of these things. But you see, when you get to this you'll see, if the man is not in submission to Christ what is he going looking for a woman for? He is going to make trouble for her. If a man doesn't have the Holy Ghost, he is selfish. He can't help her. He doesn't even know what it takes... He is not in a place where he can walk for his own self much more to take a life, a soul, and try to lead this soul somewhere. Do you understand what I'm saying?

So this is where our values, our desires... Now, we are getting to the next one. We are going to see how most of what goes on today is circumstance; not Appointment. I'll show you. You say, "How could that be Bro. Vin? Aren't we in the Bride? Aren't we God's sons?" If you listen to me closely, in the days of Noah they were God's sons who became fallen sons of God. And not just daughters didn't fall, because in the ark only had four women (you know that) out of millions in the world. So it had a lot of good women who didn't make it too. And Adam and they had a lot of daughters, because that was two thousand years of people on the earth, from Adam to Noah. So, there you get to realize, a lot of daughters didn't make it and a lot of sons didn't make it. But they had pleasure; they were with men, men were with

women. The Bible says, they chose whosoever they wanted, as many as they wanted. Which is like today.

I see brothers who walked in the Message; never really got the victory, become womanizers; chase women. You see it. You know they love God, maybe in their minds in a kind of phileo understanding of like, you know—but had not come deep enough to meet the Presence of God, to have God living on the inside – tabernacle Deity. See? This is the reality.

A woman, a real woman, a real Spirit-filled woman will feel secure around somebody with the Holy Ghost because she will know the depth of that life. But if she doesn't have the Holy Ghost herself, well, she is being influenced biologically into a relationship. In other words, it is normal. If you don't eat food, you are going to feel hungry. If you don't drink water, you are going to get thirsty. If you don't sleep, you are going to be sleepy. Do you understand what I'm saying? And when you reach a certain age, as a woman or a man, you reach an age you desire companionship. It is there. If you don't desire companionship, then you have the gift of, what do they call it? Celibacy. You know, you are a eunuch. You are a born eunuch for the Lord. God put that on you. Praise the Lord. That means you have that without castration. See?

So this is the type of situation, but that is normal. But that is the danger. When that starts in your life, you want to know the Holy Ghost is already in there. That is why it is at the age of twelve when God wants to give everybody the Holy Ghost, the Prophet said, you know. Do you know why? Plus, you come into your change, your teenage days, when all those hormones now start to... And you were the nice mummy's boy and mummy's girl. Whoooo! Then you want to look into this. You want to see that. You want to be influenced from that. You want to get that knowledge. You want to sound experienced to somebody. You want to... And they say, "How are you so experienced and you are supposed to



be a virgin?" I'm talking about a brother. A sister is telling a brother this. Say, "Brother, are you a virgin? How are you so experienced? Where did you get all this knowledge from? You read plenty of that or what? Because I see you are talking for the last fifteen minutes and you are bombarding me. You are well in the word," or you are trying to impress.

Is that the Holy Ghost coming out there, or is this now, a person who armed themselves to sound mature and intelligent and, you know, confident; and like they are an expert on the subject, and they know what is wife material and what is not wife material? And then after two months of marriage, you find that it is like you are coming...

You know how they pick these mangoes green and they spray it with a chemical and all the things start to get like force ripe, you know. It can't be so. These things have to be ripe on the tree in the presence of the sun. We can't use a lot of chemicals to turn the outside to look mature. No, it has to lay on the tree and ripen in the presence of the sun, and watch how it is baked into reality. This is what we need, brothers and sisters, because this is God's plan for you.

Fear of thinking you are going to be left out, pressure of people going ahead and like your thing haven't started to work yet, all of these things, Satan will make a football out of you with these things. But a little faith in the Word and seeing how God works in these things, you'll know He has it for you. He has it for you.

Leadership... But if God sees that you want to lead yourself and you want to make your choices, that behaviour is really blocking the Holy Ghost. You can't even hear what God wants to say sometimes, when you get so obsessed with that. Do you see? Now, there is a lot of obsession that takes place. You see, relationships, that is intimate. When people, let us say, start to get

close, it better have godly principles; it better have respect and maturity.

If two people start to get close and there is no godly respect, there is no conviction, there are no principles, misbehavior will come in very quickly. Because there are no principles; they are not tied to anything. And that is just the...What is that causing? That is causing lust to be stirred by being close and so on. And, you know, then you see inquisitiveness. They want to know everything about the person, and when those things start... Words are spirit, and when people's spirit starts to go into a certain place—and sometimes, it is sad to say, some people like their conversations there. But if that is not proper by the Holy Spirit, what is going to happen is, the feeling will become sensual. It will not be like godly talk.

Sometimes you watch people sit down with a phone and start to talk, and they are unconscious, what they are hearing and what conversation is going on, their whole behavior changes. You could see like they get in that mood; they are getting... And they don't know that people who know that behavior are watching and seeing that they are under that influence right now.

You see that with music too. You hear some kind of sentimental music there and two people start to dance. And you are in the room and you can't hear the music, but just the behavior on the dance floor could tell you, they are not listening to Bach [Johann Sebastian Bach - a German composer and musician of the late Baroque period -Ed.] or Mozart [Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart - a composer of the Classical period -Ed.] or some kind—you know the kind of music playing because you are seeing the influence of the behavior. Do you understand?

You see, this is where, as I say, we have to learn to handle these things. I can't say you are not going to have it; everybody will have that. Everybody likes to... Falling in love is not a poisonous thing, you know. You say, "Ah! I'm falling in love! I don't want to fall in love,"

you know. People want to be told nice things. A person would be lying if they say, "I don't like to be told nice things. I don't want to be shown respect, or be treated nice or be treated like a lady or," you know. Or a man the same way, you know, somebody tells you, "I think you are handsome. I think, you know, you are a real gentleman." And if you know that person is a sincere person telling you that...

But then, it has a tone you could tell a person that in. You could say that in a tone to make them feel you are interested in them, you know. And you could say it as a compliment; as a normal compliment: "Hey, you are a very handsome fellow, man. You know, have a little more confidence in yourself. You know a fellow like you, with your kind of looks and your kind of way and thing, you should be a little more confident. I find you are too negative for somebody who has that, and today, that is a big thing." Maybe somebody doesn't have to tell you that. Exactly.

That is why sometimes, people, they can't be satisfied with themselves, so they try this, they try this, they try this. And when you see... I look at some people sometimes and I know their mind is in turmoil right now. They do not know which image they want. They can't settle down and find their image, because you can see all of this... But you see, when you go into animal life, you see that, you know. You heard me preach on that before already. How those birds, when they are courting, they go through a certain dance. That is why dancing in the human realm has a thing that can become very sensual, and mating and that kind of thing. Then their colours; they emit certain types of scents when they reach that season for mating, and the male picks up that scent. Well, that is where perfume and all these things come from.

When you see a woman—when you see a young girl going into a little relationship, next thing you see, boy, she is in that mirror. she is brushing those teeth, she is

gargling Listerine; everything, you know. She wants the best toothpaste. She slicks down that hair; everything is in place. She is getting a nice perfume; she is smelling good. You know, her dressing and it is fixed down a certain way. That is the female in mating season. You only have to look and see it.

When you see the young man, he comes there, and boy, you know, he used to be normally a kind of rugged fellow. He is with his Bible, he is running... Service-on-time is his priority. He is coming in there; he isn't studying his pants, you know, if he goes and kneels down there it will crumple up. No, no, no, he goes straight to the altar because he wants more of the Holy Ghost. When you see, he kind of withdraws from that and he kind of comes in, looking kind of cool, and he gets his rag and fixes his face, then you know, you are watching the male. Watch the male. Watch your behavior. It is an influence there. Do you see?

So when you see that now, you can't say, "Well, that is ungodly." No, we are mammals. Part of us is animal. You all don't know that? That is right. That is why all of that will go in the Last Trump when the body changes. But because of the Serpent Seed and the fall, we have a lot of animalistic craves and animalistic ways about us.

Have you ever seen how people mark territory? Animals mark territory. And from the time you step into that domain, you invade. Like the bull with the Prophet, he gets up and he is ready to put some butt on you. Well so, sometimes, a person is subconsciously working his way into some sister's life and he marks her off. And some poor brother, he doesn't know, he just—because it doesn't have any notice board saying, "This brother is interested in this sister, so do not talk." [youths laugh -Ed.] Do you understand?

So next thing, he goes, "Hey, sister."

He notices, he holds that hand too long. So next thing he notices, that conversation is going on for more than five minutes. Next thing he says, "What were you

all talking about?” Next thing he tells the brother, “You see that there, I don’t want to see you talking to that sister so much, you hear?” And this is going on.

So when you see this now, you know this is the animalistic quality in marking territory. They want control over certain species and certain things. But that is normal too, in the animalistic realm. But the difference with us now and the animal is that we have the Holy Ghost, we have a soul, and so, we are raised up now to understand the Mystery of God in this. And then we know, it has Appointment – by Appointing.

Then sometimes, you stand there to see, if you have to fence around, bar around, put up this here, put lock and bolt, then it shows you have an insecurity. Sometimes in finding out the Will of God, you have to watch back and see... Because, since nothing was said and nothing was sanctioned, but that is just your aggression because of what you lay your eyes on, then that is dangerous. That is dangerous, because we are creating—the world we are creating is a kind of jungle world. Do you understand? When we are supposed to create a world here, of respect and genuineness and faith, and you know, the Will of God in these things.

Let’s turn to the next one. We don’t have long again. This one is Genesis 34. All these things are in the Book of Genesis. Genesis is the Seed, and Revelation, the Age we are living in, the last Day, the last Book, all these things are written for our examples – what we are faced with.

I’m just going to pick some places because we won’t have time to read. But these are two you can read and watch them good.

You see, because one of the things is, you don’t want your emotions and your desires to take control over you. Many times, we are influenced by what we see in our environment, but we want to be influenced by what we see in the Word; not what we see around. Most of what we see around is unconverted man, is carnal man,

carnal women, who are ungodly. They don't know God's ways, and the way that they project is the way of the world; it is without any purpose. God's way, there is always a purpose behind it because we are sent here to be God's representatives.

Genesis 34:

*<sup>1</sup> And Dinah the daughter of Leah, which she bare unto Jacob, ...*

Now, everything you read in the Bible is very instructive. It didn't say Jacob's daughter just so. It told us first, she was Leah's daughter, and which she bore unto Jacob. Now, from the time it tells you that, you know Jacob had twelve sons with one daughter there, and that daughter was from Leah. Back there, a male-child was the thing because that was your posterity on the earth. "Arrows in the hand of a mighty man are the children of one's youth." [Psalms 127:4 -Ed.] You know, if he had sons, his name was living in the earth.

This girl, Dinah, she was the daughter of Leah. Now, the Bible says, Jacob had loved Rachel more than Leah. Again, this was problems there because when God started, it was one man and one woman but when the fall came it fell into polygamy. And polygamy was one man with many women. Just like the animals, you see one rooster in the yard and a bunch of hens, you see one bull and a bunch of cows; you see one male dog and a bunch of females.

Now, that went straight into nature and that is why it is predominant today. And it is such a test. Now, this again is God's confidence in you and me. Because here we are in the Age that is the most promiscuous Age, the most unlawful Age, the Age with the most lust, nakedness, pornography, filth, rebellion, everything; loose women, loose men on display; most nakedness. We are in this kind of Age. When you see we are in this kind of Age and these things we are seeing, it is very, very important, by the grace of God, that we understand

that God put us here, not to be swept away by the evil but that we can be light in this darkness.

That is God's confidence in you. If you believe you are a son of God and a daughter of God, that is God's confidence. God is saying, "I will be with you. I will give you grace. You will overcome. Faith is the victory that overcometh the world. I call you to stand. You are the light of the world. You are the salt of the earth. I'll be with you. I'll be in you even to the end." This is what God has called you for.

Now, you have to get serious and say, "Lord, if you called me for this, it really has temptation; it really has tests." This is no joke. It has plenty temptations. You can't turn without being tempted. You see, we don't have to walk around playing, we are not being tempted. We would be fooling ourselves. Your body hasn't changed yet. You will be tempted but you have an anchor of your soul. The winds are blowing and outside is shaking, but you are tied to the Rock. You are anchored. Your anchor holds to the Rock. So no matter if the thing shakes, you hold—you are tied to the Absolute – God's Word. But as long as you are in the body you are going to be tempted.

Now temptation is not sin. When you yield to temptation that is sin. So when you are being tempted, don't fall apart; say, "Lord," you know, "help me to possess my vessel in sanctification and honor. Lord, You said we are the temples of the Holy Ghost. Lord, my desire is for You to live in me, to dwell in me, and walk in me so that I could be Your example." Because God knows what you need physically, as far as marriage and these things. But you don't have to go and play, "Well, I couldn't wait. I had to do this. I had to do that," and then, before you know it, you defile yourself so many times. Marriage by Appointment; not by circumstance. Watch circumstance now.

*<sup>1</sup> And Dinah the daughter of Leah, which she bare unto Jacob, went out to see the daughters of the land.*

She didn't go out to see men, you know; she went out to see the daughters of the land. Maybe she saw them so much and realized, "They are different to us, aren't they?" I mean, have you ever seen the daughters of the land? You all have seen the daughters of the land, right? Have you ever seen the daughters of the land when they come out to get what they want?

*"Jean and Dinah, Rosita and Clementina, round the corner posing. Bet your life is something they selling..."*

[an old calypso that addresses prostitution -Ed.] Do you understand? When you see the daughters of the land... Then you see a fashion show coming up; beauty contests: Miss Port-of-Spain, Miss San Fernando, Miss World, Miss Universe, Miss This – daughters of the land. See? Radical Style.

This next lady—let me not call the woman's name. See? And they are projecting all the different styles and these things: all these fashion designers, big shows going on here; this here. Fashion for the Christmas comes out, fashion for Easter; fashion for this. And this thing creates an interest, and the daughters of the land... You know, today is fashion designer clothes; well, that makes people feel clothes is it. No, you could dress good and look good, but the thing is, know for a fact that your clothes haven't changed who you are. And if you know you are dressing modestly in your clothing, that is a great thing. I mean, that wouldn't go over with the world. They say, "Ah, look how you all are looking like old ladies."

Now, let me tell you. You don't look like an old lady, you know. I don't see one old lady inside of here. That is right. They tell you so because they want to see what you are covering up, because they want to bring you down to the level like all... You see, animals don't wear clothes because they don't know they are naked



because animals don't have a soul. Do you get that? So when you see a lot of them walking without clothes outside there, naked, it is animals you are dealing with.

*<sup>2</sup> And when Shechem the son of Hamor the Hivite, prince of the country, saw her, he took her, and lay with her, and defiled her.*

She went out to see the daughters of the land. She was supposed to be... Her father was a prophet, Jacob. Her grandfather was Isaac; He was a prophet. Her great grandfather was Abraham. But sometimes in your life, Satan brings this kind of feeling like your life is boring. And you say, "My life is so boring." And I hear girls talk like that many times. "I'm feeling so boring." And then they think, "Well, I need to do something that is not boring. What they are doing is exciting." I guess exciting will be the opposite of boring in this sense.

So she went out, maybe for a little fun. She was not planning to do wrong. She was going to see the daughters of the land. Maybe she might find a good dress down there, maybe she might find something casual and nice, but where she was going, she was getting on the enemy's territory. Her intentions were not wrong. She went there and,

*... Shechem the son of Hamor the Hivite, [he was] prince of the country, saw her, he took her, and lay with her, and defiled her.*

Now, she didn't just sit down so and he said, "Come here. You are going with me." It is not a thing so, but the Bible condenses Its truths. The Bible condenses Its truths. So when the Word is like that, it shows us four stages: saw, took, lay and defiled. But she went out to see. She didn't go out to be taken. But that little uneasy feeling, that little lack of temperance and control over her own spirit to do something productive, to know 'we are different', that which... It is the same thing that made Eve step beyond the boundaries of the Word. And the serpent saw her, took her, lay with her, and defiled her – the first woman. Watch these things and how it is

always in the Bible. When you are watching the Bible, it teaches you. I will try my best to explain it to you. I trust God makes it clear.

*<sup>3</sup> And his soul clave unto Dinah the daughter of Jacob, and he loved the damsel, and spake kindly unto the damsel.*

Now, this is a good place here for some questions. I would really trust that you don't get too tired. I would like to hear some of you ask some questions to see the realm of where your thinking is. When I say the realm of where you are thinking, not just thinking here but how you understand things – how you understand things. Watch it close, okay.

She goes in this place... He was a Hivite. The first time Abraham said, "Don't take any... We don't mix with any of these people here. They are ungodly. That is paganism. We are a separated people. We are a people that are called of God. We are not... We are in the world but we are not of the world. Our practices are not like the world."

So she went there, he saw her, he took her; he lay with her and defiled her. She didn't go down there to spend a month. It tells you something about her defenses; her defense system. It tells you that this fellow had done this before because he, being the prince of the country, he had every girl he wanted down there. He could just use them and then pass them on to his friends or something. But this one, he knew she was untouched. She was not one of them from down there.

This fellow had charm. This fellow had money. In other words, if he was the prince, you could imagine when he comes in there with his darkers and he pulls off his thing there, and his leather jacket, and he was there. And he pulled up in his chariot and he parked it at the side, and he told the fellow, "Water my horse for me." And he kind of came inside there and he moved around, and all his friends, "Hey, Shechem." And all the girls ran out, "Ooh." You know how these groupies

move, right? You know how these groupies move. And they are, “Look Shechem. Look Shechem,” you know. And you could see he was basking in all his glory. He was the macho man of the moment.

You could imagine when he scans with those falcon eyes. Not eagle; falcon. And he looked across so and he saw this girl, he knew, “She is not from here, but she is nice. Her spirit looks quiet. She has on no hot pants. She kind of has on a long skirt.” All these girls here, they were in all the latest fashion; that was like a prize. These, he could have anytime of the day; that was his territory, that was his domain. She was something new in that environment so he wanted to explore that.

So he went over. “Do you know who I am?”

“Well, I just heard they called you Shechem. You look like a... I heard one call you, Prince Shechem. Are you a real prince?”

“Of course I am. My father owns this whole territory out here.”

“What!”

“How did you come down here?”

She said, “Well, I kind of walk.”

He looked at the foot, dusty. He said, “Would you like a ride in my chariot? Let me take you for a little ride in my chariot.”

She realized now, she was special. All those girls now realized, “Who is this stranger coming in here?” All of them were trying to line him like a big fish and she came in there, she sat down in a corner quietly and she got his attention. But he was a predator and she was a prey. And he already scent that she was in the wrong territory.

Have you ever heard me preach about this before? I have been in the jungles of Africa. We were there one time; when coming to evening time, they had to cross that river. That river had crocodiles, must be from here to by the wall there – big crocodiles. All of those wildebeests, all those deer, zebras, everybody were

nervous, because when they were crossing there it was a kind of panic cross. They were stepping on one another quickly because time they hit that water, crocodiles were only pulling them down so. You see they were going under the water so they were frantic, so they know that.

And that lion is sitting down there in the thicket in the shade. That fellow is in the shade. He knows just when to make the move. And just when they are getting ready to cross, you see him get up so, his two ears do so, and he looks. And it could have about two hundred wildebeests there; he already picked out the fat, juicy one, and knows, "That is the one I'm targeting." And then you see he starts to move. He is moving. And then you see he picks up a speed and he roars, and he is going in for the kill. You bet your life that one is dead, you know. He is going straight for the neck here or the hind leg here. With that strength, he throws that whole beast like that and he starts to eat.

Well, that is this fellow. He looked there, and when he looked, he spotted out the one he wanted. And she has never been up against something like this because wherever she went, she had to go with her brothers. And she had twelve brothers and those fellows could be very ruthless, and nobody was coming so. But she was by herself and she was defenseless. And it just shows, on her own she doesn't have what it takes to deal with that kind of thing, because this fellow had charmed endless little girls. He knew just what to tell them; just what they liked to hear.

He could call for—"What are you having, pina colada? What are you having, martini?"

They say, "Well, I will take a solo, some mauby [Local drinks -Ed.], or something." [Bro.Vin and youths laugh -Ed.]

Well, when you are in that kind of presence, you don't want to embarrass yourself and say, "No, what is a pina colada like?"

"You don't know what is a pina colada? Girl, you missed half of your life."

He took a drink and made that one little drink look like if that is something so exclusive that she was feeling so, you know... And he does so, "Waiter, come."

He said, "Yes, Prince Shechem," you know.

"Do you have my regular table arrangement?"

"Oh yes. I have your room in the back, sir."

"You just come in. I don't like to eat out in the public with these. Let's go and eat a little more privately. We could talk a little better."

He was the prince. All of this blew her away. Well, she didn't know what was coming next. She was defenseless. And this is where you see now... Watch how the story's coming, okay. Watch the family she was coming out of. Watch who her father, grandfather, and great grandfather was. Watch in that family when Abraham was going to get the wife for her grandfather. Watch the kind of religion in that family, and how that first marriage was by Appointment, to show how that family understands marriage. But to show now, as one generation passed, look how all that knowledge was weakened down and diluted. And now, when that girl should be walking with this consciousness of marriage and these things, watch how she can't handle a little pressure in a situation there.

She didn't have bad intentions but she never met a seducer like him. She never met somebody who could entice her like that. She was never up against something like that on two feet. Because he was nice, he was suave, he had jerry curls, he had this here; he was smelling sweet. He was everything. He was the sharp boy. He was the star boy in the town.

*<sup>3</sup> And his soul clave unto Dinah the daughter of Jacob, and he loved the damsel, and spake kindly unto the damsel.*

After that sexual affair, he didn't want that to break up. He wanted her for himself.

*<sup>4</sup> And Shechem spake unto his father  
Hamor, saying, Get me this damsel to wife.*

The father was kind of old, lost his backbone, and the boy who was running the father's business now... Did you hear what he was saying there? "I want her. Arrange. Papa, arrange. I need her." The father couldn't say, "Son, you disgraced my name. You never even approached the girl's father. How could you do a thing like this? What kind of young man are you? Where is your integrity? Where is your decency?" Nothing!

He said, "Papa, I can't do without her. I need her."

He didn't say, "But you said that for the last five and then they are with your friends now." Nothing!

Watch. He said, "Get me this damsel to wife." He didn't say, "Father, do you think she is good for me? Do you think I should marry a Christian? Do you think that she will fit into our family? Father, what do you think about it? What does mummy think?" He didn't ask anything like that, you know. He said, "Get me this damsel to wife."

*<sup>5</sup> And Jacob heard that he had defiled  
Dinah his daughter: ...*

Could you imagine this girl's father hearing his daughter went down there and the prince, the Hivite, had sex with his daughter? He was hearing this. Hamor didn't tell him. Hamor's father didn't tell him. Jacob, maybe was herding his sheep or something, or was going to the market to do business, selling a few sheep or whatever it is, or shearing his sheep and hired some herdsmen, who was paying off his herdsmen, and overheard two herdsmen talking and saying, "Boy, last night we were down there; after that fashion show was something else. I saw the boss man's daughter down there. Guess what happened. Guess who she was with. Shechem, boy." He said, "Shechem, the amount of notches he has on his belt," he said, "she must be number seventy-four for the year already."

Jacob overheard, "Wait, Dinah?" So he said, "What are you all talking about? What girl was down there?" He said, "Describe her for me." He said, "Or, I thought it was somebody else," ashamed and embarrassed, that was his daughter. He heard. Which father wants to hear about his daughter in that way? Through onlookers or who heard it, or who is the tenth person who heard it, and he was hearing from number ten like a rumor. That is a shameful thing, you know, for the kind of father she had who wrestled with an angel, who was seeing dreams from small with angels and all kinds of things; who dwelled in tents with Isaac, his father and Abraham. Her father was the one who had the Birthright. God said, He is the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Children could make their parents shame, you know, because they don't understand their responsibility.

*<sup>5</sup> And Jacob heard that he had defiled Dinah his daughter: now his sons were with his cattle in the field: and Jacob held his peace until they were come.*

*<sup>6</sup> And Hamor the father of Shechem went out unto Jacob to commune with him.*

Because the boy sent his father, so he came to talk to Jacob.

*<sup>7</sup> And the sons of Jacob came out of the field when they heard it: ...*

Well, they heard it too. The herdsmen and they were talking about it. See?

*...and the men were grieved, and they were very wroth, because he had wrought folly in Israel in lying with Jacob's daughter: which thing ought not to be done.*

Those boys, Jacob sons, those boys got wrought. It was like, "How could he do our sister this? Our sister went down there. He took our sister for a harlot. He has no respect for our family because they have money, because they are big shots; because he is a prince.

Where is the respect? That is how they treat a young lady?" Watch, okay?

Now, you tell me if this fellow, when the Bible says, he loved the damsel and spoke kindly unto the damsel and he said he wanted the damsel, tell me if that is the way you love somebody: by taking them, forcing them, using them, and then telling them you love them.

*<sup>8</sup> And Hamor communed with them, saying, The soul of my son Shechem longeth for your daughter: I pray [thee] give her him to wife.*

*<sup>9</sup> And make ye marriages with us, and give your daughters unto us, and take our daughters unto you.*

So this boy's father came now. He was ecumenical – 'that we all can be one'. In other words, he decided now, "Since I can't control my son, and I can't chasten my son, well now, the next proposal is, let us unite together as one people." But watch the basis for the unity. He saw, he took, he lay and he defiled. Now, how many know that Scripture is God? Scripture is God you know, because that is God's thoughts expressed. That is the Word of God. That is God. That is why, "Heaven and earth will pass away, but not one Word can pass away."

The Scripture is saying, he defiled her. He saw her, he took her; he defiled her. He abused her. He forced her. He shamed her. He took her against her own will. He defiled her. When he was done, she was worth less than what she was before, because now she was a defiled woman. And he was the one that did it. And he was the one that made the advance and took the girl.

Now, watch. Now, she was in the wrong place too, okay? We have to be fair judges here, right? We are judging the matter. We are the jury today, right? We are judging the case. These are the facts of the case. Let me hear your opinion of what it is; how you view it. The character here is Dinah. She is the one who was the victim. She got seduced; she lost her virginity. She was



humiliated; she was now a defiled woman. The young man is Hamor, the prince of the country. What he saw, what he wanted, what he coveted, he took. His father owned the whole country. He was the prince so he could take what he wanted. That was how he thought. And he had his father so under his control that he sent the father to get her. And the father came now and was offering a proposition to get her. And the proposition was, "Well, am...we are in the land; Abraham came and he is a sojourner in our land. We are willing to make peace with you all."

Because remember, they had that land by word-of-mouth from God but they were meeting people living on this land. And these people were living on their land, so they were seeing Abraham... His family, he was not a nation yet. The family was now growing, from Abraham's family to Isaac's family to Jacob's family. Isaac only had one wife and two children. So now we have, Jacob had twelve sons and a daughter, so they were multiplying in the land but they were still small to seven nations in the land.

And what was going on here, this girl was here. She was thinking, well, she was old enough to be lain with. She wasn't married. She was unmarried. This was how she was having her first encounter. She had no real... She may put up some fight, but the territory she was in and without any support, she lost everything. The father's name was brought to shame, because this one was talking and the father came and heard it. Then the brothers came and heard it too from the men in the field, so it was out in the public going around about these people who were supposed to be serving God; that God was with them. And it was looking like God couldn't protect them.

Well, it has responsibility here. It has responsibility here. She went out to see. She wasn't invited. Her curiosity, she wanted to know a little more of the daughters in the land. They were supposed to be

pilgrims but now, Jacob came and camped right next to the city. He brought his family too close to the world, so his children now, started to get exposed to the world and the influence of the world. The weakest one in the family, one girl, she was vulnerable. Look what happened.

Now, these people were coming and said, "Let all the people marry together." In other words, Abraham was saying, "We can't marry Canaanites. You all are a cursed race." But this man now, was offering marriage for everybody. "You take our sons; we'll take your daughters. You take our daughters; our daughters will take your sons. We'll become one people." That is denomination today. That is the seeds of it right there. That is Balaamism. That is the doctrine of Balaam in infancy right there. That is what Balaam taught – "Unite the race that we all be one." That is hybrid religion right there. That is mixing the bloodline and polluting the bloodline right there, because through this bloodline the Messiah was promised to come. But watch how this girl had none of this in her head. She just felt boring so she decided to go down.

Rebecca was known by Isaac in the tent after all that worked out and the marriage, and they went forth. This girl did not have such an experience. What she was coming into, sexual encounter with an unbeliever, no marriage involved, this was pure lust. This was covet and take what is on your territory and what you can manipulate and exploit, though she was a daughter in the family that was in covenant with God. That shows to us, even though we are in covenant with God, there is an individual responsibility you must have, I must have; every one of us must have, because you have to know how to possess your vessel in sanctification and honor.

So now, he was offering now, a proposition. Now he made... Verse 9:

*<sup>9</sup> And make ye marriages with us, and give your daughters unto us, and take our daughters unto you.*

*<sup>10</sup> And ye shall dwell with us: ...*

This is like Satan offering them all this privilege.

*...and the land shall be before you; dwell and trade ye therein, and get you possessions therein.*

*<sup>11</sup> And Shechem said unto her father and unto her brethren, Let me find grace in your eyes, ...*

Do you see how this fellow was smooth? After he sent his father in front, the father did all of this, he came in now. He said:

*... Let me find grace in your eyes, and what ye shall say unto me I will give.*

*<sup>12</sup> Ask me never so much dowry and gift, and I will give according as ye shall say unto me: but give me the damsel to wife.*

*<sup>13</sup> And the sons of Jacob answered Shechem and Hamor his father deceitfully,*

*...*

You see, she had two brothers: one was called Simeon, and Levi. She had many other brothers, you know, but these two were from the same mother so that was her blood brothers. And when these blood brothers saw what they did to their sister, and then this man was coming like a politician making negotiations, presenting a proposal and enticing them, "You will be able to trade. You would be able to have lands. You would be able to get possessions. You would become wealthy. Let us..." In other words, "Let us overlook that my son raped your daughter. In the end, the family will benefit."

Then the boy was saying... He had no repentance for what he did. He had no asking for any forgiveness for the shame he brought on that family, but he was saying, "Ask for how much dowry you want," like if money was going to solve all the problems and a little money could

make everybody turn a blind eye; forget shame, forget principles, forget what is right, forget belief, forget responsibility. Just pass a little money and everything will cool off nice.

So this girl lost her virginity, she lost everything and it would all be solved by a little money because, “You all don’t have much possession in the land. We have so many cattle. You all now, bring a few flocks and are kind of coming up small in the business. And, you know, if you join up with us, everything will be okay. Let us be one people.” But this is believer and unbeliever now.

This is what God had called Abraham out of to begin with, to walk... This is, today, we are going back now, into the world through circumstance, through convenience because we couldn’t handle the situation correctly. And we now, are being enticed by the presentation of proposals. And then, we are sacrificing all our principles, all our values, everything, for a little change in the pocket – hush-hush money.

Now, you have to know how deep your convictions are. How deep are your convictions? Because what you do will be the standard you set for your children, you know. If today you will turn a blind eye, you just pass it over, you give in, your children will do that same thing and the others will do the same thing. And before you know it, there will be no Christians around. Everybody will be Hivite.

Are we a race that is called out to be called the Bride? Does ‘the Bride’ mean a clean people? It is granted unto Her to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white, to be separated from the system [Revelation 19:8 –Ed.]: Come out of Babylon; come out of her My people.” [Revelation 18:4 –Ed.] See? Come through the waters of separation: You are washed with the washing of the water of the Word. And you shall be a glorious church without spot and without wrinkle to be married to Jesus Christ? [Ephesians 5:26-27 – Ed.] Or, are we a church to be seduced and in politics and led astray by human leadership and all these

different things and expect to produce the Promise? Watch, okay?

Verse 12, he was saying:

*<sup>12</sup> Ask me never so much dowry and gift,  
and I will give according as ye shall say  
unto me: but give me the damsel...*

In other words, “Tell me you want ten thousand dollars; I could give it to you.” He was trying to settle what he did with money. There was no repentance. There was nothing. His father who was a puppet came up now and was trying to say, “Well, let us join up together and be the same.” So your children now will be raised up with little idols. Because when you mix marriage, you go and marry a Catholic woman, and she wants to burn her candle in the night and has her little statues of Mary, and she is the one who is raising up the children and you are outside trying to make a living, and you are trying to stand up and say, “You can’t bring my children up so. Put up the Hoffman head. No praying to any Mary in this house!” But it is you who went and married the Catholic woman. It is you who started the ball-a-rolling. Do you understand what I’m saying?

This is where you get people, instead of seeing their wrong and seeing their mistake, they fail to see how these things are so destructive. And it is like a cancer coming into the family, coming into the race and starts to—coming into the church and starts to just eat everything down.

*<sup>13</sup> And the sons of Jacob answered  
Shechem and Hamor his father deceitfully,  
and said, because he had defiled Dinah  
their sister:*

*<sup>14</sup> And they said unto them, We cannot  
do this thing, to give our sister to one that is  
uncircumcised; for that were a reproach  
unto us:*

*15 But in this will we consent unto you: If ye will be as we be, that every male of you be circumcised;*

Now, it says, he was answering them deceitfully. It was a plan he had you know; that when... It takes three days for that circumcision to be healed, and he knew, "Okay, Dinah will stay with you but this evening, everybody has to get circumcised. Bring out the whole tribe. We are doing it according to your plan. We will make you all inducted into our tribe and our belief. So you all get circumcised because in our family, circumcision is a type of the Holy Ghost. Circumcision is the sign that you are in covenant, and so, you have to circumcise." So all those men in the city now, they went and rallied the men, because you could imagine...

Now, watch this. The sin started with the boy; it went to his father. From his father now, they went to the rest of the men in the town. And all of them now, were following the king in the town to come and get circumcised, because this fellow's son couldn't repent, couldn't fix these things; and he must have what he wanted because they have money, they have wealth and they could pay for this.

Well, you know how they say today, "I have to eat a food. So if I have to eat a food, well, I have to go along because it is Shechem who gives us work. His father is the king here. They own the lands. We take care of their flocks. We are benefitting because he is like the mayor in this town and we are working for them. So if I give up that, if I make a stand, I'll lose my food. So we are all going to get circumcised." This is no revelation of God, you know. Catch this.

This is like you saying, "We are coming to get baptized," and we baptize you in water one after the other, one after the other, and say, "Okay, we fill up the church now." We'll pack the church with unbelievers because nobody is coming with any experience of meeting God. Everybody is coming because they 'want

a food'. So the membership grows. We look like one. It looks like unity. It looks like everything is okay.

Now, you girls and you boys have to have more conviction than that. You have to understand what we believe. You don't go and have an unbeliever lay with you or you lay with an unbeliever, and you bring them to church to baptize them in water and they become part of us, and this is how God decides to bring members to the Assembly. You were sent out there to be the light of the world and the salt of the earth. You were sent out there to know, you are called to be an ambassador and a representative. And your life is not boring. You have the most exciting life there is. Amen?

Couple more verses and we are finished. This is the one by circumstance, okay? Do you see how he wanted marriage? He wanted marriage by circumstance. It had no prayer here, had no leadership here, had no angel going with anybody here; had no faith connected to this. They were using money. This was marriage by circumstance and not by Appointment. Right?

You hear what we are talking about, "MARRIAGE BY APPOINTMENT OR BY CIRCUMSTANCE". Which one of those marriages do you see yourself in: Appointment or circumstance? Have you ever met Shechem yet? You will meet Shechem, you know. Shechem isn't easy, you know. He could talk, you know. You better know what you are looking for.

Which marriage God is identified with? Which one God is involved with? Which one of these two people God is joining here? Now, it is coming to deceit with a plan to kill all these people now. From that rape, it was getting to revenge. From revenge, it is going and get to cold blooded murder. That is what was going on here, you know. Because sin just keeps snowballing until it becomes like a big avalanche. When it drops on everybody so, that is it, you know. When sin starts...

So they had a plan. So they said, "You all get circumcised." They knew it would take three days for

that to heal. And while everybody now, all the men there were trying to get healed in those three days, they were going to plan an assault and wipe out that whole city, kill Hamor, kill Shechem and shed blood and take all their wealth and go with it. This was the plan Simeon and Levi had.

As the Scripture says, when Jacob was blessing them in Genesis 49, he said, “Simeon and Levi, instruments of cruelty are in their fellows’ tent. Separate them.” That was like gas on fire. If you get them two men together, watch mischief happen. Somebody was dead.

It was the same like Shechem, but you see Shechem met his match. See, Shechem thought they had plenty skull in the world, but some of these fellows here had real skulls too. And so, they used this on them. But the whole thing now, was trying to do what? Settle a dispute – an incident that went bad because this young girl couldn’t keep her feet in the place where she was supposed to be. She got too close. And when you get on the enemy’s ground, he takes you further than you intend to go.

You are going to meet this. You are going to meet this. Can you handle it? Are you armed with the Word? Do you have spiritual insight to see, going in the wrong place, to get under the wrong influence, to get into the wrong associations, to get involved in the wrong questionable things, it starts off and it just keeps going and going and going?

The reason it is put in the Word, a young lady like yourself, a young lady like Rebecca, a young boy—a young man like Isaac, a young man like Shechem... Watch two young men, two young ladies. Both of them, these young men wanted marriage. Both of these young ladies wanted marriage.

Watch and see, this one had no respect. He was ungodly. There was no concept about God. His mind was, when he looked, he saw something he liked. He saw she was attractive. He saw she was clean. He saw



she was pure; she was different. He never had that before. He wanted that because he was fed up with all that he had, because it was like the same thing over and over. And she just became a piece of meat in his eyes. And eventually he tasted that piece of meat and he felt he liked it, and he started to push his father for it now. Not knowing, when she started there, that whole city was going to get killed; her father's name would be stink in the land. All this shame was going to come about because she couldn't see it. When this boy went after this girl, he couldn't see, him, his father, and all those men dead. He couldn't see that either.

Look how God is showing us, both seeking marriage; both desiring companionship. God has a way. God's way and man's way. God's way to bring you in through Divine leadership, through prayer; through God working on both ends. Then man's way: you see, you like, you position yourself, you make your approach, you come with your tactic, you have your strategy, you manipulate, you get in and then you enjoy success. The two ways right there. Which one is God glorified in? Which one is the woman's position elevated? Because 'marriage' means to magnify the woman; to raise the woman up.

Any woman going and getting married is not being brought down and abased. When Boaz married Ruth she was a beggar; she was lifted up to a great position. When Esther married, she was lifted up to a great position. When Rebecca married, she was lifted up to a great position. When we, the Bride of Christ are married to Jesus Christ, we are raised up to a great position. God is intending a great blessing for His children; for you.

I showed you Rebecca. I said, that is you. That is your marriage. I showed you this one by circumstance; that is not your marriage. Many of you or some of you have had your problems like Dinah, but don't make that your life. The Blood of Jesus Christ can cleanse you from all

sin. You walk in the light as He is in the light the Blood cleanseth you.

Look how Rebecca knew. Look how the family... Look at the family; they said, "This thing proceeds from God. Here is the damsel. Take her as the Lord hath spoken." Look at this one over here. He said, "Well am...let us kind of join up, okay? We are Hivites, you know. We've come from a lineage. We are Serpent Seed really, you know. We've come from Canaan, 'cursed be Canaan', and we've come out of Canaan."

Look at this girl. She was in the lineage. She's in the continuity of the Word from Branham. When Branham was here on the earth and Branham like Abraham was telling them about *Marriage and Divorce* and *Choosing a Bride* and these things... Now we are standing here in the days after, like she was standing there when Jacob and they were there – a next generation. See how that Truth has lost its meaning and value. That is why I gave you this. I gave you these things to understand... If you are a young person in this church; you want to be married, read this. First, get God's thought about what you want to come into. Start to get some insight.

I am surprised I have gone through to do this, to help you, to protect you and some of you are so bombarded and impacted... You could only have one way or the other. Shechem's way... I don't have time to carry you by Amnon and Tamar, but I'll stop here.

Marriage by Appointment – the bride who is appointed. Do you think she was the bride appointed for Shechem? If she was the bride appointed for Shechem, Shechem would have sought it in that order as Rebecca was appointed for Isaac. If you are appointed to salvation, you are also appointed to marriage. It means to say, God planned your life. God appoints these things in your life.

It was not consensual. Do you know why it was not consensual? He defiled her. He took her. That is why the Bible says, shun the very appearance of evil [1<sup>st</sup>

Thessalonians 5:22 -Ed.] and evil communication corrupts good morals [1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 15:33 -Ed.]. You have to know those sacred virtues in your life as a woman, and the principles and the convictions in your life as a man.

In this story, we find Levi and Simeon. Those fellows' convictions were so strong: "Our sister is not going to be abused and brought to shame like this." Jacob didn't say a word. When the girl got raped, Jacob didn't say a word. He was embarrassed. These fellows' anger rose in them. When Jacob gave his reason, Jacob said, "Look, what you all went and did. I am a small band. My family is now growing; now, they will kill me in this land. All those unbelievers would come against me. You all went and made trouble for me."

So they turned around and told Jacob, "But he treated our sister like a harlot!" In other words, "If we are a family, what is our belief and our integrity concerning our sisters, our mothers; the women amongst us? How do we treat them? How do we see them? How do we value them? How do we relate to them? What do they mean to us?"

If you see a sister being led astray or something like that, would you stand up and talk with somebody and say, "You don't see her? She has nothing. I tell you, they are on nothing. They are only here and want to jump up and sing and play they are in the choir"? Or you would say, "No..." You have some conviction. You care. You are interested. You are not just interested in having influence over somebody. You are not just interested so you could get favor before somebody. All of that is selfish. You are interested because of the principles we believe in, what governs and influences our lives, our convictions; why we stand. What are our views on what we believe? What do we believe about this?

If we are the judge and the jury over this, what do you think? It has rape involved here. It has deceit; deceit to murder involved here. It has Jacob talking about his name being made to stink in the land. It has Dinah. She

was feeling, maybe, a little boring and she stepped out to see the young ladies of the land; all of these... It has Shechem, the sharp boy; powerful family, wealth and position in society, who was accustomed to taking what they wanted and buying who they could buy. Inside of here, when you look and you examine this, these things anoint your eyes and give you eyes to see.

Some people could say, "But he loved the girl." He was asking the girl's father for marriage and was willing to pay a big dowry after he had done seen her, took her, lay with her, and defiled her. Why couldn't he ask the father before, if he was interested in her? Where is the respect for the family? Which girl wants to justify a young man who doesn't want to talk to her father but who wants to walk into her life and get control. She started to cooperate with that, bringing shame on the family's name, and she was not seeing any wrong. And then, if they were talking unity, they would start to come to church too, then it got her more happy because she started to see now, she was winning people for God and God had it that way.

Now, all of that is in the story, you know. All of that is in the story. Do you see it in the story? Then, as young men and young ladies, what kind of approach... Sometimes when we look, you wonder if it is Shechem in a tie with a Spoken Word book. You realize Shechem is amongst us. Shechem is among us and Dinah is among us. And Hamor – some people are parents and they are seeing things going on and they are not making any stand. And they are seeing things in the back and they are seeing this, and they have no say. "Let Bro. Vin... You all go to the minister and see."

Watch your story. Genesis – the two are in Genesis, the seed Book. I like the one by Appointment. I love the one by Appointment. Which one do you like? All who like the one by Appointment, let me see? Leave that hand up. Let the camera take that hand, because I want to show you back yourself one of these days and ask

you if your conviction is still strong. You know I'm just teasing. I am not here to put you in any spot, but I'm here to try to open your eyes with some eye salve. Do you appreciate the little time to see this? Okay, God bless you. [Young people clap in appreciation -Ed.]

You see, down through the years, I stood for you a lot in this church because I believe in you. I know your battles, as I said, but I can't fight them for you. But I could spend time with you and talk to you and show you things in the Word; how you could handle things. In the end, you have to take, "Thy Word have I hid in my heart that I will not sin against You." You take the Word and you hold it in your heart and He is going to make real young men, *"Stalwart men and women true; In perfect step, they are God's best. Invincible through the great Word test."* [#469 - Songs That Live -Ed.]

We are looking for a real church. How we deal with these things will determine what kind of church we are. These things could bring us to a church that is just like the world – Pentecostal, boyfriend, girlfriend, this; carrying on. As I say now, I'm not against relationships; relationships and marriage.

We didn't get to go through much but I wanted to show you, obsession and lust. See, obsession, people get obsessed with people and they call it love. They get obsessed with people and in that obsession they get a great lust. That is what Shechem had. Shechem got obsessed with this girl. He had to have this girl.

If I had time to go to Amnon and Tamar, 2<sup>nd</sup> Samuel 13, you could read it when you go home... I will pick it up with you, maybe, a next day too, but you could get the background of it. The Bible says, he loved the girl until he was sick of love for this girl. And when he forced the girl, the hatred he had for her after was greater than the love he had loved her with. He called the servant, he said, "Put her out and bolt the door!" And he humiliated the girl when he was sick with love for this

girl. But he had such an ungodly influence who gave him the plan on how to seduce the girl.

We want to be honest in our hearts. We want to be gentlemen. We want to be sons of God. We want to be men of the Word. Because, let me tell you, you can't help anybody without the Word. You will like, you'll see and you'll want. You see, you look through your two eyes and you see one you like, and you are making your move to take it because what you see, it stirs something in you. You want to lay with it, is what you really want. And these two examples shows to us, that ungodly mind and that ungodly spirit will stir a person to that same thing, as the Holy Spirit will stir the person to marriage, respect, honour, dignity, where the blessing of God, Who starts it, is with it and continues on with it.

This one got into the encounter and then was trying to fix it from behind, then was trying to bring money, then was trying to make arrangements for the marriage now; then was trying to do this, when there was no respect to go first to the parent. Eliezer took them and went straight to the girl's family. The girl's family witnessed. This one came making a proposition and negotiation and thing to hybridize the race and everything else. And Simeon and Levi—because you know, Levi, after all that, God came and gave him the priesthood. When Phineas killed that thing with Cosbi and Zimri, that false union in the camp, God gave him an everlasting priesthood.

False union is a bad thing. Marriage by convenience is false union. Watch the perfect way. Watch God's way. There is your way and there is God's way. "There is a way that seemeth right unto a man and the end is death." [Proverbs 14: 12 -Ed.]

Let us pray. Let's stand to our feet. Bro Sammy. We could sing a little song, is it okay? Praise His wonderful Name. Somebody has a song book around here? Could you bring one? God bless you.

I am sorry the time is up. I was really feeling that I was getting over to you. I would like to discuss some of what we spoke of today another time. Because in there, there are many different views on how to go about this. Is this the right way; is that way? Because it is the kind of circumstance we all can see ourselves in.

*"You are my King. You are the Lamb."* [#320 - Songs That Live -Ed.]

If you feel it has helped you and you, maybe, see things in your life that you want to fix and put right, or you've come to the place where you see yourself and know that, like, you are walking between these two places, you want to walk in God's Appointment but yet you are being pulled in circumstance, and you want to, today, where you find yourself between those two places, you want to walk in God's Will.

Maybe you see a lot of self-will in your own life but you want to have God's leadership in your life, because you know, if you have God's leadership, God will bless you. Maybe you are the kind of person, you needed more faith, so instead of trusting God, you find yourself taking things into your own hands and going your way and using your human zeal and your human ways to deal with things. When you realize you have faith, you will apply the Word of God to your life first, realizing that these things are great responsibilities.

As we sing this song... We'll sing this song and then we'll have a word of prayer. And if any of you feel in your heart, "I want God's Will for me. I don't want to be walking in error. I see these things are so clear. I want to be a blessing. I want my life to mean something to the Lord Jesus. I know I'm at this junction in my life and I want God to direct my paths."

I see how easy it is, that sometimes if your thinking is not filtered by the Word, it is so easy to lean on your own understanding and see what is right through your own eyes. But when the Word comes and puts things in perspective, you realize that you needed that Word to

put you in real balance, where you could be truly aligned with the Word of God. Do you feel like that today? How many of you feel so; say, “Lord, I want to walk a little closer.” God bless you for that. I believe you are honest and sincere in your heart. And I believe that God sees; that when our brother here, our elder...

I called two elders here today – two elders that have unmarried young daughters. I purposely did that. And I asked them, I said, “I want you all to stand in the meeting today because I feel we need this.” Because the elders are apt to teach and I wanted brothers who are mature, who have teenage girls, who have young ladies in their twenties going into their thirties, unmarried; that they could see my approach to these things. And when the time comes and they meet someone, they could instruct them the right way. They could help them. They could edify them. They could pray with them. They could help them become more stabilized because we need this among us. We need... For us to be the Bride, a washed people, a prepared people, a people with faith, we need this among us.

My young brothers, young men, look at the beautiful way. We don’t want to be a Shechem. We want to be a real prince; not that kind of prince – a prince with principle; a prince with conviction. We see the way God brings a mate to a man. We see a man looking, singling out, putting his mark on them and pursuing to bring under his control. Take my advice and read some of the things because you need this to come into marriage.

You don’t need house and car and all these things. That is good too. But if you think that is what brings a relationship between two people... That is what Shechem had. Shechem had all of that but he had no principles. He had no knowledge of God. He had no concept. He had no understanding of the marriage covenant; what it is. But he had all the wealth and the possessions, and he was even using that as an influence to even get what he wanted. That is not God’s way.



"*You are my King...*" Let's sing. Lift your voices and sing. Worship the Lord if you feel He spoke to your heart. Then in thanksgiving back to Him. *You are my King.*

[#320 - Songs That Live -Ed.]

*You are my King, You are the Lamb,  
Lion of Judah, Seed of Abraham;  
The Holy One, God's only Son;  
You are the King of whose I am.*

Why don't we lift our hands to Him? Lift your hands and sing. Lift your voices.

*You are my King, You are the Lamb,  
Lion of Judah, Seed of Abraham;  
The Holy One, God's only Son;  
You are the King of whose I am.*

Oh, my days are filled with laughter,  
*My days are filled with laughter,*  
You have known...  
My heart has known Your peace,  
I've travelled far  
*Still there is more to go;*  
Oh, but in my heart  
*...there is a longing,*  
*To look upon Your face,*  
*Where You are, is where I want to be.*  
Oh, we thank you, Lord.

*...my King, You are the Lamb,  
Lion of Judah, Seed of Abraham;  
The Holy One, God's only Son;  
You are the King of whose I am.*

Every road I've travelled down,  
*...road I've travelled down*  
Oh, You have walked before me  
That is what we desire, amen.

You've made Your little Light...  
I believe He did that today, shining all around us  
Oh and I'm looking for that day,  
*...looking for that day,*  
*When I'll bow before You,*  
*And lay my crown at Your feet.*

*You are my King, You are the Lamb,*  
*Lion of Judah, Seed of Abraham;*  
*The Holy One, God's only Son;*  
*You are the King of whose I am.*

One more time. "You are my King."

*You are my King*

Hallelujah.

*Lion of Judah, Seed of Abraham;*

*The Holy One, God's only Son;*

*You are the King of whose I am.*

As we bow our hearts in His Presence, as our brother will pray, you hold that request in your heart. You lifted your hands a while ago and you, under the influence of the Word, saw the places that the Holy Spirit led us this morning, to look into our lives, to see how we are walking; to know how we are approaching the things that are confronting us at this time and the kind of maturity we desire to be in, to be able to handle these situations, to be able to approach these things in the Godly way; to have the counsel of the Godly. Not to walk in the counsel of the ungodly but to have the counsel of the Godly; to know God's way, God's provided way, that He could lead us in a plain path.

I'm sure God is going to bless you. And you, purpose in your heart to lay aside everything. If you are going a little crooked, you are going in a wrong place here, you maybe didn't see that before, but this morning, sitting here, it brings the desire in your heart, you want to walk pleasing unto God. You have confidence in Him. You want to put Him first. You want Him to lead you into

these things. I'm sure He is going to bless you in every way by the grace of God.

[Bro. Samuel Johnson prays -Ed.]

Amen. Why don't you turn around and greet your brother and sister; tell them God bless them. And then Grace and Meda will close with a song. They could come by God's grace. Praise His wonderful name.

You know, it seems like I caught it simultaneously there with Bro. Sammy when he was praying. And I said, "Hey, we are in Rebecca." And then I heard him say, you know, right there in his prayer he spoke it, and I just saw the Holy Spirit witness that, "We are in Rebecca."

God bless you. You may have your seats as Grace and Meda come. Praise His wonderful Name.

[Sis. Grace and Sis. Meda sings -Ed.]

God bless you. The ushers will lead you out. Trust we'll have a next time soon, the Lord willing. It doesn't have to be on a service day if you—we could have... [Blank spot on tape -Ed.] talk, amen?









