

THE
DEVIL'S
WAR
AGAINST YOUR
GOD-
ORDAINED
Marriage

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The devil's War Against Your God-ordained Marriage

Kollin L. Taylor

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DEDICATION

To my brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus who are enduring seemingly unprecedented spiritual warfare either while waiting on the Lord for a promised spouse or after marrying the Lord's chosen one. #YouAreNotCrazy

Please cover yourself in prayer before reading "The devil's War Against Your God-ordained Marriage". I am aware of some of the enemy's tactics [that he](#) uses in an effort to prevent people from reading the two other books the Lord used to expose satan's devices:

- The Process: The Refiner's Fire
- The Prophet and the Witch: Under the Influence

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

My Lord, my God! Abba, Father, thank You very much for the honor to communicate these truths on a matter that is near and dear to Your heart. The spirit and power of Elijah is meant to turn Your children back to You through Your only begotten Son, Jesus the Christ, and to turn the fathers to the children and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just. As Your angel Gabriel also prophesied to Zacharias regarding the birth of his son John (the Baptist) that spirit and power is also meant to prepare the people for the return of the Lord Jesus (Luke 1:16-17). Your Son is coming soon, like a thief in the night. Yet, You still have assignments for Your children, including the marital unions You have ordained for them to infinitely bear fruit for Your glory.

Deliverance is the children's bread, and I thank You for this opportunity to feed Your sheep, Lord Jesus. I thank You for this chance to help set the captives free in Your mighty name. As was the case with Isaac and Rebekah's union, please send Your holy angels to help bring Your sons and daughters together in the holy matrimony you intended. As was the case with David and his men, whose wives and children were kidnapped, please help your children to recover those relationships that were stolen from them as You see fit. My Lord, please use this book to help prevent those ungodly unions that are meant to destroy Your children so they will not get ensnared like king Solomon, Samson, or even king Ahab.

My Lord, I thank You for sending Your Holy Spirit as my Comforter and Guide. Holy Spirit of the True and Living God, please order my steps, and please anoint this message with Your demonic-destroying yoke-busting unparalleled power. The same power that rose Lazarus and even Jesus from the dead. As was the case with Ezekiel in the valley of dry bones, please use the contents of this book to glorify Your Son, like only You can, to raise former relationships or potential relationships from the dead. Also, please

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permanently end relationships that are best left in the past and block the resurgence of those that need to remain dead. Please restore unto Your children all the years the locust has eaten for the glory of the Son, Jesus.

My Lord, thank You for using everything the enemy meant for our harm for good, and more importantly, Your glory. There is no God like You. Please use this book to bring deliverance to Your children, particularly those who have been faithful to You and have been crying out to You for justice. Do not allow none of these words to fall to the ground, unless doing so will bear even more fruit for Your glory. I accept this commission with humility and great sobriety because it comes from You and I also am partially aware of its potential magnitude. Now, as I typically do to end each video broadcast, as I begin this journey with and for You, I boldly proclaim that Jesus is Lord!

PROLOGUE

“The devil’s War Against Your God-ordained Marriage” is named after [a](#) 12-part video series the Lord had me produce for the Social Aloe Ministries YouTube channel. The thought of writing a book may have crossed my mind while recording the series, which is more than 22 hours of premarital and marital counseling, but since 2017, I no longer write books unless the Lord specifically directs. [During](#) the cool of the morning on March 17, 2020, the Lord commissioned me to write this book based on the comprehensive video series that addresses spiritual warfare targeted towards preventing or destroying God-ordained marriages.

The apostle Paul warned the church at Corinth not [to](#) be ignorant of the devil’s devices [because he will take](#) advantage of them. That warning also applies to us [today](#). [The](#) enemy knows his time his short and he is still roaming around like a roaring lion seeking whom he may devour. The devil has been waging war against marriages literally since the beginning [of](#) time. We can see the impacts of his attack on Adam and Eve’s marriage as told in Genesis 3. It is also worthy to note the impacts of that attack on the first couple’s relationship with the Lord. Ultimately, and especially since we are created in God’s image and the devil cannot contend with the Lord, he tries to destroy the Lord’s most precious creations, humans. While we are warned of satan’s devices throughout the Bible, many people cannot discern the devil’s weapons. That is [mainly](#) because he and his weapons are covert enough to remain hidden in plain sight [even](#) in the Scriptures. The BIG secret is the devil perverts the things of the Lord, particularly his written Words.

The Lord’s charter for Social Aloe Ministries is to glorify Him and expose the devil, or in other words, to set the captives free. “The devil’s War Against Your God-ordained Marriage” is for God’s glory as it exposes the covert ways and means the devil often [uses](#) to prevent or destroy God-

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ordained marriages. Identifying the works of the devil is something many seminaries evidently do not teach based on the messages and beliefs of numerous pastors around the world. For example, many pastors have never heard of a “spirit spouse”, also referred to as a “spirit husband” that primarily targets women or a “spirit wife” that typically targets men. Yet, just in case you do not know, you will see the Biblical precedent for those terms. Some Christians will dispute the validity of [these](#) references, but for those [that these foul](#) spirits are afflicting, it answers some pressing questions about their torments.

Tragically, numerous Christians who are skilled at rightly dividing the Word of truth have discounted the things people have experienced from the enemy. True to Genesis 50:20 and Romans 8:28-30, the Lord has used those trying experiences [to](#) educate His children about the devil's devices. The Lord has also used Christians who previously served the devil to enlighten us about the darkness. However, similar to how the apostles did not initially trust Saul after his conversion experience, those who served satan are often met with skepticism regarding the legitimacy and sincerity of their conversion. Yet, people with experience fighting against the devil and those who fought for him have testimonies that fit together like pieces of a puzzle, which adds to the validity of their assertions.

Readers of “The Prophet and the Witch: Under the Influence” and “The Process: The Refiner's Fire” are familiar with my TESTimony. I was seemingly on my way to getting to be with a woman the Lord handpicked for me, until the enemy unleashed coordinated attacks against me in ways my years of Bible study had not prepared me for. I had never been one of satan's servants, even though he tried to get me to serve him (against my will) on numerous occasions. But, glory to God for using my years of intense spiritual warfare coupled with the years of Bible study to present the invaluable information contained in this book. It simultaneously constricts and expands upon the information in the video series, which I also recommend that you watch in conjunction with your reading. The video series is conveniently located in a playlist called “KINGdom Kouples: Marriage Seminars”. I already sense that similar to

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“The Process: The Refiner’s Fire” that the Lord wants me to have a free version of “The devil’s War Against Your God-ordained Marriage.” Too many people need the information contained in both books and finances should not hinder a person’s ability to access these liberating revelations.

Prior to calling me to serve Him, I had written a book called “The Anatomy of a Heartbreak: When SAMson Met Delilah.” The word SAMson is spelt as such because it was the acronym for what would soon become Social Aloe Ministries. There are several links to this ministry and Samson’s life, some of which were foretold in that book. Even its title was prophetic in what would later happen to me and how the Lord would use those events to refine me and shape the course of this ministry. It also points to a disastrous mistake the devil keeps making, which is trying to destroy God-ordained marriages. Unfortunately for the devil, the Lord turns the affected individuals into His hardened and sharpened warriors to destroy the devil’s works. The Lord said vengeance was His and He will avenge. But sometimes He uses human vessels as His instruments of judgment (vengeance).

The Holy Spirit is my Teacher and I will not share His glory with another, but I will say that the Lord used the devil to teach me several lessons. One of the first lessons is that God is not playing and neither is the devil. We have to choose one or the other and there is no middle ground in this war for souls. Exodus 1:12 speaks of how the Israelites multiplied and grew as a result of the Egyptians’ persecution. Likewise, I know about spiritual warfare particularly because the enemy simply could not resist the opportunities to attack me in an effort to destroy my God-ordained marriage and my very life. But as stated on numerous occasions and on various platforms, the Lord does not give the devil free shots at His children. God allowed satan to horribly afflict Job and his family as told in Job chapters 1 and 2, but the Lord is a restorer as evidenced in Job chapter 42. The more the enemy afflicted me was the more I multiplied and grew in knowledge and strength. In addition, to the chagrin of the devil, his efforts to pull me away from the Lord simply pushed me closer to God. It is commensurate with an analogy the Lord gave me

to illustrate what Jesus said in John 10:27-30. No one can pluck me out of the Father's hand. The enemy fervently tried, but the Father held on to me like a rubber band between His fingers. The enemy continually tried pulling me away from God but would eventually relent. The Lord has had me exposing the devil's devices based on his numerous failed attempts with me. The enemy tried but could not defeat the Lord. In fact, [to me](#), this unexpected book is a sign of how things have backfired on the enemy as he is about to get exposed even more. It would have been better if he had heeded my warning in 2018 to walk away while he had the chance.

As stated, Social Aloe Ministries is linked to the Biblical story of Samson in numerous ways. One of which is how the Lord used the enemy's tampering with Samson's God-ordained marriage to transform him from an average and seemingly obscure man into one of Israel's judges, an instrument of war against the Lord's enemies. When I speak of Samson's wife, many people would assume I am referring to Delilah. However, the Bible does not state they were married. What I refer to predates devilish Delilah. Samson had married a Philistine, but it is easy to overlook that brief yet pivotal marriage and the Lord's intended purpose for it:

And Samson went down to Timnath, and saw a woman in Timnath of the daughters of the Philistines.

And he came up, and told his father and his mother, and said, I have seen a woman in Timnath of the daughters of the Philistines: now therefore get her for me to wife.

Then his father and his mother said unto him, Is there never a woman among the daughters of thy brethren, or among all my people, that thou goest to take a wife of the uncircumcised Philistines?

And Samson said unto his father, Get her for me; for she pleaseth me well.

But his father and his mother knew not that it was of the Lord, that He sought an occasion against the Philistines: for at that time the Philistines had dominion over Israel.” ~ Judges 14:1-4

I will dive a bit deeper into this story in a subsequent

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chapter. But for now, Samson's marriage was a way for the Lord to wage war against the enemy. Please note that God-ordained marriages are created for different purposes and durations so please do not overly romanticize them. In Samson's case, the Philistines' interference with his God-ordained marriage raised up a mighty warrior for the Lord to use to inflict massive damage to their kingdom. Likewise, I can attest that I was a very different person five years ago. In some aspects, I was more passive. But things are different based on what I know the enemy will do to utterly destroy people's lives. The things God allowed the enemy to do to me are now things He is having me unashamedly expose, for His glory. So, in the words of Joseph, who endured 13 years of captivity before the Lord exalted him to the unprecedented position as Egypt's governor, second in command to the pharaoh:

'But as for you, ye thought evil against me; but God meant it unto good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save much people alive.' ~ Genesis 50:20

God is not mocked! On the contrary, He reverses and makes a public spectacle of the devil and his feeble attempts against the awesome true and living God.

But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our glory: **Which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.** But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him. ~ 1 Corinthians 2:7-9

It may have seemed as if Jesus's death marked a tremendous victory for satan, but Joseph foreshadowed Jesus in many ways. After His sufferings, Jesus is now seated at the right hand of the Heavenly Father with ALL power and authority (Matthew 28:18), similar to Joseph wearing the pharaoh's signet ring. So yes, the devil now realizes it would have been better if he had never tried

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opposing and destroying Jesus and His ministry. Jesus defeated the devil on the cross. In addition, His glorious resurrection from the dead gave new birth to an even closer relationship between God and humanity. The enemy is still making similar decisions that he will live to regret for trying to come against the Lord's children.

I am not Jesus, but in a similar manner in which the Father reversed the enemy's destructive attempts against His only begotten Son, He is using me to turn the tides on the enemy. The things the Lord allowed me to endure has uniquely positioned me to share these insider tips. This intelligence report exposes some of the devil's devices in his spiteful attempts to destroy humanity, and this includes his war against God-ordained marriages. Particularly because of my sufferings, not only is it my absolute honor to serve the Lord and wreak havoc against satan, it is also my personal pleasure. Samson's destructive efforts against the Philistines were a fulfillment of his Godly purpose on the earth (see Judges 13). It was a Godly war, but some of it was deeply personal for Samson. Likewise, this war against the enemy, and helping to set the captives free in Jesus's name, is a part of my mandate from God but it is also very personal.

During one of the worst years on my life, while utterly inundated with intense and persistent spiritual warfare, the Lord told me He was going to use me to set the captives free. It was almost as if God was oblivious to how satan had me bound. However, I simply asked the Lord to provide a platform for me to share my TESTimony to help set His captive children free. Sadly, many Christians are in a war they do not realize they are fighting. Some are even in bondage to the devil without realizing it; they are Christians and yet they are the enemy's Prisoners of War.

"The devil's War Against Your God-ordained Marriage" will rip the veil from and therefore expose many of the devil's covert and even overt attempts to delay, deny or destroy God-ordained marriages. I was just reminded of a viewer who watched at least some of the videos in the series. It was actually music to my ears when I read that she heard demonic sounds while watching all of the videos. What would be chilling for some was absolutely beautiful to

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me when she also reported hearing “blood-curdling” demonic screams. She also stated that the videos made the devil MAD. If you read “The Process: The Refiner’s Fire”, you know some of the living hell that I went through. While going through that process, I made the proclamation that it was best for the devil to run away from me while he could. I also stated that he was sharpening a sword that the Lord was going to use against him. But true to form, the devil ignored the warnings. In fact, while I was testing the spirits to see if the Lord truly wanted me to write this book, the enemy had the nerve to launch another attempted covert attack against me in a dream. It should be painfully obvious to the enemy that I am not one to back down after his attacks. Historically, his attacks have made it worse for him. The evil dream backfired and served as confirmation to write this book to help prevent people from getting burned.

The apostle James told us to submit to God, resist the devil and he will flee (James 4:7). Well, I had the submission part down. I continually actively resisted the devil, yet he refused to depart from me. David wrote of how the Lord prepared a table for him in the presence of his enemies (Psalm 23). Similarly, the enemy’s refusal to depart was as if he wanted to witness the Lord bless me and set his captives free. Since satan is a glutton for punishment, this book will serve as a part of his punishment. If he was MAD because of the video series, things just got worse for him. As I have stated on numerous occasions, he chose the wrong person to attack. In many ways, it would have been better for satan if he had never attacked my God-ordained marriage or me.

I am a soldier in the Army of the Lord, one who has endured hardness in preparation to serve as an instrument of the Lord’s judgment against the enemy. The Lord clearly warned that no one should touch His anointed or do His prophets harm. The Lord loves righteousness and judgment (justice). I also love those things, and above all, I love the Lord. Jesus said those who love Him must keep His commandments. He did not have to command me twice to write this book. It is written:

For the Word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper

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than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. ~ Hebrews 4:12

Therefore, it is with extreme pleasure that I humbly present the following information to add to your armor and armament in your war against the devil. Upon [reading](#) this book, you will not be ignorant of the devil's devices in his covert and even overt war against God-ordained marriages. I affectionately call them "holy matrimony". There are many types of marriages, many of which contradict the Word, ways and will of God. In fact, some marriages are demonic instead of simply unholy. God created marriage but the devil has been trying to keep the Lord out of marriages. One of the ways to accomplish this is by creating unions the Lord [did not and will](#) not sanction. [The enemy](#) cannot stop the Lord from being intimately involved in holy matrimony. There is no holy matrimony without the Holy One; He plans, ordains, sustains, and when necessary, He restores those marriages.

Before we proceed, let us put on the full armor of God as we get ready to wage war against the devil. Let the counteroffensive against the devil begin!

Chapter 1

MASTURBATION: THE MARRIAGE DESTROYER

Marijuana is long held as a “gateway drug”. That is because it is the first drug many people use and they either move on to or add other “harder” drugs to achieve the desired effects. While many Christians have debated if masturbation is a sin, there is no debating it for me. I have openly stated that I masturbated for a few decades until I was lying in bed one morning in 2014. I suddenly sneezed and felt something forcefully leave through my right nostril. Yet, what I felt was not something physical. Surprisingly, my decades old habit of masturbation came to an abrupt end. I suddenly lost any desire to ever masturbate again.

Sadly, when I was introduced to masturbation in a Sexual Education class at around age 11, the teacher did not warn of its potential spiritual consequences. I perceived that what happened to me in 2014 was the expulsion of a demon that had been dwelling in me. It dispels the popular

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myth that the presence of the Holy Spirit in Christians means they cannot have a demon or even demons in their bodies. If that were true, many Christians do not have an excuse for their bad behavior. In fact, saying that Christians cannot have a demon in their bodies because of the Holy Spirit's presence is just like saying that Christians should not sin.

Sexual sin is oftentimes viewed purely as a work of the flesh. However, after Jesus had fasted for 40 days and nights, it was the devil instead of His flesh that wanted Him to turn stone to bread. Throughout this book, the Lord will use me to expose the devil in details, to include Jesus's experiences with him.

The Lord contended with numerous demons throughout His earthly ministry. He shared His unparalleled knowledge of demonology in the following truth regarding demonic behavior:

When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man, he walketh through dry places, seeking rest, and findeth none. Then he saith, **I will return into my house from whence I came out**; and when he is come, he findeth it empty, swept, and garnished. Then goeth he, and taketh with himself seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter in and dwell there: and the last state of that man is worse than the first. Even so shall it be also unto this wicked generation. ~ Matthew 12:43-45

Regarding demons, the Lord gave me these simple yet profound Words to live by: **"Sin lets demons in."** The demon Jesus spoke of considered the person's body as his home, and so being swept clean represents a person coming to faith in Christ Jesus. Impure spirits are often possessive, even when they do not possess (own) a person. **People who lease vehicles call the vehicles their own, until they have to return it to its rightful owner, which is how deliverance from evil spirits work.**

Demonic possession implies that the demon has so much control of a person that the individual is a shell of him or herself. Consequently, the demon, which is a disembodied spirit, is exerting its will on the individual (please see Mark

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chapter 5). For a Christian, a demon is a squatter, one who is occupying a “home” that belongs to Jesus.

Prior to His crucifixion, Jesus said:

Hereafter I will not talk much with you: for the prince of this world cometh, and hath nothing in Me. ~ John 14:30

The devil was not going to find anything sinful in Jesus. On the contrary, it is said that sanctification via the Holy Spirit for a Christian is a process, which means the enemy can find darkness in us at times. The devil may see things in Christians he can potentially exploit such as lust, jealousy, bitterness and covetousness. When the enemy can find such things in Christians, he can try to occupy those places. It is like a rat that is attracted to trash. However, as you will soon see, this devious devil is not opposed to trying to bring trash into a person's life in an effort to justify its presence. The devil attempts to illegally forge a legal covenant with a Christian. Another lesson you will also learn throughout this book is that when it comes to spiritual warfare, the enemy fights dirtily. Hence, casting out a devil is a forceful ejection by the Holy Spirit of God.

As previously stated, I had the liberating experience in 2014 from something I did not see as an addiction or even spiritual. I thought I had simply engaged in masturbation for sexual pleasure based on my sex drive and/or whatever sexual stimulus was present, such as pornography. Many people are allegedly addicted to sex and/or pornography, **but** are unaware **that** the root cause may be demonic. While the issue may not have started due **to** an indwelling demon, since sin lets demons in, the demon gained access by the person's engagement in sexual sin. For some people, this is not an issue, but increased participation in sinful activities increase the odds, even though it can happen after a single incident. It is like how a woman can try to get pregnant for years with no success. Yet, another woman can lose her virginity, get pregnant and contract a Sexually Transmitted Infection at the same time.

If I was not convinced that masturbation also became spiritually influenced at some point in time, the events in February through March of 2020 would have convinced me.

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I had not engaged in masturbation [for](#) several years and I have absolutely no desire to masturbate. Well, during the above months, I had two dreams where I was engaged in masturbation. I was ignorant of the devil's devices years ago, but after learning things the hard way, I challenged that dream as soon as I woke up (and remembered what had happened). Since the enemy cannot get me to commit that sin in the natural world, it tried setting up a snare for me in the supernatural world. Among many things, the spirit was trying to conjure up old feelings to stimulate me to masturbate when I woke up. And of course, if I did, the spirit could then legally come back in, possible with several of its wicked cohorts. Please note that when satan tried tempting Jesus, one of the temptations was done in a vision (Luke 4:5-8).

The dreams about masturbation embody when the Lord said to me: **“The cleaner you get is the dirtier the enemy fights.”** There are several Biblical examples of how agreements were formed while people were asleep. As you will see throughout this book, many of the enemy's devices are a perversion of the Word of God and His ways. Isaiah prophesied of satan wanting to be like the Most High God, before he was cast down (Isaiah 14:12-20). That lying thief is running a shadow “kingdom” based on an inversion and perversion of the things of the Lord. Adam was asleep when the Lord removed a rib and used it to create Eve [as his](#) wife (Genesis 2). Abraham was asleep when the Lord [made](#) a covenant with him after he had followed the Lord's directions to prepare animal sacrifices (Genesis 15). Also, king Solomon was asleep when the Lord covenanted with him (1 Kings 3). The Lord also appeared to king Abimelech in a dream and threatened his life [if](#) the king [did not](#) release Abraham's wife (Genesis 20).

The enemy tries to do the same things, but in a perverted manner. For example, Abraham willingly prepared a sacrifice according to the Lord's instructions. Afterward, the Lord put Abraham to sleep and he woke up fully aware of what had happened. But that is not usually the case with the enemy, especially when he is doing things covertly. I recall having a dream where a spirit that was behind me at a seashore, clearly offered to be my “spirit guide”. I thank

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the Lord for the wherewithal to reject that spirit in the dream. Jesus said He would ask the Father to send the Holy Spirit, and when He is come, the Holy Spirit would guide us into ALL truth (John 16). I do not need a counterfeit lying spirit from the devil when I have the Holy Spirit of God. Yet, if I had said yes in the dream, it would have been like signing a contract with the devil. Sadly, because of the enemy's sorcery, sometimes a person wakes up from such an encounter with no recollection of what happened. **It is important to note, there is a high index of suspicion that sorcery is involved when you cannot remember a dream, you were unable to resist temptation even though you were trying, and also if what you saw in that dream was hazy around the edges.** The enemy does these things to argue that you did not resist and you were aware of what you had basically signed up for. The enemy does not fight fair in spiritual warfare.

Consequently, armed with such knowledge, I knew that since I had no desire to masturbate, yet "I" was seemingly engaging in such a thing, with a sexual organ that was not anatomically correct for me, the spirit was trying to ensnare me. It requires the Holy Spirit to accurately discern the evil spirit's intent mainly because they are such liars who really do not want a person to know or be aware of what he or she is really signing up for. Oh yes, be careful of dreams where you are signing documents, whether from an unknown individual that you typically cannot (clearly) see, or a seemingly known individual but the facial features are not clear and/or are not accurate. For example, a person with acne or other skin condition in real life may not appear as such mainly because the enemy is such a liar that his lies are not even exposed in dreams. This is a double-edged sword because sadly, he could try to claim that you knew it was an evil spirit yet you still participated in the activities in the dream. But thank the Lord that He sees and knows all, and He is just. I immediately challenged those dreams as soon as I woke up because I was not going to give that evil spirit an opportunity to come into my life. Also, based on Jesus's warning, I was very cognizant that the spirit wanted to open the path for even more evil spirits. Especially now that I am in full time ministry, I cannot

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afford to have any evil spirits come into my life. The sexually perverse spirit of masturbation is also a home-wrecker.

The evil spirit was trying to return to a place it once considered as its home. However, this blood-bought and blood-washed body is no longer my own. It and the rest of me belong to Jesus, which makes my body a temple of the Holy Spirit. For as the apostle Paul wrote:

Know ye not that your bodies are the members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ, and make them the members of an harlot? God forbid. What? Know ye not that he which is joined to an harlot is one body? For two, saith He, shall be one flesh. But he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit. Flee fornication. Every sin that a man doeth is without the body; but he that committeth fornication sinneth against his own body. What? **Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price:** therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's. ~ 1 Corinthians 6:15-20

The devil uses dreams and visions in an attempt to get us to violate the Word of God, particularly if we are not doing so during our waking moments and/or we are prudent about repenting of our sins. Another technically the enemy tries to ensnare us with is to violate the command to abstain from even the appearance of evil (1 Thessalonians 5:22).

As previously stated, masturbation is a gateway to other sexual sin, which include:

- Homosexuality
- Pornography
- Adultery
- “Spiritual Marriage”

The term “spiritual marriage” may have raised your eyebrows and caused bewilderment. Well, that insidious subject is getting its own chapter, which is what awaits you

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next. With that tidbit out of the way, let us tackle the other topics in greater detail.

Homosexuality

No one ever directly warned me of masturbation's potential to open the doorway to homosexuality. The Bible tells us to have the mind of Christ (1 Corinthians 2:16), which I tried by spending time with the Lord [through many](#) years of Bible study. The Lord has also allowed me to experience years of spiritual warfare. During that time, I was bombarded with thousands of demonic dreams and visions that were not in accordance with the mind of Christ. There were times when I was asleep with the Scriptures playing and I had a sexual dream. I did not initially know what was going on, but once the Lord [informed](#) me [of](#) what the enemy was trying to do, things changed. [While](#) I was getting the mind of Christ [I was still ignorant](#) of satan's devices and how his mind works, [and this](#) included [him using](#) masturbation as a gateway [to trap and afflict Christians](#).

[A](#) person who engages in masturbation may fantasize about being sexually engaged with and stimulated by someone of the opposite sex. However, when a devious and desperate devil is trying to get a way in, he sees something else. But here is some food for thought before I go there. Have you ever seen a place that looked impenetrable but later found out that someone broke into it based on ingenuity, determination and desire? That is how the enemy is, which is why it is important to obey the Word of God and abstain from even the appearance of evil. That Scripture should be enough to settle the sinfulness of masturbation. Another thing about the devil's mind is how he tries to get people into deeper and deeper levels of darkness. Ultimately, [satan](#) would love to get every human being condemned like him and his (fallen) [angels](#), such as by [getting us to](#) commit the unforgiveable sin of blasphemy of the Holy Spirit (Matthew 12:31-32). Even though satan will not get everyone condemned, he will try to get people to commit the most abominable sins possible. Proverbs 6:16-19 tells us of six things that God hates and seven things that are abominations to Him. The enemy strives to lead

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people from things the Lord hates to those that are abominable. Jesus warned the scribes and Pharisees that they were facing greater condemnation. Humans were created in God's image, and since the devil cannot get to God, he tries to destroy the Lord's creations. A part of that destruction is to lead people into homosexual relationships, in part because two people of the same sex cannot naturally produce children.

The enemy uses masturbation as a secret gateway to homosexuality while the participant simply considers it as heterosexual self-pleasure. When pornography is involved, the enemy will use it to exploit the person to sin ever more. In satan's mind, if a person is willing to touch his or her own sexual organs for pleasure, he can convince the individual to touch another person's sexual organs of the same sex to pleasure that individual. A part of the enemy's desensitization process for men involve female fitness athletes. The devil may start by inducing lust after toned ladies, and then slightly muscular women followed by massive female bodybuilders with enlarged clitoris from steroid abuse. Maybe just a fetish instead of a strong addiction, but through androgenization, those women look more like men than women. They may not know it, but partially because they are perverting God's creation, the devil uses them like sirens to lure men and even women into homosexuality.

When satan tempted Eve, he used a progression of tactics. The devil started with what the Lord had said. Then he misled her into doubting the validity of the Lord's Words and His motives. The devil then got her to focus on something taboo that she seemingly had not given any thought to, followed by her trying it. You would be amazed by what the enemy can do by simply getting a person to focus on something. As John wrote, the enemy tries to gain access to us through "...the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life..." (1 John 2:16)

When we look at the enemy's thought process, we realize that if he can seduce us into touching our own sexual organs, things the Lord designed to receive sexual pleasure from a human being of another sex (to whom we are married), he can get us to touch another person of the same

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sex's sex organ. People who masturbate or used to masturbate may have dreams of engaging in masturbation. But if the person wakes up and realizes that the sexual organ was not quite his or her own, even though it seemed like it based on positioning, the enemy is slowly conditioning the person for homosexuality. It is similar to a man dreaming of having anal sex. It may happen a few times with spirit in the form of a human. The spirit may look like a woman, possibly with long hair (to hide its face). This may happen a few times, but then one day the spirit "shows its face" but the face is that of a man. The enemy is trying to convince the person that since he or she already engaged in it that it is okay to continue with such actions. Another course of action is to dream of sexual activity but the dream starts in the middle of the action where the person is already engaging in anal sex. The enemy resorts to such drastic measures when the person is more likely to resist if a spirit approaches in a dream and tries to seduce the person instead.

The devil also has other strategies that are deceptively subtle. Dreaming of simply lying in bed with someone is a sign of forming or being in a evil covenant. You may "wake up in a dream" and find yourself lying in bed with another person, in this case, someone of the same sex. You may be on your computer while the other person is innocuously reading a book. While everything seems inconspicuous, it is actually a sign of intimacy. It may look like two friends being in bed for a sleepover, but it is actually more symbolic of a couple. The masquerading spirit usually views human, including a professing Christian, as its property. By the way, whereas a bed is symbolic of a covenant, the bedroom is symbolic of a place of intimacy. You do not want a covenant, and especially an intimate covenant with an evil spirit.

Another way the enemy uses masturbation as a gateway to homosexuality is when the person dreams about being sexually assaulted by someone of the same sex. **Demons enter by invitation or invasion.** Therefore, just like how a SWAT team uses a team member to knock open the door so others can enter, masturbation opens the doors for other sexually perverse spirits to enter. A covert yet invasive way

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of trying to use masturbation to open the door to homosexuality is if a man dreams of being at a doctor and is about to get a colonoscopy. The dream may start with the signing of a "consent form". However, unlike how a doctor explains the procedure and gives you time to review such a form and even ask questions, you will not know what "you" just signed and thereby signed up for. In addition, "the doctor" will most likely have on a surgical cap and mask, but that is a way to conceal itself without raising much suspicion.

Yes, I write these things based on some of what the enemy tried with me. I did not take kindly to recent dreams where I was seemingly engaging in masturbation. I have no desire for it! And especially after knowing some of the potential doorways the enemy can use it to open, it makes me stay away from it even more. Shortly after having those recent dreams about masturbation, I told the Lord that if He delivered me of wicked that spirit, I would use whichever platform He gave me to warn others about its potential dangers. I actually stood in the same spot in my bedroom as I did when I told the Lord that if He gave me the platform I would speak of the demonic dreams and visitations I have had. Several months later, He directed me to share my TESTimony in "The Process: The Refiner's Fire". This time around, He gave me a platform to warn of the potential dangers of masturbation, and other works of the kingdom of darkness, within a few weeks. He had me do the video series and now I share even more in this book.

The Lord does not ordain or sanction same-sex unions. Therefore, if the devil can introduce homosexuality into a person's life, and turn it into a stronghold, it can either block or destroy a God-ordained marriage. Sometimes the sexually perverse sprits enter and remain dormant until the person gets married. There have been times when a married male pastor is arrested or otherwise exposed for having a same-sex extramarital affair. His wife may have been clueless regarding his sexual desires and activities. Or maybe she observed his peculiar sexual desires, such as wanting to try or have anal sex. Neither may have known that his involvement in masturbation could have opened the door to homosexuality.

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The enemy used masturbation to create a doorway for other more wicked spirits to enter the person's life. In Mark chapter 5, we are told about a man who had a legion of demons within him. Who knows what those thousands of demons drove him to do besides the torments the Scriptures tell us that he suffered. It only takes one demon to enter into a person to make room for more evil spirits. We also see that Jesus cast out several devils from Mary Magdalene (Luke 8:2). By the way, it is important to note how the demon possessed man went on to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ after the Lord healed him (Mark 5:18-20). The devil uses demons in an effort to sabotage a person's life, [and this](#) includes the person's marriage and ministry. Sometimes all satan needs is a crack because many professing Christians do not see masturbation as a sin and therefore engage in it, guilt free. For some of those individuals, the devil [also](#) uses it to introduce homosexuality into their lives.

Pornography

Masturbation and pornography are bedfellows, a dynamic demonic duo. While a person can engage in masturbation without viewing pornography, or, view pornography without engaging in masturbation, they [are](#) often paired together at some point. Regardless of which snare the enemy [initially](#) uses against a person, he will eventually introduce the other. It is important to note that the catalyst between masturbation and pornography is lust, which is never satisfied.

A person may engage in masturbation out of curiosity instead of lust. [This is](#) similar to a person who tries heroine or has heroine introduced into his or her system, and then develops a desire for more heroine [and](#) gets addicted, masturbation opens the door for lust. Once lust enters the equation, masturbation becomes habit-forming [and](#) even addictive to feed lust's insatiable appetite. A person may start masturbating and the act is purely physical. Then it progresses to where the person starts fantasizing. The fantasies shift from being purely mental to physical with the introduction of things such as photos,

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even those classified as “soft porn”. Things truly escalate to a dangerous level when still photographs, even of hardcore pornography are not enough. I know there are numerous genres of pornography films, even though I do not know all of them and I do not want to know. Lust will lead a person to get tossed to and fro in pursuit of new highs by trying to view films that are based on sexual activities with people with certain assets. For example, it is like going into an ice cream parlor with numerous flavors and flavor combinations. Lust will direct a person to certain prominent body parts as if it is the flavor of the month. One season it may be upper body that seemingly satisfies the lust. But then for another season it is lower body. The enemy also uses lust to lead a person towards seeking sexual satisfaction based on age groups, skin color, country of origin, height, weight, number of participants, etc. It is all meant to feed a lust that will never be satisfied, not even after it manages to get the sinner sent to hell. That lust will simply try to find someone else to lead astray, to include another person in the previously ensnared person's family.

The person who lust uses masturbation to lead astray becomes like a dog on a leash. A demonic strategy for masturbation is for the enemy to create a fantasy life that no human being can satisfy; it creates a demand that only it can supply. Only a demon that can take on numerous forms could fulfill such a fantasy life. As a result, the enemy can use masturbation to do major damage to a person's God-ordained marriage. Some people assume that while they are single and celibate, even though masturbating, that when they get married they will simply stop masturbating. However, it would be like that spouse is competing with possibly thousands of sexual encounters and partners. Oh, yes, all of those sexual fantasies count as sexual partners. And by the way, the enemy can enter through any of the three portals of sin, whether because of lust of the flesh, lust of the eyes, or the pride of life. Consequently, if the enemy convinced you to watch films with one person simultaneously having sex with two or more individuals, it involves a measure of homosexuality. Therefore, the enemy can secretly introduce a spirit of homosexuality into a person's life through pornography.

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The same goes for if any of those actors were involved in other types of films that included violent sex, actual or simulated rape, or bestiality. When the enemy is trying to get a way in, he will use any means necessary. The moment you bring pornography into your home or electronic device, you are opening a doorway to numerous dark possibilities.

Many men are taking Erectile Dysfunction (ED) medications for physical issues. On the other hand, some men are taking ED medications for mental or even spiritual issues that are linked to masturbation and pornography. Yes, I meant what I just wrote and it bears repeating! Some men are taking ED medications for mental or even spiritual issues that are linked to masturbation and pornography. Single men (and women) are deceived into thinking they will masturbate while single as a mental exercise to make up for the lack of a physical partner. Some are surprised to discover that they cannot get aroused and/or have an orgasm with a physical partner. That is unless they are engaged in something they saw in pornography or they are thinking about something pornographic instead of focusing on being fully engaged with their intimate partner.

Some of the things I have discussed so far may seem incredulous. You may also be shocked that a Christian is communicating so much about the topic. However, please note what the Lord said about knowledge:

My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge:
because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to Me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children. ~ Hosea 4:6

This message is not one that many pastors would preach during their main service or during Bible studies. I am not even sure if they discuss things like these in premarital or marital counseling sessions. However, while not a popular message, it is a needed one to uproot and destroy the works of the kingdom of darkness. There is a demonic war against your God-ordained marriage and you are already a casualty if you are not fighting back.

For some newly weds where one or both individuals have

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a history of masturbating, they may experience a peculiar phenomenon. Oddly, when they masturbated and fantasized such as when watching pornography, their sexual organs worked perfectly. However, in trying to consummate their marriage, those sexual organs do not work as well, or at all. It may seem as if it is due to nervousness, such as “performance anxiety”. However, being fully mentally relaxed does not help. Even married couples where one or both individuals continue masturbating may experience this later if they do not stop masturbating. It may indicate that the enemy has developed a spiritual stronghold and has actually taken possession of that body part. A sign that this has happened is if men or women wake up in the middle of sleeping and are sexually aroused yet they do not feel aroused. In other words, it is like the sex organ has a mind of its own. Another way to help discern if this is spiritual is to try to engage in sexual intercourse with their spouse while aroused. If the arousal quickly disappears, as if playing hide-and-seek, it is a sign that an evil spirit is controlling that body part. It is even more evident if the person is sexually aroused but the drive disappears prior to or even while having sexual intercourse with his or her spouse. On the contrary, everything works perfectly well if the individual went to secretly “relieve him or herself”. Those signs mean the person needs deliverance. In some cases, the person can simply repent of his or her sins, get rid of all pornographic materials including electronic devices, and command the devil to leave in the name of Jesus. It is best to seek the Lord because He may direct a regime of fasting and prayer or use another means of delivering the person from the evil spirit. Taking ED medications may be a temporary physical solution to a spiritual problem. A potential side effect of ED medications is heart failure. Ultimately, devils want us to die, preferably in sin, but they want us to die so death is perfectly fine with them. They would simply try to find someone else's life to manipulate and eventually ruin. I wonder how many men died because of using ED medications when the real problem was spiritual?

It does not matter if a person started with masturbation

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or pornography because they form a tag team that is meant to bring a person down. In marriages, masturbation and/or pornography is meant to defile the marital bed because they are adulterous. One and especially both are meant to take a person down a path much darker than they could have anticipated. Some people are struggling or at least dealing with the issue of preferring sexual fantasies as opposed to being sexually intimate with their spouse. Sexual activity is meant in part to strengthen the bond between a man and his wife. Every sexual encounter is a renewal of their marital covenant with each other and with God. When the enemy can decrease or otherwise disrupt the renewal of those vows, he is making a way to cause serious damage to that relationship. It should [therefore](#) not come as a surprise when masturbation results in a person “falling out of love”. The person who “falls out of love” can say he or she was not involved with another human being, but that person was either involved with him or herself, or worse, [with](#) an evil spirit that developed a stronghold. Adam and Eve never needed pornography and neither do you.

Adultery

Singlehood is a time to develop marital skills and tendencies. While a spouse can help develop a person's cooking skills, it is prudent for single people to learn how to cook before getting into a relationship, especially a marriage. It is a recommendation instead of a requirement, but that does not make it less important. While cooking is a good thing to practice and master while single, sexual activity is not. The Lord intends for you and your spouse to practice intimacy with each other and communicate until you perfect it, with each other. These are the things to practice regarding sexual activities while single:

- Furthermore then we beseech you, brethren, and exhort you by the Lord Jesus, that as ye have received of us how ye ought to walk and to please God, so ye would abound more and more. For ye know what commandments we gave you by the Lord Jesus. **For this is the will of God, even your**

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sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication: That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honour; Not in the lust of concupiscence, even as the Gentiles which know not God: That no man go beyond and defraud his brother in any matter: because that the Lord is the avenger of all such, as we also have forewarned you and testified. For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness. ~ 1 Thessalonians 4:1-7

- Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children; And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given Himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet smelling savour. **But fornication, and all uncleanness, or covetousness, let it not be once named among you, as becometh saints;** Neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor jesting, which are not convenient: but rather giving of thanks. For this ye know, that no whoremonger, nor unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, hath any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God. Let no man deceive you with vain words: for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience. ~ Ephesians 5:1-6
- Now concerning the things whereof ye wrote unto me: It is good for a man not to touch a woman. **Nevertheless, to avoid fornication, let every man have his own wife, and let every woman have her own husband.** Let the husband render unto the wife due benevolence: and likewise also the wife unto the husband. ~ 1 Corinthians 7:1-3
- It is reported commonly that there is fornication among you, and such fornication as is not so much as named among the Gentiles, that one should have his father's wife. ~ 1 Corinthians 5:1

Fornication involving one's stepmother is the kind of

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sexually perverse subject pornographers present. However, while such a sinful presentation may take place between a young man and an older woman who are not related, if they were an actual stepmother and stepson who are adult actors, maybe they would never do such a thing. However, the enemy's goal, just like in Genesis 3, 2 Samuel 11 and Luke 4, which is to market sin as something good, something okay even though risqué. But as a child of God, the Lord Jesus purchased you with His shed blood, so, before you even think of masturbating or justifying it, please keep this Scripture in mind:

All things are lawful unto me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any. Meats for the belly, and the belly for meats: but God shall destroy both it and them. **Now the body is not for fornication, but for the Lord; and the Lord for the body.** And God hath both raised up the Lord, and will also raise up us by his own power. Know ye not that your bodies are the members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ, and make them the members of an harlot? God forbid. What? Know ye not that he which is joined to an harlot is one body? For two, saith he, shall be one flesh. But he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit. **Flee fornication.** Every sin that a man doeth is without the body; but he that committeth fornication sinneth against his own body. What? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? **For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.** ~ 1 Corinthians 6:12-20

Some people may try to argue that masturbation is not sinful because it is not specifically stated in the Bible. However, masturbation is a form of fornication. If you cannot pass the “fornication tests” while single, you are at risk for failing the “adultery tests” while married. Arguably, lust works even harder in an effort to destroy what the Lord has joined together for His glory. Being single is a time of preparation for marriage. If you love to feed your eyes with

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lust when single, you have opened the door to adultery when you get married.

Visual stimuli typically accompany masturbation and lust. For a single person, the visual stimuli may not seem significant. However, when you look at what Jesus said, even our eyes can get us in trouble with Him, our Righteous and Perfect Judge:

Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery: But I say unto you, **That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart.** And if thy right eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell. And if thy right hand offend thee, cut it off, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell. Matthew 5:27-30

If simply looking at a woman (person) lustfully constitutes adultery to the Lord, I venture to say that looking at a person and masturbating is not a good thing. Some people proudly claim they have never cheated. Yet, if they looked at a person lustfully, which includes looking on or reflecting on a person while masturbating, the person is either committing fornication or adultery based on his or her marital status. This also applies to a married Christian couple that consumes pornographic films and/or uses adult toys. Jesus mentioned plucking out or cutting off offensive body parts to save one's soul. But instead of going to that extreme, we can simply cut off the adult programming and cleansing our homes to include electronic devices of all pornographic materials.

Some couples are having intimacy issues marked by decreased or nonexistent sexual contact with each other. One spouse may be willing and able while the other is seemingly not. But while one person is "sexually frustrated", the other is perfectly content because his or her needs are getting met elsewhere. The sexually deprived and

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even frustrated spouse may suspect that there is someone else, especially as his or her spouse's love waxes cold. If the spouse were to hire a Private Investigator, more than likely, the investigator would not find any evidence of an affair. However, there is another reason why the sexually satisfied spouse takes showers that are longer than normal, or, he or she no longer showers with or in the presence of the sexually neglected spouse. **Masturbation is indeed a sneaky and adulterous devil.**

Especially when there is a demonic stronghold, a person who resorted to masturbation while single as a form of stopgap measure, may enjoy intercourse with his or her spouse for a while, but then neglect that spouse by masturbating instead. Arguably, it becomes more adulterous when the person fantasizes about other people while masturbating. Again, just like how the devil slowly led Eve astray, the act of masturbating and committing spiritual adultery can lead a person to commit physical adultery (with another person). You may have heard the saying that if you give the devil an inch he will take a mile. I like to say that the devil does not come to take part because he comes to take over. The enemy can create such a stronghold that sex is neither appealing nor satisfying unless it is risqué. Coupled with the personal convictions of a committed and therefore God-fearing Christian to not engage in certain sexual behaviors, sex with that individual may seem like a chore that the masturbator would much rather leave undone. If you do not believe these things and you know of anyone who has ever cheated, if possible, ask the person if he or she ever masturbated and/or was exposed to adultery. By the way, some preteens are already masturbating, which is giving the enemy time to create a stronghold that is like a time bomb being set to detonate at a very bad time. Also, do not take it lightly when a young child touches his or her sex organ as if overly fascinated with it.

If you do not believe that masturbation may have spiritual entities operating behind the scenes, try abstaining from masturbation for 90 days. If your initial reaction is that the challenge is a stupid idea, especially coupled with the proud response that you can stop

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masturbating whenever you want, that was the pride of life. It may have even been a spirit of pride. If you can stop masturbating for 90 days, and you do not have dreams or strong urges to masturbate, you may be free of an evil spirit that leads people to masturbate. Yet, if you can stop masturbating for 90 days, you have just abstained long enough to form a new habit of not masturbating. If you decide to resume masturbating, it is very telling if your urge to masturbate is even stronger than before. That may very well be an evil spirit telling you to never do that to it again, by depriving it of the desire of fulfilling its lusts through your flesh. By now, you know that if you have dreams about sexual activity, and especially masturbation while being abstinent, it points to something spiritual.

I close this section on masturbation with the following blows to the enemy's camp. If you masturbated while you were married and subsequently got divorced, those spirits may have been behind the marriage and also the divorce. One of the ways to discern is if the Lord will (graciously) allow you to marry someone else, and has delivered you from the spirit of masturbation. You may start having dreams of masturbation, which is like having a former partner show up to seduce you when the Lord wants to bring someone new into your life. When the dreams of masturbation do not cause you to masturbate, the enemy may try even harder. The enemy may try to convince you to return to your former spouse, to include under the guise that it is the Scripturally and therefore Godly thing to do. However, the spirit is trying to get you back into a marriage where it becomes your lover as you resort to your same sexual habits. If you were in a marriage where you masturbated more than you made love to your spouse, that is a marriage a spirit of masturbation would want you to be in.

If you resist the deception and refuse to return to your former spouse, the spirit may visit your former spouse and give him or her dreams or revelations about rekindling your marriage, as if it is God's will. But the spirit is making a compromise. Since it cannot have you for itself, it will reluctantly try to reconnect you with the former spouse that you will most likely not have sex with but instead engage in

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masturbation. If you and your former spouse do not take the devil's bait, the spirit may become a seducing spirit to false prophets and even prophets of the Lord. They will prophesy that the Lord said you should return to your former spouse. But you may know that it is not the Lord's will to rekindle that marriage. The Lord may even let you know the evil spirit is behind those prophecies because it wants you to go back to your former spouse with the hopes that you will start masturbating again.

You may have heard of people who left a relationship and then went back against the Lord's will and ended up being seriously hurt or dead. While your former spouse may not pose such a risk to your life and/or ministry, the enemy is trying to rekindle a relationship that it sees as being more advantageous for it instead of God's will for you. If Jacob had a spirit of masturbation as a stronghold, that spirit would have preferred if Jacob married Leah instead of Jacob's beloved Rachel. Those types of spirits try to keep people single and engaging in masturbation, or in a marriage where masturbation is the preferred sexual activity.

We should never forget that satan used Scriptures while trying to tempt Jesus (Luke 4:9-12). It is important for those delivering prophecies about marriage restoration to truly test the spirit behind those prophecies to see if they are of God (1 John 4:1). For example, if king Ahab had divorced Jezebel, it is very unlikely that the Lord would have sent Elijah to tell the king to bring his prophet-slaying witch of a wife back.

Masturbation may start as a "purely" physical act, but it has the potential to open doors to marriage-blocking and marriage-destroying demons. The sooner you stop is the better things will be, but you may have to cry out to the Lord to deliver you even if no demons are behind the act. The devil has many weapons of warfare against your God-ordained marriage, and masturbation is one of them. Masturbation is a marriage destroyer and a gateway to another of satan's secret assassins.

Chapter 2

“SPIRITUAL SPOUSES” SATAN’S SECRET ASSASSINS

I have heard some incredible testimonies of the Lord giving people dreams to reveal the spouse He had ordained for them. The ultimate confirmation was in the fullness of time, both individuals got married. I had a similar dream several years ago but I was clueless about what it truly meant, in part because of whom the dream was from. I was ignorant of the devil’s devices and I paid dearly for it. A month after the Lord delivered me from the spirit of masturbation, I started having dreams of a sexual nature. The dreams started happening once per month, almost like clockwork. About three years later, I found out about a spirit referred to as a “spirit spouse”, which is based on its function. It usually appears in a feminine form to men and is called a “spirit wife”. Conversely, the spirit typically appears in the

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similitude of a man to women and is called a “spirit husband”. Those who are into demonology call the “spirit wife” succubus and the “spirit husband” incubus.

Masturbation serves as an invitation to these wicked spirits but they also come in [by](#) intrusion, such as all forms of sexual assault and by invading dreams. These spirits are sometimes generational and [therefore](#) remain in a family for generations. Many people do not know what they are dealing with and when they die the spirit moves on to another family member, such as in a dream. They are wicked spirits! A way they go from one family member to another is by showing up in a dream to a grieving family member in the form of the deceased loved one. The spirit seeks to get the grieving person to come into agreement with it, such as with a consolatory hug. If the grieving family member hugs the spirit, it latches on to that person.

In some cases, people know they have a “spirit spouse” and they welcome it. They may say it is the best sex ever. However, for others, it is totally unwanted and utterly disgusting. I cannot imagine anyone would willingly want to be sexually intimate with an evil spirit, especially if they saw its true form and was aware of the potential negative spiritual or even physical consequences of a “spirit spouse”. Sadly, some people take it to the level of even pledging their children to that devil. Therefore, some children are born into a “marital covenant” with a jealous evil spirit before they can speak or even know right from wrong.

The devil attempts to corrupt and/or counterfeit the things of the Lord. A child who is pledged to the devil is sometimes based on Hannah’s cry to the Lord to bless her with a son. In her desperation, especially faced with competition from her husband’s other wife who had had children, Hannah petitioned the Lord for a child and made a vow to Him:

So Hannah rose up after they had eaten in Shiloh, and after they had drunk.

Now Eli the priest sat upon a seat by a post of the temple of the Lord.

And she was in bitterness of soul, and prayed unto the Lord, and wept sore. And she vowed a vow, and said,

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O Lord of hosts, if Thou wilt indeed look on the affliction of Thine handmaid, and remember me, and not forget Thine handmaid, but wilt give unto Thine handmaid a man child, then I will give him unto the Lord all the days of his life, and there shall no razor come upon his head.
~ 1 Samuel 1:9-11

In a perversion of Hannah's case, you have to exercise caution whenever desperation becomes your inspiration because the enemy may offer you a solution. Hannah received her heart's desire for that covenant child. Similarly, individuals, such as those into ancestral worship, may dedicate children to certain gods, which could be a sexually perverse "spirit spouse". What makes these spirits unique is they "spiritually marry" human beings. You may be saying, "What? Stop the music! There is no marriage between spirits!" You are correct that there is no marriage between spirits. After all, Jesus explicitly stated:

For when they shall rise from the dead, they neither marry, nor are given in marriage; but are as the angels which are in heaven. ~ Mark 12:25

But you also have to keep in mind that these are evil perverted spirits that are bound for everlasting torments in the lake of fire and brimstone. They know there is no marriage between spirits and that no marriage is acceptable to the Lord except for those between one man and one woman. Jesus also clearly communicated that fact:

And He answered and said unto them, Have ye not read, that He which made them at the beginning made them male and female, And said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh? **Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh.** What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder. Matthew 19:4-6

In addition to gender, another marital requirement is to be a living human with flesh and bones. It is impossible for

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a human being and an impure spirit to become one flesh. It is important to note that when a "spirit spouse" occupies a person's body, it still does not meet the "one flesh" requirement. The spirits are so depraved that they will try to pervert Scriptures in an attempt to justify their evil deeds and even try to use loopholes that simply do not exist. According to Isaiah chapter 14, the devil sought to make himself like the Most High God. [In a similar way](#), his hordes of hell seek to make themselves gods in people's lives by trying to hijack and pervert this Scripture:

For thy Maker is thine Husband; the Lord of hosts is His name; and thy Redeemer the Holy One of Israel; The God of the whole earth shall He be called. ~ Isaiah 54:5

The Lord being referred to as our Husband, and Jesus returning for His bride, the church, are misappropriated by those devils. It is important to also expand upon something I initially alluded to. When an evil tries to be a human's spouse, it is not always an opposite sex ordeal. Some people have even reported seeing a spirit in a dream with two phalluses. Such spirits are not frequently discussed and are potentially relatively unknown in orthodox Christianity. [This](#) is despite the fact that such things have been happening since the beginning of time as indicated in the [following](#) Biblical narrative:

And it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born unto them, **That the sons of God saw the daughters of men that they were fair; and they took them wives of all which they chose.**

And the Lord said, My Spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also is flesh: yet his days shall be an hundred and twenty years.

There were giants in the earth in those days; and also after that, when the sons of God came in unto the daughters of men, and they bare children to them, the same became mighty men which were of old, men of renown.

And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in

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the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. And it repented the Lord that He had made man on the earth, and it grieved Him at His heart.

And the Lord said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth; both man, and beast, and the creeping thing, and the fowls of the air; for it repenteth Me that I have made them. ~ Genesis 6:1-7

One of the reasons why the Scripture is often misunderstood and therefore overlooked, is because of the term “sons of God”, which makes it seem as if they were human beings. A giveaway that this is not the case is because the women are referred to as the “daughters of men” instead of “daughters of God”. We also see the term “sons of God” in the Book of Job:

Now there was a day when the **sons of God** came to present themselves before the Lord, and satan came also among them.

And the Lord said unto satan, Whence comest thou?

Then satan answered the Lord, and said, From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it. ~ Job 1:6-7

Again there was a day when the **sons of God** came to present themselves before the Lord, and satan came also among them to present himself before the Lord.

And the Lord said unto satan, From whence comest thou? And satan answered the Lord, and said, From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it. ~ Job 2:1-2

Lucifer led a rebellion in heaven and was cast down from heaven as lightning (Luke 10:18). It is a commonly held belief that a third of the heavenly angels rebelled with Lucifer (Revelation 12:3-4), who is now called satan or the devil (Revelation 12:9). They are all classified as fallen angels or devils. Those fallen angels are doing the same things as in times past. Unfortunately, it is one of the overlooked things Jesus referred to when He spoke of His

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return being like in the days of Noah and Lot:

And as it was in the days of Noe, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of Man. They did eat, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noah entered into the ark, and the flood came, and destroyed them all.

Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded; But the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed them all. Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of Man is revealed. ~ Luke 17:26-31

As stated in Genesis chapter 6, before the Lord had Noah build the ark, the triggering event was what those angels did. [They left](#) their heavenly positions to marry the daughters of men and have children with them. Those children, the men of renown, are called Nephilim. Likewise, evil spirits are still doing the same thing by “marrying” or trying to marry men and women. In the days of Noah, the Lord destroyed the living creatures on the earth by drowning them in water. That is a part of why “spirit spouses” [frequently](#) appear in dreams dealing with water. Later, in the days of Lot, God destroyed the cities that had sexual perversion by raining down fire and brimstone on them. That points to how satan, his fallen angels and unrepentant sinners, will be cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, which is the second death, for everlasting torments (Revelation 20:10, 20:14, 21:8). Unfortunately, the marriage the Lord spoke of, which is something that [the](#) devil has [for a long time](#) kept largely off or under most people’s radars, is not always between men and women.

When Jesus told “The Parable of the Wheat and the Tares”, He spoke of how while the men slept, evil men sowed tares in a field where the farmers had sown wheat (Matthew 13:24-30). The farmers did not realize what had happened immediately upon waking. The sabotage was not noticeable until the crops started growing. They wanted to immediately and aggressively uproot the tares. But the property owner told his men to let the wheat and tares grow

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together until the time of the harvest. Then they could safely uproot the tares without damaging the wheat. But, just like with these devils, the tares were marked for destruction by fire. One of the devil's devices against God-ordained marriages is to shroud people in darkness so they do not appear like children of God, at least to the undiscerning. The devil also tries to make it seem as if some people are in a relationship, and even if they are, the relationship will not survive the pending fire. Likewise, one of the enemy's most potent weapons against God-ordained marriages is to deploy spirits who try to "marry" one of both of the individuals the Lord wants to bring together. As was the case in "The Parable of the Wheat and the Tares", the enemy tries sowing such evil seeds while people sleep. [We should](#) therefore test the spirits behind every dream that involves marriage.

The enemy's covert operations to destroy people's lives in these "demonic marriages" while they sleep is also evident in the following:

For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ. I will therefore put you in remembrance, though ye once knew this, how that the Lord, having saved the people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed them that believed not. **And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day.** Even as Sodom and Gomorrhah, and the cities about them in like manner, **giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire. Likewise also these filthy dreamers defile the flesh, despise dominion, and speak evil of dignities.** Jude 1:4-8

The evil spirits invade people's dreams and covertly get them into evil covenants. Some of the dreams are so

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innocuous that people do not realize what has happened and is about to happen. People sometimes have dreams they cannot remember mainly because the devil does not want them to break the covert evil covenants.

Some dreams involve getting married, simply putting on a ring or being given a ring. The enemy may get even sneakier by giving the person a dream about a trip to an island or other location. Sadly, the person may not realize it means going on a honeymoon. That means the person has agreed to what must have come before the honeymoon, which was the wedding. A person who is aware of the devil's devices is more inclined to resist during a dream, even though the enemy may use sorcery in an effort to prevent that resistance. Another form of insidious device is when the person dreams of having a family, which represents having a "spirit spouse" and procreating demonic children, similar to how angels and humans had the nephilim. Such dreams require calling on God to destroy those demonic entities by fire. Be careful of dreams that seem prophetic but they actually represent real-time events, which is like simply signing a contract without knowing the details.

Another similarity between "spirit spouses" and "The Parable of the Wheat and the Tares" is how the tares could have limited the wheat's growth. A "spirit spouse" is generally a stubborn and insanely jealous spirit. It will claim to love the person that it actually hates, and will do its best to drive even a God-ordained spouse away. The person's life is typically marred with failure; particularly relationships that suddenly and inexplicably end. Other negative impacts of a "spirit spouse" include setbacks, rejection, miscarriages and poverty. It is like having a spouse who steals and/or squanders finances. What some people may call "bad luck" or a "curse" is actually coming from an evil spirit that is illegally posing as a spouse. Again, marriage is between a man and a woman. The only spirit we are allowed to "marry" is God and that is not a sexual and/or destructive relationship.

Additional evidence pointing to the presence of a "spirit spouse", or a spirit trying to be a human's spouse, are dreams of a sexual nature, particularly perverse sexual activity. In some cases, the sexual activity is not a dream

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because they actually take place when the person is awake or asleep. Some people can feel themselves getting sexually violated, whether periodically or continually. People are generally terrorized at night while they sleep and may therefore suffer from nightmares and insomnia.

A “spirit spouse” may have multiple “spouses”, including multiple “spouses” in the same family. Regardless of how many “spouses” those spirits have, they are jealous over all of them and they justify their activities towards their spouse(s) based on the following Scripture:

The wife hath not power of her own body, but the husband: and likewise also the husband hath not power of his own body, but the wife. ~ 1 Corinthians 7:4

You may have heard this saying, typically used by some women: “What’s yours is mine and what’s mine is mine.” That is not only a selfish statement because it is also demonic. That is exactly how those spirits operate. They latch on to a human being in an effort to rob them blind. By the way, the spirits that have multiple “spouses” are also violating the Word of God that limits marriage to ONE man and ONE woman. They love to use Old Testament Scriptures but we are under the New Testament (Covenant) based on the redemptive power of **Jesus’s** blood. The blood of Jesus leaves those spirits with no “legal” recourse.

These evil spirits are like pests. They know they cannot become one flesh with a human, and so they try to pervert the Scriptures to become “one spirit” with a person through demonic sexual activity or “spiritual marriage”:

Know ye not that your bodies are the members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ, and make them the members of an harlot? God forbid. What? Know ye not that he which is joined to an harlot is one body? For two, saith He, shall be one flesh. **But he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit.** Flee fornication. Every sin that a man doeth is without the body; but he that committeth fornication sinneth against his own body. What? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the

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Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's. ~ 1 Corinthians 6:15-20

Becoming “one spirit” with a believer is **impossible** because Jesus paid the price for us. That is **one reason** why the evil spirits may appear in multiple dreams that point to a marriage. It has actually lost the person to Jesus and is therefore making multiple attempts to re-ensnare the believer. **Mainly** because the spirit is stubborn, **it** also tries to hold on and sometimes linger as if waiting for the person to sin so it can try to occupy its previous position. That is reminiscent of how David had paid the price for king Saul's younger daughter, Michal. David fled and left his wife behind to survive king Saul's murderous rage. During David's exile, Saul spitefully gave Michal to another man named Phaltiel. They got married but the union was not legal because she was still legally married to David. Years later, after Saul's death, when David started fulfilling his Godly calling, one of Saul's son's was the king of Israel while David was the king in Hebron over Judah. While the Lord was in the process of transferring the nation of Israel to David, even though David had other wives, the following transpired:

And David sent messengers to Ishbosheth Saul's son, saying, Deliver me my wife Michal, which I espoused to me for an hundred foreskins of the Philistines.
And Ishbosheth sent, and took her from her husband, even from Phaltiel the son of Laish.
And her husband went with her along weeping behind her to Bahurim. Then said Abner unto him, Go, return. And he returned. ~ 2 Samuel 3:14-16

Similarly, those “spirit spouses” defiantly try to hold on to the Lord's children like how Phaltiel tried to keep David's wife Michal. However, similar to David, the Lord has paid the price for us, and even though He has other children, Jesus will not allow any of His children to remain with the enemy, regardless of how much the enemy whines. Plus,

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the Holy Spirit of God seals us until the day of redemption (Ephesians 4:30).

A “spirit spouse” can never truly have a Christian, despite how hard it may try. However, the spirit can make life more challenging for a Christian, and this includes their relationships. That is one of the reasons why both Christians in a relationship, or who the Lord intends to bring together, need discernment to defeat those evil spirits. Many people have gotten divorced because of these evil spirits. By the way, people who are into witchcraft have conjured and contracted these devils to destroy people's relationships (marriages). Sometimes the witch seduces or uses witchcraft to instead lure one of those individuals from the blocked or broken marriage into a relationship with him or her. That is another device the enemy uses to prevent two people from being joined or reunited in holy matrimony. Sadly, some people are in relationships and even marriages the Lord never ordained for them. Arguably worse, some of those relationships were due to the use of witchcraft to illegally acquire someone the Lord ordained for another.

I doubt that Phaltiel paid the price David did for Michal, which was partially why she would always be more valuable to David than Phaltiel. The Lord also paid more for us than any demon could or would. Demons want to make people suffer but would never suffer for people, like Jesus did. It is also worthy to note, even though the demons may linger, similar to how Abner rebuked Phaltiel and he went away permanently with no one to appeal to, one rebuke from the Lord will drive the “spirit spouse” away permanently. God is not mocked!

The “spirit spouses” are headed for greater damnation based on their actions to pervert the Lord's creations and plans. There is also the significant charge against them for seemingly trying to defy the true and living God. Please do not get deceived into following their seemingly defiant ways. They do not truly want to challenge Jesus. This is evident in what the legion of demons revealed about the Lord's potential disciplinary actions for devils:

And, behold, they cried out, saying, What have we to do with Thee, Jesus, thou Son of God? **Art Thou come**

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hither to torment us before the time? ~ Matthew 8:29

It is very telling that the Lord can torment those demons ahead of time. One of the potential torments is to cast them down into tartarus (Strong's G5020), the deepest recesses of hell. That is particularly fitting for "spirit spouses" because that is where some of the angels who left their heavenly abode to take the daughters of men were cast and bound. Peter wrote about those angels, which also echoes what the Lord said about the days of Noah and Lot:

For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell [tartarus - G5020], and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment; And spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth person, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly; And turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrha into ashes condemned them with an overthrow, making them an ensample unto those that after should live ungodly; And delivered just Lot, vexed with the filthy conversation of the wicked: (For that righteous man dwelling among them, in seeing and hearing, vexed his righteous soul from day to day with their unlawful deeds;) The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished: But chiefly them that walk after the flesh in the lust of uncleanness, and despise government. Presumptuous are they, selfwilled, they are not afraid to speak evil of dignities. ~ 2 Peter 2:4-12

When it comes to the devil's war against your God-ordained marriage, "spiritual spouses" are among the most wicked and stubborn. Some people have been in bed with their eyes closed and then felt the weight of a presence in bed with them. When the Lord gives the person vision, some people have seen the spirit in its true hideous form, which points to why they need to pretend to be someone else. These spirits have also tormented or attempted to torment people via poltergeist [German for "noisy ghost"] activities. Men with "spirit spouses" may have recurring

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dreams with a woman being close to his left side while women may have dreams of a man being to her right side. It represents how a man walks away from the altar at a marriage ceremony with his bride. The person may also feel movement in the same gender-specific side, as if a serpent is lodged in his or her abdomen, or crawling or itching on the affected side. Paul spoke of a messenger of satan that was like a thorn in his flesh. Similarly, a "spirit spouse" is a tool of the enemy to be a thorn in a person's flesh.

Contrary to how the Lord gives a person a spouse to help both of them progress in life and fulfill their Godly purposes for His glory, the devil assigns a "spirit spouse" like a Judas. The spirit is meant to steal from people (John 12:4-6) and covertly betray them in every possible way (Matthew 26). People affected by these spirits may have dreams of being bound in chains and fetters, in prison or locked in a room, sliding down a slippery slope (and into water) with no way out, being tossed to and fro in water or being overcome by water as in a tidal wave, or running but barely moving because the legs feel heavy or are mired in mud. If you can think off all of the worst spouses you have ever heard of and put them in one person, you would not even come close to how evil these foul spirits are.

People the Lord has delivered from "spirit spouses" can attest, that despite their stubborn and rebellious antics, the spirits were no match for the Lord Jesus. They may also attest how the spirits tried to make a mockery of the Lord, which was meant to cause the affected individual to sin against Jesus and even walk away from Him. No one can pluck us out of the Lord's hand (John 10:27-30), but the enemy tries to get us to walk away from the Lord and to stop following Him (John 6:66-71). The spirits, despite the ever-increasing punishment that awaits them for their continued rebellion, desperately try to frustrate the Lord's plans for His children, and to also vex Jesus's children and cause them to lose faith in Him. A part of their assaults are meant to make it seem as if the Lord is incapable of delivering and protecting His children, which, contrary to Scriptures (John 3:16), may make the child of God feel as if God does not love him or her. If the Christian is not grounded in the Word of God, the person could end up

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hating God for the torments. It is basically like going through hell on earth, especially when the devils refuse to leave when rebuked in the name of Jesus.

Evil spirits of masturbation and “spirit spouses” are among the devil’s secret assassins. Even though “spirit spouses” are highly secretive like a military’s special forces, they are also a part of the devil’s “kamikaze division”. They know, especially based on what happened to the angels who started the interspecies abomination that triggered the Lord’s wrath, that they will suffer unspeakable wrath from the Lord for all eternity. After the Lord created man (Adam), God created an incredible gift for him in his wife Eve. The enemy’s persistent war against the Lord’s children and one of His most precious gifts to them, marriage, will come with intense everlasting torments. The spirits that “married” or tried marrying men and women, will find out that God is not mocked. In the meantime, they keep gambling by launching attacks on the Lord’s children, which put them at risk for the Lord rounding up every “spirit spouse” and casting them into tartarus for a season so other evil spirits will be in fear.

Some people may not believe what I have communicated. But I know others will finally realize what has been happening to them. In addition, contrary to some opinions, they are not crazy for the things they shared with other people who did not believe them. Others saw, heard or otherwise perceived things but thought they were hallucinating. These spirits work hard to target God-ordained marriages. When we look at how much Joseph endured while waiting for His promise from the Lord, even to the point where it seemed as if there was no escape. But after having enduring the trials and tribulations for a season (13 years in his case), he lived to one day glorify God by saying:

But as for you, ye thought evil against me; but God meant it unto good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save much people alive. ~ Genesis 50:20

Some people will not initially understand why the Lord allowed the suffering for as long as He sometimes does. Yet,

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it points to the tribulation at the end and the war the saints will endure as prophesied by Daniel and later John regarding the beast:

And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue forty and two months. And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme His name, and His tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven. **And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them:** and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations. ~ Revelation 13:5-7

Regardless of what you are battling, never give up hope in Christ Jesus. When Jesus shows up, devils go down. There is hope on the other side of the darkness and even in the darkness itself. Never forget that the Lord will never leave or forsake you, regardless of if He seems absent. Also, Jesus is the Light who came into the world and darkness cannot conquer the Light. The Lord said persecution would come but we must endure until the end. Sometimes the persecution comes from an evil spirit that is trying to be our spouse and may try to harass us every time we close our eyes. Eventually, the Lord will set us free and give us rest while that spirit will one day seek rest but NEVER find it. The foul spirit will NEVER get any breaks from its everlasting torments from a just God who will one day settle the score (Revelation 20:10). When things seem hopeless, please never forget the following about the God whom we love and serve:

- And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write; These things saith He that is holy, He that is true, He that hath the key of David, He that openeth, and no man shutteth; and shutteth, and no man openeth; **I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept My Word, and hast not denied My name.** ~ Revelation 3:7-8

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- Behold, the Lord's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither His ear heavy, that it cannot hear. ~ Isaiah 59:1

I also remind you of the power and sovereignty of the Lord Jesus Christ, which **empowers** you **to** boldly say, “No weapon formed against me shall prosper!”

What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us? He that spared not His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things? Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth. Who is he that condemneth? **It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.**

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, For Thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. **Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him that loved us. For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.** ~ Romans 8:31-39

Despite how the enemy may try to make things appear, the Lord is with you and (arguably more important) for you. You are not isolated and abandoned. Even through your trials, whether you opened the door to the enemy or not, the Lord is continually making intercession for you. **It** is important to know that the Lord's intercession is not always to get you **immediately** out of a trial, but to get you through it. In John chapter 11, it clearly states, and we can see through **Jesus's** tears, that He loved Lazarus **but** the Lord allowed Lazarus to die. **Lazarus's death and subsequent resurrection has since** strengthened the faith of billions of

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people. Jesus also used the incident to demonstrate that He is also the Lord over death; He truly is the Resurrection. Even if the enemy killed you, the Lord can resurrect you in order to fulfill His promises to you, which means you should fear no evil. Also, note how the Lord takes us through things and what He expects for us to do upon completion of a trial:

And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat: But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren. Luke 22:31-32

The Lord did not deny satan's request, which some people may find absolutely shocking. Instead, Jesus interceded for Peter so that his faith would not fail him and for Peter to use his experiences from the sifting to strengthen his brothers. The things I write about are not simply because I know of other people's TESTimonies or because of divine revelations such as what the Lord showed Daniel and John about the end-times. By God's grace, I have endured "the furnace of affliction" (Isaiah 48:10-11) and "the Refiner's fire" (Malachi 3), and now the Lord uses me to strengthen my brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus. I do not love my experiences. In fact, I hate them. On the contrary, I love what the Lord has done with those things and how He is using them to help His children. Things such as dealing with a "spirit spouse" are meant to lead the sexually immoral, particularly those who have never had to deal with such things, to repentance. The Lord's grace helps us to overcome or to endure. It is also by God's grace if a sexually immoral person has never had to deal with those wicked (tormenting) spirits.

Being in sin or coming out of it relatively unscathed should provide a tremendous incentive for a person to flee sexual immorality instead of to remain in or go towards it. In addition to conveying this message to help people navigate through such a trial, it is also meant to warn others to come out of sin and to never return to it. When Jesus saved the woman who had been caught committing

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adultery, He said He did not condemn her but warned her to go and sin no more (John 8:1-11). For those who have been sexually immoral, whether they have dealt with a “spirit spouse” or not, I give another type of admonition that Jesus gave to the man He healed who had been paralyzed for 38 years. The Lord gave him this firm and sobering warning:

Behold, thou art made whole: sin no more, lest a worse thing come unto thee. ~ John 5:14

There are two very important things to extrapolate from the Word of the Lord. First, do not repeat your sin(s), if that was what let the demon in. Your relapse could result in you ending up seven times worse (Matthew 12:43-45). If you never had to deal with a “spirit spouse”, the experience would clearly be much worse than simply repenting without suffering. The second very important lesson is people get healed and set free whenever Jesus shows up. Whatever you do, never tempt the Lord by sinning.

I close this chapter with some additional words of encouragement for those who are fighting the good fight of faith against those SINister “spirit spouses”:

- Thus saith the Lord God, Behold, I will lift up Mine hand to the Gentiles, and set up My standard to the people: and they shall bring thy sons in their arms, and thy daughters shall be carried upon their shoulders. And kings shall be thy nursing fathers, and their queens thy nursing mothers: they shall bow down to thee with their face toward the earth, and lick up the dust of thy feet; and **thou shalt know that I AM the Lord: for they shall not be ashamed that wait for Me.**

Shall the prey be taken from the mighty, or the lawful captive delivered?

But thus saith the Lord, Even the captives of the mighty shall be taken away, and the prey of the terrible shall be delivered: for **I will contend with him that contendeth with thee, and I will save thy children.** And I will feed them that oppress thee

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with their own flesh; and they shall be drunken with their own blood, as with sweet wine: and all flesh shall know that **I the Lord am thy Saviour and thy Redeemer**, the mighty One of Jacob. ~ Isaiah 49:22-26

- And it shall come to pass, that **whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be delivered...** ~ Joel 2:32
- ...Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art Mine. **When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee.** For I AM the Lord thy God, the Holy One of Israel, thy Saviour... ~ Isaiah 43:1-3

Jesus is Lord!

Chapter 3

“DEMONICALLY ARRANGED UNIONS”

You may be wondering why this chapter is called “Demonically Arranged Unions” when there is nothing more demonic than an evil spirit trying to be a human being’s spouse. I wholeheartedly agree with you regarding those “spirit spouses”. But there are unions between two people, including two Christians, that are either of the devil or they benefit him more than anyone else. I am sure you recall king David refusing to let Phaltiel keep his first wife Michal. But did you know David’s marriage to Michal was a demonically arranged union? I know that is an astounding assertion since they were presumably two Israelites who believed in Yahweh. Unfortunately, that is how some people in today’s age have married the wrong person, basically because they were two professing Christians, who possibly attended the same church. In some cases, ministers or other Christians played the role of matchmakers or consented to the unions that were conceived in the pits of hell and birthed in the church. Such approval of demonically arranged unions reminds me

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of when Stephen was martyred and Saul consented to his death (Acts 8:1). Marriage is the death of two individuals and the rebirth of one. But in a demonically arranged union, it may result in the spiritual or physical death of a Christian or both Christians if both members of the couple are believers in Christ Jesus.

A demonically arranged union is one that is either contrived by devils and/or brings more glory to satan. It typically involves some work of darkness such as deception, a sinister agenda or even outright witchcraft. Based on those parameters, you may be wondering how in the world David's marriage to a fellow Israelite, and the king's daughter nonetheless, could be a demonically arranged union. Well, let us don our surgical attire and forensically dissect their relationship.

Again, when the Lord plans, ordains and brings a relationship to pass, it is for the benefit of both individuals and for His glory. God does not bring people together in a marriage for them to harm each other. The Lord uses marriage as a ministry instead of a battle designed to drive each other MAD, which is also an acronym for Mutually Assured Destruction. The Lord showed that marriage is a ministry when He directed the prophet Hosea to marry a promiscuous woman. The prophet married Gomer and even redeemed her after she went astray. That relationship represented how Christ is the Redeemer of the world who came once and will return again. After redeeming Gomer, the prophet told his wife to be faithful to him and he would be faithful to her (Hosea 3). That is how the Lord Jesus wants us to be faithful to Him. Hosea's faithfulness was greater to his wife than her faithfulness was to him, but he loved her nonetheless. It all points back to Christ Jesus. Oh, by the way, Hosea and Gomer also had children, which were prophetic signs from the Lord (Hosea 1).

On the contrary, David's marriage to Michal was not of the Lord and it was basically dead on arrival. Before we look at the fruits of that marriage, let us examine the roots. When counseling couples, it is important to examine how the relationships started because the beginning often points to how it will end. Some people are married. Correction, some Christians are married and one of them

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is not even sure why he or she married the other person. Sadly, similarly to Jacob's case, some will tell you they wanted a relationship with someone else but somehow ended up with another person. It gets worse because they are with someone they never loved, does not love, and will never love. Thankfully, David and Michal loved each other, but that still did not mean the relationship was of the Lord.

After David's victory over Goliath, he began serving in king Saul's army. He subsequently received an offer to marry Saul's daughter eldest Merab, but David refused. Opportunity came knocking again with king Saul's younger daughter Michal. Let us examine [the Scriptures to determine](#) the king's agenda for wanting David to marry his daughter. Motives really matter as they help us to determine whether a relationship (marriage) is of God, a work of the flesh or of the devil.

And Michal Saul's daughter loved David: and they told Saul, and the thing pleased him.

And Saul said, **I will give him her, that she may be a snare to him, and that the hand of the Philistines may be against him.**

Wherefore Saul said to David, Thou shalt this day be my son in law in the one of the twain.

And Saul commanded his servants, saying, Commune with David secretly, and say, Behold, the king hath delight in thee, and all his servants love thee: now therefore be the king's son in law.

And Saul's servants spake those words in the ears of David.

And David said, Seemeth it to you a light thing to be a king's son in law, seeing that I am a poor man, and lightly esteemed?

And the servants of Saul told him, saying, On this manner spake David.

And Saul said, Thus shall ye say to David, The king desireth not any dowry, but an hundred foreskins of the Philistines, to be avenged of the king's enemies. **But Saul thought to make David fall by the hand of the Philistines.** ~ 1 Samuel 18:20-25

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When the Lord ordained Samson's relationship to the Philistine woman, it was not for her to [hamstring](#) him. On the contrary, it was for Samson to become a snare to the Lord's enemies, the Philistines (Judges 14:1-4). [The Lord also](#) did not ordain Samson's marriage for him to get killed. In fact, it was Samson who asked the Lord to let him die while he carried out his assignment against the Philistines (Judges 16:28-30). [Saul's agenda however,](#) presented a major indication of a demonically arranged union. Saul was trying to use David's pursuit of love and marriage to get him killed, despite the fact that the Lord had anointed David to replace Saul as Israel's future king. Many people have kissed their destinies goodbye because they married the wrong person, sometimes at the behest and with the full support of other professing believers in Christ Jesus. Praise the Lord for those whom the Lord preserved or even rescued from those relationships, and sometimes even marriages, that were meant to destroy their lives and possibly damn their souls.

Sadly, while reading through Saul's plan for David, I kept seeing a pastor who discerned a tremendous calling on a young man's life, one the Lord intended to serve Him, away from the pastor's ministry. However, in an attempt to keep the young man in his church and ministry, the pastor offered up his daughter to the man for [marriage](#). As an added bonus, the pastor soon named his new son-in-law as his successor. All of that sounds great on the surface, but the agenda was selfish and even downright sinister. Like king Saul, the pastor was more interested in building his own legacy and ministerial empire instead of the kingdom of God. The pastor is a SINister minister. It would have been better for all parties involved, and the kingdom of God, if they [had followed](#) the Lord's plans. You may have heard [the saying that](#) something good may not be of God. In addition, if the pastor does not repent, it will not go well on judgment day when he has to give an account to the Lord Jesus for his actions.

Another thing that makes Saul's plan so sinister is that David, who had seemingly forgotten, had already qualified to marry king Saul's daughter [because his defeat of](#) Goliath was [his](#) dowry. Another hallmark of a demonically

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arranged union is when the conditions and standards change in an effort to put at least one person at a disadvantage. Some people have been in situations where they got married to someone because they were told, either directly or in a round about way, that the Lord had somehow changed His mind about a planned relationship. David did not have to jump through any more hoops, and especially ungodly ones, because if Saul had integrity, he would have kept his promise to the one who did his job by killing Goliath [for him](#):

And the men of Israel said, Have ye seen this man that is come up? Surely to defy Israel is he come up: and **it shall be, that the man who killeth him, the king will enrich him with great riches, and will give him his daughter, and make his father's house free in Israel.**

And David spake to the men that stood by him, saying, What shall be done to the man that killeth this Philistine, and taketh away the reproach from Israel? For who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God?

And the people answered him after this manner, saying, So shall it be done to the man that killeth him...

...And he turned from him toward another, and spake after the same manner: and the people answered him again after the former manner. ~ 1 Samuel 17:25-27,30

The Law spoke of two or more witnesses establishing every matter. David heard from multiple sources about being able to marry one of king Saul's daughter's if he killed Goliath. The prospect of marrying the king's daughter was not David's primary reason for taking on the challenge. Also, David obviously took the matter of marrying one of the king's daughters seriously. After his victory, he did not go to the king and demand his bride. [This](#) points to how David was more interested in defending his God. In addition, David did not idolize marriage, which is something many Christians do today, as if being married is the only way to effectively serve and glorify the Lord. Do not waste your single season in part because it is easier to do certain things while you are single.

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In some ways, king Saul was reflective of the Lord and [in](#) other ways he was not. David took marrying the king's daughter seriously. That is how men should consider and approach [marriage](#) or being in a relationship with one of the King of kings' daughters. The converse is also true for women who are considering or are already in a relationship with a son of the Lord of lords. David approached the prospects of such a relationship soberly. Regrettably, prior to his marriage to Michal, David did not do something then that later served as one of the hallmarks of his service to the Lord. David later developed a history of inquiring of the Lord before making major decisions. Things went very well for David when he inquired of the Lord, but ended disastrously at times when he did not. We all need to follow David's example of inquiring to the Lord prior to making decisions, especially major ones. Most notable is the decision regarding relationships, such as when to enter one and possibly if or when to leave. We can also learn from David in how he rose to prominence and brought glory to the Lord by killing Goliath, while he was single. Too many single Christians are avoiding life's giants because they are waiting to get into a relationship first. However, giants tend to grow with the passage of time. For example, and as previously discussed, masturbation may start [as being](#) the size of a flea but [eventually](#) grows into a spiritual giant, one that is best slayed before getting into a relationship. Woefully, some Christians also serve the Lord because they hope that if they do something for Him that He will reciprocate by giving them a spouse.

The battle between David and Goliath was representative of the spiritual "battle" between their gods, Yahweh and dagon, even though God does not have any equal or competition. I hesitantly used the term "battle" because dagon cannot defeat Yahweh on his best day. I cannot say on the Lord's worst day because God is the Lord of the days. God has no equal or counterpart in satan's pseudo-kingdom. Simply take a look at who will restrain satan:

And I saw **an angel** come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent,

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which is the devil, and satan, and bound him a thousand years, and cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season. ~ Revelation 20:1-3

I may have seemingly gone way off topic because the previous chapter covered “spirit spouses”. But it is indicative of the importance of keeping things in their right order, especially regarding whom God is. The devil is a **fallen** angel, which is why an angel instead of Jesus will bind him and cast him into a bottomless pit for a thousand years.

In addition to not keeping his word by automatically and unconditionally giving the one who defeated the giant one of his daughters to Saul as his wife, Saul also tried to get David killed. That was bad in several ways. We should not forget that the Lord had Samuel the seer tell Saul on two occasions that He had torn the kingdom away from him and given it to one better than him (1 Samuel 13:13-14, 15:23-29). Saul was in no position to further defy the Lord by trying to rebelliously extend his legacy by having one of his sons serve in his stead. Furthermore, even though Saul believed in God, what made David's marriage even more demonic was because a demon was assigned to torment Saul:

Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the midst of his brethren: and the Spirit of the Lord came upon David from that day forward.

So Samuel rose up, and went to Ramah.

But the Spirit of the Lord departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from the Lord troubled him.

And Saul's servants said unto him, Behold now, an evil spirit from God troubleth thee. ~ 1 Samuel 16:13-15

Before I continue, especially in the event a “spirit spouse” is tormenting you, do not assume that the Lord sent the spirit. That is of vital importance when you are in right standing with God. Also, do not buy the lie that it is the Lord's will for you to have a “spirit spouse” for a thorn

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in your flesh to keep you humble, especially permanently. Paul had a messenger of satan to buffet and keep him humble, and the Lord would not deliver him of it (2 Corinthians 12:6-10), but the Lord would not allow a "spirit spouse" to try to defile his servant while he slept. Now back to the matter between Saul and David.

Being tormented by a demon does not mean a person will make only demonic decisions. However, the demon evidently had a negative impact on Saul's decisions and actions:

And there was war again: and David went out, and fought with the Philistines, and slew them with a great slaughter; and they fled from him.

And the evil spirit from the Lord was upon Saul, as he sat in his house with his javelin in his hand: and David played with his hand.

And Saul sought to smite David even to the wall with the javelin: but he slipped away out of Saul's presence, and he smote the javelin into the wall: and David fled, and escaped that night. ~ 1 Samuel 19:8-10

That led to David leaving his wife Michal behind. While people do not need demons to influence or drive them to make evil decisions (Genesis 6:5, Jeremiah 17:9-10), the demon assigned to Saul may have influenced his decision to give David's wife to Phaltiel. Unlike David, Phaltiel probably never had to kill 201 Philistines for Saul to hand his daughter over to him. Please note that Saul had sin issues before the demon started afflicting him, but the demon made him arguably worse. It is important to discern when a human is doing something versus when a demon is.

Furthermore, in this autopsy of David's marriage to Saul's daughter Michal, this is one of the worst findings:

And David danced before the Lord with all his might; and David was girded with a linen ephod. So David and all the house of Israel brought up the ark of the Lord with shouting, and with the sound of the trumpet.

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And as the ark of the Lord came into the city of David, Michal Saul's daughter looked through a window, and saw king David leaping and dancing before the Lord; and she despised him in her heart.

And they brought in the ark of the Lord, and set it in his place, in the midst of the tabernacle that David had pitched for it: and David offered burnt offerings and peace offerings before the Lord.

And as soon as David had made an end of offering burnt offerings and peace offerings, he blessed the people in the name of the Lord of hosts. And he dealt among all the people, even among the whole multitude of Israel, as well to the women as men, to every one a cake of bread, and a good piece of flesh, and a flagon of wine. So all the people departed every one to his house.

Then David returned to bless his household. And Michal the daughter of Saul came out to meet David, and said, How glorious was the king of Israel to day, who uncovered himself to day in the eyes of the handmaids of his servants, as one of the vain fellows shamelessly uncovereth himself!

And David said unto Michal, It was before the Lord, which chose me before thy father, and before all his house, to appoint me ruler over the people of the Lord, over Israel: therefore will I play before the Lord. And I will yet be more vile than thus, and will be base in mine own sight: and of the maidservants which thou hast spoken of, of them shall I be had in honour.

Therefore Michal the daughter of Saul had no child unto the day of her death. ~ 2 Samuel 6:14-23

When the Lord said He was cutting off king Saul's family, it effectively cursed them. It is one thing to marry someone who the devil has cursed or is trying to curse, but it is another thing to marry someone the Lord has cursed.

On the day of Saul's death, three of his sons also lost their lives in the battle (1 Samuel 31:2), just as Samuel prophesied the [previous](#) day (1 Samuel 28:16-19). Saul's son Ishbosheth was reigning instead of Saul but was assassinated in his bed (2 Samuel 4:5-8). Also, Saul had violated Israel's covenant with the Gibeonites by killing

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some of them. This resulted in a three-year famine during David's reign. To atone for this, the Gibeonites wanted to execute seven of Saul's sons. Saul did not have many surviving sons so David took Saul's two surviving sons via his concubine Rizpah. Do you know where David got the other five of Saul's sons? I am going to assume that you said from Merab, Saul's eldest daughter that he initially offered to David. Sadly, David had to take those young men away from the woman he could have married and give them to the Gibeonites to end the curse over to the land (2 Samuel 21:1-9). David had married into a cursed family, one God had cursed. Arguably, it was a blessing and a curse that Michal died childless. If David had children with Michal, it is most likely that the Gibeonites would have asked for more of Saul's "sons", which would have forced David to make even tougher and more personal decisions to end the drought.

I will not say nothing good ever came out of David's marriage to Michal. I give her credit for helping him escape, but that does not mean it was not a demonically arranged union. A demonically arranged union does not mean that one or both people are evil. It simply means that the matchmaker sets up the relationship for sinister purposes. David had other wives and concubines who bore his children, yet his first wife, king Saul's daughter, had none. In addition, as David was praising the Lord to celebrate a glorious moment for his kingdom and his God, Michal was more focused on carnal things. She was a vessel for the devil by trying to steal David's praise for the Lord. God had chosen David as king because he was a man after the Lord's heart. Years later, David's heart was after the Lord, and if Michal could have had her way, she would have snuffed that out. Saul gave her to David so she would be a snare unto him. She tried to ensnare him but David did not allow it to happen. Likewise, whether it is a "spirit spouse" or a demonically arranged union, you cannot allow anything or anyone to negatively impact your relationship with the Lord. In a God-ordained marriage, you will have to make adjustments when you transition from being single to being married. You may not be able to spend five nights per week praising and worshipping the

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Lord all night like when you were single, but a Godly spouse will not kill your relationship with the Lord. On the contrary, a demonically arranged union is meant to steal, kill and destroy everything about your life that is of the Lord.

I met a contractor who was about to get married on Halloween of 2019. I thought it was an odd time of year to get married. In fact, I heard a former witch testify of getting married on Halloween and how several evil principalities attended his wedding. Well, as my conversation continued with the contractor, I discerned that his fiancée was a witch, hence the Halloween wedding date. If you read "The Prophet and the Witch: Under the Influence", you know I did not take kindly to such a union, even between two unbelievers. I certainly would not consent, whether implicitly or explicitly, so I did not remain silent. I shared a part of my TESTimony and implored him to not proceed with that union.

Whereas Michal was not evil and was not working witchcraft on David, sometimes a demonically arranged union has at least one worker of iniquity. A Biblical example of an undoubtedly demonically arranged union between a believer and a wicked person is that of king Ahab. A spouse from the Lord will help you get from good to better or even bad to better by certainly drawing you closer to the Lord. On the contrary, a demonically arranged union is designed to take a person down, and down all the way to hell. I do not feel led to go into details about the evil things Jezebel did after marrying king Ahab because the following speaks volumes:

So Omri slept with his fathers, and was buried in Samaria: and Ahab his son reigned in his stead.

And in the thirty and eighth year of Asa king of Judah began Ahab the son of Omri to reign over Israel: and Ahab the son of Omri reigned over Israel in Samaria twenty and two years. And Ahab the son of Omri did evil in the sight of the Lord above all that were before him.

And it came to pass, as if it had been a light thing for him to walk in the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, that he took to wife Jezebel the daughter of

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Ethbaal king of the Zidonians, and went and served Baal, and worshipped him.

And he reared up an altar for Baal in the house of Baal, which he had built in Samaria. **And Ahab made a grove; and Ahab did more to provoke the Lord God of Israel to anger than all the kings of Israel that were before him.** ~ 1 Kings 16:28-33

One of the ways to discern if a relationship is of God or the devil is based on which direction it causes a person to go. While some people do get pulled down towards the pit and call the Lord to deliver them, it is the God-ordained relationship that takes two people on an upward path towards the Lord. The devil knows the detrimental power of being in the wrong relationship. Therefore, in addition to being a counterfeiter, the devil is in the matchmaking business to use one person to destroy another person's life. Sadly, being in a demonic arranged union may impact a minimum of four people's lives, the two people who are in the relationship and the potential two other people the Lord may have had for them.

In the final example of the potential impacts of being in a demonically arranged union, let us look at what it can do to someone with a heart for God who marries someone who has a heart for the devil. This involves David's son Solomon, the man the Lord personally chose to replace David as king and to build His temple. The Lord even spoke to king Solomon in a dream. But, to further illustrate that the devil does not come to take part, he comes to take over, here is what happened to king Solomon as a result of being in a demonically arranged union. Actually, in his case, he was in several demonically arranged unions:

But king Solomon loved many strange women, together with the daughter of Pharaoh, women of the Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, Zidonians, and Hittites: Of the nations concerning which **the Lord said unto the children of Israel, Ye shall not go in to them, neither shall they come in unto you: for surely they will turn away your heart after their gods: Solomon clave unto**

these in love.

And he had seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines: and **his wives turned away his heart.**

For it came to pass, when Solomon was old, that his wives turned away his heart after other gods: and his heart was not perfect with the Lord his God, as was the heart of David his father. For Solomon went after Ashtoreth the goddess of the **Zidonians, and after Milcom the abomination of the Ammonites. And Solomon did evil in the sight of the Lord, and went not fully after the Lord, as did David his father. Then did Solomon build an high place for Chemosh, the abomination of Moab, in the hill that is before Jerusalem, and for Molech, the abomination of the children of Ammon. And likewise did he for all his strange wives, which burnt incense and sacrificed unto their gods.**

And the Lord was angry with Solomon, because his heart was turned from the Lord God of Israel, which had appeared unto him twice, And had commanded him concerning this thing, that he should not go after other gods: but he kept not that which the Lord commanded.

Wherefore the Lord said unto Solomon, Forasmuch as this is done of thee, and thou hast not kept My covenant and My statutes, which I have commanded thee, I will surely rend the kingdom from thee, and will give it to thy servant. Notwithstanding in thy days I will not do it for David thy father's sake: but I will rend it out of the hand of thy son. Howbeit I will not rend away all the kingdom; but will give one tribe to thy son for David My servant's sake, and for Jerusalem's sake which I have chosen.

And the Lord stirred up an adversary unto Solomon, Hadad the Edomite: he was of the king's seed in Edom.

~ 1 Kings 11:1-14

May we all learn from Solomon's experiences of being in several demonically arranged unions. Rather than leading his wives to God, [Solomon's](#) wives and concubines lead the mighty and beloved king away from the Lord. You may have heard the term "evangelistic dating", which refers to a

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Christian getting into a relationship with an unbeliever with the hopes of getting that unbeliever saved. However, such relationships are ungodly from their inception. We see how David's marriage to Michal was fruitless, and Ahab went from bad to worse when he married Jezebel. Arguably the most drastic example of a demonically arranged union is evident in king Solomon, the person the Lord chose to build His temple. As a result of marrying ungodly women, he angered the Lord by building places of worship to other gods (who are actually devils). Getting into a relationship is a serious and life-altering decision. Similar to Solomon, you may know of Christians who got into a relationship and potentially walked away from the Lord their God. Such unions have blocked ministries from forming and have destroyed others. So yes, demonically arranged unions is a very powerful weapon in the devil's arsenal, especially when he can get two unequally yoked Christians into a marriage.

I know of a formerly well-known minister who had women lining up in churches to marry him. The minister broke many hearts when he got married, then things started changing. He was eventually removed from ministry in part because a seducing spirit influenced him to question why a loving God would send people to hell. The last time I saw him, I noticed some peculiar beads around his right wrist. They reminded me of when I used to watch Kung Fu movies. Within seconds, an Internet search confirmed my suspicions that a once popular Christian preacher was wearing Buddhist beads. I pray that he returns to faith in Christ Jesus. But for now, his life changed shortly after getting married...

I inject another message within the messages already conveyed in this chapter, another divine detour. This is based on how king Solomon's wives and concubines turned his heart away from the Lord. It points to the need for a rise in more Christian men who can wash their wives in the Word of God, similar to how David would not bow to Michal's demands to modify his praise for the Lord. Especially now during the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic where many people cannot go to church, men have to be priests of their homes instead of relegating the

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role to pastors. It is not enough for a man to simply take his family to church once or twice per week; his family has to be a church.

Scriptures such as this points to how the Lord gave men authority in a marriage:

Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ. Now I praise you, brethren, that ye remember me in all things, and keep the ordinances, as I delivered them to you. But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ; **and the head of the woman is the man**; and the head of Christ is God. ~ 1 Corinthians 11:1-3

There is even an order among the Godhead, despite all three being one (1 John 5:7). Men have authority but women have something that is arguably even more powerful, which is influence. The events in the Garden of Eden demonstrate that when the devil seduced Eve. She subsequently influenced Adam to eat the “forbidden fruit”. Yet, when the Lord approached them, despite what Eve had done, God spoke with Adam first (Genesis 3:1-15). Too many Christian men have abdicated their positions of Godly authority in a marriage. There are many causes such as being forced out of churches by insecure pastors, who like Saul felt threatened by David's gifts and callings. Some men may not have a ministerial calling, but because their wives do, they either thought or were told that their wives were their “covering”. That is a doctrine of Jezebel, which points to a potentially demonically arranged union.

One of the responsibilities of men, particularly those with prophetically gifted wives or God-ordained ministers, is to help protect them from being seduced and overcome by a jezebel spirit. When wives fall into error or are heading in the wrong direction, husbands have to wash their wives with the Word, either directly or in prayer. In a pride of lions, the lionesses do most of the hunting while the lions are responsible for protecting the pride.

I take another divine detour to also communicate the following. This book contains several examples of how women took a man who was destined for another woman, such as how Leah stole Jacob. I say, “Awake lionesses!”

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Christian women, you have been frequently told to be submissive. However, please stop being like a kitten when it is time to be a lioness. Do not allow another woman to come and simply work witchcraft and snatch away your God-ordained husband. The man still has to make some decisions, but do not sit back and watch him get led astray. I do not know what in the world Rachel was doing when Leah married her fiancé. At a minimum, be a lioness in prayer because Jesus said:

And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force. ~ Matthew 11:12

Do not let your actual or future God-ordained marriage suffer violence. By the way, that charter is for when men and women do not give the devil any room to operate in their relationship, especially after getting married. Women, do not allow some strange woman to unseat you from your promise from the Lord. Please keep the following warnings in mind and in prayer regarding the strange woman:

- Discretion shall preserve thee, understanding shall keep thee: To deliver thee from the way of the evil man, from the man that speaketh froward things; Who leave the paths of uprightness, to walk in the ways of darkness; Who rejoice to do evil, and delight in the frowardness of the wicked; Whose ways are crooked, and they froward in their paths: **To deliver thee from the strange woman**, even from the stranger which flattereth with her words; Which forsaketh the guide of her youth, and forgetteth the covenant of her God. For her house inclineth unto death, and her paths unto the dead. None that go unto her return again, neither take they hold of the paths of life. That thou mayest walk in the way of good men, and keep the paths of the righteous. ~ Proverbs 2:11-20
- My son, attend unto my wisdom, and bow thine ear to my understanding: That thou mayest regard

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discretion, and that thy lips may keep knowledge. **For the lips of a strange woman drop as an honeycomb, and her mouth is smoother than oil:** But her end is bitter as wormwood, sharp as a two-edged sword. Her feet go down to death; her steps take hold on hell. Lest thou shouldest ponder the path of life, her ways are moveable, that thou canst not know them. Hear me now therefore, O ye children, and depart not from the words of my mouth. Remove thy way far from her, and come not nigh the door of her house: Lest thou give thine honour unto others, and thy years unto the cruel: Lest strangers be filled with thy wealth; and thy labours be in the house of a stranger; And thou mourn at the last, when thy flesh and thy body are consumed, And say, How have I hated instruction, and my heart despised reproof; And have not obeyed the voice of my teachers, nor inclined mine ear to them that instructed me! I was almost in all evil in the midst of the congregation and assembly. Drink waters out of thine own cistern, and running waters out of thine own well. Let thy fountains be dispersed abroad, and rivers of waters in the streets. Let them be only thine own, and not strangers' with thee. Let thy fountain be blessed: and rejoice with the wife of thy youth. Let her be as the loving hind and pleasant roe; let her breasts satisfy thee at all times; and be thou ravished always with her love. **And why wilt thou, my son, be ravished with a strange woman, and embrace the bosom of a stranger?** ~ Proverbs 5:1-20

- For the commandment is a lamp; and the law is light; and reproofs of instruction are the way of life: **To keep thee from the evil woman, from the flattery of the tongue of a strange woman.** Lust not after her beauty in thine heart; neither let her take thee with her eyelids. For by means of a whorish woman a man is brought to a piece of bread: and the adulteress will hunt for the precious life. Can a man take fire in his bosom, and his

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clothes not be burned? Can one go upon hot coals, and his feet not be burned? ~ Proverbs 6:23-28

- My son, give me thine heart, and let thine eyes observe my ways. **For a whore is a deep ditch; and a strange woman is a narrow pit.** She also lieth in wait as for a prey, and increaseth the transgressors among men. ~ Proverbs 23:26-28

Men, do not take the devil's bait! Do not fall for the seductress or the damsel in distress, particularly one who comes into your life shortly after or even before the Lord reveals your God-ordained spouse to you. Ladies, the devil knows how to try you too. It is a very telling sign if the Lord reveals someone to you and then you start receiving negative reports about that person. Keep in mind that shortly after [Jesus's](#) baptism, the Holy Spirit descended upon Him in the form of a dove, then the Father spoke from heaven and confirmed that Jesus was His beloved Son (Matthew 3:16-7). The next thing you know, Jesus was in a wilderness with the devil trying to get Him to doubt that He is the Son of God (Matthew 4:1-12). Do not allow the devil to block or snatch what the Lord has for [you](#).

Men, your responsibilities have not changed. A lion knows he cannot try certain things with the lioness, but the lioness also knows she cannot try certain things with the lion. Therefore, if you are married to a lioness who everyone calls "prophetess", you [will](#) still have to cover and protect her. If you think her preaching and needing a foot massage afterwards is powerful and intimate, try washing her with the Word (instead or also). Every man needs to have a relationship with the Lord so he can fulfill his responsibilities to wash his wife with the Word of God. A God-ordained marriage is a gift from God, but with authority or influence comes responsibilities such as these:

Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God.

Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and

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He is the Saviour of the body. Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing.

Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave Himself for it; That He might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the Word, that He might present it to Himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish. So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself. For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church: For we are members of His body, of His flesh, and of His bones. For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh. This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church. **Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she reverence her husband.** ~ Ephesians 5:21-33

Ladies, please note that the Scripture says you must submit to your husband as unto to the Lord. Men, it does not say anything about how well she should submit to her pastor. Therefore, when thinking of pursuing a woman, besides inquiring of the Lord first (like David), look at how she submits to the Lord. Saul of Tarsus was a zealous Pharisee who was serving the high priest while opposing Jesus. Let that one sink in for a while...

If the woman disrespects the Lord, what kind of honor do you think you are going to get? Ladies, while church attendance is good, you want to see how a man tends to the Lord. Keep in mind that John the Baptist dwelt in the wilderness. Yet, the Lord thought more highly of John than the high priest (Matthew 11:11). You may have been ignoring the usher and admiring the preacher, but despite the preacher's ability to wash you with the Word, the one who can unlock the doors to your destiny and wash you with the Word is the usher. Some women cannot recognize a Godly man because they are looking in the wrong

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direction. Most women are not called to be the "First Lady".

As a part of delivering a balanced message, I must remind you of what Peter wrote. It has a very special warning for husbands regarding the impacts of their prayers based on how they treat their wives:

Likewise, ye wives, be in subjection to your own husbands; that, if any obey not the Word, they also may without the Word be won by the conversation of the wives; While they behold your chaste conversation coupled with fear. Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel; But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price. For after this manner in the old time the holy women also, who trusted in God, adorned themselves, being in subjection unto their own husbands: Even as Sara obeyed Abraham, calling him lord: whose daughters ye are, as long as ye do well, and are not afraid with any amazement.

Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honour unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered. ~ 1

Peter 3:1-7

A powerful snare of the devil is relationships including demonically arranged unions between two professing or actual Christians. While going from being single to married limits a person's relationship with the Lord in some aspects, a Godly relationship will not kill or utterly destroy it. On the contrary, a demonically arranged union is meant to destroy a person's life and relationship with the Lord. Therefore, we have to heed the Lord's warning regarding ungodly relationships as pointed out in the following Scripture:

Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? And what communion hath light with

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darkness? And what concord hath Christ with Belial? Or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? For ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. **Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate**, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you. And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be My sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty. ~ 2 Corinthians 6:14-18

Yet, similar to how Jesus gave a strong warning to the woman who was caught committing adultery, [and](#) an even stronger warning to the paralyzed man He healed, please heed the above and the following [admonition](#). If the Lord tells you to [get](#) out, regardless of how far you have gotten into a relationship, especially a demonically arranged union, please [leave](#) as soon as the Lord directs. Do not ignore the warning in 2 Corinthians 6:14-18 or this warning [which comes](#) from Revelation 18:4-6:

And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, **Come out of her, My people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.** For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities. Reward her even as she rewarded you, and double unto her double according to her works: in the cup which she hath filled fill to her double.

Chapter 4

UNEQUALLY YOKED

Today is my third day working on this book. I smiled while speaking with one of my sisters earlier because she brought up an applicable subject for this chapter. But that is one of many things the Lord has used throughout this journey to keep pressing through the spiritual warfare. I was on a break from writing and I knew I would add something she mentioned that crossed my mind regarding this chapter. My sister spoke of two people being better apart as friends than together in a romantic relationship. I responded that some people were meant to be friends but nothing more. Likewise, some people are friends but they should be a couple also. Another topic of discussion was how the recent COVID-19 pandemic has caused many businesses to shutter for a season. There are also restrictions in various countries where people are confined to their homes. That means some families are going to spend more time together than they probably have in a very long time. For some people, going to work early and staying late was a welcomed respite to be away from the person they married but do not like. It is torturous being stuck in a home, and in a marriage with someone they may love but not like, or

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worse. Therefore, before getting married, it is important to ponder if the person is someone you would not mind getting stuck on an island with.

You may be wondering why I am even going to bother speaking about being unequally yoked since I addressed “spirit spouses” and “demonically arranged unions”. This is particularly important if you know your Godly purpose and is waiting for the Lord to connect you with the person He ordained as your spouse. You may know what it is like when a well-intended person tries connecting you with someone, including a wonderful Christian who is not the person the Lord chose for you. Well, sometimes the devil's best bait for a Christian is another Christian, both of whom are fully committed to the Lord. However, being a fellow Christian is not enough to form a relationship, especially when there are significant disparities between your levels of faith and particularly your God-ordained purpose. When Saul wanted David to marry one of his daughters, it was so she would be a snare to David. Clearly, the Lord warned us to not be unequally yoked together with an unbeliever (2 Corinthians 6:14-18). But that command is difficult for some people to adhere to, whether in entering a relationship with an unbeliever or ending a relationship (not necessarily a marriage – see 1 Corinthians 7:13-16) with an unbeliever. The devil knows how to fish with attractive bait, and for a Christian, the devil's best lure is another Christian.

Some people are free to marry another Christian of their choosing, unless the Lord specifically ordained the other person for someone else. On the contrary, the Lord has specific plans regarding marriage between some of His children. If you want to present a counter argument of free will, we certainly have free will, but the Lord still controls the circumstances surrounding our choices. Jonah exercised his free will to disobey the Lord and then the Lord used His sovereignty to send a storm followed by a fish. Those sovereign circumstances caused Jonah to change his mind (Jonah 1-2). That is not to say the Lord is going to force you into a marriage where you will not love each other. After all, God is love. Basically, some people are chosen for special purposes, similarly to how the Lord

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chose Noah and his family and later Israel out of all the inhabitants of the world at that time. When the Lord chooses you for a special purpose, He usually hides you, sometimes in plain sight. It seems as if none of David's family considered him as Israel's future king when Samuel showed up at Jesse's house.

Many Christians do not believe the Lord chooses a spouse for His children. However, God custom designed Eve for Adam, He certainly brought Ruth and Boaz together and He had His hand in bringing Joseph and Mary together to serve as [Jesus's](#) surrogate parents. We can also learn some things about the Lord selecting a spouse based on Isaac and Rebekah's story. These excerpts from their union tells a very compelling love story with God as the author (matchmaker):

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: 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:** But thou shalt go unto my country, and to my kindred, and take a wife unto my son Isaac.

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?

And Abraham said unto him, Beware thou that thou bring not my son thither again. The Lord God of heaven, which took me from my father's house, and from the land of my kindred, and which spake unto me, and that sware unto me, saying, Unto thy seed will I give this land; **He shall send His angel before thee, and thou shalt take a wife unto my son from thence.** Genesis 24:2-7

Abraham would not let his servant go among the Canaanites to find a wife for his son Isaac. [In a similar way](#), the best spouse for a Christian may not be someone who attends his or her church, and even if they were to try, the Lord would not allow it. Abraham wanted a wife for his son

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from his father's house. This means that even if a prospective spouse does not go to church, the person must come from the Heavenly Father's house. While some may find that shocking, remember that John the Baptist was raised in the wilderness (Luke 1:80) and basically lived like a wild man (Mark 1:1-8). Nonetheless, Jesus held John in higher esteem than the high priest, or any of the Pharisees, Sadducees or scribes:

And as they departed, Jesus began to say unto the multitudes concerning John, What went ye out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken with the wind? But what went ye out for to see? A man clothed in soft raiment? Behold, they that wear soft clothing are in kings' houses. But what went ye out for to see? A prophet? Yea, I say unto you, and more than a prophet. For this is he, of whom it is written, Behold, I send My messenger before Thy face, which shall prepare Thy way before Thee. Verily I say unto you, **Among them that are born of women there hath not risen a greater than John the Baptist...** ~ Matthew 11:7-11

There is no evidence of John the Baptist having a wife, but Jesus's opinion of John points to how the Lord knows where to find the best person for you. So, with respect to Abraham, it would not work to find a wife for his son from among the people where they lived. He needed to find a wife for his beloved son from his father's house, which was technically his Heavenly Father's house because a holy angel of the Lord was going to help select a wife for Isaac. One of the reasons why Isaac could not simply marry anyone was because the Lord had made a covenant with him, before he was born (Genesis 17). It is indisputable that a relationship is of the Lord when He sends an angel to help point out the chosen one.

The Lord made His presence felt even more when the servant reached Mesopotamia, the land of Abraham's family:

And he made his camels to kneel down without the city by a well of water at the time of the evening, even the

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time that women go out to draw water. 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. Behold, I stand here by the well of water; and the daughters of the men of the city come out to draw water: And let it come to pass, that the damsel to whom I shall say, Let down thy pitcher, I pray thee, that I may drink; and she shall say, Drink, and I will give thy camels drink also: let the same be she that thou hast appointed for thy servant Isaac; and thereby shall I know that thou hast shewed kindness unto my master.

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.

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.

And the servant ran to meet her, and said, Let me, I pray thee, drink a little water of thy pitcher.

And she said, Drink, my lord: and she hastened, and let down her pitcher upon her hand, and gave him drink.

And when she had done giving him drink, she said, I will draw water for thy camels also, until they have done drinking.

And she hastened, and emptied her pitcher into the trough, and ran again unto the well to draw water, and drew for all his camels.

And the man wondering at her held his peace, to wit whether the Lord had made his journey prosperous or not. ~ Genesis 24:11-21

The servant was slow to claim that Rebekah was the Lord's chosen spouse for Isaac. However, the Lord made it evident that she was the one He had chosen. We can make assumptions at times based on signs, which is why it is good to have multiple sources of confirmation that what we perceived is really of the Lord. In this case, Rebekah invited the servant to her home and he repeated the sequence of events and his observations to Rebekah's family. One of the key things he said confirms that the Lord does in fact

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ordain people for each other:

And I came this day unto the well, and said, O Lord God of my master Abraham, if now Thou do prosper my way which I go: Behold, I stand by the well of water; and it shall come to pass, that when the virgin cometh forth to draw water, and I say to her, Give me, I pray thee, a little water of thy pitcher to drink; And she say to me, Both drink thou, and I will also draw for thy camels: **let the same be the woman whom the Lord hath appointed out for my master's son.** ~ Genesis 24:42-44

It is very telling who is behind a relationship based on how the two people met. Would Rebekah's family agree with the servant's testimony and assessment? Well, let us find out (*as if you do not already know*):

Then Laban and Bethuel answered and said, **The thing proceedeth from the Lord: we cannot speak unto thee bad or good. Behold, Rebekah is before thee, take her, and go, and let her be thy master's son's wife, as the Lord hath spoken.**

And it came to pass, that, when Abraham's servant heard their words, he worshipped the Lord, bowing himself to the earth. ~ Genesis 24:50-52

My compliments to the angel of the Lord for preparing Rebekah's family to receive the revelation from the Lord, it was certainly a job well done for the glory of the Most High God. Sadly, some family and friends are not always supportive of the Lord's will for two people. Some people may not recognize the Lord's will for two people and therefore oppose it, which was the initial case with Samson's parents (Judges 14:1-4). Tragically, other people will see the Lord's plan for two people and still oppose it ignoring the fact that they are actually opposing the Lord. For example, Saul knew the Lord had chosen David to replace him, and even though Saul believed in the Lord and served Him, Saul still rebelled against the Lord.

It is also important to note that sometimes everyone sees the Lord's will for two people to be in a relationship except

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for one or both of those individuals. While the Bible does not say Naomi received a revelation from the Lord about it being God's will for Boaz to marry Ruth, it was Naomi who instructed Ruth to present herself to Boaz. We know the Lord's hand was in their relationship in part because He blessed them with a son named Obed, who was the father of Jesse, the father of David, the king over Israel. A lineage of kings came out of David including Jesus, the King of kings. A lynchpin of those historic events was Ruth coming into agreement with the Lord's will for her life. Many people miss similar opportunities because they listened to the wrong voice(s). What would Rebekah do in her situation?

And her brother and her mother said, Let the damsel abide with us a few days, at the least ten; after that she shall go.

And he said unto them, Hinder me not, seeing the Lord hath prospered my way; send me away that I may go to my master.

And they said, We will call the damsel, and enquire at her mouth.

And they called Rebekah, and said unto her, Wilt thou go with this man?

And she said, I will go.

And they sent away Rebekah their sister, and her nurse, and Abraham's servant, and his men. And they blessed Rebekah, and said unto her, Thou art our sister, be thou the mother of thousands of millions, and let thy seed possess the gate of those which hate them. ~ Genesis 24:55-60

Even during those ancient times, they surprisingly gave Rebekah a choice in the matter. She may have surprised them by willingly heading off with strangers without delay. [*Likewise, do not delay when the Lord presents your God-ordained spouse, especially if you missed a previous opportunity.*] Rebekah's choice points to the Lord being involved in the process. As with any revelation that we perceive is from the Lord, especially in the case of a relationship, the ultimate fruit is how the two people get along. It is also important to see how they support and

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compliment each other's calling as they independently and jointly draw closer to the Lord in the process. An apostle forming a "power couple" by marrying a prophet outside of the Lord's will has ended disastrously and even embarrassingly for many people.

On a special note, many people have complained about how long it takes for the Lord to connect them with His chosen one. They often overlook how quickly many God-ordained couples got married after meeting and that the marriages last despite the accelerated pace. Do not rush to get married, but I have marveled at Isaac and Rebekah. They trusted the Lord enough to get married on the day they met and only death parted them:

And Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah's tent, and took Rebekah, and she became his wife; and he loved her: and Isaac was comforted after his mother's death. ~ Genesis 24:67

Marrying Rebekah was a source of comfort to Isaac, which epitomizes these words of wisdom:

The blessing of the Lord, it maketh rich, and he addeth no sorrow with it. ~ Proverbs 10:22

It is a bit painful, but I also need to highlight how many women in particular miss out on Godly opportunities to get into a relationship He has for them. At a minimum, some women delay the process based on what they were taught about this Scripture:

Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favour of the Lord. ~ Proverbs 18:22

As previously stated, the Lord presented Eve to Adam. He also presented Rebekah to Isaac. While it is ungodly for a woman to pursue a man, she should not misapply Proverbs 18:22. There is a saying to the effect that a woman should be so grounded in Christ that a man must to go through Jesus to get to her, but that does not mean a woman should remain in hiding. Also, when a woman is rooted in

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Christ, it should make it easier for her to hear or discern when He wants to present her to a man. In a sense, Adam was doing the work of the Lord when He brought Eve to him. Likewise, it would have been harder to meet Ruth if she was not in Boaz's field while he was overseeing the harvest. Also, in the case of Proverbs 18:22, it says, "Whoso findeth a wife..." That fits the narrative in Genesis 24 because it was Abraham's servant, under the Lord's leadership, who found a wife for Isaac. Even Abraham's servant found favor with the Lord for his participation in the process. The bottom-line is people need flexibility when it is time for the Lord to connect them with the spouse He has chosen and prepared for them. People sometimes use religion to block the things of the Lord.

Another noteworthy thing about Proverbs 18:22 is how it speaks of finding a wife being a good thing that brings the Lord's favor upon the man. However, can you imagine if Elijah and Jezebel were married? How much favor do you think the prophet would obtain by being in a relationship with a prophet-killing witch? It is safe to say that Jezebel would try to kill him just like she did with many of the Lord's prophets. Also, David was married to Michal, but that was basically a fruitless marriage. That is not to imply childless marriages are fruitless. When you meditate upon Proverbs 18:22, it is important to find (with the Lord's help) a wife with whom you are equally yoked to unlock His favor. It bears repeating that a woman has to be rooted in the Lord and hear from Him if He wants to present her to a man so he pursue her, as was the case with Ruth and Boaz (Ruth 3:18).

You may be wondering where is the discussion about two Christians being unequally yoked together. Well, it is generally easier to recognize wrong when you know what right looks like. Now that you know the Lord is a matchmaker, and He has been since the beginning of time, prayerfully, you will seek His wise counsel about marriage. By the way, that includes your potential marriage and also that of others. God may want to use you to convey His blessings upon others, to confirm His Words, or to warn people so they can avoid making the worst mistake of their lives. While many people keep 2 Corinthians 6:14-18 in

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mind regarding a potential spouse, there is something else no one should overlook. Most people do not live in an agrarian society so this may seem outdated or incomprehensible to some people. But it powerfully addresses how two Christians can be unequally yoked together:

Thou shalt not plow with an ox and an ass together. ~
Deuteronomy 22:10

It is great when two people, who are attracted to each other, and desire to pursue a relationship together, are Christians. However, that is not sufficient grounds to start and maintain a relationship. An ox and a donkey are called beasts of burden, but despite their common purpose, they will not work together for an extended period of time. [*Remember that marriage is more like a marathon instead of a sprint.*] However, if yoked together for a prolonged period, one will become a burden to the other. When the Lord sought a wife for Adam, He wanted a helper for Him:

And the Lord God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him. ~
Genesis 2:18

It is possible for a fellow Christian to be more of a hell mate than a helpmate. For example, if one Christian lived a life that involved fasting and praying, but the other does not see those things as a necessary part of Christianity, it will be a problem. One of the issues is fasting and praying means abstaining from sexual intercourse (1 Corinthians 7:5). Also, if one Christian has one foot in the church and the other in the world, it will be a problem, one that could turn the more committed Christian's heart away from the Lord. Remember king Solomon (1 Kings 11). It is also important to note that Jesus was speaking to the church (of Laodicea) when He said:

I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out

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of my mouth. ~Revelation 3:15-17

Some professing Christians are hot, lukewarm or even cold at times, while others are mostly hot, lukewarm or even cold. It is an unequally yoked relationship when a hot Christian is pursuing a relationship with a cold Christian. If you place a piece of ice in a cup of hot water, the hot water may turn lukewarm, which is the worst position to be in when it comes to Jesus. But the hot water may also wax cold. Michal could have caused David's outward expression of adoration for the Lord to wax cold.

Also, a person's spiritual temperature is not determined by church attendance. Some people have a relationship with the church but little or no relationship with the Lord. As of today, March 20, 2020, there are 272,042 reported COVID-19 cases that have claimed 11,299 lives. Consequently, numerous countries have taken drastic measures in an effort to control and stop the spread of the virus. One of those control measures is to ban mass gatherings, which has affected churches, particularly large churches. Some people will know what to do at home, away from the church, but other Christians will not know how to fellowship with the Lord at home. In fact, some Christians have never read the entire Bible and have had only portions read to them.

When it comes to unequally yoked believers, it is also good to look at Job's marriage. I understand his wife had recently lost ten children, but it was very disturbing that after Job's second round of afflictions from the devil, this was her counsel to him:

So went satan forth from the presence of the Lord, and smote Job with sore boils from the sole of his foot unto his crown. And he took him a potsherd to scrape himself withal; and he sat down among the ashes.

Then said his wife unto him, **Dost thou still retain thine integrity? Curse God, and die.**

But he said unto her, Thou speakest as one of the foolish women speaketh. What? Shall we receive good at the hand of God, and shall we not receive evil?

In all this did not Job sin with his lips. ~ Job 2:7-10

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Can you imagine a Christian couple where one is going through a trial and the (Christian) spouse tells the other to curse Jesus and die?

Tragically, Christians have gotten married, contrary to the Lord's will, and it resulted in the death of one or both of their ministries. I know of a couple that met online, but not via online dating. I knew of the lady and her ministry videos on YouTube. She met a man who appeared on one of her live broadcasts. They were both ministers who lived 2,800 miles apart. When they got married and moved in together, the name of her ministry changed and it became their ministry. There are times when she ministers to women, he ministers to men, and also when they minister together. Sadly, for some people, that is not the case because they are in an unequally yoked marriage with a fellow Christian.

The devil has many weapons in his arsenal to wage war against your God-ordained marriage. One of his most covert and potent weapons is a Christian he uses, similar to king Saul with David, to unknowingly or even knowingly ensnare a fellow Christian. In speaking with my sister earlier today, she spoke of a divorced woman who refers to her ex-husband as Judas. Again, the timing of the conversation was impeccable. It serves as a reminder that one of the greatest threats to an organization, to include a ministry, is the insider threat. Even though Jesus knew what Judas was going to do, he was an insider the devil used in an attempt to destroy Jesus's life and ministry. To counteract this, we need the full counsel of the Lord. After the Amalekites had kidnapped David's family, rather than taking up arms and immediately pursuing them, David took the following actions:

And David said to Abiathar the priest, Ahimelech's son, I pray thee, bring me hither the ephod.

And Abiathar brought thither the ephod to David. And David enquired at the Lord, saying, Shall I pursue after this troop? Shall I overtake them?

And he answered him, Pursue: for thou shalt surely overtake them, and without fail recover all. ~ 1 Samuel 30:7-9

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When it comes to marriage, it is not enough to simply marry another Christian. It is always best to first inquire of the Lord. I recall the testimony of a man who was engaged, but was shocked when the Lord told him that the woman he had chosen was a good choice. Furthermore, the Lord gave him the choice to trust Him because He had someone else in mind. The man had no idea who the new woman was, but years later, he does not regret that he ended his engagement and instead trusted the Lord and His selection. By the way, the Lord did not immediately reveal that He had chosen them for each other. However, the Lord made His plans clear to them as they got to know each other.

In closing, in addition to Scriptures such as 2 Corinthians 6:14-18 and Proverbs 18:22, it is important for Christians who do not want to be unequally yoked even with a fellow Christian, whether the person is a messenger of satan or not, to seek the Lord's approval regarding the potential relationship and wait for His answer. It is wise to consider the following:

Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall: **But they that wait upon the Lord** shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint. ~ Isaiah 40:30-31

You may not want to walk alone, but it is better than trying to walk while shackled in an unequally yoked marriage. It is potentially painful whether you are like an ox or a donkey that is unequally yoked with a donkey or an ox. Ahab's life was not the same after he married Jezebel. Do not end up in a similar position with someone you thought was a Christian or with a Christian who is unwilling and/or is unable to complete the journey with you. Conversely, also ensure that you are not the Christian the devil wants to use like a Judas, a messenger of satan, to destroy the life of another Christian.

Chapter 5

BROWN-HEADED COWBIRD

You maybe wondering why the title of this chapter is so peculiar and if there is such a thing as a “Brown-headed Cowbird”. [Unless you are a birdwatcher or an ornithologist you may not know that](#) a brown-headed cowbird is a small bird that is also a “brood parasite”. While other birds are building nests and laying eggs, the brown-headed cowbird patiently waits. When the birds leave the nest of eggs unsecured, the female cowbird lays an egg in the other birds’ nest. **Astonishingly, the cowbird leaves her egg for the (host) birds to incubate and raise its chick.** Oddly, and sadly, sometimes the host birds are smaller than the juvenile brown-headed cowbird it is raising. As you can image, that makes it very taxing for those parents to quell the brown-headed cowbird’s need for food, and, it poses a serious risk to the host bird’s biological chicks in numerous ways. Just imagine if you lived during king Saul’s reign as a regular sized 10 year old but your 8-year-old brother is an oversized Goliath.

The description of the brown-headed cowbird thus far is

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reminiscent of the aforementioned “Parable of the Wheat and the Tares” (Matthew 13:24-30). The farmers were expecting one crop because that was all they planted, but while they were asleep, the enemy came and planted tares. And to make things worse, they had to let the wheat and the tares grow together and wait to remove the tares prior to the harvest. You may not see it yet, but the Lord has me going somewhere with this. Akin to a brown-headed cowbird, the enemy would love to lay an egg in the Lord’s plan for your life and leave you stuck with it. Even though I cited Matthew 13:24-30, which is very applicable, let us look at another Biblical narrative. It also exposes a sinister technique of the enemy to get you to marry the wrong person and get stuck with that individual. The devil wants to deceive you like an unsuspecting bird that incubates a brood of eggs and later discovers that one of the “chicks” looks very different from the others. Sadly, in this case, since marriage (holy matrimony) is between one man and a woman, the person you wanted to marry is not the one you end up with.

Based on the last sentence, you may have discerned the Lord was going to have me discuss Jacob and Rachel’s love story. You are correct, so let’s go. After leaving his parents’ home, mainly to save his life, Jacob went to Haran, the home of Laban his mother Rebekah’s brother. Jacob had worked for a month when his uncle said he should not continue working for free. Graciously, he asked Jacob what he should pay him. Laban had two daughters, Leah and her younger and more outwardly beautiful sister Rachel. Jacob loved Rachel [*yes, they were cousins*] and told Laban he would continue working for seven years and Rachel would be his wage/prize. Laban agreed to Jacob’s terms. After seven years, Jacob went to Laban to request his long-awaited bride, Rachel. But unlike Isaac who met Rebekah and took her into his tent and “made her his wife”, Laban gathered his men and had a feast for Jacob and Rachel’s wedding.

After the festivities, Jacob consummated his marriage to Rachel. Oddly, he woke up and discovered he was and had been with Leah. Seven long years of hard labor quickly went up in smoke. It was as if the tares had rapidly grown

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amongst the wheat, or a hatched brown-headed cowbird chick appeared, because Leah had somehow taken her sister Rachel's place. Understandably, Jacob was mortified and he immediately confronted Laban about the treacherous deception. This may seem like a farfetched thing today, but some people are living that nightmare. In some cases, the Lord revealed the spouse He had ordained for someone, but the God-ordained spouse married another person instead. You can imagine that Laban got Jacob drunk, and kept his daughter Leah covered up, silent and in the dark to pull off such a deception. Also, do not overlook the fact that other people such as Leah's maid Zilpah were present, but none one warned Jacob of the deception.

Before I get into the real demonic things, how many times have people attended a wedding and knew the couple had no business getting married yet they remained silent? That includes when the officiant asked if there were any reasons why the couple should not get married. Some people have basically made wagers regarding how long the marriage would last before the ending in divorce, but refused to object to the proceedings. Officiants have also performed weddings despite seeing obvious signs of distress or absenteeism in one or more of the participants, yet still (shamelessly) preceded with the ceremony. Sometimes they ignored the inner voice that was telling them something was "off" about the couple and the wedding. What should a person do upon discovering that he or she got married to the wrong person because of deception, as was the case with Jacob and Leah? Some persons today may not believe it is possible to deceive another person into a marriage, but they are underestimating the devil and/or the wickedness of some people's heart.

Jacob boldly confronted Laban about the major plot twist he had just experienced (at the hand of family members). In response Laban said:

And Laban said, It must not be so done in our country, to give the younger before the firstborn. Fulfil her week, and we will give thee this also for the service which thou shalt serve with me yet seven other years. ~ Genesis

| 29:26-27

It is said, "The devil is in the details." The Lord is also in the details, and when you shine the Light of the Lord into this situation, Laban was a deceiver. If that was the law or the custom of the land, why did Laban keep it hidden for all that time? Also, no one ever warned Jacob of that rule so he could perhaps try to find a man for Leah so he would not have any obstructions when it came time to marry Rachel. Some people are reading this account and are thinking about how Jacob and Leah had a son named Levi, from whom great men such as Aaron and Moses came. They also had a son named Judah, whose offspring included kings such as David, Solomon, and Jesus (the King of kings and the Lord of lords). But such an argument is basically saying the ends justified the means. However, they would not feel the same way if they were in Rachel's position where their Godly opportunity was stolen. Or Jacob, who spent years working for someone he wanted and ended up with someone he never wanted. Also, for those who think the end justified the means, do you think you can stand before the Lord on judgment day and justify how you went about something the wrong way? David had Uriah killed so he could marry Bathsheba and that cost David and his entire family immensely (2 Samuel 11-12). Before going back to the brown-headed cowbird, I invite you to meditate on this before proceeding:

| Men do not despise a thief, if he steals to satisfy his soul when he is hungry; But if he be found, he shall restore sevenfold; he shall give all the substance of his house. ~ Proverbs 6:30-31

It is absolutely essential to the survival of the brown-headed cowbird that it lays eggs that are hatched, and the chicks are fed and brought to maturity. But does that justify it imposing its will and putting its responsibility on other birds? In addition, sometimes a brown-headed cowbird has to remove an egg from the host bird's nest in order to make room for its own "parasitic" egg. The word parasitic also describes some relationships between two

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professing Christians. One may be sucking the life out of the other, and/or, one person is with someone else's God-ordained spouse.

We cannot overlook that Laban was Jacob's family, as was Leah. It foreshadowed how in the house of God, men and women acted like Laban and Leah by pilfering other people's God-ordained spouses. Yes, in the church family, brothers and sisters in Christ have imposed their will on others to snatch away someone else's God-ordained spouse. That is a part of why the divorce rate among Christians is [so](#) high. The other disciples never suspected Judas would betray Jesus. Likewise, sometimes the people you loved and trusted the most, did you the worst...

As I continue to forensically dissect Jacob's marriage, Rachel is not guiltless in the matter. But before I delve into that, I previously stated that some people look at the fruit of Jacob and Leah's marriage to justify the wickedness that took place for it to happen. I know Jacob reaped what he had sown. Leah followed her father Laban's plan to deceptively allow Jacob to believe he was forging a covenant with her sister Rachel. In a similar fashion, Jacob had previously followed his mother Rebekah's plan to mislead his father into believing he was giving his blessing to Jacob's brother Esau. What happened to Jacob is a reminder that God is not mocked and we will reap what [we sow](#). Sometimes the Lord forgives us but He does not spare [us from](#) the consequences of our actions. We see that in how the Lord forgave David of his sinful actions with Bathsheba and against her husband Uriah, but He did not spare David of the consequences.

What happened to Jacob points to the etiology of why some people are so insecure in their marriages. They know [that](#) they stole someone's (God-ordained) spouse. [Like](#) Leah, the person they are with does not love them and is actually in love with someone else. Consequently, their "relationship" is built on a foundation like Daniel's interpretation of king Nebuchadnezzar's dream. The statue, whose feet were made of iron and clay, represented a seemingly unified kingdom that would fall apart because iron cannot truly cleave to clay (Daniel 2:41-43). Some marriages among professing Christians are like that

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mixture of iron and clay because the Lord did not put the people together. As a result, they are living in a divided house, which Jesus said would not stand (Mark 3:25). Too many professing Christians have let the devil deceive them into using the brown-headed cowbird's tactics to get them into a parasitic relationship (marriage). But just like how I will share more about Jacob's family, the Lord will also have me address the brown-headed cowbird, from which we can learn some valuable lessons about marriage. The same goes for the other birds it tries to manipulate into doing its will.

So yes, in many ways, Jacob being deceived into marrying Leah is poetic justice for what he did to his father and brother. Many have said Leah was just following her father's orders and it was not her plan. Such a rationale is what a former Nazi used that is referred to as the "Eichmann Defense". Adolf Eichmann used the defense but was still executed, which points to the potential effectiveness of others trying it, especially on judgment day. In Leah's case, we do not know who planned that marriage, and since the Bible does not specify, we should avoid making assumptions. On the contrary, as it is written, we know that Jacob had a shred of decency because he originally objected to his mother's plan to deceive his father, her husband (Genesis 27:7-13). Rebekah was Laban's sister and deception clearly ran in the family. Jacob followed his mother's deceptive plan and he was not held guiltless. People tend to overlook the fact that Leah was not held guiltless of her treacherous participation. There are also lessons we can learn from Rachel's situation.

The Bible does not say if Rachel knew she was engaged to Jacob, but I find it hard to believe that it was a secret deal between Laban and Jacob. Rachel's story points to the need for men and women to intercede on behalf of their God-ordained spouses. The Lord will give directions at times regarding what to pray about. If the Lord wakes you up early in the morning to pray for your future spouse, please, get up and pray as if your wedding depends on it because it may. Intercession may spare you of sharing Rachel's experience. In addition, you may need to get up and pray to intercede for your spouse once you are married,

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so intercessory prayer while single is in preparation for marriage. Without getting paranoid, you have to remain vigilant to guard against those who may want to pilfer or otherwise prey upon your Godly promise.

In an effort to block a Godly marriage, satan may resort to the tricks of the brown-headed cowbird, and may send one of his assets as a replacement to block the Godly marriage. If he can pull it off, you will undoubtedly hear how much God hates divorce, from the hypocritical messenger of satan. It highlights why relationship forensics is so important. Yes, the Lord certainly hates divorce. But, a marriage (demonically arranged union) that is brought together by any form of deception or manipulation constitutes witchcraft. Yes, I said it! Some marriages, seemingly Godly marriages, are products of witchcraft. Many people have resorted to darker forms of witchcraft than others, but nevertheless, witchcraft is witchcraft. Consequently, some Christians are married to a professing Christian who is actually a witch. I know there is an oxymoronic movement who refer to themselves as "Christian witches", but they clearly do not know God if they think they will enter into heaven with that unholy mixture. So yes, as it is written, God hates divorce, but let us also look at some other things that God hates, all of which apply to witchcraft relationships masquerading as Godly marriages:

- Divers weights, and divers measures, both of them are alike abomination to the Lord. ~ Proverbs 20:10
- These six things doth the Lord hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto Him: A proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, **an heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in running to mischief, a false witness that speaketh lies, and he that soweth discord among brethren.** ~ Proverbs 6:16-19
- Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, **Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred,**

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variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that **they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.** ~ Galatians 5:19-21

➤ Thou shalt not suffer a witch to live. ~ Exodus 22:18

Some people defend Leah because they either have done or would do what she did and do not think they should relinquish what they have stolen. Excusing and even defending such evil is an example of using diverse weights and measures. What if a devil captured a child of God, should the devil be able to keep that child? It also reminds me of those foul spirits that try to “marry” God’s children. Should “spirit spouses” be allowed to keep God’s children in misery and bondage because they were able to illegally forge such a covenant?

Laban’s actions towards Jacob and even his daughter was a wicked imagination coupled with wicked acts. Both are abominable in the sight of the Lord. Despite what the Lord mercifully did for Leah by blessing her with seven children, it should not be taken as precedent for Him extending the same grace to others. We will take a look at why the Lord may have extended such grace to her; beside the fact [that](#) God saw that Jacob initially hated Leah (Genesis 29:31). By the way, many people overlooked the fact that Jacob hated Leah. In today’s world, if they found out that one spouse hates the other, their initial thought may veer towards why they got married instead of how they got married. Since we have ventured into this area, let us continue more exploratory surgery into the relationship.

Some people believe that if they can get a person into a marriage they will be able to keep the person. They may also get deceived into thinking they can make the person fall in love with them. However, that is typically a formidable obstacle to overcome after the other person discovered he or she is in a marriage with a liar (fraud/witch). But let us see how well Leah’s attempts to make Jacob love her worked out:

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And Leah conceived, and bare a son, and she called his name Reuben: for she said, Surely the Lord hath looked upon my affliction; **now therefore my husband will love me.**

And she conceived again, and bare a son; and said, Because **the Lord hath heard I was hated**, He hath therefore given me this son also: and she called his name Simeon.

And she conceived again, and bare a son; and said, **Now this time will my husband be joined unto me, because I have born him three sons:** therefore was his name called Levi.

And she conceived again, and bare a son: and she said, **Now will I praise the Lord:** therefore she called his name Judah; and left bearing.

Obviously, all of Leah's efforts to make Jacob's love her failed. It speaks volumes that bearing Jacob's first born son during that era failed to do the trick for Leah. Leah deceptively got the man (if you will), but she did not get his love and she knew it. Sadly, there are men and women in marriages with someone they know did not love them, yet they connived their way [into](#) the marriage anyhow and is clinging to that spouse like a barnacle. You may have noticed a change in my tone. To let you know, I do not hate Leah, but I have major issues with what she and Laban did to Jacob and Rachel.

It also bears mentioning that some people are in an emotionally abusive relationship. However, the abuser is not an abusive person by nature. Jacob stayed with Leah but made it clear that his love was for Rachel. Some emotionally abusive relationships are because one person was lured into a marriage he or she never wanted to be in; the person may have even fought against the marriage. The emotional abuse is backlash from what the other person did. There are consequences when deception is detected, particularly in a marriage that negatively altered the course of someone's life due to another person's selfishness. The person who is getting emotionally abused is actually reaping what he or she sowed. Some people were labeled as

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being abusive in one way or another while in the wrong relationship. Then, surprisingly, they ended that relationship and eventually got into another relationship with zero abuse. A part of that is how the wrong relationship will bring out the worst in a person, some things the individual may have never thought he or she was capable of. For some people, the enemy uses their negative reactions from an ungodly relationship to try to besmirch their character. Such a device of the devil is like how the brown-headed cowbird lays its egg in other birds' nest.

If you have never looked at this story from this perspective, you may think Jacob eventually fell in love with Leah. But years later, when Jacob was about to see Esau who had threatened to kill him, he feared for his life and the lives of his family and servants. It is very telling how he felt about the members of his family based on the way he arrayed them in the event things did not go well with Esau.

And Jacob lifted up his eyes, and looked, and, behold, Esau came, and with him four hundred men. And he divided the children unto Leah, and unto Rachel, and unto the two handmaids.

And he put the handmaids and their children foremost, and Leah and her children after, and Rachel and Joseph hindermost.

And he passed over before them, and bowed himself to the ground seven times, until he came near to his brother. ~ Genesis 33:1-3

If Esau wanted vengeance against Jacob and his family, Jacob would have been the first to go, followed by his concubines and their children, and then Leah and her children. Rachel and Joseph, the ones Jacob loved the most, were placed in the rear so they had the best chance of escaping and therefore surviving a potential onslaught. I have occasionally referred to Leah as Jacob's "first concubine", which is what the array suggests. Leah was lower than Rachel but above the concubines. Some people are married to someone they stole. Consequently, because they never cleaved to each other, even though it is not a plural marriage, the other person is like a "concubine"

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instead of a husband or wife. This is simply because the stolen spouse's heart belongs to another. It may have been years since the grand larceny, but for the thief, it is like stealing a safe that he or she cannot get into. Sadly, for the stolen "safe", he or she is like a shell of him or herself.

I am reminded of another thing the enemy uses to manipulate people into trying the brown-headed cowbird's maneuver by injecting themselves between two people. Some are deceived into thinking that if they can get rid of the other person (in this case, the God-ordained spouse), that would make it easier for the other person to fall in love with them. But that is not how love works, especially when a person loves someone else. We see [this](#) in Samson's story when his father-in-law thought Samson did not want his wife. As a result, he gave Samson's wife to another man. When Samson went to see his wife and found out the horrible news, this is what happened:

And her father said, I verily thought that thou hadst utterly hated her; therefore I gave her to thy companion: **is not her younger sister fairer than she?** Take her, I pray thee, instead of her.

And Samson said concerning them, Now shall I be more blameless than the Philistines, though I do them a displeasure.

And Samson went and caught three hundred foxes, and took firebrands, and turned tail to tail, and put a firebrand in the midst between two tails. ~ Judges 15:2-4

I give the Philistine credit for at least giving Samson's wife to another man out of the integrity of his heart, which is why he offered his younger daughter to Samson. It is sad that a Philistine, and the Philistines were enemies of the Israelites, wanted to make things right with Samson. On the other hand, Laban, Jacob's uncle, was a deceptive con artist. Again, it is reflective of how sometimes in the body of Christ, a professing brother or sister in Christ will steal your God-ordained spouse. Many people speculate that Jacob loved Rachel more than Leah because she was the more beautiful of the two. That may not have been the case. As we see with Samson, his love for his wife made her more

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beautiful younger sister unpalatable. He made all of the Philistines know that he was not interested in his wife's younger sister. It is reflective of how people may react when others try to force them into a relationship. Jacob's planned marriage to Rachel would have been an arranged marriage, but his marriage to Leah was a forced marriage. Sadly, both types of marriages happen today. A God-ordained marriage is a form of an arranged marriage, but by a loving Father. Sadly, the enemy is using forced marriages in an attempt to usurp the Lord's plans by blocking God-ordained marriages.

Removing a "threat" does not mean the stolen spouse will love the thief. We saw how Jacob overtly demonstrated his love by placing Rachel and Joseph in the rear to give them the best chances of survival. In addition, Rachel passed away shortly after giving birth to her second son and Jacob's twelfth and final son, Benjamin. Yet, we see how Jacob loved Joseph more than all of his sons. Joseph was Jacob's firstborn son with Rachel and he treated Joseph as if he was his firstborn son, hence the coat of many colors (Genesis 37). That also adds to why I sometimes refer to Leah as being Jacob's "first concubine". By the way, the coat of many colors was not simply a sign of Jacob's favor on Joseph; it also represented God's favor on Joseph. That is why Joseph was the greatest brother among the twelve. The Lord later elevated Joseph to an unprecedented position as the governor of Egypt, the pharaoh's second in command. The Lord gave Joseph wisdom and strategies that saved numerous lives including his own family.

Another thing I need to note, and this may present a trigger warning for sexual assault survivors, but we have to look at another consequence of Laban and Leah's plan to ensnare Jacob in a forced marriage. We briefly looked at how Jacob followed his mother's advice, disguised himself and went in to his father's to steal Esau's blessing. Years later, he was on the receiving end of a similar deception with Leah. I cannot overlook the fact that Leah took something that belonged to her sister by marrying her sister's fiancé. Leah was unrepentant, and years later, she had the nerve to accuse Rachel of taking her husband (Genesis 30:14-15). So again, Leah took a man that was not

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ordained for her, was unrepentant, and years later, Shechem took the virginity of Dinah, Leah's daughter (Genesis 34). If you think such things are unrelated, look at what happened to David's family after he committed adultery with Bathsheba. He opened the door for evil in his family, **which** resulted in David's son Amnon raping David's daughter Tamar (2 Samuel 13). We have to be careful about allowing the devil to get us to justify using evil in an attempt to achieve something the Lord may be able to turn into something good.

I know Jacob's story is a very popular one. And if by chance you have never heard of it, I wrote some things that shed light on other events after Jacob inadvertently married and consummated the marriage to Leah. One of the things that lessens the blow on Jacob, but is certainly not something the Lord would allow today, is what happened after he confronted Laban about how he unwillingly ended up with Leah:

And it came to pass, that in the morning, behold, it was Leah: and he said to Laban, What is this thou hast done unto me? Did not I serve with thee for Rachel? Wherefore then hast thou beguiled me?

And Laban said, It must not be so done in our country, to give the younger before the firstborn. Fulfil her week, and we will give thee this also for the service which thou shalt serve with me yet seven other years.

And Jacob did so, and fulfilled her week: and he gave him Rachel his daughter to wife also. And Laban gave to Rachel his daughter Bilhah his handmaid to be her maid.

And he went in also unto Rachel, and he loved also Rachel more than Leah, and served with him yet seven other years. ~ Leah 29:25-30

So, even though Jacob was deceived into marrying Leah, he also married his beloved Rachel a week later. Jacob simply had to keep working for Laban for an additional seven years to keep Rachel. Uncle Laban was a shrewd businessman who saw that Jacob was willing to work for 7 years for Rachel so he withheld her to get 14 years of labor out of Jacob. As the saga continued, that would not be the

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last time Laban tried fleecing Jacob. At least the Lord began warning Jacob in dreams of Laban's attempts to deceive and also rob him (Genesis 30).

When the devil knows someone has a promise from the Lord, he will deploy his forces in an effort to hijack the Lord's plan. Again, those forces include humans who may or may not profess to be Christians. Some people have received such a promise from the Lord, and then somehow, at the last minute, the promised spouse marries someone else. The farmers in "The Parable of the Sower" did not realize what the enemy had done until they had woken up. Prayerfully, what you have read so far will help you discern what the enemy may be trying to do before it goes too far. Sometimes the Lord shows us things in dreams, and even though important, He may reveal them in parables (Numbers 12:5-8). It is imperative to ask the Lord for the interpretation of any such revelation. You do not want to "wake up" to the enemy's plans when it is too late. By the way, that is not to imply that if your God-ordained spouse marries someone else that it is over, especially if the enemy got involved. God hates divorce, but He also loves righteousness and judgment/justice (Psalm 33:5). It is also written:

The Lord executeth righteousness and judgment for all that are oppressed. ~ Psalm 103:6

I dare someone who used witchcraft, whether directly or by contracting a witch, especially a professing Christian, to stand before the Lord and explain why He should cancel His plans for His children and bow to that person's plans and allow the "marriage" to stand. Some people are married because they are bound by witchcraft. When that spell is broken, the bound individual will not want anything to do with that worker of iniquity. Sadly, sometimes the witchcraft is what I call "prophetic witchcraft". I use that term to describe when a person uses the name and/or Word of God to manipulate others to take ungodly actions under the guise of pleasing and obeying God. Those ungodly actions include getting into a seemly Godly marriage. An example of "prophetic witchcraft", one that

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ended in tragedy for the deceived, took place between a Judean man of God and a lying prophet from Bethel (1 Kings 13).

Under the Law of Moses, the penalty for witchcraft was death (Exodus 22:18). Anyone who uses witchcraft to get someone into a relationship is a witch, even if that bewitched individual was not ordained for another. In the case of a bewitched marriage, for those who are quick to say God hates divorce, would they prefer if He immediately instituted the penalty for witchcraft, which is death. It is also interesting how in the listed works of the flesh, idolatry, witchcraft and hatred are listed close to each other. It represents how someone who idolizes a person will resort to any means necessary (such as witchcraft) to get that person (idol). Also, and especially for those who know the Lord has ordained a person for someone else, but decides to hijack the marriage like Leah (and Laban), that person has made him or herself into a god. While not necessarily viewed as such, there is no other way to put it since the person knew God's plans but decided to instead impose his or her will on another individual. There are also different forms of witchcraft, from lying to conjuring and commissioning demons to accomplish a selfish agenda that contradicts or even directly opposes God's will. Staking a claim on someone the Lord has ordained for another is like how the antichrist will stand in the house of God and act as if he is God:

Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God. ~ 2 Thessalonians 2:3-4

Taking or attempting to take another person's God-ordained spouse is reflective of the antichrist, one who seeks that which belongs to another while simultaneously seeking worship that belongs only to God. For those who engage in the 17 works of the flesh, such as **"...idolatry,**

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witchcraft, hatred", despite whatever kind of inspiration Leah provides, it will not end well. Galatians 5:19-21 ends with the admonition **"that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God."** No one is worth going to hell with or for, especially someone who does not even love you. Some people have illegally formed legal marital covenants with children of God, and they have heard the Lord say, "Let My people go." However, they continue to defy the Word of Lord. But then again, a person who pulls off such an act of grand larceny has already exalted him or herself to become a god (please see 1 Samuel 5).

The Lord cannot afford to let evil people try to usurp His plans, authority and Word (Isaiah 55:8-11, Psalm 138:2). Also, a workaround allowed Jacob to remain married to Leah and still marry his promised wife Rachel. Today, a child of God cannot remain married to a witch and still fulfill the Word of the Lord by marrying his or her God-ordained spouse, as God intended. Another move on the devil's part, in additional citing that God hates divorce, is an attempt to convince either the ensnared God-ordained spouse and/or the God-ordained spouse-in-waiting, that the Lord's hands are tied so they will not be able to get married as long as the witch is still alive.

One of the things the devil tried to do to Jesus was tempt Him. The Lord's response to the devil also applied to the Pharisees who tried tempting Jesus by using the woman caught committing adultery:

And he brought Him to Jerusalem, and set Him on a pinnacle of the temple, and said unto Him, If thou be the Son of God, cast Thyself down from hence: For it is written, He shall give His angels charge over thee, to keep thee: And in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone.

And Jesus answering said unto him, **It is said, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God.** ~ Luke 4:9-12

Jesus sharply rebuked satan by quoting Deuteronomy 6:16. The devil tries to make people feel as if the Lord's hands are tied and they are therefore condemned because

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they were deceived or even bewitched. Again, the Lord loves righteousness and judgment (justice). When Jesus went into the synagogue and saw the woman bent over because of a spirit of infirmity, did He say the devil could have her, especially because he already had her bound for 18 years? Oh no!

And He was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. And, behold, there was a woman which had a spirit of infirmity eighteen years, and was bowed together, and could in no wise lift up herself.

And when Jesus saw her, he called her to him, and said unto her, Woman, thou art loosed from thine infirmity. And He laid His hands on her: **and immediately she was made straight, and glorified God.**

And the ruler of the synagogue answered with indignation, because that Jesus had healed on the Sabbath day, and said unto the people, **There are six days in which men ought to work: in them therefore come and be healed, and not on the Sabbath day.**

The Lord then answered him, and said, Thou hypocrite, doth not each one of you on the Sabbath loose his ox or his ass from the stall, and lead him away to watering? And ought not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom satan hath bound, lo, these eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the Sabbath day?

And when He had said these things, all His adversaries were ashamed: and all the people rejoiced for all the glorious things that were done by Him. ~ Luke 13:10-17

Please note that Jesus, the Son of God, had adversaries among those who were supposed to represent God. Their hearts were so hardened that they strained out a gnat and swallowed a camel (Matthew 23:24). Therefore, if the Lord set you free from a satanic marriage, one where the devil dropped off a replacement egg like a brown-headed cowbird, you will most likely have to deal with people quoting Scriptures. Whether knowingly or unknowingly, they are messengers of satan, trying to put you back in bondage to the devil or in condemnation that is not of the Lord. The Pharisees could not even rejoice that the woman had finally

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been set free after 18 long and undoubtedly painful years. Some people will not be able to celebrate God's gracious and merciful deliverance of you from the devil's snares. If it were up to them, they would prefer to see you back in bondage to an ungodly spouse who may have used witchcraft to get you into the marriage. Others will say you must remain single unless the witch dies, which means the devil gets a victory either way. Stay tuned because so far I have only told part of the story regarding the brown-headed cowbird.

When the Pharisees brought the woman who had been caught committing adultery to Jesus, they had every right to stone her according to the Law. But before Jesus looked at the Law, He examined the hypocrisy of their hearts and also their motive for bringing the case to Him. Wretchedly, their quest for justice was a thinly veiled scheme to ensnare the Lord. If Jesus were interested in challenging them on the Law, the very Law they were trying to use to condemn her and Him, He would have reminded them that the Law states:

And the man that committeth adultery with another man's wife, even he that committeth adultery with his neighbour's wife, **the adulterer AND the adulteress shall surely be put to death.** ~ Leviticus 20:10

The Lord did not even bother asking them about her partner in crime. Instead, Jesus said:

He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her. ~ John 8:7

The Lord's Words convicted them so they relented, dropped their stones and walked away. Then the following | testament of Jesus's amazing grace happened:

When Jesus had lifted up Himself, and saw none but the woman, He said unto her, Woman, where are those thine accusers? Hath no man condemned thee?

She said, No man, Lord.

And Jesus said unto her, **Neither do I condemn thee:**

go, and sin no more. ~ John 8:10-11

Jesus did not condone her adultery, but He did not condemn her for it. He graciously pardoned her and told her to go and sin no more. Those who want to quote Scriptures and beat others over their heads without consulting with the Lord may be in for a rude awakening. It is always best to consult with the Lord to see what His specific ruling is or was in a case. If not, we run the risk of trying to resurrect something the Lord has forgiven the person of and He wants it to remain dead. This is not to say that anyone who gets divorced is free to remarry, or, that a person is free to get divorced, even if there is a "Biblical ground". We need the full counsel of God in all things, to include trying to rebuke someone we think is in sin. It is very possible that after Jesus had forgiven the woman, others thought she should still be stoned for adultery or should be labeled as an adulteress.

Even those who know the Word of God in its entirety do not always know the ways and thoughts of the Lord, especially how He will rule in a case. The Lord already let us know that His ways and thoughts are not our ways and thoughts. His ways and thoughts are higher than ours (Isaiah 55:8-9). Whereas the Pharisees may have seen the woman as a sinner worthy of death, Jesus may have seen her as someone who could testify of God's grace, which made her more valuable and useful alive. Many people are quick to use the Word of God in an attempt to condemn others, simply because they never needed God's grace in such a way. When the Lord sent Nathan the prophet to confront David for committing adultery, the prophet told the king a story. It was of a wealthy man who had many sheep but took and slaughtered a poor man's only sheep. An enraged and righteous king David immediately ruled against the wealthy man:

And David's anger was greatly kindled against the man; and he said to Nathan, **As the Lord liveth, the man that hath done this thing shall surely die: And he shall restore the lamb fourfold, because he did this thing, and because he had no pity.** ~ 2 Samuel 12:5-6

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David's tone immediately changed when Nathan told the king that he was the rich, and began rebuking him in the name of the Lord:

And David said unto Nathan, I have sinned against the Lord... ~ 2 Samuel 12:13

Comparably to the woman in John chapter 8, David had committed a displeasing act worthy of and punishable by death, but the Lord graciously spared the repentant king. That merciful act set one of the Biblical precedents for Jesus to pardon the woman like He did.

...And Nathan said unto David, **The Lord also hath put away thy sin; thou shalt not die.** Howbeit, because by this deed thou hast given great occasion to the enemies of the Lord to blaspheme, the child also that is born unto thee shall surely die. ~ 2 Samuel 12:13-14

The Lord forgave David, but He imposed numerous judgments on the king. Regrettably, some people will quickly judge without knowing the Lord's decision in your case. That includes if He allows you to remarry in part because of how much you may have suffered before He allowed that marriage.

It is also noteworthy how the Lord, beside His sovereignty, could allow David to live despite what the Law dictated, without violating His Word. Well, Moses had an encounter with the Lord where He made a powerful declaration. It should make people pause before attempting to use the sWORD of the Spirit (the Word of God) to cut another person down whom the Lord had mercy on:

And He said, I will make all My goodness pass before thee, and I will proclaim the name of the Lord before thee; **and will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will shew mercy on whom I will shew mercy.** ~ Exodus 33:19

The Lord later said something to Isaiah regarding his

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Sovereignty, which is one of the reasons why the devil cannot use the Word of God to defeat God or tie His hands:

Remember the former things of old: for I AM God, and there is none else; I AM God, and there is none like Me, declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and **I will do ALL My pleasure.**
~ Isaiah 46:9-10

It is also important to note what Jesus said to Peter regarding the behavior of a Pharisee who was scoffing at the sinful woman who had gotten too close to Jesus

And Jesus answering said unto him, Simon, I have somewhat to say unto thee.

And he saith, Master, say on.

There was a certain creditor which had two debtors: the one owed five hundred pence, and the other fifty. And when they had nothing to pay, he frankly forgave them both. **Tell me therefore, which of them will love him most?**

Simon answered and said, I suppose that he, to whom he forgave most.

And He said unto him, Thou hast rightly judged.

And He turned to the woman, and said unto Simon, Seest thou this woman? I entered into thine house, thou gavest Me no water for My feet: but she hath washed My feet with tears, and wiped them with the hairs of her head. Thou gavest Me no kiss: but this woman since the time I came in hath not ceased to kiss My feet. My head with oil thou didst not anoint: **but this woman hath anointed My feet with ointment. Wherefore I say unto thee, Her sins, which are many, are forgiven; for she loved much: but to whom little is forgiven, the same loveth little.**

And he said unto her, Thy sins are forgiven.

And they that sat at meat with Him began to say within themselves, Who is this that forgiveth sins also?

And He said to the woman, Thy faith hath saved thee; go in peace. ~ Luke 7:40-50

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Some people serve the Lord with such zeal and brokenness (humility) because of the loving mercy and grace He extended to them. They do not need other people's condemnation, which includes telling them they are going to hell for living in adultery or any other perceived sin. Unless Jesus says two people are living in adultery or other sin, I am personally hesitant to make such a call without knowing God's counsel. This is because the blood of Jesus still cleanses all sin and unrighteousness (1 John 1:9). In addition, as the Lord told Peter three times in a vision, do not call anything unclean that the Lord has cleansed (Acts 10:15). It is dangerous to try to make someone's former and now blood-washed sins cling to him or her. It would be messy if the Lord made all the former sins of the accuser return to cling to him or her.

Jesus said if we do not forgive, the Father in heaven would not forgive us. Sometimes Christians act as if a person's sins are too abominable or numerous for God to forgive and cleanse them. Consequently, they hold on and refuse to forgive others of what the Lord has already forgiven. Interestingly, and I thank God for this reminder, the Lord disciplined David for his actions with Bathsheba and against her husband Uriah. David's actions displeased the Lord and He severely disciplined the king. Yet, the Lord blessed David and Bathsheba with a son named Solomon. In addition, even though David had other surviving (older) sons, the Lord chose Solomon to replace David as king and to build His temple (1 Chronicles 28:3-6). In addition, Solomon is listed in the genealogy of Jesus, in part as a great testament of God's grace (Matthew 1:6).

It is dangerous, and even reckless, to accuse someone of something, after the person has spent time at the Master's feet in brokenness, and He forgives and tells the person and to go in peace. It is not wise to try to undo that God-given grace and mercy with its commensurate peace from the Prince of Peace.

We can learn a lot about these substitutionary relationships from the Bible and nature; even creation testifies of the Creator (Romans 1:19-20). The brown-headed cowbird underhandedly adds its own unwelcomed

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and unwanted egg (responsibility) to another unsuspecting birds' nest. Consequently, it creates an immense burden on the host birds and their offspring. The cowbird has no issues removing a host bird's egg to replace it with its own. It will steal, kill and destroy to advance its agenda, which also describes witchcraft. Some may argue that if the cowbird does not remove and thereby destroy a host bird's egg in order to advance its agenda, that it is actually smart and no big deal. But for those with that mindset, how would you feel if someone moved into your home and occupied your spare bedroom, or your children's bedroom, without asking for permission and also demands your support?

The good news is, which also applies to relationships, the brown-headed cowbird does not always win. Some birds will recognize the foreign egg and quickly expel it. That is why some marriages end within months, sooner for some people once they wake up to the truth like Jacob. Other birds abandon their nest upon discovering the alien (cowbird) egg. Some eggs give birth to snakes so sometimes the best thing is to abort a mission to avert a potential (greater) disaster. There are some relationships that you have to run from. Joseph ran out of some of his clothes when Potiphar's wife held on to them in an effort to seduce him (Genesis 39). Joseph fled to avoid sinning against his master Potiphar, and more importantly, the Lord his God. For some relationships (marriages), it is more sinful to stay than it is to leave, even if it means fleeing and leaving valuable things behind.

Some relationships are designed to take your life and also your soul. There are times when the host bird buries the cowbird's egg so it never incubates and hatches. As you can see so far, trying to invade someone else's space may have horrible consequences. Leah married Rachel's fiancé but that was not the end. Just when it seemed as if Leah was victorious and was going to live happily ever after, the day after her wedding, her husband was openly inquiring about another woman...

Even though adultery is never acceptable, do not hastily criticize an adulterer. Sometimes the person married a "brown-headed cowbird" and what the "cowbird" stole is

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being stolen from him or her. Or, the “cowbird” is getting taught a lesson that it will reap what it has sown. So again, Leah's victory was short-lived. Can you imagine being on your honeymoon knowing that your spouse is going to marry someone else in a week?

Adding to Leah's compounding woes, she spent years in a marriage where her husband hated her. Several men in the Bible had multiple wives, but I cannot recall any that had a wife they hated. Could that be because they knowingly and willingly married those women while Leah and Laban used witchcraft to get Jacob to marry her? It is one thing to have multiple wives and to love one more than the other, but it is something else to have multiple wives or even a wife and to hate... We see an example of how a man with multiple wives can love one without necessarily hating the other. Elkanah had two wives, Peninnah and Hannah. We can assume that he loved Peninnah, but despite the fact that she had children and Hannah did not have any at the time, Elkanah loved Hannah more than Peninnah. He expressed and demonstrated his (deeper/greater) love for Hannah without hating Peninnah (In 1 Samuel 1:1-8). Therefore, we can conclude that using any form of witchcraft to get into a relationship will have numerous negative consequences. Sadly, that is still a risk many people are willing to take for a relationship from hell that will get them sent to hell.

It may seem as if everything will be okay if the brown-headed cowbird can simply deceive the host birds long enough for its egg to hatch. In some cases, that is absolutely correct. However, sometimes the host birds realize something is wrong but lacks the sufficient evidence to make the decision it is thinking about. I know people get married and later discover something they did not know about their new spouse. Yet, even though potentially alarming, it would not have deterred the person from getting married. Other things may have given the person second thoughts or at least caused the person to pause to give careful consideration. Alarmingly, there are some things that would have caused the person to immediately terminate the relationship if he or she had known. For example, discovering on the wedding night that the spouse

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was born another sex/gender. Under those circumstances, let me hear people speak about God hating divorce, we should keep our vows before God, or the person cannot get remarried after falling into such a deception (witchcraft).

There are times when a host bird incubates the parasitic egg, just waiting for the confirmation to prove or disprove its suspicions. It later uses the findings to validate or invalidate its planned actions. Some cowbird nestlings end up getting fed to maturity, which may cost other nestlings their lives. However, some host birds lose all hospitality and eject the flightless cowbird nestling from the nest. When the cowbird's offspring was an egg, it was easier to deceive the host birds. However, in every relationship, the eggs will eventually hatch to expose the one who contrived the relationship. Some people will not stay in a demonically arranged union once it is exposed as such.

On the contrary, some people continue falling for the enemy's deceit. The Lord may reveal that the relationship is ungodly. But, rather than immediately expelling the "cowbird's hatchling" (satan's spawn), they feel sorry for it. [*Keep in mind how the legion of demons asked Jesus if He was going to torment them ahead of time and later begged Him to let them remain in the region (Mark 5:7-12).*] Even though the spawn is an invasive and dangerous specie, they mercifully feed it. Sometimes they plan on providing temporary support until the "hatchling" can make it on its own. However, the "hatchling" tries to do everything possible to delay the process in an effort to hold on. For some people, sadly, they make the mistake of having sexual or continued sexual relations with the predator who reproduces. Maybe the predator reproduces to try to gain its victim's love, like Leah. But other times, the predator wants to establish a permanent link to where even if its victim ends the relationship, a child or children serves as a permanent link or reminder of what the "cowbird" did.

Staying in an ungodly relationship long enough to have children will create extra challenges. One of which is if the deceived person realizes the Lord had someone else for him or her, the child or children may make it seem as if that person would never accept him or her. However, when the Lord ordains a relationship, He prepares both people for

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whatever “baggage” they will come with. When the Lord told Hosea to go marry a promiscuous woman, the prophet knew what he was getting into. Likewise, Rahab is known as a harlot who lived in Jericho. But people seemingly forget or do not realize that she married an Israelite named Salmon. They had a child named Boaz. You may see where this is going because they are also mentioned in the genealogy of Christ, the Redeemer (Matthew 1:5).

Do not allow a “brown-headed cowbird” to ruin your life and the plans the Lord has for you. Amazingly, this entire chapter is the product of the Lord simply giving me the title “brown-headed cowbird”. I was not new to the subject because He had me write an article about it a few years ago, but this is different from the first. The Lord basically stripped away everything except for the title and created something new. Likewise, He can do a similar restoration work in you and His plans for you.

Some of you have received a promise from the Lord about a spouse He chose for you, but you witnessed that plan die. Your God-ordained spouse may have married someone else. The Lord allowed Lazarus to die because He knew He would resurrect him and show the world that He is the Resurrection (John 11:25). What comes next is especially for those who are waiting on the Lord to fulfill a promise that basically seems either dead or impossible. Moreover, because the enemy came in like a brown-headed cowbird and occupied a place in your life (or your God-ordained spouse's life), please keep the following about the Lord's character and abilities in mind:

- And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose. ~ Romans 8:28
- And I will restore to you the years that the locust hath eaten, the cankerworm, and the caterpillar, and the palmerworm, My great army which I sent among you. ~ Joel 2:25
- But as for you, ye thought evil against me; but God meant it unto good, to bring to pass, as it is this day,

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to save much people alive. ~ Genesis 50:20

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Chapter 6

ABORT THE PROMISE

The Lord gave me a powerful revelation regarding spiritual warfare with a very common object. Briefly stated, He had me hold a rubber band between my thumb and index finger while using my other hand to tug at it. I could only pull so far before having to release the rubber band. It illustrates how the enemy tries pulling us away from the Lord but he can only go so far and he expends precious resources in his failed attempts. That analogy serves as a source of comfort for me and it is practically demonstratedd when Jesus said:

My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me: And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, **neither shall any man pluck them out of My hand**. My Father, which gave them Me, is greater than all; **and no man is able to pluck them out of My Father's hand**. I and My Father are one. ~ John 10:27-30

No one can pluck us out of the Lord's hand! As a result, the enemy tries getting us to walk away from the Lord. We see an example of this shortly after Jesus fed thousands of

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people. They continued following the Lord but things went awry after the Lord gave a hard teaching, which they found offensive. What ensued is one of the most distressing Scriptures in the Bible, and also reflective of what will happen during the reign of the antichrist:

From that time many of His disciples went back, and walked no more with Him. ~ John 6:66

The devil knows he cannot pluck us out of the Lord's hand, but through things such as spiritual warfare, he tries to create frustration or doubt to influence us to walk away from the Lord. We see this with Job after suffering two satanic attacks. His very own beloved wife encouraged him to curse God and die (Job 2:7-10). The devil also tries to get us to take matters into our own hands because the Lord is simply taking too long. The odds were outwardly stacked against Sarah. Seemingly, she was not able to conceive children and clearly could not give birth to the Lord's promised child to Abraham. Therefore, she suggested that Abraham conceive a child with her maid, Hagar. Lo and behold, it worked and Hagar gave birth to Ishmael (Genesis 16). However, that was not the fulfillment of the Lord's promise to Abraham. Even though not previously stated, the Lord's intention was to bless Abraham and Sarah with a child. Many people need to hear this; the birth of Ishmael did not cause the Lord to abort His promise to Abraham. **Therefore, do not assume your mistakes have caused the Lord to abort His promise(s) to you.**

The Lord recognized Abraham's son Ishmael. However, He said His covenant would be with His promised child, whom Abraham should call Isaac. I have communicated things about this story before, such as how Ishmael was a work of the flesh but Isaac was a work of the Spirit (Galatians 4:22-25). I have also warned people to not create any "Ishmaels" while waiting on the Lord to fulfill His promise(s). However, I had never received this revelation before based on when Sarah decided to use Hagar as a surrogate. Since the result of her suggestion (to "help God out") was a work of the flesh, they came up with the name. On the contrary, since the promised child was a work of the

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Holy Spirit, the Lord gave the child the name, Isaac (Genesis 17:19). **Are you giving names to things and calling them works of the Lord?** [*This is the 41st book I am getting published and I have never had to come up with the titles.*] We see other examples of the Lord telling people what to call their children based on the spiritual implications such as in Isaiah 8 and Hosea 1. An angel of the Lord even told Joseph to call the Son of God, Jesus (Matthew 1:21).

The devil may also try to get us to abort a promise from the Lord due to doubt. In the Garden of Eden, satan attacked Eve by trying to cast doubt regarding what the Lord had said. Then he counteracted her response by claiming the Lord was wrong. For those who are waiting on the fulfillment of a promise from the Lord, the enemy may try to tell you that it was not what the Lord really said or meant. Whichever strategy or strategies the enemy employs, he is trying to get you to abort (walk away from) the promise. It is very important to know that after you have tested the spirit (1 John 4:1), and you know the message/promise came from the Lord in part because He confirms His Words through at least two or three witnesses, that God cannot lie (Titus 1:2). If the Lord said it, He will do it. He will bring it to pass in His perfect timing.

When the Lord speaks a Word to you, you have to war over it, primarily by not letting it go. Jesus told “The Parable of the Sower” (Luke 8:4-15). He said the seed was the Word of God. The Lord also addressed some of the enemy’s potential strategies to prevent the seed (Word) from taking root and growing to maturity to bear fruit. The parable shows how the enemy will try to attack the Word of God every step of the way, which is why it is important to know and therefore stand on the Word of God, especially His specific promises to you. For example, I quoted John 10:27-30, which I have known about for a long time. However, it became a very personal promise to me when the Lord gave me the illustration with the rubber band. Even the enemy knows that if I start plucking at a rubber band that I am showing him that none of his weapons formed against me (and my God) shall prosper.

“The Parable of the Wheat and Tares” is also applicable to how the enemy tries to get us to abort a promise from the

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Lord. The farmers were surprised when they saw the tares amongst the wheat. The enemy also tries using discouragement to get people to walk away from the Lord. Many people basically become frustrated if they see their efforts or what the Lord is doing for them seemingly get corrupted. Using the tare-filled wheat field analogy, it may seem easier to simply destroy the field and start over. Unfortunately, that would communicate to the enemy that he can simply keep sowing evil seeds in our lives to delay our harvest (destiny). The way Jesus concluded the parable, which points to the end times, the tares will be gathered before the harvest and set on fire. That points to how all of the enemy's hard works will one day go up in smoke. Your responsibility is to keep persevering and put your faith in the Lord. In time, He will utterly destroy the works of the kingdom of darkness in your life. You will witness the salvation of the Lord when He embarrasses satan by publicly destroying his works.

Another invaluable lesson from "The Parable of the Wheat and Tares" is how things may not look very promising when you first see them. The enemy may try to get you to abandon your promise from the Lord for a spouse because the individual may not appear as you thought. Particularly after a long wait, you may think your future God-ordained spouse will be perfect, which will not be the case. The person will be a work in progress, just like you. A part of the Lord's plan is for you to bring out the best in each other, something that only the two of you can do. The pharaoh of Egypt had taken Sarah into his harem and later king Abimelech of Gerar. However, the only man who was ever going to get Sarah pregnant was Abraham.

We also see how Ruth was married to Naomi's son Mahlon but they had no children. When Boaz initially saw Ruth, she was working in his field. Undoubtedly, she was not looking her best, especially after working on a farm. When Boaz inquired about her, his men described Ruth as the Moabitess, which basically communicated that she was "from the other side of the tracks". But Boaz had heard about Ruth's reputation based on what she did for Naomi. Therefore, contrary to what others said, and even what he physically saw, Boaz recognized Ruth as a virtuous woman.

| Consequently, Boaz did not discount or abort his blessing (Ruth 2). Again, your promise from the Lord may not initially look its best. In addition, when Naomi told Ruth to clean up and present herself to Boaz, it was under the cover of darkness. Boaz was asleep and had to ask her who she was. The devil may try to besmirch the looks and even the character of your God-ordained spouse. Therefore, you have to see the person how the Lord sees him or her or you might overlook and subsequently abort your blessing. By the way, Ruth approached Boaz under the cover of darkness so he had to inquire who she was. In order to prevent a "brown-headed cowbird" from coming into your life under the cover of darkness (shroud of secrecy), carefully interrogate him or her and inquire of the Lord. You want to know who and whose the person is, and whom the person is for.

Sadly, people aborted their blessing when they walked away from the Lord and stopped following Him. Nathanael almost aborted his blessing when Philip told him about having encountered Jesus, the Messiah. Philip urged him to come and see after Nathanael's original response of:

Can there any good thing come out of Nazareth? ~ John 1:46

Jesus also faced challenges in His own hometown where His own people seemingly had Nathanael's thoughts.

And He went out from thence, and came into His own country; and His disciples follow Him.

And when the Sabbath day was come, He began to teach in the synagogue: and many hearing Him were astonished, saying, From whence hath this Man these things? And what wisdom is this which is given unto Him, that even such mighty works are wrought by His hands? Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary, the brother of James, and Joses, and of Juda, and Simon? And are not His sisters here with us? **And they were offended at Him.**

But Jesus, said unto them, A prophet is not without honour, but in his own country, and among his own kin,

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and in his own house.

And He could there do no mighty work, save that He laid His hands upon a few sick folk, and healed them. And He marvelled because of their unbelief. And He went round about the villages, teaching. ~ Mark 6:1-6

The people were initially impressed with Jesus but soon discounted Him as being common, and therefore certainly not from God. Again, you need the Lord's perspective on the person He brings into your life as your potential spouse. If you initially discount the person, it may create a wound that impacts the formation of your relationship when you finally see the Light.

Also, do not allow the devil to defeat you with doubt, which may eventually metamorphose into unbelief. Doubt can get the best of us, especially during dark times. Surprisingly, it happened to John the Baptist; the one God chose to point out His Son Jesus. The Lord graciously reminded John of things that proved He was the Messiah (Matthew 11:1-6). Likewise, do not allow the enemy to convince you that the person you are with, the one the Lord may have revealed to you and then confirmed in multiple ways, is not the one. That opens the door for the "brown-headed cowbird".

By the way, in the lengthy discussion about the cowbird, there were some things that I did not discuss and now is a great time for those additions. I addressed how the cowbird laid its egg in a host birds' nest. That may seem like the end of it, but it is not. Arsonists are known to set fires and return to the scene of the fire (crime) while firefighters are battling the blaze. Brown-headed cowbirds are known to watch over and periodically check on their deposited eggs to monitor their development. It reminds me of how the devil will assign demons called "monitoring spirits" to watch people. By the way, people being plagued by those spirits may feel as if something is moving in their bodies shortly before the spirit shows up, as if the enemy placed a tracking device in them. Here is a hint. That is how witches may be able to tell your every move.

In the natural realm, the brown-headed cowbird's actions remind me of Mordecai. He patiently and eagerly waited

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outside and periodically inquired on Esther as she went through her yearlong beautification process before getting to see the king (Esther 2:11). If the king had rejected Esther, Modecai would have handled things graciously. However, if the host birds eject the cowbird's egg or hatchling, the cowbird is known to retaliate by destroying their nest and eggs. Is it just me or does that seem viscerally petty? In addition, if the birds rebuild the nest, the cowbird may return to harass the same birds by laying another egg.

The cowbird's retaliatory action is called "mafia' behavior". It is similar to the "spirit spouses" and how they may try to come back. Some people have had dreams about a former spouse and misinterpreted it as the Lord telling them to go back to their former spouse. However, if those dreams involve any form of sexual activity, it may be a spirit trying to be your spouse. You do not have to guess if the dream involved graphic and/or perverse sexual activity. It is a familiar spirit that is trying to use familiar places, people and/or things, typically from your past to take you to a place of backwardness. It is difficult for some people to discern these evil spirits in dreams because the activity may seem like something from the past. However, the events are actually unfolding in real time because of what the spirit is projecting.

I firmly believe [that](#) the enemy is going to use such deception to deceive people into taking the mark of the beast. They may feel as if something is only a dream without realizing that whatever they consented to in the dream is actually happening. People can attest to experiencing things in a dream that felt real, woke up relieved that it was only a dream, but then somehow had physical signs and/or symptoms of the events that happened while dreaming. #YouAreNotCrazy

After king Solomon made sacrifices to the Lord, He spoke to the king in a dream while he was in Gibeon. Solomon knew what had happened in the dream, but it seemed like only a dream. However, when Solomon returned to Jerusalem, the things the Lord promised him began manifesting in real life. The Lord said He was going to give the king wisdom. Shortly after, the two women came to him

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arguing over who was the mother of a newborn son. The way Solomon discerned whom the mother was, without DNA testing, demonstrated that the Lord had in fact given him wisdom, just as He stated in the dream

One of the things Solomon did to come into agreement with the Lord's promise was to make burnt and peace offerings to God (1 Kings 3). Therefore, when you wake up from a dream, or if you do not remember dreaming at all, it is a prudent measure to renounce any evil covenants the enemy tried forging with you while you were asleep. If you know the Lord spoke with you, if you need clarification on anything, please ask, but also come into agreement with Him for His will to be done.

I still need to address the other aspect of the cowbird's retaliatory actions, but I need to continue with the divine detour to help set the captives free. Whereas the "spirit spouse" will attack a person, it will also try to attack others associated with that person or those the Lord is trying to bring into the person's life, such as the God-ordained spouse. Some people have received revelations about someone needing to return to a former spouse or other relationship. Yet, even though a seemingly Godly revelation, it came from a devil. We were born into sin, and as we move forward with the Lord, the enemy tries to pull us backward into our time of entertaining sin. When the Lord called Moses and sent him to Egypt, it was to set people free instead of to return and live in his former home. We have to test the spirit regarding any revelation to go backwards. Sure, there are times when the Lord restores a former relationship, but that is not always His intent. **It is very unlikely that the Lord is going to call you back to a relationship He never ordained.** God told Hosea to go redeem Gomer in part because He initially told the prophet to marry a promiscuous woman (as a sign). The devil is using people to try to rebuild what the Lord destroyed. That will lead people into a curse/cursed relationship. An example is how the Lord destroyed the walls of Jericho, which had serious consequences for anyone who tried to rebuild it:

And Joshua adjured them at that time, saying, **Cursed**

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be the man before the Lord, that riseth up and buildeth this city Jericho: he shall lay the foundation thereof in his firstborn, and in his youngest son shall he set up the gates of it. ~ Joshua 6:26

After speaking of king Ahab's cursed marriage to Jezebel, the Bible mentions the effects of Joshua's decree from about 400 years prior for anyone who tried to rebuild Jericho:

In his days did Hiel the Bethelite build Jericho: he laid the foundation thereof in Abiram his firstborn, and set up the gates thereof in his youngest son Segub, according to the word of the Lord, which he spake by Joshua the son of Nun. ~ 1 Kings 16:34

Tragically, many people are like Hiel in terms of trying to rebuild something cursed and either cannot figure out or are ignoring the severe costs of their actions. So again, please be careful about trying to rebuild something the Lord either never blessed, or, may have graciously blessed in the past, but since He ended it or allowed it to end, He will never bless it again. Getting into a situation may have been a mistake or a product of getting deceived. **However, returning to anything the Lord delivered you from and wants you to stay out of is a form of disobedience.**

With respect to king Solomon, he would have been better off by permanently putting away his idolatrous wives and concubines. The mass divorce in Ezra chapter 10 was permanent. Be leery of the enemy trying to pull you back or using you to pull someone back into what the Lord has delivered you or them from. Please keep the following in mind regarding when it may be the Lord's will for you to keep moving forward instead of going backward:

Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus. **Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are**

before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. ~ Philipians 3:12-14

The enemy is against people progressing into the Lord's will, [and so](#) he tries to get people to abort their future by returning to their past. The devil will remind them of the good ole days to even make them lust to return to the bondage the Lord delivered them from:

And the mixt multitude that was among them fell a lusting; and the children of Israel also wept again, and said, **Who shall give us flesh to eat? We remember the fish, which we did eat in Egypt freely; the cucumbers, and the melons, and the leeks, and the onions, and the garlick: But now our soul is dried away: there is nothing at all, beside this manna, before our eyes.**

And the manna was as coriander seed, and the colour thereof as the colour of bdellium. And the people went about, and gathered it, and ground it in mills, or beat it in a mortar, and baked it in pans, and made cakes of it: and the taste of it was as the taste of fresh oil. And when the dew fell upon the camp in the night, the manna fell upon it.

Then Moses heard the people weep throughout their families, every man in the door of his tent: and the anger of the Lord was kindled greatly; Moses also was displeased. ~ Numbers 11:4-10

A part of what angered the Lord, beside the fact that He did so many spectacular things to set them free, was because of this statement He made to Moses:

And the Lord said, I have surely seen the affliction of My people which are in Egypt, and have heard their cry by reason of their taskmasters; for I know their sorrows; And I AM come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land unto a good land and a large, unto a land flowing with milk and honey; unto the place of the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Amorites, and the Perizzites,

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and the Hivites, and the Jebusites. Now therefore, behold, the cry of the children of Israel is come unto Me: and I have also seen the oppression wherewith the Egyptians oppress them. ~ Exodus 3:7-9

In addition to fulfilling His promise to Abraham, the Lord mercifully responded to their cries (Genesis 15:12-16). How soon the Israelites had forgotten the atrocities the Lord had delivered them from. It is like what Paul wrote about the Galatians:

O foolish Galatians, who hath bewitched you, that ye should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ hath been evidently set forth, crucified among you? This only would I learn of you, Received ye the Spirit by the works of the Law, or by the hearing of faith? Are ye so foolish? Having begun in the Spirit, are ye now made perfect by the flesh? ~ Galatians 3:1-2

The Galatians were forsaking the New Covenant to return to the bondage of the Old Covenant. Do not forsake a new covenant with the Lord to return to an old one, particularly an old covenant with the devil. The “cowbird” may try to impose its will upon you even after you reject it, so you must guard your “nest”. Periodically check your life for evidence of the “cowbird” trying to get you to do things at a great cost to you for its benefit. As you may already know, sometimes the “cowbird(s)” in your life or those trying to get in your life, are dressed in white and are seemingly holy men and women of God. However, what some people think is holy and pure white is actually whitewash to Jesus:

Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For ye are like unto whited sepulchres, which indeed appear beautiful outward, but are within full of dead men's bones, and of all uncleanness. Even so ye also outwardly appear righteous unto men, but within ye are full of hypocrisy and iniquity. ~ Matthew 23:27-28

I also need to discuss how that little gangster brown-headed cowbird's actions are like the devil's ways. It is

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reflective of how satan attacked [Jesus's](#) ministry on numerous occasions. After the devil failed in his efforts to tempt Jesus, please note how the story ends, which points to the enemy's relentless pursuits:

And when the devil had ended all the temptation, he departed from Him for a season. ~ Luke 4:13

We see how the devil reappeared when he inspired Peter to rebuke Jesus (Matthew 16:23). The devil was also at what we call the last supper. It is easy to overlook that satan entered Judas at that meal (John 13:27). Similarly, the enemy will consistently look for ways to enter your relationship to drive a wedge between you and your God-ordained spouse. The devil will attack your God-ordained marriage before you meet, when you meet and all the way through your marriage. [Obviously](#), you can never get complacent because [complacency](#) is a silent killer of relationships. Never forget, as it is written:

Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour. ~ 1 Peter 5:8

Do not fear the devil but be aware of him. Many people assume the devil hates marriage and loves divorce. Well, he hates God-ordained marriages [mainly](#) because of how they glorify the Lord. Conversely, satan "loves" "spiritual marriages" and "demonically arranged unions" because of their damaging effects to the Lord's creations. On the contrary, the devil loves when people get divorced. However, the devil hates divorces from "spiritual marriages" and "demonically arranged unions". Solomon had one thousand wives and concubines, some of whom turned his heart away from the Lord. [Shockingly, King Solomon](#) built the [Lord's temple but later backslid and constructed places for people to worship devils](#). Do you think God would have objected to Solomon putting away those women to save his relationship with the Lord and even his soul? Those ungodly unions were advantageous to the devil and the underworld.

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There was a mass divorce during the time of Ezra and Nehemiah. Upon recognizing they had sinned by violating the Lord's commandment to not marry foreign women, they made a covenant with the Lord. They took drastic action by putting away their foreign wives and children, and the Lord did not object (Ezra 10). Nehemiah cited the sins of Solomon, such as how the king held onto the idolatrous women in love, instead of putting them away because of his (greater) love for God:

In those days also saw I Jews that had married wives of Ashdod, of Ammon, and of Moab: And their children spake half in the speech of Ashdod, and could not speak in the Jews' language, but according to the language of each people. And I contended with them, and cursed them, and smote certain of them, and plucked off their hair, and made them swear by God, saying, Ye shall not give your daughters unto their sons, nor take their daughters unto your sons, or for yourselves.

Did not Solomon king of Israel sin by these things? Yet among many nations was there no king like him, who was beloved of his God, and God made him king over all Israel: nevertheless even him did outlandish women cause to sin. Shall we then hearken unto you to do all this great evil, to transgress against our God in marrying strange wives?

And one of the sons of Joiada, the son of Eliashib the high priest, was son in law to Sanballat the Horonite: therefore I chased him from me.

Remember them, O my God, because they have defiled the priesthood, and the covenant of the priesthood, and of the Levites. **Thus cleansed I them from all strangers,** and appointed the wards of the priests and the Levites, every one in his business; And for the wood offering, at times appointed, and for the firstfruits. Remember me, O my God, for good. ~ Nehemiah 13:23-31

There comes a time to show the Lord that you love Him more than any actual or potential idol. Another thing we can learn about the devil's war against your God-ordained marriage is based on Nehemiah. He had the heavily

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contested task to rebuild the wall around Jerusalem. Nehemiah contended with numerous forms of [evil such as](#) prophets who were hired to falsely prophesy against him. One of the enemy's weapons of war is fear. They used false prophecies in an attempt to instill fear to stop Nehemiah from doing the work of the Lord. Likewise, the enemy may use the name and Word of the Lord in an effort to get you to do something contrary to the Lord's will. One example is by telling you that you need to go back to a former spouse and that your current marriage is ungodly. Nehemiah recognized the works of the enemy and continued doing the work of the Lord. He also asked the Lord to judge those who tried to interfere with His plans (Nehemiah 6). Be careful of the devil's devices in his attempts to get you to abort what you are doing for the Lord.

Paul warned us to not be ignorant of the devil's devices so [the devil](#) will not [take](#) advantage of us. Some people may see addressing things of the enemy as a way of ascribing too much power to him, [without realizing that](#) the devil does have power ([please see Luke 4:5, 4:9, 10:19](#)). Even though the devil is not more powerful than the Lord, he is our adversary. Some of his devices work, even if only for a season. Keep in mind when Paul wrote:

But we, brethren, being taken from you for a short time in presence, not in heart, endeavoured the more abundantly to see your face with great desire. Wherefore we would have come unto you, even I Paul, once and again; **but satan hindered us.** ~ 1 Thessalonians 2:17-18

[Please, do](#) not ignore the devil and his abilities to hinder, which is also evident in Daniel 10. It speaks volumes [about why the Lord sent](#) an angel ahead of Abraham's servant to get a wife for Isaac.

Peter also warned us to remain vigilant because satan is like a lion seeking whom he may devour. Jesus [stated](#) how the enemy tries attacking His Words. Now you know a little more, or it may have been a refresher, regarding how the enemy may try to get you to abort the promise of a God-

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ordained spouse. Sadly, some of you are like the Israelites after the Lord told them to go possess the Promised Land. Most of them acted on their fear of the enemy instead of their faith in the Lord. Now you realize that the Lord presented you with your God-ordained spouse, and one way or another, the enemy came in, which is why you have been waiting (in the wilderness). All things truly work together for the good of those who love the Lord and have been called according to His purpose. A part of why the Lord used me to deliver the messages in this book is based on my personal experiences. Similarly, the Lord will use your experiences for His glory. God cannot lie and as He has said so shall He do. If you aborted a promise from the Lord, and you suffered for a while knowing what you missed, I venture to say that you will not let it and possibly any other Godly opportunities pass you by. Also, similar to how Joshua proclaimed a curse over Jericho, be careful that the enemy does not frustrate you to the point of speaking out of your flesh to curse yourself and/or your promise from God.

In closing this chapter, but certainly not this book, like I am doing now, you can warn others of what they are risking by listening to the wrong voice. Do not allow the enemy or your own thoughts, particularly during dark times like when John was in prison, to cast doubt or curses. While this book is about relationships, particularly God-ordained marriages, it is also about heaven or hell by strengthening your relationship with Christ Jesus. If you aborted a promise, thank the Lord that He is The Resurrection (John 11:25). If Jesus said something is dead, let it stay dead. But if He says it is asleep, let Him wake it up in due season.

Chapter 7

“TRUST ISSUES”

As previously mentioned, you are not perfect, and your God-ordained spouse will not be perfect either. However, the Lord will make the two of you perfectly suited for each other to work through your issues as you accomplish the purposes He ordained for you. One of the potential imperfections is based on life's wounds that may cause “trust issues”. The “trust issues” results in a person forming a defense mechanism to prevent him or herself from getting hurt (like that) again. It may even seem Biblical to maintain those “trust issues”. After all, it is written:

Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life. ~ Proverbs 4:23

Yes, it is very wise to guard our heart. Unfortunately, when misapplied, a person's heart can be like the city of Jericho when the Lord first showed it to Joshua before sending him to conquer it:

Now Jericho was straitly shut up because of the children of Israel: none went out, and none came in. ~ Joshua 6:1

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The walls of Jericho were already formidable. But due to the fear of the Israelites, they had shut the city gates so that no one went out and no one came in. The Israelites seemingly had to risk trying to break through the sealed doors partially because the walls were too thick. Prayerfully, by the end of this chapter, as was the case at Jericho, all of the walls and closed doors to your heart that are preventing love from coming in and even going out will fall. Inevitably, despite the many good or even great reasons to guard your heart to the point of having “trust issues”, one of the things it seals in the heart is fear. To counteract that fear, it is important to remember the following:

- For God hath NOT given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind. ~ 2 Timothy 1:7
- There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love. We love Him, because He first loved us. ~ 1 John 4:18-19

Unless referring to the fear of the Lord, fear is the opposite of love and they cannot coexist. Similar to the brown-headed cowbird, fear will lay an egg in your life that will take up room that was designed for love, and if given the chance to grow, fear will drive out love and give flight to “trust issues”. Fear robs a person of his or her Godly power and soundness of mind. Having a sound mind, which is the mind of Christ, gives a person the ability to cast down every vain imagination. Since a previous partner could not call on time because he or she was cheating does not mean that is why your current partner has not called. As the saying goes, fear is **F**alse **E**vidence **A**ppearing **R**eal. If your mind has a default setting of always thinking the worst, even due to previous bad experiences, it can kill a relationship. Another weapon in the devil's arsenal is to get you to sabotage your own relationship by using things from your past that may have nothing to do with your current or future romantic relationship.

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FEAR also causes torments. The great news is that God is love (1 John 4:8). We love Him because He first loved us and His perfect love casts out all FEAR. Now is a good time if you are battling “trust issues” to trust the Lord and open your heart to Him. Submit to Jesus and ask Him to drive out FEAR and replace it with His good and perfect love.

*****PRAISE BREAK*****

While recording the video series that the Lord used to inspire this book, a viewer left a comment about addressing “trust issues”. Viewers of the video series can attest that this book is not a carbon copy of the video series. The Lord has graciously poured out fresh revelation in both formats, for which I thank Him. The first praise break was to thank Jesus for driving out FEAR. This praise break is to thank Him for using the video series and this book to minister healing to His children. And, for the equipping of His saints to wage war against the enemy, particularly in preparing His children for holy matrimony.

*****PRAISE BREAK*****

With a cleansed heart and renewed minds courtesy of the Holy Spirit, let us delve a bit more into “trust issues”. Again, there is special emphasis on those who the Lord is preparing or has already placed in KINGdom Kouples for the glory of Jesus, the Lord of lords and the King of kings.

This may initially seem as if I am undoing everything that has already been done in this book. It is a fact that we cannot and should not trust anyone. The Lord Himself said:

The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it? I the Lord search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings. ~ Jeremiah 17:9-10

A part of being able to trust a God-ordained spouse is because you are actually putting your trust in the God who connected the two of you. You trust that the Lord searched

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the person's heart and did any requisite spiritual cardiothoracic surgery that was necessary before connection the two of you. If you are still battling "trust issues" after the Lord brought your God-ordained spouse into your life, logically, that means the Lord is going to use that person to help you learn how to trust (again). By the way, some people have "trust issues" because they lost their trust in and/or never trusted God...

*****MENTAL BREAK*****

I had to let that one simmer for a while. Sometimes a person lost his or her trust in the Lord because something traumatic happened and he or she blames the Lord for not preventing or stopping it. Consequently, the person developed a mindset of self-reliance. After all, if you cannot trust God, then whom can you trust, except for yourself? Hope deferred makes the heart sick... (Proverbs 13:12) Some people's hearts are sick because of the turmoil they experienced while waiting on the Lord, such as waiting for Him to make the love connection. I mean the years of Him making promises and giving confirmations that He is about to bring His promises to past soon. In the meantime, the person He showed you does not know you exist, may know you exist but either does not have or show any interest in you, or, may be in a relationship. And while you were enduring the wait, you saw other people who did not even have a promise from the Lord getting married and having babies while you were left waiting...

Do you realize that if I just described your story that you are in great company? Abraham had to wait for 24 years before the Lord finally told him that He was going to bless him with the promised child within a year. Okay, I know that was a combination of being encouraging yet discouraging based on how long they had to wait, but please bear with me (and the Lord). Keep in mind that shortly after the Lord told Abraham to move from his father's house and He was going to make him the father of nations, the pharaoh of Egypt took his wife Sarah (Genesis 12). Undoubtedly, while Abraham and Sarah were enduring the wait, other people were having babies. Can you imagine

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how disheartened Sarah was to suggest that her husband have sex with Hagar to produce a child? To add insult to injury, Hagar soon achieved what Sarah had failed to do. Then, 24 years after Abraham initially received the Word of the Lord, when the Lord said He was going to bless Sarah with the promised child within a year, it basically opened up a three-month conception window. But yet again, something else happened. Just when it seemed as if Abraham and Sarah were going to have some peace, king Abimelech took Sarah into his harem. The Lord quickly intervened, and even stopped Abimelech from sleeping with his latest acquisition. The Lord commanded the king to return the prophet's wife or he would die (Genesis 20). It was a painful 25 years, but Sarah finally held the long-awaited promised child. Do you trust the Lord to do for you what He did for Abraham and Sarah by faithfully fulfilling His promises? Please note how Sarah felt and reacted when the Lord finally fulfilled His promise:

And the Lord visited Sarah as He had said, **and the Lord did unto Sarah as He had spoken.** For Sarah conceived, and bare Abraham a son in his old age, at the set time of which God had spoken to him. And Abraham called the name of his son that was born unto him, whom Sarah bare to him, Isaac.

And Abraham circumcised his son Isaac being eight days old, as God had commanded him.

And Abraham was an hundred years old, when his son Isaac was born unto him.

And Sarah said, **God hath made me to laugh, so that all that hear will laugh with me.** And she said, Who would have said unto Abraham, that Sarah should have given children suck? For I have born him a son in his old age. ~ Genesis 21:1-7

The immeasurable joy the Lord brought to Sarah is epitomized in the following Scriptures:

- Hope deferred maketh the heart sick: but when the desire cometh, it is a tree of life. ~ Proverbs 13:12

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- ...Weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning. ~ Psalm 30:5
- The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me; because the Lord hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; **He hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted**, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound; To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord, and the day of vengeance of our God; **to comfort all that mourn**; To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, **to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness**; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he might be glorified.

*****PRAISE BREAK*****

When you learn to trust the Lord, it helps you to trust the people He allows into your life. It will not matter if He allows you to get hurt because your faith is in Him. If you get hurt you know He can heal you, which helps to alleviate FEAR. Jesus raised the dead and also conquered death Himself. Therefore, what can anyone do to you that the Lord cannot heal you from? There was an intense standoff in the Bible, one that showed absolute faith in the Lord regardless of the circumstances. It is an example of people who would not bow to FEAR. Please take note of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego's actions. They placed their trust in the Lord, regardless of what He allowed to happen to them:

Then Nebuchadnezzar in his rage and fury commanded to bring Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. Then they brought these men before the king. Nebuchadnezzar spake and said unto them, Is it true, O Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, do not ye serve my gods, nor worship the golden image which I have set up? Now if ye be ready that at what time ye hear the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, and

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dulcimer, and all kinds of musick, ye fall down and worship the image which I have made; well: but if ye worship not, ye shall be cast the same hour into the midst of a burning fiery furnace; and who is that God that shall deliver you out of my hands?

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, answered and said to the king, O Nebuchadnezzar, we are not careful to answer thee in this matter. **If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and He will deliver us out of thine hand, O king. But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up.** ~ Daniel 3:13-18

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego knew the Lord could deliver them, but they still trusted Him even if He were to let them burn. As you may already know, they were thrown into the fire but the king saw the men walking around in the fire unscathed. The king also noticed a fourth Man in the fire in the form of “the Son of God” (Daniel 3:24-25). The men came out of the fire without even smelling like smoke. In addition, the fire consumed whatever had them bound. Likewise, may the fire of God consume whatever has you bound or is trying to bind you (Jeremiah 23:29). Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego’s unwavering faith, coupled with how the Lord joined them in the fire, epitomizes when the Lord said:

...Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; **thou art Mine. When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee. For I AM the Lord thy God,** the Holy One of Israel, thy Saviour...
~ Isaiah 43:1-3

When you learn to trust the Lord, which is [one of the reasons](#) why He allows you to endure the fiery trials of life, you learn to trust Him and therefore others He brings into your life. After his satanic attacks that left him wallowing in

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pain and self-pity, Job boldly proclaimed:

Though He slay me, yet will I trust in Him... ~ Job 13:15

Can you say that whatever the Lord allows to happen to you He will make it work for you, for your good and His glory? Again, when you learn to trust the Lord you will learn to trust the people He places in your life. We see it in the often-told story of Ruth and Boaz. Arguably, the defining moment of Ruth's life was not when she met Boaz. It was after Naomi, Orpah and her had been widowed and they were going to Bethlehem-Judah with Naomi. They came to an intersection of life. Naomi painfully decided to send the young widows back to their country so they could possibly find new husbands. Orpah kissed Naomi goodbye and went back to Moab. But this is what changed everything for Ruth:

And she said, Behold, thy sister in law is gone back unto her people, and unto her gods: return thou after thy sister in law.

And Ruth said, Intreat me not to leave thee, or to return from following after thee: for whither thou goest, I will go; and where thou lodgest, I will lodge: thy people shall be my people, **and thy God my God**: Where thou diest, will I die, and there will I be buried: the Lord do so to me, and more also, if ought but death part thee and me. ~ Ruth 15-17

Ruth is one of two women [in the Bible to have](#) Books of the Bible named after them, and it started with her deciding to trust in Naomi's God. She also trusted Naomi, which was why she obeyed when Naomi told her to go and glean from a strange man's field. Ruth continued [to](#) trust Naomi during the following:

Then Naomi her mother in law said unto her, My daughter, shall I not seek rest for thee, that it may be well with thee?

And now is not Boaz of our kindred, with whose maidens thou wast? Behold, he winnoweth barley to night in the

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threshing floor. Wash thyself therefore, and anoint thee, and put thy raiment upon thee, and get thee down to the floor: but make not thyself known unto the man, until he shall have done eating and drinking. And it shall be, when he lieth down, that thou shalt mark the place where he shall lie, and thou shalt go in, and uncover his feet, and lay thee down; and he will tell thee what thou shalt do. ~ Ruth 3:1-4

Ruth also had to trust the Lord and Boaz to carry out those instructions. Ruth unequivocally trusted Naomi, someone the Lord placed in her life. Also, despite having had to grieve over a deceased husband, she trusted her reputation and her heart with Boaz, the man the Lord placed in her life as her God-ordained husband. Boaz and Ruth were a bona fide KINGdom Kouple, which is evidenced by the fruits of their marriage. Their marriage would have glorified the Lord even if He did not bless them with a child. Their child was a bonus because they gave birth to David's grandfather. Consequently, a long lineage of kings comes from them that extends down to the mightiest king of them all, Jesus, the Son of God.

It is hard to have "trust issues" when you submit your heart to the Lord and allow Him to heal you. When citing the fact that you should guard your heart, also remember this command:

Trust in the Lord WITH ALL THINE HEART; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths. ~ Proverbs 3:5-6

*****MENTAL BREAK*****

"Trust issues" can give you a hardened heart, one built like the walls of Jericho, but you love and serve a God who is close to the brokenhearted. He also heals the brokenhearted and gives you beauty for your ashes. The Lord is the world's leading cardiothoracic surgeon, and there is no waiting for Him to do a heart transplant if necessary. Hear now the Word of the Lord:

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A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh. And I will put My Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in My statutes, and ye shall keep My judgments, and do them. Ezekiel 36:26-27

*****PRAISE BREAK*****

Here is another thing from the Lord, and the answer will determine when you receive your healing from any potential “trust issues”:

“Do you trust Me?”

Chapter 8

SPOTLESS LEOPARD

I assume you trust the Lord since you made it to this chapter. One of the things that fed “trust issues” was a person’s past. Many people have said that a leopard cannot change its spots or once a cheater always a cheater. However, because this is about trusting the Lord, those adages do not apply. The LORD God is the Creator and He can change or remove a leopard’s spots. A leopard’s spots help it to survive because the spots are needed for camouflage. Also, Jesus is the Redeemer and His blood cleanses all sin and unrighteousness. The devil seduced Eve to eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Likewise, the devil tries to get us to adopt a worldview of examining a person’s past to see if the person is the one the Lord ordained as the future spouse. The only spouse the Lord ever gave to someone that did not have a past was Eve, but trouble still entered that marriage. Rather than look at a person’s past to see if he or she qualifies, it is best to get the Lord’s perspective of how He has transformed that person. Again, Jesus is the Redeemer as described below:

Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: **old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.** ~ 2 Corinthians 5:17

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Also, if we are quick to judge a person the Lord has transformed, the same way He transformed us, we are violating the following:

There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. ~ Romans 8:1

We all come with a past, but thanks to the blood of Jesus, we are like spotless leopards. We cannot allow the devil to pervert our view of ourselves or of others.

Can you imagine if Boaz was hypercritical of Ruth's past instead of seeing her for who she was and also who she could become? By the way, a leopard has spots to help it remain hidden is akin to how the Lord can use a person's past to hide him or her in plain sight. Boaz's men saw Ruth in the field and mentioned that she was with Naomi and she was from Moab. It was like she was hidden to them but revealed to Boaz. While Boaz did not initially approach her in an effort to start a relationship, it speaks volumes that he approached her at all. He could have overlooked her because of her past and not say a word. If he had done that, it would have been awkward for Naomi to instruct Ruth to approach Boaz at night like she did.

A major strike against someone is if the person has a history of committing adultery. That is usually someone to avoid like the plague, as people like to say. Yet, in the case of Hosea and his wife Gomer, the Lord told the prophet to go and get his wife from the man she was with. The prophet spoke with her about being faithful to each other, but it took faith for him to trust and therefore obey the Lord to do something Christlike by redeeming his bride.

David had many wives and concubines, which indicated a lust issue. That issue became more evident when he saw Bathsheba cleansing herself. Regrettably, despite multiple ways of escape that included summoning one of his concubines instead, he called for Uriah's wife Bathsheba (2 Samuel 11). Subsequently, the Lord disciplined David in ways that the king would never forget (2 Samuel 12). Some people commit adultery again because the Lord has not dealt with

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them. I trust the Lord to not send anyone a spouse with a history of infidelity that He has not transformed into a faithful and God-fearing person. When Joseph had the opportunity to cheat with Potiphar's wife, he refused mainly because he did not want to sin against the Lord his God. Many people speak of how David committed adultery with Bathsheba, but few speak of how there was never any mention of David ever committing adultery again.

The Lord dealt with David harshly, but among many things, it taught David that as a man of God, he could not give the enemies of the Lord a reason to blaspheme Him (2 Samuel 12:14). If the Lord presents you with a future spouse with a history of infidelity, instead of listening to the devil's weapon against your potential marriage with his carnal wisdom, check the person's heart. In addition, the Lord will automatically show you the person's heart. You can also check to see if there is a thorn in that person's flesh. Yes, the Lord will instill Godly fear to prevent a repeat of sins; His discipline is extremely intense. The Lord rebukes and chastens those He loves, but it is not a pleasant process (Hebrews 12:5-13).

Another fruit of David's repentance is what he beautifully and passionately communicated in Psalm 55:

Have mercy upon me, O God, according to Thy lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of Thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.

For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is ever before me. Against Thee, Thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in Thy sight: that Thou mightest be justified when thou speakest, and be clear when Thou judgest. Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me. Behold, Thou desirest truth in the inward parts: and in the hidden part Thou shalt make me to know wisdom.

Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Make me to hear joy and gladness; that the bones which Thou hast broken may rejoice. **Hide Thy face from my sins, and blot out all mine iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God; and**

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renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence; and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation; and uphold me with Thy free spirit.

Then will I teach transgressors thy ways; and sinners shall be converted unto thee. Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, Thou God of my salvation: and my tongue shall sing aloud of Thy righteousness. O Lord, open Thou my lips; and my mouth shall shew forth Thy praise. For Thou desirest not sacrifice; else would I give it: Thou delightest not in burnt offering. The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, Thou wilt not despise.

Do good in Thy good pleasure unto Zion: build Thou the walls of Jerusalem. Then shalt Thou be pleased with the sacrifices of righteousness, with burnt offering and whole burnt offering: then shall they offer bullocks upon Thine altar.

By the way, for some people, they were handed over to satan for a season. The devil may have used a “spirit spouse” to teach him or her some lessons about relationships he or she will never forget. The person also knows that if he or she ever messes up again, the spirit would happily return. However, such a thing is not what truly drives a transformed person to stay on the straight and narrow. Jesus said those who love Him should keep His Commandments. A person who truly repents is more concerned with dishonoring God than being dishonored by a “spirit spouse”.

Sometimes the Lord uses someone with a “blemished” past mightily. [*Please, do not forget about the efficacy of Jesus's blood.*] The Samaritan woman at the well had an encounter with Jesus that changed her life. It also positively impacted numerous other lives in return. While the Pharisees and Sadducees were challenging Jesus's legitimacy, and even though the people from His own hometown did not believe He was the Messiah, she quickly discerned that He was a Prophet. Subsequently, she accepted the fact that Jesus was the Messiah. Sadly, many people (including Jews) have more evidence of Jesus's authenticity and still do not believe He is the Messiah. But that Samaritan woman, who had had

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multiple husbands, and was even with a man who was not her husband, left her water pot like a good evangelist would, [and](#) hurried to tell the members of her community that she had met Jesus, the Messiah. If all you can remember about that story is the Samaritan woman's relationship history, you missed the following, which is the very best part of the story:

And many of the Samaritans of that city believed on Him for the saying of the woman, which testified, He told me all that ever I did.

So when the Samaritans were come unto Him, they besought Him that He would tarry with them: and He abode there two days. And many more believed because of His own Word; And said unto the woman, Now we believe, not because of thy saying: for we have heard Him ourselves, and know that this is indeed the Christ, the Saviour of the world.

Now after two days He departed thence, and went into Galilee. For Jesus Himself testified, that a prophet hath no honour in his own country. ~ John 4:39-44

I want to share one more example of the transformative power of Christ Jesus, despite a person's past, especially someone who has had an encounter with Him. The person I speak of is also the one the Holy Spirit inspired to write what you read from Romans 8:1, which states:

There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

Shortly before Saul's experience with the Lord, he is introduced as people stoned Stephen to death for preaching the gospel of Jesus Christ. This is almost as bad as Judas Iscariot being introduced as the one who would betray Jesus. Judas's introduction left a black cloud hanging over his head throughout the story until he finally betrayed the Lord:

And Saul was consenting unto his death. And at that time there was a great persecution against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered abroad

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throughout the regions of Judaea and Samaria, except the apostles.

And devout men carried Stephen to his burial, and made great lamentation over him.

As for Saul, he made havock of the church, entering into every house, and haling men and women committed them to prison. Therefore they that were scattered abroad went every where preaching the Word. ~ Acts 8:1-4

By the way, he is initially introduced as Saul, but after his conversion experience, he was more frequently referred to as Paul. Another thing to look for in a person's transformation is a name change. The person's name may have simply changed from sinner to saint. In other cases, the person may have wrestled with God and He gave the person a new name (Genesis 32). That was how the Lord changed the name Jacob ("heal grabber" or one who supplants) to Israel (the prince that prevails with God). Jacob went through some things with a devil named Laban, which also helped to transform him.

Saul was like many unsaved people today who seemingly no one could ever imagine the Lord would call as a preacher. Please note that some people are preachers even though the Lord did not call them. Saul terrorized the church and was an enemy of God. So, would Holy Spirit-filled people believe Saul was a changed man and welcome him with open arms? Let us see and learn from Saul's storied testimony. We do not allow the devil to use a person's past to unjustly disqualify him or her from what the Lord wants that person to do for His glory.

Saul's encounter with the Lord radically changed his life, and even though the encounter was similar to Moses's, Saul was initially changed in a different way:

And Saul arose from the earth; and when his eyes were opened, he saw no man: but they led him by the hand, and brought him into Damascus. And he was three days without sight, and neither did eat nor drink. ~ Acts 9:8-9

A person with an unsavory past who has an encounter with the Lord will go through a humbling process, one that is often marked with isolation or separation from familiar people or places. We even see how Jonah disobeyed the Lord and was

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brought to a very low place before the Lord restored him (Jonah 1-2). Therefore, when you scrutinize a person's past, do not look solely at what he or she did and overlook what the Lord did to discipline and/or transform that person. Ananias initially made that error when the Lord called him to tend to Saul:

And there was a certain disciple at Damascus, named Ananias; and to him said the Lord in a vision, Ananias.

And he said, Behold, I am here, Lord.

And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the street which is called Straight, and enquire in the house of Judas for one called Saul, of Tarsus: for, behold, he prayeth, And hath seen in a vision a man named Ananias coming in, and putting his hand on him, that he might receive his sight.

Then Ananias answered, Lord, **I have heard by many of this man, how much evil he hath done to thy saints at Jerusalem:** And here he hath authority from the chief priests to bind all that call on Thy name.

But the Lord said unto him, **Go thy way: for he is a chosen vessel unto Me, to bear My name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel: For I will shew him how great things he must suffer for My name's sake.** ~ Acts 9:10-16

We can sometimes treat the Lord as if He does not know what He is doing. Saul was arguably one of the last people any of Jesus's disciples could have imaged that would accept Jesus as Savior and Lord, and even more so to preach the gospel. Please note that Ananias brought up what Saul had done and the Lord countered with what He was going to have Saul do. Please, do not allow the enemy to hold you back by focusing on a person's past when the Lord is trying to show you the present and even more so the future. It is also amazing how Saul had a calling as an apostle and the Lord sent Ananias to see him at Judas's house. It speaks of how the Lord was going to raise up something good out of something bad, someone of God instead of the devil. That is despite the house belonging to someone who shared the same name as the deceased apostle of Christ, Judas Iscariot. Similarly, some people have retained their name, but as a

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born again believer in Christ Jesus, all they really share with their [former self](#), is a name. Also, most people could not see that Judas would one day betray Jesus. Similarly, no one could see how the Lord had one of His most notable apostles ever, hiding in plain sight. It is so important to get the Lord's point of view in everything.

Let us continue with the story to see what else the Lord wants to emphasize:

And Ananias went his way, and entered into the house; and putting his hands on him said, Brother Saul, the Lord, even Jesus, that appeared unto thee in the way as thou camest, hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Ghost.

And immediately there fell from his eyes as it had been scales: and he received sight forthwith, and arose, and was baptized.

And when he had received meat, he was strengthened. Then was Saul certain days with the disciples which were at Damascus.

And straightway he preached Christ in the synagogues, that He is the Son of God.

But all that heard him were amazed, and said; Is not this he that destroyed them which called on this name in Jerusalem, and came hither for that intent, that he might bring them bound unto the chief priests?

But Saul increased the more in strength, and confounded the Jews which dwelt at Damascus, proving that this is very Christ. ~ Acts 9:17-22

Paul would have a powerful ministry that involved healing the sick, raising the dead and casting out demons. Paul was a deliverer but he initially needed someone to deliver him from what was holding him back. Likewise, you or your God-ordained spouse may need some form of deliverance when you first meet. The Lord may give the key to that deliverance [to](#) the other person. For some people, that is the sign from the Lord that they should be and stay together. The results of Saul's redemption were immediate in how he began preaching the gospel of Jesus Christ. One of the reasons why the devil fights so hard against God-ordained relationships is due to

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the inherent danger they pose to his works.

In addition, someone who has sinned in times past and received the Lord's grace should honor Him in thoughts, words and deeds. It should be reminiscent of what happened at the Pharisees' house as described in Luke 7:47. Jesus basically said a person who has been forgiven of much loves much. Your God-ordained spouse' capacity to love you may have increased because he or she is very cognizant of how the Lord mercifully forgave him or her of so much.

Let us continue with the events shortly after Saul's encounter with the Lord:

And after that many days were fulfilled, the Jews took counsel to kill him: But their laying await was known of Saul. And they watched the gates day and night to kill him. Then the disciples took him by night, and let him down by the wall in a basket. ~ Acts 9:23-25

You can learn a lot about a person's transformation based on his or her enemies. It is very telling when those who celebrated the person now hate him or her. Sometimes keeping the same old friends means the individual is the same old person. However, making new friends has its shares of ups and downs:

And when Saul was come to Jerusalem, he assayed to join himself to the disciples: but they were all afraid of him, and believed not that he was a disciple.

But Barnabas took him, and brought him to the apostles, and declared unto them how he had seen the Lord in the way, and that He had spoken to him, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus. And he was with them coming in and going out at Jerusalem. And he spake boldly in the name of the Lord Jesus, and disputed against the Grecians: but they went about to slay him. Which when the brethren knew, they brought him down to Caesarea, and sent him forth to Tarsus.

Then had the churches rest throughout all Judaea and Galilee and Samaria, and were edified; and walking in the fear of the Lord, and in the comfort of the Holy Ghost, were multiplied. ~ Acts 9:26-31

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Initially, the other apostles did not believe Saul had been converted. Sadly, they relied on the facts from Saul's past instead of inquiring of the Lord about him. It was a blessing that the Lord sent Ananias to initially pray for Saul. Also, the Lord used Barnabas to vouch for Saul based on his observation of Saul being a born again believer in Christ Jesus. Whereas Saul had been persecuting Christians and consenting to their death, he started offending people by preaching the gospel of Jesus Christ, for which people began trying to take his life.

It is true that we can learn a lot about a person based on his or her past, but for a born again Holy Spirit-filled believer, one of the things we should learn is where the Lord delivered that person from or brought them through. Sadly, we may try to keep people as prisoners to their past instead of seeking the Lord about how we can be like an Ananias, Barnabas or Naomi to help others to fulfill their God-ordained destinies. As previously discussed, it is the enemy who likes to hold us captive to our past, especially when our sinful nature dominated. This may cause you to have dreams about the past, a former relationship, former home, school or work. We are made spotless by Jesus's shed blood and His imputed righteousness. No one can boast about his or her past because "...all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God." ~ Romans 3:23

Someone who is waiting for the illusive "spotless leopard" may be in for a very long wait. Adam was the only person who ever received a God-ordained spouse with a flawless past. Boaz received Ruth when she was at her absolute worst. Asenath married a governor with a prison record, yet he was a Godly man named Joseph (Genesis 41:45). Salmon married a former harlot from Jericho named Rahab, and they had a son named Boaz. Nowadays, the only "spotless leopard" you will receive is someone Jesus washed with His blood and baptized him or her with the Holy Spirit and fire.

Some people have done some things that seriously jeopardized their future, and possibly your future together. However, among many things, thank the Heavenly Father for the Blood of the Lamb. Regardless of what a person's past looks like, if the Lord approves, do you trust His approval. Jesus cleansed people and told them that He did not

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condemn them, but they should go and sin no more. In closing, I could not have thought of a better way to end this chapter than with this reminder of the Lord's redemptive power:

The next day, as they were on their journey and approaching the city, Peter went up on the housetop about the sixth hour to pray. And he became hungry and wanted something to eat, but while they were preparing it, he fell into a trance and saw the heavens opened and something like a great sheet descending, being let down by its four corners upon the earth.

In it were all kinds of animals and reptiles and birds of the air.

And there came a voice to him: "Rise, Peter; kill and eat."

But Peter said, "By no means, Lord; for I have never eaten anything that is common or unclean."

And the voice came to him again a second time, **"What God has made clean, do not call common."**

This happened three times, and the thing was taken up at once to heaven. ~ Acts 10:9-17 (ESV)

Anything or anyone the Lord Jesus has cleansed with His blood, do not call unclean.

EPILOGUE

Today is the sixth day of working on “The devil’s War Against Your God-ordained Marriage”. I have seen the Lord do some incredible things along the way. The enemy tried some things also, but it is up to you to determine why satan did not want me to write or publish this book.

“The devil’s War Against Your God-ordained Marriage” has some very controversial things, some of which many Christians will reject. On the other hand, it will answer questions many people have had and reassure them that they are not crazy. One of the ways the Lord showed Himself mighty happened yesterday while I took an intermission from writing. I received a text from someone who was checking on me due to the COVID-19 pandemic, but rather than responding via a text, I called the individual. We had not spoken in a while yet I thought it was going to be a short conversation. We ended up speaking for almost an hour. The conversation shifted when we began speaking of spiritual warfare.

The person had experienced some of the topics I had written about and even some that I may not have yet written about. I have been working on another book for almost two years but it is not time to release that information... The person mentioned frequently dreaming about an ex, which was a familiar spirit trying to “spiritually marry” the individual. The person also had an encounter with an evil spirit that was like a twin.

In the natural world, we use the term doppelgänger to describe two unrelated people with a striking resemblance, as if they are twins who were separated at birth. However, one of the term’s classical definitions is a ghost that resembles a living person. If you have dreams or visions of a spirit that looks like you, and often dressed in the same outfit you are wearing at the time, the enemy has basically stolen your identity and is using it in the spiritual realm. Just imagine how such a spirit could misrepresent you by appearing in dreams to your God-ordained spouse. Paul

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wrote about satan hindering him and spiritual identity theft is one of the ways. One of the ways the spirit gains the authority to impersonate you is if you give it permission. For example, if you have a dream where you give someone your credit card or driver's license, especially if the person does not return it. By the way, the dream may involve a police officer pulling you over... Yes, these spirits are wicked, which lets us know how horrible the lake of fire and brimstone must be.

As Christians, we are soldiers in the Army of the Lord. The devil's issues with humans includes the fact that we are created in the image of a God he hates and cannot touch. As a result, satan tries to destroy us. The devil's hatred is amplified when we come to faith in Christ Jesus. We cannot afford to be ignorant that we have an enemy, and so we need some form of spiritual insight regarding his potential activities, such as against God-ordained marriage. The devil knows of the potential synergistic effects of when Christians unite, particularly in a God-ordained and therefore God-glorifying marriage.

If nothing else, "The devil's War Against Your God-ordained Marriage" is not meant to instill FEAR. On the contrary, I hope it encourages you to pray more than ever for your God-ordained marriage, whether you are waiting or you are already married. Please pray for the discernment to detect when the enemy is either trying to infiltrate your relationship or has already infiltrated it. Do not leave any room for the devil in your life and your relationship (marriage). There are times when the attacks are spiritual as evidenced by dreams and visions. Other times, the attacks are works of the flesh because of a person's wicked and deceitful heart (Jeremiah 17:9-10). Then there are times when it is a complex and coordinated attack where evil spirits are using people to come against your marriage. Sometimes, the most difficult enemies to detect are those who come looking like brothers and sisters in Christ, whether from the pews or pulpits.

The enemy has lured many professing Christians into various forms of witchcraft in an effort to get into or remain in a relationship. Therefore, to the undiscerning, a "demonically arranged union" may seem like holy

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matrimony. The enemy also leads Christians astray with the idolatry of having a Godly marriage. A Godly marriage is a good heart's desire, but the enemy influences people to pursue marriage in the wrong ways. Leah deceived Jacob into marrying her and the Lord blessed her with children. However, she suffered immensely for years from being in a marriage with a man who hated her. In addition, he also married her sister Rachel, his true love. Even though Leah outlived Rachel, Jacob's love for Rachel was blatantly obvious in how he favored Joseph, his eleventh born son but his firstborn son with Rachel.

Appallingly, the devil has convinced men and women to try what Leah did, with the hope of a different outcome. They deceptively try to ensnare another person's future spouse **and even** a God-ordained spouse. If successful, they have the nerve to ask the Lord to bless such rebellion/witchcraft.

Many people do not see such actions as witchcraft. However, as Samuel told king Saul, rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft (1 Samuel 15:25). Paul later wrote about the seventeen works of the flesh, which include "idolatry, witchcraft and hatred" and that anyone who engages in such things will not inherit the kingdom of God (Galatians 5:16-21). The lady with the issue of blood was correct when she thought simply touching the hem of **Jesus's** garments would heal her. She strove to do so and her faith resulted in her being made whole. Many people entertain a similar approach that if they **could** have sex with someone once, or get the person down the aisle, that they will be able to keep that person. But **the eventual breaking of those witchcraft spells** has contributed to many divorces among Christians. Also, I must warn you that some people may try to have sex with you once, but that is also a witch's way of spiritually ensnaring you...

When Jesus had fasted for forty days and nights, He was hungry and something told Him to turn stone into bread. Some people would have assumed that the voice was His flesh because He was starving. But as it is written, the temptation was coming from the devil. I pray this book helps to sharpen your discernment to know when something is coming from within (the flesh) or if it is coming

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from a messenger of sin (satan).

Whether you are a man or woman, I also pray this book encourages you to never get passive like Rachel. Do not allow anything to stop you from receiving your blessings in due time or cause you to be in an unnecessarily complicated relationship. Some things are avoidable and we need to avoid them as much as possible. We also need to examine the garden of our lives. Jacob went to his father to deceptively steal his brother Esau's blessing. Jacob was successful, but he suffered a similar fate when Laban deceived him into unknowingly marrying Leah.

For as much information that "The devil's War Against Your God-ordained Marriage" presented, I close with the most important. The enemy has other schemes, all of which are more easily discerned by having a close relationship with the Lord. Study the Bible and get to know the Lord's Word, His will (for your life), and His ways. The enemy deceptively usually presents something that is almost right instead of something that is blatantly wrong. Draw close to and remain in the Light (Christ Jesus) so that darkness will not be able to conquer you. It is also easier to recognize darkness because you are in and of the Light. The devil is not more powerful than the Lord, and he cannot outwit or outdo Jesus. As I close, never forget that God cannot lie! Therefore, when God gives you a promise, He will bring it to pass, no matter what the enemy tries. It is the Lord's responsibility to watch over His Words and bring them to pass (Isaiah 55:10-11). The Lord can also hasten His Words (Jeremiah 1:12). Never forget about the Lord's sovereignty.

Despite its simplicity, the next point is a difficult thing for many people to do. That is to obey the Lord. Some people are causing issues because they are pursuing someone even after the Lord told them to stop. Or, they are holding on to someone even after the Lord told them to let go. And the last and arguably the most important point, never forget that Jesus is Lord!

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

The Lord entrusted Kollin L. Taylor to oversee Social Aloe Ministries with the commission to “minister to the people.” Kollin is a prolific teacher, writer, and voice for the Lord to provide edification, exhortation, and comfort meant to draw people into a deeper personal relationship with Christ Jesus. Based on personal experiences, Kollin is vehemently opposed to spiritual abuse from religious leaders, false prophets, witchcraft and ungodly relationships.

Kollin's published works:

Exposed Part I: The Prelude

Exposed Part II: Romantic Relationships

Exposed Part III: Vida

Exposed Part IV: The Journey Continues

Metamorphosis: The New Me

The Phenom: From My Soul

Resilience: Bend, Don't Break

The Aftermath: When the Smoke Clears and the Dust Settles

Perspective: A New Point of View

The Anatomy of a Heartbreak: When SAMson Met Delilah (narrative)

Round 2: The Battle Continues

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Round 3: Still Fighting

Cool Breeze: Irie Man!

Finding Joy in You: The Gift of Eternal Life

Minister to the People: Answering His Calling

The Path to Enlightenment

*Knowledge Is Power: Before You Do What You're Told,
Know What You're Being Told*

Soul Food: Thanks, Lord, for My Daily Bread

Closet Christian: If You Deny Him, He Will Deny You

Australia: A Journey Down Under

Wrongfully Accused: When Innocence Is Not Enough

The Sidelines: Those Who Can ...

Flirting with Disaster

The Sound of a Fallen Tree

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Humble Pie: A Gift from God

Second Chances: Worthy of Redemption

God's Kitchen: His Slow Cooked Stew

On Trial: A Test of My Faith

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God, the Love of My Life

Labor Pains: Waiting to Push!

Breakthrough: When Jesus Sets You Free

Born Again: Renew Your Mind with the Holy Spirit

Holy Spirit Led: My Steps Are Ordered

Raised in the Wilderness: Rogue Reformers, Rallying the Remnant

So, You Want to be a Prophet... ARE YOU CRAZY?

The Process: The Refiner's Fire [A TESTimony of Enduring Hell on Earth]

So, You Want to Marry a Prophet... ARE YOU CRAZY?

The Prophet and the Witch: Under the Influence

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ABOUT THE BOOK

(BACK COVER)

“The devil’s War Against Your God-ordained Marriage” is an exposé on some of satan’s most potent weapons against relationships, both in his efforts to prevent them from forming and to destroy the ones in existence. The apostle Paul warned us to not be ignorant of the devil’s devices, lest he get an advantage over us (2 Corinthians 2:11). The Lord said His people are destroyed for lack of knowledge (Hosea 4:6). Sadly, many Christians were not aware of satan’s SINister covert war against their relationships, especially God-ordained marriages. Consequently, many fully armored Christians did not have actionable intelligence on the enemy’s attacks to identify and defeat them. James told us to submit to God, resist the devil and he will flee (James 5:7). Yet, many Christians were dumfounded regarding why they were fully submitted to the Lord, and were resisting the devil but he was not fleeing. Unless the Lord is allowing a season of unprecedented spiritual warfare similar to Job, the enemy may not have fled because he found loopholes in your resistance. **“The devil’s War Against Your God-ordained Marriage”** will, with the help of the Holy Spirit of God, help you identify and fortify those loopholes. Consequently, now armed with actionable intelligence from the Lord, you will make it very costly for the enemy to attack your family and your promises from the Lord.

Recommended reading:

“The Process: The Refiner’s Fire”

“The Prophet and the Witch: Under the Influence”

