

Preparations For Godly Marriage

Part 5

The Vail

The vail or the veil, is the cover of the head and the face that women use. It is mentioned in the bible; it repeated for several times in the Scripture and is used to hide the face and the beauty of the woman body and to abolish its attraction effect on man.

The Scriptures can explain to us facts and truth about the veil and the dress of women on marriage and as the following:-

1- *“65 For she had said unto the servant, What man is this that walketh in the field to meet us? And the servant had said, It is my master: therefore she took a vail, and covered herself.” (Genesis 24:65 KJV)* This is when Rebekah saw Isaac and she asked who is he, and when she found that He will be her husband then she covered herself to keep Isaac pure and his mind clear and not fill with imagination till the wedding time. The word vail here read in Hebrews, *Tsa`iyph* and read as *“tsaw-eef,”* and its meaning is wrapper, shawl, or veil. According to the word of God men or women would not be marrying one another after seeing and choosing the one they like. Men were not seeing their partner till then after wedding time as you read here about the marriage of Isaac to Rebekah, *“66 And the servant told Isaac all things that he had done. 67 And Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah's tent, and took Rebekah, and she became his wife; and he loved her: and Isaac was comforted after his mother's death.” (Genesis 24:66-67)*

The same word, *Tsa`iyph*, repeated in *Genesis 38:14,19*, *“14 And she put her widow's garments off from her, and covered her with a vail, and wrapped herself, and sat in an open place, which is by the way to Timnath; for she saw that Shelah was grown, and she was not given unto him to wife. 19 And she arose, and went away, and laid by her vail from her, and put on the garments of her widowhood.” (Genesis 38:14,19 KJV)* That is when Tamar played the harlot on Judah to have a child from him. She disguised herself with a veil and she was not known to him. Judah did not recognize her because her face was covered. So it was something the people used on, that women were not exposing their faces to the man even during intercourse.

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

We will now read the following story from Genesis 29, that speaks what had happened when Jacob met Rachel, *“1 Then Jacob went on his journey, and came into the land of the people of the east. 2 And he looked, and behold a well in the field, and, lo, there were three flocks of sheep lying by it; for out of that well they watered the flocks: and a great stone was upon the well's mouth. 3 And thither were all the flocks gathered: and they rolled the stone from the well's mouth, and watered the sheep, and put the stone again upon the well's mouth in his place. 4 And Jacob said unto them, My brethren, whence be ye? And they said, Of Haran are we. 5 And he said unto them, Know ye Laban the son of Nahor? And they said, We know him. 6 And he said unto them, Is he well? And they said, He is well: and, behold, Rachel his daughter cometh with the sheep. 7 And he said, Lo, it is yet high day, neither is it time that the*

cattle should be gathered together: water ye the sheep, and go and feed them. 8 And they said, We cannot, until all the flocks be gathered together, and till they roll the stone from the well's mouth; then we water the sheep. 9 And while he yet spake with them, Rachel came with her father's sheep: for she kept them. 10 And it came to pass, when Jacob saw Rachel the daughter of Laban his mother's brother, and the sheep of Laban his mother's brother, that Jacob went near, and rolled the stone from the well's mouth, and watered the flock of Laban his mother's brother. 11 And Jacob kissed Rachel, and lifted up his voice, and wept. 12 And Jacob told Rachel that he was her father's brother, and that he was Rebekah's son: and she ran and told her father. 13 And it came to pass, when Laban heard the tidings of Jacob his sister's son, that he ran to meet him, and embraced him, and kissed him, and brought him to his house. And he told Laban all these things. 14 And Laban said to him, Surely thou art my bone and my flesh. And he abode with him the space of a month. 15 And Laban said unto Jacob, Because thou art my brother, shouldest thou therefore serve me for nought? tell me, what shall thy wages be? 16 And Laban had two daughters: the name of the elder was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. 17 Leah was tender eyed; but Rachel was beautiful and well favoured. 18 And Jacob loved Rachel; and said, I will serve thee seven years for Rachel thy younger daughter. 19 And Laban said, It is better that I give her to thee, than that I should give her to another man: abide with me. 20 And Jacob served seven years for Rachel; and they seemed unto him but a few days, for the love he had to her.” (Genesis 29:1-20) We read here the story of Jacob and how he decided to work seven years as payment for Rachel to take as wife from her father Laban. The choice of Jacob to Rachel was based after the physical manifestation of Rachel. He saw her as she was not covered with a veil, he kissed her and was attracted to her external beauty. So he was not led by a divine purpose in making that choice. His mother Rebekah, the sister of Laban as we read she was using the vail to cover herself and hide her beauty. But now her niece is not observing that. It look like the same today, years and days had made the people put aside customs and dresses that are more protective by being conservative in hiding woman face and body's beauty. People they replaced those protective things with sewn fig leaves of Adam and Eve that lead further to increased Immoralities, wrong choices of marriage with wrong partners, and later on more broken families and heartaches. Jacob was deceived with the face of Rachel, whom she was not the will of God for him to be a wife. As we know at the time of Jacob's marriage, Leah was given to him: *“21 And Jacob said unto Laban, Give me my wife, for my days are fulfilled, that I may go in unto her. 22 And Laban gathered together all the men of the place, and made a feast. 23 And it came to pass in the evening, that he took Leah his daughter, and brought her to him; and he went in unto her. 24 And Laban gave unto his daughter Leah Zilpah his maid for an handmaid. 25 And it came to pass, that in the morning, behold, it was Leah: and he said to Laban, What is this thou hast done unto me? did not I serve with thee for Rachel? wherefore then hast thou beguiled me? 26 And Laban said, It must not be so done in our country, to give the younger before the firstborn.” (Genesis 29:21-26)* Jacob did not discover his wife is Leah only in the morning; that mean her face was cover when he lay down with her.

Jacob forget his father's, Isaac instruction, when he told him to get a wife and not wives, as you can read in *Genesis 28:2*, *“2 Arise, go to Padanaram, to the house of Bethuel thy mother's father; and take thee a wife from thence of the daughters of Laban thy mother's brother.”* Jacob did not satisfy with Leah because he saw Rachel face, and he was trapped with the sin of polygamy that that culture adopted. Laban told him, *“27 Fulfil her week, and we will give thee this also for the service which thou shalt serve with me yet seven other years. 28 And Jacob did so, and fulfilled her week: and he gave him Rachel his daughter to wife also. 29 And*

Laban gave to Rachel his daughter Bilhah his handmaid to be her maid. 30 And he went in also unto Rachel, and he loved also Rachel more than Leah, and served with him yet seven other years.” (Genesis 29:27-30) Laban took advantage of him and proposed to him a second marriage so he will continue to use his service to him. But what was wrong with Leah that Jacob needed to marry Rachel her sister after her? Absolutely nothing; in bed Leah can do well like Rachel, and as the rest of other women. It was not Leah’s fault that Jacob attracted to Rachel when he saw her face and when he kissed her. As we know Rachel was not God’s choice for him. If Jacob did not marry Rachel then he will not be falling in the sin of adultery due to polygamy. His children will not be infected with adultery. Afterward Jacob will not be having favouritism between his children and in a while as we know there was jealousy and fight between them. If Jacob was satisfied with God’s will in marrying Leah, he would be staying shorter in Haran, and he will be spared the sin of adultery and the multiple marriages, and he will be with less burden of many children, and he will be managing his life better by more concentrating to discipline his children of single wife, Leah. Even during famine that had happened later on he would be managing his life better with fewer crowds of people with him.

Let me now ask you this question please. If the daughter of Laban were wearing a vail, would Jacob fall in love and in the trap of marrying Rachel? Not at all; and all the rest of his troubles and suffering will be avoided. If the daughter of Laban were wearing vail then Jacob will not be falling in love with Rachel and he will not be naming Laban his wages in such a way as in **Genesis 29:18** “*I will serve thee seven years for Rachel thy younger daughter.*” Now a day many men they would work very hard to marry a woman whom she is not God’s choice for them just because they like her face and body characters. They are only attracted to the woman because of physical external beauty but not out of divine purpose and appointment of God. Our youth and adult men may fall in the same fault of Jacob and suffered the consequences of that sin the rest of their lives, therefore we need to be aware and protect them.

2- “**15 Also he said , Bring the vail that thou hast upon thee, and hold it. And when she held it, he measured six measures of barley, and laid it on her: and she went into the city.” (Ruth 3:15 KJV)** That what Boaz gave to Ruth to put in her vail when she went to meet him at the threshingfloor. The word vail used here read in Hebrews, **Mitpachath**, and read as, “*mit-pakh'-ath,*” and its meaning is cloak. The meaning of cloak is cover, hide, conceal, envelop, veil, wrap. So the meaning of vail here is to cover and hide the rest of the body. It is envelop to enclose all the body parts of the woman. So it is a big piece of clothes that is why Ruth was able to carry six measures of barley in her cloak. Women will be more blessed with God’s provision and God’s favour as they keep themselves decent in their dress. Now a day scarcity in everything and on food because no more men and women are decent in their life and dress before God. The women they wear the skirt that goes not beyond their knees and when they sit down their thighs will be exposed and you will see them every now and then they pull the skirt down to cover their shame. That is why with such kind of custom they cannot keep and carry God’s blessings. In conservative cultures today women will not go out without cloak that cover the span from the head to the feet so the parts and the description of their bodies will be completely hidden from the sight of men. That Godly and protective and will promote God’s blessings.

The word vail used here read in Hebrews, **Mitpachath**, and read as, “*mit-pakh'-ath,*” is also repeated in **Isaiah 3:22 KJV** using the English word wimples, “**22 The changeable suits of apparel, and the mantles, and the wimples, and the crisping pins,**” (**Isaiah 3:22**) If we read

Isaiah 3 as a whole chapter , in it, God was rebuking his people for their sins and He pronounced to them how He is going to discipline them by sending them captive and how they will be humiliated by their enemies. “**1 For, behold, the Lord, the LORD of hosts, doth take away from Jerusalem and from Judah the stay and the staff, the whole stay of bread, and the whole stay of water, 2 The mighty man, and the man of war, the judge, and the prophet, and the prudent, and the ancient, 3 The captain of fifty, and the honourable man, and the counsellor, and the cunning artificer, and the eloquent orator. 4 And I will give children to be their princes, and babes shall rule over them. 5 And the people shall be oppressed, every one by another, and every one by his neighbour: the child shall behave himself proudly against the ancient, and the base against the honourable. 6 When a man shall take hold of his brother of the house of his father, saying, Thou hast clothing, be thou our ruler, and let this ruin be under thy hand: 7 In that day shall he swear, saying, I will not be an healer; for in my house is neither bread nor clothing: make me not a ruler of the people. 8 For Jerusalem is ruined, and Judah is fallen: because their tongue and their doings are against the LORD, to provoke the eyes of his glory. 9 The shew of their countenance doth witness against them; and they declare their sin as Sodom, they hide it not. Woe unto their soul! for they have rewarded evil unto themselves. 10 Say ye to the righteous, that it shall be well with him: for they shall eat the fruit of their doings. 11 Woe unto the wicked! it shall be ill with him: for the reward of his hands shall be given him. 12 As for my people, children are their oppressors, and women rule over them. O my people, they which lead thee cause thee to err, and destroy the way of thy paths. 13 The LORD standeth up to plead, and standeth to judge the people. 14 The LORD will enter into judgment with the ancients of his people, and the princes thereof: for ye have eaten up the vineyard; the spoil of the poor is in your houses. 15 What mean ye that ye beat my people to pieces, and grind the faces of the poor? saith the Lord GOD of hosts. 16 Moreover the LORD saith, Because the daughters of Zion are haughty, and walk with stretched forth necks and wanton eyes, walking and mincing as they go, and making a tinkling with their feet: 17 Therefore the Lord will smite with a scab the crown of the head of the daughters of Zion, and the LORD will discover their secret parts. 18 In that day the Lord will take away the bravery of their tinkling ornaments about their feet, and their cauls, and their round tires like the moon, 19 The chains, and the bracelets, and the mufflers, 20 The bonnets, and the ornaments of the legs, and the headbands, and the tablets, and the earrings, 21 The rings, and nose jewels, 22 The changeable suits of apparel, and the mantles, and the wimples, and the crisping pins, 23 The glasses, and the fine linen, and the hoods, and the veils. 24 And it shall come to pass, that instead of sweet smell there shall be stink; and instead of a girdle a rent; and instead of well set hair baldness; and instead of a stomacher a girding of sackcloth; and burning instead of beauty. 25 Thy men shall fall by the sword, and thy mighty in the war. 26 And her gates shall lament and mourn; and she being desolate shall sit upon the ground.**” (**Isaiah 3:1-26**) The Lord said in verse 18-23 that their women jewelers and clothes will be taken and they will be uncovered and the cloaks that cover their bodies from head to toe will be removed as an action of discipline and humiliation from God. Now a day many women who believe in Christ but they are exposing the part of their bodies (shoulders, legs, thighs, abdomen) to the public and are not aware that what they are doing is sin, humiliation and submission to devil will. Amazingly and in contrary to that in some cultures who do not know the Law of God, they are keen and are observing that the bodies of their girls and women are covered with cloaks to avoid temptation of the other gender. They are not doing that out of true faith or out of holiness but out of religiosity. But if we look to that action it has protective role on men and women and on the growing youth generation.

3- ***“Behold, thou art fair, my love; behold, thou art fair; thou hast doves' eyes within thy locks: thy hair is as a flock of goats, that appear from mount Gilead.”*** (Song of Solomon 4:1 KJV) The word locks here read in Hebrews, *Tsamamah* and read as *“tsam-maw’,”* and the meaning of locks is veil, or woman's veil, and can give the meanings of covering, blanket, shroud, mask (masquerade, disguise to cover and hide the face so it will not be known), curtain, cloak and pall (become dull, lose its attraction, become tedious, fade). So the locks or the veil here the purpose of them that men will not be attracted by the face beauty of that particular woman. The locks or the veils as masks can show an ugly face or a face of an old woman, and no man will be attracted to it. Locks also used to lock doors opening and entrances. So by the locks that girls and women are wearing, temptations will be avoided. Now a day, many women they put make up colors to mask the ugly part of their faces, and to make attraction and temptation for men to fall in attraction. So the locks that are in the bible are godly dress so man will not depend on the look to choose which woman will marry but on God who knows the suitable partner that he had made for him. The word locks are repeated also in other places, ***“Thy lips are like a thread of scarlet, and thy speech is comely: thy temples are like a piece of a pomegranate within thy locks.”*** (Song of Solomon 4:3 KJV) ***“As a piece of a pomegranate are thy temples within thy locks.”*** (Song of Solomon 6:7 KJV)

Also repeated in *Isaiah 47:2*, ***“Take the millstones, and grind meal: uncover thy locks, make bare the leg, uncover the thigh, pass over the rivers.”*** (Isaiah 47:2 KJV) God was pronouncing His judgment on the Babylonians, ***“1 Come down, and sit in the dust, O virgin daughter of Babylon, sit on the ground: there is no throne, O daughter of the Chaldeans: for thou shalt no more be called tender and delicate. 2 Take the millstones, and grind meal: uncover thy locks, make bare the leg, uncover the thigh, pass over the rivers. 3 Thy nakedness shall be uncovered, yea, thy shame shall be seen: I will take vengeance, and I will not meet thee as a man. 4 As for our redeemer, the LORD of hosts is his name, the Holy One of Israel. 5 Sit thou silent, and get thee into darkness, O daughter of the Chaldeans: for thou shalt no more be called, The lady of kingdoms.”*** (Isaiah 47:1-5) Part of God's humiliation unto the Babylonians is exposing their nakedness starting by uncovering the locks that cover the head and face then the legs and the thighs. God will allow that the Babylonians will lose their authority, and the sign of that authority is the exposure of their nakedness starting from the head and face. Our authority in Christ comes from our obedience to Christ. If women would expose their faces and put attractive make up and colors to the public then we are losing our authority in Christ.

4- ***“The watchmen that went about the city found me, they smote me, they wounded me; the keepers of the walls took away my veil from me.”*** (Song of Solomon 5:7 KJV) The watchmen when they caught that woman roaming in the city of Jerusalem they removed her veil to verify who is she and what for she is roaming around. So the veil is something that cannot be removed here unless by a certain authority. The word used here for veil read in Hebrews, *Radiyd* and read as *“raw-deed,”* something spread or wide wrapper or large veil. It is also repeated in *Isaiah 3:23* ***“23 The glasses, and the fine linen, and the hoods, and the veils.”*** As previously read that in *Isaiah 3* God ordained discipline and humiliation to his people who disobeyed him and part of that discipline that their personal privacy will be transgressed by their enemies in removing their veils as a sign of humiliation to them.

5- ***“29 And it came to pass, when Moses came down from mount Sinai with the two tables of testimony in Moses' hand, when he came down from the mount, that Moses wist not that the skin of his face shone while he talked with him. 30 And when Aaron and all the children of***

Israel saw Moses, behold, the skin of his face shone; and they were afraid to come nigh him. 31 And Moses called unto them; and Aaron and all the rulers of the congregation returned unto him: and Moses talked with them. 32 And afterward all the children of Israel came nigh: and he gave them in commandment all that the LORD had spoken with him in mount Sinai. 33 And till Moses had done speaking with them, he put a vail on his face. 34 But when Moses went in before the LORD to speak with him, he took the vail off, until he came out. And he came out, and spake unto the children of Israel that which he was commanded. 35 And the children of Israel saw the face of Moses, that the skin of Moses' face shone: and Moses put the vail upon his face again, until he went in to speak with him.” (Exodus 34:29-35) The word used here for veil in Hebrews, *Macveh* and read as *“mas-veh.”* From what we read then we can understand that the people of God, the Israelites, it was known to them the wearing of the veil because Moses wear that to hide the radiance of his face.

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

- 1- If you are led by the Holy Spirit to adopt such a dress and find it helpful to impart holiness then I encourage you to do that.
- 2- Let everyone be responsible to protect others by avoiding and rejecting the worldly way of women of how they dress themselves or put perfume and make up, ***“In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array;”*** (1 Timothy 2:9)
- 3- Let us not be tempted to use our senses or depend on man's senses to choose the partner of marriage, but rather seeking God on our knees.
- 4- Let the church not to be opportunistic and take advantage as Laban when he condoned Jacob's choice to marry Rachel. Many churches do not interfere with people's choices for marriage so that they will win their favor and take from them advantage as Laban did with Jacob.
- 5- Let us be responsible to protect our youth from exposing to polluted medias and publics, and avoid allowing them to be in dangerous atmosphere and in contact with girls and women who will take advantage of them.

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

My Prayer: *Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins to give me eternal life. Lord thank you for your word to me. I commit myself to apply the principles that I learn from this message. Lord gives me the discernment and wisdom of how to apply your word in my life and in the life of my family and ministry. This is my prayer in Jesus name, Amen.*

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