

## *The Future of our Children is in our Hands Part 5*

Going back to Jacob and his suffering in Haran and how he fell in the sin of Polygamy, wrong choices in marriage and sexual immoralities, now we will continue to discuss that.

**Genesis 31:18** says the following: ***“18 And he carried away all his cattle, and all his goods which he had gotten, the cattle of his getting, which he had gotten in Padanaram, for to go to Isaac his father in the land of Canaan.”*** So here Jacob left in order to go back to Isaac his father. Also when his father in law overtook him questioning him why he left without telling him and told him the following: ***“30 And now, though thou wouldest needs be gone, because thou sore longedst after thy father's house, yet wherefore hast thou stolen my gods?”*** (**Genesis 31:30 KJV**) He told him that he needed to go back because he missed his father's house. So we expect that Jacob after he reached Canaan he would go directly with his family or families to meet his father.

But have you noticed in your Bible reading that Jacob when he went back from Haran after he stayed there twenty years that he did not go to his father. Imagine yourself you stay twenty years in a place far away from your country and from your parents but when you come back with your family you don't go and visit your parents and take your family to them.

Is this normal? Is this acceptable?

Why Jacob did not go to see and meet his parents with his family or families when he came back?

Possibly Rebekah was dead,

But which time Jacob went to meet his father with his family?

Do we need to answer these questions? Yes, the Church of God need to answer these questions.

When we answer which time he went with his family and met his father we can answer why he did not go with his family to meet his father when he reached Canaan. Jacob might went alone to visit his father after he went back but not with his family. But Jacob went with his family to his father after ten years after he arrived to Canaan. ***“27 And Jacob came unto Isaac his father unto Mamre, unto the city of Arbah, which is Hebron, where Abraham and Isaac sojourned.”*** (**Genesis 35:27 KJV**) Why it took him so long time to do it? Let us discuss and explain:

First Jacob settled in Shechem and stayed there 9 years and that is correct because Dina when he arrived was six years old and was defiled, so she was at the age of marriage so minimum she was 14 to 15 years old. Also Simeon and Levi when he arrived to Canaan were 11 to 12 years old and when they attacked the city of Shechem were supposed to be adult men of about 20 to 21 years old.

After Shechem, Jacob moved to Bethel, and he stayed there a short period of time, then he moved from Bethel and on the way to Bethlehem Rachel gave birth to Benjamin and she died. ***“19 And Rachel died, and was buried in the way to Ephrath, which is Bethlehem. 20 And Jacob set a pillar upon her grave: that is the pillar of Rachel's grave unto this day.”*** (**Genesis 35:19-20 KJV**) With the death of Rachel because the competition between Leah and Rachel stopped then most likely Leah pulled from Jacob her handmaid Zilpah, because no

need to have more children. Jacob he should understand what God was saying that he needed to continue with Leah and leave Bilhah the other handmaid. But I think he did not heed. After that God allowed another tragedy to happen to the family: ***“21 And Israel journeyed, and spread his tent beyond the tower of Edar. 22 And it came to pass, when Israel dwelt in that land, that Reuben went and lay with Bilhah his father's concubine: and Israel heard it. Now the sons of Jacob were twelve:”*** (**Genesis 35:21-22 KJV**) The question here, why Reuben did such? We can answer it in this way: The father had four wives, no discipline and no fear of God, doing what he wants, so the son also did what he wanted. The father has two divorced and remarried so what you expect from the children? The same divorce and remarriage. The mother has two husbands and is looking for another man, so what you expect from the children? Doing also the same and having immoralities.

With what had happened that Reuben slept with Bilhah sure Jacob left her and stayed with Leah alone.

Listen it is mentioned in **Genesis 35:22**, that the sons of Jacob were twelve, and **Genesis 35:23-26** write only about those twelve sons and their mothers, and no other event mentioned after that incident of Reuben with Bilhah except the arrival of Jacob and his family to Isaac his father, ***“27 And Jacob came unto Isaac his father unto Mamre, unto the city of Arbah, which is Hebron, where Abraham and Isaac sojourned.”*** (**Genesis 35:27 KJV**) Non of the Jewish writers or commentators spoke about why Jacob did not go with his families to his father when he arrived to Canaan, but he might visited his father without his family. Most likely, and this is my explanation, he did not go with his families to his father because he was ashamed or afraid that his father will rebuke him after meeting his four wives. But now he was able to go back to his father presenting to him his only first wife Leah while the other two handmaids most likely were no more functioning as wives added to that the dead Rachel, and so those three were part of his past life and I think that his life with such outcome was acceptable to be presented to Isaac and Jacob at that stage of his life was able to present his family to his father. With such cleansing of Jacob of immoralities from his multiple marriages was fit to come back to his father and was included back in the church.

The death of Rachel made the difference. God allowed her to die to cleanse Jacob from his immoralities. After the death of Rachel he was left with Leah, who sure took away Zilpah her handmaid from him after the death of Rachel, because the competition with them was ended, and after Reuben went into Bilhah sure he left her, and so remained only with Leah, and that was the time that Jacob got the courage to go and meet his father having Leah his first wife and had separated from the two other concubines. There is no other reason hinder him to bring his family to his father except his multiple wives whom Isaac will reject as he instructed him to marry one wife and not wives.

What confirm also this view is when he met Esau who invited him to go with him to mount Seir, Jacob could easily excused himself from his brother that he needed first to go and meet his father but he did not say that because he could not go and meet Isaac with such a family having four active wives with one man.

As I said before the Bible certain times narrates to you events but he will not give you his opinion as if everything was well, like here when Jacob went back to Canaan but he did not

go immediately and bring his families with him to meet his father, and the Bible kept silent about it.

Some years ago our General Overseer posted in a facebook group for the church ministers, and he mentioned that the Church of God was chosen with other 150 churches and their leaders invited by the president of USA, and that was a good occasion, and some leaders asked him why he did not use the opportunity to ask from the president something for the Church of God, and he said that he just spoke to him as other leaders spoke and did not ask anything for there was no time for that, and that he told the president that they are praying for his families. What he was saying that the occasion was not the suitable one to ask for material things, and with that he was correct. But for me I could not accept or swallow what he said, that they were praying for his families, because the president had three families after two times divorce and remarriage. I commented on the post and wrote, is there no one among you like John the Baptist and said to the president it is unlawful for you to remarry for your first wife was still alive, and I added some Scripture to support what I said. No one reply to my comment because according to the Scripture it is correct and they cannot oppose it, but no one like it also. When he said it, we are praying for your families, as if he was not aware it is sin to divorce and remarry, because they had tolerated that sin and it is acceptable to them and they cannot see there is something wrong in it. But the truth that man who divorced and remarried twice he is lost if Jesus would arrive today if he would not repent by his separation from women. That is why we need to continue to preach the gospel to all men and combat sin to save the lost. Such people we should not be after them to get material things but we should teach them the truth in order for them to repent and get saved. If he could not say the truth then fine, but don't condone the sin. He could tell him they are praying for him and is acceptable, but praying for your families it means he is approving his life and telling him to continue in such a sin, and that is not correct.

Jacob did not go immediately to meet his father because he was ashamed of his father of what he did as he break his father's instruction marrying four instead of one. Listen to me we don't need to think much, God's direction is one wife for the man as it is said in the book of Genesis, ***"24 Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh."*** (Genesis 2:24 KIV) God said ***"and shall cleave unto his wife"***, and not wives, God made one woman for Adam and he lived with her all his life, more than 900 years.

Now if you or others think is strictness that condemning divorce and remarriage or not allowing single parent to remarry while the father or the mother of their children are still alive then that is because you are seeing others accepting that. But that is not the right way to see such things. Church of God the right way is the following: if you agree about remarriage after divorce or having another partner while the father or the mother of your children is still alive then put in your mind that the following will be happening to you as had happened to Jacob and his families:

1. Your daughter will be defiled or raped as had happened to Dina.
2. Your wife or you if you are a woman will die in delivery as had happened to Rachel
3. Your son will sleep with your wife as Reuben slept with Bilhah, or your husband will sleep with your daughter.

All these I have seen in the Scripture and in reality.

Church of God this is a fair view of things, if you want such then go ahead but do it outside the church and not under my umbrella, because I don't want to go to hell.

The rape of Dina, the death of Rachel and Reuben slept with Bilhah will not take place if Jacob listened to Isaac's instruction and married one wife. My heart is in pain and my eyes full with tears as I am preparing this message. **If you disobey the command then receive the consequences of it as stated above. So now clear how the future of your children is in your hand.**

We continue to speak about the other hurts and harms that Jacob was exposed to when he was sent to Haran, especially was alone and was placed under Laban.

**3. Idolatry:** Sending Jacob to Haran brought idols to Abraham family, ***"19 And Laban went to shear his sheep: and Rachel had stolen the images that were her father's."*** (Genesis 31:19 KJV) ***"34 Now Rachel had taken the images, and put them in the camel's furniture, and sat upon them. And Laban searched all the tent, but found them not."*** (Genesis 31:34 KJV) One of the reasons that Laban used to pursue Jacob and accused him was the gods that were taken away from him. Rachel the second wife of Jacob when she fled with Jacob was carrying with her the idols of her father, and such caused the idolatry to pass into the family of Jacob. Abraham had already came out from that atmosphere of idol worship when he obeyed God's call in his life, ***"1 Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee: 2 And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: 3 And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed. 4 So Abram departed, as the LORD had spoken unto him; and Lot went with him: and Abram was seventy and five years old when he departed out of Haran. 5 And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother's son, and all their substance that they had gathered, and the souls that they had gotten in Haran; and they went forth to go into the land of Canaan; and into the land of Canaan they came."*** (Genesis 12:1-5 KJV) Abraham had already done a good work and cut the idols from his life and from his family, but now when Isaac sent Jacob back to that place brought with him back the idol worship that was in the old family of Abraham. **When you go back or send your children to your old places from where you came then you are exposing them to the old religion and the idols that you had already cleansed from.**

**Wrong marriages with wrong partners will bring idol worship into the new formed families and into the church.** The idols that Rachel brought with her are confirmation that she was not God's chosen wife for Jacob but Leah. The effects of idol worship of what Rachel brought with her we can read when Jacob asked his children to throw their gods when they were about to leave Shechem to go to Bethel which was around nine years after they came back from Haran, ***"2 Then Jacob said unto his household, and to all that were with him, Put away the strange gods that are among you, and be clean, and change your garments: 3 And let us arise, and go up to Bethel; and I will make there an altar unto God, who answered me in the day of my distress, and was with me in the way which I went. 4 And they gave unto Jacob all the strange gods which were in their hand, and all their earrings which were in their ears; and Jacob hid them under the oak which was by Shechem."*** (Genesis 35:2-4 KJV) Abraham did not allow his servant to take his son Isaac back there to Haran because of such a reason also that Isaac will not go back to idol worship, but Isaac was wrong to send Jacob to a place that Abraham refused him to go there. So not only Rebekah did wrong but

also Isaac did wrong. **What I want to say is this: If your wife did something wrong then you be careful and don't do wrong. Also if your husband did something wrong then you be careful and don't do wrong.**

Also Joshua spoke and warned the Israelites about the same idols that we are talking here when he said to the Israelites before he died if they are not willing to serve God then they may choose other gods and one of the options that he gave them were the gods that their fathers worshipped in Mesopotamia which were the same gods that Rachel stolen and brought with her, **"15 And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD."** (Joshua 24:15 KJV) The time table between Rachel stole those idols to the time of Joshua when he spoke such was around 295-300 years. **Therefore we are accountable to protect our children from idol worship, and we need to be careful not to allow our children to go back and live in such atmosphere and alone, that we were living before we come to know Christ, otherwise they will go to the idols that were in our lives before.**

**My Dear and Beloved:** Further, what needed to be said here, that if you break a command of God, then be ready to be bitten by a snake. There are Scriptures needed to be followed and applied in life. Don't try to be smart and fix it according to your wishes, such will not work out but only to cause you troubles. Therefore take the opportunity today, be earnest and repent because the future of your children is in your hand. Come to God, give your life to the Potter's hand and allow Him to mold you and form you in the way that He wants you to be.

**My prayer:** Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins, who was buried and rose from death to give me eternal life. Lord thank you for your Word and the teaching I received in this message. Lord, thank you for all the corrections, the rebukes and the admonishments that I received in this message.

*Repent now and renounce all your sins. Repent of your disobedience, and stubbornness being non willing to repent of your sins. Repent of doing things according to your own will and plan and not according to the will and the plan of God. Repent of your lust, your immoralities. Repent of your idol worship and going back to the old life that God prohibited you to go back. Repent and renounce your lack of the fear of God in your life, your lack of prayer and reading the Bible. Repent and renounce your carelessness to take the full responsibility for your children by sending them away from you to dangerous places and place them with dangerous people. Repent of being yoked with non believers and spending much time with your friends, and on the Media. Repent and renounce being bad example and bad testimony to others, and your non willingness to amend your ways and come back to God and serve Him. Lord forgive me, I repent and renounce the following sins \_\_\_\_\_.*

*Lord I commit myself to renew my mind and to stop doing wrong knowing that you will not bless me and bless my descendents and disciples if I do such. Lord I surrender my life to you and I am willing to go into correction. Lord I commit myself to teach my family and children your Word and your ways. Lord I trust you that as I obey you and raise up my children in the fear of you that you will give the good future to my children and will protect them and provide for them.*

*Lord, thank you for my Brothers and Sisters who realized their sins and repented from their wrongdoings. Lord have mercy on them and on their children. Lord restore them and help them to be a good example to others to follow you. Lord continue to send your Word to enlighten the mind of the people so they can see the bad effects of their sins on their children that may repent and amend their ways.*

*Lord bless us as your church, and help us to continue to declare your Word and your will to the people. Lord bless our ministry and bring forth the fruits that you desire to see in the life of the people that we are reaching out and ministering. Lord lead us with the Holy Spirit to go on and evangelize, and make disciples and train workers to go and plant new Bible studies and congregations for the church. Lord fulfill the vision of the church, 'Multiplication in peace with implementing the whole will of God.' Lord take the message and spread it to bring the fruits you desire. Lord prepare us for your coming to go with you when you come. Lord bless us, enlarge our territory, let your hand be with us and free us from harm so that we will not feel pain. May the grace of the Lord Jesus and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all in Jesus name, Amen.*

The Future of our Children is in our Hands Part 5. Genesis 31:18, 30. Genesis 35:19-20, 21-22, 27. Genesis 2:24. Genesis 31:19, 34. Genesis 12:1-5. Genesis 35:2-4. Joshua 24:15.

Dr. Ramiz Khalaf  
The Church Overseer  
Church of God  
United Arab Emirates  
[www.churchofgoduae.com](http://www.churchofgoduae.com)  
Email: [thebread1@gmail.com](mailto:thebread1@gmail.com)  
Mobile Tel #: [00971551902647](tel:00971551902647)

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[thebread1@gmail.com](mailto:thebread1@gmail.com).