

# Blood Covenant

Notes by Franklin

From the time of Adam's sin we begin to learn how precious blood is and its importance in covenant.

Genesis 3:21 **The LORD God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife and clothed them.**

- The LORD God gave the life of another – blood was shed – to cover man's sin.

Leviticus 17:11 **For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it to you on the altar to make atonement for your souls; for it is the blood by reason of the life that makes atonement.**

- Adam learned this lesson when he sinned.

Leviticus 17:14 **For as the life of all flesh, its blood is its life.**

- The result of sin is death (Romans 6:23) and a blood sacrifice was given to cover Adam's sin. Adam learned this very important lesson and taught it to his sons as seen in the sacrifice of Abel.

Genesis 4:2-5 Cain and Abel

(3) So it came about in the course of time that Cain brought an offering to the LORD of the fruit of the ground. (4) Abel, on his part also brought of the **firstlings** of his flock and of their fat portions. And the LORD had regard for Abel and for his offering; (5) but for Cain and for his offering He had no regard.

**Abel** offered a **Blood Sacrifice** as the LORD had taught his father Adam. It was a substitute for his life, declaring that his sin required the shedding of blood. Abel worshiped the LORD the way that was required by the LORD.

**Cain** did not do this. He worshipped and offered to the LORD what pleased him – the work of his efforts, the work of his hands. This is religion – man determining who God is and how He is to be worshipped.

- Throughout the Scriptures we are taught: **It is NOT by works of righteousness which we have done but according to His mercy He saved us.** Titus 3:5
- Salvation is of the Lord. Psalm 3:8

## The Covenant and Abraham

### Genesis 15

Vs. 1-5 the Lord's **promises** or **vows** to Abraham

Vs.6 Then he believed\* the Lord and He reckoned it to him as **righteousness**. (the Hebrew word "believed" means – unqualified commitment of self to another to be true, to be faithful – Abraham's commitment. This is the requirement for covenant.)

Vs. 10 Then he brought all these to Him and **cut them** in two,

The cutting or severing of the animals and the blood poured out was the **Blood Covenant**, the LORD's **unqualified commitment** to fulfill His Promises to Abraham. A COMMITMENT OF LIFE UNTO DEATH.

A commitment to fulfill the vows or promises with HIS very own life! And He did in the shed blood of Jesus Christ.

### Genesis 17 (13 years later) **The Covenant of Circumcision**

Vs. 1-8 The Lord's promises or vows to Abram

Vs. 10-11 This is **My covenant**, which **you shall keep**, between **Me** and **you** and **your descendants** after you: every male among you shall be **circumcised**. And you shall be circumcised in the flesh of your foreskin (blood shed), and it shall be **the sign of the covenant** between Me and you.

**"Sign of the Covenant,"** in that by which he becomes a father:

- his children are the Lord's.
- The act of and the begetting of children is a "holy" act.

Hebrews 13:4 Marriage is to be held in **honor** among all, and the marriage bed is to be **undefiled**; for fornicators and adulterers God will judge.

Honor - "honorable" or "special to the highest degree."

The Sign of the New Covenant is the Communion Meal.

Genesis 17:10 "and **your descendants**"

Romans 4:16 For this reason it is by faith, in order that it may be in accordance with grace, so that the **promise** will be **guaranteed** to **all the descendants**, not only to those who are of the Law, but also to those who are **of the faith** of Abraham, who is **the father of us all**,

(Galatians 3:7, 9, 14)

In the NT, circumcision of the foreskin has been replaced with a "Circumcised Heart" (Galatians 6:15; Philippians 3:3; Colossians 2:11).

Moses' Experience With The Covenant:

Exodus 4:21-26 Moses HAD NOT circumcised his first-born and he was on his way to Pharaoh as the LORD'S ambassador concerning the un-covenanted first-born of the Egyptians.

Vs. 24 the LORD met him and sought to **put him to death**.

- o He had broken the covenant by not fulfilling its demands.
- o This reveals **HOW SERIOUS** Covenant is to the LORD.

Vs. 25-26 Then Zipporah took a flint and cut off her son's foreskin and threw it at Moses' feet, and she said, "You are indeed a bridegroom of **blood** to me." So He let him alone. At that time she said, "You are a bridegroom of **blood**" — because of the circumcision.

Zipporah was a Midianite and by her actions did not appreciate or understand the extreme importance and demands of covenant.

This is an example of: 1 Corinthians 7:14 For the unbelieving husband is sanctified (set apart) through his wife, and the unbelieving wife is sanctified (set apart) through her believing husband; for otherwise your children are unclean, but now they are holy (set apart –same word as above).

That is: Both the unbelieving one and any children born to them are "Set apart," Protected, by being in "marriage covenant" with the believing one who is "in covenant" with the Lord.

### The NEW Covenant:

Luke 22:19-20 And when He had taken some **bread** and given thanks, He broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me." And in the same way He took **the cup** after they had eaten, saying, "This cup which is poured out for you is **the new covenant in My blood**."

1 Corinthians 10:16-17 Is not the cup of blessing which we bless **a sharing in the blood of Christ**? Is not **the bread** which we break **a sharing in the body of Christ**? (17) Since there is **one** bread, we who are many are **one** body; for we all partake of the one bread.

"The Covenant of **Bread** and the Covenant of **Blood** are two distinct Covenants in Oriental practice as well as in biblical teaching.

- The Covenant of Bread secures **a truce bringing peace**
- the Covenant of Blood secures **a vital union, a oneness**.

Symbolically, the one gives **nourishment**, the other gives **life**.

- The **Covenant of Bread** is an exhibit and a pledge of hospitality and it brings one into family or tribal association with those offering it.  
Genesis 14:18-20; 18:4-5; 43:32; Exodus 29:31-34
- The **Covenant of Blood** is personal and individual, life for life.

### The Covenant of Bread:

In numerous instances in Biblical history and secular, when parties entered into an agreement, they then **shared a meal** together. This meal sealed their agreement and relationship.

- In Genesis 31:54 Jacob & Laban provide us with an example of a covenant meal which brings **peace** between two opposing parties.

### EXAMPLES:

- I was in a shop in the Old City of Jerusalem visiting with the Muslim owner and telling him how much I liked their bread. He sent his son to purchase bread and gave to me. I was very grateful and offered bread to him which he adamantly refused. I later learned that in no way would he break bread and establish a covenant of peace with one he considered to be an infidel.

- Derek Prince tells of a true event that happened in the year 1948 when the nation of Israel came into being and the war broke out between the Muslims surrounding Israel and the Jewish people.

(This true account can be found in the book "*O, Jerusalem*" Chapter 29.)

A Jewish kibbutz was attacked by the military force of Jordan, and was overwhelmed and virtually destroyed. Just a handful of Jewish persons were taken prisoner. One of them was a young Jewish woman named Eliza. The Muslim soldiers set about to rape her. They were just beginning to tear her clothes off when an amazing thing happened. An Arab officer walked up, shot the two soldiers dead, then pulled a piece of bread out of his pocket, gave it to this Jewish woman and said, "Eat this." When she'd eaten the bread, he said, "*Now you're under my protection. No one will touch you.*"

**WHY?** She had eaten his bread which established a visible covenant relationship with her. And even in the passions of war and lust, those Muslim soldiers respected that covenant relationship between their officer and this young Jewish woman.

Once **bread had been broken** between the officer and the woman, they were all obligated by that sacred covenant symbol:

- NOT to HARM or ABUSE her
- But to PROTECT her and RESPECT the new relationship.

## When two enter into a Blood Covenant

1. They become one: one blood / one life.  
John 17:20 . . . those who believe in Me (21) that they may all **be one** even as You, Father, **in** Me and I **in** You, that they also may be **in** Us.  
  
Philippians 1:21 **For to me, to live is Christ** That is: the two are one
2. Faithful, Loyal, Keep & Fulfill their Word and/or Vows  
Hebrews 13:5 **I will never leave you nor forsake you.**
3. They live for the other and die for the other. Isaiah 53  
Romans 5:8 . . . **Christ died for us.**
4. The needs of one are the needs of both.  
Romans 8:32 **He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him over for us** all, how will He not also with Him **freely give us all things?**

5. What belongs to one belongs to the other  
Romans 8: 17 and if children, **heirs** also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ
  - He became sin, we became righteous (Romans 3:22; 2Cor.5:21)
6. The enemy of one is the enemy of both.

### Marriage is a Blood Covenant Malachi 2:13-17

Another thing you do: You flood the LORD's altar with tears. You weep and wail because **He no longer pays attention to your offerings or accepts them** with pleasure from your hands. (14) You ask, "**Why?**" It is because **the LORD is the witness** between you and the wife of your youth, because **you have broken faith** with her, though she is your partner, the wife of **your marriage COVENANT**. (15) Has not the LORD made them **one** in flesh and spirit? And why one? Because he was seeking godly offspring. So guard your spirit, and **do not break faith with the wife of your youth**. (16) "I hate divorce," says the LORD God of Israel . . . So guard yourself in your spirit, and **do not break faith**. (17) You have wearied the LORD with your words. "How have we wearied him?" you ask. By saying, "All who do evil are good in the eyes of the LORD, and he is pleased with them."

- ➔ The Lord designed the woman in such a way that in the first marriage act there is a tear (hymen membrane) and blood is shed, thus consummating the covenant.

**Deuteronomy 22:13-21** To this day, in the East, an exhibit of blood-stains is common as the proof of a consummated covenant of marriage and the sanctity thereof.

Genesis 2:24 *For this reason a man shall leave his father and his mother, and be joined to his wife; and they shall become **one flesh**.*

**One flesh** is covenant language in which "two become one."

Matthew 19:5-6 *for this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become **one flesh**?* (6) So they are no longer two, but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together let no man separate.

- Matthew 5:32 **But I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for marital unfaithfulness, causes her to become an adulteress, and anyone who marries the divorced woman commits adultery.**

- This declares the longevity of the marriage covenant.
- The O.T. word for adultery means “apostatize” – break commitment
- Leviticus 20:10-21 In adultery one is **guilty of blood** and:  
“shall surely be put to death, their bloodguiltiness is upon them.”

▪ **What If the Covenant is broken?** Example: David & Bathsheba

2 Sam 12:13-15 Then David said to Nathan, "**I have sinned** against the LORD." And Nathan said to David, "The LORD also has taken away your sin; you shall not die. However, because by this deed you have given occasion to the enemies of the LORD to blaspheme, the child also that is born to you shall surely die."

1 John 1:9 **If we confess** our sins, **He is faithful** and righteous **to forgive us** our sins and to **cleanse us from all unrighteousness**. . . . .

**BECAUSE OF THE BLOOD COVENANT**, which declares “I will live for you and I will die for you” (same in marriage covenant)

## → JESUS DIED FOR US ! HE TOOK OUR PLACE !

- ❖ But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, **Christ died for us**.
    - **WHY?** Why would Jesus be willing to die for sinners?
    - We were NOT in COVENANT with Him, were we? **Yes we were!**  
Because of the covenant with Abraham **and his children**.  
(Romans 4:9-18)
    - Galatians 4:28 And you brethren, like Isaac, **are children of promise**.
    - In Exodus, the Blood of the Passover lamb was **because** of the Covenant with Abraham. Just as the Blood of the LAMB OF GOD is **because** of the Covenant with Abraham. Exodus 2:24
- Romans 5:8-10 Much more then, having now been **justified by His blood**, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him.

For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, **we shall be saved by His life.**

- In Blood Covenant – **the two are ONE** – you **LIVE** for the other and you **DIE** for the other!
- ❖ He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him. 2 Corinthians 5:21
- ❖ Romans 4:7 Blessed are those whose lawless deeds **have been forgiven, and whose sins have been covered.**
- ❖ Colossians 2:13 When you were dead in your transgressions and the uncircumcision of your flesh (like Moses), He made you alive together with Him, having **forgiven us all our transgressions,**

Hallelujah! Praise The LORD! Thank YOU JESUS!

#### ▪ The Typology of the First Husband and Wife

Genesis 2:21 So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, then **He took one of his ribs** and closed up the flesh at that place.

Eve was “within” Adam and came forth from him. In doing so, Adam became the sacrifice to obtain and to give life to his bride by the shedding of his blood in the removal of his rib. A blood covenant. They were ONE: **The man said, this is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh; She shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.** Genesis 2:23

In like manner, the bride of Jesus came forth from Him:

1 John 4:6 **We are from God;** he who knows God listens to us; he who is **not from God** does not listen to us. By this we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

Ephesians 1:4 He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world

Jeremiah 1:5 **Before I formed you in the womb I knew you**

John 3:3 Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is **born from above** (literal Greek translation) he cannot see the kingdom of God."

Galatians 4:26 But the Jerusalem **above** is free; she is **our mother**. (28) **you brethren, like Isaac, are children of promise**. Isaac's natural birth was ordained and promised by the LORD.

But later, Adam's bride sinned and Adam **chose not to abandon her** - they were ONE - and to die with her: "she took from its fruit and ate; and she gave also to her husband with her, and he ate" (Gen.3:6)

Just as JESUS said of His Bride:

**Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.** Hebrews 13:5

Just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to **give His life a ransom for many**. Matthew 20:28

Daily Adam and Eve suffered the **consequences** of their **disobedience** and ultimately **physical death** as the wages of sin (Rom.6:23). **Cursed is the ground because of you; . . . Till you return to the ground, because from it you were taken; for you are dust, and to dust you shall return.**" Genesis 3:17-19

The LORD is Faithful to His Word / His Covenant regardless of our actions. And we should be the same with our vows.

Psalms 89:31-34 **If they violate My statutes and do not keep My commandments, then I will punish their transgression with the rod and their iniquity with stripes. But I will not break off My lovingkindness from him, nor deal falsely in My faithfulness. My covenant I will not violate, nor will I alter the utterance of My lips.**

However, because Adam and Eve were the LORD's and came into being by Him, He gave the life of another - the shedding of **blood** – to procure their covering or atonement for eternal life. **The LORD God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife, and clothed them** (Genesis 3:21). The sacrificial animal had to die, **blood** was shed.

This is a type, a foreshadow, looking forward to the LORD giving The LAMB OF GOD in our behalf to forgive our sin thus giving us eternal life. He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him. 2 Cor 5:21

In like manner, Jesus, the "last Adam," was the sacrifice to give life to His fallen bride by the shedding of His **blood**. A blood covenant. All ONE. John 19:34 But one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and immediately **blood and water** came out.

Ephesians 5:25-33 Husbands, **love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her** (26) to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, (27) and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. (28) In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. **He who loves his wife loves himself**

(Because: **The two are one**. Each man and woman through the first intimate act of marriage enter into a blood covenant with each other as the hymen membrane is broken and blood is shed, consummating the covenant.)

(29) After all, no one ever hated **his own body**, but he feeds and cares for it, just as Christ does the church (30) for we are members of his body. (31) For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the **two will become one** flesh.(32)**This is a profound mystery** but I am talking about Christ and the church. (33) However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband. NIV

- When temptation comes, **A MAN OF COVENANT – RUNS!**

Genesis 39:7 It came about after these events that his master's wife looked with desire at Joseph, and she said, "Lie with me." (8) But **HE REFUSED** (9) How then could I do this **great evil** and sin against God?" (12) She caught him by his garment, saying, "Lie with me!" And he left his garment in her hand **and RAN out of the house**.

**Hebrews 13:4** Marriage is to be held in honor among all, and the marriage bed is to be undefiled; for fornicators and adulterers God will judge.

**Matthew 5:27-28** You have heard that it was said, 'YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT ADULTERY'; but I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with **lust for her** has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

- **Lust is in us. But it should not produce action.**
- **Should not harm, damage, defile anyone else.**
- **Lust is in us, But IT SHOULD NEVER CONTROL US!**

❖ Here is the Progression:

**James 1:14-16** But each one is tempted when he is **carried away and enticed by his own lust**. Then when **lust** has conceived, it gives birth to **sin**; and when sin is accomplished, it brings forth **death**. (L.S.D.)

**1 John 2:16** For all that is in the world, the **lust** of the flesh and the **lust** of the eyes and the boastful **pride** of life, **is not** from the Father, **but is from** the world.

1 Peter 2:11 Beloved, I urge you as aliens and strangers **to abstain from fleshly lusts which wage war against the soul**.

YOU MUST TOTALLY RUN FROM, STAY AWAY FROM:

PORNOGRAPHY or ANY FORM OR LEUDNESS.

IT IS A DESTRUCTIVE, EVIL ENEMY.

1 Corinthians 6:12-20

All things are lawful for me, but not all things are profitable. All things are lawful for me, but **I WILL NOT be mastered by anything**. (13) Food is for the stomach and the stomach is for food, but God will do away with both of them. Yet **the body IS NOT for immorality, BUT FOR THE LORD**, and the Lord is for the body. (14) Now God has not only raised the Lord, but will also raise us up through His power. (15) Do you not know that **your bodies are members of** (covenant) **Christ?** Shall I then take away the members of

Christ and make them **members of a prostitute?** (breaking of the marriage covenant) May it never be! (16) Or do you not know that the one who joins himself to a prostitute is **ONE body with her?** For He says, "THE TWO SHALL BECOME ONE FLESH." (17) But the one who joins himself to the Lord is **ONE SPIRIT WITH HIM.** (18) **FLEE immorality.** Every other sin that a man commits is outside the body, but the immoral man sins against his own body. (19) Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own? (20) For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body.

DAVID LEARNED HIS LESSON!

Psalm 101:3 I will set before my eyes **no vile thing.** NIV

Psalm 101:3 I will **refuse to look** at anything vile and vulgar.  
I hate all crooked dealings; I will have nothing to do with them. NLT

Proverb 3:7 Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD and **turn away from evil.**

1 Thessalonians 5:22 **abstain from every form of evil.**

2 Timothy 2:22 Now **FLEE from youthful lusts** and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, with those who call on the Lord from a **pure heart.**

Psalm 15:1-4 O LORD, who may abide in Your tent? Who may dwell on Your holy hill? He who walks with **integrity**, and **works righteousness**, and **speaks truth** in his heart. He does not slander with his tongue, nor does evil to his neighbor, nor takes up a reproach against his friend; In whose eyes a reprobate is despised, But who honors those who fear the LORD; **He swears to his own hurt and does not change;** NASU (Judges 11:35)

**VIRTUE** – The Moral Excellence and Purity of Spirit that Radiate from My Life as I Obey God’s Word.

“ . . . applying all diligence, in your faith supply **moral excellence**, and in your moral excellence knowledge.” 2 Peter 1:5

## COVENANT RELATIONSHIP LIVED OUT

1 Samuel 18:1-8 David and Jonathan

- ❖ Jonathan's soul was “**knit**” to the soul of David. (vs.1)  
‘Knit’ is the same word used in Nehemiah 4:6 referring to the wall being built in such a way that there was **no gap /space / opening** that the enemy could come through.
  - Ephesians 4:27 **do not give the devil an opportunity.**
  - In Covenant, the TWO ARE ONE.

How much more should our heart be knit with our wife whom we are in a “special” blood covenant with?

- How well ‘knit’ are you with your wife?
- Are YOU the weak-link in the chain?
- ❖ It says that Jonathan loved David as himself. (vs.1&3)
  - **He who loves his wife loves himself** Ephesians 5:28-29
  - John 13:34 **A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, love one another.**  
  
(John 13:34; 15:12; 15:17; Rom 13:8; 1 Thess 4:9; 1 Peter 1:22  
1 John 3:11; 3:23; 4:7; 4:11; 4:12; 2 John 5)
  - Love is NOT only an emotion. Love is first & foremost a COMMITMENT.

**LOYALTY** – Using adversity to confirm my commitment to those whom God has called me to serve. **Greater love hath no MAN than this, that a MAN lay down his life for his friends.** John 15:13 KJV

- Rate Yourself: does adversity confirm your commitment or the weakness of your commitment / your covenant?
  - Love Gives - Lust Takes! True Love leads to Covenant Commitment.
- ❖ In the body of Christ there should be no gap of misunderstanding, jealousy, suspicion, etc. whereby the enemy can come through and bring a division.
- so that no advantage would be taken of us by Satan. 2 Cor.2:11
- ❖ Jonathan should have been the one person in Israel who was JEALOUS of David, for he was a threat to Jonathan succeeding his father Saul as the next king of Israel. **JONATHAN WAS A MAN ! A MAN OF GOD !**
- What area, or areas, does JEALOUSY creep into your life?
  - James 3:16 For where you have **envy** and **selfish** ambition, there you find **disorder** and every **evil** practice.
  - Philippians 2:3 **Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit**, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves

1 Samuel 18:4 Jonathan **stripped himself** of the **robe** that was on him and **gave it to David**, with his **armor**, including his **sword** and his **bow** and his **belt**.

- ❖ Jonathan was saying:
- "I regard you as more important than myself"
  - "I live to make you successful."
  - "whatever is mine is yours."
  - "I will stand with you and fight with you and for you."
  - In Covenant you intercede for each other (1Samuel 19:1-6) and
  - Help each other up when one falls (Galatians 6:1-2)

- ❖ As a symbol of the covenant, Jonathan **took off his royal robe** and put it on David (vs.4). This was symbolic of Jonathan's desire to **step down from his position** - the next king of Israel - and give that position to David. And that he would be a servant!
  - In Covenant we do everything possible to help others succeed.
  - Romans 12:10 *Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves.*
  - We are to, so die to ourselves, that we sincerely and earnestly long that our wives and our brothers will be greater and higher and more regarded than ourselves. We are to WORK / SERVE to make that happen.
  - Husbands are to LEAD their wives by SERVING & HONORING  
Matthew 23:11 *But the greatest among you shall be your servant.*

DEPENDABLE – Fulfilling what I consented to do (vows) even if it means unexpected sacrifice from me (not my wife or others).

Psalms 15:4 *He who swears to his own hurt and does not change will never be shaken.*

Numbers 30:2 *If a man makes a vow to the LORD, or takes an oath to bind himself with a binding obligation, he shall not violate his word; he shall do according to all that proceeds out of his mouth.*

Deuteronomy 23:21 *When you make a vow to the LORD your God, you shall not delay to pay it, for it would be sin in you, and the LORD your God will surely require it of you.*

- ❖ We should take our **robe**, if necessary, to **cover** the **faults** of those we are in covenant with. We are to make our wife, our brother, our sister, honorable in the eyes of others.
  - What is "our robe"? - Our position (on an issue), our reputation, what makes us look good in the eyes of others.
- ❖ All of our **weapons** of self-protection should be given to, and only used for, the protection of the one we are in covenant with.

Proverb 10:12 Hatred stirs up strife, but love **COVERS** all transgressions.

1 Peter 4:8 Above all, keep fervent in your love for one another, because love **COVERS** a multitude of sins.

❖ THIS IS THE BEHAVIOR of MEN / BROTHERS in covenant.

It is impossible to enter into such a covenant without **dying to self persistently**. All the problems that injure most every MARRIAGE, and many assemblies of believers, arise because believers are not living in covenant relationship with one another. **Everyone seeks his own**. The end result of this is that satan is given a wide-open door. A big gap in the covenant wall.

Jeremiah 6:13 For from the least of them even to the greatest of them, **Everyone is greedy for gain**, and from the prophet even to the priest **everyone deals falsely**.

Everyone keeps "his robe" and if they can, take another's "robe" and uses all of their weapons to maintain or advance their position.

- o Example: Luke 10:30-37 The Good Samaritan

1 Peter 5:8 the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. HE USES PEOPLE!

John 10:10 the thief comes to steal, kill & destroy.

Ephesians 4:27 Do not give the devil an opportunity.

2 Corinthians 2:11 so that no advantage would be taken by Satan

THE ANSWER:

Luke 9:23 And He was saying to them all, "If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must **deny himself**, and take up his cross daily and follow Me.

Luke 14:27 Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple.

**YOU MUST MEMORIZE & LIVE BY:** Galatians 2:20

**I am crucified** [perfect passive indicative – happened in the past (when Jesus was crucified) with ongoing continuous results in the present (I am still crucified)] **with Christ; nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.**

- What desires does a “dead man” have?”
- Is a dead man greedy for gain?
- Does he defend himself? Fight for position? Or advancement?

❖ **THIS IS COVENANT – Personally, I AM DEAD to selfish ambitions and I now LIVE FOR OTHERS.**

Hebrews 9:16-19 **For where a covenant is, there must of necessity be the death of the one who made it. (17) For a covenant is valid **only when men are dead**, for it is never in force while the one who made it lives. (18) Therefore even the first covenant was not inaugurated without blood.**

We need to understand covenant and live completely in that relationship:

- ❖ Jonathan GAVE his ARMOR, his SWORD, his BOW and his BELT to David.
  - We are to surrender **every possible weapon** with which we can harm our wife, our brother, our sister, in any way.
  - THE WEAPON with which the maximum damage is done is the **TONGUE**.
  - WE MUST lay down this weapon AND NEVER:
    - SPEAK EVIL of or to another
    - GOSSIP
    - OR DEFEND OURSELF

James 3:3-10 **Now if we put the bits into the horses' mouths so that they will obey us, we direct their entire body as well. [what does this mean?] (4) Look at the ships also, though they are so great and are driven by strong winds, are still directed by a very small rudder wherever the inclination of the pilot desires. (5) So also the **tongue** is a small part of the body, and yet it boasts of great things. See how great a forest is set aflame by such a small fire! (6) And the **tongue** is a fire, the very world of iniquity; the **tongue** is set among our members as that which **defiles** the entire body, and **sets on fire the course of our life**, and is set on fire by hell. (7) For**

every species of beasts and birds, of reptiles and creatures of the sea, is tamed and has been tamed by the human race. (8) But no one can tame the **tongue**; it is a restless evil and full of deadly poison. (9) With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in the likeness of God; (10) from the same mouth come both blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not to be this way. NASU

- Three examples: horses' mouths, ships, forest fire.
- Does this problem deserve this much attention?
- How can we tame the tongue? Only if we are dead! Galatians 2:20

James 4:1-4 What is **the source of quarrels** and conflicts among you? [next comes the answer] Is not the source **your pleasures** (desires, lust, sensual delight, self-centeredness) that wage war in your members? (2) You **lust** (long for, covet, desire) and do not have; so you commit murder. You are envious and cannot obtain; so you fight and quarrel. You do not have because you do not ask. (3) You ask and do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, so that you may spend it on **your pleasures**. (4) You **adulteresses**, (covenant breakers) do you not know that friendship with the world is hostility toward God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.

- What do we covet, desire, long for that results in quarrels and conflicts? Answer: to be right. To have my way. To be and look important.
- The issue: SELF-CONTROL vs. SELF-INDULGENCE

Galatians 5:22-26 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, **self-control**; against such things there is no law. Now those who belong to Christ Jesus **have crucified the flesh** with its **passions and desires**. If we live by the Spirit, **let us also walk by the Spirit**. Let us NOT become boastful, challenging one another, envying one another.

Luke 9:23-24 If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross daily and follow Me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake, he is the one who will save it.

James 1:19 everyone **must** be **quick** to **hear**, **slow** to **speak** and **slow** to **anger**

James 1:26 If anyone thinks himself to be religious, and yet does not **bridle his tongue** but deceives his own heart, this man's religion is worthless.

❖ THE EXAMPLE OF JESUS – HE HAD TAMED HIS TONGUE

1 Peter 2:21-24 For you have been called for this purpose, since Christ also **suffered** for you, leaving you an example for you to follow in His steps, (22) WHO COMMITTED NO SIN, NOR WAS ANY DECEIT FOUND IN HIS MOUTH; (23) and while being reviled, **He did not revile in return**; while **suffering**, **HE UTTERED NO THREATS**, but kept entrusting Himself to Him who judges righteously; (24) and **He Himself bore our sins** in His body on the cross, so that we might die to sin and live to righteousness; for by His wounds you were healed. NASU

**THIS IS A KEY** - TO BRING PEACE IN AN ARGUMENT WITH YOUR WIFE, or anyone.

- DO NOT ARGUE back or DEFEND YOURSELF.
- TALK to YOURSELF FIRST. Take up your cross. Quote Galatians 2:20

Proverb 18:21 **Death and life** are in the **power of the tongue**, and those who love it will eat its fruit.

Colossians 4:6 Let your speech always be with **grace**, as though seasoned with salt, so that **you will know how you should respond** to each person.

Ephesians 4:29-32 **Let no unwholesome word proceed from your mouth**, but only such a word as is good for **edification** according to the need of the moment, so that it will give **grace** to those who hear. **Do not grieve** the Holy Spirit of God, . . . Let all **bitterness** and **wrath** and **anger** and **clamor** and **slander** be **put away** from you, along with **all malice**. Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you.

LOYALTY – Using Adversity to **confirm** my commitment to those whom God has called me to serve.

“Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends.”  
John 15:13

## SOMEONE ELSE TOOK OFF HIS ROYAL ROBE FOR US!

Philippians 2:2-11 Do nothing from **selfishness** or empty conceit [unjustified high opinion of one's own abilities or worth (Syn. Arrogance)]. A good self esteem is justified 1Cor.4:7; 15:10] *but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves; (4) do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others. (5) Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, (6) who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, (7) but emptied (to make empty) Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men. (8) Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. (9) For this reason also, God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, (10) so that at the name of Jesus EVERY KNEE WILL BOW, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, (11) and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*

Ephesians 5:25-33 Husbands, **love** your wives, **just as** Christ also loved the church and **[1] gave Himself up for her**, (26) so that **[2]** He might **sanctify** her, having **cleansed her** by the washing of water with the word, (27) that He might **present to Himself** the church in all **her glory**, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would be holy and blameless. (28) So husbands ought also to **love** their own wives as their own bodies. He who loves his own wife loves himself; (29) for no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ also does the church, (30) because we are members of His body. (31) FOR THIS REASON A MAN SHALL LEAVE HIS FATHER AND MOTHER AND SHALL BE JOINED TO HIS WIFE, AND THE TWO SHALL BECOME ONE FLESH. (32) This mystery is great; but I am speaking with reference to Christ and the church. (33) Nevertheless, each individual among you also is **to love his own wife** even as himself, and the wife must see to it that she **respects** her husband.

[1] Jesus "loved the church and **gave Himself up** for her" or as it says in Philippians 2:7-8 "**emptied Himself . . . humbled Himself** by being obedient unto death, even death on a cross." Philippians 2:7-8

- How does being obedient humble us?
  - I am saying: "not my will but your's Lord.
  - I am giving up my position / rights / authority / glory to obey
  - This is Meekness: yielding my personal rights & expectations to the Lord. 1 Peter 2:21-23

[2] *"so that"* or, the "emptying" accomplishes:

- "Sanctifying her," that is setting her apart as special.
- "cleansing her," meaning to HEAL HER of all mental and emotional wounds making her glorious.

Every person has an EMOTIONAL CUP or area in their heart that is filled with LOVE or PAINFUL HURTS and REJECTIONS throughout their life.

A husband is to be a source of the HEALING power of the Holy Spirit to replace the hurts and rejections in his wife with LOVE and ACCEPTANCE.

He does this by his ACTIONS, his ATTITUDE, his WORDS & his compassionate caring, just as Jesus did.

A wife that is loved like this will never leave and will never be unfaithful.

Our CHILDREN also need their emotional emptiness filled by the LOVING WORDS, ACTIONS, ATTITUDE, and SANCTIFIED HUGS of their father.

I was told a true story:

An abused woman said: *"When I was a little girl, my family was very dysfunctional. I so longed for, and dreamed of, someone loving me that one day I actually kissed a frog in hope against hope that someday I would have a prince that would hold me and love me."*