

"How Bad Things Escalate"

Genesis 34

This chapter is one of the ugliest chapters in the Bible. It is difficult to read and to understand. The problem of every human being is Sin. Romans 6:23

As Followers of CHRIST, we will pursue:

- A. _____. Genesis 1:27
- B. _____ for all offenses. Mt. 6:14-15
- C. Building _____, not _____. 2 Cor. 5:18-20
- D. _____ in our City among CHRIST's People. Ps. 133
- E. _____ for our National Sins, which are great. Deut. 21
- F. Standing for _____ in Scripture. 2 Timothy 3:16-17

1. Instead of going back to _____ where God told him to go, Jacob bought _____ at the wrong time and in the wrong place. 31:3,13 He built a _____ and barns for his animals. **33:18-19**

2. A _____ and naïve, Dinah, exposed herself to danger by visiting the daughters of the people of Shechem, people with very different _____.

V.1-4 She was kidnapped, sexually assaulted, and kept _____ her will. I Cor. 15:33, Prov. 13:20, II Cor. 6:14. The Circle of Devastation _____.

3. Dinah's father, Jacob, was put into an _____ dilemma. **V.5-7**

- A. If he moved too soon, or acted _____, his entire family could be completely _____ by the more numerous citizens of Shechem.
- B. If he did nothing, he would lose _____.
- C. It seemed like Jacob chose _____ ... which led to more devastation. *** Pastor's Counsel:** Always be _____ ... never _____. Prov. 27:23-24

4. _____, the father, and Shechem, the Canaanite abuser, asked Jacob for _____ for Shechem to marry Dinah. **V.8-12**

- A. The second most important decision a person will ever make is _____. Mark 10:7-8
- B. If a man or woman _____ and abuses you, physically or verbally, _____ you are married ... it will be _____ worse, after the ring goes on the finger.
- C. Notice the Words used by Dinah's family: " _____ ... very angry ... _____ thing ... such a thing must not be done ... _____ ...

... treat our sister like a _____?"

5. Dinah's brothers decided to _____ take matters into their own hands.

V.13-17 They plotted to misuse the _____ covenant of circumcision in order to gain _____ over an unsuspecting population. Circumcision is a voluntary sign of _____ to Jehovah GOD, and of a man's commitment to _____ in the midst of a dark, and out-of-control culture.

6. Shechem used his _____ to persuade the men of his city to submit to circumcision ... in order to take _____ of Jacob's prosperous family.

V.18-24

A. A Follower of Christ _____ take advantage of anyone, ever.

B. _____ been taken advantage of? How did that feel? 1 Cor. 4:2

7. Simeon and Levi crept into the city of Shechem by _____, quietly went from house to house, and killed _____ in the city. **V.25** These men could not _____ themselves because of the painful effects of their circumcisions three days earlier.

A. They killed _____ and his father, Hamor. **V.26**

B. With the help of the other brothers, they completely _____ the city of everything of value. **V.27 "all their wealth" V.29**

C. They took the _____, the _____, and all donkeys. **V.28**

D. They took all the grieving women and all the children as _____. **V.29**

8. Jacob's failure:

A. Jacob's response in **V.30-31** to the whole thing was odd.

He uses, _____ – 8 X's.

B. GOD _____ Jacob to move back to Bethel, which he _____ doing. His disobedience was costly to _____ of people. Delayed obedience is _____.

C. There is no record in the chapter of Jacob _____ for help and direction in the midst of this unbelievable _____. He called on HIM _____. **Gen. 35:1**, Prov.18:10, 2 Chron. 16:9