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Wisdom and Discretion - Robes to Rule in!

As we have studied the ascent of Solomon to the throne, we have seen the importance of wisdom in ruling and reigning. In fact, Proverbs points out that wisdom builds the house:

Pro 24:3 through wisdom a house is built, and by understanding it is established

Pro 9:1 Wisdom has built her house; she has carved out her seven pillars

The house of God is built by ruling and practicing wise judgment in every instance. We have discussed how the oil of Zadok upon the head of Solomon depicts an impartation of the ability to discern between the holy and the profane, good and evil. Without this ability it is impossible to exercise the authority of God in righteousness.

I want to now consider the other arm that balances the scales of Justice in ruling. We find it mentioned in Proverbs 24:3 quoted above - 'understanding'. This Hebrew word is also translated 'discretion, skillfulness, prudence'. These words refer to the exercise of good judgment and common sense. Discretion involves considering the repercussions of the outcome of one's decision and practicing caution, knowing when to speak and when to keep silent, knowing that one's actions will bring about consequences. Discretion suggests wise self-restraint, as in resisting a rash impulse. It is a hallmark of maturity.

When we look at the story of Joseph in Egypt, we find that Pharaoh had certain qualities which were essential in a man he would release authority to:

Gen 41:39 And Pharaoh said to Joseph, Since God has shown you all this, no one is as discreet and wise as you. Gen 41:40 You shall be over my house, and all my people shall kiss the hand at your word. Only in the throne will I be greater than you.

Wisdom and discretion were qualities which were essential to the man being released to rule. Why was discretion so important?

Pro 2:11 Discretion shall preserve you, understanding shall keep you

Here we see that discretion provides protection. Once again in Proverbs 3 we see wisdom and discretion mentioned together:

Pro 3:21 My son, let not them depart from your eyes: keep sound wisdom and discretion: Pro 3:22 So shall they be life to your soul, and grace to your neck. Pro 3:23 Then shall you walk in your way safely, and your foot shall not stumble.

Wisdom coupled with discretion provides life and grace and keep you walking in safety. God wants His Bride to be discreet.

Pro 11:22 As a jewel of gold in a swine's snout, so is a fair woman which is without discretion.

He cannot release her to rule if she does not know when she should speak and when she should hold her peace. She must walk in a conscious awareness that her every action and word carry consequences. In Proverbs 31, there is a description which has been used for centuries to preach on the ideal wife! However, it is also a prophetic picture of the Bride of Christ and her conduct in the Church and the world.

Pro 31:26 She opens her mouth with wisdom; and in her tongue is the law of kindness.

The law of kindness is connected to speaking the truth in love. Far too often we have used our tongues in the Body of Christ to speak truth without the motivation of love and kindness. Discretion is an essential part of the garment of the Bride as it causes her to consider the consequences of her words and exercise self-restraint.

Pro 19:11 The discretion of a man defers his anger; and it is his glory to pass over a transgression.

Kindness is one of the fruits of the Spirit and the truth spoken kindly from a heart full of love will bring more change than the harsh railing of an insensitive tongue. Our desire must always be to bring healing even when correction is needed.

Pro 12:18 There are those who speak like the thrusts of a sword, but the tongue of the wise brings healing.

Beloved, the Holy Spirit wants us to learn not to speak rashly, like the piercing of a sword. He cannot trust us with authority in the spiritual realm is we are unable to control our tongues and rein them in. This is just as important when sharing revelation. A word spoken at the right moment is so good and achieves the purpose for which God gave it to you. However, if you just share revelation without discretion, you cannot be trusted with the secret things of God.

The picture I get is of a horse which has been trained to respond to the smallest movement and signal of the rider but which will not move apart from instruction. A horse used in battle cannot be swayed by what it sees and hears going on around it. It has to be completely focused on the signals from its rider. In Revelation 19 there is a description of Jesus:

Rev 19:11 And I saw Heaven opened. And behold, **a white horse**! And He sitting on him was called Faithful and True. And in righteousness He judges and makes war. Rev 19:12 And His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head many crowns. And He had a name written, one that no one knew except Himself. Rev 19:13 And He had been clothed in a garment dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God.

The white horse upon which the Word rides is a picture of the Bride of Christ. She is instructed and directed in every movement by the Living Word Who judges and makes war in **righteousness**. Her color is white depicting her righteous deeds and the fact that she has made herself ready. We see the counterfeit of this relationship in the woman riding the beast (Rev 17). She is the Mother of harlots and is in control. She is riding the beast whereas the Bride of Christ is submissive to and under the lordship of Christ, the Word.

James 3 tells us that a person who can control their tongue is a 'perfect' man. The Greek word used here means 'complete, of full age, mature manhood'. Beloved, we have to submit to the bit being put

in our mouth by the Word if we desire to be useful to Him. Even David prayed for God to set a guard at his mouth and keep watch at the door of his lips (psalm 141:3). We only have to read the book of Proverbs to discover the many references to words and the tongue. The word 'proverb' comes from a root word meaning 'to rule, exercise dominion, reign'. The book of Proverbs was David's training sessions with Solomon. Yet somehow the Church of Jesus Christ has yet to fully grasp the importance of the privilege of possessing the power of life and death within our tongues. Yes, we have heard many a sermon on using our tongue for our own prosperity and benefit; but it is time to begin to employ its power for the healing and unity of the Body of Christ of which we are all members. When we realize that our brother and sister are part of the very same flesh of Christ that we are, then we will begin to operate in discretion, knowing every word we speak, whether in or out of their hearing, is contributing either to the destruction or building up of the Body. The accuser of the brethren must no longer be helped in his desire to sit in the mount of the congregation. Let him be cast down by the word of our testimony and the blood of the Lamb.

There is a prophetic picture that we portray every time we break bread together. Let us examine the words of Paul again on this subject:

1Co 10:16 The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion (in other words, a sharing) of the body of Christ? 1Co 10:17 For we, the many, are one bread and one body; for we are all partakers of that one bread.

The word 'communion' means 'fellowship, partnership'. Paul says that every time we break bread, we are declaring that we share and are partners in the body of Christ. We are declaring **we are one bread!** How is it, Beloved, that we use our tongues to break and cause division of this one bread? The body of Jesus was broken on the cross so that we could be ONE bread. He does not desire for His Body to be broken over and over. Once was enough for all time.

1Co 11:27 Wherefore whosoever shall eat this bread, and drink this cup of the Lord, unworthily, shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. 1Co 11:28 But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup. 1Co 11:29 For he that eats and drinks unworthily, eats and drinks damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body. 1Co 11:30 For this cause many are weak and sickly among you, and many sleep.

Paul directly links weakness and sickness and death amongst the saints to not discerning the Lord's Body. It is time to operate in discretion and discern His Body around us. The Bride of Christ is not to be a woman that practices self-mutilation. Let us rather strive to be a Bride who is the crown of her Husband. God formed man as a potter does a vessel, but He 'built' Eve. Let us use our tongues to help build the Bride and not break her, discerning that she (or rather we) is flesh of His flesh and bone of His bone.

Fresh Oil Releases

<u>Wisdom and Discretion - Robes to Rule In</u> Part Two

As the Solomon Company receive the anointing necessary to rule, they need an impartation of both wisdom and discretion. This is also what God gave King Solomon:

1Ki 4:29 And God gave Solomon exceeding great wisdom and understanding, and largeness of heart, even as the sand that is on the seashore.

This word 'understanding' is once again the same word which can be translated 'discretion, reason, skillfulness, and understanding'. It is the very thing Solomon asked God for to equip him to rule. Wisdom and discretion were the qualities God used when creating all things:

Jer 10:12 He has made the earth by his power, he has established the world by his wisdom, and has stretched out the heavens by his discretion

We see from this verse that wisdom is needed to establish and build things on earth but discretion is the quality that comes into play when dealing with heavenly things. The boundaries of the heavens were set using understanding and discretion. God's sons will only be able to effectively participate in His Kingdom coming on earth as it is in heaven when they begin to operate in understanding of the boundaries and measures of heavenly things. One could say that discretion is that quality which governs the timely release of wisdom.

Let us examine the first case King Solomon had to deal with after being equipped to rule and judge in righteousness. Remember he had asked the Lord to give him 'an understanding heart, to judge Your people, to discern between good and bad' (1Ki 3:9). This is a description of the Zadok anointing. Further on in 1 Kings 3, it is recorded that two women were brought before Him:

1Ki 3:16 Then there came two women, harlots, to the king, and stood before him. And the one woman said, O my lord, this woman and I live in one house. And I bore a child with her in the house. And it happened the third day after I gave birth, this woman bore a child also. And we were together; there was no stranger with us in the house, except the two of us in the house. And this woman's child died in the night, because she laid on it. And she arose at midnight and took my son from beside me, while your servant was sleeping, and laid it in her bosom, and laid her dead child in my bosom. When I arose in the morning to give my child suck, behold, it was dead. And when I had looked at it in the morning, behold, it was not my son whom I bore. And the other woman said, No, but the living is my son, and the dead is your son. And this one said, No, but the dead is your son, and the living is my son. So they spoke before the king.

This is more than just a record of Solomon's first court case. It is a prophetic picture of what will occur in the house of God when the Solomon Company arise and rule. We see there are two women living in the house. Both are called harlots. I suspect that one represents the harlot church that originates in the woman who rides the beast. The other represents the true Church who has been spending so much time in the contaminating presence of this harlot system that she has taken on

her ways. The real and the counterfeit are side by side in the house and from outward appearance, one can't really tell the difference.

The Word tells us that the harlot church was already present when the other woman brought forth a son. This should not surprise us because the serpent was in the garden right in the beginning. The enemy sowed tares in-amongst the wheat but God lets them grow to maturity for the sake of protecting the wheat from harm. It is only at harvest-time that separation takes place. The Lord knows those who are His. Just as in the story above where one woman has a child on the first day, so too the child of Truth was born on the first day when Jesus came forth from the tomb in resurrection power, being the first-born from among the dead. This same revelation of Truth, being the seed of Christ, exists in the house in this Third Day. However, there is mixture and the enemy has plans afoot. Yet the laws God instituted in the beginning are still in operation. All is about to be made clear as each brings forth fruit according to their kind.

We are told that on the third day, the harlot church brings forth a son. This is very significant because it warns us that in this Third Day in which we live, there is going to be brought forth within the house, a child which is fruit of the counterfeit Babylonian system. This means that on this Third Day, until the midnight hour, there will be two children existing side by side in the house. At this point, both mothers are outwardly harlots. Their lifestyles are similarly unclean but their hearts have not been exposed yet. There are only two children, the fruit of these women's wombs side by side in the house. The wheat and the tares stand together.

There are some people who write off the Church completely. They declare there is nothing good in it and have separated themselves completely from the Body of Christ. This is not wise. The Word teaches us that the real and the counterfeit dwell together in the house and we are called to rightly divide the Word of Truth. It is foolish to throw out the whole barrel of apples because there are some with worms in them.

God's Word declares that as a man sows, so will he reap. In this story we see the outworking of this truth. The woman representing the harlot church lies upon her baby in the night and kills it. The actions and behavior of the counterfeit will suffocate the life out of that which she has brought forth. Just as the angel of death passed over Egypt and killed the first-born of Pharaoh, so too will the ministry and fruit of the counterfeit come to an end. Anything brought forth that is not rooted in the Tree of Life, is destined for death.

The actions of this harlot following the death of the fruit of her womb begin to reveal the origin of this whole movement. She only thinks of self and steals the other woman's baby from her embrace while she is at rest. It is the thief who comes to steal, kill and destroy. In the darkness of the night hour of this Third Day, while the true Church is asleep, the thief will attempt to not only steal that which is fruit of Truth from the true Church. He will also attempt to pass off lifeless revelation as belonging to the woman who has fallen asleep. Thank God that a woman knows the face of her child. When the true Church of Jesus Christ awakens from its slumber as the dawn breaks, she will recognize that that which she has embraced in her sleep does not bear the likeness of Christ and cast this child that has the smell of death from her. However she has a fight on her hands. The enemy, the counterfeit harlot church is claiming the fruit of her womb as its own.

It takes the darkness and the night passing and then the dawn of a new day to begin the process of separation. Firstly, the true Church must begin to separate in her affiliation with the harlot

church. She must see it for what it truly is - something brought forth from the loins of the thief and enemy of our souls. She must awaken out of her slumber; that place of deception where she has been at rest, thinking that all is well with that which she has brought forth. Finally she must go before the throne and present her case.

This record of Solomon's first case is a record of separation and the separation is accomplished by the sword! What a beautiful picture of the two-edged sword of the Word being used to rightly divide between what is soulish and what is of the Spirit of Truth. Solomon operates in wisdom and discretion. He knows that the words he speaks will reveal the thoughts and intents of these women's hearts. Therefore every word has been weighed. He calls for the sword and just as God did in Genesis 1, he basically says 'let the light be separated from the darkness'. As the judgment is released, "cut the living child in two"; the true heart condition of the two women is clearly revealed. The harlot church, that which has been tutored by seducing spirits, has no love in her heart. She cares not for the life of the child. Her only desire is that the true Church should suffer loss of that which she holds dear because she herself has suffered loss. Satan lost his place near the throne and his desire is that we too would no longer receive revelation from the presence of God.

In the coming days, it will be revealed who is truly the mother of the living revelation. Those who are willing to lose all for the sake of the child they have brought forth will receive it back in their bosom. Those who are willing to die to self and give up their claim of parenthood, even release the revelation they have received even into the hands of the ones who are making unjust claims on it (because their own teaching and ministry is found to be without life,) will be the ones who obtain justice at the hand of the righteous Judge.

Solomon is depicted here as operating in the spirit of Christ as is described in Isaiah 11:

Isa 11:2 And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD; Isa 11:3 And shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the LORD: and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears: Isa 11:4 But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked.

We also read here a blueprint of the way God desires His mature Son to operate in the earth. This bridal company will be recognized to be flesh of His flesh and bone of His bone, ruling and judging with wisdom and discretion both within the Church and outside in the world.

The Jews believe that by the age of forty, a scholar of the Word is fit to judge and rightly divide in disputes as he has reached the age of maturity. David ruled Israel for forty years. This was a time of preparation, of gathering the materials needed to build a house for the Lord. Then after forty years of preparation, he handed over the blueprints of the temple to Solomon as he had received them from the Lord. Solomon then built the house. David's reign can be likened to the time of learning to rightly divide the Word of Truth. Then there is a transition and a handing over of wisdom gleaned to Solomon's reign, a time of Wisdom building the house and establishing it through understanding or discretion (Prov 24:3).

Separation must come; God does not tolerate mixture. There must be a clear division between light and darkness, just as there was in Egypt during the plagues. God's people have been in slavery to a harlot system long enough. There is coming a release of the spirit of Wisdom and Understanding as never before experienced in the house. The sword of the Living Word, rightly dividing, will bring to light all that is hidden and separate the holy from the profane and the clean from the unclean. The death of the harlot church's child took place at the time when Solomon ascended to the throne. Let the mind of Christ be our portion as never before so that light may penetrate every corner of the house and expose every work of darkness.

God intends to display the manifold wisdom through the Church:

Eph 3:8 Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ; And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ: To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be made known by the church the manifold wisdom of God, According to the eternal purpose which he purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord

The Church of Jesus Christ, kings and priests of the Most High, must come to the place of Solomon, seated and ruling and displaying the manifold wisdom of God. This is the eternal purpose of God and the reason for our existence.

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