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Living Outside the Walls

(Part 2)

In the last posting, I wrote about Abraham and his willingness to obey the Lord when he was instructed to move to Ur. I can't imagine that he didn't have some uncertainty about moving to a strange country.

Ur was a wicked and sinful city where prostitution and idolatry ran rampant. Not exactly the kind of place that would lead one to believe that just on the other side of this experience was the Promise Land. However, Abraham was moving towards that promise of the Lord. The possibilities were endless for his future, but it took him down a path less travelled. I wonder if he was excited, apprehensive, scarred, or was he ready for a change in his life.

I don't know about you, but when I get a Word from the Lord I am usually excited. At first I think about how it's going to happen and then as time goes on, or should I say drags on, I begin to doubt what I heard. I have gotten Words from the Lord before that I thought were going to come to pass immediately. I have to admit that has rarely been the case. It is obvious my timing and God's timing seems to be on a different measuring system. The scripture says that with the Lord a day is like a thousand years and thousands years is like a day. (2 Peter 3:8).

I know that God doesn't run His agenda based on my 24 hour a day schedule, but it is frustrating when I don't know His. Yes, His time is measured in eternal increments, but I'm on this side of eternity (at least for now). Besides, how is eternity measured anyway? Forever is forever. The same thing goes for Alpha and Omega. Have you thought about eternity like that...never ending? God measures time in terms like, "in a twinkling of an eye" (1 Cor. 15:52)



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Astronomically a real blink of an eye takes 300 to 400 milliseconds. There are 1000 milliseconds in each second, so a blink of an eye takes around 1/3 of a second. Wow! See how God measures His time.

My point is that the Lord may speak something to you today and it may take a 1/3 of a second or it may take 1/3 of your life to come to pass. The only thing we can do is to follow Abraham's example. Go where God leads and do what God says.

Moses was another one that had to move at God's appointed time. We've read in Exodus the history of Moses leading the children of Israel out of Egypt. They too were headed towards the Promise Land, but it was not without a fight. Pharaoh was determined to keep God's people in bondage, but Moses had heard from the Lord. He had a mission and a divine ministry to fulfill.

Moses didn't have an easy job. Many times he became aggravated with the people because of their stubborn and rebellious behavior. After the Lord told him He wasn't going to go with him because of the people, Moses was so upset that he pitched his tent outside the camp.

Exodus 33:7 "Moses took his tent and pitched it outside the camp, far from the camp and called it the tabernacle of meeting. And it came to pass that everyone who sought the Lord went out to the tabernacle of meeting which was outside the camp.

This is a demonstration of the Lord choosing to be outside the wall (camp). He demands and deserves a meeting place where He is honored, respected, and revered. If our lives, homes, or churches are full of sin in the "camp", the Lord will remove His presence. We may have to do what Moses did...pick up everything and move outside of our camp. Are you ready to tabernacle with God?



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If you are then it is going to require sacrifice on your part. It is never easy living outside the wall when everyone thinks you are crazy for doing so. Living a separated life from the snare of the cares of life, the pull of man's definition of success and the deceitfulness of riches is not easy.

Moses chose to separate himself from the people and consecrate himself unto the Lord. It was in this place called the "Tabernacle of the Lord" that God met with Moses. As we read in the scripture below, there is a command (not a suggestion) given for each of us that desire to dwell in that holy place with God.

2 Corinthians 6:17 & 18 "Wherefore come out from among them, and be you separate, says the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing: and I will receive you, and will be a Father unto you and you shall be My sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty".

If we chose to live a separated life unto the Lord, most of us would have to make some drastic changes. Living outside the wall would mean giving up any unclean thing in our life. Sin would have to go and in its place would obedience, purity, and holiness. There is a price to pay for that level of commitment. We would be peculiar and different from most people. We will be at risk of being called fanatics or weird, but it shouldn't matter. God has called us to be separate and live outside of the walls.