



New Covenant

Presbyterian Church

In Genesis 33 we saw that Jacob stopped short of fully obeying the Lord by not going to Bethel. If he was truly walking by faith he would have gone all the way. In Genesis 34 we will see the consequences of his stopping short of full obedience to God.

- A. **The Church near the world**
- B. **The Church in the world**
- C. **The Church in conflict with the world**

A. **Church near the world**

1. Jacob moves as close as he can to Pagan neighbors. He is comfortable and doesn't do anything when his daughter Dinah is violated.
2. Application: We are always in great danger when we move close to the world. We endanger our families especially.
3. Jacob jeopardizes his family. He didn't protect his daughter. He's becoming careless in the world. He lets her go out with the women of the land (Picture of the contrasting Kingdom of the world versus the Kingdom of God) Dinah is drawn to the world because she's been put near the world.
4. Application: We need to refrain from being careless about the way we let our children interact with the world. At the same time we also need to realize that it is impossible to protect our children from sin. We can't change their hearts. God's grace and Spirit must change our children's hearts.
5. Jacob lives as if he's never interacted with the Lord. Jacob had spiritual experiences but went back to the world. God is not mentioned once in this chapter.
6. Application: It is possible for a person to have spiritual experiences and walk away from the Lord to the world. Our salvation is not based on our spiritual experiences.



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B. Church in the world

1. The unbelieving world is starting to act more righteous than the church.

“Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers. For what partnership has righteousness with lawlessness? Or what fellowship has light with darkness?” -2 Corinthians 6:14

2. The marriage between an unbeliever and a believer is forbidden for the preservation of the Gospel. Jacob is compromising and in this chapter we see the chaos and ruin that comes when the church marries the world.

C. The Church in Conflict with the World.

1. The church is trying to avenge itself. Two out of the 12 tribes will act out of malice and deceit to get back at Shechem.

2. Out of a sinful desire for revenge Simeon and Levi use the covenant sign of circumcision to destroy Shechem and the males of his city.

“Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, ‘Vengeance is mine, I will repay,’ says the Lord.” –Romans 12:19

3. Application: The second we forget that vengeance belongs to the Lord is the second we begin to think and act like Simeon and Levi. What these two should have acknowledged is that they needed Jesus Christ to deal with injustice. Jesus is the only One who could take all the injustice of the world on Himself at the cross and endure the wrath of God it deserved.

4 The church never went to the Lord in prayer in this chapter. We should call upon the Lord for guidance and wisdom before we act.