Doctrinal Studies Bible Church PT: Ron Adema Marriage, A Divine Institution (#4) www.doctrinalstudies.com

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Institution (#4) <u>audio</u>

#### WALK IN SPIRITUAL INTEGRITY

This is the fourth lesson in the series entitled, **Marriage is Divine Institution** from the marriage of Abraham and Sarah taken from (Gen.16:1-6).

Today's lesson comes from a Psalm of David. The choice of this passage will be made clear as this lesson is taught. <u>Notice three things David has learned about his walk with the Lord</u>:

- Walk in integrity (26:1a);
- Walk by faith without wavering (26:1b);
- Walk in the truth of God's word (26:2-3).

In (Gen.16), Abraham and Sarah's marriage, the Abraham Covenant, their walk of faith and their spiritual integrity are all **self-destructing**.

• Satan's bull-eye target is the <u>spiritual integrity of the spiritually mature believer</u>.

This lesson will study <u>five aspects</u> of Satan's attack upon the Walk in Spiritual Integrity of a spiritually mature believer.

## 1. Satan hit the bulls-eye, of Abraham and Sarah, with flaming arrows because there was <u>no shield of</u> <u>faith or sword of Sprit</u> in action! (Eph.6:10-17).

(Eph.6:16-17) "In addition to all, taking up the **shield of faith** with which you will be able to extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. And take the helmet of salvation, and the **sword of the Spirit**, **which is the word of God**."

When a believer fails to carry the **shield of faith** and the **sword of the Spirit**, he doesn't have the proper armor for defense or offense. He is vulnerable in the angelic conflict (AC) (Eph.6:10-17). Like Abraham and Sarah or Adam and Eve (2 Cor.11:3), the spiritual integrity of God is at risk in him/ her.

## 2. The Book of Job teaches the importance of the Walk in Spiritual integrity as a key divine virtue in the Angelic Conflict (AC) (Job 2:1-10).

It is achievable in the lives of every spiritually advancing believer. Reaching and maintaining spiritual maturity is the key to the exercise of spiritual integrity in the Plan of God.

The theme of the Book of Job certainly is that Job never denied his spiritual integrity.

(Job.27:5b) "Till I die I will not put away my integrity from me."

The Hebrew word for <u>integrity is tam</u>. It is associated with <u>blameless</u> (tam), <u>upright</u>, <u>fearing God</u> and <u>turning</u> <u>away from evil</u> (Job 1:8; 2:3). Tam is undivided loyalty of the heart to the Directive Will of God. (1 Cor.7:35b) "Undistracted devotion to the Lord."

# **3.** Spiritual integrity operates from a relaxed mental attitude (RMA) under the stress of undeserved suffering.

It operates from unwavering faith in the Directive will of God no matter what the circumstances. (Matt.26:39, 42) "Not my will be Your will be done."

The spiritually mature believer understands that God will not put more stress than he/ she is able to bear.

(1 Cor.10:13) "No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God will is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, so that you will be able to endure it."

The spiritually mature believer with integrity knows that at the end of the testing of undeserved suffering is a promised blessing (**Job 42:10-16**).

(James 5:11) "<u>We count those blessed who endured</u>. **You have heard** of the endurance of Job **and have seen** the outcome of the Lord's dealing, that the Lord is full of compassion and is merciful." (Job 42:10-16)

#### 4. Satan believes that God's spiritually mature servants will surrender their spiritual integrity and curse God when faced with the reality of maximum stressful suffering (Job.1:11; 2:5).

Job's wife voiced the same lie of devil (John 8:44)

(Job.2:9-10) "Then his wife said to him, 'Do you still hold fast your integrity? <u>Curse God and die!</u>' But he said to her, 'You speak as one of the foolish women speaks. Shall we indeed accept good from God and not accept adversity?' <u>In all this Job did not sin with his lips</u>."

This spiritual battle must be fought with the <u>sword of the Spirit, the Word of God</u> (Matt.4:1-11) [Sound Categorical Bible Doctrine].

"Then the devil left Him; and behold, angels came and minister to Him." (Matt.4:11/victory)

We have the Indwelling Holy Spirit, the third member of the Godhead, to assist from the beginning to the end of the battle in the AC (1 Cor.6:19-20; **Eph.3:14-21**).

# 5. The spiritually mature believer <u>who walks in his / her "integrity of the heart"</u>, walks securely in the devil's world.

"He who walks in integrity walks securely." (**Prov.10:9a**) Nothing shakes his world because he believes he is held by the hands of Christ in God (**John 10:28**). The same God who held all our yesterday's , holds all our today's, and holds all our tomorrow's (**Heb.13:8**).

**Spiritual integrity** is an <u>important divine virtue to marriage and family</u>. "I will walk <u>within my house</u> in the **integrity of my heart**." (Ps.101:2b)

"Many a man proclaims his own loyalty, but who can find a trustworthy man? A righteous man who walks in his integrity – how <u>blessed are his sons</u> after him." (Prov.20:6-7)

"Vindicate me, O Lord, for **I have walked in my integrity**, and I **have trusted in the Lord without wavering.** Examine me, O Lord, and try me; test my mind and my heart. For your lovingkindness is before my eyes, and **I have walked in Your truth**." (Ps.26:1-3)