

MESSAGE NOTES: “THE UNNAMED WOMAN”

2 SAMUEL 20

PRAYER:

Father, Today is all for Your Glory. Lord, I pray that hearts and minds will be changed, and lives will be touched.

Lord, I ask that you would stop all attempts of the enemy to bring confusion, chaos or distraction. And that Your presence would flow through this place like a mighty rushing wind.

Thank you for Your Holy Spirit. Anoint and use me for Your purposes. Speak through me only what You desire to be said. I give you all of the glory and the honor and the praise in Jesus’ holy and precious name. AMEN

I want to start out by telling you a story from the Bible that probably most of you have never heard or if you have maybe not really thought about in detail. It’s a story from 2 Samuel 20 about a woman who is unnamed, but the Bible calls her a “wise woman.” To begin with, I want to give you some background so that you can get a picture of what was taking place at that time.

- David was king of Israel
- David’s son Absalom had just led a revolt against David and lost because God was with David
- Now there is another man named Sheba who was a rebel. He was gathering men and was coming against David.
- And lastly, David has sent his top military leader Joab to capture Sheba the rebel.

Now, let’s read 2 Samuel 20:1-2 (NKJV) “And there happened to be there a rebel whose name was Sheba, the son of Bichri (Bik rye) a Benjamite. And he blew a trumpet and said: “We have no part in David, nor do we have inheritance in the son of Jesse; Every man to his tents, O Israel !

So, every man of Israel deserted David and followed Sheba the son of Bichri (Bik rye). But the men of Judah, from the Jordan as far as Jerusalem, remained loyal to their king.”

- Now, just a bit of information here is that a trumpet in Hebrew is a shofar, which was blown either for war or for worship
- And the 2nd thing that I want to point out is that what Sheba the rebel is saying in these verses is that he is not just calling them to go home but to go to war against David.

Now, I am not going to read these, but now we have verses 3-14 which describe Joab and 600 of David's army going city to city looking for Sheba the rebel.

- Now scripture does not tell us that there were 600 men, however, the book of Josephus does. For those who are not aware, Flavius Josephus was a Jewish Historian and a military leader. Therefore, his writings can give us a lot more detail of that time.

OK, let's move on to verse 15... "then they came and besieged him in Abel of Beth Maachah (Maha); and they cast up a siege mound against the city, and it stood by the rampart. And all the people who were with Joab battered the wall to throw it down."

- The city is called Abel.
- I want you to get this visual....Sheba the rebel has taken refuge there.
- The city is walled off and the gates are closed
- Joab and his mighty army are using battering rams against the walls and gates.

So, Just imagine for a moment what it must have sounded like inside that city....the loud pounding and banging....the shaking of their homes and roofs.....the fear that they must have had knowing there was a massive army getting ready to invade.

Let's go on to... vs 16 (NKJV) "Then a **WISE WOMAN** cried out from the city, "Hear, Hear! Please say to Joab, "Come nearby that I may speak with you."

- Ok, so let's look at this verse....Here she is...A "wise woman" cried out wanting Joab to hear her.
- The 1st thing I want to ask is...Where are the men???
- This was a male-dominated society.
- Where are the elders, the leaders of this city?
- Why are they not standing up for their city, their nation, their families?

It would appear that the leaders were supporting Sheba the rebel, supporting rebellion, supporting sin.

They were not calling it out for what it was.

- The 2nd question I have is, are we guilty of doing that today in this world we are living in with so much immorality of every kind?
- Are we supporting sin in any way?
- Are we voting for those who support sin or are we NOT voting at all.

We as Christians must vote to support God's values, regardless of if we like the person running and standing for it or not. We must vote for God's side.

- Are we supporting what today's world and generation would like us to believe??

They like to call us "Christians" intolerant and judgmental when the enemy (Satan) has deceived them, but they are the intolerant ones. They are intolerant of our beliefs and our God. They are the angry ones lashing out verbally. Our world is turning its back on God and His word, His commandments.

- Are we as Christians being soft on sin and saying, it's ok to kill babies (to sacrifice them on the altar of self, on the altar of Baal...as in ancient days) ???
- That it's ok to live a homosexual lifestyle?
- It's ok to be something other than what God created you to be?
- He created us male and female.

Psalms 139:13 (NKJV) "for You formed my inward parts, You covered me in my mother's womb."

Isa 44:24 (NKJV) "Thus saith the Lord, your Redeemer, and the one who formed you from the womb, "I AM THE LORD, WHO MADE ALL THINGS, WHO ALONE STRETCHED OUT THE HEAVENS, WHO SPREAD OUT THE EARTH BY MYSELF"

WOW!!! HOW GREAT THOU ART!!!!

THE WORLD IS BLINDED AND CONFUSED.....GOD DOES NOT MAKE MISTAKES!

Hebrews 13:8 (NKJV) tells us" He is the same yesterday, today and forever!!!"

Folks either we believe the entire Bible, or we don't. Maybe we need to ask God's forgiveness for being complacent and sympathetic to sin and for not being the light in a dark world.

- Have we failed to hold fast to ALL of God's commandments?
- Have we gotten tolerant and soft on sin?
- What are you going to say to the Lord when you see Him face to face on judgment day?

God is the same yesterday, today, and forever, no matter what this world would like to convince us of or convince themselves of. It is time for all of us to follow His word completely because as we do this, we become salt and light to those around us who have forgotten and ignored His principles of righteousness. If we serve the god of self, we give into this world.

John 14:15 (NKJV) says “If you love me, keep my commandments” PERIOD....END OF STORY!

OK, Let’s move on to vs 17 in 2 Samuel 20. “And when he (meaning Joab) had come near to her, the woman said, “Are you Joab?” And he answered, “I am”. Then she said to him, “Hear the words of your maidservant (or handmaid)”. And he answered, “I am listening.”

- Does anyone else find this funny???
- A man was listening!!!!
- He did not have his head in his cell phone while you are speaking saying “uh Huh”.

Ok, well let’s Go on now before I say too much about that. The next thing I see in this verse is that I was wondering exactly what a handmaid was in this context.

In scripture we see handmaids such as:

- Hagar being Sarah’s handmaid
- Zilpah was Leah’s handmaid
- Bilhah (Bill Ha) as Rachel’s handmaid

These handmaids however, according to the Hebrew text, were given to the wives as servants and to bear the husband’s seed.

The second definition of a maidservant or handmaid is: a servant. Mary the mother of Jesus is referred to herself as the “handmaid of the Lord” or “servant of the Lord”.

Luke 1:38 (KJV) Then Mary said, “Behold the maidservant of the Lord! Let it be to me according to your word.” And the angel departed from her.”

So, we can see through Mary’s life and through the life of the “wise woman” that a handmaid is someone who does the will of God, with trust and submission to His will. We need to be so in love with Jesus that we trust and submit to His will completely and His love will overflow to all aspects of our lives.

Let's get back to the scripture looking at 2 Samuel 20:18-22 (NKJV), Then she spoke saying "They used to talk in former times, saying, they shall surely ask counsel at Abel, and so they would end disputes."

"I am among the ***peaceable*** and ***faithful*** in Israel. You seek to destroy a city and a mother in Israel. Why would you swallow up the inheritance of the Lord?"

And Joab answered and said, "Far be it, far be it from me, that I should swallow up or destroy!"

"That IS not so. But a man from the mountains of Ephraim, Sheba the son of Bichri (Bik rye) by name, has raised his hand against the king, against David. Deliver him only, and I will depart from the city. "And the woman said to Joab, "Watch his head will be thrown to you over the wall."

Then the woman, IN HER WISDOM went to all the people. And they cut off the head of Sheba the son of Bichri (Bik rye) and threw it out to Joab. Then he blew a trumpet (shofar) and they withdrew from the city, every man to his tent. So, Joab returned to the king at Jerusalem."

OK, now that you are aware of what took place, let's go back and REALLY take a look at this woman. The walls are being rammed, it is loud, and she knows that when the army gets in there that there will be death to their families and destruction of their homes and city. Rebellion is hiding inside the city; sin is hiding inside the city.

Evidently, Sheba the rebel was embraced by at least some of the people. And as I said before it may be safe to say the elders and leaders of the city were supporting him because they did not speak up to Joab and give Sheba the rebel up.

- They did not Give rebellion up
- They did not Give sin up.
- They did not speak up.

The Bible says that this "wise woman"....saw her city in crisis. She saw what was happening. Her nation, her city, her family, her life was in danger.

In verse 19 it says that this "wise woman" is faithful. She is faithful to her nation, her city, her family.

I pray.... God, please raise up faithful women who will pray and intercede on others' behalf, who will fast, who will freely and fully worship. Women who are tired of waiting on others to do it.

This wise woman went outside the gates of the city, and she said “Hear me, Joab”. And notice the title that she gave herself. “I am a mother in Israel”. She is saying here....I am concerned about my children and my grandchildren. I am worried about the battering rams that are trying to destroy what God has blessed us with.

This wise woman was also respectful. She respected Joab and his authority and she spoke respectfully to him.....WOW...I could go down the rabbit trail with this one with the lack of respect in our society today!!! But NO I need to stay on track, so we are going to keep going.

We can be respectful to someone and not agree with their thoughts, decisions, or actions. That may mean your parents, your kids, your spouse, or anyone else, even on social media.

She spoke respectfully about her city, she said, “Let me tell you about the city that you are trying to destroy”. She goes on to say that the story of her city is that “if you have questions, this is where the answers are.”

The Bible tells us in Hebrews 4:16 (NKJV) “Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.”

This is where the answers are...

In Isaiah 53:5 (NKJV), “But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities. The chastisement of our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed.”

This is where the answers are...

Matthew 7:7 (NKJV) “Ask and it will be given to you, seek and you will find, knock and it will be opened to you.”

This is where the answers are...

Romans 6:23 (NKJV) “For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord”

Jesus Christ is where the answers are.

The story we have been talking about today is a beautiful picture of a faithful woman. And when the battering rams were trying to destroy her nation, her city, her family....she takes the head of rebellion, the head of sin and throws it over the wall.

- We need to stop minimizing our roles, our prayers, and what God has called us to do!
- We need to step up and become the women of God, the people of God that He created us to be, and we need to take action.
- We need to declare that this year, I am going to experience more than I ever have had of God's presence.
- I am going to speak blessings over my family, over my home, over my life.

Maybe that means that we need to get outside of our box and do something that we are not comfortable with when God calls us to do it. This is completely me; I am wayyyy outside of my box to stand up here and speak. Y'all just have no idea!!!! I have been praying for years about what God wanted me to do with my life. Asking how I could serve Him.

- What purpose does He have for me?
- What good could I possibly be at this stage in life when I have made so many mistakes in my younger years?

Well, I pressed on....praying, worshiping, fasting, and studying the Word every day. God has physically saved my life two times that I am aware of, and I knew that there had to be a purpose. God has been preparing me for something for a very long time. I really have no idea what it is yet, but I will tell you that when He opened the door to me speaking today and made it clear to me that I was supposed to do this, I had every excuse in the world not to.

So, as a mother, and a grandmother I had to throw that head of fear and doubt over the wall and just trust that God knows what He is doing. It is a mother who says that my prayers, my fasting, my intercession can make a difference.

Maybe you are not a mother, that does not matter if you are a child of God, He has a plan for your life. He wants to use you.

In verse 19, the Bible says she is not only wise and faithful, but she is also peaceable.

She has a peaceable spirit. She is not angry, hateful, loud, aggressive, and belligerent. The definition of peaceable is inclined to avoid argument or violent conflict.

Matthew 5:9 (NKJV) says, “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God”.

In Proverbs 15:1 (NKJV) we read, “A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger”.

Proverbs 18:21 (NKJV) “Death and life are in the power of the tongue and those who love it will eat its fruit.”

WOW.....THAT IS A WHOLE OTHER MESSAGE!

So Let’s just say.....We need to speak the truth in love, peaceably.

Let me tell you something that Satan is afraid of

- He is afraid of men and women who are faithful to God
- Who stand up for righteousness and obey every word God has given us.
- Men and women who are used of Him.
- Men and women who know their weapons as children of God and how to use them.
- Men and women who claim His promises, and command Satan to get his hands off and leave in Jesus’ name.

God simply wants all of you. He wants you to let go of that rebellion, that sin, that complacency and throw it over the wall.

This story we have read today is all about: Is there an act of rebellion, of sin that you have been holding onto? That you have been dismissing, ignoring, hiding....It is time to let it go.

The Bible is very clear:

- Obedience brings a blessing
- Disobedience brings a curse

Look at Deuteronomy 28:1-2 (NKJV) “Now it shall come to pass if you diligently obey the voice of the Lord your God, to observe carefully ALL His commandments which I command you today that the Lord your God will set you high above all nations of the earth”

Skip down to verse 15 (NKJV) “But it shall come to pass, if you do not obey the voice of the Lord your God, to observe carefully all His commandments and His statutes which I command you today that all these curses will come upon you and overtake you.”

This was Moses talking to the younger generation of his time. But it is still true today, there are many examples of this throughout scripture.

So back to the wise woman again, she was not messing around with sin, the wise woman said, “I so want my life to be blessed that absolutely ANYTHING the king wants; I am going to do.”

Sin opens the door to a further attack from Satan.

Keep in mind that attack may come in the form of fear, anxiety, depression, physical attacks, financial, further sin, anything the enemy can use, he will try it.

This is explained in Genesis 4:6-7 (NKJV): “So the Lord said to Cain, “Why are you angry? And why has your countenance fallen? If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin lies at the door. And its desire is for you, but you should rule over it.”

So, God is warning Cain here that he has got to rule over his emotions because if you don't, sin lies at the door waiting. When you open that door, Satan can come in, he has an invitation now.

Right after God's warning, Cain killed his brother. He left an opening in the door of anger and jealousy....He did not deal with it, and that door was opened for an attack of Satan to come in.

Now, this is extreme, most of us do not go around murdering people. Or..... do we maybe murder people with our words? The quickest thing Satan will try to do is to get your flesh all stirred up.

Paul said, "I die daily, I crucify my flesh." This means that when you want to tell someone off, you must discipline yourself and keep your mouth shut instead. Let God be in control, not your human nature.

In Galatians 5:13-15, Paul tells us: you are always biting and devouring one another, watch out! Beware of destroying one another.

Listen to the Song of Solomon 2:15 (KJV): "Take us the foxes, the little foxes, that spoil the vines: for our vines have tender grapes".

Foxes are sly animals that can creep in and damage vineyards by eating the grapes before the harvest. In a desert region, vineyard fruit is valuable because it is a good source of food and water.

One of the things that we can derive from this scripture is that those little foxes can move in and destroy everyone and anyone in their path. God may have a plan for those tender grapes, for that harvest, but those foxes can jeopardize that plan with hindrances, attacks, and distractions.

If you keep growing in God's word, He will keep you safe. But when you eat flesh (people), the door is open to Satan.

What I am trying to tell you here is that sometimes God wants us to deal with things that the King is not pleased with, and the reason the enemy has the right to bring on the battering rams and try to destroy our lives is because we are too easy on sin. WE are the ones that have allowed the enemy in.

We absolutely MUST throw every little thing that is not of God over that wall!

Get rid of it if you want a holy and blessed life, fully consecrated to God.

Do you have anything at all displeasing to God that the enemy is trying to bring into your life?

GET RID OF IT!

Is there what you would consider a “little sin” in your life? All sin is equal in God’s eyes. GET IT OUT! Throw it over the wall, God is not pleased with you.

Listen, until the day we die we should be growing in the Lord. We should be seeking His will. And continuing to ask His forgiveness to grow in Him. WE HAVE NOT ARRIVED UNTIL WE DIE, no matter who we are in this world.

You need to say to bitterness, offense and unforgiveness.....GET OUT!

Strife, tension, hatred.....GET OUT!

Sinful habits.....GET OUT!

EITHER HE IS LORD OF ALL OR HE IS NOT LORD AT ALL

John 8:36 says, “Whom the Son sets free is free indeed”.

You must determine:

- I am going to throw pride and uncontrolled anger over the wall
- I am going to throw unforgiveness over the wall
- I am going to throw jealousy over the wall
- I am going to throw shame, guilt, and bondage of the past over the wall
- I am going to throw addiction of every kind over the wall
- I am going to throw complacency over the wall
- I am going to throw lying, hateful attitudes, stubbornness over the wall
- I am going to throw immorality, or drunkenness over the wall

Whatever it is you have held onto, throw it over the wall today! Your life and home can be blessed. You can have joy and peace. Just give it all to God and say “Jesus, I give you everything. Take it all from me. Forgive me and cleanse me, I am sorry Lord”. This is a place where problems are solved....you can lay it all on the altar and be free.

Throw that head of discouragement over the wall!

The problem solver is here!

Love can come

Healing can come

Answers can come

Restoration can come

SONG: IN THE PRESENCE OF JEHOVAH (NO LYRICS)

Those who are able, would you please stand?

Everyone, please bow your head and close your eyes.

If anyone would like to come and lay something down on the altar, by all means come right on. That is what it is here for. If you would like to stay in your seat and give it to God, then do that.

PRAYER:

Lord, I come to you today, thanking you for this message. Thank you for Your word. I pray for your continued work in each and every one that is hearing it.

Father today we are throwing many things over the wall and we thank you for the victory over them.

Lord, thank you for the Holy Spirit, that speaks to us showing us what we need to turn over to you.

We receive and thank you for Your cleansing power in Jesus' Holy and precious name, AMEN.

((((if people are at the altar praying.....quietly play))))

Before we dismiss, please raise your hands in worship, in praise, in thanks to our Heavenly Father, and accept this blessing.

THE LORD BLESS YOU AND KEEP YOU,

THE LORD MAKE HIS FACE TO SHINE UPON YOU AND BE GRACIOUS TO YOU

THE LORD TURN HIS FACE TOWARD YOU AND GIVE YOU PEACE

You are dismissed.