

Theme: GUIDANCE AGAINST UNEQUAL YOKE

Memory Verse: *Genesis 28:1: “And Isaac called Jacob, and blessed him, and charged him, and said unto him, Thou shalt not take a wife of the daughters of Canaan.”*

Texts: Exodus 22:16-17; Deuteronomy 22:28-29

But why did Jacob and his sons not give Dinah in marriage to Hamor? To avoid unequal yoke together with the Shechemites. What happened was folly in Israel. Isaac had commanded Jacob before leaving for Padan-aram that he should not marry the daughters of Canaan (Genesis 8:1). Therefore to allow Dinah to marry Hamor would have meant disobeying Isaac, Abraham and God. Such folly committed by Israelites may be allowed to end in marriage (Ex. 22:16,17, Deuteronomy 22: 28,29) but it was not to be so between an Israelite and others.

Some believers, after backsliding through the sin of fornication with a non-believer, go further and get married to the sinner. The reason given usually is that the deed has been done already. But it should not be so. The backslider should repent and break away from the sin partner even if unwanted pregnancy should result from the misadventure. God’s command is to come out from sin and every form of unequal yoke whether in friendship, association, business, secret covenant or marriage.

Simon and Levi, not willing to let their sister marry Shechem, thought of how to bring her out of Hamor’s house. Their plan was wicked and violent. They deceived the people of Shechem to accept a strange practice — circumcision — afterward they descended on them and killed all the men. Why did they not just ask of their sister alone? May be for fear that Hamor and Shechem may not release her and that healthy Shechemites may overpower them and do them harm. They probably also felt that the integrity of Jacob should be preserved. Whatever may be their motive, their action of murder was wickedness. On no account shall we kill another except according to the law. Life is precious. “Thou shall not kill” is God’s command.

	DAILY BIBLE READING	
	MORNING	EVENING
SUNDAY	Ezekiel 8	Ezekiel 9
MONDAY	Ezekiel 10	Ezekiel 11
TUESDAY	Ezekiel 12	Ezekiel 13
WEDNESDAY	Ezekiel 14	Ezekiel 15
THURSDAY	Ezekiel 16	Ezekiel 17
FRIDAY	Ezekiel 18	Ezekiel 19
SATURDAY	Ezekiel 20	Ezekiel 21