

**Theme: DEFILEMENT OF DINAH BY SHECHEM**

**Memory Verse:** *Jeremiah 10:2* “Thus saith the Lord, Learn not the way of the heathen, and be not dismayed at the signs of heaven; for the heathen are dismayed at them.”

**Texts:** Genesis 34:1-5; Proverbs 2:10-15; 2 Samuel 13:1-14

The entire tragic story began with a seemingly harmless sightseeing by a lively teenage girl. “And Dinah... went out to see the daughters of the land...” (Genesis 34:1,2). Surely, the beginning of sin is as the letting forth of water. See what became of Dinah’s sightseeing: “And when Shechem.... saw her, he took her, and lay with her, and defiled her”. (Genesis 34:1,2). Jacob had many daughters (Genesis 37:35) but only Dinah had the benefit of being mentioned; and in a very sad circumstance.

“And Dinah... went out...”. She went out of the limits set by moral propriety, out of instruction, out of parental restriction, out of the Spirit’s control. Dinah went out of the path of understanding, out of the way of holiness. Before she went out, she probably harboured strong but secret resentments against her parents for being too strict, old-fashioned and prudish. She craved unlimited freedom; she would reach out for a good time and enjoy the days of her youth to the utmost. “So Dinah... went out...” Her outing was a costly one. She lost her innocence and honour. A woman is to be discreet and chaste (Titus 2:5). Dinah went out to see the daughters of the land and became like them. The women of the world wander about and get caught by the men of the world. That is how they form families. Believers cannot do like that.

A similar pattern of thinking and action is present in the majority of today’s youth. They want to be left alone, to be the captain of their own ship. Many youths, even in a Bible church, are daily making strenuous efforts at dismantling the moral bounds set by the Scripture and godly parents for their safety. Oh, what foolishness! If only they would know that as a river flowing without bounds ends up in a muddy puddle, so unlimited freedom is really a bitter bondage. In Dinah, as in all wayward youths today, the path of moral corruption is all too familiar. Dinah went out. First, she went to behold, gaze at, and learn experience from the daughters of the land. She took more delight in the company of the ungodly than in the fellowship of God’s elect. How sad that many youths today would rather go to disco parties, film shows and cybercafés than attend church services. Depraved youths today would raise no scruples at spending time with their worldly friends, playing games and watching movies. The same youths become impatient and restless in the house of God. The reason is simple: they know not the Lord!

	DAILY BIBLE READING	
	MORNING	EVENING
SUNDAY	Jeremiah 9	Jeremiah 10
MONDAY	Jeremiah 11	Jeremiah 12
TUESDAY	Jeremiah 13	Jeremiah 14
WEDNESDAY	Jeremiah 15	Jeremiah 16
THURSDAY	Jeremiah 17	Jeremiah 18
FRIDAY	Jeremiah 19	Jeremiah 20
SATURDAY	Jeremiah 21	Jeremiah 22