



Message 12-17-16
VaYishlach-And He Sent
Genesis 32:4-36:43
Obadiah 1:1-21
1 Corinthians 6:15-18

Introduction

Dinah visits with the local women, attracting the attention of Shechem, son of Hamor the Hittite, who rapes Dinah, and then asks his father to arrange a marriage

Genesis 34:1-10

1 Now Dinah the daughter of Leah, whom she had borne to Jacob, went out to see the women of the land. **2** And when Shechem the son of Hamor the Hivite, the prince of the land, saw her, he seized her and lay with her and humiliated her. **3** And his soul was drawn to Dinah the daughter of Jacob. He loved the young woman and spoke tenderly to her. **4** So Shechem spoke to his father Hamor, saying, "Get me this girl for my wife." **5** Now Jacob heard that he had defiled his daughter Dinah. But his sons were with his livestock in the field, so Jacob held his peace until they came. **6** And Hamor the father of Shechem went out to Jacob to speak with him. **7** The sons of Jacob had come in from the field as soon as they heard of it, and the men were indignant and very angry, because he had done an outrageous thing in Israel by lying with Jacob's daughter, for such a thing must not be done. **8** But Hamor spoke with them, saying, "The soul of my son Shechem longs for your daughter. Please give her to him to be his wife. **9** Make marriages with us. Give your daughters to us, and take our daughters for yourselves. **10** You shall dwell with us, and the land shall be open to you. Dwell and trade in it, and get property in it." (ESV)

This is basically an isolated incident by way of it covering the incident, the results, and then moving right on. It may be possible that the reason it is included is because Dinah becomes representative of Israel and what Israel would do that would bring punishment upon her in much the same way that Dinah's actions had an equal and even more devastating reaction to Dinah and what her two brothers did to the city of Shechem. Levi and Simeon would take their revenge out on the city after the son of the king persuaded his father to intercede on his behalf to obtain Dinah in marriage with Jacob's permission **after** he had violated her. Why did Dinah want to go out to see the women of the land? Didn't she know and understand that the women as well as the men of the land were pagans and did not follow the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob? I can't accept the fact that she did not know what their beliefs were, and yet she still wanted to go and seek out the women of the land. Was she so in need of companionship that she did this, or was

she simply curious, most likely, after having been warned about staying away from the people of the land of Canaan?

Isn't this exactly what Israel had done? When they went in to conquer the land, they were given specific instructions to kill everyone from the seven nations who dwelled there. They failed to do so, and eventually they fell victim, or I should say they made a conscious decision to forget about the covenant of Torah that God and Israel had entered, and Moses spent forty years teaching to them. How quickly they fell off the wagon and wound up going down the rabbit's hole. It would also appear that the Torah command about a young maiden who is attacked and hollers for help but is too far away from anyone to hear may have been given based on what happened to Dinah. This could also be identified with Israel who has been attacked time and time again, calls out to the world, and no one pays any attention to what is happening to Israel but only cares about everyone else.

2 Samuel 13:22 But Absalom spoke to Amnon neither good nor bad, for Absalom hated Amnon, because he had violated his sister Tamar. (ESV)

As Levi and Simeon hated Shechem and the people of the city and after tricking them into being circumcised, they went and killed all the males of the city, especially Shechem and his father. In 2 Samuel, Absalom, one of the sons of David, hated his step brother, Amnon, for violating his sister Tamar. He plotted revenge on his brother, and after two years, he enacted his revenge and had his brother killed. This was also what happened to Jacob and his sons after the men of Shechem were killed. They had to leave before others came and tried to get revenge. No matter how right we might think we are, there are almost always repercussions for the actions we take. We see this in the history of Israel and the modern state of Israel as well, and we see this playing itself out throughout the Messianic and Hebrew Roots Movements all over the world. Within various congregations, we see this taking place. Congregations are planted, they take root, they grow, and then others come in and want to take the groups over and make them their own. The sad thing is the people in these congregations often allow this to happen because they believe the gossip being spread about the leadership, and instead of going and talking to them about what it is they are hearing, they believe it from the start because the person saying it is such a good and Godly person. A truly good and Godly person would never do anything like this. If they cannot resolve their differences with leadership, they should quietly leave and find a new place to go, but in most cases, they do everything they can to tear down the congregation. Instead of leaving, they stay in the congregation while doing their dirty work.

It happened to Moses in the wilderness, and it has happened to many leaders of congregations over the years. This is not God's way, and we need to understand that what happened to Dinah and Tamar is symbolic of what happened to Israel and what is happening today in the Messianic and Hebrew Roots Movements.

Obadiah 1:10-14

Because of the violence done to your brother Jacob, shame shall cover you, and you shall be cut off forever. ¹¹ On the day that you stood aloof, on the day that strangers carried off his wealth and foreigners entered his gates and cast lots for Jerusalem, you were like one of them. ¹² But do not gloat over the day of your brother in the day of his misfortune; do not rejoice over the people of Judah in the day of their ruin; do not boast in the day of distress. ¹³ Do not enter the gate of my people in the day of their calamity; do not gloat over his disaster in the day of his calamity; do not loot his wealth in the day of his calamity. ¹⁴ Do not stand at the crossroads to cut off his fugitives; do not hand over his survivors in the day of distress. (ESV)

This is what happened to Jerusalem and those who were related to the nation of Israel. The city and people fell to an enemy, and their brethren turned their backs on them. It is happening today, people. Just look at the world around you and see the anger and hate rising once again threatening to engulf the Jewish people no matter where they are. There is no place on the face of the earth where the Jewish people and those who choose to support them can be safe from the enemy. In this passage from Obadiah, we see mention of the violence done to Jacob/Israel in the same manner as it was done to Dinah and Tamar, and we need to learn to identify with it so we can do our best not to let it happen again, though by reading the Bible, we see it will happen again and has happened throughout history. Hitler, Stalin, and others tried to do their best to eliminate an entire race of people from the face of the earth while many of the nation's simply stood by watching it happen.

Micah 4:11 Now many nations are assembled against you, saying, "Let her be defiled, and let our eyes gaze upon Zion." (ESV)

Instead of stepping up to help, the nations stood by thinking about being able to take what Zion had and make it their own. To the conquerors go the spoils. Many nations have operated under this premise, and it is happening today, but when Israel is attacked, defeats its enemies, and takes enough land to protect itself, the world says to give it back, and you will have peace because we will protect you. I am sorry, but the world will not protect Israel, and while I may not agree with some of the things the Israeli government does, I know they are doing their best to protect their people in the land that was given to them through Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Even today they gave back Hebron where the Patriarchs are buried. They gave back other land as well, and their enemies squandered what they were given.

Proverbs 17:5 Whoever mocks the poor insults his Maker; he who is glad at calamity will not go unpunished. (ESV)

Look at what happened to those people and countries that came against God's people. Where are the ancient nations that opposed Israel? Where is Rome, the Greeks, and the Soviet Union, though they are trying to make a comeback as the New Russia? Where is the power of England and France? Germany was laid low after World War II but has been reunited and come back strongly, but once again the ugliness that brought her down is

raising its head, and its happening all over the world, even here in the United States. Instead of being one nation under God, we are becoming more and more divided through politics, race, religion, etc. You name it and someone will claim it as a reason for their anger and their hate.

1 Corinthians 6:15-18

15 Do you not know that your bodies are members of Messiah? Shall I then take the members of Messiah and make them members of a prostitute? Never! ¹⁶ Or do you not know that he who is joined to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For, as it is written, "The two will become one flesh." ¹⁷ But he who is joined to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. ¹⁸ Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body. (ESV)

We must learn to control our physical nature, whatever the urge may be. Our desires can get the better of us. Just look at Shechem. After the act, he relented and wanted to marry Dinah. After Amnon raped his step-sister, he was filled with revulsion for her, as though she had done something wrong, when it was not her but him. This is the way the nations deal with Israel and the Jewish people. They want to be friends with them to get something, and once that takes place, they drop them like a hot potato. Israel finds itself surrounded by enemies on all sides, reaches out for help, and gets none or very little, so they look elsewhere, even looking to make agreements with enemies and looking for help from Russia as the United States is slowly turning its back on her.

This is the reality we live in and the world we must deal with. The Holy One of Israel is moving the chess pieces across the board putting them where He wants them to be to set everything up that must take place before He sends His Son back. It may look like the world is spinning out of control, but in all the turmoil that is happening, God is truly in control. Wasn't it Him who brought the chaos under control to form everything that now exists in it? Wasn't it Him who spoke forth the Word that began Creation and kept it in place until He was finished? This Word was none other than Messiah Yeshua brought forth from the Father to fulfill His plan that has existed from the very beginning when all there was, was God.

Torah Man says: "He who reigns within himself, and rules passions, desires, and fears, is more than a king."

Blessings in Messiah Yeshua,

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at www.jsi-edu.org and check us out. You can earn an approved degree or take the courses to help you grow in your understanding.



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