

How Do You Know?

Part Six

(Feeling for Completion)

Almost always, there is an intervening period during which the LORD clears away, so called, skeletons of the past. Actually, it may be more appropriate to speak of it as being, a time for uncovering skeletons. These may be as easily remedied as this: the "toilet seat up, or down" issue. It may be as complex as: that, there is already a child (or more) on one side of the relationship. Please think of this word, child, in its broadest sense. For instance; a man who just must wash and wax the car by hand, has a "child".

Generally, the thing that must be reconciled is of a sort that, it occupies the highest level of influence over your life. Of course, this is exclusive of the LORD God, and excludes Him from ever being displaced from the Penthouse Level of your existence. Let us explore that, for a moment.

The Penthouse Level of your existence is the place which is totally under the control of the LORD God. In history, there has only been one time when the LORD authorized anything else to enter this area; and, it is this one . . .

As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent. Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me. To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne.

(Revelation 3:19-21)

Other than allowing the Son of God into the highest area, we must exclude everything else from entering that space. Moreover, even the Son is subject to the entry rules that are applied on us, by the LORD God, the Father. In a portion of the writing of the apostle Paul, he describes this interaction between the Father God and the Son God.

For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming. Then cometh the end, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power. For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet.

The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death. For he hath put all things under his feet.

But when he saith all things are put under him, it is manifest that he is excepted, which did put all things under him.

(1 Corinthians 15:21-27)

At our lower level of reality, we are in a space that is similar to that one; in that, we are pulling together the things that will be in the world of our relationship. Thus, we can use this as an image for the next level that is occupied by the highest level thing / person of this earth. In that place, there are rules of entry that have a controller that manages them. In the case of the developing relationship, this is the place that is the home for the aura of the intended life partner. (By the way; preparation of this space should be done as soon as the LORD highlights the matching of the man and the woman.)

At that time, three things are feeling for completion: you, your love interest, and the garment in which you are wrapping your union. Your objective must be that; the garment allows both of you to move more freely, but also, in unity. Such a garment is not within human tailoring capability. Human tailoring is limited in its performance, as in this fashion.

And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat. And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked;

and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons.

(Genesis 3:6-7)

At the higher level; what we need comes to us in this fashion.

Unto Adam also and to his wife did the LORD God make coats of skins, and clothed them.

(Genesis 3:21)

In our new world, we have to look to the LORD to make one coat for both, together. This requires a goodly measure of patience because; we cannot say when the coat will be complete. Sometimes, we cannot even say, whether it will be completed. Then, there are those times when we do not even know that God is making a coat, at all. In hindsight, we can see that possibility, here.

But one of the young men told Abigail, Nabal's wife, saying, Behold, David sent messengers out of the wilderness to salute our master; and he railed on them. But the men were very good unto us, and we were not hurt, neither missed we any thing, as long as we were conversant with them, when we were in the fields: They were a wall unto us both by night and day, all the while we were with them keeping the sheep. Now therefore know and consider what thou wilt do; for evil is determined against our master, and against all his household: for he is such a son of Belial, that a man cannot speak to him.

Then Abigail made haste, and took two hundred loaves, and two bottles of wine, and five sheep ready dressed, and five measures of parched corn, and an hundred clusters of raisins, and two hundred cakes of figs, and laid them on asses.

And she said unto her servants, Go on before me; behold, I come after you.

But she told not her husband Nabal.

(1 Samuel 25:14-19)

In my mind, the time when we are unaware of the coat that the LORD is developing seems to be the most peaceful of the positions, as pertains to the tension of romance. In that time, our mind can concentrate on developing the anchors for life that we need. I say that because; I am thinking of the time when God was making such a coat for Abigail and David, unaware. The need for the coat starts here.

And it was so, as she rode on the ass, that she came down by the covert on the hill, and, behold, David and his men came down against her; and she met them.

Now David had said, Surely in vain have I kept all that this fellow hath in the wilderness, so that nothing was missed of all that pertained unto him: and he hath requited me evil for good. So and more also do God unto the enemies of David, if I leave of all that pertain to him by the morning light any that pisseth against the wall.

(1 Samuel 25:20-22)

Here, David received his introduction to the possibility of a coat.

And when Abigail saw David, she hasted, and lighted off the ass, and fell before David on her face, and bowed herself to the ground, And fell at his feet, and said, Upon me, my lord, upon me let this iniquity be: and let thine handmaid, I pray thee, speak in thine audience, and hear the words of thine handmaid. Let not my lord, I pray thee, regard this man of Belial, even Nabal: for as his name is, so is he; Nabal is his name, and folly is with him: but I thine handmaid saw not the young men of my lord, whom thou didst send.

(1 Samuel 25:23-25)

It is interesting, to me, how the LORD placed blinders over any possibility for David to see the need for the coat of union with Abigail. The LORD did this, by infusing this, a great obligation, in David . . .

Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbour's.

(Exodus 20:17)

Also, the LORD placed another restriction on David, in that; David had to take care of his responsibility, as relative to his company. The people that depended on him were in this group.

David therefore departed thence, and escaped to the cave Adullam: and when his brethren and all his father's house heard it, they went down thither to him. And every one that was in distress, and every one that was in debt, and every one that was discontented, gathered themselves unto him; and he became a captain over them: and there were with him about four hundred men.

(1 Samuel 22:1-2)

As a dampener on the other side of the developing union, the LORD gave Abigail some consuming responsibilities. Chief among those responsibilities was this one.

And there was a man in Maon, whose possessions were in Carmel; and the man was very great, and he had three thousand sheep, and a thousand goats: and he was shearing his sheep in Carmel. Now the name of the man was Nabal; and the name of his wife Abigail: and she was a woman of good understanding, and of a beautiful countenance: but the man was churlish and evil in his doings; and he was of the house of Caleb.

(1 Samuel 25:2-3)

To bring this away from dissolution of marriage, let us think about other comparable obligations. If, for instance, a woman is pursuing a high level executive position in a company; there is much that may already be in slot one, in her life. In that case, the LORD may have to separate, temporarily, the woman, from being wedded to that particular slot one. No, a different high level executive does not have to be moved to that position. Instead, it may be done by the introduction of a challenge which only the LORD can solve, as coupled with a hint that, the man is centrally instrumental in the solution. Abigail was placed in such an environment as that one, as she spoke to David, in these words.

I pray thee, forgive the trespass of thine handmaid: for the LORD will certainly make my lord a sure house; because my lord fighteth the battles of the LORD, and evil hath not been found in thee all thy days. Yet a man is risen to pursue thee, and to seek thy soul: but the soul of my lord shall be bound in the bundle of life with the LORD thy God; and the souls of thine enemies, them shall he sling out, as out of the middle of a sling.

And it shall come to pass, when the LORD shall have done to my lord

according to all the good that he hath spoken concerning thee, and shall have appointed thee ruler over Israel; That this shall be no grief unto thee, nor offence of heart unto my lord, either that thou hast shed blood causeless, or that my lord hath avenged himself: but when the LORD shall have dealt well with my lord, then remember thine handmaid.

(1 Samuel 25:28-31)

The hint is this: *when the LORD shall have dealt well with my lord, then remember thine handmaid.* With that in place; Abigail was rounding home, as pertains to the attachment with David. From that point, forward; only the LORD could righteously remove the blockade that she faced. Though, it does not seem unfair to think that, her soul had moved to this place of preparation.

Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.

(Matthew 7:7-8)

For Abigail, the LORD did bring about the transformation of her situation.

And Abigail came to Nabal; and, behold, he held a feast in his house, like the feast of a king; and Nabal's heart was merry within him, for he was very drunken: wherefore she told him nothing, less or more, until the morning light.

But it came to pass in the morning, when the wine was gone out of Nabal, and his wife had told him these things, that his heart died within him, and he became as a stone. And it came to pass about ten days after, that the LORD smote Nabal, that he died.

(1 Samuel 25:36-38)

As one read the accounting of the life of Abigail, one can almost feel the anguish that she had, as relates to her situation. By that reading, it seems obvious that Nabal did not truly enter this place of mutually beneficial outreach to Abigail . . .

Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.

And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.

(Genesis 2:24-25)

Here, we say this: in a totally open world of possibilities; after the death of Nabal, Abigail could have been left alone. Moreover, Abigail could have reconciled that position in life, and settled into it, without a man. Indeed, when there is a loss of this sort; that is what the woman should do; at least, until the LORD stirs the waters. Consider these words of the apostle Paul.

Now concerning virgins I have no commandment of the Lord: yet I give my judgment, as one that hath obtained mercy of the Lord to be faithful. I suppose therefore that this is good for the present distress, I say, that it is good for a man so to be.

Art thou bound unto a wife? seek not to be loosed. Art thou loosed from a wife? seek not a wife. But and if thou marry, thou hast not sinned; and if a virgin marry, she hath not sinned. Nevertheless such shall have trouble in the flesh: but I spare you.

(1 Corinthians 7:25-28)

The apostle Paul did give sound reasons for his exhortation; as we see, here.

But this I say, brethren, the time is short: it remaineth, that both they that have wives be as though they had none; And they that weep, as though they wept not; and they that rejoice, as though they rejoiced not; and they that buy, as though they possessed not; And they that use this world, as not abusing it: for the fashion of this world passeth away.

But I would have you without carefulness. He that is unmarried careth for the things that belong to the Lord, how he may please the Lord: But he that is married careth for the things that are of the world, how he may please his wife.

There is difference also between a wife and a virgin. The unmarried woman careth for the things of the Lord, that she may be holy both in body and in spirit: but she that is married careth for the things of the world, how she may please her husband.

And this I speak for your own profit; not that I may cast a snare upon you, but for that which is comely, and that ye may attend upon the Lord without distraction.

(1 Corinthians 7:29-35)

The Scripture in 1 Corinthians 7:29-35 is not a commandment of the LORD (as the apostle Paul stated: *I have no commandment of the Lord*). There will be some widows that will receive an opportunity to move into a new relationship that is tending toward marriage. For these ones, the apostle Paul provides the following inspiration.

But if any man think that he behaveth himself uncomely toward his virgin, if she pass the flower of her age, and need so require, let him do what he will, he sinneth not: let them marry.

The wife is bound by the law as long as her husband liveth; but if her husband be dead, she is at liberty to be married to whom she will; only in the Lord.

(1 Corinthians 7:36, 39)

I want to add a note, here. If a woman is widowed, it is best to think of her as being your virgin, when she has had no other man besides her husband, at any time since the death of her husband. In this way, you will feel pressure to allow her to maintain her celibacy toward you. Yes, this does require a robust commitment to ignoring the whisper of biology; especially, when she has children.

Likewise, the widowed woman must consider herself to be his virgin, so that she will not bring prior expectations into the relationship, as based on prior sexual anything. Additionally, the man must place his self in a correlated, virgin environment. With this consolidated attitude, it will be easier for both of you to accept the fact that; as the LORD directs, and prior to consummation contact, there is this flow of events: the man proposes marriage, as a request for mutual joining, the woman accepts, and the LORD ordains a joining, of such as is indicated in Genesis 2:24-25.

This sequence does not require that, the woman is dormant in proposing a union. In fact; as in pursuit of a union, the woman's proposal may be much louder than the man's. As the woman confronts aloneness, as if it was an adversary; she can apply extreme pressure on the man, as at this level.

And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint; Saying, There was in a city a judge, which feared not God, neither regarded man: And there was a widow in that city; and she came unto him, saying, Avenge me of mine adversary. And he would not for a while: but afterward he said within himself, Though I fear not God, nor regard man; Yet because this widow troubleth me, I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me.

And the Lord said, Hear what the unjust judge saith.

And shall not God avenge his own elect, which cry day and night unto him, though he bear long with them? I tell you that he will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?

(Luke 18:1-8)

Please, do not forget that the adversary is loneliness; not, any perception of slowness or hesitancy in the man. Also, please, do not move away from that level at which the judge is, the Judge, the Father God. Do you think that David and Abigail proposal was engineered by either of them? Or, rather, do you see the Hand of God in this, at the beginning of their covering in His mutual coat of matrimony? I think it was done by the LORD, as through the seal of David.

By God's presence in the relationship of David and Abigail, the coat of union that is of the LORD was adorned with the glue that Abigail provided. By her action, Abigail pulled David to the recognition that she was fully committed to the relationship. In response to this; it was David's portion of responsibility, obligation and expression of love, for him to show that he, too, was fully committed.

We, too, need to be ready to pull our uniquely fashioned coat--this, the coat of union that is of the LORD--tightly around our union; as that was done, here, by the man . . .

And when David heard that Nabal was dead, he said, Blessed be the LORD, that hath pleaded the cause of my reproach from the hand of Nabal, and hath kept his servant from evil: for the LORD hath returned the wickedness of Nabal upon his own head. And David sent and communed with Abigail, to take her to him to wife.

(1 Samuel 25:39)

. . . And, as facilitated by the hand of the woman.

And when the servants of David were come to Abigail to Carmel, they spake unto her, saying, David sent us unto thee, to take thee to him to wife. And she arose, and bowed herself on her face to the earth, and said, Behold, let thine handmaid be a servant to wash the feet of the servants of my lord.

(1 Samuel 25:40-41)

And, thereby, the two hands pulled the sides of the coat together, around them, both.

And Abigail hasted, and arose, and rode upon an ass, with five damsels of hers that went after her; and she went after the messengers of David, and became his wife.

(1 Samuel 25:42)

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**-- Next, in How Do You Know --**  
For Life, Extended  
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