

WALKING IN OBEDIENCE: ABRAHAM and Sarah

Genesis 18:1-10 INTRODUCTION: WALKING AND OBEDIENCE

Walking imagines that there is a certain direction, Walking in obedience assumes that an authority has taken over and one's direction is determined by power to obey that voice from authority more than any other thing.

Woman who couldn't open her vehicle

1. Obedience in listening

Milton Michael states that- The life of a man is impoverished if he does not listen to his Creator; This had earlier been confirmed by **St Augustine** who stated that man is restless until when he rests in God.

In this text we have a man who listened; He also obeyed and His life after 75 years is marked by trails of seeking and following the Savior; no wonder he is considered as the father of faith.

12:1 The Lord had said to Abram, Go from your country, your people and your fathers household to the land I will show you. **12:2** I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. **12:3** I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.

In the text which was read, he listens while seated,

18:1 The Lord appeared to Abraham near the great trees of Mamre while he was sitting at the entrance to his tent in the heat of the day.

- Seated represents **position**; Heat of the day denotes a **time**
- MIRACLES, MESSAGE, MOMENT
- Dreams and Visions, Voices and Angels, Nature and Imagination

God speaks anything in any place are you listening?-Elijah, Moses,-

Isaiah God stated that; Consult me (**30,2**); Listen (**44,1**), Hear this (**51,21**); Listen to me (**55,2**); Give ear and come to me, hear me (**55,2**),

Jer 7:2 Stand at the gate of the Lords house and there proclaim this message: Hear the word of the Lord, all you people of Judah who come through these gates to worship the Lord.

Ez 37,4 dry bones, hear the word of the Lord

Rev 2:7, 2:11, 2:17 2:29 3:6 Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches.

Walking in obedience means Listening to His voice

GOD SPEAKS, A PERSON LISTENS, WHEN THE PERSON OBEYS GOD WORKS!

2. Obedience in invitation

18:2 Abraham looked up and saw three men standing nearby. When he saw them, he hurried from the entrance of his tent to meet them and bowed low to the ground.

18:3 He said, If I have found favor in your eyes, my lord, do not pass your servant by.

- a. Looked, noticed,
- b. Saw, ran
- c. Welcomed, bowed down
- d. Pass me not.....

THEY WERE NO LONGER SEEN AS ORDINARY,

Political leaders should invite

Micah 3:1 Then I said, Listen, you leaders of Jacob, you rulers of Israel. Should you not embrace justice, **3:2** you who hate good and love evil; who tear the skin from my people and the flesh from their bones

Rebels should invite

Amos 4:1 Hear this word, you cows of Bashan on Mount Samaria, you women who oppress the poor and crush the needy and say to your husbands, Bring us some drinks!

Elders should invite

Joel 1:2 Hear this, you elders; listen, all who live in the land. Has anything like this ever happened in your days or in the days of your ancestors?

Idle women must invite

Jer 32:9 You women who are so complacent, rise up and listen to me; you daughters who feel secure, hear what I have to say! **32:10** In little more than a year you who feel secure will tremble; the grape harvest will fail, and the harvest of fruit will not come.

All families should invite

Jer 2:4 Hear the word of the Lord, you descendants of Jacob, all you clans of Israel.

Walking in obedience means inviting the Lord to be with you

3. Obedience in Giving

18:4 Let a little **water** be brought, and then you may all wash your feet and **rest under this tree**.

18:5 Let me get you something **to eat**, so you can be **refreshed** and then go on your way now that you have come to your servant. Very

well, they answered, do as you say.

18:6 So Abraham hurried into the tent to Sarah. Quick, he said, get three seahs of the finest flour and knead it and bake some **bread**.

18:7 Then he ran to the herd and selected a choice, **tender calf** and gave it to a servant, who hurried to prepare it.

18:8 He then brought some **curds and milk** and the calf that had been prepared, and set these before them. While they ate, he stood near them under a tree.

- 4-rest and water
- 5-food and refreshments
- 6,7- Bread and meat
- 8- Curds and milk

God honors givers

Family and children who gave to ACP and Kyambogo University recently, Many of you

BRING TITHE, BUILD HOUSES, OFFERTORY, THANKSGIVING etc

Walking in obedience means giving to God extravagantly;

Can one describe you as a giver?

4. Obedience in service

- Sarah prepared 3 measures (Many-Luke 10)

18:6 So Abraham hurried into the tent to Sarah. Quick, he said, get three seahs of the finest flour and **knead it and bake** some bread.

- Servants dressed the calf

18:7 Then he ran to the herd and selected a choice, tender calf and gave it to a servant, who hurried to prepare it.

- Abraham served milk and roasted meat

18:8 He then brought some curds and milk and the calf that had been prepared, and set these before them. While they ate, he stood near them under a tree.

- Abraham waited =service wanting to scrub-----
- Obedience in service is a personal choice
- Many, Simeon and Anna, Cornelius, Zaccheaus, bus driver--who waits in USA

YOUR LABOUR NOT IN VAIN – Allowances,,,

5:14 Moreover, from the twentieth year of King Artaxerxes, when I was appointed to be their governor in the land of Judah, until his thirty-second year twelve years neither I nor my brothers ate the food allotted to the governor. 5:15 But the earlier governors those preceding me placed a heavy burden on the people and took forty shekels of silver from them in addition to food and wine. Their assistants also lorded it over the people. **But out of reverence for God I did not act like that.** 5:16 Instead, I devoted myself to the work on this wall. All my men were assembled there for the work; we did not acquire any land. 5:17 Furthermore, a hundred and fifty Jews and officials ate at my table, as well as those who came to us from the surrounding nations. 5:18 Each day one ox, six choice sheep and some poultry were prepared for me, and every ten days an abundant supply of wine of all kinds. In spite of all this, I never demanded the food allotted to the governor, because the demands were heavy on these people. 5:19 **Remember me with favor, my God, for all I have done for these people.**

Obeing to serve the Lord is tiresome but NOT IN VAIN

**Will you purpose this week to clear your desk? Smile, appreciate, encourage, exhort, rebuke,,,?
Lady who received a message,,,**

Clergy, Soundroom, Vergers, Security guards, Staffs and Cleaners, Choir, Husbands and wives, children, wardens, Council and volunteers, Technical and professionals, You Christians,,,

5. Obedience in receiving: God's blessings (Goshem)

18:9 Where is your wife Sarah? they asked him. There, in the tent, he said.

-Where is Sarah? God will bless those far. . . , **Children, Property, Money, Nation, Church, Life, Energy,**

18:10 Then one of them said, I will surely return to you about this time next year, and Sarah your wife will have a son. Now Sarah was listening at the entrance to the tent, which was behind him. -**This time next year.** . .

Walking in obedience gives blessings follow obedience up to the 1000th generation.

Walking in obedience gives blessings and adds NO sorrow

Conclusion

God has spoken to you many times, but are you listening, have you invited him, are you giving and serving? May this year of the family be to you like that of Abraham and Sarah. . . . May God declare something out of the ordinary that will restore your laughter in Jesus Name. Amen