

THE WILD MAN

Gen 16:11 And the angel of the LORD said unto her, Behold, thou *art* with child, and shalt bear a son, and shalt call his name **Ishmael**; because the LORD hath heard thy affliction. 12 And **he will be a wild man; his hand will be against every man, and every man's hand against him**; and he shall dwell in the presence of all his brethren.

The Word of God (The Bible) is a book of contrasts. The Spirit of God who used men to put the words of God on paper used many examples from Genesis to Revelation to provide very graphic illustrations of the differences between **who is of God** and **who is not**. This contrast between the kingdom of God and the Kingdom of Satan, between Light and Darkness, or we could say between the seed of God and the seed of Adam is indicated over and over again through out the scriptures.

Here are just a few examples. The separation of darkness from light, the differences of Adam and Eve, the division of Cain and Abel, the separation of Ishmael and Isaac, the distinction made between Esau and Jacob, the division of Israel from Egypt and the Gentile nations, and the separation of flesh and spirit. We could go on but the point is made by God over and over again that there is a vast difference between **those who are OF God** and those **who are NOT OF God**. Only those who are willfully blind to this truth or just plain ignorant cannot understand this.

We have heard for many years now from people of the world and even those that believe in God that there is only one God and that all of us who have some form of religion and belief in God are worshiping the same God. In my opinion this is one of the greatest lies or one of the greatest deceptions every propagated on the human race. Yes there is ONE TRUE GOD, but there are also hundreds if not thousands of FALSE GODS'. The holy scriptures refer to Satan as the "**god of this world**" who has blinded the minds of those who do not believe or those who will not put their trust in the Lord Jesus Christ. The word of God in the book of Revelation refers to those who are of the "**synagogue of Satan**." This indicates that there are those who profess to be the people of God and are not.

There are many warnings issued in the Word of God about those who can be and will be deceived.

We have radical religious people today who are of the genealogy of Ishmael. These people are destroying themselves and innocent people in the name of their God. They are filled with a religious spirit and a spirit of hate. A spirit which is not of the one true God, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. They remind me of Saul of Tarsus in the Bible, who after a real experience with the one True God became Paul the Apostle of God. You may recall that in his religious zeal for God he was persecuting the Christian believers, having them imprisoned and put to death. He in fact was doing this for his one true God but also in his ignorance of God. In Saul's ignorance of Gods nature and His will he was actually destroying Gods people. It was while he was on the road to destroy more Christians that Jesus Christ appeared to him and allowed him to see that what he was doing was in fact against the very God in whom he believed.

The nature of a religious believer and one born of the flesh as symbolized through Gods word by Ishmael is the nature of Adam. Such people can be religious, have a belief in God and be very dedicated, but their true character comes out in their hatred, their lust, their self will, their evil speaking and their destructive ways. As God said, they are WILD MEN. Men whose hands are against every man and every man is against them. They fight and war even among themselves and no amount of reason can stop them or bring about peace. "**Unto the pure all things are pure: but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure; but even their mind and conscience is defiled. They profess that they know God; but in works they deny him, being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate.**" (Titus 1:15-16)

Anyone of us who has eyes to see and ears to hear, can see that even in their own countries and among themselves they cannot get along but war and fight and destroy one another. And they do this all in the name of their God and for their religious beliefs. Now it is a shame to have to say this but this SAME SPIRIT OF ANTICHRIST also works among Christian believers, churches and denominations as they verbally tear at each other with their mouths and attempt to put down and destroy one another with their gossip. It is as if Jesus is saying unto us all as He said to James and John when they wanted to call fire down from heaven and destroy those who disagreed with them, "... **He turned and rebuked them, and said, "You do not know what manner of spirit you are of. For the Son of Man did not come to destroy men's lives but to save them."** (Luke 9:55-56)

The question may arise, "are not all these people the seed of Abraham?" If they are then would this not make Abraham their father and the blessing of God upon them as the blessings of God were on him? Would not Abrahams God be their God and their nature of being the same as his? And if all this is so then what has happened to them? Understanding the answer to these questions is to understand what God through His Spirit and His Word had been trying to reveal to the human race ever since the Lord Jesus Christ came. It is extremely important that we understand this revelation and the effects of its meaning. Other wise we cannot be blessed of God and will one day discover that we actually lived and acted in opposition to HIM.

Actually the issues regarding these questions are explained to us by God through the Apostle Paul in his letter to the Galatians. For those of you who are interested you can read Galatians chapters three through five. We will just make a brief summary for you here. God is saying to all who will hear that ALL his blessings, which include His salvation, deliverance, protection, provision and much more has come upon all of us who are OF HIS SEED. Please note that He does not say SEEDS.

Abraham had two sons the one through Hagar the other through Sarah. Abraham's son through Hagar whose name was Ishmael was produced through natural means which has reference to Abrahams flesh and represents NATURAL BIRTH. Ishmael represents what God calls the FLESH. The flesh cannot please God and cannot inherit any of the blessings of God but is in fact a symbol of the curse and BONDAGE. Ishmael represents the Adamic nature or the nature of Adam that the entire human race is born with. The Apostle Peter referred to this seed as the "**corruptible seed**". The nature of this seed puts us all under the curse of God and separates us all from God.

Jesus Christ had to come to earth and be born of a virgin, other wise He would also have been born of the flesh and incapable of being the **incorruptible seed** of God. He would have had the same nature as Adam and Ishmael. In order for Him to redeem us He had to be born of God. God must be His Father. So perhaps you can now see that our position of being a sinner or separated from God and His blessings is not a matter of the sins that we commit **but it is a matter of BIRTH**. We all as Ishmael was are born after the flesh. This is why the Word of God says, "**For since by man came death, by Man also came the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive.** (1 Cor.15:21-22)

Isaac on the other hand represents a **SUPERNATURAL BIRTH** because his birth was through Sarah who at the time of conception was past the age of bearing a child. God, through Abraham and Sarah's faith provided supernatural strength for her to conceive and to bring forth the promised son, Isaac. Isaac being a child of faith born by the promise and power of god represents the Lord Jesus Christ. Isaacs's miraculous birth represents **the SEED** which is **Jesus Christ** the seed of the woman that was to crush Satan's head as promised by God in Genesis. His birth corresponds to **the Seed of God** or the "**incorruptible seed**" as the Apostle Peter referred to it. ("**having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever,** (1 Pet 1:23)

Just as Isaac was born by promise and without the need of an earthly father so Jesus was the promised SEED that would come and redeem the human race. The angel that appeared to Mary the mother of Jesus said, "***The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God.***" Isaac was a type of Christ and he represents the SPIRIT and the spiritual birth that takes place within all those who put their trust in Jesus Christ. As Jesus spoke to one of the greatest religious leaders of His time and said in effect, "**your religious efforts in the flesh cannot save you, you must be born again, born from above.**" He continued by saying, "**that which is born of the flesh is flesh and that which is born of the spirit is spirit.**" He also said, "**that flesh and blood cannot enter the kingdom of God.**"

This new birth that Jesus Christ spoke of is **OF GOD**; it is **FROM HIM**, accomplished within the believer **by the power of the Holy Spirit**. The energy and works of the flesh cannot produce a NEW CREATION only God can do this. This new birth which is **accomplished by God within the believer** makes that believer a CHILD OF GOD. It is this new birth that provides within the believer the capabilities of being a partaker of the DIVINE NATURE and living by the power of that nature now, in this present life.

As a believer in Christ **we have a choice** of either walking or conducting our lives by the power and energy of the flesh (in the **FLESH**) or by the power and energy of the spirit (in the **SPIRIT**). As one who has put their trust in Christ we cease to be a **WILD MAN**, doing as we will and pleasing only ourselves. We become a MAN OF GOD, doing as God wills and the fruits of His Spirit will be manifested, or revealed in our lives. Our lives will be full of His love, joy, peace, happiness, faith, temperance, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, and meekness.

The Apostle Paul who experienced this new birth in his own life stated that God had sent him into the world to proclaim the Gospel or this Good News to every one, "**To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me.** (Acts 26:18) As we read in Genesis 21 God gave instructions to Abraham **to cast out Ishmael and his mother. God said that the bond woman and her son (Ishmael) would not, could not be his heir. "Now we, brethren, as Isaac was, are the children of promise. ²⁹But as then he that was born after the flesh persecuted him that was born after the Spirit, even so it is now. ³⁰Nevertheless what saith the scripture? Cast out the bondwoman and her son: for the son of the bondwoman shall not be heir with the son of the freewoman. ³¹So then, brethren, we are not children of the bondwoman, but of the free."** (Galatians 4:28-29)

Our prayer is that this may be true in all our lives. God Bless, Pastor Lewis