**PILLARS OF MARRIAGE**

**13TH MAY 2019.**

**THE PARADOX AND JIGSAW OF BIBLICAL MARRIAGES AND RELATIONSHIPS.**

**Welcome.**

**Yesterday we did a little treatise on some oxymorons and ironies of biblical texts that clearly are not straight forward to any bible reader and do often leave a lot to be desired as pertains any close sense of understanding. Tonight, we will operate on the same breath but take the direction of Marriages and relationships that offered some opaque platform for every desired ounce of Comprehension in our Mortal Journey.**

**The usual suspects cannot escape this Journey in the Bible as pertains Jigsaws of Marriage and relationships. Samson, Solomon. Hmmm. Then we have Moses’ marriage and some strange women in the book of the reformists by names of Ezra and Nehemiah. Let us see how much we can cover.**

**SAMSON**

**Judges 16:1 “Then went Samson to Gaza, and saw there a Harlot and went into her.”**

**When we read the bible, as stated yesterday, we should first understand that not all that is written is approved and approbated by God. Note that the bible states in 2nd Timothy 3:16 “All *scripture* is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness.” And so, there is no Hint of such approval that is accorded this passage.**

**Attention needs to be often drawn to the fact that DIVINE APPROVAL and APPROBATION of a man by God does not involve the favorable regard of every action of the man, or of every event in a Man’s life. This is a notion that needs to be wiped out and applied in its correct vector and approach if we are to outgrow the accolades and praise which we place on Mere mortals Howbeit their Spiritual gifting courtesy of the Divine Callings. In these days, we frequently find marked genius associated with marked frailties; Men who are remarkable for Spiritual gifting, Oratory prowess, and un marched crowd Pullers, of artistic gifting, Such men are sometimes morally weak and the weakness often takes the form of Unrestrained Passion and sensual Indulgence.**

**In this respect, we need to read the calling of Samson from the pinnacles of the wisdom to which the scriptures desire for us to see. And that element is that God can accept the Faithfully used strength of Samson without any kind of approval of His sensuality. And as I stated yesterday, the bible is a book of Morals as much as it is a book of Spiritual Principles. Scriptures are not Biographies and Eulogies, which in their core essence (Biographies and Eulogies) only focus on the Intellectual and noble attainments while completely obscuring the Moral lessons from the life of the Individual. The Direct relations of scriptures to the teachings of Morals comes out in nothing so impressively as in the fact that the Character and conduct of the Persons introduced are fully and Honestly detailed. This makes the scriptures strong and unique.**

**Moving further on as pertains this very verse, we will learn that In estimating all persons who occupy public Positions in God’s service, we must distinguish between their official Position FROM their Personal Character Disposition. A man may be a Good servant, but a bad Husband and friend. He could be a good officer but evil in Private Life and enterprise.**

**In this I need then to categorically state that there is an Office and an Officer. This then brings us to a very interesting element; and that element is that when a person goes for interviews, we need to rebrand that exercise and call it “A Mini Marriage Ceremony”. Why thus? Because in the Interview, the attempt by the panel is to try and marry the Qualities, character and demeanor of the Individual (Feminine) with His/her ability to Occupy and take charge of an Office (Masculine). Also note that similar terms are used in matrimony as they are used in Recruitment for Office; TO HOLD AND TO CHERISH..HOLD OFFICE This also means that being fired is a form of “Divorce” and it usually is associated with some degree of pain to it.**

**Thus in scripture we find some men are set before us for the tuition of personal virtues, while others are only to be imitated so far as they executed with earnestness and skill some public duty.**

**The mission of Samson is quite difficult to understand but it is quite clear that he is commended only for the Public and National influence and for the good he exerted. The notion commonly entertained that men of unusual bodily size are also unduly strong and with exerted control to their bodily passions needs to be erased here.**

**It is curious to notice that Samson’s great deeds are more or less directly connected with his sensual practices; and when we observe His story carefully we find that he did not deliver Israel. Note that Israel at the time were under the colony and ruler ship of the Philistines. Samson did not even attempt to deliver them. The truth is that there is very Little about his deeds of prowess; Most is strictly personal and much of what is told us belongs to the “Revengeful”**

**It is not new in the bible for God to take a Man and embody in his life all that is going on on a national platform. A clear case and Example is Hosea. His marriage to a Harlot portrayed a miniature of a Grand whoring that the nation had fallen into as pertains their worship of God.**

**Thus perhaps Samson’s Life and Mission are only to be explained as we realize the abject and hopeless condition of the Israelites in his time. Their Arms had been taken away; Philistines ruled the country freely; and the two nations seemed in a sense to have Blended. No wonder Samson blended with the women.**

**One a more silver strip, it is only mentioned that he began to deliver Israel. And His work seems to have been to life up the National spirit by raising the Laughter against the Philistine enemy. Remember that the people were deeply oppressed and there seemed to be no Hope of freedom. Thus, that God raised to Samson to Begin the work of Delivering Israel, may not appear as we expect. The practical joking which were Characteristic of Him were just the thing which were to Make Israelites to begin to despise the Enemy and to begin to see that “This is but a little thing in the sight of the Lord”2ND Kings 3:18.**

**JUDGES 14:1-4.**

**14 And Samson went down to Timnath, and saw a woman in Timnath of the daughters of the Philistines.**

**2And he came up, and told his father and his mother, and said, I have seen a woman in Timnath of the daughters of the Philistines: now therefore get her for me to wife.**

**3Then his father and his mother said unto him, Is there never a woman among the daughters of thy brethren, or among all my people, that thou goest to take a wife of the uncircumcised Philistines? And Samson said unto his father, Get her for me; for she pleaseth me well.**

**4But his father and his mother knew not that it was of the Lord, that he sought an occasion against the Philistines: for at that time the Philistines had dominion over Israel.**