

Exodus 19:4

AS WISE AS SERPENTS AND AS HARMLESS AS DOVES

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2024 Important Broad Promises Revealed

Psalm 23: 1-6

Cod is our shophord

God is our shepherd, He will position us and make our cup overflow. Exodus 19:4

God will carry us on eagles' wings, no matter what comes up.

Ecclesiastes 12:13

Our only role is to fear God, listen to the Holy Spirit, in us, and obey His command.

Exodus 19:4, God recounts how He has carried Israel on eagles' wings:

4 'You yourselves have seen what I did to Egypt, and how I carried you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself'.

VS 5-6

" ⁵ Now if you obey me fully and keep my covenant, then out of all nations you will be my treasured possession. Although the whole earth is mine, ⁶ you will be for Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation."

Text MATTHEW 10:16

"¹⁶ Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves. Therefore, be wise as serpents and harmless as doves."

1. SHEEP: The most key characteristic of sheep is:

Their gregarious **nature** or strong flocking instinct.

No wonder Jesus said:

John 10:27 "27 My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me".

Brethren, the strong character of sheep is that when they start following, they NEVER go back.

No wonder Jesus said: Luke 9:62 "No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God." (NIV)

Luke 9:62 "62" Anyone who lets himself be distracted from the work I plan for him is not fit for the Kingdom of God." (The Living Bible)

Jesus continued in **John 10:28-30**, "and they follow me, ²⁸ I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹ My Father, who has given them to me, [a] is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand. ³⁰ I and the Father are one."

Brethren, when we follow Him, He does not stop us half-way. He leads us to the right destination (eternal life).

Those on Eagles' wing, need not look back but follow Him to our destination. The flocking behavior is what makes sheep relatively easy to manage and herd, as they tend to move in a coordinated manner

Not flocking was reason God got annoyed with the Israelites when they proved difficult to manage and herd: **Exodus 32:9** "The LORD said to Moses, "I have seen this people, and they are indeed a stiff-necked people.

Acts 7: 51 captures it as "You stiff-necked people with uncircumcised hearts and ears! You always resist the Holy Spirit, just as your fathers did."

2. SERPENT: The most key characteristic of serpent is:

Silent (almost mistaken as elusive), ambush tactics

Romans 8:14 "Those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God."

Galatians 5:25 "Since we are living by the Spirit, let us follow the Spirit's leading in every part of our lives."

Brethren, Anyone in the Spirit, is almost silent in the physical, so much so that the person could appear elusive yet at the same time the person is alert, prudent, sensible, thoughtful and strategic.

Serpent lays ambush to attack. For the Christian, we don't attack in the physical.

2 Corinthians 10:4-6 "⁴ For the weapons of our warfare *are* not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, ⁵ casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ, ⁶ and being ready to punish all disobedience when your obedience is fulfilled."

Being as wise as serpents, what we do is not to harm people, but to take out stand as Christian, get into Spirit-led warfare (spiritual warfare – Eph 6:10-11) and defend the kingdom of God (Daniel 11:32 (CEV); 2 Corinthians 10:4-6).

3. DOVE: The most key characteristic of dove: peace and gentleness.

Romans 14:17 "..... the kingdom of God is of righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

As Christians who want to do exploit for God on earth, we do not need to fight physical battles. David fought wars but God did not allow him to build the temple for Him because his hands were stained with blood.

Solomon (David's son) enjoyed peace on every side, no fighting wars or battles, and he built the temple of God.

In Romans 12:18, Paul said "Do all that you can to live in peace with everyone." Isaiah 9:1-7 says that Jesus came as Prince of peace. And the greatness of His government has no end. Jesus did not fight physical wars.

- Philippians 4:6 advises us to settle every matter at the spiritual altar:

"Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need and thank Him for all he has done." (NLT),

Solomon focused on peace, but then, his first prayer was request for wisdom (to lead God's great people) ----- 1 Kings 3:1-14.

It is the Spirit of God that gives wisdom (Isaiah 11:2), more reason every child of God must live by the Spirit and walk with the Spirit (Galatians 5:25).

- Focus on building a temple for the Lord,

Exodus 14:14 says "the Lord will fight for you, and you shall have your peace".

Conclusion

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- Like sheep, follow God and don't look back
- Be as wise as serpents, remember that wisdom comes from the Holy Spirit, so be filled in the Spirit and walk in the Spirit
- Be as harmless as the dove, settle every situation at the spiritual alter, let God fight for you so you can have your peace.
- Focus on building the temple for God, bloody hand cannot build the temple That thing that God has told you to build for Him, that destination God wants you to occupy, you will get there without fighting wars. God will fight the wars.
 - Jericho wall fell with only songs and shout
 - The siege in Israel was lifted using only four leppers (2 King 7:3-20)
 - The five kings of the Amorites who joined forces against Gibeon/Joshua, the LORD hurled large hailstones down from the sky and killed them (Joshua 10)

Nothing is impossible for God to do!

God Bless You.

