

God's Looking For Character

Genesis 24:1, "And Abraham was old, and well stricken in age: and the LORD had blessed Abraham in all things."

Jesus counts character, not members. You know that? He counts characters. **God has always tried to get one man in His hand. That's all He needs is one man, and He'll do His work.** Through the years just think: He could only find one righteous man in the time of Noah. In the time of Moses He only found one righteous man (*II Chron. 16:9*).

God's looking for character, not membership, character. Eliezer, when he went to get the Bride of Isaac (*Gen. 24:1-9*), **he sweated it out until he found character.** Remember, Abraham put him responsible as God puts us responsible, we ministers. "**Hunt My Bride.**"

God bless your heart. I ain't looking for members; **I'm looking for the pure in heart, somebody that'll believe the Word** (*Matt. 5:8*).

Eliezer looked, and he thought, "Oh, I can't do this myself. There's too much responsibility. I realize the responsibility of finding Isaac..." Which, is type of the Church, you know, Christ; Rebekah, the type of the Bride... And Eliezer got down on his knees and said, "God, You just have to help me." And when he referred to God, **God helped him. He got character.**

Come back to the Word, brother. Come back to God. Don't pay any attention to this church you belong to. You can stay there if you want to, if they'll let you. But the thing to do **first is come to God.** That's right.

And then when **Eliezer found the character that was in the woman, Rebekah, the beautiful bride of Isaac, he told her about Isaac. And she never questioned one thing. She believed the word of the messenger, and she made ready to go** (*Rev. 19:6-8*). And they went, asked the father, and he said, "Just ask her; the damsel's of age. Ask her, let her decision be." (*Gen. 24:57-59*).

She said, "I will go." To what? **A man she had never seen, knowed nothing about** (*I Peter 1:8-9*). But yet she was ready, because she was predestinated and foreordained to that. Exactly right.

You might hear me preach this message. You might see the Holy Spirit discern and do great things and perform miracles. You might pray, and it would never come to pass. **Go on, your reward comes at the end.** Wouldn't that be better right then? Yeah. See, do Jesus a service. That's the end-time message. He had a Bride. God's looking for character.

And then **after Eliezer found the character, then the next thing was getting her ready to go. That's the same now, brother, the same now.** The end-time message is not out yonder in Babylon. [1]

God has always counted character, not members. And today we do vice versa. We count members, good dress, well payers, instead of character.

Eliezer sweated it out, until he found character. That's right. Who would he get? And he trusted God. Character for what? Character for Isaac, the Bride, which the Church is type of. You know that. **That was the natural seed of Abraham; this is the royal Seed of Abraham** (*Gal. 3:7,29*). Well, if Eliezer, the messenger hunting the bride and trying to find character, if that man is come, a messenger of the last day, trying to find the Bride for Christ, he will not look for a denominational membership. **He will look for character that's willing.**

Watch! **Good character first,** then to get her ready to meet Isaac. After he found the character, **then get her stand still long enough to listen to his message of Isaac** (*Isaiah 30:15; Psalm 23:2*).

That's the messenger of the last days, the evening Light, is **first find that Church (where will they believe the Message?), hunt it.** Hunt where that Church is that'll even let you come in, that won't close the door in your face. And then when you do there, then you've found character. **Now if she will stand still long enough to tell her how that Bride's got to be dressed! She's got to be clothed. Stand still!**

Look at the little Rebekah **listening to every word,** her little heart was beating. He was telling her. Now, you've sweated it out, "Where will I go?" until I find the character. Then when I find the character, **then make her stand still long enough to get her ready to go to meet him.** Oh, my, what a striking thing! **Get her ready; stand still to listen to his message of him.** Eliezer wasn't speaking of hisself, but he was speaking of the one he was sent from. And he had the gifts to prove that he was sent from him. Amen! He wanted to clothe her with these things. You know how he fixed her up.

Notice, the end-time messenger, his job will be to get the saints ready, **the Bride ready for the Bridegroom. That will be his Message.** [2]

Talking of members. Today, all you want is members, members. God doesn't look at members. **He's hunting character, that He can place His Word in somebody that'll believe Him.** As I said, other night, Eliezer sweated it out till he found character for the bride. **Then he had to make**

her stand still, in order to get her dressed right, to meet the one he was talking about. [3]

I said Eliezer sweated it out till he found character in Rebekah. Then he had to get her dressed up, ready, let her stand still and listen at his Message. The trouble of it is, today, when you find character, **it's hard to make them stand still long enough to put on clothes and get dressed up.** That's right. Some little Ricky's done pulled them off in some other direction. That's right. But there, Eliezer sweated it out. [4]

The Bible said, "*His Wife has made Herself ready*" (*Rev. 19:7*), at the end of the age. How did She make Herself ready, to becoming His Wife? And what does She? **What kind of a garment She had on? His Own Word. She was dressed in His Righteousness** (*Rev. 19:8*). That's what. It is right. See? [5]

Now, look here. **I hope He'll crown my ministry with this, of letting me take the clothes of the Word and dress His Bride in the clothes of the Word and for His righteousness** (*Col. 3:10-15*). I hope He'll crown me and let me stand there on that day, say, "*Behold the Lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world*" (*John 1:29*). [6]

Man looks at natural beauty. It's deceiving. And that's why a woman was given that beauty, for deception, to deceive. A beautiful woman, if she doesn't use it in the right way, it's a curse to her; that will send her to hell quicker than any thing else I know of. If she can be pretty, sure, as long as she stays with her husband and does what's right, and that fine and dandy. But she can take that same thing and, my, how she can deceive with it, for it was given to her to do so.

Notice, now, but **God is featured in character.** "There was no beauty we should desire Jesus," (*Isaiah 53:2-3*), but **there never was a character like Him, on the earth.**

Now we find out, today, that the church character, Satan and his group, look after big, beautiful churches, beautiful things. That's what the world looks at today. "Oh, it's the pastor, the great so-and-so time, so-and-so, so priestly and godly, walk out with his big robes, and things like that." They call that beauty.

But the real saints of God look **for the character of the vindicated Word.** [7]

And in noticing them, then I come to this conclusion. No matter what you are, God's got to furnish the audience. And no matter, if I could stand here this morning and bring the dead to life, and to bring the cripples to their normal condition, and yet, God is not in the program it would go nowhere. **God has to be in the program. His character is known by his works. No matter who he is, his works prove his character.**

If you take a man, no matter how good he tries to be, if his works are evil, all his goodness won't mount to nothing. **And a man's word is his characteristic.** A man that his word is no good, then you'll never have confidence in that man, because his word's no good. So therefore God, our Father, **His character and His works prove what He is.** [8]

If I'm a Christian, I have to be identified with every character of the Bible. I had to stand with Noah and preach with him, in the days, and warn the people. That's right. I had to stand on Mount Carmel, alone, with Elijah. I had to stand at Calvary, **and be crucified to myself and my own thoughts,** with Him (*Rom. 6:6*). But then again, I raised with Him on Easter, triumphant over all things. [9]

God have mercy upon us. If we are the sons and daughters of God, yet we're an alien in this life... **God's looking for character from men and women who can conduct themselves as sons and daughters of the King.** God have mercy on us, that we will do it.

That's what I'm after friends: character. That's what God's pulling for, character for that Bride that will be taken out. And as sons and daughters of God, let's act like it; **be sons and daughters!** God help us.

[10]

Reference:

[1] "The End Time Evangelism" (62-0603), par. 193, 197-201, 213

[2] "The Evening Messenger" (63-0116), par. 243-249

[3] "Identification" (63-0123), par. 199-200

[4] "Just One More Time, Lord" (63-0120E), par. 125

[5] "Birth Pains" (65-0124), par. 196

[6] "Present Stage of my Ministry" (62-0908), par. 121

[7] "Marriage And Divorce" (65-0221M), par. 141-144

[8] "Believe From The Heart" (57-0623), par. E-9

[9] "The Harvest Time" (64-1212), par. 202

[10] "A Testimony on the Sea" (62-0720), par. E-28

Spiritual Building-Stone No. 40 (new 2013) from the Revealed Word of this hour, compiled by: Gerd Rodewald, Friedenstr. 69, D-75328 Schömburg, Germany
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There's coming one with a Message that's straight on the Bible, and quick work will circle the earth. The seeds will go in newspapers, reading material, until every predestinated Seed of God has heard It.

[Bro. Branham in „Conduct-Order-Doctrine“, page 724]