

# Count your blessings...

*For the glory of God, and the spiritual edification of those who read these testimonies*

## God's hedge around you

When we read the book of Job, we see that God testifies of the perfect life that Job was living. The devil also accused God that Job is only perfect because of God's protection and blessings on Job and his family. Job 1:10, "*Hast not thou made an hedge about him, and about his house, and about all that he hath on every side? thou hast blessed the work of his hands, and his substance is increased in the land.*"

God has put a hedge around each one of His children as long as we abide in His will. It is only when we try to do our own will, and jump out the will of God, that we fall into trouble, and get attacked by the enemy. Ecc 10:8, "*He that diggeth a pit shall fall into it; and whoso breaketh an hedge, a serpent shall bite him.*" Like in the book of Job, satan is waiting to bite us, or devour us, the second we step out of the will of God.

In Genesis 34:1, we read of Dinah, who was abiding in the safety of Jacob's (her father's) house, and went out of the house to see the daughters of the land. "*And Dinah the daughter of Leah, which she bare unto Jacob, went out to see the daughters of the land.*" This decision to leave the house of Jacob or Jacob's land, can be compared to those people who decide to go to other churches for so many reasons.

These people have decided in their hearts that the standards are too high in their church, and so they say, let me find a church that is not so strict, that does not enforce all the truths in the Word of God, that has more social activities, that has a better gospel outreach ministry, that has more singing, that has better music, that lets me live as I want, that lets me dress how I want, and many other reasons. Such people go to other churches to see how they are, how their worship is, and whether they will be comfortable there. They try to find a better place to worship God, because they are not happy with the place that God has put them in.

So when Dinah went out to see the daughters of the land, it appears that nothing could really go wrong. She only went to see the other women, and was not looking for men or trouble. Nevertheless, we cannot avoid being seen by 'the sons of the land'. That is why we read in 1 Thessalonians 5:22, "*Abstain from all appearance of evil.*" Even if it is not evil in our eyes, it still may appear evil in other people's eyes, or invite evil from others; or worse, be seen as evil in the eyes of the Lord.

Afterwards, we read that Dinah was seen by the sons of the land, and was defiled by one of them. So easily, we can venture out of the will of God, and be defiled by the people and the things of the world, and attractions of the world.

Remember, these attractions can also be found in churches.



Let us always be found surrounded by the hedge that God puts around us, and not go to break that hedge by doing our own will. Remember, there is a serpent waiting to bite us if we step out of the will of God.