

# The Four Compromises of the Devil

By Doug Hamilton

## Part Four

Thus far in the series we have identified three of the four compromises that the devil would like the Christian to take concerning their daily living. Moses passed the message from God to “...go a three days’ journey into the wilderness, that we may sacrifice to the LORD our God” (Ex 3:18). Through a series of plagues that were designed to assault the false god system, Pharaoh offered three of those compromises.

- Stay here in the land and sacrifice –The Compromise of Uncommitted Worship
- Travel “not very far” into the wilderness –The Compromise of an Uncommitted Heart
- Go sacrifice, but leave your “little ones” behind –The Compromise of Uncommitted Children.

With three of the compromises being offered, it was time to begin the next two plagues.

- 8) Plague of Locusts –Confession of sin, Removal of Plague, Hardening of Pharaoh’s heart
- 9) Plague of Darkness –A hardening of Pharaoh’s Heart

## Compromise #4: Serve God with Uncommitted Possessions

Exodus 10:24-29 Then Pharaoh called to Moses, and said, “Go, serve the LORD; only let your flocks and your herds be detained. Even your little ones may go with you.”<sup>25</sup> But Moses said, “You must also let us have sacrifices and burnt offerings, that we may sacrifice *them* to the LORD our God.”<sup>26</sup> “Therefore, our livestock too shall go with us; not a hoof shall be left behind, for we shall take some of them to serve the LORD our God. And until we arrive there, we ourselves do not know with what we shall serve the LORD.”<sup>27</sup> But the LORD hardened Pharaoh’s heart, and he was not willing to let them go.<sup>28</sup> Then Pharaoh said to him, “Get away from me! Beware, do not see my face again, for in the day you see my face you shall die!”<sup>29</sup> Moses said, “You are right; I shall never see your face again!”

- Pharaoh was now willing to allow all the Israelites to go three days travel into the wilderness even with their children, but refused to let them take their flocks and herds. Since they were shepherds that meant Pharaoh was requesting to leave their livelihood behind.
- This is called the Compromise of Uncommitted Possessions because they were being asked to leave their possessions behind in Egypt as they went forth and sacrificed to God. This was not acceptable to the children of Israel, to Moses and most certainly to God. He was not saving them from Egypt with the intention of leaving their livelihood in the hands of the enemy. How could they expect to serve God with all their heart, body, mind and soul if it was not extended to their possessions?

## The Charge to the Church

- Brothers and Sisters, when God cleansed us from the sin of this world through the blood of the covenant of His Son Jesus Christ, it is to the Promised Land that we were headed to. When you enter a covenant with God, it is with the intention that all that you have will be put to work for the kingdom.

# The Four Compromises of the Devil

By Doug Hamilton

## The Home

- There is a word in the New Testament that I would like to turn attentions to. *Romans 12:10-13 Be devoted to one another in brotherly love; give preference to one another in honor; <sup>11</sup> not lagging behind in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; <sup>12</sup> rejoicing in hope, persevering in tribulation, devoted to prayer, <sup>13</sup> contributing to the needs of the saints, practicing hospitality.* It is in the last command, practicing hospitality, that we find an introduction to one of our greatest possessions, our home.
- Typically our home is the largest investment that we will make in our lifetime. When we are hospitable, it is typically the act of bringing one into their home for the purpose of love.
  - It is one of the qualities that the first century church was to look for in their leaders (1Tim 3:2).
  - It is one of the qualities that the first century church was to look for in the qualifications of a widow indeed (1 Tim 5:10)
  - It is one of the qualities that the first century church was to look for in themselves as a whole (Heb 13:2).
  - They were to “Be hospitable to one another without complaint.” 1 Peter 4:9
- It is when people are using their homes as a ministry tool for the working of the kingdom that great results will occur.

A brief look at this concept from the Bible will more than confirm it.

- Martha invited Jesus into her home for a meal and Bible study. -*Luke 10:38 Now as they were traveling along, He entered a village; and a woman named Martha welcomed Him into her home.*
  - Martha was a serious servant from of the Lord and sought to use that home to minister to others.
  - Jesus would be there for the funeral and resurrection of Lazarus (John 11).
  - They would again be in the same home for six days prior to the last Passover (John 12).
  - She understood the power of using the home for ministry and sought to use it. Imagine what would have happen if she never opened her home for Jesus and the disciples. She would not have know Jesus better, would not have exposed her sister Mary and brother Lazarus to Him, and would have altered the continuity of the raising of Lazarus from the grave.
- A leper invited Jesus into his home for fellowship. -*Mark 14:3 While He was in Bethany at the home of Simon the leper, and reclining at the table, there came a woman with an alabaster vial of very costly perfume of pure nard; and she broke the vial and poured it over His head.*
  - There are many times that people will make excuses for not opening up their home for fellowship and study. Here is a man who likely has his fingers and nose falling off, yet he still invites people into his home, including Jesus.
  - One of the most beautiful and touching accounts ever recorded is found in the house of a man that was considered an outcast among his own people. Imagine if this never occurred because Simon the leper refused to open his door to Jesus and the disciples.

# The Four Compromises of the Devil

By Doug Hamilton

- Jethro invited his future son-in-law Moses into his home for a meal. -*Exodus 2:20 He said to his daughters, “Where is he then? Why is it that you have left the man behind? Invite him to have something to eat.”*
  - It was during this moment of hospitality that Moses was able to meet his future father-in-law and the rest of the family.
  - What would have been the outcome had this not taken place? He would not have received the blessing to marry Jethro’s daughter, wouldn’t have had his two sons and likely would not have been on the mountain to see the burning bush forty years later. Praise God for hospitality.
  
- Lydia, the first convert of Europe, invited Paul and the missionary team into her home. -*Acts 16:15 And when she and her household had been baptized, she urged us, saying, “If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come into my house and stay.” And she prevailed upon us.*
  - She is remembered as the first convert in all of Europe, but it is her hospitality that should be focused on here. No sooner did her and her household come out of the water that she was pressing for Paul and the mission team to come into her home.
  
- The early church thrived on fellowship from open homes. -*Acts 2:46-47 Day by day continuing with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart,<sup>47</sup> praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved.*
  - The church from infancy knew well the concept of “house to house” leading unto “heart to heart” for they practiced it. Imagine where the early growth of the church would have been had they not opened their doors for others.
  
- Many opened up their homes for worship
  - Priscilla and Aquila
    - -*Romans 16:5 also greet the church that is in their house.*
    - *1 Corinthians 16:19 The churches of Asia greet you. Aquila and Prisca greet you heartily in the Lord, with the church that is in their house.*
  - Nympha
    - *Colossians 4:15 Greet the brethren who are in Laodicea and also Nympha and the church that is in her house.*
  - Philemon
    - *Philemon 1-2 Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To Philemon our beloved brother and fellow worker,<sup>2</sup> and to Apphia our sister, and to Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in your house:*

IF YOU HEADED FOR THE PROMISED LAND AND LEFT CONTROL OF YOUR HOME BACK IN EGYPT DON'T TAKE ANOTHER STEP UNTIL YOU RECTIFY IT. GO BACK

# The Four Compromises of the Devil

By Doug Hamilton

TO EGYPT AND BRING THE POSSESSION OF YOUR HOME WITH YOU AND START USING IT FOR THE KINGDOM OF GOD.

## The Vehicle

- There is a prophecy in Zechariah 9:9 that foretold of the Triumphal Entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. It reads *“Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout in triumph, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you; He is just and endowed with salvation, Humble, and mounted on a donkey, Even on a colt, the foal of a donkey.”*
- The people laid down palm branches as Jesus rode on the back of that donkey into the City of David. They cried out *“Hosanna to the Son of David; BLESSED IS HE WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD; Hosanna in the highest!”* What a glorious scene!
- What we fail to mention is where the donkey came from. Jesus told a couple of His disciples in Matthew 21:2-3 *“Go into the village opposite you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied there and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to Me.”*<sup>3</sup> *“If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, ‘The Lord has need of them,’ and immediately he will send them.”* This was someone else’s donkey and if asked the man would immediately dispatch it for the plans of the Lord. We do not know the owner of this “Dodge Colt”, but we know his heart because the Lord said so.
- The Ethiopian Eunuch invited Philip into his chariot for Bible study. -Acts 8:30-31 *Philip ran up and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet, and said, “Do you understand what you are reading?”*<sup>31</sup> *And he said, “Well, how could I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him.*
  - The chariot that he was on was probably more like a carriage or stagecoach. The eunuch was trying to understand the scroll of Isaiah that he acquired, but needed some help. When he saw that Philip was willing to study with him and explain, the eunuch invited him up into his mode of transportation. Imagine what the outcome might have been had not the eunuch opened up his vehicle for the workings of the kingdom?
- King Ahasuerus honored Mordecai by allowing him to ride his Royal Horse. -Esther 6:11 *They led him on horseback through the city square, and proclaimed before him, “Thus it shall be done to the man whom the king desires to honor.”*
  - When all the people saw Mordecai in the King’s limo, they were convinced that he had a bright future. This was done so as to send a message of appreciation and respect for the entire kingdom to see.

IF YOU CAME INTO THE PROMISED LAND AND LEFT YOUR CAR BACK IN EGYPT, GET UP AND GO BACK AND DRIVE THAT CAR HOME IN THE NAME OF THE LORD. USE IT FOR THE WORKINGS OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD!

## All Your Possessions

### The Father of the Prodigal Son

- It was through the sharing of possessions that the Prodigal Son was brought back into the fold. -Luke 15:20-24 *“So he got up and came to his father. But while he was still a long*

## The Four Compromises of the Devil

By Doug Hamilton

*way off, his father saw him and felt compassion for him, and ran and embraced him and kissed him.<sup>21</sup> “And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’<sup>22</sup> “But the father said to his slaves, ‘Quickly bring out the best robe and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet;<sup>23</sup> and bring the fattened calf, kill it, and let us eat and celebrate;<sup>24</sup> for this son of mine was dead and has come to life again; he was lost and has been found.’ And they began to celebrate.*

### The Good Samaritan

- It was through the sharing of possessions that the Samaritan was defined as Good. Luke 10:30-35 *Jesus replied and said, “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among robbers, and they stripped him and beat him, and went away leaving him half dead.<sup>31</sup> “And by chance a priest was going down on that road, and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side.<sup>32</sup> “Likewise a Levite also, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side.<sup>33</sup> “But a Samaritan, who was on a journey, came upon him; and when he saw him, he felt compassion,<sup>34</sup> and came to him and bandaged up his wounds, pouring oil and wine on them; and he put him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn and took care of him.<sup>35</sup> “On the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper and said, ‘Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, when I return I will repay you.’*
  - He gave of his funds, his First Aid Kit and his vehicle to help this beaten traveler. What would this story be like had he gone the way of the Levite and the Priest?
- There are many possessions that we have like the pots and pans, the tools in the garage, the television on the entertainment center, the computer, the table and chairs, the grill and a thousand other things that we can put to work for the kingdom of God.

**WHEN YOU ENTERED THE COVENANT WITH JESUS CHRIST AND HEADED OUT TO THE PROMISED LAND, I HOPE YOU DID NOT LEAVE YOUR POSSESSIONS BEHIND! GO BACK AND GATHER ALL OF THEM, DEDICATE THEM TO THE LORD AND BRING IT ALL BACK TO THE PROMISED LAND! PUT IT TO USE FOR JESUS CHRIST, HIS PEOPLE AND HIS PURPOSE!**

### Thirty Day Challenge

- Take the list of the families from the congregation and choose the twelve that you know the least. For the next thirty days plan out on the calendar and invite at least one of these families per month over the next twelve months.
- Every day for the next thirty days go out of your way to use your car for something related to the work of the church.
  - Take a meal to a shut-in.
  - Offer to give someone who needs a ride the gift of transportation.
  - Be willing to drive some of the youth to an event of some kind.
  - Use your car to go pick up a friend and go to a hospital visit, nursing home or Bible study.
- Look at your checkbook and really see what you are giving for the work of God. Whatever you are presently giving, challenge yourself to increase it even more.