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HOUSEHOLD OF FAITH

As I was meditating on scripture today, I was thinking about King David. David and Saul's son Jonathan had cut a covenant. A covenant was everlasting and included family members. Years later, David thought about Jonathan and asked if there was any of his family left. Jonathan had a young son, Mephibosheth that was secretly taken to safety when King Saul was killed. On the way his nurse dropped him and his leg became disfigured. He did not know about the covenant his father had made with David. He lived in a city called Lodebar, which was very poverty stricken. David's servants found him, and brought him to David. He was afraid that he was going to be put to death. Little did he know that he was going to receive "covenant" restoration because of what David and Jonathan did. He now ate at the King's table, and was given property.

When Jesus gave his life saving blood to cut the "New Covenant", it was based on his human side and his God side. He alone had sinless blood to give. Now he holds both ends of the covenant. Man, because he became flesh and dwelt among us, and God, because He is God incarnate. When we enter covenant with him, everything that he has becomes ours and everything we have becomes his. Joint ownership. Likewise, everyone that joins the family through covenant (salvation by faith) is also in that family. Anyone that is born again is part of this household of faith, or covenant household.

So, how do we treat each other in the household? We treat them like King David, with utmost respect and give them the best we have. We go out of our way to bless them. In the early church those that followed Christ laid down all that they had and it was jointly shared. When Ananias and Saphira secretly held back, they held back from God. They lied, and it cost them their lives.

There is so much disrespect going on in the body or covenant household of God. It is time that we treated each other with the same respect that God gives us. There is no one better than anyone else. No one is exalted, but no one is debased. We are one in Covenant with Jesus Christ. When holy communion is taken, it tells us in I Corinthians 11: 29: **"For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body."** What this means is that they are at odds with other members of the body of Christ. V. 30 goes on to say **"For this cause (not discerning the body of Christ, or household of faith) many are weak and sickly among you, and many sleep."** It goes on to say that we are to judge ourselves. This is talking about our attitude towards others.

How often people are offended with others that are in the body. This should never be the case. Instead, we should be looking for opportunities to bless others in the body. Galatians 6:10 says: **"As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith."** This reminds us that it isn't about us, it is about the body.

To truly be the household of faith, it means to be covenant minded – where nothing we have belongs to us, it belongs to Jesus. When we change our attitude in the body of Christ, I truly believe that we will see people healed, strengthened and equipped to do what God has called them to do.