

Yahweh's Plans Accomplished in Unorthodox Ways

*(When quoting scriptures, from the Rotherham Emphasized Bible New Testament,
I will substitute the Hebrew word Yahshua for Jesus, Yahweh and Elohim for God and Anointed for Christ.)*

In a perfect world Yahweh's and our Lord's plans would be accomplished in a very orthodox way; they would always color within the lines; they would always use Plan A. But our world is not perfect and man's heart can be very hard and his neck can be very stiff, which can lead our Father and or our Lord into using Plan B, C or even Z. Could it be that Yahweh would have a daughter-in-law have sexual intercourse with her father-in-law in order that Yahweh's Son could be born? Could it be that Yahweh would have his servants deceive or lie to their enemies in order that His plan be accomplished? Could it be that Yahweh purposed that His servant loves his wife or his child more than his other wives or children in order that the world could be saved? Could it be that Yahweh planned that an innocence man be hated by his brothers, sold into slavery and put into prison only so he could become a world leader? Many times Yahweh and our Lord must operate in unorthodox ways to accomplish their plans because of the limitations placed upon them by man.

Yahweh has recorded, in His Word, these unorthodox accomplishments for our learning. Many times in our own lives, we do what we believed to be the will of our Lord although the results seem to have missed the mark. We question the revelation we have received because instead of our actions bearing fruit they seem to be bearing thorns. When thorns appear instead of fruit, we could be part of our Lord's unorthodox plan. The profit of our actions may not be seen for many years or maybe not even in our lifetime but there will be profit if our actions were inspired by our Lord. Sometimes we might be led to what appears to be the breaking of the commandments of Yahweh but instead can actually be accomplishing His Magnificent Plan.

Jacob prophesied that the Messiah would come from his son, Judah.¹ Judah had three sons, one of whom would generally carry on the lineage of the Messiah. The elder son, Er, married Tamar but he died before Tamar could conceive because he was displeasing to Yahweh.² Judah's second son, Onan, was to conceive a child with Tamar but he would not, which resulted in his death. Judah withheld his third son, Shelah, from Tamar, which would result in the end of the lineage of Judah; the Messiah would not be born. Judah's son, Er, was Yahweh's Plan A for the lineage of the Messiah but he chose to be displeasing to Yahweh. Plan B would be for Onan to conceive a child with Tamar but he

¹ The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, Nor the commander's staff from between his feet,—Until that he come in as a Shiloh
Gen. 49:10

² Gen. 38

refused therefore he died. Plan C would be for Shelah to conceive a child with Tamar but Judah withheld Shelah from Tamar which left Plan D!

Tamar dressed herself up as a prostitute and seduced Judah, her father-in-law, into having sexual intercourse with her, which resulted in her conceiving twins, Perez and Zerah. King David and the Christ would come from Perez. “The Lineage Roll of Yahshua Christ,—Son of David, Son of Abraham. Abraham begat Isaac, and Isaac begat Jacob, and Jacob, begat Judah and his brethren; And Judah begat Perez and Zarah of Tamah, and Perez begat Hezron” (Mt. 1:1-3). The Law of Moses stated that this behavior was a sin punishable by death. “And, any man who lieth with his daughter—in-law, they both shall, surely be put to death, confusion, have they wrought—their blood, shall be upon themselves” (Lev. 20:12). Tamar did not sin but acted according to the Plan of Yahweh. Judah, on the other hand, did sin and said, “More righteous than I! forasmuch, as I had not given her to Shelah my son. And he knew her again, no more” (Gen. 38:26). Plan A would have been the orthodox way to fulfill Yahweh’s plan for the Messiah but Yahweh had to use Plan D, which was accomplished in a very unorthodox way. Yahweh also has unorthodox servants.

King Nebuchadnezzar is an example of an unorthodox servant of Yahweh. Yahweh said, “now have I given all these lands into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon, my servant; and the beasts of the field have I given him also to serve him” (Jer. 27:6). Nebuchadnezzar was not a Hebrew but he helped accomplish Yahweh’s plan. Actually Nebuchadnezzar could be very brutal, as in the case when he killed the King of Judah’s children in front of the King and then put the King’s eyes out.³ He ordered Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego, children of Israel, to be thrown into a fiery furnace.⁴ Why would Yahweh tell the children of Israel, by way of Jeremiah to submit to this heathen, the King of Babylon?⁵ Why would Yahweh put such a person into His plan? Nebuchadnezzar must have been the best person available who had the skills and resources to accomplish Yahweh’s purpose, which was to keep the Christ-line alive. Yahweh works with imperfect vessels and sometimes, very imperfect vessels because He has no other choices. The Kings of Judah would have been a better choice to accomplish Yahweh’s will but they rejected His will. Why would Yahweh have Nebuchadnezzar take Israel captive to Babylon for seventy years?

Egypt must have been a threat to the nation Judah, from which the Christ line would come. A possible explanation why Yahweh used Nebuchadnezzar was to save Israel from Egypt. “Therefore, Thus, saith My Lord, Yahweh—Behold me! against Pharaoh king of Egypt, Therefore will I break his arms, That which is strong, and, That which is broken,—So will I cause the sword to fall out of his hand. And I will disperse the Egyptians among the nations,—And scatter them throughout the lands; And will uphold the arms of the king of

³ II Kg. 25:6-7

⁴ Dan. 3:23

⁵ Jer. 27:6-17

Babylon, And put my sword into his hand,—And will break the arms of Pharaoh, And he shall utter the groans of one thrust through, before him. Yea I will uphold the arms of the king of Babylon, But, the arms of Pharaoh, shall fall,—And they shall know, that, I, am Yahweh, By my putting my sword into the hand of the king of Babylon, And he shall stretch it out against the land of Egypt. So will I disperse the Egyptians among the nations, And scatter them throughout the lands, And they shall know, that, I, am Yahweh” (Ez. 30:22-26). Nebuchadnezzar was a very imperfect servant of Yahweh but he accomplished Yahweh’s purpose by protecting the Israelites from Egypt.

Yahweh’s revelation to His prophets and to us can be in part and unclear. The full purpose of His will may not be understood until it is fully accomplished. Yahweh spoke to Moses face to face but unto His other prophets He speaks to them in visions etc. “In a vision, will I make myself known, unto him; In a dream, will I speak with him. Not so, my servant Moses,—In all my house, trusty, is he: Mouth to mouth, do I speak with him, And plainly—
—not in dark sayings, And, the form of Yahweh, doth he discern” (Num.12:6-8). Yahweh’s full purpose for Abram and Sarai, which took many years to be accomplished, was clouded for twenty-four years.

Abram was seventy-five years young when he was promised “to be made into a great nation”.⁶ Eleven years would go by until some of this promise came to pass but it was not what Sarai and Abram expected. “After these things, came the word of Yahweh unto Abram, in a vision, saying,—Do not fear, Abram, I, am a shield to thee, thine exceeding great reward. And Abram said, My Lord Yahweh, what canst thou give me, when, I, am going on childless,—and, the heir of my house, is Eliezer, of Damascus. And Abram said—
—Lo, to me, hast thou not given seed,—And lo! a son of my household, is mine heir! And lo! the word of Yahweh came unto him, saying, This one, shall not be thine heir; But, one who cometh forth of thy body—he, shall be thine heir” (Gen.15:1-4). The promise that the seed would come from his body was concrete but the seed coming from Sarai’s body was never mentioned. Abram and Sarai probably tried to conceive for years with no results. Sarai then came up with the plan of using Hagar to bear Abram’s seed (Gen. 16:1-2). This suggestion had to be part of Yahweh’s plan although not apparent to Abram and Sarai at the time.

Yahweh never corrected Abram or Sarai for considering and performing the conception of Ishmael. Instead Yahweh named the child, Ishmael, which means ‘El Heard.’ Ishmael was not a mistake but part of Yahweh’s plan, which is reflected in the fact that Yahweh named the baby, which is very rarely done. Abram was now eight-six years young and his next revelation did not come for thirteen years; now he was ninety-nine years young. As far as Abram and Sarai were concerned, the promise of Abram becoming a mighty nation would be accomplished through Ishmael. The next revelation would reveal that another seed,

⁶ Gen. 12:1-4

whose name would be Isaac, would come from Abram as well as by Sarai.⁷ Ishmael and Isaac were both named by Yahweh because they were both part of His plan.

“For it is written, that, Abraham, had two sons—one by the bondmaid, and one by the free woman; But, he that was of the bondmaid, after the flesh, had been born, whereas, he that was of the free woman, through means of a promise. Which things, indeed, may bear another meaning; for, the same, are two covenants,—one, indeed, from Mount Sinai, into bondage, bringing forth, the which is Hagar,— And, the Hagar, is Mount Sinai, in Arabia,—she answereth, however, unto the present Jerusalem, for she is in bondage with her children; But, the Jerusalem above, is free,—the which is our mother” (Gal. 3:22-26). Ishmael’s conception appeared to be a mistake but his conception and Isaac’s were both unorthodox conceptions and part of Yahweh’s plan, unveiled thousand of years later in the book of Galatians. Abraham and Sarah believed Yahweh’s promise to them, which could have been destroyed had they not deceived their enemies.

Abraham and Sarah deceived their enemies twice but Yahweh never corrected them on their deception but rather He corrected the Kings who took Sarah from Abraham.⁸ I believe it was Yahweh’s purpose to have Abraham and Sarah deceive the Kings in order to save their lives; an unorthodox method for survival but not uncommon in the Word of Yahweh. Rahab lied to keep the Hebrew spies alive and Jeremiah lied to keep himself alive (See the paper “Lying to the Enemy”).⁹

Jacob played a vital role in our Father’s plan by saving the Christ-line from starvation through his son Joseph. This was accomplished through a powerful love for Rachel and Joseph. The love (ahab) Jacob had for Rachel and Joseph, which seemed to be harmful, could have been planted in his heart by Yahweh. “For it is, Yahweh, who energiseth within you, both the desiring and the energising, in behalf of his good pleasure” (Phil. 2:13). Only one person could accomplish the plan to save humanity from a seven-year drought and it was Joseph. (Theoretically, if Esau received the blessing from Isaac instead of Jacob then Rachel might not have ever married Jacob, which would have resulted in Joseph not being born; who was the savior of the Christ-line.)

Jacob has been called the deceiver but Yahweh never corrected him for deceiving Isaac but rather rewarded him by appeared to him twice and prospered him exceedingly abundantly. Yahweh was called the Elohim of Jacob eighteen times and the Elohim of Israel two hundred and one times. Yahweh was very proud of Jacob. Was it Yahweh’s will for Jacob to deceive Isaac because Isaac would have blessed Esau instead, which was not part of Yahweh’s plan? Yahweh told Rebekah that the older, Esau, would serve the younger, Jacob¹⁰ but Isaac loved Esau more than Jacob.¹¹ Isaac’s love for Esau over Jacob could

⁷ Gen. 17:19

⁸ Gen. 12:10-20, 20:1-7

⁹ Josh. 2 & Jer. 38:24-28

¹⁰ Gen. 25:23

cause a problem with Yahweh's plan for the Christ-line. The Christ-line would come from Jacob and not Esau. Jacob deceived Isaac and received the blessing as the eldest and married into the right bloodline. Esau on the other hand rebelled against Isaac and Yahweh by marrying a Canaanite woman.¹² Isaac blessed Jacob again even though Jacob deceived him.¹³ Could it be that Isaac was the problem instead of Jacob, which required Yahweh to have Jacob deceive his father?

Laban deceived Jacob and many people will say that the deceiver (Jacob) was deceived by Laban but Yahweh never says this. Yahweh does say, "Is not Esau, brother, to Jacob? enquireth Yahweh, Yet have I loved Jacob, And, Esau, have I hated,— and made his mountains a desolation, and his inheritance a dwelling for the jackals of the wilderness" (Mal. 1:2-3). Yahweh did not correct Jacob when he was with Laban but Yahweh did correct Laban for deceiving Jacob.¹⁴ Jacob must have fulfilled Yahweh's plan by deceiving Isaac.

Joseph, who was conceived by Jacob and Rachel, was a major part of Yahweh's unorthodox plan. We must ask ourselves, "How could a common Hebrew (Joseph) come in contact with and counsel the Pharaoh of Egypt about an up and coming seven year famine." Could it be that Yahweh put into the heart of Jacob a love for Joseph, which led him to be despised by his brethren? Jacob loved Rachel and Joseph over Leah and his other children.¹⁵ Even when Jacob was going home and fearing Esau would attack him, he placed Rachel and Joseph behind his other children and Leah.¹⁶ Jacob's other children and Leah must have resented Rachel and Joseph. Joseph received a dream from Yahweh where he was instructed that he would rule over his parents, brothers and sisters. This also left a bad taste in their mouths! Joseph alone would receive a coat of many colors from Jacob, which led to him being envied and hated by his brothers. "Now, Israel, loved Joseph more than any of his sons, because he was to him, the son of his old age,—and he had made him, a long tunic. So his brethren saw that their father loved, him, more than any of his brethren, and they hated him,—and could not bid him prosper. And Joseph dreamed a dream, and told it to his brethren,—and they went on yet more to hate him" (Gen. 37:3-5). Jacob's manifest love for Joseph and Joseph's vocalizing his dream from Yahweh to his brothers resulted in him being hated by his brothers and sold into slavery. Yahweh's unorthodox plan was coming to pass.

For Yahweh's plan to be fulfilled, Joseph still needed to be placed into the prison with Pharaoh's butcher and baker. He then needed to interpret their dreams in order that he could be made known unto Pharaoh. Potiphar, courtier of Pharaoh, chief of the royal

¹¹ Gen. 25:28

¹² Gen. 28:1-9

¹³ Gen. 28:1

¹⁴ Gen. 31:7-13, 24

¹⁵ Gen. 29:18, 30, 37:3

¹⁶ Gen. 33:1-2

executioners, purchased Joseph. Why Potiphar and not someone else? Potiphar, being an officer of Pharaoh could have Joseph put into the King's prison, where the butler and baker would be kept, instead of a common prison.¹⁷ Potiphar was prospered by Yahweh because of Joseph, which led Potiphar to make him ruler over his house. This position gave him access to Potiphar's wife who tried to seduce Joseph because of his good looks.¹⁸ If Yahweh would not have prospered Joseph then he would not have had access to Potiphar's wife. Rachel's good looks¹⁹ were given to Joseph who was "comely in form and comely in countenance," (Gen.39: 6) which made Potiphar's wife desire Joseph. Joseph's good looks also could have been part of Yahweh's plan, which would send him to the King's prison in order that he could interpret the butler and baker's dreams.

Yahweh gave Joseph favor in the eyes of the chief of the prison, who gave him access to all the prisoners including Pharaoh's butler and baker.²⁰ If Joseph did not have this favor then he would not have had access to the butler and butcher. Yahweh gave dreams to these two men, which Joseph would interpret; the interpretations would come to pass. The butler forgot Joseph for two years while Joseph remained in the King's prison, which definitely took the wind out of his sails. Why did Joseph have to wait another two years in prison? The seven years of plenty was still two years away. Two years later Yahweh would give the dream to Pharaoh, which when relayed to the butler lead the butler to tell Pharaoh about the Hebrew servant, Joseph. Joseph would interpret Pharaoh's dream thereby making him second in command to Pharaoh. Joseph would store the grain for seven years, which would save Jacob's family from famine, resulting in the saving of the Christ-line. Joseph was not part of the Christ-line but his brother Judah was. Yahweh's unorthodox plan entailed Joseph's good looks, the King's officer, Potiphar, and his wife and the prison guard putting Joseph in charge of the prison.

Fourteen years had transpired since Joseph received his dream of having dominion over his brethren, father and mother. Joseph suffered greatly for fourteen years by doing Yahweh's will. He must have doubted his revelation, received from Yahweh, countless times. This was not the way it was suppose to happen. His love for Yahweh resulted in him being hated by his brothers, sold into slavery, thrown into prison because of a false accusation, forgotten by the butler for two years and then becoming Pharaoh's right-hand man. The whole plan became apparent to Joseph after more than twenty-one years when his brethren came to Egypt and bowed down to him. Then Joseph said, "So then Elohim sent, me before you, to plant for you a remainder, in the earth,—and to save you alive, by a great deliverance. Now, therefore, it was not, ye, who sent me hither, but, Elohim, himself,—who also appointed me to be a father to Pharaoh, and a lord to all his house, and

¹⁷ So Joseph's lord took him, and delivered him up to the prison, the place where, the prisoners of the king, were imprisoned,—so he was there, in the prison. Gen. 39:20

¹⁸ Gen. 39:1-6

¹⁹ Rachel, was comely in form, and comely in countenance. Gen. 29:17

²⁰ Gen. 39:20-23 Gen. 39:20

²⁰ Gen. 39:1-6

²⁰ Rachel, was comely in form, and comely in countenance.

a ruler, over all the land of Egypt” (Gen. 45:7-8). Did Yahweh put Joseph under this hardship to teach Joseph something? No! Joseph’s unorthodox course, set by Yahweh, must have been the only way to save alive the house of Jacob. Joseph was greatly rewarded for his extreme hardship as we also will be rewarded for our labor of love and obedience.

We may encounter Yahshua’s unorthodox plans as part of our lives since we are His Body. Patience and longsuffering must be our fruits manifested when these plans go into effect. If we faint not then we will receive the rewards as Abraham, Sarah, Jacob, Tamar and Joseph did. We have an advantage over the Old Covenant believers because we have received the gift of spirit, which enables us to receive revelation from our Head, Christ, constantly; we have the mind of Christ! Yahweh is in Christ who is in Us, so we must expect that it is, Yahweh, who energizes within us, both the desiring and the energizing, in behalf of his good pleasure (Phil. 2:13). However unorthodox a revelation may seem, we must be as Abraham and Sarah “and being fully persuaded [that], —what he hath promised, able is he also to perform” (Rom. 4:21). Abraham, Sarah, Jacob and Joseph all received their promise although in a very unorthodox way.