

Committed – Not an Easy Road

Committed is a powerful, Holy Spirit-driven sermon that calls the Church back to full devotion to Jesus.

In Committed we will encounter the deep truth that Miracles, revival, and lasting impact are born through unwavering surrender—not casual interest.

In today's culture, people are committed to everything but God.

I want to expose the distractions that have shackled modern believers—social media, comfort, careers—and contrasts them with the call to radical obedience.

Committed also reveals the war that rages at the gates of our lives—our flesh.

- Our greatest enemy often isn't the devil—it's our own carnal nature.
- Flesh doesn't want to fast. Flesh doesn't want to pray.

Commitment means crucifying that flesh and choosing to stay when others walk away.

Committed brings hope to those who feel overlooked and ignites fire in those who feel forgotten.

- Committed reminds us of what truly matters.
- Jesus doesn't need more fans—
- He's looking for followers who will go all the way with Him.

“Committed” — that word doesn't just mean dedicated. In the original sense, it literally means to be shackled to something you can't see.

- *To be bound - To be hooked on - To be so attached that turning back is no longer an option.*

In a world where people are committed to everything but God.

We're shackled to careers, likes and follows, comfort, convenience, temporary pleasures that fade like morning fog.

We'll stand in line for hours to see a concert but won't kneel for five minutes in prayer.

We'll pour our energy into chasing money, fame, or relationships, but when it comes to God, we treat Him like an option—not a necessity.

The world is faithful to its idols—but what about the Church?

Where are the believers who will say, "I'm not here for what Jesus can do for me—I'm here because I'm committed to who He is"?

- I'm hooked on to something bigger than I am - bigger than you are - bigger than all of us put together— It's the sovereignty of God.
- And we're not just interested...
- We're not just curious...

We're committed – Shackled – Bound - All in!!!!

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It was a dark day at Rachel's house. Her womb was empty. Her soul was bitter. Her prayers were dry.

Genesis 30:1 - Jacob's Children - 30 Now when Rachel saw that she bore Jacob no children, Rachel envied her sister, and said to Jacob, "Give me children, or else I die!"

- Rachel wasn't just having a bad day—*she was in a dark season*.
- A long one. A painful one.
- **Her womb was closed**, and in the culture she lived in, that meant more than just personal sorrow—it meant **social shame**.
- In ancient Hebrew society, **a woman's identity, value, and even her honor** was deeply tied to her ability to bear children—especially sons.

Having children wasn't just about building a family.

It was about **legacy, survival, and blessing**. It was tied to your covenant with God. Children were considered a **sign of God's favor**.

Psalm 127:3 - Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, The fruit of the womb is a reward.

She had the love of Jacob—yes. The Bible is clear in Genesis 29:30 that ***Jacob loved Rachel more than Leah***.

Genesis 29:30 - Then Jacob also went into Rachel, and **he also loved Rachel more than Leah**. And he served with Laban still another seven years.

Leah was having baby after baby. Meanwhile, Rachel's arms were empty.

Can you imagine how that must've felt?

- Her sister—was producing what Rachel's heart longed for most.
- Every time Leah cried out with the birth of another son, it echoed like a mocking chorus through Rachel's silent tent.
- Every cradle Leah filled was ***a reminder to Rachel of what she didn't have***.

Rachel's barrenness wasn't just physical—it was emotional. It was spiritual. It was cultural. It was devastating.

Genesis 30:1 says it plainly: ***"When Rachel saw that she bare Jacob no children, Rachel envied her sister."***

- That's strong language—envied her.
- She even turned to Jacob in desperation and cried, ***"Give me children, or else I die."***

That's a woman at the edge of despair.

Her womb was empty - Her identity was shaken - Her hope was cracking.

Her prayers were dry—because sometimes you can pray for so long with no answer that ***your faith starts trembling***.

I wonder how many people sitting here today feel just like Rachel.

You've been faithful - You've been praying - You've been fasting - You've done everything you know to do.

You've wept at this altar, you've walked your floor at midnight, you've prayed over that lost son, that unsaved daughter, That broken marriage, That job that never came. That healing that still hasn't manifested.

What makes it worse is, it seems like *everyone else is getting their miracle*.

- Even people who **don't** pray like you do.
- Even people who **don't** live holy like you do.
- Even people who, if we're honest, **seem less committed than you are**.

That's how Rachel felt.

She watched Leah—her own sister—pop out baby after baby.

- **Leah**, the one Jacob **didn't even love**.
- Leah, the one who was **second choice**.
- Leah, who represented everything **Rachel felt superior to**.

And yet... **Leah was *blessed***.

That's where the bitterness creeps in and you start stinking thinking!

God is this some kind of cruel trick, Are You playing favorites, Did You forget me?

But let me give you some good news!

God was not punishing Rachel. He was preparing Rachel.

God wasn't ignoring her—He was orchestrating destiny.

Let me bring this closer... God's not punishing you. He's preparing you.

- ***He's not ignoring you. He's orchestrating your eternal destiny.***
- When God seems silent, **it doesn't mean He's absent.**
- When the womb is empty, **it doesn't mean the promise is void.**
- When your arms are aching, **God's hands are working.**

**He didn't forget - He was just waiting until the timing would *not just bless her*
But fulfill His eternal purpose through her.**

Her situation may have been barren, but God had not forgotten Rachel.

Genesis 30:22-24 - 22 Then God remembered Rachel, and God listened to her and opened her womb.

That verse is about spiritual visitation.

When God remembers someone, it means He is stepping into their pain and rewriting their story.

Her barrenness wasn't the end.

- It was the setup.
- Because what was born out of Rachel's season of desperation wasn't just any child—*it was Joseph*. The dreamer. The deliverer.

A prophetic picture of the Church itself—hated, misunderstood, but destined to save nations.

Nothing is born in a church or the life of a believer that isn't willing to travail.

Travail: Intense Pain, spiritual struggles, that bring transformation forth!!!

- Children are born to **the committed**.
- Revival comes to **the committed**.
- Miracles flow through the lives of **the committed**.
- **The power of God descends in places where people are bound to the altar like Rachel was bound to her prayer!**

When she cried, Joseph was born.

Joseph—a type and shadow of the early church:

- Despised by his brethren
- Cast into the pit
- Falsely accused
- Shut away in a prison
- *But oh! He carried the answer to a nation in famine.*

But there's more. *Rachel travailed again. She bore one last child in great sorrow.*

As life slipped away from her, she named the boy ***Ben-oni***—“son of my sorrow.”

Jacob stood up with trembling hands and a holy boldness and said:

Genesis 35:18 - And so it was, as her soul was departing (for she died), that she called his name Ben-Oni; but his father called him Benjamin.

You hear me today: What the enemy meant to label with sorrow, God renamed with strength.

What you thought was going to kill you, God is going to use to crown you.

Somebody here needs to shout back at the devil,

- “His name shall not be Ben-oni!”
- It’s not sorrow—it’s destiny.
- It’s not the end—it’s the beginning!
- I’m committed to what God is birthing in me!

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But don’t you forget there’s an Absalom at your gate.

2 Samuel 15:2 Now Absalom would rise early and stand beside the way to the gate. So it was, whenever anyone who had a lawsuit came to the king for a decision, that Absalom would call to him and say, “What city are you from?” And he would say, “Your servant is from such and such a tribe of Israel.”

- David knew what it was like to go from king to fugitive.
- From palace to wilderness. From crown to caves.

Why? Because Rebellion always begins at the gate.

- ***Absalom***, He wasn’t a stranger. He was his own son—his own flesh.

That’s where the real war is, isn’t it?

It’s not the world that’s fighting your worship—It’s your own flesh.

It's not Satan that stops your prayer life—**It's your sleepy eyelids and your scrolling thumb.**

Paul said, Romans 8:7 - The mind governed by the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so.

- **Flesh don't want you** to fast, to give, or pray!

You've got to crucify that Absalom spirit. You've got to drag him to the altar and say, "I'm committed!"

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When David fled Jerusalem, staggering through the night with his people and his pain, he stopped and turned around to find **a stranger standing behind him.**

"Who are you?" he asked. 2 Samuel 15:21 But Ittai replied to the king, "As surely as the Lord lives, and as my lord the king lives, wherever my lord the king may be, whether it means life or death, there will your servant be."

The man said, *"My name is Ittai. I'm here because I want to be. I feel something drawing me to you. Wherever you go, I go. In life or in death."*

Now that's commitment!

That's what Paul echoed when he said, "For me to live is Christ, and to die is gain."

Philippians 1:20-21 - I eagerly expect and hope that I will in no way be ashamed but will have sufficient courage so that now as always Christ will be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death. **21 For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.**

- **Not if I get my breakthrough,**
- **Not if I get the miracle,**
- **But even if I don't,**
- **I'm not walking away.**

I'm committed to Jesus.....

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A missionary once told the true story of a woman who prophesied over him, saying he'd meet a man in Germany who would change his life. She even gave the name—Spiegel.

He worked tirelessly, wondering, looking for this mysterious man.

Until one day he looked in the corner of a mirror... and saw the name “Spiegel” etched in the glass.

He realized that in German, “Spiegel” means “mirror.” The man who would change his life—was himself.

Some of us are looking for outside solutions, but the truth is:

Revival begins with you - Breakthrough starts in your mirror.

When you finally meet the person in the mirror and surrender that flesh, you'll meet the person who changes your life forever.

CLOSE: I've come today with a cry in my spirit—

- ***A cry like Rachel's: “Give me children, or else I die!”***
- ***A declaration like Ittai's: “Wherever you go, I'll go!”***
- ***A confession like Paul's: “To live is Christ, to die is gain!”***

Because I'm not casually involved... I'm not just attending church... I'm not playing church politics...

I'm committed. Bound. Shackled. Hooked into the sovereign will of a holy God. And there's no turning back.

If that's your cry, if that's your heart, then stand to your feet and declare it today:

- ***“My name is not Ben-oni. It's Benjamin.***
- ***I'm not the child of sorrow. I'm the son of power.***
- ***I'm not quitting. I'm committed!”***

God never forgets the committed, He visits and works miracles through them..... And when He does, it changes everything.