

OVERCOMING

The Curse

by Darren W. Hood

Overcoming the Curse

by Darren W. Hood

Copyright © 1996, 2010 by Darren W. Hood and Cry Aloud Publishing

All rights reserved. No part of this book shall be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise, without written permission from the author.

International Standard Book Number: 978-1-4507-1068-8

Printed and published by Cry Aloud Publishing, Southfield, Michigan, USA

First Formal Edition (Article): December, 1996

Second Edition (Book): March, 2010

Trademarks

CyberSaint® is a registered trademark of Remnant Christian Assembly, Inc., a state of Michigan ecclesiastical corporation.

Disclaimer

Information presented in this book has been prepared with the utmost integrity. Mishandling of the content presented herein that arises out of, but not limited to wresting of words, improper application, esoterical interpretation, failure to comprehend, etc., are not the fault of the author. Readers are expected to exercise due diligence in comprehending the exhortations and thoughts contained within the book's pages.

Dedicated to Christian men and women everywhere —

Those who were lied to about “the curse”
and those desiring to obtain victory over its wiles.

Favour is deceitful, and beauty is vain: but a woman that feareth the Lord, she shall be praised.

— *Proverbs 31:30*

Introduction

I remember participating in Bible studies, classes, and conversations in the late 70's and early 80's hearing (not too often, but often enough) the following passage of scripture:

*(Genesis 3:16) Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; **and thy desire shall be to thy husband**, and he shall rule over thee.*

The emphasis was usually placed on the **bolded** words above — ***thy desire shall be to thy husband***. The speakers would always say that this statement was making reference to the sex drive of the female within the marital union — *in other words, the woman would constantly seek sexual relations with her husband*. Does that sound like a curse to you? All jokes aside, very few people would consider this perspective to be a curse.

Early in my saved life, I guess I was gullible enough to believe those words. In my more mature years, however, I came to find that this was not the message God was trying to convey at all. This statement, ***thy desire shall be to thy husband***, is actually trying to

say that the woman would have an innate drive to **rule over** her husband – *but he shall rule over thee*. Now, doesn't that make more sense?

For the sake of this address, I will refer to this element as “**THE CURSE**”. The goal of the curse (the part that we're dealing with today) from an internal standpoint, is for the woman to rule over her husband. The external goal is to disrupt the order that God has established in relationships AND/OR to emasculate the male figure causing him to “eat forbidden fruit” by subscribing to a behavioral instance or pattern, that dishonors the standard of God (e.g., the usurping of authority by Eve over her husband Adam). The external counter of the curse is that the husband shall rule instead. This activity will frustrate and seemingly antagonize the spirit of a woman who is operating under the curse, usually resulting in more intense interaction between the individuals, even to the point of violence (emanating from the woman — *surprise!!!!*).

You might be surprised how many violent women are out there, brothers and sisters. Observation will show you that the curse is not limited to husband/wife relationships, but also spans male/female relationships in general. Many women don't understand their chemistry and what to do about this phenomenon. Many brothers don't understand where this drive comes from, let alone how to deal with it. Fellas usually just complain, unaware that we are also responsible for overcoming the curse, even though it wasn't placed on us.

Brothers, please note that if we facilitate the curse (i.e., if we fail to follow and present God's prescribed counters), we're just as responsible for its effect in our lives as the person it emanated from.

It's time for someone to be informed and it's time for someone to overcome.

Getting Equipped to Overcome

In order to equip ourselves for some successful spiritual warfare, let's take a look at some theories and scriptural scenarios that illustrate the facilitation, stimulation, and/or activation of *the curse* and how we can overcome its activity and effect in our lives:

- Female children being encouraged to “run things” as a child (or seeing mommy run things and seeing daddy take a back seat where he should be asserting himself) are *at-risk individuals*. They may have never had the privilege of observing a man operate in authority from a balanced, righteous perspective — not being a lord, but an example of how to lead a family. The problem arises when the child has become an adult and is blinded by the notion that she must run things. She thinks she has to tell everyone what to do, but listen to no one. She is ready and willing (not able) to rule her home and everything in it. A woman in this mind set is primed and ready to fulfill all the dictates of the curse.
- Any man raised by his mother in a single-parent home is used to and completely comfortable with taking orders from a woman. This is fine from a parental standpoint. A man such as this is an *at-risk individual*. The problem occurs when a man

in this scenario enters into relationship with a spouse/potential spouse and does not fulfill his responsibility as the head of the relationship. He is content with the woman making ALL of the decisions. A man who has not a renewed mind in this area does not embrace the need or responsibility to honor his Head (Christ) and thus dishonors his Head, facilitates stumblingblocks in his life, and will not be able to serve properly as head of his home.

- A woman who has consistently been exposed to men who seem to need a push to accomplish something is an *at-risk individual*. She is the type of person who has been trained to believe that a man can't do anything without her assistance. Therefore, she tries to "mother" a man (or other people), instead of being a co-laborer, associate, companion, sister, or friend. This partly explains the phenomenon of women who don't like "nice guys". They don't welcome the relationship because there's nothing for them to fix — no challenge. I call this the "Maternal Instinct Theory" (I'll address this in more detail in a future issue). This kind of woman will have an extremely difficult time submitting to her husband because she feels there's nothing to submit to. Consequently, she limits or completely eliminates her ability to be a crown to her husband (Proverbs 12:4) and also passes this cursed mentality on to her children.
- Any time we are presented with a "dream", along with it comes the temptation to fulfill it ourselves (e.g., Abram and Hagar). The world feeds women with fantasies and dreams of Prince Charming or the Knight in Shining Armor. When these images are contradicted, the curse can take precedence and the female may attempt to "make the scenario come to pass". Men have visions of having a home like *The Cleavers* (Leave it to Beaver) or *The Huxtables* (The Cosby Show). When things don't fit this image, some men don't know how to respond because the "false image", which doesn't present God's perspectives on the matter, has been drilled into their hearts so deeply. Men and women of this mind set are *at-risk individuals*, being more likely to "react" to situations instead of taking charge and being constructive — looking to the Lord for resolution and restoration.

This "built-in" source of contention is something that warrants extreme attention. It affects men and women — especially those who are engaging in relationships beyond the platonic. ***This drive***

in women to rule (especially over men) is not simply the burden of women, but men must overcome it also. It's evident in our places of work, our places of worship, and especially in our homes, BUT IT CAN AND MUST BE OVERCOME.

An Issue of Faith

Overcoming anything finds its foundation in one key truth — *Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.* The “concept” of faith, according to the Greek definition, means *conviction (moral conviction of a religious truth)*. The root word for faith means to convince (to rely upon as a result of inward certainty). Ask yourself these questions. *Do you really believe? Do you have faith by your works?* Belief that the Son of God existed without works in your life to validate your belief, is worthless. The devils also believe and tremble (James 2:19-20).

True faith motivates and encourages one to do or embrace something. If you really believe today, that Jesus Christ is the Son of God and honor Him as Lord, you will seek to please Him in all things. For the purpose of the topic at hand, there are two (among many) signs that will follow: 1) you'll believe and embrace what He said (keeping His word) and 2) you'll receive the sayings of those that have received His word (also, keeping His word, cf. John 15:20). Housed within godly counsel are instructions of wisdom that provide us with the direction we need to *overcome the curse*.

Examples of “The Curse” & Means of Overcoming

Let's take a look at some observations and instructions, embrace them, and pass them on to other faithful men and women.

- **The Classic Example — Adam and Eve** — *And the man said, The woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me of the tree and I did eat.* This had to have been, by far, the worst excuse of all time. Doesn't it strike you as strange that a person who had such revelation and relationship with the Father could just violate the will of God so easily without any pressure? I've got news for you — he didn't!!! People like to state that the scripture says that (Eve) *gave me of the tree, and I did eat.* We like to make it sound so simple. I contend today that it wasn't this

simple. Let me tell you why. According to Genesis 3:17, there had to have been a discourse of some kind that is not recorded. God reprov'd Adam for *hearkening unto the voice of his wife*. Therefore, Eve said something! In the New Testament, Paul ends a discourse on men, women, and authority, (in particular, the usurping of authority) by bringing Adam and Eve into the discussion. This doesn't strike me as just a point of "creational authority", but there had to have been some degree of relevance in order to justify bringing them up at this time. I don't recall the Holy Ghost inspiring writers to randomly mention individuals in scripture. I strongly feel that Eve's submission of the fruit to Adam included some coercion or pressure — the same pattern that usually accompanies this type of activity. Does this rub you the wrong way? I hope not, but if it does, I hope you can at least see the pattern.

- **Snapshot Profile of a Contentious Woman** — Solomon wrote several passages of scripture regarding contentious, angry, brawling, and *odious* women. In my studies, I found that the word contentious is making reference to "strife" and, most importantly, "contest" or "quarrel". It implies that the mere usage of this word in these cases is illustrating a woman who is competing for something. The verse that impacted me the most concerning this was Proverbs 27:15, ***A continual dropping in a very rainy day and a contentious woman are alike.*** In simplest terms, *a continual dropping* means "it's always something". Have you ever met a woman like that? What's the significance of the "continual dropping?" Job 14:19 says, *The waters wear the stones* The "continual dropping" is a tool. When water continues to drop down or run upon a rock, it creates holes and crevices. A woman who is constantly going on and on about things, will eventually like rain and water upon the rock, wear the recipient of her barrages down to the point that they give in to her pressures, just to alleviate the stress from her tactics. Have you ever seen a woman like this? Are you a woman like this? I certainly hope not. The curse is operating in full-blown fashion in this person. When Delilah's attempts to discover Samson's strength failed (Judges 16:16-17), her last resort was a "nagging technique": *And it came to pass, when she pressed him daily with*

her words, and urged him, so that his soul was vexed unto death; that he told her all his heart The word “pressed” means to oppress or distress. In other words, she got on his nerves until he broke down and violated the order of God in his life. Delilah was hired by the Philistines to help destroy Samson. Some women today are contracted — whether consciously or unconsciously — to accomplish the same effect in another “Samson’s” life. Be determined that this won’t be you!!!

- **The Kind, Manipulative Technique** — The curse is not always unpleasant in tactic. Sometimes it’s smooth and cunning — manipulative — as noted in Proverbs 7:21-27 “*With her much fair speech she caused him to yield, with the flattering of her lips she forced him. He goeth after her straightway, as an ox goeth to the slaughter, or as a fool to the correction of the stocks; Till a dart strike through his liver; as a bird hasteth to the snare, and knoweth not that it is for his life. Harken unto me now therefore, O ye children, and attend to the words of my mouth. Let not thine heart decline to her ways, go not astray in her paths. For she hath cast down many wounded: yea, many strong men have been slain by her. Her house is the way to hell, going down to the chambers of death.*” Remember, the goal of **the curse**, from an internal standpoint, is for the woman to rule. The method of accomplishing this is not as important as the end result. Therefore, the person may not “appear” to be mean and boisterous. She could be what I like to call — **nicety** (nice and nasty).
- **A Brother’s Counter (God’s Alternative for the Man)** — Brethren, I repeat, you are not exempt from dealing with the curse. For the most part, its tactics are directed at you. How do you combat it? Your victory lies within keeping the word of God (same as for the sisters). A couple of scriptures come to mind. Colossians 3:19 exhorts us saying, “*Husbands, love your wives, and be not bitter against them.*” Although this exhortation can be reversed and applied to sisters, it hasn’t been in this case. Therefore, brothers as potential heads (or heads) of households and families, God places the onus on us (pardon the visual pun) to maintain emotional stability. Notice that the exhortation has NO CONDITIONS WHATSOEVER. In other words, fellas, you have been given no excuse by heaven to be bitter,

no matter how heated or displeasing the situation. Persevere and forbear. If you're maximizing your singleness, you should be learning to forbear (endure/put up with) right now. The scripture implies that something is going to happen that will tempt you to become bitter (seeing that God has established a pattern of telling you things beforehand in order to equip us for proper conduct — John 16:1). In order to love a wife as Christ loved the church, you must be willing to forsake anger, wrath, strife, malice, and bitterness. This is a challenge among challenges when you're the recipient of the mistreatment (e.g., Jesus on the cross). God holds the man responsible in such cases to provide an atmosphere of healing. Brothers, you will fulfill your responsibility in overcoming the curse when you stay on the cross and refrain from allowing "curse-like behavior" to dictate how you behave, feel, or react. If you endure the cross, just as Jesus did, you can usher the blessings of the Lord into the life of your companion — blessings you and your children will reap in the long run. If you don't endure the cross, your home will be full of confusion, strife, debate, wrath, bitterness, etc. SIDE NOTE: If you marry someone who allows the curse to operate in her life, staying on the cross will draw out the aforementioned responses — confusion, strife, debate, etc. Not breaking immediately triggers the "continual dropping." Hang in there, the Lord will help you. While you have a choice, however, for those who are not married (most of our readers) recognize the curse when active and refrain from marrying a Delilah (1 Samuel 16), Jezebel (1 Kings 17), or Vashti (Esther 1); these are the types of women that will curse you. According to Proverbs 12:4 "*A virtuous woman is a crown to her husband: but she that maketh ashamed is as rottenness in his bones.*" You should be able to recognize these attributes in regular fellowship with the saints. If you do, don't create a problem by pursuing a relationship with someone when you already had prior knowledge that they didn't honor God properly in their heart.

- **A Sister's Counter to the Curse (God's Alternative for the Woman)** — God's prescription for the sister is similar to that of the brothers — be holy. A woman who chooses to maximize her singleness is concentrating on being holy, pleasing to the

Lord in all things. Consequently, she is learning (as Paul stated in 1 Corinthians 9:27) to keep under her body and bring it into subjection. A woman who has achieved success in God realizes that sin is always present with us waiting for the opportunity to bring us into captivity (Romans 7:23). First Peter 3 speaks of Sarah and how that holy women of olden times adorned themselves like she did. She therefore becomes the example for women today. SIDE NOTE: If holy women of God carried themselves like Sarah, then unholy women must have been the opposite. A woman's conduct and attitude toward her husband is an extremely serious matter. Titus 2:5 basically tells us that character contrary to this can cause the word of God to be blasphemed. By following the example of Sarah, bringing herself to the point where she recognized what God had given her in a husband and honored her head as God had commanded, she helps to facilitate the flow of the anointing in her home. Thus, she built her home (Proverbs 14:1) because she was not a hindrance to her husband as he fulfilled the charges God had given him as the head of the family (and most importantly, the head of his wife). A godly woman knows how to handle herself when she observes the faults of her husband. The curse dictates that a woman badgers her man when he is wrong about something. As a matter of fact, the curse usually blows a man's error out of proportion (we've all seen it, but didn't realize what it was). First Peter 3:1-2 states, *"Likewise, ye wives, be in subjection to your own husbands; that, if any obey not the word, they also may without the word be won by the conversation of the wives; While they behold your chaste conversation coupled with fear."*

WARNING — HARD WORD APPROACHING!!!! Some churches are almost filled (figuratively) with women whose husbands are not saved. Ladies, this is for you. The husbands of many a saved woman are simply in need of the opportunity to behold a chaste conversation coupled with fear. Implied by Peter, God can use this manner of lifestyle to accomplish something in the life of that man. Unfortunately, most unsaved husbands only see their wives go to church all the time. Because the curse is allowed to be active, through non-submission to Christ, the man is being robbed of a blessing God greatly wants to give him. Ladies, follow Sarah's example of 1 Peter 3 and you'll **open the door** to the blessing God has been trying to give you *all these years*.

And unto Adam he said, *Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life; Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field; In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.*

— *Genesis 3:17-19*

Conclusion

I hope and pray that each reader has received these words with grace and wisdom. I realize it's a very touchy topic but let's face it, any element that's not like God which is allowed to have place in our lives creates some level of destruction. Sisters, I hope you don't feel I'm picking on you or blaming you. I hope everyone realizes that there is an element planted in the woman that was not planted in the man — multiplication of sorrow on two counts — the travail and pain of conception and desiring rulership over man only to have it thwarted. You'll never gain victory in warfare until you realize what you must conquer. The devil knows about the curse. He was there when it was first pronounced and tries to use it to his advantage. He tries to stir up this "hidden" attribute within the glorious creation of God — the woman. God created her to be a helpmeet (not helpmate). The devil wants to use her as a tool of destruction.

A woman who has overcome the curse strives to be submitted to our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ is not threatened by the headship of any male authority figure, husband, or future husband. She knows that she doesn't have to beat a man into submission — mentally, emotionally, or physically. She learns that if she's right about something and her husband doesn't listen, that she can trust God (who is the head of her husband's life) to communicate the validity

of her cause to him. Therefore, she doesn't have to put on the act of a hellion to get her point across (Genesis 21:12). She knows that a man who truly loves God, strives to recognize her value and will deal with her as a vessel of honor (1 Peter 3:7). She will do him good and not evil all the days of her life (Proverbs 31:12). Do you open your mouth with wisdom and deal with people with kindness or are you known as a woman who *cracks the whip*? Can God trust you in this stage of your development as a single woman to protect, honor, and support the gift of God in the form of a husband? The type of woman you are will help you answer this question.

A man who has overcome the curse realizes that he doesn't have to be overbearing. He has learned, through the example of Abraham (Genesis 21:12) that it's okay to listen to and/or respond to a woman's comments, statements, or suggestions without losing his manhood or without fear of being considered "henpecked". He doesn't respond to nagging, but combats it with love by keeping his companion before the Lord in prayer and drawing her with lovingkindness. He doesn't compromise the authority of God in his life as Samson did, just to "*get this woman off his back*". Have you overcome the curse today? If not, it's apparently not too late since you're reading this. Ask God for wisdom. He will usher you unto victory, if you only desire and pursue it.

Closing Points

The curse presented was only placed upon women, not men (although men must learn to deal with it because its fruit could show up at almost any given time). In summary, consider these key points:

- A contentious woman is quick and extremely willing to fuss, instigate, point out faults and problems, and complains, but is highly unlikely to participate in the resolution of situations (personally) or suggest realistic ways of handling them.
- The enemy's goal is to use her because he knows the "continual dropping" will destroy her companion, poison the minds of her children, negatively affect the lives of others, ***AND cause the name of the Lord to be blasphemed.***

- The personal goal of the woman dominated by the curse is to be in charge. Keep this in mind, as this is her main focus. Other goals may seem to be important, but, after all, this is what the curse is really about — the innate and insatiable desire to be in power.

Pray for, but beware of, the brawling, contentious, and odious woman.

I pray beforehand for the maturity of those who read this article. I am, by no means, bashing women. If I have to explain that to you, however, you're hearing these words with a carnal ear. The curse is not a figment of anyone's imagination, but a stark, unpleasant, and destructive reality that must be dealt with by all of us.

Remember that Jesus Christ, through the work of Calvary, has freed us. We are not under dominion of this or any curse. If we don't identify its attributes and tendencies and corral them, we will be subject to its passions. Let's walk in victory and glorify our God. Let's overcome the curse.

Keep the word and be blessed! †

About the Author

Bishop Darren W. Hood is the pastor of Remnant Christian Assembly and the director of Scenario Ministries International. He is also the author of the Bible Study Dynamics™ course and Prelude™ Sunday School materials.

Bishop Hood was baptized in the name of Jesus Christ on September 20, 1979 and received the baptism of the Holy Ghost on September 23, 1979. He was called to ministry in 1980, but fled at first. After receiving additional wisdom from the Lord, Bishop Hood came to understand the calling and his responsibility and responded to the call, preaching his trial sermon in 1981. During that sermon—“Born to Make a Change” (from Romans 13:8-14)—Bishop Hood displayed signs to come in his ministry, addressing the congregation about a call to overcome hypocrisy and submit to God’s transformation process. “God called us to take off the works of the flesh and present our bodies a living sacrifice.” Many were offended at this message and began to separate themselves from Bishop Hood and despise his person.

Shortly after preaching his trial sermon and in response to it, Bishop Hood received some ungodly counsel about how to do ministry. He was advised by his (then) pastor that he “studied too much to be pastoral and needed to be more like an evangelist.” In other words, he was just supposed to focus on encouraging people. This confused Bishop Hood (then, Minister Hood), having been taught by the Lord directly about how ministry is to be performed and how ministers are supposed to seek God about what they should teach.

The ungodly counsel confused Bishop Hood, leading to a period of great perplexity. During this period, Bishop Hood met and married someone whose whole purpose was to destroy him. His wife committed adultery and subjected him to tremendous physical, mental, and emotional abuse. He survived, however, *having overcome the curse* through the power of the Lord.

Confusion continued, however, with Pastor Hood feeling extremely sorrowful about what he had experienced. Recognizing his fault, but not really having anyone to minister to him about what had happened, Bishop Hood went into what he refers to as “silent years”. He didn’t minister. He avoided the pulpit completely. He wasn’t very visible. He wasn’t “on fire”, but wouldn’t turn his back on the Lord. He wasn’t bitter with God, but lacked the direction and confidence to arise out of his failures.

After about 6-7 years, deliverance came. As Pastor Hood trudged through life, the Lord began to show his hand, providing wisdom, guidance, and insight. Eventually, several of silence, God “resurrected” Pastor Hood’s faith and his ministry, bringing forth what you see and hear today.

From the beginning, Bishop Hood has suffered peril, persecution, disdain, desipal, hordes of false witnesses, traitors—all at the hands of false brethren—but having obtained help from God, he continues to press forward preaching and living the unadulterated word of God and blessing multitudes.

*Genesis 3:16 says “Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee.” Many have been taught that the phrase “thy desire shall be to thy husband” is sexual in nature. Careful and prayerful study, however, reveals something different — something downright sinister — an innate, unending, and passionate desire to rule over the man, coupled with the man remaining in the main position of authority. This book addresses what we’ll refer to for the sake of discussion and edification as “the curse” — **how we can identify it and how we can overcome it.***



Darren W. Hood

Bishop Darren W. Hood serves as the pastor of Remnant Christian Assembly located in Southfield, Michigan. He also serves as the presiding Bishop over Remnant Christian Assemblies Worldwide.



www.facebook.com/bishophood



Visit Remnant online at www.remnant.us



9 781450 710688