



THE DAN COMPA

Mark Vlad, from the U.S.A. visited the summer of 1988, together with Shaun. During his visit Mark spoke "Compromise". Here is the main t

**To
compromise
is to accept
any standard
other than the
one Yahweh
has set
for us.**

by Mark Vlad (USA)

No-one is immune from compromise. Everyone experiences testings and the resulting temptation to compromise our standards for something lower, but we must never feel that we need to give in to those temptations.

Yahshua told a parable of ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom (see **Matthew 25**). The virgins represent Yahshua's congregation in the earth today, but five of the virgins were wise and five were foolish. Each one

took a lamp with oil in it, but the wise virgins took extra oil with them. This was the only difference between the two groups. However, because the bridegroom was a long time in



coming, both groups fell into temptation – "they became drowsy and fell asleep".

FEELING DROWSY

It is easy for us to fall into a state of **drowsiness** or **sleepiness**. So many times it has been said that we are in the last days; that this is the last generation; that Yahshua is coming soon; but when we do not

see Him come we are tempted to let down our guard and become complacent. Then, before we know it, we are falling asleep. Yahshua, through this parable, warns against this state of apathy which so often leads us to compromise.

In the Old Testament Yahweh warned Israel to make no agreement with the people who lived in the land which Israel would inherit (**Exodus 23:3; 34:12**). If they did, these people would cause them to sin against Yahweh. Yahweh knew it would be easy to compromise the standards in order to be accepted and get along with others in the community...but He also knew that compromise would mean a lowering of His standard and that would ultimately lead Israel into sin. It is **always** easier to compromise the standards of Yahweh than to hold them high. The people who attract the most **fire** and opposition are those who maintain the standard of any king and country.

During the American civil war the standard-bearer ran ahead of the forces, carrying the standard to which everyone rallied. The enemy would always aim for him because he knew that if the standard-bearer fell the people would be discouraged

GER OF OMISE

Congregation in England during his wife, Alice, and teenage son, to us about **"The Danger of** just of that message...



LOST! Vision and Anointing

Yahweh gave Samson a special job to do; he was set apart to be a **"snare to the Philistines"**, and he carried a standard of righteousness in his life (see Judges 13). Samson however, liked the Philistine women rather than the daughters of Israel, and so the Philistines paid Delilah (one of their own people) to find out the secret of Samson's strength, threatening her with dire consequences if she failed, and offering her a handsome reward if she was to succeed. She harassed Samson continually until, finally, wearied by much questioning, he shared his secret. And at what a terrible cost! His hair was cut, which meant that he lost his power (i.e. his anointing), and the Philistines put out his eyes, so he also lost his vision. Samson

**...compromising
always costs
US...**

paid heavily for his compromise. We need to be careful when the devil comes up to us, so sweetly, and tells us there is no danger in compromising **just a little**. There is danger in compromise. It always costs **something**.

and this could cause their defeat. So it was of the utmost importance that if the standard-bearer was hit, someone else ran forward, and raised the standard again. Yes, it is a dangerous thing to hold up the

standard because you draw a lot of fire, but it is the means to victory. Isaiah tells us that **"...When the enemy comes in like a flood, the Spirit of Yahweh will raise up a standard against him."** (59:19)

LOST! Fellowship with Yahweh

The first example of compromise is found in Genesis 3. The woman was tempted, by the serpent, to disobey Yahweh's commands. She, herself, ate of the fruit of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil, and gave some to Adam. The whole human race fell into sin because of this act of compromise. Both the woman and the man found an excuse for lowering their standard. Adam said, **"The woman You gave to me, gave me...and I ate."** He blamed Yahweh. Eve said, **"The serpent beguiled me, and I ate."** She blamed the serpent that Yahweh had created. All three had to suffer the consequence of compromise.

Yahweh pronounced some depressing curses on the serpent, the woman and the man, but worst of all, He banished Adam and Eve from that beautiful garden in Eden. Though Yahweh loved Adam and Eve, the act of compromise cost them the daily, physical presence of Yahshua. They could no longer fellowship with Yahshua face to face. Compromise always results in broken fellowship between Yahweh and His people.



From that day man began a downhill slide into sin and degradation and slipped further and further away from the presence of Yahweh.

LOST! Wisdom

Solomon was responsible for a great building work in Israel. He built the temple of Yahweh with the finest materials and much solid gold. His own palace was magnificent, and Israel prospered under his hand...until he compromised the standard of Yahweh. Towards the end of his reign Solomon had to borrow heavily from Hiram, king of Tyre of Lebanon, in order to finish his building project. He used twenty cities in Israel as a collateral, but, unable to pay back the loan, he had to forfeit these cities. What had happened to the great man of wisdom, this financial genius, this architectural wonder? What had led to Israel's near bankruptcy? Why the need to heavily tax Israel?

We read, "**And he had seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines, and his wives turned away his heart.**" (1 Kings 11:3). Solomon's wives led him astray, turning his heart from following solely after Yahweh, and causing him to worship false deities – Ashtoreth the goddess of the Zidonians and Molech the detestable god of the Ammonites, to name just two.

Solomon was a standard-bearer in Israel, but he compromised those standards. **"It won't hurt if my wives worship these false deities!** But it did – and he paid heavily for compromising.



We may think, "What is it going to hurt to compromise a little? To give in to the desires I have once in a while? Yahweh understands; He knows my humanity; He knows I'm weak; He knows my heart; He knows that I am trying to serve

Him..." If we compromise once, it becomes easier to compromise again and again and again; and before long we are out of touch with Yahweh. We lose our wisdom (the power to know and to stand for what is right); our anointing; our

vision; Yahweh's fellowship; and the way back is extremely difficult.

ON GUARD

We need to be on our guard against the temptation to compromise. When the enemy subtly suggests the lowering of our standard, let us think carefully, "**What is this going to cost me?**" The cost is too great. Saul lost his kingdom; prophets lost their anointing; judges lost their lives. To compromise is **dangerous**. Let us not suffer **waste** by compromising. If satan cannot get us to leave the faith completely, he will tempt us into compromise and it is often more difficult for a compromising believer to be restored than one who has fallen away, because when **"...a man's ways are right in his own eyes..."** (Proverbs 16:2), he cannot see his fault. Unless we can see clearly that we are in sin, we may never be restored and compromise can rob us of a high place in Yahweh's kingdom.

We cannot conceive what Yahweh has planned for us, but we know that, whatever it is, it will be inexpressively beautiful. Satan knows what it is to live in Yahweh's presence, he knows what heaven is like, but has lost his chance. Don't let him entice you into compromising the standard of Yahweh, so that you, too, lose your right to **the tree of life**, and eternity with Yahshua (Rev.2:10).

As believers we are **not** immune from testing and temptation, but if we hold high the standard, even in the face of death, we will receive a crown of life.

...Don't let satan entice you into compromising...