

### **Lesson 83 - Character of Not Meddling**

1. What is meddling compared to? **Proverbs 26:17**

**EGW:** (no comment)

2. What type of person meddles? **Beginning of Proverbs 20:19**

**EGW:** (no comment)

3. What do such people do with their lips? **End of Proverbs 20:19**

**EGW:** (no comment)

4. What is a person considered if they meddle? **Proverbs 20:3**

**EGW:** (no comment)

5. If a person does not meddle by ceasing from strife, what is it considered in the eyes of God? **Proverbs 20:3** [Comment: This avoids trying to get even.]

**EGW:** (no comment)

6. In trying to come between an agreement between two parties is a form of meddling, so what was given unto Esau that the children of Israel were not to try and take by any coercion? **Deuteronomy 2:5**

**EGW:** In the directions first given to Moses concerning their passage through Edom, after declaring that the Edomites should be afraid of Israel, the Lord had forbidden His people to make use of this advantage against them. Because the power of God was engaged for Israel, and the fears of the Edomites would make them an easy prey, the Hebrews were not therefore to prey upon them. The command given them was, "Take ye good heed unto yourselves therefore: meddle not with them; for I will not give you of their land, no, not so much as a foot breadth; because I have given Mount Seir unto Esau for a possession." Deuteronomy 2:4, 5. The Edomites were descendants of Abraham and Isaac, and for the sake of these His servants, God had shown favor to the children of Esau. He had given them Mount Seir for a possession, and they were not to be disturbed unless by their sins they should place themselves beyond the reach of His mercy. The Hebrews were to dispossess and utterly destroy the inhabitants of Canaan, who had filled up the measure of their iniquity but the Edomites were still probationers, and as such were to be mercifully dealt with. God delights in mercy, and He manifests His compassion before He inflicts His judgments. He teaches Israel to spare the people of Edom, before requiring them to destroy the inhabitants of Canaan. {PP 423.2}

7. Instead of expecting to have the land through meddling, what were the children of Israel allowed to do to obtain meat and water? **Deuteronomy 2:6**

**EGW:** They were now in sight of the hills of Canaan. A few days' march would bring them to the borders of the Promised Land. They were but a little distance from Edom, which belonged to the descendants of Esau, and through which lay the appointed route to Canaan. The direction had been given to Moses, "Turn you northward. And command thou the people, saying, Ye are to pass through the coast of your brethren the children of Esau, which dwell in Seir; and they shall be afraid of you.... Ye shall buy meat of them for money, that ye may eat; and ye shall also buy water of them for money, that ye may drink." Deuteronomy 2:3-6. These directions should have been sufficient to explain why their supply of water had been cut off; they were about to pass through a well-watered, fertile country, in a direct course to the land of Canaan. God had promised them an unmolested passage through Edom, and an opportunity to purchase food, and also water sufficient to supply the host. The cessation of the miraculous flow of water should therefore have been a cause of rejoicing, a token that the wilderness wandering was ended. Had they not been blinded by their unbelief, they would have understood this. But that which should have been an evidence of the fulfillment of God's promise was made the occasion of doubt and murmuring. The people seemed to have given up all hope that God would bring them into possession of Canaan, and they clamored for the blessings of the wilderness. {PP 413.4}

8. What children were not to be meddled with either? **Deuteronomy 2:19**

**EGW:** (no comment)

9. Who were the children of Ammon descendants of? **Deuteronomy 2:19**

**EGW:** After passing to the south of Edom, the Israelites turned northward, and again set their faces toward the Promised Land. Their route now lay over a vast, elevated plain, swept by cool, fresh breezes from the hills. It was a welcome change from the parched valley through which they had been traveling, and they pressed forward, buoyant and hopeful. Having crossed the brook Zered, they passed to the east of the land of Moab; for the command had been given, "Distress not the Moabites, neither contend with them in battle: for I will not give thee of their land for a possession; because I have given Ar unto the children of Lot." And the same direction was repeated concerning the Ammonites, who were also descendants of Lot. {PP 433.1}

10. What can meddling lead to? **2 Kings 14:10**

**EGW:** (no comment)

11. What was the result of not "hearing" the warning? **2 Kings 14:11-12**

**EGW:** (no comment)

12. Repeating the meddling incident in 2 Chronicles 25:19, what did Judah seek after that undermined their success? **2 Chronicles 25:19-20**

**EGW:** (no comment)

13. What reason is given that caused Amaziah not to hear the words about not meddling? **2 Chronicles 25:20**

**EGW:** (no comment)

14. If Josiah were to persist, who was he accused of meddling with? **2 Chronicles 35:21**

**EGW:** (no comment)

15. What was the result, once again, of another example of choosing to meddle instead of heeding the warning? **2 Chronicles 35:22-24**

**EGW:** (no comment)

16. What are we to leave off that leads to meddling? **Proverbs 17:14**

**EGW:** (no comment)

17. What is meddling the beginning of? **Proverbs 17:14**

**EGW:** (no comment)

18. What are we to do before the Lord? **Beginning of Proverbs 24:21**

**EGW:** (no comment)

19. But like Satan, to meddle with God's ways is an attempt at what? **End of Proverbs 24:21**

**EGW:** (no comment)

20. What will such meddling lead to? **Proverbs 24:22**

**EGW:** (no comment)