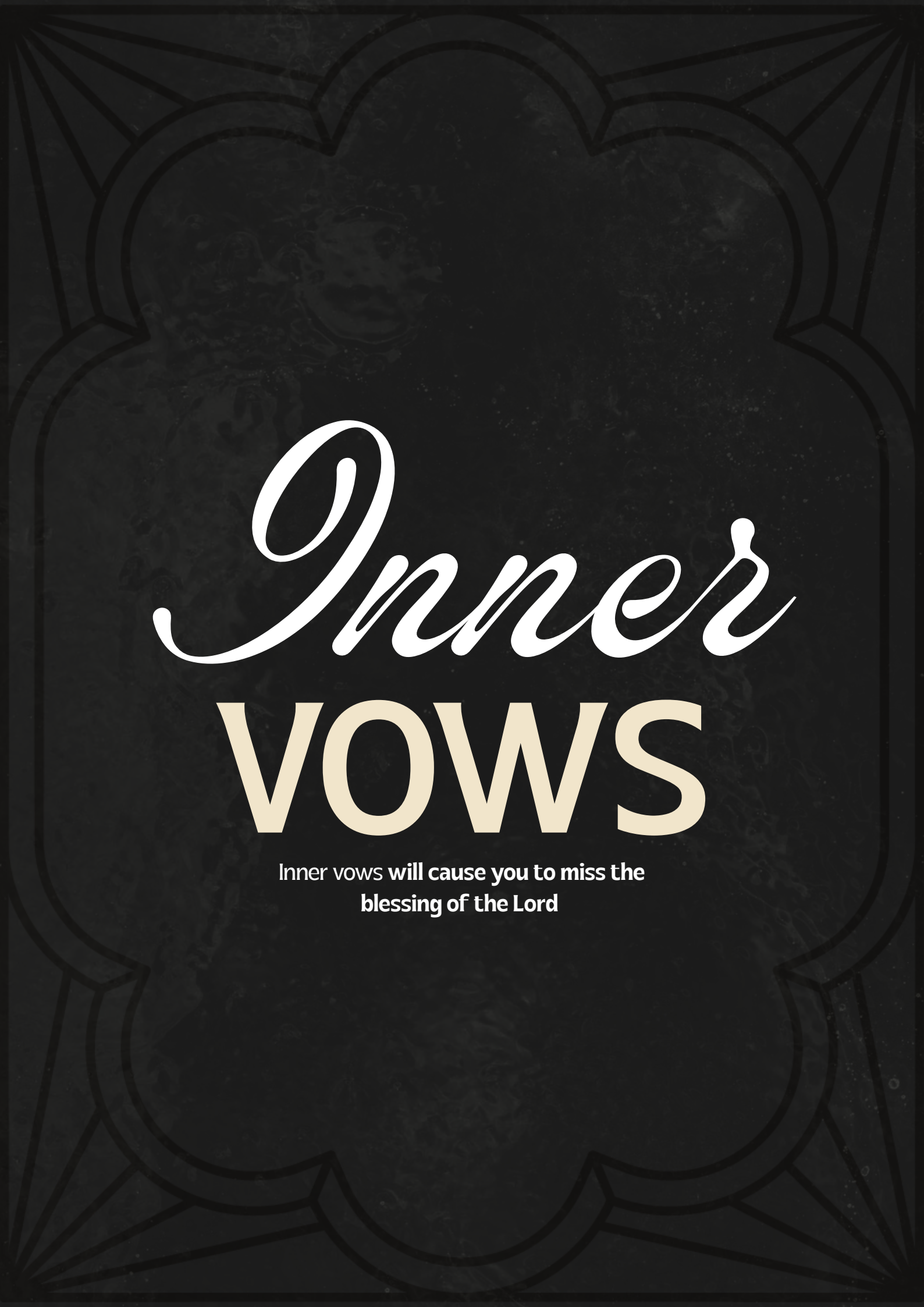




Inner VOWS

Inner vows will cause you to miss the
blessing of the Lord

Genesis 25:29–34

Esau and Jacob, twin brothers in the lineage of Abraham and Isaac, were both heirs to the covenant promise, where the birthright carried spiritual authority, blessing, and future inheritance. After returning from the field exhausted, Esau chose immediate relief over eternal value by trading his birthright to Jacob for a meal, swearing an oath to finalize the exchange. In doing so, he treated something sacred as insignificant, prioritizing a temporary need over his spiritual assignment. This decision revealed a lack of reverence for what God had given him and ultimately caused him to miss the blessing of the Father, losing something that could not be recovered.

Esau = profane (unholy)

† † † † † †

What the Birthright Represented

- Blessing
- Authority
- Spiritual inheritance
- Future assignment

Esau didn't just lose the blessing, **he despised it.**

An inner vow is to despise the blessing of the Lord.

Inner vows will cause you to miss the blessing of the Lord

Definition:

- **Vow:** a holy promise made to God
- **Inner Vow:** a promise made without God

Vows are holy promises. Inner vows are unholy promises.

Simple Definition: An inner vow is when your heart has already decided what it will do before God speaks.

† † † † † †

Characteristics of an Inner Vow

- Formed outside of God
- Rooted in pain
- Driven by fear
- Based on self, not trust in God
- A form of resistance to God's will

Inner vows are pre-decided resistance to God

What Inner Vows Do

- Resist the perfect will of God
- Create pre-decided disobedience
- Form agreement with fear instead of faith
- Lead you to rely on yourself instead of God
- Shape decisions without seeking God

Inner vows are pre-determined decisions made before God speaks.

† † † † † †

How to Recognize Inner Vows

Often revealed through statements like:

- “I’ll never...”
- “I won’t...”
- “That will never happen again...”

How Inner Vows Are Formed

1. **Pain:** Hurt, disappointment, unmet expectations
2. **Fear:** Pain not given to God becomes fear
3. **Deception:** Wrong thoughts introduced and believed
4. **Agreement:** You accept the thought as truth and move forward without God
5. **Inner Vow:** A decision is established and it begins to shape your life

Inner vows are formed when you agree with the enemy instead of God.

† † † † † †

Biblical Examples

- Moses refused God's call. (Exodus 4:13)
- Jonah ran from God. (Jonah 1:3)
- Rich Young Ruler limited obedience. (Matthew 19:21–22)
- Zechariah doubted God's promise. (Luke 1:18)

Inner vows cause you to:

- Undervalue what God has given
- Resist what He is calling you to
- Choose temporary comfort over purpose
- To say no to God before He leads you

† † † † † †

Warnings:

- Inner vows are never formed in the presence of God.
- They still influence your life.
- You begin to repeat them as truth.

Inner vows cause you to repeat what the enemy said like it was God who said it.

REFLECT

What inner vow have I made?

Where have I said, “I’ll never...”?

Have I already decided what I
will do before God speaks?

Am I being led by fear instead
of God?

PRAYER *of* ENCOUNTERS

This is where I tell You...

I love You, I love You, I love You!

This is where I tell You...

You're Holy, You're Holy, You're Holy!

This is where I tell You...

Thank You, thank You, thank You!

This is where I tell You...

I need You, I need You, I need You!

This is where I tell You...

Speak Lord, Your servant is listening!