**Shake The Haters Off**

(Genesis 37:1-4 KJV)

***1****And Jacob dwelt in the land wherein his father was a stranger, in the land of Canaan.****2****These are the generations of Jacob. Joseph, being seventeen years old, was feeding the flock with his brethren; and the lad was with the sons of Bilhah, and with the sons of Zilpah, his father's wives: and Joseph brought unto his father their evil report.****3****Now Israel loved Joseph more than all his children, because he was the son of his old age: and he made him a coat of many colours.****4****And when his brethren saw that their father loved him more than all his brethren, they hated him, and could not speak peaceably unto him.*

A

 hater is someone that is jealous, calloused, demonic, selfish, self-centered, self-seeking, and self-interested. They are sometimes perceived to be a prideful, unappreciated, resentful, angry, bitter, indignant, spiteful and envious person that spends majority of their time trying to make you look like a midget, as they play the role of the giant. They can be identified by being a very negative person—nothing is ever good enough! But remember whenever you achieve the goal that you vowed to complete—you will always attract some haters in your life.

In reality that's why you have to be careful who you share your blessings and your dreams with because some folk can't handle seeing you blessed! And it's dangerous trying to be like somebody else. If God wanted you to be like somebody else. He would have given you what He gave them.

You don't know what people have gone through to get what they have and where they are in life! The problem I have with haters is that they hear my Testimony, but they didn't see my Trials and Tragedies! We've all got some haters among us! In fact, most of our haters are people that are supposed to be on our side. So, how do you handle the haters who you at least expect to have your guard up against?

I am afraid that many of us take life too nonchalantly. Many of us assume that everyone means right and will treat us with respect without any reservations. Some of us believe that as long as we don't bother anyone, then no one will bother us. If that is the way you feel, I am afraid you are living in a fantasy world because there are people who will not only harm you, they will even try to destroy you.

Let's admit folks, that misery loves company. When people are unstable, unsatisfied and uncomfortable with their lives, they will do all they can do to wreck yours. Many times they do not care how or who they destroy as long as they can be satisfied that somebody else is suffering despite their mental competence and capacity.

In the text, Joseph is one of the most fascinating men of human history. He stands head and shoulders above most men, so much so that he is looked upon as a dynamic example of just what a person should be when you're attacked by a hater. In theological study most men of God have recognized this down through the centuries. So, let's look at how Joseph shook his haters off!

So Joseph tells us, what do you do, when they scandalize your name?  What do you do when they assassinate your character?  What do you do when they disrespect you?  What do you do when they hurt your feelings? What do you do when the same one talks you up when they are before you is the same one that talks you down when they are behind you?  What do you do when you find out who you thought was your ally was really your adversary?  What do you do when the one you helped is the one trying to hurt you?   What do you do when the one that talks to you is the one that talks about you?  What do you do when the one that looks like is pushing you up is really the one pulling you down?  Joseph, how do you handle the haters?