

# It's NOT Finished

By Arthur Bailey

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# Chapter 1 Introduction

Hallelujah! It's always a pleasure to have someone to minister to. Today's message is somewhat of a challenge. We're going to be talking about a message that is called *It's Not Finished*. I knew that when I put this title up, that I would immediately get some problems from people.

"What do you mean, it's not finished?!"

"It is finished!"

Well, just calm down and bear with me because we're all going to be challenged. As I have shared before; as we were ministering in Israel, we made one connection there that opened up seventeen congregations throughout the land of Israel. After we ministered in some of the communities there, several other communities opened.

It's hard for me to understand how people can go away from home for months at a time. I know that Father is preparing me for that. I had lost the desire to travel and yet Father is calling me to do that again.

We raised thousands and thousands of dollars to do ministry work. And while spending all that time to take the gospel *about* Jesus Christ to the nations of the world, **we took the wrong gospel**. That is how places like India and the Philippines and Africa and all of the other continents ended up with a gospel that was exported from the United States.

Everybody is now preaching a gospel that came from the United States; not what came out of the land of Israel. As a matter of fact, the gospel from the United States is going *into* the land of Israel. With the gospel that came from the United States to go into these different nations, came the interpretation and translations of Bibles from the English gospel that went with the gospel "about" Jesus.

So now we have thousands of Bibles out there translated in the language of the people, with a Western spin of the gospel of Jesus Christ. We have people in Israel calling Yeshua "Jesus." Now think about that for a moment — Israel! Yeshua is a Hebrew name for a Hebrew boy that is now being called "Jesus" by modern-day Israelites. How did that happen?

That should tell us something. That should tell us about the Bible that they have. They have Bibles over there in the modern Israeli language that have all of the terminology of our American English Bible — not only that, in Sebul in the Philippines; in Kenya. There are forty-two tribes in Kenya. Each of those forty-two tribes has an English version of the Bible. There is the Bible in Swahili; the Bible in Kikuyu, the Bible in all of those different languages; that came from the United States.

What it is saying to me is that if we are going to get the truth out there, at some point we're going to have to look at translating the Bible accurately in the language of the people. Not the Western version of the gospel, but the actual gospel that came out of the land of Israel. Are you with me? So these people are getting "Lord God" too. They're getting "Jesus." They're getting the death, burial and resurrection. They're getting a gospel about Jesus, not the gospel Yeshua preached.

I say all of this to say that now is not the time for us to become complacent. Now more than ever — as I share today's message, *It's Not Finished*, hopefully you will see

the importance and be compelled. Now more than ever, we need to take the resources that the Almighty has entrusted to us to get the true gospel of the Kingdom to the nations of the world.

I believe that because of the gospel that has been taken out, it has held up the coming of the Almighty; because the truth hasn't gone forth. Even though 34% of the world's population have come into the knowledge of Jesus Christ — 34%. Out of all of the billions and billions of dollars that have been spent, 34% of the population confesses faith in some means or manner of faith in its various denominations; and 1.2 billion of those are Catholics.

There is a gospel that is out there that is not the true gospel. It's that *other* gospel that we were warned about. And who is going to take *this* gospel? The voices that are speaking right now — I have to tell you ladies and gentlemen. This is no slight on anybody else because there are a lot of people out there who are doing what they believe Father has called them to do. But from what I can surmise, I have only recognized two voices that are actually taking the *true* gospel of the Kingdom to the nations of the world.

One of them is Michael Rood. I am sad to say that I am the only other one. That's two out of the thousands of voices. There are thousands of voices. If you turn on Christian TV from sun-up to sun-down, seven days a week, twenty-four hours a day, you will hear voice after voice after voice after voice and it is sad. It is sad that only two voices on the whole planet are actually taking a gospel that is **minus all of the religious trappings of men**. We've got work to do! We've got a lot of work to do.

We need the help of every able-bodied person. We need the pocketbooks and the billfolds and the wallets and the bank accounts of every able-bodied person. Whether you have two cents, two dollars, two hundred, two thousand or two million, we need you to recognize that it is not finished!

We did a teaching on the Feast of Weeks/the Feast of Harvest/Shavuot/Pentecost. Now interestingly, you won't find the Feast of Pentecost in the New Testament. You will find the day of Pentecost — the day of Pentecost, like it was a day somewhere in history. On that particular day the church was supposedly born; the Spirit was given out.

It all happened in a day and it was one time in all of history. You see, that's the gospel *about Jesus*. Pentecost was a Feast appropriately called Pentecost in the Greek. That was actually the Feast of Harvest/the Feast of Weeks — called in many circles, *Shavuot*.

We want to help people out there who think that Pentecost is a religion — Pentecostals to understand that by celebrating Pentecost, they are actually participating in keeping the Torah and they don't even know it. Somebody's got to tell them. Did you get that? You got that. You've got people keeping the Torah and they don't even know that they are keeping the Torah! They are talking about how:

"We're not under the law."

"Oh yeah? Well, why are you celebrating?"

You've got a whole denomination with all of its various aspects celebrating. Hallelujah.

James teaches that when we come to the Almighty—as a matter of fact, He said it this way. If we draw near to Him, He would draw near to us. Many of you have been around other believers. You can tell by the conversation that even though you are gathered with another believer, the idea of Messiah being in the midst of that fellowship—it doesn't even seem to be acknowledged.

Have you ever gone out with saints? Has anybody ever gone out with saints? You've gone to the movies with saints. You've gone out to the park with saints. You've gone to some outing with other saints. Interestingly enough, while you are in fellowship with saints, if there is no food involved, you don't even pray!

Think about that for a moment. Typically the only time saints fellowshipping with saints even pray is when there is food involved and that is to say the blessing over the meal. The point I'm trying to make is that saints can come together; and while saints are coming together, they don't even acknowledge or recognize that the Almighty is in the midst of them.

They can spend all day long together and not pray once. They can talk about everything under the sun, but not one time have any prayer. You can come together in the "name" of the Almighty and not acknowledge that the Almighty is even in the midst of you.

If you don't acknowledge that the Almighty is in the midst of you, chances are that you are not going to look for Him to move or to do anything while you are together — especially when the saints come together and talk about everything but the word. Have you ever hung out with saints and you talk all day long and the word never comes up?

We have to be mindful. We have to be aware. Part of the teachings that we have been doing is to help individuals to understand that He is holy. Again, we have to acknowledge the fact that the Almighty is in the midst of us. You've heard me say several times that when I wake up in the morning, the first thing that comes out of my mouth is this:

"This is a day that YeHoVaH has made. I shall rejoice and be glad in it."

From that moment until the moment I lay my head down, I am looking for Him to move and to do something in my life. I'm just looking for Him. Do you understand what I'm saying? If I see a UPS truck, I'm thinking it is going to my house. Do you follow me? You know, I don't like going to the mailbox and there's nothing there. When I leave home, I'm looking.

"Okay Father, I'm going now. What are you going to do today? How are you going to use me today? What do you want me to accomplish today?"

When I reflect back at the end of my day, I want to see how He has moved in the midst of me; which encourages and inspires me to look for Him even more tomorrow. You hear people say:

"Every day with Jesus is better than the day before."

They don't even acknowledge "Jesus" all day long. We don't want to be that kind of people. We want to be a people that are always aware of the presence of the Almighty; always in tune with what He is saying and what He wants to be done. He is looking for how He can use you today — all day long and every day from this day forward.

If you are not aware of His presence, you can go through your whole day and forget to pray. You have people who go days and days and days without praying; without studying, without reading, without acknowledging the presence of the Almighty.

I will say this. When you come here, you are not here to see me. When I speak, my goal is to connect you to Him. So when I speak and when these brothers and whoever else comes up and speaks, they are here to help you make a

connection to Him. There will be two voices. There will be my voice and then there will be the voice that the Father will use.

He will speak to you and use something that may have been said during the service to minister to you and to really respond to your prayers. I was just speaking yesterday. Almost every day I talk to the saints and they say:

"Every time you minister, the Almighty ministers through you and you say things that I was just talking to Him about this morning; last night or yesterday. The question is, how is that possible?"

Although I'm a long-winded preacher, I'm not touching on everybody's issue in the sermon. But the Father is speaking to them through something that is being said by me. So when you check out and go someplace else, it's all right. I understand. Father has pulled you to the side hopefully and is either bringing you some direction; bringing you some instruction, bringing you some correction, or bringing you some rebuke. Whatever He is doing, it's okay. I'm just saying that if He does it, it's okay. Amen?

If He's doing it, it's okay. I'm expecting Him to do it. I'm expecting Him to heal. I'm expecting Him to deliver. I'm expecting Him to speak to some people. I'm expecting Him to answer some prayers. I encourage you to expect to hear from Him; to have Him answer questions, to have Him respond to your prayer requests — whatever it is. If it is Him doing it, it is okay. Hallelujah.

As we enter into a time of worship, I encourage you to draw near to Him. As you draw near to Him, He will draw near to you. We don't want Him to move in the midst of us and we fail to recognize it. And yet we know that there

have been times in history where He has been right in the presence of people who claim to be His people and they didn't even know He was in the midst of them. Let us not be that people, Hallelujah?

Yeshua spent his entire earthly ministry among people who claimed to be the people of YeHoVaH and they didn't even know him. The Holy Spirit came on the day of Pentecost among millions possibly and only three thousand received. You say:

"That's an impressive number."

That's an impressive number yeah, if there are only three thousand people there. Do you hear what I'm saying? Imagine that there were hundreds of thousands! It was just three thousand from hundreds of thousands. That is a very small percentage. On the day of Pentecost when the Holy Spirit was given, only a very small percentage of the people present experienced Him.

Everybody else was mocking and laughing and joking and enjoying the feast. The Almighty is moving in the midst of this feast, but people are too busy enjoying the feast that He gave them to recognize that He was in the midst of the feast. Don't be that people.

I knew when I woke up this morning, that this would not be a normal day. It would not be an ordinary day. As a matter of fact, earlier this week when I announced what we would be ministering on, it seems as if there are all kinds of things that have taken place. What is really interesting is that last night and this morning as my wife and I were having a discussion, she stepped outside and just breathed a breath of fresh air.

She talked about a gentleman who is a friend of her Dad. He is unable to breathe on his own. He is oxygenated. He is unable to swallow. It is interesting how we can take things like breathing for granted, you know? We just expect

to breathe. We don't have any problem breathing. When I see people with oxygen tanks — you go into hospitals and you see people with oxygen in their nose.

There was a precious saint here a couple of weeks ago. Her primary employment is going to houses where you have people who are constantly hooked up to some kind of machine to help them have some kind of a normal life.

We allow or seemingly allow a lot of things to distract us and to cause us to go into different modes when we don't have nearly the kind of problems that a lot of people on the earth have. I say that no matter what your problem is; no matter what you're dealing with right now, to you, maybe the sky is falling. But how many of you know that if you know the one who holds the sky in place; if it does fall, it won't fall on you? Seriously.

I want us to start in *John 19:30*. The first thing I want to do right off the bat, is that I want you to know what this message *is* about and what it is *not* about. The verse of scripture that we are going to be looking at is *John 19:30*. Yeshua said:

"It is finished."

John 19:30 "When Yeshua therefore had received the vinegar, he said, 'It is finished': and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost."

Now what is interesting is that Yeshua doesn't tell us *what* is finished, but there are a lot of books on the subject. Have you ever asked the question:

"What is he talking about? What is 'it'?"

He doesn't explain what "it" is. And just like so many other passages of scripture, there are people who take a phrase like this and start telling you what he meant when he said this; even though he doesn't tell us what he meant. And yet they have "divine revelation" and in some cases are on best-seller lists. They are making a lot of money for books that they have written about what he said, that he didn't explain. Have you ever asked the question:

"What is he talking about, 'It is finished?""

Here is what logic shares with us. Logic from continual reading lets us know that "it" (whatever it is), is not what may have been taught by these books and preachers. The bottom line is that "it is finished" doesn't explain what "it" that is finished, is. We're going to look at the word. How many of you like to look at the word to try to find answers to the questions that come from the word? That is what I have come to do.

When Yeshua said "it is finished," the question is:

"What did he mean?"

I'll tell you what. Theological and religious phrases, *not* found in the Bible but *often* used by preachers or religious leaders state that he is talking about the "finished work of Christ." How many of you have ever heard that?

"The finished work of the cross."

How many of you have ever heard that? These phrases are not found *anywhere* in the Bible. You won't find the "finished work of Christ" or the "finished work of the cross," but you will find a lot of web sites concerning the "finished work of Christ" and the "finished work of the cross." On the surface, it looks like:

"Wow, these guys know what they are talking about."

We're going to see if they do.

# Chapter 2

### Yeshua Ministered In Phases

You have to understand that Yeshua's ministry happened in



phases. The first thing that is so vital to understand is that his ministry happens in phases. If I was like many of the brethren out there who say that the finished work of Christ and the finished work of the cross are the same, **then once he died, everything was finished!** 

Logic says that if he hadn't resurrected, none of us would be here. This is what logic says. But logic, even from a scriptural standpoint, lets us know that even after he died and was buried, he resurrected and ascended and presented Firstfruits. Then he came back.

"What's he doing back here for forty days? It's finished!"

We'll look at all of this. We are going to see that even if we approach the Bible from a logical standpoint, some of the things that are being said are not necessarily completely true; even though we know that Yeshua finished "something" on that tree. Something was finished. The question is:

"What?"

We're not going to leave it up to theologians to tell us what "it" is. We're going to do our due diligence and try to at least find out ourselves. I've done some work for you. Then you can check based upon what I am presenting, if maybe I am off.

Yeshua's ministry happened in phases. The questions are:

"What are the phases?"

And:

"What phase are we in?"

Here is what we *do* know. The gospel is not just *about* the death, burial and resurrection. This is what the circles that I have been in have taught — that the gospel of Jesus Christ is about the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus. **And yet Yeshua never preached the death, burial and resurrection gospel.** He never had an altar call. He never invited anybody to come and "believe" in him.

He didn't send his disciples out the first time to get people "saved." He didn't commission them to go out there and get people "saved." So how did we get on that kick?

His mission and his commission was to *make disciples* and *for his disciples to disciple* and for their disciples to make disciples — all the way down to where we are right now, making disciples. But if I've got the mindset that "it is finished," then there is nothing that I have to do! I don't even have to accept the free gift of "grace," because it is finished.

Those of you who have been joining us on Thursdays, you know that we just started a new series called *What About Grace?* Some of that is going to be incorporated into this and some of this is going to be incorporated into that teaching. As I've shared with you, the Bible has a lot of dots that connect. Everything is connected. There is nothing out there standing alone all by itself except for "Easter." Easter doesn't connect to anything. Hallelujah.

### The Phases of Yeshua's Ministry:

- Yeshua's ministry on earth
- Yeshua's ministry at his death

That is when he said:

"It is finished."

The question is:

"What was finished?"

The answer is simply, his life — his earthly life. But there is more to it than that.

### • Yeshua's ministry after his resurrection

How many of you know that Yeshua had a ministry after his resurrection? If it was "finished," there would be no need for that ministry. But that is not all.

### • Yeshua's ministry in Heaven

Yeshua has a ministry in Heaven. Hallelujah. Now you are all going to have to watch for distractions. There are going to be a lot of distractions. You can miss your divine appointments, so I encourage you. I'm not the only one in here who struggles with tendencies of attention deficit. So there's Yeshua's ministry in Heaven, but then there is:

### • Yeshua's ministry when he returns

There is his earthly ministry, there is the ministry at death, there is the ministry after his resurrection, there is the ministry in Heaven when he ascended and there is his ministry when he returns. Let's look at his ministry on earth.

# Phase 1: Yeshua's Ministry Before His Death

He walked with his disciples and he taught them. This is what he did. Yeshua's prayer in the garden gives us insight into what he meant when he said:

"It is finished."

Now notice that the word gives us insight.

John 17:1 "These words spake Yeshua, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, 'Father, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee:'"

John 17:2 "As thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him."

John 17:3 "And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Yeshua Messiah, whom thou hast sent."

Now let me say this to you, because it comes down to the question:

"Who is my brother?"

You see, for a person to do the will of my Father, it requires two things. First, they are going to obey Him. Second, they are going to believe in the Messiah that He sent. You can have people who claim to obey Him. They can even claim to be "led by the Spirit," but they are not filled and can't be filled with the Spirit.

How many of you know that there are people throughout the Old Testament and the New — both good and evil that were led by the Spirit? There were people that

Father talked to. I mean, He sent Moses to talk to Pharaoh. He sent Daniel. Three Hebrew boys were speaking to Nebuchadnezzer. He used a mule or a donkey or an ass to speak to His prophet Balaam.

He spoke through the prophets. For some people, He even spoke to them in dreams. Remember when Abraham told a fib and Pharaoh ended up with Moses' wife? The Almighty showed up at the Pharaoh's house. He said:

"Listen, let me tell you something, Pharaoh. If you touch this woman, you are dead!"

Pharaoh woke up and his primary goal was to get that woman out of his house. Do you understand what I am saying? Father knows how to speak to people who may not even believe in Him. So just because a person claims that they are led by the Spirit, the question is:

"Are you filled with the Spirit?"

Either we're going to believe Yeshua, or not. Yeshua said it very simply:

"No man can come to the Father other than through..."

Yeshua. So how can somebody say:

"I don't believe in Yeshua, but I've got a relationship with the Father."

John 17:3 "And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Yeshua Messiah, whom thou hast sent."

<u>John 17:4</u> "I have glorified thee on the earth:"

Here is what Yeshua said:

"I have finished the **work** which thou gavest me to do."

"I have finished the **work** that you gave me to do."

This work was on the earth. This is the ministry. This is his earthly ministry. How many of you know that his ministry didn't stop just because he said on the cross:

"It is finished"?

I mean it is right here in the Bible. I don't even have to go any further than this. You will all say:

"Do you know, that's right!"

That took all of five minutes. I didn't have to write a 300-page book! That 300-page book that some people write — 289 pages are fluff. They are trying to convince you on that last page or two, of what they could have said in the first few pages. But how many of you know that a two or three page book doesn't sell? That's like a note; a sticky note!

John 17:4 "I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the **work** which thou gavest me to do."

The "work" here as we look at it when people talk about "grace," is "ergon." It means business, employment; that which anyone is occupied with or that which one undertakes to do; enterprise, undertaking. Yeshua said:

"The work that you've given me, I have finished."

What else did he say? He said:

"The works that I do..."

He said:

"You shall do."

The works that I do, you shall do — and greater works."

So you see, here it should tell us that although his work may come to an end — his earthly ministry work, our work begins when we receive him in faith. You and I have work to do, ladies and gentlemen. You can engage in this if you choose, but if you choose not to engage in the work that the Almighty has given you to do, do you know what is going to happen?

You are going to spend your life miserable. You are going to spend your life going around in circles. You're going to spend your life chasing stuff, chasing things, chasing people. You're going to spend your life going back and forth to work; trying to pay bills, trying to pay debts, trying to do all of the stuff that the people of the world do.

But when you get engaged and involved in the work that He has commissioned us to get involved with and engaged in, do you know that there is an excitement? There is anticipation. There is eagerness. You now have purpose. If you don't have purpose, you're not motivated. You can get depressed.

Many people are depressed because they don't have purpose. They don't know what they are supposed to be doing. And when you spend too much time idle and operating in depression, it gives spirits of oppression, depression and every other thing permission to come and spend time with you. You've got company — heaviness.

John 17:5 "And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was..."

We can see that Yeshua had ministry before his earthly ministry. The Bible says that he was the Lamb of God slain before the foundation of the world. You see, the word became Yeshua. The word was made flesh. Yeshua was all throughout the Old Testament — Why? Because he *is* the word. He is the word that became flesh and dwelt among us.

Do you see this? He's not just a man, but the word. **The word is walking in the midst of them**. He sent His word and healed them. Hopefully that will give you a whole new aspect of what *Psalms* was talking about. His word was healing. The word says:

"Listen. I the word, am in you and shall be with you. Now you go and do what I, the word did."

Oh it's gonna get good!

John 17:6 "I have manifested thy name unto the men which thou gavest me out of the world: thine they were, and thou gavest them me; and they have kept thy word."

John 17:7 "Now they have known that all things whatsoever thou hast given me are of thee."

John 17:8 "For I have given unto them the words which thou gavest me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came out from thee, and they have believed that thou didst send me."

John 17:9 "I pray for them:"

Now pay attention to this.

"...I pray for them: I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me; for they are thine."

<u>John 17:10</u> "And all mine are thine, and thine are mine; and I am glorified in them."

John 17:11 "And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are."

You see, Yeshua's ministry is continuing. His earthly ministry is continuing through those whom He gave him. When you say:

"Father I believe."

"Father save me."

"Yeshua come into my life."

Then the words that Yeshua spoke to his disciples now apply to you and I. He went on:

"Holy Father keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are."

Are we there yet? Now Firstfruits has introduced another small schism. There will be schisms throughout our walk on earth. The question is:

"Are we man or woman enough not to allow little schisms to separate us?"

There are a whole lot of people who allow little schisms to separate them.

"Well, you baptize in the name of 'Jesus.' We believe to be baptized in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost."

"Well, you all sprinkle."

"Well, you all pour."

"Well, we dip."

"You know, you have to be baptized in a tub."

"No, you have to be baptized in a font."

"No, you have to be baptized in a baptismal pool."

"No, you have to be baptized in running water."

All of these little schisms cause people to go in separate directions. They are not man or woman or spiritual enough to accept the fact that we are not going to agree 100% on anything 100%. Even when I do agree and you agree with me, you agree with something that I said, but you may not necessarily agree with how I may go about it. You will always be able to find something ladies and gentlemen, that you don't agree with one hundred percent.

I've been dealing with it all my life. I've been putting up with people and putting up with stuff because to me, relationship and fulfilling the Kingdom is much bigger than me. And if I can't die, then I'm not of Him. So I have to die; which means that there will be times when people will walk on me.

My flesh is going to rise up. My spirit will humble itself. You see, if you've got humility in you, you esteem your brother above yourself. It doesn't mean you

compromise your faith. It doesn't mean that you don't believe what you believe. It doesn't mean that you don't follow your conviction. What it means is that:

"Listen. Are we going to allow this to divide us, or can we move past it?"

John 17:12 "While I was with them in the world, I kept them in thy name: those that thou gavest me I have kept, and none of them is lost, but the son of perdition;"

I hope there are none of them here, because just as there was the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, there were all those other gods; and the people who followed those gods, even to the point where Yeshua chose one. Listen. He knew that Judas was the devil's seed before he even invited him to become a disciple. He says:

"I chose all of you and one of you is a devil."

I'm going to tell you, that tells us something. It tells us that in order — I can spiritualize this, but I won't. I can just take what Yeshua did. Yeshua, based on the evidence that we have in this Bible; the eleven never would have betrayed him. They may have denied him. Peter may have denied him and they may have scattered once he was crucified, but only one among them actually went to the point where he betrayed him.

Now think about this. If Judas had not betrayed Yeshua, would any of us be here? How would he have gotten to his destination? There are people who Father will put in your life who are Judases. Their sole purpose is to help "kill" you. If you learn to "die" on your own, you won't have to be "murdered."

At any point, Yeshua could have come down off of that cross — at any point. He told them. He said:

"You don't have the right. You don't have the power to take my life. Who do you think you are? I <u>am</u> God. You don't have the power to take my life, except I give it to you."

So he gave it and he hung there and he suffered. Why? Because he had to die. He knew why he came. He said:

"Listen, while I'm talking to you, if you're going to follow me; if you're going to follow me, do you see where I ended up? But how many of you know that is not where I ended up? You see, that just ushered me into the next phase."

It gets better.

John 17:12 "While I was with them in the world, I kept them in thy name: those that thou gavest me I have kept, and none of them is lost, but the son of perdition; that the scripture might be fulfilled."

You see, the son of perdition was vital for the fulfillment of scripture.

John 17:13 "And now come I to thee;"

He has not gone there yet. Why? Because the son of perdition is in the process of betraying him — while he's praying. Do you understand what I am saying?

John 17:13 "And now come I to thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they might have my joy fulfilled in themselves."

How many of you know that the *last* thing that they experienced when Yeshua went onto that cross, was joy? It wasn't until after his resurrection. You see, the prayer that he is praying didn't even come to pass until after he resurrected. Before that, they were sad. They were miserable. They hid. They ran. Then they went back to their former lives.

John 17:14 "I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world."

Point — if you follow Yeshua, you will be hated. Get over it. The world will hate you. Love them back. Now you fulfill:

"Love those that hate you. Pray for them who despitefully use you."

Do you want to follow him? Wonderful! Don't complain. Don't murmur.

John 17:14 "I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world."

<u>John 17:15</u> "I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world,"

Leave them there.

"...but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil."

You see, we are here. I'm going to tell you something. Whether you know this or not, you are protected as long as you stay under the protection. Think about this. An

unbelieving spouse is protected as long as they stay in the house and I'm not talking physically. I am talking about in the house. If a believer is married to an unbeliever, she sanctifies or he sanctifies the unbeliever. Do you get this?

There is a protection as long as you stay covered or you stay with somebody who is covered. When you are on your own and you aren't covered, there is no protection for you. Now you are going to need some mercy and you are certainly going to need some grace.

You see, the children of YeHoVaH are not supposed to live on grace. They are supposed to live in power. Grace is for ignorant people. Let me add a little bit to it because some people will go:

"Oh, oh..."

The only time you need grace is when you have messed up! Do you understand what I am saying?

"Have mercy on me!"

"Show some grace!"

If you are walking in authority and you are walking in power, you walk in obedience. Why do you need grace to walk in obedience? You need His presence. You need His power. When you walk in the word, you walk in authority. You walk in power. Grace is for when you violate. Why walk in a continual violation with the adage that many in the world who are claiming to be of Him say:

"We don't have to keep that law. We don't have to keep those commands."

Do you know what you are saying? It is that you are under grace and you are going to need a *whole lot* of it!

John 17:15 "I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil."

<u>John 17:16</u> "They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world."

Sanctified. Set apart. Make them holy.

<u>John 17:17</u> "Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth."

How are you going to get holy? Through His truth. Thy word is truth. So just in case you want to know what truth is, thy word is truth. And guess what? You can't separate the Spirit of YeHoVaH from the truth of YeHoVaH. Yeshua called the Spirit of YeHoVaH, the Spirit of truth. And what is truth? The word. The Spirit is not going to have you doing something contrary to His word. What is His word? It is that which became flesh, which was with Him from the beginning.

The reason why people are not walking in power; not walking in authority is because they are not walking in His word.

John 17:18 "As thou has sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world."

<u>John 17:19</u> "And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth."

<u>John 17:20</u> "Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word;"

John 17:21 "That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me."

You see, Yeshua in the garden prayed not only for us, but he prayed for the people that you and I are going to reach. This brings great comfort to me. It lets me know that I am not in this thing by myself. Regardless of who chooses to walk with me, what is most important is that He is with me. You see, if He is with me, then greater He that is in me than he that is in the world.

And do you know what? When you walk in His truth, do you know who you are going to attract? You are going to attract people who desire to walk in His truth. Do you know who you are going to repel? You are going to repel people who have no desire to walk in His truth. So you need to put your repellent on! They get around you and its:

"Oh man, I can't take that. I can't take that word. Oh no."

"I'll see you later. I'm in darkness. I like the darkness. You've got too much light over there."

That's why the bars are always dark. That's why where people go to hook up, it's never — it's usually not lit. Freaks come out at night and everything else. It is amazing that folks don't go out in the day time. They want to wait until it is *really* dark. Do you understand what I am saying? Eleven, twelve o'clock — if you go out at ten o'clock at night, you are too early.

### Phase 2: Yeshua's Ministry At Death

This is the fulfillment of prophecy. What did he say? In *Matthew* chapter 12, these are Yeshua's own words. We're not going to bring you books. We're not going to bring you Messianic books or books that anybody has written. We're going to simply look at the word.

Mt 12:38 "Then certain of the scribes and of the Pharisees answered, saying, 'Master, we would see a sign from thee.'"

Mt 12:39 "But he answered and said unto them, 'An evil and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall be no sign given to it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas:"

It's the only sign. He said, no sign will be given but this sign.

Mt 12:40 "For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth."

NOT a day and a half! No Good Friday. Are you with me? No Mardi Thursday or Mardi Gras. Nor what is it, Ash Wednesday, Fat Tuesday, Black Friday. I just thought I'd throw that in there while we are calling stuff out.

And now there's cyber Monday! There is something for every day of the week to get you to spend. It's all about spending. It's all about money. It's all about getting in your pocket. It's all about taking the resources that the Almighty has put in you to get the Kingdom advanced, to get entertainment for you. We are the most entertainment-

driven generation on the planet. The number one phrase among people thirty and under is:

"I'm bored. I'm bored. I'm bored."

How many times a day do you hear that from your teenagers; from you young people? Now you've got to give them something in order to keep their mind engaged. I mean it's amazing. The television is on, the radio is on, the phone is on, the computer is on and they are reading a book. I don't know how they do it. It's like our children have four or five things going on at the same time while they are doing their homework. Their minds are so engaged to the point where it takes two or three hours for them to go to sleep.

### "I can't sleep!"

Why can't you sleep? It's because your mind is racing. You have so engaged your mind to the point where your mind is so active that it has to be toned down so you can close your eyes. What do they do when they can't sleep? They engage the mind.

# Phase 3: Yeshua's Ministry After His Resurrection

We see that Yeshua had ministry in death. It was specifically three days; specifically three nights. These are his words. So there is his resurrection ministry. Now get this, because this ladies and gentlemen, really takes this thing to a whole other level. Pay attention please.

Yeshua ushered in a new Priesthood. This Priesthood is *after* the Melchisedek Priesthood. Yeshua himself being *High Priest* — thereby making his followers Priests. Then in the process, he presented Firstfruits as High Priest.

Let me give you a spoiler. Every High Priest before Yeshua had to go in and come out. Yeshua went in and took a seat. Yes he did. He sat down. No Priest in history ever sat down. But now is Messiah risen from the dead. You see, the grave couldn't hold him. They took him down off of the cross. They put him in a grave. And while he was up there, he said:

"Okay, it is finished. I've got to move onto the next phase because I can't stay here all night."

The Father now put it in the heart of a couple of fellows — Joseph and Nicodemus said:

"Now go and get him down because he's got work to do."

So they went. Imagine.

"Pilate, listen, listen, listen."

Now we don't know how long those malefactors in the past — history shows us that Romans were vicious people. They would let a body stay. But in this particular case, Father touches two hearts. We don't know if they took the other two men down. The Bible doesn't tell us that. We make assumptions, but the Bible doesn't tell us that. They did take Yeshua down. There was nobody going to Pilate on behalf of the other two. You see, their work was finished — for real. He put two individuals; not one, but two witnesses there. He said:

"Go get him."

They went and besought Pilate. They talked to Pilate and he gave them permission. They went and took Yeshua down and buried him because there was work to be done. They had to do it before they could not do any more work,

because it was a High Sabbath. They had a specific amount of time. Think about the orchestration by the King of Glory in all of this. Now his disciples — what is really interesting is that those individuals who had followed him all of this time were gone except for one and his mama and the women.

I'm going to tell you something. If it wasn't for women in ministry, I don't know how much ministry would get done. It's a sad, sad thing that the majority of the workers in the Kingdom are women. Think about it! Why is it that women are so engaged in ministry while men are out there somewhere playing with their toys and are trying to figure out how to get some more?

A woman has to kind of figure out how to manipulate a few dollars out of her husband so she can give an offering. She just wants to help the ministry. She just wants to do something. Most men who tithe, tithe because their women are telling them they need to tithe. Think about it bro. Think about it. Most of the people that I know — it is the women out there who are supporting the ministry on the greatest level.

There are brothers who are serving. I'm thankful that there are brothers who know that they have been called to advance the Kingdom of YeHoVaH. But when you look at the volunteer pool; when you look at the ones who are quick to give of their service, their time and their money; their talents, it is a no-brainer. You don't have to be a rocket scientist to figure that out. I'm just looking around and seeing this. It's like:

"Where are the brothers at?"

"Where are the men?"

And for you men who stand, I bless YeHoVaH for you. But a lot more of you brothers need to stand up. You need to put your hands to the plow and stop complaining. The Father says:

"I can't get a man to do anything, so I've got women. I've got a whole bunch of women. If I call one of them, they'll answer in a heartbeat!"

Then you've got a man over here who wants to sit on his royal hiney and who says:

"He didn't call her."

Really? Now all of a sudden, you've got ears to hear. Oh, it gets better.

<u>1 Co 15:20</u> "But now is Messiah risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept."

<u>1 Co 15:21</u> "For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead."

You see, the other thing that Yeshua did on the cross that was completed in his resurrection is fix what Adam did that caused us all to go into slavery. He set us free. He undid what Adam did. But do you know what else he did? First John chapter three, verse eight.

<u>John 3:8</u> "He that committeth sin is of the devil."

For those of you who say:

"Well, we're always sinners and we always sin."

Do you know what? You are of the devil! Let's just call it what it is. Do you want to identify with sinners? Do you

want to be a sinner? Do you want to call yourself a sinner while you talk about how you are "saved by grace?"

Then you are going to need a whole lot of grace if you continue to live in sin. And guess what? The wages of sin is death and the last enemy that will be destroyed, is death. Death isn't destroyed yet!

"He that committeth sin is of the devil for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of Elohim was manifest that he might destroy the works of the devil."

He had to destroy it. He not only had to undo what Adam did, but now he had to destroy the works of the devil. The only way that the Almighty could put the devil under your feet, is that first the devil had to be destroyed as far as his authority and power over all who are born under Adam. This is why we have to be born again! If you are not born again, you are a child of the devil. It's that simple and the devil has authority over you.

Just because Yeshua was crucified; was buried, resurrected and ascended, the devil is still at work in the lives of people who are not submitted to Yeshua. The devil is not under their feet. He is riding their heads; riding their backs. He is constantly causing problems for them. You see, I'm a firm believer that the devil is on YeHoVaH's payroll. He has a job to do. His job is to drive your behind to YeHoVaH. He says:

"Oh, they didn't get that one, let me send..."

Just like He sent him to Job's house.

"Hey have you tried...go over to Job's."

"Well now, Job, Job, Job, no Job..."

"Try him. I'm going to give you power over Job, but you won't have — you will be restricted and limited in the power."

Imagine that YeHoVaH sent the devil to Job's house! Guess what else? In *Luke* chapter 4, Yeshua, after he was baptized with the Holy Spirit — the Bible says that he was led into the wilderness by the Holy Spirit to be tempted of the devil!

"Okay Yeshua. I've got to get you ready for the ministry. I know you are the Son, but listen. You are filled with the Holy Spirit. I want you to go and show the devil how it's done. You see, Adam failed. But I want you to show the devil how it's done. And I need it to be recorded so that those who follow you will know how it's done."

<u>1 Co 15:21</u> "For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead."

You see, until the resurrection, everybody who was dead had to stay dead. Do you get it? Until the resurrection, everybody who was dead had to stay dead. But when Yeshua resurrected, there were some other folks who had been dead a long time. They resurrected too. I would love to go there, but I've got to stay on track here.

<u>1 Co 15:22</u> "For as in Adam, <u>all</u> die, even so in Messiah shall all be made alive."

Who is "all?" It's everybody. You see, before you came to Messiah, you were dead. You just didn't know it. All die in Adam. There is no hope for those who die in Adam.

"...even so in Messiah shall all be made alive."

Life is only in Messiah. There is no life outside of him, so anybody who rejects him is dead already. Isn't that what he said in *John*? Men love darkness and won't come to the light for fear that their deeds will be exposed. For those who come to the light may it be clearly seen that what has been done has been done through Messiah. He said earlier that those who are dead; those who are not in Messiah, those who reject Messiah, they are dead already. There's no life in them.

It is amazing how many dead people look like they've got life. But you see, they need a little help. They need some party favors. They need a little of this and a little of that. They spend a whole lot of money trying to fix up the outside of the house. They don't want you to see what is inside, so they have to put up a façade; a shingle.

"No, look at this, see?"

"Oh yeah, yeah. Got you! Don't look over there."

<u>1 Co 15:23</u> "But every man in his own order: Messiah the firstfruits; afterward they that are Messiah's at his coming."

You see, his work is still — if you are not his at his coming, guess what? You will be left behind. No.

Yeshua as High Priest — it's a New Priesthood Order.

<u>Heb 6:20</u> "Whither the forerunner is for us entered, even Jesus, made an High Priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec."

### Why is this important?

<u>Heb 2:17</u> "Wherefore in all things it behooved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people."

<u>Heb 3:1</u> "Wherefore holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Yeshua Messiah;"

Heb 4:14 "Seeing then that we have a great High Priest, that is passed into the heavens, Yeshua the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession."

Heb 4:15 "For we have not a High Priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin."

<u>Heb 5:1</u> "For every High Priest taken from among men is ordained for men in things pertaining to God, that he may offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins:"

<u>Heb 5:5</u> "So also Messiah glorified not himself to be made an High Priest; but he

that said unto him, 'Thou art my Son, today have I begotten thee.'"

<u>Heb 5:10</u> "Called of God an High Priest after the order of Melchisedec."

Heb 8:1 "Now of the things which we have spoken this is the sum: We have such an High Priest, who is set on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens;"

You see, our High Priest doesn't go in once a year, and that's amazing. The High Priest in the Levitical Priesthood went into the holy place once a year. Before he could go in there, he had to get right. He went in, did his duty and came out. Yeshua — guess what? He stayed and he's still there. That's when he left the second time. I'll show you, because he presented the Firstfruits, remember? Then he came back.

<u>Heb 8:3</u> "For every High Priest is ordained to offer gifts and sacrifices: wherefore it is of necessity that this man have somewhat also to offer."



# Chapter 3

# Yeshua At The Right Hand Of Elohim

Mt 26:64 "Yeshua said unto him, 'Thou hast said: nevertheless I say unto you, Hereafter shall ye see the son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven."

Mk 14:62 "And Yeshua said, 'I am: and ye shall see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven."

Mk 16:19 "So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of Flohim."

After Yeshua resurrected, he presented the Firstfruits and then gathered his disciples. He convinced them that what he had said concerning his death and resurrection had indeed happened. He spent forty days convincing them.

Now let's go to this statement "it is finished," because if it was finished, then why would he have to come back? And why would he have to spend forty days convincing them of all of the things that he had said to them before he died?

<u>Ac 1:1</u> "The former treatise have I made, O Theophilus, of all that Yeshua began to do and teach,"

Ac 1:2 "Until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Spirit had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen:"

Ac 1:3 "To whom also he showed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God:"

Forty days! If we had the time to go into this — on our web site if you go back into the archives, you might even have to go to *YouTube* on this one. I did a teaching on the forty day ministry of Messiah. Forty days Yeshua is spending and guess what he is saying?

"...showed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs,"

Basically Yeshua had to prove that he was who he said he was. Why? Because they didn't believe. The women came to the tomb and recognized him immediately.

"Go tell my disciples."

They went and got the disciples. Peter took off running and ran to the tomb. He wasn't there. He showed himself. They were locked up in a room. He walked through the door. He speaks to them. Thomas is not there. They tell Thomas:

"We have seen him."

"Except I see him for myself and put my hands where they put the nails. Except I see him and touch him and feel him, I will not believe."

Why wouldn't they believe? It was because they were believing unbelievers. Thomas didn't believe. The disciples didn't believe when the women told them. The women believed. It is interesting. There is some weird stuff. There are some weird dynamics going on there.

Ac 1:4 "And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, 'ye have heard of me.'"

Now understand. Between verse three "where being seen of them forty days," and verse four where he is telling them about the promises, forty days have not transpired here. In order to see the forty day ministry of Yeshua, you have to go to the gospels. Remember in *Luke* where he talked about how after the resurrection he met two fellows? They were gone. They left Jerusalem. They were going home. They were sad. They believed that okay, we thought Yeshua was the Messiah. This is what they were saying.

"We thought he was the one!"

"What do you mean you thought he was the one?"

Let me give you a little footnote. You have heard me say that there are people who love you. They love you as long as you are with them. When Yeshua left his disciples, their heart went back to where they were before; after he had spent all of this time ministering to them. And now

they are saying stuff — we thought. Peter had a revelation. We *know* this is the Messiah.

What did Peter do? Peter went back to his fishing business. They all left him. Judas abandoned him; betrayed him. Now all of them are gone — all of them. Why? Because he is no longer with them.

I am going to tell you that there is something about people that some need human interaction to feel relevant. And because the human interaction that they have rejects what they believe, they either compromise what they believe or they make a decision to live isolated from the ones who they say or felt or believed loved them.

"Yeah, we love you as long as you believe like us."

"Yeah, we love you as long as you don't try to walk this thing out."

"Yeah, we love you until you start believing what the Bible teaches."

"As long as you walk the path that we are walking; as long as you are just like us, then we are good. But don't come telling me what the Bible says, I've got seven of them — and my preacher!"

#### He says:

"...wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, 'ye have heard of me.'"

### We Are Priests

Rev 1:5 "And from Yeshua Messiah who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood,"

How did he wash you from your sins in his own blood? This is good. He shed his blood for your sins. Yes, he did — not only for you, but for the sins of the world. What is the difference between you and a person who doesn't believe in Yeshua? They don't believe in Yeshua! They too — he died for them. His blood was shed for them. Right?

He died for every sinner, every ungodly person, every unbeliever; even the ones you despise and think should go to hell. It's a good thing you are not the judge. I'm so glad you're not the judge! I would be condemned by a whole lot of people's standards. I don't look Messianic. I don't sound Messianic. I don't live Messianic. You see, there's a certain Messianic look. You all know the look. You've got to dance a certain way. You've got to sing a certain way.

People judge you by that. They do! What they are doing is that they've got a culture. In order for you to be what they think you should be, you have to fit within the parameters of that culture. You can't think outside of the box. You can't live outside of the box. You can't be led by the Spirit. You have to be led by the Rabbi or the person who wants to be a Rabbi but who won't call himself a Rabbi until people tell him:

"You ought to call yourself a Rabbi."

Then the person who didn't want to be a Rabbi starts calling themselves "Rabbi" because the people in the midst

call them "Rabbi." You can tell they have already lost their way because Yeshua says:

"Call no man Rabbi and be not called Rabbi."

Now here is the clicker or the kicker or whatever vernacular. *Revelations 1:6*.

"And from he..."

Who is he? Yeshua Messiah.

Rev 1:6 "hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen."

Some people want to demolish this.

"Oh, what do you mean you are a king? There is only one king!"

"Well he's the king of..."

Now just in case this word is foreign to you, let me break it down. It is the Greek word: *basileus*. It means "leader of the people." He has called you to be a leader. That's what he has called you to be.

"Well, I don't see myself as a leader."

"Get over it. Get over it, really."

Just because you don't see yourself as a leader doesn't change His word! You either force Him to come into compliance to what you see and believe, or you force yourself to come into compliance with what He sees and believes. This is where the struggle goes. The war is within you. The Almighty doesn't have a problem using you. You've got a problem being used by Him. He doesn't have

a problem using any one of you. But do you know what stops you? You! You look in the mirror.

"Oh, you know, I ain't smart enough."

"You know, I'm not intelligent enough."

"I never graduated."

"You know, I don't know the word."

"Well you know, you know, you know..."

It is excuse after excuse after excuse after excuse. It kind of sounds like Moses.

The word also means: leader of the people, prince, commander, lord of the land, king. He has called you to be kings. He has called you to be a kingdom.

But look at this other word: Priest. It is *hiereus*, meaning a priest, one who offers sacrifice and in general is busied with sacred rites; referring to priests of Gentiles or the Jews. This word is a metaphor for Christians, because purified by the blood of Christ and brought into close intercourse with God, they devote their life to him alone and to Christ.

Those of you who are joining us on Thursday evenings, you know how to look at this kind of thing. Everyone who is writing these "helps" is writing from a Christian point of view. They are putting Christians all the way into the first century. Even Jesus was a Christian. Like:

"Really?"

"...And a Republican."

Now wait a minute. Don't be putting words into my mouth!

## Phase 4: Yeshua's Ministry In Heaven

I'm going to point this out because this is so important. We have to look beyond Yeshua as Savior and Lord or you won't get this next concept. You won't get it. You see, Yeshua is our High Priest set at the right hand of power in Heaven; interceding on your behalf. Why is he interceding? To guarantee your success.

He is praying for you day and night as High Priest; not going in once a year. He took a seat. He is interceding. He is praying. Do you remember the prayer in the garden? That was the beginning of his prayer ministry.

Yeshua is an intercessor. He is not just an intercessor, he is also a mediator. You see, he is going to play intercessor, mediator, sidekick, friend, Master and Lord. He's got a lot of titles. He's playing a lot of roles in our lives so that we will be successful and we will hear from the Father:

#### "Well done!"

He doesn't want you to fail. He has practically guaranteed our success in the work He has called us to do if we follow him — not your preacher, not your denomination, not what you believe. He has already guaranteed our success. We win! We are not supposed to lose. No one in this room; no one on planet earth is ever supposed to hear:

"Get thee away from me, you worker of iniquity!"

It is unfortunate that too many people who reject the law of YeHoVaH and who reject those words are talking about how they are "under grace."

**Iniquity is lawlessness!** 

Those who live apart from the law will not hear:

"Well done!"

No matter what anybody says, grace won't get you:

"Well done!"

Obedience will get you:

"Well done!"

"What do you mean Obey?"

"Yeah."

The wrath of the Almighty is laid up in store for those who don't obey Him. So with Yeshua, his earthly ministry and the cross transitioned him into the next phase. He had to go into the grave and undo some stuff. Once he undid some stuff and set captives free, he had to ascend.

He dealt with the past by going and dealing with those who had slept — those who had died before him. Then he set in place some things for the future for all who would die in the future. What he wants is that no one experiences death until they have experienced life. Those who believe in him will never die.

Therefore the resurrection is important because now he has to take the Firstfruits and present it to the King of Kings. Instead of sitting down then, he came back to gather. He came to regather. He gathered his disciples. He said:

"Listen. Where have you gone? Where have you been? Let me tell you. I told you these things were going to happen. All of the

things that I said while I was with you — these things had to happen."

He rebuked them because of unbelief. He rebuked them because they were slow to hear. But then they got the message. He says:

"You got it?"

"Yeah, we got it."

"You got it this time?"

"Yeah, we got it."

"Okay. Here is what you do. Go to Jerusalem. Wait. I'm going to give you the Holy Spirit and that's going to send you out to where you are going to go and now you've got some help. Now, are you sure you've got it?"

"Yeah."

"Are you sure?"

"Yeah. I got it."

"Okay. I'll see you all later. Come on up to the mountain, okay? Now you've got it, right? Now while I'm gone — because I'm coming back. I'm coming back and you've got work to do. The gospel that I told you of while I was with you has to go to the ends of the earth. Here is where you start."

"I want you to start right here in Jerusalem. And then I want you to spread out to Judah. And then I want you to spread out to Samaria. And then I want you to go to the uttermost parts of the world. I want you to take this gospel to the entire world — not the gospel that is about a death, burial and resurrection, but the things that I am teaching you; the things that I am showing you, the things that I did."

"I want you to do that. I want you to do the things that I said; the things that I did. While I was with you, I showed you how to do it. I empowered you to do it. I gave you the Holy Spirit to seal you in doing it and I'm going to come back. When I come back, I'm going to be looking for people who have taken this word seriously."

"Those people who have received this word — they are going to let that word that I have given them get all down on the inside of them! And it's going to wash them! It's going to clean them! It's going to take all of the stuff that is not like me out of them!"

"When I come back, do you know what I'm looking for? I'm looking for MYSELF! I'm looking for ME! That's what I'm looking for! I'm looking for a people without spot. I'm looking for a people without blemish. I'm looking for a people without all of that stuff that people drag through life. Now, go and get the people ready because I'm coming back."

"Now get this, I'm not going to tell you when, but you need to know one day. In the meantime while I'm gone, I'm not going to keep you looking. I'm going to give you seasons. I'm going to give you the Sabbath. I'm going to give you tzitzits to remind you of my commandments. And I'm going to give you the moon; the sun to tell you what time it is, what day it is, what month it is. And on these months and on these days of the months, I want you to gather yourselves because if you stay away from it too long, you'll forget that I'm here."

"I want you to gather three times a year. And you better come up. If you do come, you better make sure you bring something, because when you bring something, you are acknowledging that I am greater than you. And when you bring what I tell you to bring — now I'm not going to tell you what to bring, but bring something. Don't come to me empty-handed. When you come into the presence of the King, you've got to know that you are coming into the presence of the King!"

"I don't have a problem with your party because I like parties. As a matter of fact, we're going to party all of the time! You are going to party once a week. You are going to party once a month. And then you are going to party three times a year. But understand this: the difference between the partying that you used to do, is that this party that you are going to do, you are going to do in my presence."

"You're not going to be running in the darkness — running over there, running over there. You're going to come right up BOLDLY into my presence! You are going to party right in my presence! And do you know what? I'm going to party with you! I'm going to be in the midst of you! I'm going to show myself to you. And when you are done partying, I want you to go back into the place reinvigorated, rejuvenated, and ready to take dominion!"

"And then come on back up when you get a little tired — when you get a little weak. Come on back up! I'm going to give you some more light. Then I'm going to send you back. And then I want you to come again. Then I'm going to send you back. And by the time I'm done with you..."

Oh, Hallelujah somebody! This is good stuff! This is good stuff. Why would anybody want to reject it?

# Chapter 4

# The Truth About



When I started out in the Messianic faith; coming out of the church, I didn't know the difference between Messianic Judaism and Messianic Hebrew Roots or however you want to refer to it. There are a lot of brands for Messianics, just as there are a lot of brands for Baptists; for Methodists. How many of you know that the AME — has anybody ever heard of the AME Church? That's African Methodist Episcopalian; Methodist Episcopalian you see. The Anglicans are Episcopalian.

You've got Baptists that are Fundamental. You've got Baptists that are Southern. You've got Baptists that are Americans. You've got Baptists that are National. You've got Baptists that are Missionaries. You've got all types of Baptists out there, so even a Baptist is not a Baptist across the board. There are various denominations.

The same thing is found in Messianic Judaism. The reason why I am pointing this out is because when I came out of the church, I ended up in a Messianic community. I don't call it Messianic Jewish, because there were no Jews in there. There were a lot of Gentiles who wanted to look like Jews and act like Jews and sound like Jews.

In that situation, what they had adopted was Judaism that they called Messianic. It is a Messianic version of Judaism like there is such a thing. There is no such thing as Messianic Judaism — biblically.

There is Messianic Judaism that is man-made just as there are Pentecostals. There are no Pentecostals in the Bible. Pentecostal is the day of Pentecost; which you won't find in the Old Testament. This makes it seem like the day of Pentecost is a New Testament concept.

How many of you know that there were no Gentiles on the day of Pentecost up at Jerusalem to worship? Do you get it? These were individuals who had come up for the Feast of Weeks; for the Feast of Harvest. It is known today in Modern Hebrew as *Shavu'ot*, okay?

Today you've got Messianic Judaism. Part of Messianic Judaism adopted a lot of Judaism from Judaism. With the Judaism that came from Messianic Judaism; or came with the Messianic Judaism that came from Judaism, are "Torah portions." How many of you know that Messianic Judaism adopted Torah portions from Judaism?

Do you see? Now you've got followers of Messiah doing Torah portions when none of the followers of Messiah in the Bible did Torah portions!

"Ooh brother, you're treading on some thin ice!"

"Yup, I know I am."

There are a lot of things that have been taken out of Judaism and rebranded to make it Messianic. Do you hear me? Messianic Judaism is Judaism, period. Yeshua says:

"Beware! Beware!"

Part of what happened in Messianic Judaism is what people adopted as far as giving on the Sabbath. Giving on the Sabbath in Messianic Judaism became taboo. You don't give money on the Sabbath. It even went as far as to say that "real religious people" don't even carry money on the Sabbath! Why? Because if you carry money, there is a

chance you might spend money. So if you don't carry money, you can't spend money. Carrying money became against the Bible, when none of that stuff is in there.

When it comes down to giving, you will find that on the Sabbath day in the Bible, the priests gave *twice* as many offerings as they would do during the regular course of the week. On Sabbath there were special offerings in addition. No matter where you look, you will not find scripture to support this "not carrying money" on the Sabbath or "not giving money" on the Sabbath. That stuff came out of Judaism. It is not in the Bible and yet you have people who are so beholden to that, when the question is:

"Where did you get that from?"

You got it from the same place you got Sunday worship — from religious people! Now, a word about this concerning Firstfruits and individuals who want to make the argument that Firstfruits being on the Sabbath day is impossible. The fact of the matter is that the priests worked *every* Sabbath!

"You can't present the Firstfruits on the Sabbath!"

"Really?"

Every Sabbath, the priests worked! In addition to that, on the High Sabbath, all of the priests; all of the Levites, all of the males (especially) had to come up and serve. All of the offerings that were required on Firstfruits; on the first day of Unleavened bread, the seventh day of Unleavened bread — on all of the High Sabbaths during the Feast of Tabernacles, Yom Kippur, the holiest day in the year, there was work.

Firstfruits *can* be offered on the Sabbath day because it is not offered by the people. It is offered by the priests. The priests worked on the Sabbath just as they worked on all of

the High Sabbaths. What we're going to find today in the teachings ladies and gentlemen, is that there are a lot of things that have been taught as "Bible" that really were rumors that simply became theological doctrines. We're going to see that in our teaching.

For those of you who feel that it is "against" the scripture to give or to give tithes or to give offerings on the Sabbath day, I challenge you to find that in the Bible. People want to argue *I Corinthians 16*; which has absolutely nothing to do with tithes and offerings. It has everything to do with gathering money to be sent to the saints in Jerusalem because of a famine; not because they were forbidden. Yeah, they were forbidden to give money on the Sabbath day. But even when the Jewish people went to the synagogues, they had what they call little *sedaka* boxes.

Has anybody ever heard of a sedaka box? We've got a replica of one back there at the door. It's got the little hole in it. Miss Sharon is pointing it out. Do you see? When I was going to Messianic synagogues, they would have this little box on the table on the Sabbath day. It is interesting that they are teaching that you can't carry money on the Sabbath, but they've got a sedaka box for you to put money into on the Sabbath day — just in case you "forgot" and carried money.

I'm going to tell you ladies and gentlemen, that there are so many things, that if we simply use common sense and ask questions from a common sense perspective, we wouldn't be so fooled by individuals out there who are coming up with all kinds of teachings and doctrines designed to deceive and to bring people under their authority. We're under only one authority. Are you with me? This is what Yeshua was saying:

"Don't come under any man's authority. You don't call any man 'Rabbi.'"

The moment you call somebody "Rabbi," you're submitting your will to them. That is what you are doing. You are submitting your will to them. Now they have rule over you. They have authority over you when the fact of the matter is that there is only one who has been given authority over you.

#### "Well brother, now what about the elders?"

Well, the elders have to give an account for us. That is true, but they are not supposed to rule us. They are not to tell us where to go and where not to go. That's the Spirit's job. The Holy Spirit is the one who leads you. The Holy Spirit is the one who teaches you. The Holy Spirit is the one who shows you things to come.

We weren't filled with our pastor's spirit or our elder's or our bishop's or our apostle's spirit. We were given the Holy Spirit from the Holy One! Hallelujah. Okay. That is one sermon over. Let's go to the next sermon Hallelujah.

We encourage people to join and to become part of <u>Discipleship101.tv</u>. It is something that I think will equip you for ministry. I know it will. It will help you to be able to minister, to learn how to minister, to learn how to search and to study, to learn how to give answers for your faith, to understand how to prepare teachings; the principles.

There is so much there that we say it's the only Hebrew Roots Messianic Discipleship program of its kind on the planet. The reason is because there are no man-made traditions in the teachings. There are no — how would I put it? There are no traditions of men, even though we share some of those traditions so that you will know them — like praying to the East and wearing kippahs and prayer shawls. All of these things come straight out of Judaism. We need to know this.

If we know what we are doing, then we can do it in full knowledge. Those of you who have been here awhile, you know that I teach that Yeshua taught two ways. There were two methods of teaching that Yeshua always employed and you cannot discount either of them. As a matter of fact, you and I teach more by what we do, than by what we say. People watch you more by what you do, than what you teach or preach or say. Do you understand?

When you have people who you are inviting into your home to share a Sabbath meal — a person who has never been at a Sabbath meal, they come and what are they doing? They are watching you. So if you have a thing on your head; a prayer shawl on your head and you are lighting candles and you are waving over candles, guess what they are going to do when they go and have people come over to their house for Sabbath? They are going to put a prayer shawl on their head. Somebody's going to ask:

"Why do you do that?"

"I don't know. That's what I saw."

Well, where is that in the Bible? Do you understand? Now you are doing the *Kiddush*. You are praying prayers:

"Blessed are you YeHoVaH our Elohim who hath commanded us to kindle the Sabbath light."

"Where is that at in the Bible? Where is that commanded?"

You see, people are watching what you do. They are imitating what you do. You don't even know that people are watching. They are not — listen. You can even say:

"This is a tradition."

"This is a tradition."

"This is a tradition."

"This is a tradition."

But you keep doing it and doing it and what they see is what you do; not so much that they hear what you say. So when they do it, they might even say:

"It's a tradition."

Well if it is a tradition, then why are you doing it? What is the significance of your doing it? Do you understand? If you are going to do something that is a tradition, you have to make sure that you know that it is a tradition and that you are communicating that as a tradition. Even when you do that, people are still going to do it. We try to minimize traditions to the best of our ability.

Let me be on the record for saying that traditions can be used to teach. I am not against tradition, but I am very aware that people watch what we do more than what we say. I want people to hear what I am saying and minimize what they see me do so that they don't misinterpret what I am trying to communicate.

Please share your testimony if you have one. All of you have one whether you know it or not. The Bible tells us that we overcome by the blood of the Lamb — by the word of our testimony and because we love not our lives unto death. This is a powerful statement.

What the revelator is saying is that there are three things that help us to overcome. The main one is the blood. As the Lamb of Elohim, Yeshua has already shed his blood. Through that he has freed us from the clutches of Satan — if you want to be free. There are some people who have rejected that freedom and have remained in the clutches of Satan.

You need to be able to recognize those folks. How will you know them? By their fruit. They can sit up in your churches and your shuls and your synagogues. They can sit up in your house. They can say what they want to say. They can tell you how "saved" they are and what they believe. Watch their fruit. Does their lifestyle line up with the word? If their lifestyle does not line up with the word, no matter what comes out of their mouth, they are a liar.

The Bible says that the devil is a liar. He has been a liar from the beginning. Those who follow him will lie. The way you know a liar from a person who tells the truth is a person who says what they mean and does what they say. If they say one thing and do something else, you have a liar on your hands. Recognize it and don't be deceived.

The blood of the Lamb — the second is what has the Almighty done for you? Your testimony is so important to you because regardless of what anybody else says, you know what the Almighty has done for you. Who are you telling? Who are you telling? You see.

The testimonies of others have been really encouraging for me. And then there is my testimony. I have to sometimes remind myself what the Father has done for me. Do you know that if it has been a while since Father did anything in your life and you go through a rough spell, you can forget that He did something in your life?

The next thing you know, you are responding to those situations in the natural realm instead of reflecting back on how you have been at places. You may not be at the same crossroad, but you've been at a crossroad before. When you put your faith in Him, you will see that He has come through. What looked like an impossible situation that you would not make it through, He has made a way out of what was no way. He will continue to make a way out of no way as we continue to put our trust in Him.

Your testimony reminds you that He is one who makes ways out of no ways; especially when you come to a place that you don't see your way out. Now it is time to do like David — reflect. It is time to reflect on what He did. Hallelujah. As you reflect on what He did and you say:

"Man, when I ran across that lion, He was there. His strength — He gave me strength. When I was in this situation, He came through. I didn't know how I was going to get my way through that, but He came through."

Just as He came through yesterday, He is the same today. Hallelujah. Your testimony is powerful. If nobody else wants to hear it, *you* need to hear it again! And then of course you can't love life. You can love life in Him. But if you love life apart from Him, guess what you are going to do? You are going to chase the wind. You're going to think:

"I need that to make me happy."

You get "that" and you are happy for a moment. Now you realize that "that" doesn't make you happy like you thought it would. Now it is something else. You are continually changing your sight.

"If I get this; if I get that. If I get that man, if I get that job, if I get that car, if I get that house..."

You see, you are chasing the wind; shadow boxing, beating after the air. But in Him, Hallelujah! When you put your life in His hands — I believe what the elders said:

"Every day with Yeshua is better than the day before."

Hallelujah.

### The Unfinished Cross

What has prompted the teaching has been a number of things. Specific conversations that I have had with individuals and dealing with — this message is so tied into what we were talking about in a recent teaching called: What About Grace? You are going to see that even as we get into this, there have been a number of things that have been presented as biblical truth that are nothing more than denominationalism. Every denomination has a way of spinning the word to fit its belief system.

We should not be afraid. We should not be afraid. If what I have is truth and what you have is truth, you shouldn't be afraid to have it examined. If this book is true, we don't do damage to it by breaking it down or by questioning it. The reason why many of us have been in so many problems and in trouble before is because we failed to question things that we should have been questioning. We've swallowed camels, as it were.

I was sharing with my son Alpha on the way in this morning. How many of you know friends who worship on the Sabbath day? How did the world get on a Sun-day cycle? I will tell you. It was because people didn't ask questions. Those who did ask questions often times were given religious answers that sufficed.

For many people, religious answers suffice because they really don't want to change. You see, when you draw closer to the Almighty, you can't help but change unless you are already perfect. Do you understand what I am saying? If you are already perfect, there is no need to change. If your denomination has it "in the bag," then you just continue to do what you have always done; because

what you've been doing is "right" — only in the eyes of your denomination.

One of the things that we have been taught — as a result of this doctrine, it has entrapped men. There are so many who are entrapped by the idea that Jesus "did it all."

"There is nothing we need to do. He has done it all."

How many of you have heard that before?

"The finished work of the cross, brother. You don't add anything to it, you can't add to it and you can't take away from it. It's all done. All you have to do is believe."

Well, if you have to "believe," you have to do something! Hallelujah?

I encourage you to check us out on Thursdays. Right now we're dealing with the whole issue of *What About Grace?* The basis of our teaching as we laid it out recently, is this particular verse:

John 19:30 "When Yeshua therefore had received the vinegar, he said, 'It is finished:' and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost."

The thing is that because he made a statement, people assumed that they knew what he meant. We never really asked the question:

"Well, what is 'it?"

He says "it" is finished. What is the "it" that is finished? Because we don't make the inquiry as to what the "it" is, we have a tendency to depend upon others who have searched out the "it" and then who write books and do

teachings on the "it." Then we come to the conclusion that "it" is finished means that everything that has to be done is finished; when Yeshua never said "that" was finished.

We started on this journey to help us use common sense; human intellect. Using your brain when it comes to the scripture is no different than using your brain when it comes to anything else. It is amazing that we engage our brain in everything secular, but when it comes down to the word, we turn our brains off. We become blind. We become "sheeple." We become dumb. We follow after individuals.

One of the things that we follow after is our parents. Our parents are the ones who introduced us to their faith. If our parents' faith was good enough for them — you've heard that old phrase:

"What was good enough for mama, is good enough for me."

Well, what if mama is wrong? Then guess what? You are wrong. What if dad is wrong? What if that "old time religion" is just that — religion? Old? We can settle for that old time religion, but reject the Old Testament. They are both old! Give me that old time religion, but don't give me that Old Testament!

<u>John 19:30</u> "...and he bowed his head and gave up the ghost."

There is the "it" that is finished; right there in the verse.

"...he bowed his head and gave up the ghost."

In other words, "it" which was finished, was his life — his life on earth. He died. He gives up the ghost. He is

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Slang for those who follow blindly after others (sheep + people).

dead. How many of you know that is not the end of the story? You see, if that was the end of the story, then the "it" would have been done. That which was "finished" would be finished. There is no need to add anything to it. But how many of you know even though he said:

"It is finished,"

The story was still being written? Now *that* is logical, which is okay. There is some significance to the "it" because the "it" is a transition, as we are going to see. When Yeshua said:

"It is finished,"

What did he mean? Theological and religious phrases *not* found in the Bible are *often* used by preachers or religious leaders to refer to this as "the finished work of Christ." How many of you know that the Messiah was not finished? "The finished work of the cross" — you see, the work that was started, it actually didn't start on the cross. The cross was a stopping point which transitioned him into another phase of his ministry.

Just like for us when we come to the cross — those who come to the stake; those who come to that execution or whatever you want to call it, when you come to that place, your life as you know it is supposed to be finished. There is a transition that takes place. When I come to that place, the old me is supposed to be done.

"Behold all things become new."

There is a transition that takes place. Yeshua ushered in that transition, as we are going to see here. What was Yeshua saying? Yeshua's ministry; as we talked about recently happened in phases. These phases were presented. We're going to see what phase we are in.

## A Word On Yeshua's Earthly Ministry

I'm talking about Yeshua's ministry, not Yeshua's life. Yeshua had a life before ministry. He was born into a family. He was brought up in a family. We know very little about it. We get glimpses of it from the gospel narrative. Yeshua's ministry we see, but we only see a portion of his ministry. There is a lot of his ministry that we don't see, but the Bible alludes to it. We're going to see that here.

Yeshua's ministry on earth; that was the ministry that he partook of before he went to the cross. Then there is Yeshua's ministry at his death. What was finished? It was his life — his earthly ministry life. From this point onward there is a resurrected Yeshua who continued ministry.

## Yeshua's Ministry Post-Resurrection

There is Yeshua's ministry in Heaven. That is the phase that we are in now. Yeshua is still ministering ladies and gentlemen and we're going to see that in the Bible. I am not talking about sermons, because people preach sermons after they say that "it is finished." You see, if it is finished, then there is no more need for sermons.

There is Yeshua's ministry when he returns. You see, Yeshua's ministry — the phase that we are in now, is to help us to get ready for the ministry he is going to bring back. There is going to be some ministry by Yeshua when he returns. Depending upon where you are, it will determine what ministry you receive. Hallelujah.

Let's talk about Yeshua's ministry after his resurrection. Yeshua spent forty days after his resurrection. What was he doing? Here is common sense for us, ladies and gentlemen. If it was "finished," why would he have to

come back and talk to the same fellows that he had spent all of his work; his earthly ministry ministering to?

Shouldn't they have had it? They should have had it. He should have gone to the grave, did what he did in the grave, presented the Firstfruits and taken a seat. No, he had to come back.

What he found was a bunch of people with whom he had spent every day and every night; who didn't believe the things that he had told them while he spent every day and every night them with during his earthly ministry.

Imagine you and I walking with Yeshua for seventy weeks. That's a long time. For those of you who have three and a half years of ministry in mind, that's an even longer time. So imagine seventy weeks, day and night, 24/7 — eat, sleep, bathe, everything. You walk with Yeshua for all of this time. You see the miracles. You hear the sermons. You have private consultation and counsel. You get to ask questions. You get answers. You've got it. Then he leaves. Then it's like:

"Oh, what are we going to do now? He's gone! He's gone!"

"Well, what were we doing before he came?"

You see, people went back. I hope you can see this, because even as I am saying this, it is impacting me even more. To think that after spending that kind of time with the Master himself; seeing the miracles, seeing the signs, seeing the wonders, seeing everything he did — to actually go back. I mean, you could say that these brothers backslid. That is what they did.

They backslid and they spent every waking moment in his ministry; every moment. They got to hear him pray. He taught them how to pray. Some of them saw miraculous signs. The heavens opened. There were conversations with individuals gone by. They saw miracles; that if we saw them, it would just boggle the mind. And yet after he was put on that stake, they decided that they would go back to their former life. So what did he do? He said:

"Oh boy, my boys have gone back."

He knew it. So he comes back. Guess what he finds them doing? He finds them doing the same things they were doing when he first found them. They didn't get it, you see. There are people today who have been sitting in church all of their lives and they still don't get it. There are people who have been in Messianic communities and they are putting in all kinds of traditions. They are doing this and they are doing that. They are incorporating this and incorporating that instead of doing what he says — religious stuff; going through the motions instead of doing what he said.

If Yeshua could come to the churches that are on the planet today, he'd say:

"WHAT is this? What IS this? What are these people doing in my name?"

"Do you want the Holy Spirit? TAKE IT!"

(Makes throwing motion toward audience. Then Arthur makes an audience member reeling backward motion as if receiving what was just thrown.)

"Just take it!"

You've got people running around buildings; putting hands on things and "claiming" them. You go on *Facebook*, you go on *YouTube* and see some of the things that people are doing "in the name of Jesus," and it is literally sickening. Yeshua would say:

"What is that? What are you all doing?"

And now it's (mimicking today's preachers):

"I-uh-uh-yah. Just want-a-a-say-yah! Can I get a witness?!"

"And the Luh-aww-duh!"

I mean, what is that? "In the name of Jesus" — did Jesus preach like that? There are people today who don't feel that the preacher hasn't preached if he hasn't given them at least one:

"Uh-hu-uh ah-HAH!"

"Preacher, when are you going to preach? Something must be wrong with pastor! He didn't give us one 'ah-HAH!'"

And now you've got women preachers:

"Uh-ah-HAHI"

It's just like the men. It's a trained behavior. They are like monkeys. You can train a monkey. It isn't just the Blacks, so don't think I'm calling Black people monkeys, because there are a lot of White monkeys; Asian monkeys. Hallelujah! Yeshua says:

"Man, I've got to go back because these guys didn't get it."

"Maybe if they see me after they know I am dead, then maybe now they will believe I am who I said I was."

His ministry continued. He didn't just come back and show himself. I know that people read the book of *Matthew* and between chapter 27 and 28 he called them. He went to

the mount. He talked to them and he left. He spent forty days!

Let's put that into perspective — one month and ten days. Imagine five and a half weeks. I'm breaking it down like this because that is a long time when you think about five and a half; almost five and a half weeks. Think about how long five and a half weeks is in your life. Yeshua's resurrection — after it was finished, he spends this amount of time gathering his disciples.

- He appears to Mary Magdalene.
- He appears to two disciples on the Emmaus Road.
- He appears to his disciples.
- A week later he appears to Thomas.
- Yeshua eats fish with his disciples.

Then before he ascends, he had a meal. He more than likely had more than one meal, but this one is recorded where he ate fish with his disciples after they had caught fish out on the lake. He cooked breakfast for them. In *John* 21:10, the Bible says that:

<u>Jn 21:10</u> "Yeshua said to them, 'Bring some of the fish you have just caught.'"

Jn 21:11 "Simon Peter climbed aboard and dragged the net ashore. It was full of large fish, 153, but even with so many, the net was not torn."

Jn 21:12 "Yeshua said to them, 'Come and have breakfast.' None of the disciples dared ask him, 'Who are you?' They knew it was the Lord."

<u>Jn 21:13</u> "Yeshua came, took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish."

Now notice something. Notice something, because here is what we *can* do. Just like we've got the "Lord's Supper," we can institute the "Lord's Breakfast" — "The Last Breakfast." That is what he said. He said:

"Come and have some breakfast."

Oh, I know it! You see, trying to engage the intellect of the mind; when you start engaging the mind, it's like:

"Wow! Now I never thought about the 'last breakfast!' I'm going to have some grape juice and crackers."

No! The last breakfast should be fish and whatever kind of bread they had. He took bread and gave it to them, just like he took bread and brake it and gave it to them. Then he did the same. He took the fish just like he took the cup. He took the bread. He took the fish and he gave it to them. We don't see where he says:

"Eat ye, all of this."

We don't see any of that. But hey, we read into the rest of the Bible. We might as well read into that!

<u>Jn 21:14</u> "This was now the third time Yeshua appeared to his disciples after he was raised from the dead."

Now he has appeared three times to his disciples during his resurrected ministry. Just in case you skipped a few verses or chapters like people do and go to a particular verse and say: "Explain this."

He put it into context for us.

<u>Jn 21:14</u> "This was now the third time Yeshua appeared to his disciples **after he** was raised from the dead."

He regathers his disciples, but why? He did this because they had gone back to their old way of life. They backslid. I am so glad he doesn't give up on us. *John 21:17*. Now I skipped a few verses; verses 15 and 16. You can read them on your own. In verse 17 he says:

<u>Jn 21:17</u> "He saith unto him the third time, 'Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me?' Peter was grieved because he said unto him the third time, 'Lovest thou me?' And he said unto him, 'Lord, thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love thee.' Yeshua said unto him, 'Feed my sheep.'"

Jn 21:18 "Verily, verily, I say unto thee, 'When thou wast young, thou girdest thyself, and walkedst whither thou wouldest: but when thou shalt be old, thou shalt stretch forth thy hands, and another shall gird thee, and carry thee whither thou wouldest not."

<u>Jn 21:19</u> "This spake he, signifying by what death he should glorify God. And when he had spoken this, he saith unto him, 'Follow me.'"

Those of you who have a copy of *Foxes Book of Martyrs* — you can read how from Yeshua to the disciples

of the Bible; from the apostles even down to modern time, about those who gave their life to the Almighty and the manner in which they died.

We know that Peter (based on this record), was crucified upside down by his choice. He didn't feel worthy as it is recorded, to be crucified in the same manner as Yeshua; especially after what he had done. So he desired to be crucified upside down, according to Foxes' reckoning. Then Peter turned about. Now get this. Yeshua is saying:

"This is how you are going to die."

<u>Jn 21:19</u> "This spake he, signifying by what death he should glorify God. And when he had spoken this, he saith unto him, 'Follow me.'"

I am going to tell you. Notice this ladies and gentlemen, because of what Peter does. I love Peter because Peter reminded me so much of me. I can look at certain disciples and see personalities. I begin to associate personalities to disciples. When I look at my personality, I see my personality in a similar manner to that of Peter.

Peter had some issues. He had some serious issues. Peter had fear. Peter was afraid of men. You see, when I tell you about the fear of men, Peter was afraid. Peter was one way when he was with the Gentiles and he was another way when the Jews showed up. Peter wanted to be liked by everybody.

Peter compromised in his life to be accepted by people. But Peter had some skills. Peter had some talents. And yet the way Peter saw himself is that he saw himself as a person who wasn't even worthy to be in the presence of Yeshua. To be used by him, it is like — Peter saw his own stake next to the Master. Here is the thing that Peter shows us about ourselves.

### The Thing About Favor

Yeshua gave a parable about individuals who went into the vineyard who were hired in the morning. Some others came later on in the day. When pay time came, he gave the ones who came later on in the day, the same pay as the ones who came and who were working all day. The ones who had been working all day began to question:

"How is it that they who came late get the same amount as we get?"

The questions are:

"Didn't I promise you this amount? So why are you concerned about what they are getting? Just as I promised you, I promised them."

We have a tendency to compare. We want to compare. We should all be treated equally. We should all be treated the same. We shouldn't show favoritism. Father "is no respecter of persons" doesn't mean that He doesn't show favor. There is one particular person we know of to whom He showed much favor. Her name was Mary.

"You are HIGHLY favored."

In order to find the one to bring Messiah, one had to be favored above another. The prophets of old would make statements:

"If I have found favor in your sight..."

You see, someone who doesn't want to serve my Messiah the way I serve my Messiah is not going to have the favor that I have. But do you know what they will try to do? They will try to usurp my favor. They will try to

piggyback on my favor. They want to go in the door after me. They want to get on the platform. They want to use me as a stepping stone and they will do the same to you.

People are looking for people they can latch onto who are going to help them get to where they want to go. That is because they are not willing to do the work. They are not willing to make the sacrifices. They are not willing to do the commitment. They are not willing to spend the hours and hours of prayer and sanctification and avoiding this and getting out of that and turning that off and leaving that alone. They are not willing to do that. But then they are going to come up in here and talk about how:

"You shouldn't show favors brother."

Really? When someone serves; when someone puts their hands to the plow, when someone commits themselves and they come alongside you and they yoke themselves to you, they deserve your favor! It is all right to show favoritism, because the Almighty does it. Do you know how I know that He shows favoritism? That's because some people are going to hear:

"Well done."

And some people are going to hear:

"Get away from Me."

So don't tell me that He doesn't show favor! What He does is that He gives us all *equal opportunity* to get into favor. But if somebody doesn't want to get into favor because they are not willing to put in the work, then guess what? They become a slave. They become a borrower. What they do is they sell themselves out. They put themselves out.

<u>Jn 21:19</u> "This spake he, signifying by what death..."

Now what does Peter do? He tells him:

"Peter, this is how you are going to die."

<u>Jn 21:20</u> "Then Peter, turning about, seeth the disciple whom Yeshua loved following; which also leaned on his breast at supper, and said, 'Lord, which is he that betrayeth thee?'"

This is how misinterpretations lead to false or inaccurate teachings. What Peter says, is what about **him**? Do you see what he says here?

<u>Jn 21:21</u> "Peter seeing him saith to Yeshua, 'Lord and what shall **this** man do?'"

#### It's like:

"Peter, that ain't your business!"

"What should he do? You have done told me what I'm going to do. What about him? What about her?"

You should focus on what you have been called to do and take your eyes off of other people. That should be your goal. It should be your goal. Let me tell you something. People will hype you up, people will psyche you up. People will blow you up, they will boast you up. They will flatter you up. They will have you thinking more highly of yourself than you ought to.

"Well, you shouldn't let him talk to you like that."

"Well, you shouldn't let them treat you like that."

Do you know the sad thing about it is that the people who say that you "shouldn't let them do you like that" are being dogged by pretty much everybody in their life? They are trying to get you to put some chutzpah in your heels so that maybe they will get some courage to put some in theirs. It's like:

"Give yourself your own advice. Why don't you take your own advice?"

Peter says:

"Well what should this man do?"

I love Yeshua's response. He says:

<u>Jn 21:22</u> "Yeshua saith unto him, 'If I will that he tarry till I come, what is that to thee? follow thou me.'"

"What is that to you? You follow me! Don't judge another man!"

<u>Jn 21:23</u> "Then <u>went this saying abroad</u> <u>among the brethren</u>, that that disciple should not die: yet Yeshua said not unto him, 'He shall not die; but If I will that he tarry till I come, <u>what is that to thee?</u>"

Then went this saying abroad. Now some people overheard him and they said:

"If I will that he tarry till I come, what is that to you?"

They took this and made a doctrine! Now all of a sudden there is a teaching. There is a new teaching; a new

thing that the Lord is doing. This man is "not going to die." He is going to live forever. That is what it says.

Jn 21:23 "Then went this saying abroad"

In one version it says that they started a rumor.

"That that disciple should not die"

That is what they said.

"Oh, didn't you hear what the Master said? Peter, Peter you are going to die this way. But he, he's not going to die!"

Yet he said:

"Yeshua didn't say that."

That is what he said.

"...that he should not die."

"But if I will that he tarry till I come, what is that to you?"

There are a lot of other rumors that had started. One is this "finished" work of the cross; the "finished" work of Christ; Sunday worship, Christmas, Easter. All of these teachings that are now incorporated into lifestyles are based upon interpretation, misinterpretation, mistranslation and stuff that had been passed down from generation to generation to generation.

How in the world did the church get off of keeping the Sabbath to where now 99.99% of churches in America and around the world worship on Sunday? How did that happen? How did it happen? It started somewhere and it just kept on going.

When you are born into it, people don't ask questions of things they think they already have the answers to. Verse 24:

<u>Jn 21:24</u> "This is the disciple which testifieth of these things, and wrote of these things: and we know that his testimony is true."

There are also many other things. I wanted to point this out.

Jn 21:25 "And there are also many other things which Yeshua did, the which, if they should be written every one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that should be written. Amen."

What is he saying here? There are things that were done before his crucifixion and things that were done after. The only way the writer could write this is that the writer witnessed this. There are things that were done that are not recorded in *Matthew*, *Mark*, *Luke* and *John*.



## Chapter 5

### Pauls' Record Of Yeshua's Appearances And Ministry During Yeshua's 40 Days

<u>1 Co 15:3</u> "For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Messiah died for our sins according to the scriptures;"

1 Co 15:4 "And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:"

<u>1 Co 15:5</u> "And that he was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve:"

Cephas — Peter. Now you can see "Cephas," but it is actually "Peter." Wait a minute, wasn't Peter named Peter the rock — Petra? His name was Cephas!

"...then of the twelve:"

Yeshua first of all appeared to Cephas. Now this is Pauls' reckoning. He appeared to Cephas. He didn't say "first," I'm putting that there. Do you see how easily that can happen? It says that:

1 Co 15:4 "And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:"

1 Co 15:5 "And that he was seen of Cephas"

Who was the first person who met him? Mary. Paul doesn't put that there. I don't know why Paul doesn't put that there. The gospel writers put that there. But Paul says that he was seen of Cephas. Paul doesn't mention the Emmaus Road event. Paul gives his version of what was revealed to him; that he was seen of Cephus and then of the twelve.

<u>1 Co 15:6</u> "After that, he was seen of above five hundred brethren at once;"

Now imagine. Yeshua is having a conference after he has resurrected. It was not just five hundred brethren, but five hundred brethren *at once*.

"But wait a minute, didn't he only have twelve? One of them died. He killed himself."

Where did this five hundred come from? Yeshua had a lot more disciples than people want you to think.

<u>1 Co 15:6</u> "After that, he was seen of above five hundred brethren at once;"

Can you imagine trying to get five hundred people together? Now if you have ever been in a crowd of five hundred people, that's a lot of people. It's unmistakable. You may not be able to see it from a spaceship in space, but you should be able to see it from a distance as far as the eye can see. Five hundred people at once — of whom among the greater part remain unto the present.

<u>1 Co 15:6</u> "After that, he was seen of above five hundred brethren at once; of whom the greater part remain unto this present, but some are fallen asleep."

So now Paul not only knows, but he knows who they are because he says that some of them; many of them are still alive, but some are dead or asleep.

<u>1 Co 15:7</u> "After that, he was seen of James; then of all the apostles."

<u>1 Co 15:8</u> "And last of all he was seen of me also, as of one born out of due time."

<u>1 Co 15:9</u> "For I am the least of the apostles, that am not meet to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the <u>church</u> of God."

That is *kehillah* — the assembly, the called-out ones, the ekklesia of Elohim. Now notice this:

<u>1 Co 15:10</u> "But by the **grace** of God I am what I am: and his **grace** which was bestowed upon me was not in vain; but I **laboured** more abundantly than they all: yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me."

Do you see this? **Grace and work are in the same verse**. You see, Paul didn't preach that. If he did preach that and didn't practice that, then something is wrong. People get this "saved by grace" idea.

"We're saved by grace alone brother. Anything you add to it, it's not grace."

#### Paul says:

"Listen. The grace that was on me, I worked more abundantly than all of them. I outworked Peter. I outworked James. I outworked all of those apostles because of the grace that was bestowed on me."

But the grace of God. Do you see what he says?

1 Co 15:10 "But by the grace of Elohim I am what I am: and his grace which was bestowed upon me was not in vain; but I laboured more abundantly than they all: yet not I, but the grace of Elohim which was with me"

## You've got grace surrounded by works or works surrounded by grace.

Now the word there is the word: *charis*. It means: that which affords joy, pleasure, delight, sweetness, charm, loveliness: grace of speech; good will, loving-kindness, favour. Its usage is: grace, favour, thanks, thank, pleasure, miscellaneous.

The word *laboured* here is: to grow weary, tired, exhausted (with toil of burdens or grief); to labour with wearisome effort, to toil, of bodily labour. Just so that you know, Paul in grace, worked. He was given a job.

#### The grace that was bestowed on him put him to work.

Grace without works, faith without works is absolutely dead; worthless. I know that some people probably jumped a little bit last week when I opened up with the phrase that grace was for "ignorant" people. But what I was saying is that people who rely upon grace don't know grace. That is because if they understood it, they would go to work. Grace puts you to work.

"Grace alone brother, we don't have to do anything."

"Paul was right in line when he said 'finished work of the cross, finished work of Christ.' You don't have to do anything. You can't earn it. You don't deserve it. It's a free gift."

"Well if it's a free gift, why do I have to work once I've got it?"

I don't understand "free" and "gift." The fact of the matter is that Messiah gave his life! It is not free — not in the manner that we consider free. He died for you to have it! If you put it in a category of "free," it would be just like putting my Discipleship course into a category of "free." Free stuff is worthless to people. If you put a price tag upon it, all of a sudden it has value. The grace of YeHoVaH — you put the price on it. You put the price tag on it, based on what you are willing to do once you receive it. Either you do something or you do nothing. Paul said:

"I work more than all of them."

Now that is Paul who brought grace to us. So if anybody understands grace, Paul should understand grace; since he introduced the concept. Hallelujah.

So why after his resurrection, did Yeshua spend forty days teaching his disciples? Not only was he teaching them, but he was teaching them what he had told them before his crucifixion. The works that Yeshua came to do on the earth, he finished before he ascended. However, our work has just begun!

Now understand something. His work before his burial was to become the Lamb — the Lamb that was supposed to be slain; this Lamb that was slain before the foundation of

the earth. Even before Yeshua went to the cross, the Lamb was slain before the foundation of the earth because it was part of the plan.

Father lays out the plan. The plan gets executed. He knows the plan. He lays out the plan. The plan gets executed. He knows the plan for your life. He wants to lay out the plan and then execute it. Having the plan and not executing the plan is just like having a bunch of plans that you are not doing anything with. People love plans. As a matter of fact, some people get a lot of pleasure out of planning. They've got all kinds of plans. They do.

"Oh man, one of these days, one of these days..."

"Oh man, I should have, would have, could have..."

I want to make a quick side note because I think it's important. I didn't put it in here, but let me. In *John* chapter three, Yeshua does something that the people that he is teaching would understand. He is speaking to Nicodemus, but it is for our learning. Nicodemus comes to him and begins to ask him questions. Yeshua goes into the teaching of being born again. He explains to Nicodemus that he should understand what he says. Understand that Nicodemus was a Pharisee. Yeshua is speaking to Nicodemus. He says to him, these words:

"You are Israel's teacher and you don't even know this?"

As a matter of fact, turn with me really quickly. I pointed some of this out. There is more to it in the *You Must Be Born Again* teaching that we did. But if you look at *John 3*, I really believe that right here, it ties beautifully into the teaching. He says here in verse number nine. As

Messiah has talked to him about being born again and of being filled with the Spirit in verse number nine, Nicodemus answered and said unto him:

"How can these things be?"

Notice that Yeshua answered and said unto him:

"Aren't you Israel's teacher and you don't know this?"

Now you can easily read over this, but you see, Nicodemus is a Pharisee. Yeshua is having a conversation with a religious leader who knows the Torah about being born again and questions Nicodemus' leadership as a Torah teacher. He says:

"Listen, you are a teacher of Torah. You are Israel's teacher and you don't know what I am telling you? You don't know this?"

I don't know about you, but when I activate my brain; when I read the Bible, I get the impression that Yeshua expected Nicodemus to understand what he was saying. This says to me that if Yeshua expected Nicodemus, a Torah teacher; one who teaches from the Tanakh about being born again, that **being born again is not a New Testament concept.** Do you follow me?

Let's take it a step further. Further down Yeshua does something that Nicodemus would get. He says:

"Now remember"

I want you to see in verse twelve, he says:

"If I have told you earthly things and you believe not, how shall you believe if I tell you of heavenly things?"

"And no man has ascended up to heaven, but he that came down from heaven, even the son of man which is in heaven."

Notice that he takes him all the way back to Moses. He makes a connection. He says:

"Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up."

Do you know what I find really, really strange — really, really strange? In the book of *Genesis*, man and woman listened to what? A serpent spoke to Eve (Mrs. Adam) and that beguiled her. When it comes down to the children of Israel in the wilderness, YeHoVaH sent serpents. Could you maybe think that the first test for man — because YeHoVaH said to them:

"Listen. Don't eat of the tree. Don't eat of the tree. Don't eat of the tree."

What does He do? He sends a test to see if they are going to obey Him. What did they do? They failed the test. It's not the last time YeHoVaH sends serpents.

So now the children of Israel are in the wilderness. They start murmuring and complaining. What does He do? He doesn't send *a* serpent, He sends *a bunch* of them. They get bit. What does He say to Moses?

"Moses, take a serpent of bronze, hang it up on a pole, and those who have been bitten by the serpents; those who look upon the serpent will be healed."

Now let me ask you the question:

"Did the serpent of bronze on the pole heal the people?"

What did? Obedience! What caused men to fail, was disobedience! Serpent — serpent.

Now man (Israel) has an opportunity. Yeshua comes along hundreds of years later and tells us:

"Listen, I want to tell you a story, Nicodemus. Although you haven't understood anything that I have said so far, let me bring you back to something that I know you should know. You should know all of this, but I know that it is a little in the prophets. But let's go back to the Torah. Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, the Son of man must be lifted up."

Now is it me looking up at Yeshua on the cross that saves me? No. You see it is not the man on the cross. You can take your crucifixes and you can put all kinds of Jesuses on them. You can hold your crucifix up to the vampires. Yeah, you can do one of these numbers (makes sign of the cross with his fingers). You can do all of that old foolish stuff.

"Oh, but that works!"

Yeah? Really! Have you ever met a vampire that that worked with? Only in the movies! Are you with me?

So he uses this analogy with Nicodemus. Basically what he is saying is that faith in Messiah as it is today, was in the wilderness. Just as they looked upon the serpent; by faith they can be healed. You see, the problem with the children of Israel is that the same gospel was preached to them, but they didn't mix it with faith. It was the same

gospel. There are people today who are not going to apply faith to this gospel. It is the same gospel. The gospel that was preached to Israel in the wilderness — the King James says "the church in the wilderness."

"Do you mean there was church in the wilderness?"

It was the *assembly*. It was the called-out ones. The Greek *ekklesia* that is now — in the Hebrew it is the assembly, the called-out ones, the sanctified ones, the *kadosh* [holy] ones. They needed faith, but they didn't mix faith in with what they heard. It is the same faith that is required today that needs to be mixed with what you hear.

Just as they could look at the serpent of bronze in the wilderness, we can look at Yeshua on the cross, but it is faith. It is not him hanging on a cross that brings salvation to us. It is faith in what he did!

The *works* that Yeshua came to do on the earth, he finished before he ascended — his earthly works as we found in *John* chapter seventeen. However, *our work* has just begun.

Yeshua's works were not finished at the cross. His death was! He is only going to die once. Now all hell is about to be put where it belongs. If all hell breaks loose in your life, it is because you aren't walking in faith. He has delivered. He has set us apart. He has dealt with that for those who put their faith in Him. So what should we be doing? We will get to that.

His resurrection — his death was; then there was his resurrection, then his forty-day ministry, then his ascension. The Bible was not finished at the cross. *Acts* and the epistles had not been written. *Acts* is still incomplete. The *Acts* continue in us because he gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, some to be pastors and some to be teachers. So the *Acts* are still being

done. The works of creation were finished, but YeHoVaH is still at work. He completed earth's creation in *Genesis 2*, but He is still at work!

Do you hear what I am saying? The new Heavens (and notice Heavens plural) and new Earth are yet to come. Who is going to do that? The same one who made the old Heaven and the old Earth. Creation as we know it was done, but YeHoVaH is still at work. He is going to make it all over. Judgment is still yet to come. YeHoVaH has committed all judgment to Yeshua.

Yeshua died, was buried, resurrected, ascended and came back to gather his disciples to make them apostles and to send them forward in what we know of as the "great commission." Yeshua ratified the New Covenant in his blood and yet the New Covenant is not finished nor complete. People confuse the New Testament with the New Covenant.

Do you know what is really interesting folks? Those of us who have studied how we got our Bible, we know that there was a point where there were more books in the Bible. Now there are fewer books in the Bible than there were from the beginning. Even the Bible wasn't complete. At one point it was "complete" until somebody decided to revise it. Now it is "completely complete," but it is missing some of the stuff that it was "completed" with.

I'm going to tell you that if you use logic, any kind of brain will cause you to ask questions. When you start asking questions, do you know the conclusion you come to? Man cannot be trusted! No man can be trusted! People have to earn it. Trust is something that is so valuable. It is associated with your name. Your name is so valuable. It is more valuable than any stuff you have. That is because if you have a good name, people will trust you. If your name is not good, nobody will trust you. If your name is good, a handshake is all you will need. If your name is no good,

you are going to need some references and a cosigner. You have to find somebody with a good name. You all know that I'm telling you the truth.

### The Body Of Messiah Has Not Been Judged

The wicked have not been judged. Earth continues on, but in the end it will not continue as it is today. Common sense tells us that there is more to the story of the cross, simply because we are still here.

## Chapter 6

# Yeshua's Ministry In Heaven



Yeshua is interceding on our behalf at the right hand of YeHoVaH. I just want to present to you some scripture because it is so important. We touched on some of this earlier, but this is a whole new set that we didn't examine. Yeshua's ministry continues at the right hand of YeHoVaH.

<u>Lk 22:69</u> "Hereafter shall the Son of man sit on the right hand of the power of God."

Now here is a question:

"If YeHoVaH has a right hand, does this mean He has a left hand?"

It's a little trivial. People want to throw the right hand out there. If He has a right hand, does He have a left hand? I think it is a legitimate question. People have surmised that He is this old guy — like Michelangelo or whoever it was who did that picture with the "finger of God" pointing from Heaven and touching the hand of man.

Art has given the Almighty a body, when He is a Spirit. The right hand of power is simply a metaphor for authority. That is all that it is! It is a metaphor for a place of honor or authority.

Mt 28:18 "And Yeshua came and spake unto them, saying, 'All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.'"

Authority, not power — that is the word there. The word is "authority" (*exousia*), unlike the word "power"; which is *dunamis*.

Ac 2:33 "Therefore being by the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost, he hath shed forth this, which ye now see and hear."

Ac 7:55 "But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up stedfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Yeshua standing on the right hand of God,"

<u>Ac 7:56</u> "And said, 'Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of Elohim.'"

I love this one. I love them all, but I specifically love this one because now I see Yeshua's ministry in Heaven on my behalf. You see, he's not just sitting up there.

Ro 8:34 "Who is he that condemeth? It is Messiah that died, yea rather, that is risen again,"

He didn't just die. He got up.

"...who is even at the right hand of Elohim, who also maketh intercession for us."

You can't get a better intercessor than Messiah! You see, he's praying for you. He's interceding for you. Do you hear what I am saying? I can't come close to his prayers. Oh, I can pray. When I pray, I expect the Almighty to move. But Yeshua is right there. It's like he's saying:

"Father, I mean, come on man!"

I'm going to tell you something. Any of us are people who like talking to people in authority. When we have a problem, we don't want to talk to the "pee-ons." We don't want to talk to the people who have to go through three levels to get to the top. We want to go straight to the top.

"Where's the manager? Who is in charge? Supervisor..."

That's the kind of people we are. Yeshua says:

"Listen, you all have direct access to the manager if you would — to the supervisor; to the one who is in charge."

Here is another thing. I remember when I was in the nonprofit arena and we were doing the 501c3 in Grand Rapids. Every 501c3 organization looks for what they call an "angel." This angel is the one who is a person of means who comes along side that organization and who makes big contributions to assure that the budget of that organization is met.

Not only does the angel come along or this person that they call an angel, come along and write big checks, but the people who can write big checks are friends with people who can write big checks. Poor people are friends with poor people. Do you know what I am saying?

People who have money generally hang out with people who have money. They have clubs and with these clubs, you have to be at a certain level to even join the thing. Some of them, you don't even know that they exist. Why don't you know that they exist? That's because you aren't even in that category.

Now, for someone like me who is not in the category, I need to know someone who is in the category. I may not be able to get to the papa, but if I can get to the nephew; to the

grandbaby, I can get the grandbaby to talk to the uncle or to talk to the pop who will go and talk to the grandpop — if I can just meet somebody in the family. I may not be able to sit down at the dinner table and say:

"Hey dad, hey grandpa, I've got a friend of mine out there who has an organization out there who needs some help. I know that you are all thinking about how you are going to spend some of this money. What if you direct some of that over to this organization, because they are doing some good work?"

"Well, how much do you want son?"

"Well, you know, a couple of million dollars, whatever. Whatever you can spend. What's the budget for philanthropy this year?"

"Well, we're planning on giving about 25 million."

"Well, why don't you give 80% of it to this organization, because I can vouch for it."

"So, Okay, well you know, we'll pray about it at the end of the year and we'll think about how we are going to designate our year-end giving. And then you know, we'll do that."

So now grandson or son is very happy. You see, that is what that whole *Apprentice* thing was all about. You know, with Donald Trump and all of those folks. They were trying to make money for their charity that they believe in. There are people out there who are called philanthropists. Their

job is giving away money. They give away money to organizations that are doing good works.

The reason why I am bringing this up is because if you don't know Warren — yeah, we're on a first-name basis — Buffett. If you don't know Bill Gates, then if I can just meet somebody who knows Bill. If I can convince somebody who knows Bill to talk to Bill for me, then even though I don't know Bill, Bill may decide to help me. Do you understand?

Now why am I going there? It is because the creator of the universe has given us access through His Son who is seated with Him on the right hand of power. He is advocating on my behalf. The thing about it is that I don't have to go through the Reverend to get to him.

Oh, it's all right bro. I don't have to go through the pastor. I don't have to go through the deacon. I don't even have to go through the pastor's wife. I can go straight to him and he is advocating on my behalf. Whatever I need; whatever I need to get done for the work that he has called me to do to get done, he has guaranteed the resources to be available.

You see, this is why we need that relationship! This is why that relationship is so very important. But if you are not doing what He called you to do, then the resources that you need are not guaranteed to be there. When you get in the business of the business that He has called you to be in, then guess what? He has also promised to supply every one of your needs according to His riches. Not Bill's riches, not Warren's riches, or any other person's riches, but according to His riches. And Warren, Bill and all the rest of them don't compare to the riches of Heaven!

So who do you need on your side? What's in your wallet? What's in your spiritual wallet? Hallelujah! Think about this, ladies and gentlemen. Notice who is even at the right hand of Elohim who also makes intercession for us.

Ro 8:34 "who is he that condemneth? It is Messiah that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us."

I know that I am my biggest problem. I don't need to see what He is doing in somebody else's life, although that can be an encouragement to me. I need to know what He is wanting to do in my life. I need to grab a hold of that. I need to stop making excuses. I need to stop trying to disqualify myself. I need to not allow my past to dictate my future. You see, today is the day of His salvation. Today He is still knocking. What He is saying to us is this:

"Listen, I knew the end of your life before you were even born. I knew the mistakes that you were going to make. I knew the things that you were going to do, and that didn't stop me from calling you."

This is why His callings are without repentence. The only one who can disqualify you from Him is you. You are the only one who has that power — that authority. Nothing you have ever done in your life; nothing that you have ever done. Now understand something. Some people want to teach that:

"He has forgiven you for every sin you have ever committed and all the sins you'll ever commit."

It's like:

"Really?"

That is a license to commit sin. That's a license to violate His commands. Do you understand what I am

saying? Although there is some truth to that (that He will forgive you), there is no sacrifice for willful disobedience!

"The wages of sin is death!"

Although you are forgiven for something that you are planning on doing, the effect of that thing; you still have to live with. You still have to live with the consequences of the action. The consequences of the action don't compare to what you have to deal with. The forgiveness — even though the forgiveness is there, the enemy always uses the consequences of the action to convince you that the forgiveness is not even there.

This is why people keep asking God to forgive them over and over and over for something they did twenty years ago. It is because of the guilt; because of the consequences of that thing; because they have to look at the mistake, because they have to look at the result of the mistake. The Father says:

"I know the mistakes. I know the things that you have done. Nothing can separate us."

Nothing but you, of course. It is time to shake it off; to get up, to embrace the call, to stop making excuses. Stop making excuses. Stop looking at what you did. Stop looking at your past. Your past is not your future. That's gone. Your future is ahead of you. You can't see what is ahead looking back. You can't walk backwards. You've got to turn around and go forward. Today is a good day to do that.

The reason why I am telling us this and teaching *It's Not Finished* is because if we've got the idea that it is finished, then we'll sit on our laurels and wait for the "rapture" that is not coming. There is no rapture coming! You can believe that all you want, but let me tell you what

the rapture mindset does. It makes a person lazy. It makes a person wait.

"What are you waiting on?"

"I'm waiting on Jesus."

He's waiting on you! That's what he's waiting on. He's waiting on you to get about his business so that he can meet the need; so that he can supply you, so he can give you the strength that you need; so that he can show himself mightily. Every time you take a step in him and you stand firm, guess what? He shows himself.

Every time he shows himself, do you know what that does? It encourages you to take another step. Every time you take another step and he shows himself, do you know what it does? It encourages you to take another step. The next thing you know, you're taking steps. Next thing you know, you're running. Next thing you know, you are full-speed.

I hope this message is encouraging you. I really do. So we have to get up, get about our Father's business, and understand that part of what he did (which is died), was to make the transition into the resurrection. You see, the resurrection is just as important as the cross. The resurrection is the assurance of the fact that:

"Hey, if I die, that's not it!"

Not only is it assurance for a believer, but it should cause fear for an unbeliever, because death is not the end. Death is not the end! There is a resurrection. The just and the unjust are all going to get up. Everybody is going to go to Heaven, but everybody is not going to stay there!

Some people are going to be swimming and it won't be in a beautiful blue lake. Do you hear me? So, with that said, our next transition is going to be the return. There is a return that is as important as the cross itself. There would be no return if he didn't go to the cross.

The Bible tells us that for the joy that was set before him, he endured the cross. You see, the cross was simply a transition. There was something on the other side of the cross. Do you hear what I am saying? There was something on the other side of the cross — of death. That is what he is saying. Death is not the end. There is something on the other side. Now, once you get a vision that there is something on the other side, then the life that you live right here takes on a whole new meaning. That is because you know:

### "Okay, what am I afraid of?"

This side is a temporary side. This side is where I have the ability and the authority to walk in power. Do you know what it says to me? It gives me great hope and great courage. Hopefully it will give you some courage and some hope. Because I know that this side is temporary, it gives me hope and courage not to fear man. That gives me a whole lot of courage because no man will ever have the authority to tell me that I can't serve my Elohim.

Now the boss may have the authority to fire me, but guess who has the authority to fire him? You see, when I stand on the word — you'll never see the benefit of the word until you stand on the word. When your heart is in the right place to serve the Almighty and you go and the boss says:

"Nope, you can't have the Sabbath off."

First of all, the boss should never have that authority. Why? Because on the application that you filled out for employment, you should say:

"These are the days I don't work."

If you hire me with that, you know these are the days I don't work. So don't come later talking about how:

"Well, we need you."

I told you up front, these are days that I don't work. These are days — you see, the boss wants to get like Pharaoh sometimes and tell you:

"No, you can't go and worship your God."

They want to act like Pharaoh, when the fact is that you have to know that you know Him and that He is the one who provides for you. Yes, this job may be a means by which He provides, but there are a whole lot of other means by which He provides. This is where your testimony comes from. Your testimony is being built and not just your testimony, but the testimony of others.

Now you are standing and you are walking in faith of the Almighty and someone tells you:

"Well, we need you to work, and if you can't work, then we're going to have to find somebody else..."

You go into panic mode because now you are about to lose your job. Didn't you say that God gave it to you? That was your testimony — that He gave it to you. Well, let me tell you something. He's not going to give you something that is going to pull you away from Him. He is not going to give you something that is going to cause you not to serve Him but to bow down to some other Master.

You can't serve two Masters. He's not going to put you in a position to serve another Master. He will put you in a position to serve Him in the company of those you work with. But you must never forget, you don't work for them. You work for Him. When you know you work for Him,

you don't have to fear them. You are going to be the best darn worker on the job because you know who your boss is.

You're not working just because he showed up. You're not working just because he's in the building. You don't change your mode because he comes out of the office and walks through the shop. You are one-hundred percent, one-hundred percent. Do you understand what I am saying? When you work for Him and you do for Him like you would do for the rest — well, better yet, you should do for the rest.

Everything you do in word and deed, you do unto His glory; unto His glory. Don't fear man! Don't fear man. I don't care who it is. Your boss can only terminate your employment. He can fire you! Sometimes the terminating of employment; especially if you have to compromise your values to work there, you don't need to be there in the first place.

"Well, what am I going to eat?"

Well, didn't you say that your trust is in Him, or was that just lip service?



## Chapter 7

### Death Is A Transition

John 19:30 "When Yeshua therefore had received the vinegar, he said, 'It is finished:' and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost."

Now when he said:

"It is finished,"

He didn't say what "it" was. We searched the scriptures and found in *John* 17 where he talked about "it" being the earthly ministry that he came to accomplish. We also identified that Yeshua's ministry happens in phases. The first phase we know. We're going to identify again what phase we're in, but the first phase of Yeshua's ministry was Yeshua's ministry on earth. This is from the time that he was mikvahed by Yochanan the baptizer or John the Baptist. He started his ministry on the earth when the Holy Spirit was given.

We know that and some have said:

"Well, what did it mean when Yeshua said that it must be fulfilled — that the scriptures must be fulfilled?"

We find that John was instructed that as soon as he sees the Spirit come upon and remain, this was the Messiah. There are several things that Yeshua fulfilled, but this particular issue of the baptism of the Holy Spirit on Yeshua (we see) was a fulfillment of what YeHoVaH had promised John.

Yeshua's ministry at his death is when he said:

"It is finished."

He gave up the ghost. We also know that Yeshua's ministry was not finished, because he resurrected. Not only did he resurrect, but he ascended and presented the Firstfruits. Not only did he ascend and present the Firstfruits, but he came back and spent forty days ministering to the same disciples he had spent his entire earthly ministry ministering to.

We know that Yeshua's ministry is still not finished. But we do know that a portion of his ministry was finished on the cross and that caused a transition. He transitioned from the first phase of his ministry to another phase of his ministry. We looked at Yeshua's ministry after his resurrection. The phase that we are in right now is Yeshua's ministry in Heaven. He will return; which is another phase of his ministry.

Yeshua's ministry in Heaven is Yeshua interceding on our behalf at the right hand of YeHoVaH. We looked at the scripture in *Romans* chapter 8. We looked at several other scriptures. Where it says in verse 34 in *Romans* 8:

Ro 8:34 "Who is he that condemeth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us."

This is a very critical part of Yeshua's ministry because his desire is for you and I to fulfill the ministry that he has called you and I to. The beauty of it is the great commission; which is that he said we are to go and make disciples or to teach all nations. We are to go and teach all nations. This is what he said before he ascended. But he said before he was even crucified that this gospel of the Kingdom had to be preached to the entire world — to the ends of the earth. Then the end will come.

There is the commission that was actually reiterating what he had said to them while he was with them. We know that for forty days, Yeshua was with them; teaching them the things that he had taught them before he was crucified.

Col 3:1 "If ye then be risen with Messiah, seek those things which are above, where Messiah sitteth on the right hand of Flohim."

There are some things that we ought to be seeking. The thing that we should be seeking from above is to walk in what he who sits at the right hand has commissioned and called us to. You will not find the joy that you are looking for in life that comes from Heaven, until you are walking in the purpose that the Almighty has called you to.

Other than that, you are going to be spending your time wandering the earth; trying to figure out what it is that you are supposed to be doing. He desires to reveal to you what you are supposed to be doing. Once He reveals to you what you are supposed to be doing, now you have to make a decision about whether or not you are going to do it.

We are living in a world where people are not following the call that is on their lives. They are so busy in other people's lives. They become busybodies in other people's lives. Do you understand? When you know what you are called to do, you don't have time to be worried and concerned about what somebody else is or is not doing. That's because you are too busy focusing on what you are supposed to be doing. When you become focused on what you are supposed to be doing, people are going to sit back and analyze and judge and make decisions based on what they see with their eyes. They really don't know what your call is and that you are committed to your call.

I am committed to what I am called to do. I know that people will see what I'm called to and see what I am doing and interpret it through their own systems and filters. They are going to take words that I say and analyze them through their own systems and filters and try to determine that they know me. How many of you know that you can easily be misunderstood until people take the time to get to know who you are?

It's the same thing with Messiah. How can you preach a thirty-minute message to someone; give an altar call and they come and give their life to a "Jesus" that they don't even know? They don't know anything about him. They don't know what it is that he requires of them. Then they come to a place where:

"It's all about grace brother. It has nothing to do with affecting my salvation. It isn't a salvation issue because me and Jesus are in a good relationship."

"Really? Really?"

Yeshua has called us to take this gospel of the Kingdom to the end of the earth. Are you doing that? There are people who are saying:

"Well, I may not be a preacher. I demonstrate the gospel of the Kingdom by how I live my life."

Let me tell you something. Faith doesn't come by seeing how you live. Faith cometh by hearing — and hearing the word of truth! If you are not speaking the word of truth, it doesn't matter. If a person is just looking at how you live your life, how can they compare what you are living to what you are saying? If you are living holy, then your conversation should be holy.

### Yeshua's Ministry When He Returns

Yeshua speaks about his return in his own words. A preacher can tell me what Yeshua said, or I can read for myself what Yeshua said; to see if the preacher who is telling me what he said, is telling me what he actually said. Before I had the Bible — there was a time in world history where people didn't have access to their own copy of the book. They were dependent upon someone to tell them what was in the book. It was illegal. It was even forbidden in certain countries; in certain places to have a copy.

There were those who came along to push their agenda. Here is what they did. They took all of the copies of the belief systems that were totally contrary to their belief system and burned them. They destroyed them. We see this all the way back in the time of Solomon when the Babylonians came in and they took all of the temple treasures.

They burned the temple; burned the books<sup>2</sup> to eradicate a belief system. It's been seen throughout history. If you

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>For clarification, "book" burnings took place at Solomon's temple when Babylonians came in and burned the temple. Important scrolls (Hebrew "books") held records and writings and were probably destroyed since the people lost their identity and language. Books as we know them today were not yet invented. "Book" or scroll burnings occurred after Solomon's reign; ushering in Babylonian captivity.

take the books and you burn the books and people don't have access to their history, they don't know what people they are. Do you understand this?

Now you have to find out about yourself from someone else's view of history. Their view of history is going to be skewed. Whoever is writing the history, they are always going to write about themselves in the best light. Yeshua says:

Mk 13:22 "For false Christs and false prophets shall rise, and shall show signs..."

Or false Messiahs. They shall show signs:

"...and wonders, to seduce, if it were possible, even the elect."

Some people take this and say that any sign and any wonder is "of the devil." There are false Messiahs, but there is a true Messiah. For every false, there is a true. For every false brother, there is a true brother. For every false apostle, there is a true apostle. Guess what, ladies and gentlemen? I didn't call myself to be an apostle. Do you understand that? If anybody has a problem with that, let them take it up with the one who called me. I'm not going to stop acknowledging what I've been called to do.

Mk 13:22 "For false Christs and false prophets shall rise, and shall show signs and wonders, to seduce, if it were possible"

If.

"...if it were possible, even the elect."

Mk 13:23 "But take ye heed: behold, I have foretold you all things."

Yeshua wanted to equip his disciples and did so not only of what was going on, but what was to come. That is the whole reason why we have the Holy Spirit — to show us things to come. We know; we should know what is coming and we should prepare ourselves and be ready for it.

Guess what, ladies and gentlemen? We don't hear this a whole lot in churches and synagogues and Messianic shuls and congregations and assemblies, but the fact is that Yeshua is coming back! He is coming back. You don't know when he is coming, but he is coming. And he is going to come at a moment when you are not expecting him unless you are looking for him. If you are not looking for him, he is going to come by surprise to you.

This is why I have a problem with a lot of these prophetic shadow pictures when people want to associate this day or that with a particular feast. If I believe that Yeshua is not going to come back until the Feast of Trumpets, then guess what? I've got time! Do you hear what I am saying?

If I want to associate the Feasts of the Lord with history and look at it — you have to understand ladies and gentlemen. This whole idea of Days of Awe<sup>3</sup> and all of these things that have been associated to these particular feasts have come from Judaism. That is where it comes from. People are trying to incorporate Messianic truths into these things.

But think about it for a moment. If in fact I believe that Yeshua has to come back on the Feast of Trumpets, then if

Judaism.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>"Days of Awe" or Hebrew: "Yamim Noraim" or "Days of Repentance" refers to the ten days commencing with Rosh Hashanah and ending with Yom Kippur celebrated by those who practice

the Feast of Trumpets this year passes and he doesn't come back, then guess what? I've got another year! Without even realizing it, I am putting a date on the return of the Messiah when he said:

"Don't do it."

Now I know that will get some emails.

# The Blood Moon Is Coming

Mk 13:24 "But in those days, after that tribulation, the sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light,"

These are not the "blood moons"! This is the event you want to be concerned about, not how many blood moons are going to be showing up in the next three years. You see, people have already identified them:

"Hey, do you know what? The next few feasts, there are going to be some blood moons."

"You may not see the next few feasts!"

Like you have all of that time. We don't have a lot of time, ladies and gentlemen. I will tell you this. I expect to live beyond a hundred years old. I am about halfway through my life. That is my expectation. I am trusting and believing that I will be a spry old hundred-year-old; still preaching the gospel.

That is my belief. You don't have to like it. You don't have to accept it. You can say what you want to, but it is not going to change what I believe. Now if by any chance I die before one hundred, I'll die believing that I will live beyond one hundred.

Mk 13:25 "And the stars of heaven shall fall, and the powers that are in heaven shall be shaken."

You see, people want to affect your beliefs. They want to tell you what to believe. They tell you what to believe by criticizing what you believe. If they criticize what you believe enough, then it may affect your belief. You start reevaluating what you believe because somebody is criticizing your belief system. Oh I'm fired up today!

People want to attack and say things. It's like:

"Who are you to tell me what to believe?"

Mk 13:25 "And the stars of heaven shall fall, and the powers that are in heaven shall be shaken."

Let me go back to verse 25.

"And the stars of heaven..."

You see, when this "blood moon" happens...

Mk 13:24 "But in those days, after that tribulation, the sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light,"

Mk 13:25 "And the stars of heaven shall fall, and the powers that are in heaven shall be shaken."

This is the "blood moon" to be concerned about, because that day is coming. It is coming.

Mk 13:26 "And then shall they see the Son of man coming in the clouds with great power and glory."

What is it saying? Yeshua, just as he promised, is coming back. But when that happens, it is the elect who are going to be shouting for joy. Let me tell you something, ladies and gentlemen. The "good news" is only good news to those who receive it. Those who receive the good news — the good news comes to bring a conviction that brings a person to repentance. You see, part of the good news; the gospel of the Kingdom is:

"Repent for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand!"

Those who don't want to repent are not going to see the good news as good news. As a matter of fact, they are going to reject it. They are going to deny it and they are going to attack the people who bring this good news.

"What are you laughing at?"

"Why are you smiling?"

"Why are you so happy?"

Yeah. Have you ever had people attack you because you are happy?

"What are you smiling at? How come you always have a big grin on your face?"

"Why are you upset at me smiling? Why can't I have a good outlook?"

"Well, you're just naïve!"

"Well, why can't I just be naïvely happy?"

I am not bothering anybody! Do you know what I am saying? People are upset with you because life is going well for you. They want to pull you into their crab basket where they are eating abominable things.

### Yeshua Knew His Role

Mk 13:26 "And then shall they see the Son of man coming in the clouds with great power and glory."

Mk 13:27 "And then shall he send his angels, and shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from the uttermost part of the earth to the uttermost part of heaven."

Mk 26:63 "But Yeshua held his peace. And the high priest answered and said unto him..."

Yeshua is brought before the high priest, just as he told his disciples it was going to happen — and they are going to kill him. But he:

"...answered and said unto him, 'I adjure thee by the living God, that thou tell us whether thou be the Messiah, the Son of God'"

"Really? Do you really want to know this information?"

You see, Yeshua knows that if he answers this question, it's over. He knows this already. We need to know what we are dealing with. We need to know who we are dealing with. Let me tell you something. Our struggle is not with flesh and blood. Our struggle is with principalities, powers, rulers of darkness; spiritual wickedness. Let me tell you something, ladies and gentlemen, so that you get this.

The Holy Spirit works through people. The devil works through people. Do you understand what I am saying? The Holy Spirit works through people who are open. The devil works through people who are open. Sometimes the Holy Spirit and the devil are working through the same person. It happens. Do you understand what I am saying? We can see that Peter was a prime example. In one minute Peter is saying:

"Far be it from you."

In the next minute, Yeshua is saying to him:

"Get behind me Satan."

If that wasn't enough, after Peter was filled with the Holy Spirit, Paul had to rebuke him publicly because when he got around the Jews, he acted like a Jew. When he got around the Gentiles, he acted like a Gentile. Paul had to call him out — a man filled with the Spirit. This was a man whose shadow was falling upon people and they were getting healed.

Don't be mistaken that somebody who claims to be "holy" can't be used as an instrument of the devil. And don't be mistaken that somebody who has been used as an instrument of the devil, can't be used as an instrument of the Holy Spirit. That's why we're supposed to discern. You can discern what spirit a person is under, regardless.

Everybody who claims to be "holy" is not giving Godly advice. Everybody who claims to be in the Kingdom is not getting advice from Heaven. You have to discern where people are coming from. Don't allow stuff to enter into your spirit and just be open just because of somebody who at one time spoke for the Almighty. You have to discern everything and you have to guard your heart all of the time. So he says:

"Tell us. Tell us. Tell us."

Yeshua said unto him:

"Well, you said it."

Okay, there it is.

Mt 26:64 "Yeshua saith unto him, 'Thou has said: nevertheless."

Now I answered your question.

Mt 26:64 "Yeshua saith unto him, 'Thou has said: nevertheless I say unto you, Hereafter shall ye see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven."

Now he not only said it, but he took it to a whole other level knowing — he knew that this would be the phrase that would get him up on that cross. He knew it.

What Yeshua shows us here is that when he was in the garden and praying and asking Father:

"If it be your will, let this cup pass away."

We know that Yeshua did not want to face this moment. If he did, he wouldn't be in the garden praying. This is hard sometimes for people to accept — that Yeshua knew exactly why he was sent. He knew exactly why he came. When the moment came for him to walk out his purpose, he is in the garden praying:

"Father if you can have a change of mind, change your mind."

"If it be your will, take this cup away from me. If there is another way for you to get

this accomplished other than me having to face that, let me know right now."

He didn't pray once. He didn't pray twice. He prayed three times! The Bible says that he was in that garden and great drops of blood fell, as it were. This man was sweating so intently because he knew the hour had come where he had to walk in the fullness of his purpose. But the Bible says that "but for the joy" — for the joy that was set before him, he endured this.

This was not the end. This was a transition. You won't transition into the next phase of your life without some "dying." There is a death that has to happen. Every time you move from one level or one transition to another, more and more of you will die. You will have to give up more and more and more of who you are and what you have become comfortable with.

Father will send people into your life; just like he sent Judas to Yeshua. They will help you. Judas can be your friend. He is simply there to help you get where you need to go. Imagine if Judas hadn't betrayed Yeshua; which was part of the plan. He was the son of perdition. It was prophesied before the earth was created. It had been prophesied that Judas had a role to play.

Yeshua chose him, knowing that he was a devil. Sometimes people can hurt you. Sometimes people can betray you. Sometimes people can deny you. Sometimes people can turn on you. The Bible says that all of these things work together for your good if you love the Almighty.

So get up! Stop sucking your wounds over in the corner because somebody hurt you; because somebody talked about you or said some things you didn't like. That's flesh! Yes it is. They are there to help you make a transition.

When you make that transition, sometimes the very people who helped you make the transition don't make the transition with you. Some of them do. Peter denied Messiah. Think about this, three times:

"I don't know the man."

"I don't know the man."

"I don't know the man!"

One of the first things that Yeshua did after his resurrection is that he went and found the one who denied him. There are people who are in this for the long haul, but there are some people who are in it simply to help you make a transition. You have to discern who they are. Some people Father brings into your life temporarily. The problem is that sometimes we try to make permanent residents out of temporary assignments.

Mt 26:65 "Then the high priest rent his clothes, saying, 'He hath spoken blasphemy; what further need have we of witnesses? Behold, now ye have heard his blasphemy."

You asked the question. You asked the question! If you don't want the answer, don't ask the question, because sometimes the question leads to an answer. Sometimes you know that by giving the answer, it could be your death nell, so we try to avoid it. We try to avoid it. We procrastinate. We beat around the bush. We "sugarify" it — water it down. You know that if you come out and just say what people are asking you, it is like:

"You know, you aren't going to be able to handle it if I come out and tell you what you are asking me, now what?"

"Oh, I knew it! I knew it!"

Yeah, then why are you asking?

"Now I've got the proof I need."

#### Yeah.

"He hath spoken blasphemy; what further need have we of witnesses? Behold, now ye have heard his blasphemy."

Mt 26:66 "'What think ye?' They answered and said, 'He is guilty of death.'"

Mt 26:67 "Then did they spit in his face, and buffeted him; and others smote him with the palms of their hands,"

Mt 26:68 "Saying, 'Prophesy...'"

Now they are mocking him.

Mt 26:68 "Saying, 'Prophesy unto us, thou Messiah, Who is he that smote thee?'"

"Who is it that hit you?"

Imagine this. Our Messiah went through this and he says:

"Listen. I want to show you how to suffer righteously."

That is the lesson here.

"I want to show you how to go through very difficult situations. I am going to be an example for you. I know there are times when it seems like the more you try to defend yourself, the more you get entangled."

I remember there were times when Yeshua was asked questions and he didn't answer. It's hard today not to answer peoples' questions. They pester you and they come after you. They push you. They just don't want to let something go. They already have a preconceived answer that they are looking for. If they don't get the answer that they are looking for, they keep pushing and pushing and pushing.

# Chapter 8

# Yeshua's Ascension And Return



At Yeshua's ascension, the Bible tells us how as they looked toward heaven, two men appear; dressed in white:

<u>Ac 1:10</u> "And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel."

This is what they said:

Ac 1:11 "Which also said, 'Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? This same Messiah, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven."

Now imagine, here is the sight. Yeshua is ascending and they are standing there. There is no telling how long they would have stood there. I don't know about you, but when you are in awe of something and it just hits you; it captivates you. At that moment you can stand staring into thin air for no telling how long — daydreaming even. These two men, dressed in white apparel said:

Ac 1:11 "Which also said, 'Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? This same Yeshua, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in

like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.'"

The way the apostles — the disciples of Yeshua's day took this, is that they now know that they can't go back to their life. They've gone back to their life after the the But in resurrection. crucifixion. Yeshua recommissioned them and then gave them the great commission. They know they can't go back to their way of life. They believed that the time was short. They believed — even from what we looked at earlier, that there was one who was spoken of who would not die, although Yeshua did not say that he wasn't going to die. But it was believed that this one would see Yeshua coming back; just as he had left.

When Paul wrote to the Thessalonians, there were individuals who believed so much in that generation that the Messiah was going to come, that they sold everything. They were waiting for him to return. When their resources ran out, they started living off of other people. That's when Paul wrote to them:

"If a man doesn't work, neither shall he eat."

We are going to see that this mindset was throughout the minds of the people in the first century. Here we are now in the twenty-first century, still believing; which causes some people to say:

"Man, you guys are full of it. You've been talking this same stuff now for how many centuries — Living off of a promise."

Yeshua gives his disciples insight as to what will happen upon his return. Now as I have said, Messiah's ministry happened in phases. There was his ministry while he was on earth. There was his ministry after his resurrection. There was his ministry while he was on earth — after his resurrection he comes back to earth. There is his ministry in Heaven where he is interceding on behalf of people — on your behalf and on my behalf. Why? It is because he wants us to succeed.

The other reason is because when he is coming back, he is looking for people; who whether they have succeeded or not, they are trying. They are living and working toward that success in him.

Yeshua gives his disciples insight as to what will happen upon his return. He is not only telling them that he is coming back, now he is about to tell them that:

"When I come back, let me tell you what is going to happen. The reason why I'm telling you what is going to happen when I come back, is so that you will know what you should be doing and how you should be living while you are looking for me to come back."

"Don't go back to your old ways. Don't go back there. You went back there. I came and got you and brought you forward. You have to go forward. There is some work that you have to do. That is why I called you. That's why I saved you. That's why I gave you my word. That's why I gave you the Spirit. There's work you've got to do."

"I am coming back looking for people who are busy about my Father's business. That's who I'm looking for. I'm not coming back looking for busybodies. I am coming back for people who are busy about my Father's business."

Mt 25:31 "When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory:"

Mt 25:32 "And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats:"

Mt 25:33 "And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left."

Mt 25:34 "Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, 'Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:"

This preparation was done from the very foundation of the world.

Mt 25:35 "For I was an hungered, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in:"

Mt 25:36 "Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me."

Mt 25:37 "Then shall the righteous..."

Get this, the righteous.

"But wait a minute brother, there's none righteous; no, not one."

"Well, I feel for you!

He is saying that the righteous answered him.

"...Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, 'Lord, when saw we thee an hungered, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink?"

Mt 25:38 "When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee?"

The righteous weren't even aware, but he is aware.

Mt 25:39 "Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee?"

Mt 25:40 "And the King shall answer and say unto them, 'Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my **brethren**, ye have done it unto me.'"

We need to know what this "brethren" means, because people have confused it. The word is: *adelphos*. It means: a brother, whether born of the same two parents or only of the same father or mother.

What is Yeshua saying? How many of you know that Yeshua had brothers and sisters? But he wasn't talking about them; who were born of the same mother. How do I know? His own words.

Mt 12:46 "While he yet talked to the people, behold, his mother and his brethren"

His brother — same word here.

"...stood without, desiring to speak with him."

Mt 12:47 "Then one said unto him, 'Behold, thy mother and thy brethren stand without, desiring to speak with thee."

Mt 12:48 "But he answered and said unto him that told him, 'Who is my mother? and who are my **brethren**?'"

It is the same word. What he is saying is that those who — and he stretched forth — this is what he did.

Mt 12:49 "And he stretched forth his hand toward his disciples, and said, 'Behold my mother and my brethren!'"

Do you know what? The Bible doesn't tell us whether he went out and talked to his mom and his brothers. People can read into it, but it doesn't tell us that. Yeshua says:

"These are my mothers. These are my brothers."

Mt 12:50 "For whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother."

If we didn't get it this time, he says it again in Mark.

Mk 3:31 "There came then his brethren and his mother, and, standing without, sent unto him, calling him."

Mk 3:32 "And the multitude sat about him, and they said unto him, 'Behold, thy mother and thy brethren without seek for thee."

Mk 3:33 "And he answered them, saying, 'Who is my mother, or my brethren?'"

Mk 3:34 "And he looked round about on them which sat about him, and said, 'Behold my mother and my brethren!'"

Mk 3:35 "For whosoever shall do the will of God the same is my brother, and my sister, and mother"

Now another passage that I wanted to bring in, we didn't put it here. I didn't put it here. Yeshua made it very clear that what he had come to do was the will of his Father. He said:

"This is the will of my Father, that you believe in him and the Messiah whom he sent."

### Who Are My Mother, Sister, Brother?

Anyone who rejects the Messiah is not my mother, nor are they my brothers. If you don't receive my Messiah, I don't care who you say you are. Yeshua said:

"My mother and my brothers are those who believe or those who believe in my Father who sent me."

Who sent me — who sent me! The will of the Father is that you believe in Him and in the Messiah whom He sent. No man can come to the Father except through Messiah — no man! No man! NO man! It's unfortunate that there are too many people who call themselves believers who don't believe that. They identify people as their brothers and their mothers. Then you have these people who feed on this.

"Well, you know, the Bible says that if you bless Israel — whomever blesses Israel, God will bless."

He never said that! He said whoever blessed Abraham. You won't find that in the Bible

"Well, we're the seed of Abraham."

So was Ishmael! Now what? So were Keturah's children. Now what? No, he said:

"Whoever blesses Abraham"

He will bless. And guess what? We are the seeds of Abraham, so bless me!

I am not backing down off of this and I'm going to tell you folks, that I'm under attack. But people need to know that when you get under attack, attack! But we're not attacking people, because our wrestle is not against flesh and blood.

People want to back you up and soften you and make you "tolerable" so you will tolerate all of the other junk that is coming at you through all of the other people that are coming at you.

"Oh brother, you shouldn't say that."

"Oh brother, you shouldn't do this."

"Oh brother, it seems like you've got an issue with people."

"I do! Now what?"

"Oh, that's arrogant!"

"Call it what you want."

"These are my brothers and sisters — those who do the will of my Father."

Continuation in *Matthew* 25.

Mt 25:41 "Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, 'Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels:"

That's where those folks who reject Yeshua are going to go — every last one of them. Your brothers and your sisters will not go there — that is, your Kingdom brothers and sisters. Your biological brothers and sisters could very well end up there. They surely will end up there unless we do our job. He says:

Mt 25:42 "For I was an hungered,"

And get this. He says:

"...also unto them on the left hand, 'Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels:"

Hell was not prepared for any human being. The Lake of Fire was not prepared for any human being. He says:

Mt 25:42 "For I was an hungered, and ye gave me no meat; I was thirsty, and ye gave me no drink:"

Mt 25:43 "I was a stranger, and ye took me not in: naked, and ye clothed me not: sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not."

Mt 25:44 "Then shall they also answer him,"

It is the same answer.

"...saying, 'Lord, when saw we thee an hungered, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto thee?"

Mt 25:45 "Then shall he answer them, saying, 'Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me.'"

Here is where the rubber meets the road, ladies and gentlemen. Can I just go there for a moment? Here is where the rubber meets the road. Those who do the will of the Father who sent Yeshua, are our brothers and sisters.

There are people who say that they believe in Jesus, but they reject us. They are saying that we are not serving the same God. They are saying that we have "fallen from grace." They are saying that we are going to hell! This is what they are saying!

What are they saying? They are saying that we are not their brothers. You can sweeten it up. You can sugar it down. You can water it down. You can mix it and twist it any way you want. That is what they are saying.

"What say ye?"

Can you claim people as your brothers who have already said they are not? Can you claim people as your brothers and your sisters who reject the gospel that you bring — that contains the life? I'm just putting it out there. You are going to decide.

These shall go into everlasting punishment — but the righteous. So for those of you who are talking about how:

"There is none righteous,"

Guess where you are going to end up?

This word righteous — get this. Let me show you something, because the word is explained. It is *dikaios* meaning: righteous, **observing divine laws**; in a wide sense, upright, righteous, virtuous, keeping the commands of God.

What divine law? You see, when you drill down, this is what you have to do. In a wide sense, notice that it says upright, righteous; versus keeping the commands of God.

"What do you mean you don't have to keep the commandments?"

"Well, the law don't make you righteous."

"No, but the righteous keep the law."

"No, the law doesn't make you righteous. Your righteousness is in Messiah."

How can you be righteous and reject the laws of the righteous one? Now you become a law unto yourself.

I have concerns that compel me to get people ready for the return.

<u>Lu 18:6</u> "And Messiah said, 'Hear what the unjust judge saith.'"

There is a woman — a widow who is saying:

"Listen. I've been taken advantage of and you need to look into this situation and judge righteously."

The judge wouldn't listen to the woman. She just kept coming and kept coming. She was not taking "No" for an answer.

"I will be justified in this matter! You can't just ignore me."

That's what people want to do. They want to ignore you. They want to tell you to go away. They want to tell you to "shut up." They want to tell you that you can come, but "you can't bring that gospel." They want to tell you that you can come, but you can't talk about that religious stuff. They want to tell you that you can come, but leave the Holy Spirit at home.

Really? I'm coming and I'm coming with all of that! If I have to tolerate that junk you are spouting out of your mouth, then you ought to be able to tolerate what I'm saying, because guess what? When you compare what you are saying with what I am saying, life is in what I've got to bring. That stuff you are talking about has nothing but death in it. It doesn't bring life.

You can talk about sports. You can talk about Dancing with the Stars. You can talk about American Idol. You can talk about all of that stuff that is in the world, but you don't want to hear what the word of YeHoVaH; the creator of the universe has to say to you?

Then you are talking about how you "love the Lord?" Really? And the Lord said:

"Hear what..."

Ladies and gentlemen, this road is getting narrower. It is getting narrower. Before it is over, it is going to get so narrow. I'm telling you, it's like you are going to be walking sideways!

"If the righteous scarcely make it..."

That's what the word says. I'm not writing this stuff, but I'm finally getting to a place where I understand it. As I understand it, I am being challenged. I am being challenged to hold onto my old broad way of thinking, or to narrow my thinking to become like Messiah.

## The Righteous Scarcely Make It

Here is what I know. To follow Messiah means that somebody is going to be out to get me and it is not the government; although the government wants its pound of flesh. You see, I'm better off alive to the government. As long as I am alive, they just take my money. They don't even have to — you know:

"We're going to get it before you get it. We're going to get ours before God!"

"We'll just take it out of your check."

Don't they? They just take it. Now, we give them permission to take it. But if we don't give them permission to take it, they just come after us at the end. And if we don't file those papers, they're really going to come after us. So it's like, do you know what? You can't win with them. Just give Caesar what is Caesar's, but don't neglect YeHoVaH.

<u>Lu 18:7</u> "And shall not Elohim avenge his own elect, which cry day and night unto him, though he bear long with them?"

Why are the elect crying day and night? It is because the world is fouling! The world is not playing according to the rules of the Kingdom. It is like:

"Father! Why do I have to play by Kingdom rules when I'm surrounded by people who don't? You want me to turn the other cheek, but they're not!"

"You want me to walk the narrow path, but I'm surrounded by broad way! You want me to live righteously and holy and blameless. You want me to correct my life. You want me to live like a holy person. You want me to get my language straight; to get my heart straight. You want to get all up in my business and convict me and correct me."

"Then there are these people. Look at them! They are riding around in their big cars. They are living in their fancy houses. They are living a whole lot better than a whole lot of us. They look a lot more prosperous; a lot more blessed and they seem to be getting away with murder and I have to live righteously."

So they are crying day and night and Father says:

"Listen, I've got this."

"Listen, I've got this."

"Listen, I've got this! Don't watch the heathens. Let the heathens rage. Don't compare yourself to the world. It looks like they may be blessed for now. It looks like my hand may be with them for now."

"But the bottom line is don't look at them! Don't listen to them! Don't walk by sight. Don't let people in your spirit. Guard your heart. Don't follow the world. Don't be conformed by it."

"Transform yourself. Renew your mind. It doesn't mean you can't be blessed. It doesn't mean you can't be happy. It doesn't

mean you can't have stuff. Just don't go about it like the world!"

"I am the only one who can give you the ability to enjoy the stuff that you've got. If I don't give you the ability to enjoy it, you can gain the whole world. It won't make you happy."

<u>Lk 18:7</u> "And shall not God avenge his own elect, which cry day and night unto him, though he bear long with them?"

That's why He gave us the gift of long-suffering.

Lk 18:8 "I tell you that he will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?"

That's the thing that concerns me. I'm going to tell you. The way that things are going now, I mean some guy just decided to have a makeover and become a "woman." It's going to be on the news for the next two or three months. Now they have a documentary that is going to be out. As soon as that news dies down, they are going to keep that thing surfacing. Every time somebody comes out of the closet and are talking about how:

"I'm gay. I'm lesbian. I'm bisexual."

Now you have children saying:

"I'm gay. I'm lesbian. I'm bisexual."

You have people who say:

"That's the way my mind works."

The only people who are crying out against this stuff are believers in Messiah. But now people are coming after them. Now they have people in their own families coming out. Now what are you going to do? And then when the church, the Pope, the President, the diocese and everybody else says:

"We're going to make a place for them."

Pretty soon you begin to evolve in your thinking. The politicians are going to ride it. You've got people who were against it at one time and now they are for it because of a large population of voters — and they control a lot of money. What one group doesn't have control over, a whole other group has control over. Both groups are opposed to the Almighty and His Messiah.

It's going to get a little rough. The only thing that is going to save us is our faith in Messiah; looking to the coming of Messiah and crying out:

"Lord, come quickly!"

That's the way some of us are going to cry. I remember a few years ago, I said:

"Father, you know, this would be a good time to take me right now."

You know, when you are going through, things are tough. Things are rough and you can't see your way through.

"Father, do you know what? I think I'd like to leave!"

And He says:

"Oh No! Oh No, the best is yet to come!" If you're going through hell, don't stop!

- <u>2 Ti 3:1</u> "This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come."
- <u>2 Ti 3:2</u> "For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,"

Paul wrote this in the first century — first century — twenty centuries ago.

- <u>2 Ti 3:1</u> "This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come."
- <u>2 Ti 3:2</u> "For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,"
- 2 Ti 3:3 "Without natural affection,"

Those are the gays and the lesbians and the bisexuals and the whoremongers. They are not satisfied with one wife. They have to have two or three.

"...trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good,"

There are going to be people who hate your guts simply because you are trying to live holy. That's all you are doing. The only crime you are committing is keeping the days holy; keeping the Sabbath holy, honoring the feasts and the festivals and not doing stuff on the Sabbath that they want you to do.

Because you won't play with them and go with them and do what they are doing; because you've decided that you are going to try to live holy to be pleasing to your Elohim who they say is their Elohim, they are going to despise you just like they despised the only righteous man who ever walked the earth who committed no sin. Do you think you won't be despised? You've got another thing coming.

If you are going to be despised, why shut up? Be like the blind man.

"Shut up!"

"Yeshua!!"

"I said, shut UP!"

"YE-SHUA!!"

The more they told him to shut up, the louder he got. That's how we have to be.

"What do you mean I'm not welcome? I'll invite myself. This IS a family reunion, right?"

"They didn't invite me."

"Do you really want to go? Go! You don't need an invitation."

Now what are you going to do when you get there?

"YE-SHUA!!"

You become the life of the party — really they'll throw you out of there, but Hey, they heard his name!

"I'll say the grace!"

"Hold hands! Let's just lock 'em down, right now."

"YeHoVaH! Our Elohim! Save these heathens!"

"You know I love them and I know You love them too. But you know that they have rejected You and I don't want any of them to burn in the Lake of Fire!"

Just take over the party! That's how bold you have to be, you know. The righteous will be BOLD – not timid. They are not waiting on an invitation. Now you just can't go to anybody's house, but a family reunion? Unless you have received your disowned family paper; unless they have taken your name off of the family register, you see. Now at the church? It's a whole other ballgame. They just told you:

"You're not part of our family any more."

- 2 Timothy 3:4. I want to finish this.
  - <u>2 Ti 3:4</u> "Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God;"
  - 2 Ti 3:5 "Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away."
  - <u>2 Ti 3:6</u> "For of this sort are they which creep into houses, and lead captive silly women laden with sins, led away with divers lusts,"
  - 2 Ti 3:7 "Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth."
  - <u>2 Ti 3:8</u> "Now as Jannes and Jambres withstood Moses, so do these also resist

the truth: men of corrupt minds, reprobate concerning the faith."

Paul went further in writing to Timothy saying:

<u>2 Ti 4:1</u> "I charge thee therefore before God, and the Messiah Yeshua, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom;"

Paul is reminding Timothy to remember that Yeshua is coming back.

"Remember him. Remember that.

2 Ti 4:2 "Preach the word;"

This is the response to that information.

"...be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine."

Every opportunity you get, share your faith. Every opportunity you get, if anybody is willing to talk to you, listen and then share.

<u>2 Ti 4:3</u> "For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;"

This is exactly what was being done in Paul's day. When he wrote to the Corinthians, some say:

"I am of Philip or I am of Cephas."

"I am of Paul."

"I am of Yeshua."

"I am of Apollo."

"This is my favorite teacher."

"That's my favorite teacher."

#### Truth Is Truth

There are a lot of favorite teachers out there. People have a lot of favorite teachers. There are people that they support and there are people that they don't support. They support the people that they believe in — the people who are ministering the way they think that ministers should minister.

The ones who aren't ministering the way they think they should minister; they are not going to support. They are just not going to. I will tell you something. People can't take it like it is. But we're going to tell people what I believe the truth is; what David believes the truth is, what Ephraim believes the truth is. And when Sharon preaches, she is going to bring it. Do you understand what I am saying?

We are obligated if we are going to serve Him. We are obligated to bring truth. And guess what? If you bring truth and people don't want to hear truth, they are going to want to kill the messenger. The only way they can stop the message is to kill the messenger. There are a lot of ways to kill the messenger.

The main way people try to kill messengers today is that they demonize them. They want to turn people against them. They want to say things behind closed doors and smile in your face like everything is cool — until you call them out. Then when they come out, you see that they are venomous. The stuff that they have been carrying all along,

they just dump and say. Do you understand what I am saying?

The bottom line is that what you have been called to do, do it. Do it! You don't need somebody's permission to fulfill the call of the Almighty. They didn't call you and you don't have to give an account to them. Now there is accountability. If people come to you and they say things to you and you discern that what they are saying is true, accept it.

But just because they gave you one or two things that are true, it doesn't mean that everything that they said is true. You have to take the truth that they are giving you in the midst of all of the other stuff. Don't focus on the other stuff and ignore the truth. People will focus on the other stuff and reject the truth because of the other stuff.

"Because you brought me that mess, I discount everything else you say."

No, truth is truth! If you get corrected, take correction. If you get rebuked, take rebuke and adjust. Truth is truth. Take it. All of the other stuff — that is why you have to be discerning. We wrestle not against flesh and blood.

<u>2 Ti 4:4</u> "And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables."

### Then Peter writes:

- <u>2 Pe 3:1</u> "This second epistle, beloved, I now write unto you; in both which I stir up your pure minds by way of remembrance:"
- 2 Pe 3:2 "That ye may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the

holy prophets, and of the commandment of us the apostles of the Lord and Saviour:"

<u>2 Pe 3:3</u> "Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days <u>scoffers</u>, walking after their own lusts,"

<u>2 Pe 3:4</u> "And saying, 'Where is the promise of his coming?'"

"You all have been preaching that stuff ever since I was born! My grandmama preached it. My great-grandma and them preached it. They've been preaching this for the last twenty centuries. Where is he?"

<u>2 Pe 3:4</u> "...for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation."

Peter is writing. He says:

"Listen, it's been this way ever since the beginning."

The word there is "a mocker, a scoffer." Has anybody in this room been mocked for your faith? They are mocking you – scoffers.

<u>2 Pe 3:5</u> "For this they willingly are ignorant"

I'm glad I didn't write this!

<u>2 Pe 3:5</u> "For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water;"

<u>2 Pe 3:6</u> "Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished:"

He is going back to the day of Noah.

<u>2 Pe 3:7</u> "But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men."

You see, they were saying that in the day of Noah. Before they even realized it, it was like:

"How can a man preach for over a hundred years and only eight people get saved?"

Now, that's the thing that is hard to believe. But we have the written testament. Noah preached and preached and preached and preached. Out of his entire generation of millions of people, only eight people were saved.

Peter is reminding his audience:

"Don't forget. When Yeshua comes, it's going to be like the day of Noah."

What is he trying to help us remember? You see, historians want to tell us that Noah and the ark and the flood never happened. A lot of people believe it. If they don't believe it, those who say that there may be some truth to it, don't think about it. But Yeshua said that same time is going to be upon us and our generation.

People are going to be marrying and given in marriage. You are going to have folks celebrating their birthdays and their Mother's days and their anniversaries and their Bar Mitzvahs and Bat Mitzvahs. There are going to be people who are going to churches and doing all of the things that people do.

<u>2 Pe 3:7</u> "But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word..."

The same word. The same word.

"...are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men."

<u>2 Pe 3:8</u> "But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day."

You see, what is he saying? It is like you know — counting the days, we are supposed to do. But be careful when you begin to attribute certain things to come based on the reasons and rational of men. Now let me tell you something.

Yeshua may very well come on the Day of Trumpets. He may very well come on the Day of Trumpets. But is he bound to? Because if I'm looking for him on the Day of Trumpets, then that is when I will be looking for him. And if he comes on any other day other than the Day of Trumpets, guess what? He's going to come like a thief in the night. Again, I'm not arguing whether he will or whether he won't, so don't say:

"Bailey said he's not coming on the Day of Trumpets."

Read my lips: *He may come on the Day of Trumpets*. But that is not guaranteed. If you have narrowed it down to the Day of Trumpets, then you can now determine the precise day he would come. Some have him coming on the Day of Trumpets in 2016. Some have him coming on the Day of Trumpets in 2021. Some have him coming — some

have had him come on the Day of Trumpets in years gone by. There have been a lot of people who have left here and it wasn't the Day of Trumpets. So even if he does come on the Day of Trumpets, it doesn't mean that we are all going to die on the Day of Trumpets. He can come for you at any time.

<u>2 Pe 3:9</u> "The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to usward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance."

You see, this is the first part of the gospel — repentance. Father is calling the world to repentance. Our role is to call the world to repentance by bringing the gospel of the Kingdom. When a person hears the true gospel of the Kingdom, do you know what they are going to say?

"Woe is me."

When they say that, do you know what they are saying?

"The way that I am living my life right now is not right."

If I acknowledge that the way that I am living my life right now is not right, that means that I have to change. What's that? Repentance.



# Chapter 9

# Holiness Is The Answer

<u>2 Pe 3:10</u> "But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up."

<u>2 Pe 3:11</u> "Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness,"

You see, it is for this reason that we must determine in our hearts to live a lifestyle of holiness. We really don't have a choice, as the Almighty has called us to be holy. He has called us to be holy because He is holy. He wants us to dwell with Him and He wants to dwell within us. He can't dwell in the midst of unholiness.

He can't dwell in the midst of us if we are living a life that is contrary to the way He has called us to live. If we are living contrary to His way of life, then is it any wonder that people can't feel His presence? They don't know His purpose for them. They don't hear His voice even though they are going to churches and synagogues and shuls and assemblies and congregations. He is calling us to live holy. Let me tell you something. When you make your mind up to live holy, you have to look to the author and finisher of your faith to know how to do that. That is where the relationship comes in. He's going to show you. He's going to bring correction. He's going to reveal things to you that hey, it's one thing to recognize that:

"I've got some issues."

"What are you going to do about it?"

Are you going to sweep them under the rug? Are you going to act like:

"Ha ha, uh, well, praise the Lord. That's just the way I am."

No. He is showing us things about ourselves so that we will make the necessary adjustments and corrections and move on. It is not to sit in the corner and weep in sorrow and mourn and grieve and beat yourself up. It is like He revealed it to you, so repent. Make the correction. Some people look at that and say:

"Well, do you know what? That's too quick."

Well, how quick does repentance take? How much time does it take to change your mind? Now once you've changed your mind, guess what? Your life is going to reflect it.

<u>2 Pe 3:12</u> "Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of Elohim, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?"

<u>2 Pe 3:13</u> "Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness."

<u>2 Pe 3:14</u> "Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things,"

Seeing that you look for such things. Those that are looking for such things:

"...be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless."

<u>2 Pe 3:15</u> "And account that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you;"

#### When he said this:

<u>Eph 5:25</u> "Husbands, love your wives, even as Messiah loved the <u>ekklesia</u>, and gave himself for it."

This is the comparison:

<u>Eph 5:26</u> "That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,"

You see, what is going to clean you is the word. What is going to wash you is the word. Giving somebody your formula for salvation is not going to clean them. Sharing the word with them will help them – speaking the truth; not traditions.

<u>Eph 5:27</u> "That he might present it to himself a glorious ekklesia, not having **spot**,"

Now notice. It seems as if Peter is using this same terminology "without spot and blameless." Then Paul comes along and says:

"Not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that it should be holy and without blemish."

You see, you can go to church. You can keep the Sabbath. You can do all of this, but if you are not trying to live holy; if you are not trying to get your act cleaned up and to allow His word to clean you up, then what is it all for? You can go through the motions if you want. But see, he is coming back. He is looking for a congregation; assembly, an ekklesia, a called-out one, a set-apart one who are saying:

"Father I know I'm not there yet. I'm not there yet, but I am doing everything I know to be ready. And when you reveal something to me; when you search my heart and you show me something, I'm not making excuses for it. I'm going to work on it."

"I know I've messed up in the past. I know I've said some things and I've done some things that I know are not pleasing. But I am so thankful there is now no condemnation for them who are living in Messiah."

"I admit the fact that I have made some mistakes and I'm doing everything I know. I

can't go back and undo what has been done. But one thing I do know. From this day forward; from this day forward, from this very day, I can do everything within my power to live holy and blameless; to live Godly. To do everything within me to live at peace with all people."

"I am not going to make excuses for the sloppiness of my past life. I'm not going to make excuses for how I used to live. I'm not going back like a dog to his vomit; like a pig wallowing in the mire just because something doesn't go the way I want it to go."

"I'm not trying You! I believe in You! So this is not a trial. This is a way of life that I have chosen because I have come to know who You are."

You see, people who are "trying" Jesus; people who are "trying" God, don't have a clue as to who He is. Somebody told them to come to the altar and shake the preacher's hand. Now their name is "written in the Lamb's book of life."

Really? How do you write somebody's name in the Lamb's book of life? No, they are written on your church roll! Your church is NOT the Kingdom! You can call it the Kingdom of God if you want. There are churches out there called "the Cathedral of God," "the Kingdom of God, the "Kingdom of God" ministry.

Okay, that's a nice, wonderful name. But he says:

<u>Eph 5:27</u> "...a glorious ekklesia, not having <u>spot</u>, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and **without blemish**."

The word here is *spilos*, meaning: a spot, a fault, moral blemish; immoral. Any area of your life that is immoral. The word blemish is *amomos*; without blemish, as a sacrifice without spot or blemish; morally without blemish, faultless, without blame.

You see, in order for that Lamb to be sacrificed, that Lamb had to be spotless. When those things that were presented to the Almighty – so when Paul talks about:

"I beseech you brothers by the mercies of Elohim that you present yourself as a living sacrifice,"

The priest couldn't bring spotted and blemished sacrifices to present to the Almighty. He is saying:

"Listen. You present your body as a living sacrifice. You clean it up! Get the spots out. Get the wrinkles out. Get the blemishes out. Stop making excuses! You're not like the world! You are supposed to be holy!"

"I've called you to be holy."

"Live like it!"

"Accept it."

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this 4-DVD teaching, Arthur Bailey expounds on each blessing; summarizes Blessings 28 the Deuteronomy 28. and identifies what these blessings look like in our day and time. You will learn how these blessings manifest and the importance of living Torah-observant. Spiritfilled life in order experience the fullness of the "The Blessings 28 of Deuteronomy 28."

Approximately 5 hrs.

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the Firstfruits Offerings; when they are to presented, and whv Firstfruits Offerings are so important! You will also learn the prayer that is recited during this offering vital which assures the blessing of prosperity upon those who present this offering unto YeHoVaH.

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Feast of Firstfruits

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"Hear, O Israel" is a call for ALL of the People Of YeHoVaH to and Hear to Obev His Commands. Often times when people hear the word "Israel," they think "Jews." Israel consists of 12 tribes; the Jews are only one of those tribes. In this eveengaging and lifeopening, teaching "Hear. changing Israel," Arthur Bailey explains indepth of Yeshua's response and the benefits of what it really means to Hear and to Obey! Approximately 2.5 hrs.



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In this dynamic, life-changing teaching: "How To Hear God's

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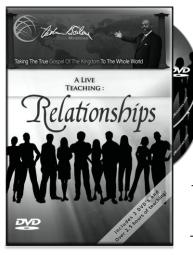
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Voice," author and teacher

- Why YeHoVaH communicates with His people
- Why he wants you to hear His voice
- How to identify His voice from others
- Where He most likely speaks to you

And so much more! Approximately 5.5 hrs.

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In this 2-DVD teaching series, Arthur Bailey presents from scripture how the relationships in our lives must be categorized and prioritized according to their importance. You will learn:

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- How to categorize and prioritize your relationships according to scripture
- How to identify and rectify wrong relationships

And so much more! Approximately 2.5 hrs.

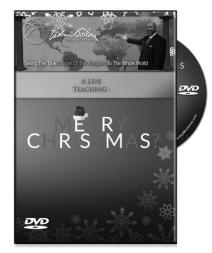
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Join Arthur Bailey explains the parable taught by Yeshua after having shared with his disciples about the Gospel of the Kingdom being preached to the whole world before the end comes. Yeshua gives a parable about three servants who were given specific talents. What distinguished the wise servant from the wicked servant in this determined by parable was what they did with the talents had they been given. Approximately 1.5 hrs.



Maximizing Your Talents 1 DVD - \$15.00

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1 DVD - \$15.00 Merry Christmas?



The ReNEWed Covenant is 1.5 hours of instruction. In this

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The ReNEWed Covenant and the significant power that is

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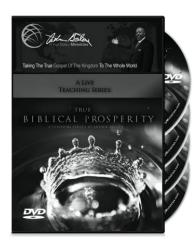
In this powerful 4-DVD teaching "The Power of The Holy Spirit," author and teacher Arthur Bailey reveals the prerequisites all believers must meet to be filled with the Holy Spirit and power. What is this power Yeshua spoke of? Is this power still available for the disciples of Yeshua today? How can the disciples of Yeshua operate in this power today? These and many other questions



will be answered in this fascinating and informative teaching series. Approximately 5.5 hrs.

The Power of the Holy Spirit

4 DVDs - \$45.00



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- Is Poverty a Curse?
- Can Believers be Prosperous?
- What does the Bible Teach about Prosperity?
- What is True Biblical Prosperity?

What you believe about prosperity will determine what you can and cannot receive

from YeHoVaH. This teaching series will leave you with a wealth of information. It will help you understand why YeHoVaH wants His people to be *Prosperous* and what *True Biblical Prosperity* looks like! Approximately 5.5 hrs.

*True Biblical Prosperity* 4 DVDs – \$45.00



The Church world has taken a conversation Yeshua had with a Pharisee at night, and built powerhouse ministries teaching a gospel message of "salvation" and altar calls. Many sermons have been taught about being born again and what it should mean to believers today. But what does *John 3:16* really teach us within the context it is written? Like many other biblical passages, this

much-quoted verse is taught and preached in a manner that has become isolated from the passage context in which it was originally written. Approximately 2.5 hrs.

You Must Be Born Again 2 DVDs - \$25.00

Paul wrote in the book of Romans, "But God commendeth his love toward us. in that. while we were sinners, Messiah died for us." God demonstrated His love for us by giving His only begotten Son to die for our sins. How can we show our love for God? In this 4-DVD teaching, Arthur Bailey will take you on a journey through the greatest love story ever written. and what response to the love of God



should be. It is more than just a story of salvation. It is a story of love; of overcoming, of victory, and of power. Approx. 5.5 hrs.

*The Love of God* 4 DVDs – \$45.00



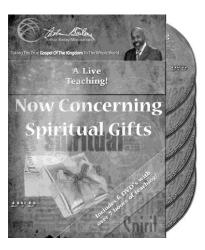
The Fall Feasts of YeHoVaH is a 6-DVD set with over 6.5 hours of series include teaching. This teachings The Feast on Trumpets/Yom Teruah, Day of Atonement/Yom Kippur, Feast of Tabernacles/Sukkot and The Last Great Day/Shemini Atzeret. The introduction to the Fall Feasts will not only provide insight and understanding of the prophetic shadow pictures of good things to come; it will also help us understand how to celebrate these

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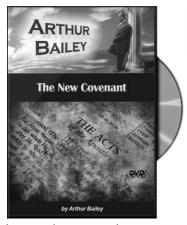
teaching. Many hours of suggest that the gifts of the Spirit have ceased to be in operation, just as they also insist that the Law is done away with. Among those who accept and teach that the spiritual gifts of the Bible are still operational today, many have abused and misused these gifts in their assembly; similar to those in the days of the Corinthian assembly Paul wrote to correct — thus the controversy! In this series,



Arthur Bailey takes the mystery out of manifesting spiritual gifts and empowers believers.

Now Concerning Spiritual Gifts 6 DVDs - \$65.00

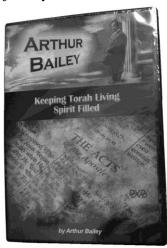
The New Covenant — When did the New Covenant begin? Join Arthur Bailey as he journeys inside the first Jerusalem Council as the Apostles, Elders and Ruach Ha Kodesh (Holy Spirit) "discuss" how to deal with a false teaching circulating that was among believers. Arthur Bailey is a spiritfilled. New Covenant minister who boldly teaches the Hebrew Roots of the Christian faith. He takes the confusion Out of



covenants that are as important today as they were long ago. Includes two episodes.

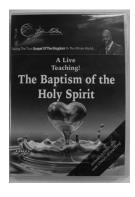
The New Covenant 1 DVD - \$15.00

Keeping Torah Living Spirit Filled. Join Arthur Bailey as he journeys inside the first Jerusalem Council as the Apostles,



Elders and Ruach Ha Kodesh "discuss" how to deal with a false teaching that was circulating among the believers and how to incorporate the Gentile converts into the newly formed Messianic community. This teaching will deepen your understanding of the early Hebrew culture and strengthen your walk in Yeshua Messiah. Three episodes. About 1.5 hours of teaching.

<u>Keeping Torah Living Spirit Filled</u> 1 DVD – \$15.00



The Baptism of the Holy Spirit — Yeshua said in Acts 1 verse 5:

"For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence."

And in verse 8: "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost parts of the earth."

When we are baptized with the Holy Spirit, we receive power and authority not just to speak for YeHoVaH, but to demonstrate His power! In this 4-DVD teaching series, you will learn what is the true evidence of the baptism of the Holy Spirit and so much more! A must-have for every true believer who wants to walk in their authority. Over 5 hours of teaching!

4 DVDs - \$45.00 The Baptism of the Holy Spirit

Walking in the Power of the Holy Spirit; My Testimony. Join Arthur Bailey as he shares experiences and unique insights in this perceptive, sometimes hilarious and instructive journey through his ministry spanning more than three decades. He generously shares his life-changing adventures of discovering and tapping back into the roots of the faith that he has long preached with boldness. As a

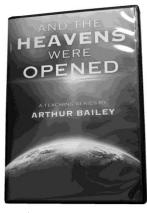


former pastor and teacher in five different denominations before coming to the true faith of the Kingdom of YeHoVaH, his unique story is priceless and required listening for those who desire to enhance their own walk in Torahobedience and in Yeshua Messiah. About 1.5 hours of teaching.

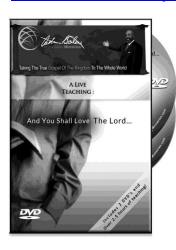
Walking in the Power of the Holy Spirit; My Testimony

1 DVD - \$20.00

And The Heavens Were Opened. In this 3-DVD series, Arthur Bailey takes you on an in-depth, inspiring journey through Shavuot, Yom Teruah and Hanukkah to reveal the importance of these biblical events for today's Spirit-filled believer in Yeshua. Learn more about operating in the gifts of the Holy Spirit, the works of Yeshua Messiah and the rededication of the second temple at Hanukkah. About 4.5 hours of teaching.



And The Heavens Were Opened 3 DVDs - \$35.00



And You Shall Love The Lord... The Creator of the Universe demonstrated His love for us by sacrificing His only begotten Son for the sins of man. The Love of God is a gift! You cannot earn it. You do not deserve it. You cannot buy it. So how do we demonstrate our love for God? Often when sharing the Gospel of Yeshua (the Gospel Yeshua taught not the Gospel "about Jesus"), the subject of the "Law" comes up. Yeshua clearly stated that he did not come to do

away with or to abolish the Law (*Matthew 5:17*). Yet people still argue that we must only "love" YeHoVaH with all of our heart, mind, soul and strength. Are we doing that? What does loving God look like? The Bible instructs us how YeHoVaH wants us to show our love for Him. Learn the truth and find answers to many questions you won't learn from religion. About 2.5 hours of teaching.

<u>And You Shall Love The Lord...</u> 2 DVDs – \$25.00



In this 2-DVD set, learn about how according to *Acts 15*, a major challenge existed which confronted the newly formed Messianic community. Arthur Bailey journeys inside the first Jerusalem Council where the Apostles, Elders and the Ruach Ha Kodesh "discussed" how to deal with a false teaching that was circulating among the early believers and how to incorporate Gentile converts into the newly formed

Messianic community. Many traditional Jewish believers in Yeshua struggled with how to go from a totally ethnic Jewish religious community to one which included non-Hebrew people who were unfamiliar with the rich heritage and traditions formed by the Pharisees and handed down by the Elders. This teaching will deepen and strengthen your spiritual walk in Yeshua Messiah as you learn more about the history of the early calledout ones of faith. 2 episodes.

What Do We Do With Those Gentiles? 1 DVD - \$15.00

Today there is as much confusion about being "Messianic" as there is on certain issues across denominational Christianity. As more and more people's eyes are opened to the faith once delivered to the saints and new believers are being added the family of to YeHoVaH, it is vitally important that they get started on the path the right way. In this very important teaching, Arthur Bailey shares what every new



believer must know to live a power-filled, successful life in the Kingdom of YeHoVaH. You will learn who you are in Messiah, the importance of the faith, the baptism of the Holy Spirit, how to properly respond to the Sabbath argument, the dietary laws, Feast Days and much more! About 2 hours of teaching.

Messianic 101: "The Essentials" 2 DVDs - \$25.00

The DVDs listed in this book are just a sampling of the many teaching DVDs and online teaching videos and other products offered by Arthur Bailey Ministries. All of our teachings are packed with scriptural references and are presented in a manner to encourage, strengthen and enhance your spiritual journey to help you grow to maturity in Messiah Yeshua.

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Learn important truths such as who are our true family and how the Christian gospel is teaching lawlessness as you delve into the story of Yeshua's ongoing ministry. Discover how true believers and today's messengers of the gospel of Yeshua are called to holiness and how now more than ever, there is much work yet to be done.



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