## Arthur Bailey Ministries Presents



# **GALATIANS**

An Epistle of Paul

A Commentary

Book 4 • Teachings 22-28

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An Epistle of Paul
A Commentary • Book 4

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# Class Twenty-Two

Father knows all.
We should be prophets.
How much is Spirit?
Are we qualified?
Sin is death.
Spiritual judgment
Die to self.

### **Righteous judgment**

Halleluyah! Some of you know that there is a couple who, according to their testimony, have been assigned as prophets in my life. I have never met them. I don't know what they look like, but from time to time I get a message from them. As I walked into the back today, I received one of those messages. Sometimes I just like to share them; especially the short, sweet ones. This one came to me. It is a real short word, but it comes out of *Exodus* 33. For those of you who remember, there was a point where Moses was asking the Almighty to show himself. Moses wanted to see the Almighty. The Almighty responded to him in a certain way. This word that came to me this morning from Uganda simply says:

"Deviate not your courage and determination. I will make all my goodness pass before you and I will proclaim the name of the Lord before you. I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious and I will have compassion upon whom I will have compassion; declares your merciful God."

There are times when words come to me. It seems like it is always a timely message. I wonder sometimes how that is, and I should probably know better. Notice that I said *probably*. I wonder how it is that these words will come to me at certain times from such a far away place from someone I have never met.

As I have stood here and ministered to people; I have no idea what folks are going through, but Father knows. He knows. He has a way of communicating to others through those who are yielded to him. He will use you to communicate his heart to someone else, just as he will use someone else to communicate his heart to us. The beauty of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit in a sense is that it puts us all in a place where we can hear from the Almighty.

What did he say? When the Spirit has been given, sons and daughters will do what? They will prophesy. Prophecy is the ability to hear and to speak the words that the Almighty speaks to us. You will notice that in the book, the prophets didn't come up with their own prophecies to prophesy. They spoke on behalf of the Almighty.

When the Spirit was taken off of Moses and placed onto the seventy, they began to prophesy. When the young man ran out of the camp and said:

"Eldad and Medad are in the camp and they are prophesying. You ought to make them stop!"

Moses inquired of them as to why they felt that way and for whose sake? Then he made this unique statement:

"I wish that all of YeHoVaH's people were prophets."

The Spirit of the Almighty puts us in a place where we can prophesy. We may all prophesy. Every one of us has the capacity to speak for him. I have to tell you that to this day I still have to work at that. That is because there are still voices in my head. There are voices of other people. There are voices such as my own voice. There is the voice of my past. There is his voice. I have to distinguish all of these voices from one another to hone in on his voice.

This is why I spent the time to do the teaching that I did on *How To Hear God's Voice*. To me, this is probably the most important teaching that I have ever done besides the book that I wrote about the Sabbath day titled: *Sunday Is Not The Sabbath?* I believe that the Sabbath is the threshold to all of this. It is not the threshold to hearing his voice, but it is the threshold to gaining the understanding and to begin to narrow in on hearing his voice.

Many of us have heard his voice and not known that we have heard it. I remember when I went to Israel and Russia and even as I was in London. I have been thinking about how to do this. I did a unique teaching that was simply the Spirit leading me and teaching it. It was a revised version of this particular teaching, but this is more exhaustive in teaching than anything that I have done since I have been somewhere else teaching it.

I have had the privilege of being able to teach a four-part lesson on the subject to all of you. Whereas when I am out traveling, I only have a window of time to get as much information as I possibly can, crammed into that window. You are all more fortunate. I also feel that in those condensed versions, I can get to the heart of the matter a lot more quickly; whereas with you all, you have a lot more information to work with.

This is so important; especially for those who believe they are called to ministry. It is so easy to minister out of your spirit, out of your head, out of your intellect or out of your study. It is so important that as we are ministering to YeHoVaH's people that we are giving them what he wants them (and us) to have.

Today we are moving forward in this Book of *Galatians*. We are in part 22 in chapter 6. I want to go back though to chapter 5 because the last couple of verses in chapter 5 transition into chapter 6. In verse 24 it says this:

Galatians 5:24 – "And they that are Messiah's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts."

Ladies and gentlemen, Paul puts things into plain, simple terms, but his audience had a much better understanding of what was said than we do. This means that we now have to research what Paul is saying. When he speaks to the people that he is speaking to and for the ones that he is writing to; for several of them he has had the opportunity to go into detail so that when he says something, they know exactly what he is talking about.

It is almost like the relationship that they have is this. Do you know how when you have spent time with people, you have had a chance to know them to the point where you can say key phrases or statements and they can actually finish your thoughts? We don't have the privilege of having that kind of relationship with Paul. Paul didn't have the privilege of having that kind of

relationship with us. This means that if we really want to understand Paul from an intimate level, we can't just look at a verse or two or even a particular book. We have to look at Paul in his entirety in order to understand him.

What Paul has communicated in *Galatians*, he has communicated in another way in *Colossians*. He has communicated it in a different way in *Ephesians*. He has communicated it in *Corinthians* and in *Thessalonians* and in *Timothy*. If we pull all of this together, we can see why when we look at the gospel (if we only read one gospel); we will only get a piece of Messiah's ministry. If you read *Matthew*, you will get one piece of his ministry. If you read *Mark*, you get another piece. If you read *Luke*, you get another piece. If you read *John*, you get another piece. Now you can kind of put it all together to get a better understanding of what Messiah taught in full. Otherwise you are left taking a piece and trying to figure out the fullness when the fullness is laid there before us. It just takes time to work through it.

Galatians 5:24 – "And they that are Messiah's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts."

You see, that is where the affections and lusts are. They are in the flesh. It is in the flesh. I remember that in the churches that I came up in, they called it "worldly." It was the worldly flesh. Sometimes people would shorten up the worldly flesh into "flush." They would say:

"There ain't nothing good in that flush."

That is how it was said where I came from I came from Mississippi. Even some Northerners say it like that. Whenever we or I hear "flesh," we have to think of ourself as a person. I encourage you to think of yourself as a person.

I have spent a great deal of my life lying to myself. The reason why I think that I spent a great deal of my life lying to myself was because I was communicating to myself in a way so that I could try to understand and justify my actions and behavior. It was so that I could try to satisfy myself and feel good about myself.

I also have to admit that for a large portion of my life, I didn't feel good about myself. I think that people should be honest. I spent a lot of time in life trying to impress other people. Sometimes I even tried to impress myself. Do you know what I am saying? You want to project an image. You want people to see you in a certain way, even if that person is not who you are. We do this in elementary school, in middle school and oh man, it was "on" in high school.

You are not much different than that person in middle school and elementary school and high school. You are just a grown-up version of that person. If you are not careful, you will continue to live your life in the manner of trying to impress other people. You will do it in your relationships. You will do it in your home. You will do it on your job. You will do it in this community. That is because you want to put your best self forward. You don't necessarily want people to know your "dirt." You don't want people to look at you as if you are "dirty." You want people to see you in a way where they can relate to you and accept you. If you will notice, at the same time, you only gravitate towards certain people.

Father sees us in our nakedness. He sees us in all of our dirt. He sees us in all of our filth. He sees all of the things about us. He is saying:

"Listen. You're dirty. You're filthy. Let me clean you up."

In the process of trying to present our best self to people, we spend more time with people than we spend with him. While we are spending time with people, if we are not in tune with him, we are not hearing him as he is trying to communicate to us. We are busy trying to present our best self.

It is sad when you start believing what you are saying. I see this in the world, all of the time. A person says something that is positive or something that resonates with people and they see it. It is like when you have a little child. A child does something funny and you laugh. Do you notice how they then start trying to make you laugh? When they do something and they see that it gets a reaction from you, they have now identified a way to get a reaction from you.

That is the way that we are. We are just big children who are trying to get a reaction. When we get into relationships and get to know people (especially if we want to provoke someone); we will tend to become skilled at provoking. We have become skilled at silencing. We have become skilled at backing people up. We have become skilled at putting a barrier around ourselves and keeping people out and only letting the people in that we want to let in.

How did we become so skilled? We have mastered our lives from that child to that toddler to that elementary, middle and high school person. All of this has been done without the assistance of the Spirit. Most of us come into the word fully formed. We have come with our behavior patterns and structures already in place. Although we know right from wrong, we don't always do what is right. We do what feels good. For example, the biggest hindrance to getting into the right place with YeHoVaH is *music*.

Music keeps many people stuck in a certain place. While we are on the subject of music, let me say this. Everything is spiritual, everything. There is nothing that is not spiritual. Everything that is in the earth, originated from the Spirit. There is Spirit and there is natural. The natural is the result of what has already occurred in the Spirit.

Everything is inspired by something. Everything is inspired by a spirit; every action that you have and every thought that you meditate upon. Everything that you do is inspired by a spirit. We have to identify what spirit is inspiring the behavior or the action or even these words.

One of the ways you can identify the spirit behind something is to listen to the words that are being spoken. How many of you in this room believe that you are filled with the Spirit? Don't be afraid. It is not a trick question. It is not a trick question!

Is everything that you do inspired by the Holy Spirit? Now, we can admit that everything that we do is not inspired by the Holy Spirit. Let's start looking at percentages. Is 90% of what you do inspired by the Holy Spirit? I am not asking what you are trying for. I am asking for the reality. The first thing that we have to do is identify where we are. I am not trying to identify you as much as I am trying to identify myself. Believe it or not, it is easier for me to try to work on you because it distracts me from having to work on myself. I would rather work on you, but I have learned that that is futile.

Working on other people is not going to get you very far. In order for me to work on myself, I have to first identify where I am. If I am going to create an effective plan to get here; if my goal is here, then I have to see what the distance is that I am from here. Am I 90 miles? Am I 100 miles? Am I up close? Am I far off? The only way that I can do that is that I start monitoring my behavior and actions to see how much of my behavior and actions are being inspired by the Holy Spirit. If I am unwilling to do this assessment, I am never going to get there. I am not even trying to get there. I don't even know where I am in proximity to there and I really don't care because I am not working on it. I just feel good knowing that this is somewhere in the midst.

So I have to assess myself. I have to see the percentage. Is 80% of my behavior inspired by the Spirit? Is 70%? 50%? 40%? 30%? 10? 5? How much of my behavior; how much of my actions, my thoughts and my attitudes are inspired by him? What I am trying to figure out is where I am in proximity to where I am supposed to be. If I don't know where I am, I don't know how to work my way to this. Once I have identified it, I can now begin to see what the barriers are. What are the hindrances? What are the things? What are the people? What is in my life that is keeping me from getting there?

I do this every day. I do this with my career. I do it with my job if I want that promotion. If I want that position, then I need to do this, this and this. And if I have done this, this and this to get that position and they give somebody else that position, that bothers me. That is because I know that I have done everything that is required to get there. Am I doing that with this? [Arthur points to the Bible.]

I will do it if I want to get healthier. I will do it if I want to get smaller. I will do it if I want to get next to somebody. But what am I doing to get to here [word] and how far am I from it and what are the barriers? What are the hindrances? What are the things that are standing between that and me? Now I know the difficulty of the journey.

What happens if I recognize that I have some relationships that are hindering me from getting there? Well, how badly do I want to get there? Is this relationship more important to me than that? Until I am willing to do this, ladies and gentlemen, I have no idea where I am in my walk. What about you?

Galatians 5:25 - "If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit."

"How am I going to do that?"

First, are you living in the Spirit? Here is the thing, ladies and gentlemen. When you come into relationship with "God" (in all of his names), you are saying:

"I have now taken on a spiritual journey that I might become one in communion, in harmony and in unity with him."

I say that I am now working on conforming to his image; which requires some transformation. The only way that this transformation is going to take place is that I renew my mind in this word. But I have to identify how much of his image is already reflected in me. Is this making sense to anybody other than me? We are bringing it straight down the middle right now.

How do I know if I am walking in the Spirit? How do I know if I am even living in the Spirit? These are questions that you need to ask yourself. I am asking myself these questions. Everything that is said to me or at me in my presence and everything that is done to me that affects me; I have to assess with a renewed mind. If I don't have a renewed mind, then I am going to assess it with my unrenewed mind. Based on the mind that I am operating in, my response will be reflective of it. Sometimes I can't assess where I am spiritually until after the fact. That is when I start feeling bad. That is if I desire to be spiritual and holy and I do something that is not holy. Then I see that my action was an unholy action. Then I feel bad. I can live there; only able to assess my actions after the fact. If I live there, then I will go through life feeling badly about stuff that I have done.

I have to get onto this side of the action so that my walk is now a walk of spirit being led. It is proactive. It is not reactive. I have to decide whether I am going to cuss you out before I cuss

you out. I have to decide if I am going to get angry and belligerent before I get angry and belligerent; not after and I have said some things I am going to regret. I have put obstacles and hindrances in my path because I allowed my spirit to get carnal. You see, if my actions are carnal, then I might just be carnal. Why am I trying to convince myself that I am spiritual when everything that I do seems to be motivated by carnality? Do you see how we can lie to ourselves? We can lie to ourselves and convince ourselves that we aren't lying!

Galatians 5:26 – "Let us not be desirous of vain glory, provoking one another, envying one another."

Paul transitions into Galatians chapter 6.

Galatians 6:1 – "Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted."

Galatians 6:2 – "Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Messiah."

Galatians 6:3 – "For if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself."

Galatians 6:4 – "But let every man prove his own work, and then shall he have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another."

Galatians 6:5 - "For every man shall bear his own burden."

Galatians 6:6 – "Let him that is taught in the word communicate unto him that teacheth in all good things."

Galatians 6:7 – "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."

Galatians 6:8 – "For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting."

Galatians 6:9 – "And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not."

Galatians 6:10 – "As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all *men*, especially unto them who are of the household of faith."

Galatians 6:11 – "Ye see how large a letter I have written unto you with mine own hand."

Galatians 6:12 – "As many as desire to make a fair show in the flesh, they constrain you to be circumcised; only lest they should suffer persecution for the cross of Christ."

Galatians 6:13 – "For neither they themselves who are circumcised keep the law; but desire to have you circumcised, that they may glory in your flesh."

Galatians 6:14 – "But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world."

Galatians 6:15 - "For in Christ Jesus..."

I am doing this purposely [saying "Christ Jesus" versus Yeshua Messiah]. So if it is jiggling something inside of you, then I say to let it jiggle.

Galatians 6:15 – "For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision, but a new creature."

Galatians 6:16 - "And as many as walk according to this rule, peace *be* on them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God."

Galatians 6:17 – "From henceforth let no man trouble me: for I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus."

Galatians 6:18 – "Brethren, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ *be* with your spirit. Amen."

I wanted to read this entire chapter even though we will probably only get through two or three verses. It is interesting that at this particular point (after 22 weeks); we are at this particular place in the chapter. It is ironic how things work. I am going to tell you right now that we can spend our entire time on *Galatians* 6:1. We are not going to, but there are certain things here that we have to pick up. That is because if we aren't here, I guarantee you that if Yeshua tarries, at some point we will be here. In other words, let me just get to it.

Galatians 6:1 – "Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual,"

The reason why I went back into *Galatians* 5 was because Paul was talking about the works of the flesh and the fruit of the Spirit and how we who are of the Spirit are supposed to live in the Spirit. We are supposed to walk in the Spirit. This is what makes us spiritual. **If you are not spiritual, you are not qualified to restore anybody.** 

Galatians 6:1 – "Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual,"

What does he do? This very statement separates those who are spiritual from those who are not spiritual. Those who are not spiritual will judge, but their judgment won't be righteous. **How can a non-spiritual person judge righteously? You can't!** You can only judge by the carnal flesh that you are. People make judgments in their carnal state and not in their spiritual state. That is because even though they are sometimes spiritual or in the Spirit, they are not always walking by the Spirit.

Remember that in the last lesson, we discussed that you can be spiritual. You can live in the spirit and not walk by the Spirit or not walk in the Spirit. This is how saved people do stupid stuff. This is how believers do things that should not be named among believers. Does anybody know any folks who are like that? You can probably call out some names. But if your name isn't on the list; even if it is in a past tense...

Galatians 6:1 – "Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, <u>restore</u> such an one in the <u>spirit of meekness</u>; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted."

What is he saying? He is saying those who are overtaken. The word "overtaken" here [Greek: "prolambano"] means: someone who takes; to take before, to anticipate, to forestall. I like this next definition which says: to take one by forestalling (him i.e. before he can flee or conceal his crime).

There is a place for confidentiality. Confidentiality should never be used to conceal. There are examples in the religious world and in the legal world. Lawyers can have information about their clients that they don't have to speak about. That is lawyer-client confidentiality. They don't have a right to speak it. If they violate that, they can be disbarred.

Doctors have a level of confidentiality. This thing is so tight that it is to the point where a lawyer who is representing a spouse does not have to tell the other spouse anything; even though the other spouse may be paying the lawyer (unless it is a divorce decree). If it is something that is dealing with a legal matter, then the funds that are paying the lawyer are coming from the household funds (which consists of both individuals).

The husband goes to the lawyer to speak about what he is talking about to the wife. The lawyer is not under any obligation or legal position to say anything. It is the same way with a doctor. Unless you sign a waiver and specifically indicate who this doctor can talk to; even though it is your wife, husband, son or daughter, they have a Hippocratic Oath. They have an oath. They are bound by their oath and by their position to keep things from the other persons.

With ministers, it is the same thing. When a person confesses, they are not under any obligation; even when it comes to the law, except under certain conditions. Those certain conditions typically mean when this person is going to do harm to themselves or to someone else. Now that oath and confidentiality can be used against the person who is holding that confidence.

We have just seen this in certain situations that have happened in the local news and specifically in the state of South Carolina. It was a case where someone knew that someone was about to commit a crime. They didn't report the crime and people lost their lives as a result of the crime being committed. The person who had the confidentiality about the crime before it happened was now in court defending themself.

It can happen to a lawyer. It can happen to a doctor. It can even happen to a minister. Don't allow confidentiality to conceal wickedness. When someone comes to you to say something to you or to share something with you in confidence, it is typically because they are so weighed down by it that they have to tell somebody. They don't want you to say anything, but they can't keep it to themself. If you don't want somebody to know something, then why would you tell it to somebody even in confidence? That is because you can't hold it. It is troubling. It weighs you down.

This particular word is not just someone being overtaken in a fault. It gives the impression that you see them going down the road that is going to cause them problems. You see it. Have you ever seen people headed in a certain direction and you know the end of that journey was not going to be a good one but you didn't say anything? The prophet puts it this way:

"If you see calamity coming and you don't warn the people, their blood is on your hands."

That is what confidentiality will get you. You see it coming. Then after the fact when you see the carnage and all of its ugliness, you have a conviction of condemnation that you have to deal with. You are wishing that you had said something, but now it is too late. Don't let anybody put

you under that. If someone comes to you with something that you see is not a good path, it is your obligation to call them out! Give them time to come out. Otherwise what happens is that you become a partaker of their sin and of their unrighteousness. It is unfortunate that this happens. So, it is not just overtaken. They are headed down a path that is going to cause some problems but you say and do nothing. This is why being spiritual is going to have such an impact.

Paul gets to the point where he says:

"Listen, God is not mocked."

Don't *think* for a moment that you are going to violate the principles of YeHoVaH and *not* pay the price! What is wrong with you? You don't know him! **The wages of sin is death!** Now, either you believe that, or you don't. If you believe that, you are called to action. If you don't act, then do you honestly love the person that you are trying to protect?

Overtaken in a fault. The word "fault" here [Greek: "paraptoma"] means: to fall beside or near something; a lapse or deviation from truth and uprightness; a sin, misdeed. Usage: trespass, offense, sin, fall, fault.

Do you know people who are doing wrong to whom you are not only *not* saying anything, but you are not calling them out? When you know that people are doing wrong and you say something and call them out; do you know what it is going to do? It is going to cause them to come out or they are going to get away from you. People who don't want to do right; I don't want them around me anyway. Do you understand what I am saying? I don't! Why? That is because whatever is coming upon them is coming. Do I want to be in the proximity when it comes? If somebody is wearing a suicide bomber belt and I am not interested in being blown up and I know that they are wearing a suicide bomb, would I be hanging out with them? Would you?

#### When we start seeing sin as death, we will deal with it differently.

<u>Spiritual</u>. I love this word. It is "*pneumatikos*." It means: one who is filled with and governed by the Spirit of Elohim.

To be spiritual is to allow the Spirit of YeHoVaH to permeate your being. In order to do that, it means that I have to separate myself from carnal, fleshly emotions. The moment that I respond emotionally is the moment that I have moved into the carnal nature. The carnal man can't please YeHoVaH. Parents are good at it.

"But my baby!"

You would do anything for your baby; even lose your mind. I have seen people just lose their mind. Their mind goes blank. All they can think of is getting their baby. When I say "baby," should we be calling twenty-year-olds "babies?" They don't want you to call them "baby." I hear this especially from moms. I don't hear it a lot from dads, but I hear it from moms.

"They'll always be my baby."

"Really? Always be your baby?"

As long as they are your "baby," you are going to operate by motherly instinct. Motherly instinct is not always in line with the Holy Spirit. Some people know that their children are rapists and molesters and abusers and thieves. Because they have the wrong idea of "love," they put themselves in positions where that child that they are spending everything on to protect and

to keep out of trouble, ultimately ends up in trouble anyway. Now they are broke. They have lost everything and are now homeless.

I have seen people go homeless trying to help their children. They hock their houses. They hock their cars. They hock their 401Ks. They hock their retirement funds trying to save that hard-headed child. But once you have hocked everything, they are going to go and continue to be hard-headed.

That is not being spiritual. When we are spiritual, we deal with issues and bring correction. Let me tell you something folks. Whoever doesn't want their behavior to be corrected; the best thing that you can do is to get that person away from you or get away from them. You would be an innocent bystander and you won't be so innocent.

Paul had already indicated in chapter 5 that:

Galatians 5:25 - "If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit."

What does it mean to be spiritual? Paul lays it out. This is how we get to understand Paul and what he is saying. In several places (especially in *Galatians*) he suggested that people can live in the Spirit and not walk by the Spirit. Do you see what he just said?

Galatians 5:25 - "If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit."

You can live in the Spirit. I have heard people say stuff like how they are so heavenly-minded that they are no earthly good. It is as if you know that everything is "spiritual." Everything is spiritual, but the way it is displayed is not a biblical kind of spiritual. It is some kind of Pentecostal spiritual. It is some kind of Charismatic spiritual. It is some kind of religious spiritual. It is some kind of church-learned-behavior "spiritual" or some other spiritual that is learned behavior by some spirit other than the Holy Spirit.

When Paul wrote to the Corinthians, he called the Corinthian brothers "carnal." Guess what? Paul writes. Where do we learn about the gifts of the Spirit or the manifestations of the Spirit? Where are the nine gifts of the Spirit? What book of the Bible? Anybody? What chapter? It is in *1 Corinthians* 12 and *1 Corinthians* 14.

In *1 Corinthians* Paul talks about the gifts of healing, miracles, faith, tongues and the interpretation of tongues. He talks about discernment, wisdom, knowledge and prophecy. He talks about these nine specific manifestations that are the result of the Spirit operating within us. These are the manifestations or gifts of the Spirit. They are mentioned in *1 Corinthians* 12.

What does it say? It says that everything that we know about those particular gifts is found in the letter of Paul to the Corinthians, and yet he said that they were carnal. They were living in the Spirit and manifesting the gifts of the Spirit but they were carnal. *Carnal people can do spiritual stuff.* This is why the fruit of the Spirit is given to us. **It is so that we may be able to discern the tree.** There can be people who are doing miracles, signs and wonders, but who are carnal. That is what he said. I didn't say this.

He lays out the Spirit and the gifts and how to function because there was disorder. This is in *1 Corinthians* 14. They were not doing things in order. People were prophesying out of line. They were speaking in tongues any time they felt like it. There was no order, just craziness. What made them carnal? It was that everybody had their own favorite teacher. We shouldn't have favorite teachers. We should be seekers of truth. We should gravitate toward those who are teaching truth; but more importantly, living truth. People can teach truth and not live truth. They are called churches, pastors and preachers. I know many of them. I am one.

You can't watch everything that I do, because sometimes I may not necessarily do the right thing. I want to and I am trying to get my life to a place where I will, but there are times when my emotions occur. It is easier with my family than with non-family. It is easier to holler at my children than to holler at someone else's children or to raise my voice. Do you know what I am talking about?

So now I have to be spiritual and not just here. I don't need to be spiritual here and then go home and beat my wife. I need to take this spiritual guy home. I need to be spiritual at home, just as I am here. I need to be spiritual at Costco [store]. I need to be spiritual at the mall. I need to be spiritual on my job. I need to be spiritual when I am hanging out with my friends. I need to be spiritual when I am on vacation. I need to be spiritual when I am at the beach. I need to be spiritual wherever I go. If I am going to live in the Spirit, I must walk in the Spirit and not just on the Sabbath or on Sunday.

So here it is. He says these words:

1 Corinthians 2:9 – "But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him."

1 Corinthians 2:10 – "But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit:"

There are some things that Father has prepared that are only going to be revealed by the Spirit. The only way that you are going to have them revealed to you is that you live in the Spirit. They will be revealed living in the Spirit. When they are revealed, you now have to walk it out. If you don't walk out what has been revealed, then guess what? If you are not faithful over that truth that he has given you and you don't walk in it, what do you think is going to happen? YeHoVaH said that the children of Israel were hard-hearted and stiff-necked. That is King James English. Where I came from, they didn't call it hard-hearted. They called it hard-headed. There is an old Southern expression:

"A hard head will make a soft behind."

When a parent labels you hard-headed, that is exactly what YeHoVaH did to Israel when he labeled them hard-hearted. It is the same thing. That is a person who is not following instructions. If you don't follow your parents' instructions, you are going to have a very difficult time following YeHoVaH's instructions. If I see somebody not honoring their parents, I see a fool. I see a straight-up fool. There have been times ladies and gentlemen, that I have wanted to whip my belt off, but I am not ready to go to jail. That is because if I start whipping that little joker, then he and his mama are now jumping on me.

"How are you going to hit my child?"

"He is kicking your butt and you don't want help?"

"It's my child!"

"Well, let him beat you!"

<sup>1</sup> Editor's Note: Obviously Arthur doesn't beat his wife. He says this for illustrative purposes only.

So when I read about you in the obituary and they have a manhunt for your child... [Speaking to the audience members] That is not all of *your* children, because you are smarter than that! But I am going to tell you that parents are being killed by their children. How did they get there? These are not toddlers killing them. These are not adolescents.

Father reveals them by his Spirit.

- 1 Corinthians 2:10 "...for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God."
- 1 Corinthians 2:11 "For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God."

You can't *not* live and walk in the Spirit and expect to know the Spirit's will for your life. It is only going to be revealed by the Spirit.

- 1 Corinthians 2:12 "Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God."
- 1 Corinthians 2:13 "Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual."

This is the work of the Holy Spirit; but if you are not working on getting into that place, it is not going to happen. I don't care how much you go to church. I don't care how much you read your Bible. Well, you should be in assembly and you should read your word, but going to the assembly and reading your word without applying what you read is not going to make you any better. You are just a sinner in church, a sinner in a synagogue or a sinner in the assembly.

#### The Holy Spirit compares spiritual things with spiritual.

1 Corinthians 2:14 – "But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God:"

This is the carnal nature. As a carnal person, you can't receive from YeHoVaH. It is not going to happen. You can get glimpses of things. Every now and then you have a thought and you follow up on that thought.

I was at Sam's [wholesale club] on Wednesday. I was there buying some things. I was not dressed. I had on some jeans and casual shoes. Say what honey? [Arthur speaks directly to his wife who is in the audience.] What did you say? Yeah, I was not dressed *up*. Yeah, okay. I got it now. That's my helper. That's my help meet over there, you all. I was standing at the checkout counter and a lady said:

"Are you a preacher?"

I said:

"What possessed you to ask me something like that?"

That is what I said. She said:

"I don't know. Something just told me to ask him 'are you a preacher' – something."

We have to identify the "something." Who is the "something" talking to you? I had people behind me. I said:

"Well, you know, I am."

Then she wants counsel. I am standing at Sam's in the checkout line and I can tell that the woman behind me is visually agitated. As a matter of fact before I could walk off, she almost hit me with her cart. She whizzed that cart around to the front of that line and she was angry. It was like she was saying:

"I didn't come here to stand behind you all who are talking. I came here to check out and get out of here."

That was the spirit that was upon her. The thing that got me was how did this woman know? I was not dressed like a preacher, but she knew. This "something" told her. I know what this something was. It certainly wasn't the devil (based on the counsel that she was asking me about).

The fact is ladies and gentlemen, every one of us can say at some point in our lives that "something told me." Instead of identifying it as the Holy Spirit, we go through life saying something, something, something. What is that "something?" Folks, identify the something. Then start listening to the "something" more. The woman could have heard and not said a word. Sometimes we do that.

1 Corinthians 2:14 – "But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know *them,* because they are spiritually discerned."

When my children or other people's children discard the word, I know that they may think that it is foolishness. That is not how things work.

"That's now how the world works."

That is true. The world does not work based upon this book. The world works based upon wordly principles. Those worldly principles are contrary to the principles that are taught in this book. The world can't figure out why the world is not getting ahead. The world can't figure out why it is constantly having the problems that it is having and constantly going around the same mountain. The world can't figure out why their relationships aren't working or why their jobs aren't working or why they are unhappy or why they are just tired of living.

1 Corinthians 2:15 – "But he that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man."

Do you know why he that is spiritual can judge all things? It is because he that is spiritual is disconnecting themself from the carnal person. They are allowing the Spirit that is at work to show them and give them righteous judgment. If we don't operate in righteous judgment, we are still going to judge. It just won't be righteous judgment. Because of the judgment that we judge with (besides righteous judgment); our reaction, response and the way that we deal with individuals will not come from the Holy Spirit. It will come from our carnal nature. We will deal with people from a carnal nature and not from a spiritual nature. This is important.

1 Corinthians 2:16 – "For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Messiah."

Do we? The mind of Messiah is the word. The word was made flesh. For me, the mind of Messiah means that my decisions are going to be filtered through the word. That includes my actions, my behavior and my words. This is how I know that I haven't arrived. There will be words that come out of my mouth sometimes that are not filtered (even in my thoughts). My thoughts are not filtered.

This is a confession. Sometimes I let myself go places in thought that I will never let myself go in reality. Sometimes I vent my frustration in my head, but I guard my tongue. I have to if I am going to be quick to hear, slow to speak and slow to anger. It means that I just can't say what comes into my head. I can't just say what I am feeling. If I tell you how I feel about what you are saying, it is not going to come out right. I have to think about it. I have to meditate on it. I even have to get to the point where [I think] that if I release these words, what kind of response do I want? What is the outcome of what I am about to say, that I can see? I have to think about the mind of Messiah and of YeHoVaH.

Ultimately (as we started in this chapter) when a brother is overtaken in a fault, you who are spiritual are to restore. **The ultimate heart of YeHoVaH is restoration and reconciliation, but that is only with people who are restored and reconciled.** You cannot be restored and reconciled to someone who is not restored and reconciled.

- 1 Corinthians 2:15 "But he that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man."
- 1 Corinthians 2:16 "For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ."

The way that I know that I am operating in the mind of Messiah is that I am filtering my responses through his word. I have to separate. I am acutely aware that there are always two people living here [in me]. The very nature of being born again makes me [in a sense] "schizophrenic." I have owned it! I know that I can be double-minded. I also know that a double-minded man is unstable in all of his ways.

I have to constantly discern and choose which mind I am going to move by, be led by, operate by and respond from. If I respond from this carnal mind, it is not going to be good. I have to shut him down if I am going to respond in the mind of Messiah. The bottom line is that if I am truly born again; if I truly am saved, I have these two minds that I have to deal with. We should be aware of that. I am acutely aware that there are two people living here. There is me and there is him. Are you aware?

The *me* me wants to please the *me* me. If I just let *me* go, I am going to eat everything. I am going to drink everything. I am going to smoke everything. I am going to do everything that I want to do and guess what? I will just be a worldly, carnal, perverted, overweight pervert. That is assessing me. Now you have to assess you. I have been there. I know that I can go back there unless I make every decision and choice that will keep me from going back from whence I have come.

1 Corinthians 3:1 – "And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual,"

Notice what he is saying here. *1 Corinthians* 2 transitions into *1 Corinthians* 3. By the time you get to *1 Corinthians* 12, he is talking about how they operate in the Spirit and how the gifts of the Spirit are manifesting in the midst of them. And yet he is saying:

- 1 Corinthians 3:1 "And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, *even* as unto babes in Messiah."
- 1 Corinthians 3:2 "I have fed you with milk, and not with meat: for hitherto..."

Even at the writing of this letter he is saying:

"...hitherto"

Since then and up until now.

"...ye were not able to bear it, neither yet now are ye able."

...to bear it. It is like Paul is writing this letter just like he wrote to the Galatians.

"Listen guys. At this time, you all should be a lot further than you are. When I came to you, I couldn't come to you spiritually because I had to give it to you as babes. I had to give you milk. Even now I can't talk to you as spiritual."

He is saying:

"You've got the mind of Messiah, but you are acting like babies! You have the mind of Messiah, but you are walking carnally. Not only are you walking carnally, but you are manifesting the spiritual things that spiritual people are supposed to be manifesting but you are not spiritual!"

That is not how we are supposed to be.

1 Corinthians 3:3 – "For ye are yet carnal: for whereas *there is* among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men?"

Let's go back to verse 1. I thought that we would get to a couple of verses, but we are still in verse 1. He said:

Galatians 6:1 – "Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, **restore**"

This is important. This word restore [Greek: "katartizo"] actually means: to render, i.e. to fit, sound, complete; to mend (what has been broken or rent), to repair; to complete; to fit out, equip, put in order, arrange, adjust; to fit or frame for one's self, prepare; ethically: to strengthen, perfect, complete, make one what he ought to be.

What is interesting is where this word is found. It is only found in its action in one place. It just so happens that it is found in Paul's writing. Here it is used as: perfect, make perfect, mend, be perfect, fit, frame, prepare, restore, perfectly joined together.

He is saying that you who are spiritual, restore. You who are spiritual, perfect the one who is overtaken. You who are spiritual, strengthen. This is where Paul uses this. He says in *Ephesians*:

Ephesians 4:12 – "For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Messiah."

Let me give you how it is used. It is only used one other time and that is in *Ephesians* 4:12. He says in verse 11:

Ephesians 4:11 – "And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;"

Ephesians 4:12 – "For the **perfecting** of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Messiah:"

Here is how this is supposed to work. The way it is supposed to work is that you are submitted to the apostle, prophet, evangelist, pastor and teacher who is perfecting you for the work of ministry; which is the restoration process. But get this. The perfecting is either proactive or it becomes reactive. It is the same word. You are either going to learn the things that you are supposed to learn by the apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers so that you don't get overtaken in a fault; or if you don't learn, then guess what? There is a fault waiting to overtake you. It is just a matter of time. This is the danger of being a hearer and not a doer.

There are many, many people who are hearing, hearing, hearing, hearing and hearing but not doing anything about it. There are people who sit in churches all day or twice a day. Then they go out and do their dirt. They become immune to the word.

As a dad and even as a husband – I have heard this from many dads and husbands who are preachers. Sometimes because it is your voice, wives and children get tired of hearing you talk. They just get tired. As a result of that, they don't listen because they don't listen to the counsel and the instruction of their fathers and mothers. The Torah says that you should honor your father and your mother. It is the first command with a promise associated with it.

The *Proverbs* say that we should listen to the commandments and the instructions of our father and our mother. If you want things to go well with you, then honor your parents; especially if they are trying to teach you the commands. That is if you want things to go well. Things won't go well with you if you don't. They just won't. That is the flip side. **Honoring YeHoVaH is hearing and obeying.** It is not just hearing. This is sometimes why I say something to my children when I hear their mother tell them something.

Listen to me parents and listen to me good. If you are telling your son or your daughter something and you have to repeat yourself two or three times before they actually do what you are saying and then you ultimately have to raise your voice for them to hear you, don't let your children get away with that. *Make* them hear you. If you are going to feed and house and clothe them, don't let them ignore you. If you let them ignore you, guess what you are raising? You are raising a rebellious, stiff-necked hard-hearted, hard-headed troublemaker. Every last one of you who has raised them knows what you have, so stop lying to yourself. When I hear this in my house, I am like that roaring lion! I don't like my wife telling my sons or my daughters something two or three times.

"Why aren't you listening to your mom?"

If I let you get away with that here, you will take it to the schools. The next thing you know, I have to come to the school. You can't say:

"My child wouldn't do that."

"What? They do it at home!"

If they do it to you, what makes you think that they won't do it to someone else?

"Well, I teach them at home."

Well, you may teach them that, but are they listening? You might *think* that you are teaching them.

Ephesians 4:13 – "Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the statute of the fulness of Christ:"

Ephesians 4:14 – "That we *henceforth* be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, *and* cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;"

Ephesians 4:15 – "But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, *even* Christ:"

Ephesians 4:16 – "From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love."

Paul writes these words too. He is writing these words. They really coincide with what he is writing back in *Galatians*. I am not going to move into this next portion yet.

Galatians 6:1 - "Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault,"

We got through half of verse one. You see, he is laying this thing out. You can read it. You can read right over it. When he is writing to these people he is saying:

"In order for you to understand what I'm writing to them, I'm saying the same thing in different ways to other people that I am writing to so that people can understand who I am and what I'm saying."

If you think that Paul came preaching some "greasy grace" or some "easy sainthood, confess Jesus into your heart and wait for the rapture" message, you are sadly mistaken! Paul did not preach that kind of message. Paul preached the message of <u>die</u>! **Die to yourself so that God doesn't have to kill you!** That is it in a nutshell, for those of you who like nutshells.

#### Die to yourself so that God doesn't have to kill you.

He doesn't want to. He doesn't want anybody splashing in that lake. But there are some folks who are so hard-headed, so hard-hearted and so stiff-necked that they are Hell-bound.



# Class Twenty Three

Rightly divide.
Stuck on the name
Puffing up
Spirit of meekness
Nothing in secret
The law as intended
Whom do we please?

### Walking in the Spirit

Today is one of those days where I believe that the Father is going to challenge us even further than he has challenged us in the past. I hope that you are all up for the challenge. I know that I certainly am. I don't know about you, but I believe that I am in good company. I want to be ready. I mean, I *want* to be ready. That means that I have to deal with whatever it is that is going on within myself that is keeping me from getting ready or from being ready.

I want to get straight to the teaching and to the heart of the matter. In the last class we transitioned into *Galatians* 6 from *Galatians* 5. I just want to read part of that transition because it is important for me. That is not to recap what we were talking about in the last lesson, but we are going to continue from there. There are certain things that we have to kind of point to in order to fully understand where we are today.

Galatians 5:24 – "And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts."

Galatians 5:25 - "If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit."

This ladies and gentlemen, is what it is really all about. As I have shared with you before, I am working on a teaching that Father is helping me to prepare called *How to Walk in the Spirit*. I know that it is challenging, because it is challenging for me even to put it together. But I think that it is something that the Father wants all of us to know. It is so important.

The Bible says that we can live in the Spirit; but if we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. This indicates that we can live in the Spirit but not walk in the Spirit. The walking part is where the challenge is. The knowledge and information and knowing "all the right stuff" is the easy part. When we start putting our feet to what we know, that is where the challenges come in.

I am a dad. I love all of my children. We have eight. Right now we have some grandchildren in the mix. I am making decisions all of the time as a dad and as a husband. I have to choose which battles I am going to fight at any given moment. I have to make sure that the real battles that need to be dealt with are not usurped by battles that do not actually have to be fought at that particular time. You only get so many battles. If you go into battle and utilize all of your

resources in one battle that is really not the ultimate battle, you are not going to be prepared for the ultimate battle when it comes. And guess what? Yeah, I think you get it. There is a constant stream of questions:

"Where do I correct?"

"Where don't I correct?"

"What do I bring up?"

"What don't I bring up?"

It is like when you have children who want to play with balls during the service. How do you address that when you have individuals who want to play during a time when it is serious? Have you ever been in a serious mode but the people you were with were in a playful mode? Things didn't go as expected or as well as they could because you were not being taken seriously; even when you were serious. It is a terrible thing when people won't take you seriously when you are serious.

Galatians 5:25 - "If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit."

Galatians 5:26 – "Let us not be desirous of vain glory, provoking one another, envying one another."

This is where the transition takes place into *Galatians* chapter 6. Now remember that Paul wrote the letter to the Galatians. A letter is not broken down into chapters and verses like our Bibles are. Sometimes the transitions don't necessarily fall in the right place; especially when you are looking at the King James Version of the Bible. The King James Version of the Bible goes from chapter and verse whereas some of the other translations or versions of the Bible are in paragraph form.

Those of you who have taken advantage of our *Discipleship101.tv* class know that there are different versions of the Bible. With some of the Bibles (especially with the King James), it is hard to detect the context of a particular subject. This is true especially where you have verses that are numbered (i.e. 1, 2, 3). Whereas in other versions (such as one which people call the "Non-Inspired Version"); there are aspects of the NIV that I look to for transitions of context.

When we talk, sometimes our sentences run on. You can't tell where a transition is in our conversation unless you say these words:

"Okay, I want to change the subject. I want to change the subject. I know that this is not on the subject that we are talking about, but I want to change the subject..."

You say this so that you can make a transition and the listener makes the transition with you. Have you ever been in a conversation with someone where they have changed the subject but you are still on the same conversation? It is like:

"Where are we at?"

You are off on another conversation and I am still thinking that we are talking about this topic. The transition has been made, but I don't know that the transition has been made. If that has ever happened to you, let me see your hand.

This is what happens in the King James Bible. A transition has been made but you don't know that the transition has been made. In the English language, a transition is usually indicated by a new paragraph. A new paragraph generally says that we are going to go to a new topic. We are transitioning from the subject that we were just on. I am not trying to give you an English lesson, but it is important for us to understand transitions if you are going to understand context. If you don't understand context, it is going to be very difficult to understand the Bible.

That is why you will find that sermons are cut and pasted. They take a verse here and a verse there. They put it all together and develop a message. You are taking verses out of context and making them say what you want them to say. In theological terms that is called *eisegesis*. This means that you are *reading into* the Bible. You are making the Bible say what you want it to say instead of *exegesis*, which is *pulling out* of the Bible *what it actually says*. This is how doctrines and false doctrines and false teachings get taught.

Here we want to be students of the word. We want to be able to rightly divide the word. That way if I rightly divide it, I can rightly apply it. If I can't rightly divide it, I can't rightly apply it. If I don't rightly apply it, I am not going to see the benefits of walking in it; which means that I will just be a hearer. I will have the knowledge of the word, but I will never see the manifestation of the power that this word is supposed to bring into my life.

Information is not power. Knowledge is not power. It is simply knowledge. The power is in the application. Information with application brings power. That is what causes transformation. **There is no transformation without the application of the information!** All you have is information. Knowledge puffs up. You have a big head with a lot of information that is really not doing you any good. That is not going to get us ready for Messiah.

You see, in our Western culture, knowledge is power. Having the right information is all that is required for some people; especially in our educational system. That educational mindset comes over into the Bible because in colleges, Bible Colleges, Seminaries and Christian Schools, the Bible is just another textbook. That's it. We can look at this book as a textbook or we can look at this book as the Bible or we can look at it as the word of Elohim. If I look at this book as the word of Elohim; when I get into this book, I am actually coming into the presence and having a conversation with my Father who is in Heaven. I can speak to him and he is going to speak to me.

You have probably heard people say:

"I was going through something and I opened my Bible and it turned to this page."

Or:

"I dropped my Bible and it turned to this page."

People look at that as a way that Father is trying to communicate a message to them. If that is how Father has to communicate to us, it means that our relationship with him is not where it is supposed to be. That doesn't mean that he can't communicate like that.

When we think about the Almighty, we say things like:

"God is the same yesterday, today and forever."

But then we don't think that he speaks to us like he did to the people of old. That is a big mistake. He will speak to us, but we have to know how he communicates. How many of you have heard the Bible verse where it says:

"My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge"

[Arthur raises his hand.] Well, that is a partial verse as you know. It says:

"My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge; and because they have rejected knowledge..."

You see, the knowledge can come and we can reject it. The way that we reject knowledge is not by saying:

"I don't want to hear it."

It is by hearing it and not putting it into practice. The Bible says that if a person hears the word and they don't do what the word says, they deceive themselves. Imagine that you as a person of the word are walking in deception simply because you are not applying the information. Folks think:

"Well, I know what the word says."

If you know what the word says, there should not be a "but," neither should you be a butt. You know? Beavis.<sup>2</sup> What is it? Beavis' friend. Some folks know what I am talking about. We won't go there. Okay, you have already gone there, but let's get back on track.

Galatians 6:1 – "Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted."

Galatians 6:2 - "Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ."

Galatians 6:3 – "For if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself."

Galatians 6:4 – "But let every man prove his own work, and then shall he have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another."

Galatians 6:5 – "For every man shall bear his own burden."

Galatians 6:6 – "Let him that is taught in the word communicate unto him that teacheth in all good things."

Galatians 6:7 – "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."

Galatians 6:8 – "For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting."

Galatians 6:9 – "And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Beavis and Butthead are popular Nickelodeon television cartoon characters who are portrayed as rebellious.

Galatians 6:10 – "As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all *men*, especially unto them who are of the household of faith."

Galatians 6:11 – "Ye see how large a letter I have written unto you with mine own hand."

Galatians 6:12 – "As many as desire to make a fair show in the flesh, they constrain you to be circumcised; only lest they should suffer persecution for the cross of Christ."

Galatians 6:13 – "For neither they themselves who are circumcised keep the law; but desire to have you circumcised, that they may glory in your flesh."

Galatians 6:14 – "But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world."

Galatians 6:15 – "For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision, but a new creature."

Galatians 6:16 – "And as many as walk according to this rule, peace be on them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God."

Galatians 6:17 – "From henceforth let no man trouble me: for I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus."

Galatians 6:18 – "Brethren, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ *be* with your spirit. Amen."

I am reading in the King James Version. Today I decided to read it as it is. I know that there are people out there who have struggles. We are going to have to overcome some struggles. Some folks out there say:

"I'll never let 'Jesus' come out of my mouth again!"

That is okay, but we have to understand that its what the people know that we are trying to reach. That is who they know. For some people, that is all that they know.

As I was sharing with you some weeks ago, we had a caller who had watched our *Spirit-Filled Living* television program on the *Church Channel*. They called us and wanted to know:

"Who is this 'Yeshua'? I heard Pastor Bailey mention 'Yeshua.' Who is 'Yeshua'? Is 'Yeshua' Jesus? I just want to know who 'Yeshua' is."

There are people out there who don't know our terminology. I remember when I was in the Baptist Church that we had terminology that was common among us. When we went out into the world and began to talk to people, people didn't have a clue as to what we were saying. We thought that we were speaking English, but what we were doing was speaking King James English or King James language. We were speaking a language that was part and parcel to our denomination and that is called denominationalism.

There is language that people pick up among churches that people in the church completely understand. But people who are not part of that church have no clue as to what you are talking about. If we are going to be effective in reaching people, we can't become so dogmatic to the point where we turn people off before we actually get a chance to reach them.

I remember people telling me:

"You shouldn't use certain language because people get used to it."

I said:

"Do you know what? You can't clean a fish until you have caught them."

Anybody who goes fishing knows that you may have the desire to eat a lot of fish, but you have to catch them before you can eat them unless you go and buy them. When you catch them, you don't clean them on the hook because there is a good chance that you might lose them. You actually have to get the fish into the bucket. You have to catch the fish before you can actually clean the fish and that is the business that we are in. We are fishermen. That is what we are. We are fishermen of men. I use this language to reach the people. I hope you don't allow it to offend you.

Galatians 6:1 – "Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the **spirit of meekness**; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted."

In the last lesson we got halfway through verse one in chapter 6. Today we are going to get through the other half of verse one in chapter 6. Then we are going to probably move down to verse number 4. There is so much in Paul's letters. The reason why we decided to do a verse-by-verse study of the Book of *Galatians* is that most people are accustomed to hearing *Galatians* in sound bites or in verses in conjunction with other verses to prove a point. Typically the point is:

"Paul teaches that we don't have to keep the law."

"Paul teaches that those who are under the law have fallen from grace."

"Paul teaches..."

This is what people are now saying. Not only are people saying that, but preachers are preaching it. When a preacher preaches that "you don't have to keep the law," that preacher is making you law-less [lawless]. Do you understand what I am saying? You are either going to be a lawful or a lawless one. The choice is yours.

Typically the idea that we are "not under the law" comes not from Paul's writings, but from people preaching what Paul *supposedly* wrote. They can get away with this as long as we take verses and put them wherever we want. But when we look at the Bible and Paul's letters the way that Paul wrote them and in the context that Paul wrote them, we see that the cut and paste process doesn't work. I know. Here we are in part 23 of a six-chapter letter; whereas in the churches where I come from, the pastor would take a verse and preach for forty minutes. He could preach for forty minutes off of that one verse, so why is it a problem for us to speak an hour and a half off of two verses?

<u>Meekness</u>: This word in the Greek is "*praotes*." The word means: gentleness, mildness, meekness. Meekness is the result of being meek.

In the last lesson we talked about restoration. We won't go back there, but I encourage you to look at it. It really dealt with the idea of when a person is overtaken in a fault. Before they have an opportunity to conceal the issue and live with and hide that issue and lie and deceive other people; those who are spiritual need to go and restore this individual. It specifically talks about those who are spiritual.

We know that there were many who were carnal and who were part of the church. **To be carnally-minded or worldly-minded is death.** A carnally-minded person cannot please the Almighty. A carnally-minded person is not even concerned about the Law of God; nor is their intent on trying to keep his law. So what do we find? We find that Christians who reject the law are carnally-minded – in the church! I am going to show you that here in just a moment.

Paul used this same phrase in his letter to the Corinthians when he addressed their puffiness. This is what he says in *I Corinthians* 4:18. Pay close attention here:

1 Corinthians 4:18 – "Now some are puffed up,"

What is the word that he is using? It is meekness (*praotes*). It is the spirit of meekness. Let's look at this spirit of meekness. If I am going to restore someone, I am given clear instructions on what spirit I am to come to that person in to restore them. You see, if you are overtaken in a fault and I come to you and say:

"Brother, that's wrong! That's sin! That's sin! You are going to go to Hell!"

Is that a spirit of meekness? No. What is going to be the result? It will be condemnation. A person who is already condemned is going to be further condemned. What does a person do who is condemned? They want to hide. You know when people are up to no good. They hide from you. They want to get away from you. They are afraid that you are going to smell something, see something, sense something or feel something. They avoid you because they don't know how to project that everything is cool when everything isn't cool. They are fearful that you are going to detect something. Are you hearing me?

Think about when you have done wrong; especially if you have ever lied. There is a certain spirit upon you. You can't keep a straight face. You start misbehaving. In other words, you are operating in a spirit that you are not accustomed to operating in. It is going to cause you to look a little "off." That is not you. That is not your normal way unless you have become a bonafide liar. Now you can just lie with a straight face. People who do not fit into that category can't lie with a straight face. Their face is going to be somewhat distorted. You may not even know that they are lying, but you know that something is wrong.

"Why are you looking like that?"

In order to keep from being detected, people hide who don't want to be detected. They stay away from you long enough until they can get their composure. Then they present themselves. Paul is writing here:

1 Corinthians 4:18 – "Now some are puffed up, as though I would not come to you."

The context here is that Paul has come to the Corinthians. He has established ministry among them. Then he leaves. He doesn't leave them. He goes on to do other work. While he is gone, there are all of these individuals who have read or learned or have been exposed to other types of ministries. They think that they are better or greater or more knowledgeable or have more understanding of the Scriptures, the belief or the systems in which religion operates in, than anybody else. They want to get other people "straight." The Bible tells us about people who have information. It says that knowledge has a tendency to puff up. So he says:

- 1 Corinthians 4:18 "Now some are puffed up, as though I would not come to you."
- 1 Corinthians 4:19 "But I will come to you shortly, if the Lord will, and will know, not the speech of them which are puffed up, but the power."

#### He says:

"I'm going to come. First, there is some trouble in the midst of you. There is some trouble in the midst of you there and I need to come and set some things straight. But there are some people in the midst of you who are saying 'yeah, come on! Nobody is scared of you. Who do you think you are? You came, you left; now we're left with the work of the ministry, so come on!"

#### Paul is saying:

"Listen, I'm going to come, but I'm not going to come with that spirit."

If a person is confrontational and you also become confrontational, what do you have? You have a confrontation. What do you accomplish in a confrontation? Nothing! So the writer of *Proverbs* gives us this wisdom. He says:

"Listen. What you do is this. A soft answer turns away wrath."

Don't come to a person to try to confront them. Come to a person with the spirit of trying to help them. When a person takes on that posture, the other person can't hear. They are in a defensive mode. Think about this. You are wrong and yet you are in a defensive mode. What are you defending? Sometimes people who are wrong don't mind being corrected by people who are not wrong in some areas.

So what does that mean? What is that saying? If I have some issues and I am going to come to you and try to correct you, then what is going to be the response if you know the issues that I have? You will come right back at me.

Have you ever had someone come to you to correct you and you are now looking for an issue or an area in their life to throw back at them? Do you know what you just did? You just tried to back a person up. In the process of trying to back a person up, you did not receive the correction or the instruction that just came to you. This means that there is not going to be a change in you in that area. If there is no change in you in this area, you take on the defense as if you are all right when you are not.

If you are not all right and you are not receiving the correction, then you will continue on as a "not all right" person. Father is going to have to send someone else. Because he loves us, he is not going to leave us like this. He is going to constantly be in our face. He might send someone who is very meek. Then he may send someone who is not as meek. Then he will send someone who is not meek at all. If push comes to shove, he will send someone who will take you into captivity. Every time Israel went into captivity, guess who sent their captors?

The whole purpose of sending the captors was to whip their behinds so badly that they would cry out to him in repentence. It was not to destroy them, but to beat them to the point that they would wish that they were dead or call out to the one who could save them. That is what they did. Every time he sent individuals, nations which took them into captivity and forced them into labor under their burdens and pressure, the people cried out to the Almighty. The problem with

that mindset is that people who are dealt with like that generally don't cry out to him until they are in trouble.

Instead of developing a relationship and walking the path of righteousness for his namesake, they only call unto him. They only read their Bible and pick up their Bible and talk to him when they are in trouble or when they are in need. This is the way that some children deal with their parents. They won't talk to them until they are in need. They don't call them until they need something. Parents sometimes say:

"Okay, what do you want now, because I haven't heard from you in I don't know how long and you only call when you want something?"

That is the mindset that the Almighty has with a lot of us. Paul says:

"I'm going to come, but I'm not going to come like that. I'm going to come with power;"

1 Corinthians 4:20 - "For the kingdom of God is not in word,"

You see ladies and gentlemen, you can't force people into the Kingdom. You can't manipulate people into the Kingdom. You can't trick people into the Kingdom. The only way that they are going to come in is that Father draws them. What he uses to draw them is the word; which produces faith.

"Faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the word."

Our responsibility is not to give people our doctrine, but to give them his word as he communicates it to us. I can come to you and give you Scripture or I can come to you like Yeshua came to the woman at the well. He gave her a personal word from the Almighty. The way that you know that you have communicated a word from Heaven for someone is this. They will usually say something like:

"How did you know that? Who have you been talking to?"

Father has just communicated something to you to speak to them that literally speaks to them. There is no way that you would know. This comes by way of us being in tune with him; not bringing an evangelistic formula. I am going to tell you something, ladies and gentlemen. I have tried almost every evangelistic tool out there. I have taught them, but there is nothing more powerful than getting a word from Heaven about the person who you are standing in front of. You are speaking something to them and there is no way in the world that you could have known that. Now you have their attention. He says:

1 Corinthians 4:20 – "For the kingdom of God is not in word, but in power."

This word is "dunamis." This word is the power that is the result of the Holy Spirit operating in those who are walking in the Spirit. This is not just a person who is living in the Spirit, but one who is walking in the Spirit because they are in tune with the Almighty.

1 Corinthians 4:21 – "What will ye? shall I come unto you with a rod, or in love, and *in* the **spirit of meekness?"** 

Paul is writing:

"How do you want me to come? Do you want me to come and bring a stick? Do you want me to come and beat you?"

Do you see? This is the mindset of a father to a people. Paul wrote to them. He says:

"You have had many teachers, but not many fathers. I became a father to you."

As a father or as a mother who has children, you have to bring correction to your children. Typically parents come with a stick when the "love" word doesn't get their attention. Think about it.

"I said stop. I said stop! I SAID stop! I SAID STOP!! I SA-A-A-ID STO-P-P-P-P!!!"

This is what parents go through. How many times do you tell your son or daughter not to do something but they do it? You tell them again and again. Sometimes you are talking to them and they are just flat-out ignoring you! I know that doesn't happen to anybody here! Your approach has to change in order to get the attention of the person you are trying to correct. This may result in some discipline. Those whom Father loves, he disciplines. If he loves you, he is not going to let you get away with it. Any parent who doesn't discipline their children doesn't love them. I don't care what you say. It is like:

"I love my children."

"Really? Then why won't you discipline them?"

It is like people who say that they love God but they won't keep his commandments. The Bible says that if you love God but you don't keep his commandments, that you are a liar. I didn't make this up. He did. He said that if you say that you love God and you don't keep his commandments, you are a liar and the truth is not in you.

Any parent who says that they love their children but who won't discipline and correct them, they are a liar. If you love them, you will correct them. You will discipline them. You won't allow it. Let me tell you something. If you won't do it, they have places and people out there who will do it for you. And don't come crying:

"That's my baby!"

Yeah. Everybody knows your baby, but you. He says:

1 Corinthians 4:21 – "What will ye? shall I come unto you with a rod, or in love, and *in* the **spirit of meekness**?"

"How do you want me to come?"

I am not one who likes repeating himself; especially to someone that I feed and clothe and take care of. When I speak, I expect you to hear me. That is not military training. That is T.C. Bailey training. That is part of my dad that got the best of me at some point. I am trying to weigh a balance between him and the Son of God. There was an aspect of what he did that was scriptural. It was just his spirit. You can do what the word says in the wrong spirit.

In this particular case, Paul is specifically using the term "spirit of meekness." This spirit of meekness that he is speaking of in *1 Corinthians* 14:21 is in connection with bringing correction to a people that he is trying to get ready for the Messiah's return.

1 Corinthians 5:1 – "It is reported commonly *that there is* fornication among you, and such fornication is not so much as named among the Gentiles, that one should have his father's wife."

That is a terrible thing when church people, Christians, Messianics or Hebrew Roots people who read the Bible act worse than the people who don't. That is terrible! You know what the word says, but you are out there behaving like a straight-up heathen. You are doing things that heathens shiver from! There are some people out there who are in the churches. Some of them are preaching and pastoring and teaching.

He says:

"There are some things happening among you that even the Gentiles won't do."

"...one should have his father's wife."

Here Paul goes Torah. He goes straight-up Torah, if you would. He brings people into the Torah, into the law. Think about this. What is the problem? You sleep with your sister. You sleep with your cousin. You sleep with your best friend's girlfriend. You sleep with your best friend's wife. So what is the difference from sleeping with your father's wife; especially if you have an old father who married a young wife? There are some old heads out there who are marrying some young women.

What is Paul saying here? Paul goes into Leviticus. Look at what Leviticus says:

Leviticus 20:11 – "And the man that lieth with his father's wife hath uncovered his father's nakedness: both of them shall surely be..."

What?

"...put to death; their blood shall be upon them."

Why is their blood upon them? That is because they knew exactly what they were doing. You see, when you commit a crime unto death, don't scream when the death penalty comes at you. You went into something fully knowing that this sin or this action warranted the full weight of the law.

Deuteronomy 22:30 – "A man shall not take his father's wife, nor discover his father's skirt."

The next one is scary ladies and gentlemen, because there are things that people do in "secret." Let me tell you something. There is absolutely nothing. Listen to me and read my lips. **There is absolutely nothing that you do in secret that no one knows about.** The Bible says that *all things done in secret will come to the light*. Don't you think for a moment that you are getting away with anything, because you are not. Whatever you do is going to invoke and awaken some kingdom. You are either awakening demons and devils or you are going to invoke the angels and the Holy Spirit to operate on your behalf. Your actions will determine whose team you put into motion.

There is absolutely nothing that you do in secret that no one knows about.

The Bible says that all things done in secret will come to the light.

Let me show you.

Deuteronomy 27:20 - "Cursed..."

"Cursed"

Who put curses on people? Who put curses on people, ladies and gentlemen? I want to point this out because I know that we live in an era where people are big on generational curses. I will tell you something right now in the simplest, plainest terms that I can give you. A generational curse is simply put upon a person when you don't teach them the commandments of God.

It is when you don't teach your son and your daughter. I am not just talking about the Ten Commandments. If you don't teach your children the commandments, you are putting a generational curse on them. Here is how the children of Israel did it in the old times. What they did was they stopped keeping the commands. When you stop keeping the commands, you are surely not going to teach them. You are not going to teach them.

A generational curse is simply put upon a person when you don't teach them the commandments of God.

There were children who were born into captivity after YeHoVaH had delivered the children of Israel from Egypt. He brought them out of Egypt. He brought them into the land. Because the parents decided that they weren't going to teach their children, guess what he did? He sent captors. They took them into captivity. While they were in captivity, they had children who were born into slavery after their parents had been delivered. This was for a generation. So you have a generation born into slavery under their parents' actions because the parents stopped teaching their children. That child grows up. They don't teach their children. But lo and behold, Father always has a remnant. Somehow he manages to communicate that:

"Hey, I'm still here!"

A people and a generation rise up. They begin to cry out and to call upon him. He delivers them. He brings them out of captivity. Somewhere in their posterity they stop teaching their children. Then they end up in captivity. More children are born into captivity without knowing the Elohim of Heaven. That is a generational curse. This message that churches are teaching about generational curses; there is no such thing! That is manmade religious dogma! The only way that you can deliver or can get delivered from a curse is to repent and start keeping the commands of YeHoVaH! That is the only way!

You can have people pray over you. You can go to everybody's deliverance ministry and have deliverance until the cows come home, but **if you are unwilling to keep the commandments of YeHoVaH**, **no deliverance will come**. That is why the moment that you get rid of one demon, there are ten more. You get rid of those demons and there are fifteen more. Those demons say:

"Hey, he got rid of us. That was easy. These are some strong deliverance ministers. Okay, we've got something for you. All fifteen, you all go and get seven more."

Now you have fifteen demons going and getting seven more demons. All fifteen come back with seven more. They take that person bound and say:

"So you all's deliverance ministry, cast us out!"

You get a person who gets "delivered." They have about an hour's worth of freedom or two hours perhaps. Maybe it's a day or a couple of days. The next thing you know, they have some more problems. Then they end up with some more problems. You all know that I am telling you the truth! How many of you have ever been to a deliverance ministry? Has anybody really become free; truly free without keeping Torah – without keeping Torah – and stayed free? You keep Torah. Okay. Well, you are an anomaly.

Deuteronomy 27:20 – "Cursed be he that lieth with his father's wife; because he uncovereth his father's skirt. And all the people shall say, 'Amen.'"

Can you lie with your father's wife and not be cursed?

1 Corinthians 5:2 – "And ye are <u>puffed up</u>, [to inflate/be proud] and have not rather <u>mourned</u>, that he that hath done this deed might be taken away from among you."

That is what that word "puffed up" means. It means: to be proud. Now look at what Paul is saying here to the Corinthians in chapter 5. Notice that this is a continuation from chapter 4. He says:

1 Corinthians 5:2 – "And ye are <u>puffed up</u>, and have not rather <u>mourned</u>, that he that hath done this deed might be taken away from among you."

I want you to look at what he says here. There are people who are in a congregation and who know that there are people in congregations who are living a lifestyle that is not right. This is just like it was in the Corinthian's congregation. They not only bragged about the fact that they had the gifts moving in the midst of them, but Paul is saying:

"You guys should not only not be puffed up, but you should be mourning."

Why?

"...that he that hath done this deed might be taken away from among you."

When you have people who are knowingly living in violation of the commands and you don't do anything about it, then you are not only not mourning what a person is doing, you don't fully understand the weight of what is going on. That is what Paul is saying here.

This word "mourn" [Greek: "pentheo"] means: to mourn, to bewail, to lament one.

In other words, he says that when a person is doing certain things and they don't understand that what they are doing, that the wages of sin is and always will be death. When a person is living in violation of the commands of YeHoVaH, guess what that brings to them? It brings death.

1 Corinthians 5:3 — "For I verily, as absent in body, but present in spirit, have judged already, as though I were present, concerning him that hath so done this deed,"

He says I, verily. I have already judged the situation. What does this have to say about folks who feel that we shouldn't judge one another? Paul says:

"Listen. This matter is already judged. I've already judged it."

How is he judging it? He is judging it according to the commandments. That is how he is judging it. Apart from the commandments, you really don't know how to judge a matter. That is because there is *righteous* judgment and then there is *religious* judgment. There is carnal judgment. Let me put it this way. There are things that in the Kingdom, will cost you your life; but in the world, people won't even think about them. It costs you nothing.

When a man commits fornication, there is no law. You won't go to jail for that. The police won't come and get you, but how do you think it sits in the Kingdom? Anybody? It is not good.

- 1 Corinthians 5:4 "In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, when ye are gathered together, and my spirit, with the power of our Lord Jesus Christ,"
- 1 Corinthians 5:5 "To deliver such an one unto Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus."

This is Paul's recommendation. He says:

"When you are gathered together and my spirit, with the power, deliver such a one unto Satan."

How do you do that? How do you deliver such a one unto Satan? The Catholics call it excommunication. The way that some congregations call it, you put them out. It is like when you have folks in your house that you no longer want there. What do you do? You ask them to leave. What if they don't want to leave? There are the police. He says:

1 Corinthians 5:5 – "To deliver such an one unto Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus."

What is he saying here? He is saying that the Father's desire is that no one should perish. He doesn't want anybody to perish. He wants all men to come to the knowledge of truth. His desire is for the entire world to be sayed.

1 Corinthians 5:6 – "Your glorying is not good. Know ye not that a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump?"

In this particular area he is saying:

"If you permit certain things to happen in your midst, pretty soon it is going to spread. This is what is going to happen. It is going to spread from person to person."

Let me show you how it happens in a family. One of your children comes to you and asks you for something and you give it to them. Then another child comes to you and asks you for something but you don't give it to them. What is the child that you didn't give it to going to say about the one that you gave it to?

"You gave it to them. That is favoritism."

That is exactly what they are going to say. You will find that children feel that you favor one child over another. That creates a spirit of resentment. It creates a spirit of resentment sometimes

toward the parent, but it is usually taken out on the child that you show favoritism to; just like Cain and Abel's situation. The way it works in another situation, is this. You have one son. You give all of your sons instructions:

"Okay, eleven o'clock is the curfew."

One son decides that he is going to come in at one o'clock. He comes in at one o'clock but you don't discipline him. A few days later he comes in at one o'clock again but you don't discipline him. The other child comes in at eleven o'clock, just like you instructed. What do you think is going to eventually happen to the child who comes in at eleven o'clock if you don't discipline the one who comes in at one o'clock? He is going to start coming in at eleven fifteen, eleven twenty or eleven thirty.

What do you think is going to happen when you say something to him? Do you see what happened? You let the other one do it. If you allow one to get away with something, then what you are doing is creating a situation where it is eventually going to spread. It will spread throughout the family. It is the same way within a congregational setting. It is the same way on a job among employees.

1 Corinthians 5:7 – "Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us."

Paul is saying that:

"If there are things going on in the midst of you, the first thing you want to do is try to restore. That is ultimately what you want to do. You want to correct. You want to get a person back into the right behavior pattern."

But what happens if they completely reject it? Eventually you are going to have to deal with it. It is just like that child who refused to come in at eleven o'clock and who continued to come in at one o'clock. One day they come home and their stuff might be sitting out on the porch. You can't permit it. If you do permit it, you are going to have chaos and mutiny in your home.

Galatians 6:2 - "Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ."

What Paul is saying here in *Galatians* 6 ladies and gentlemen, is that we have a responsibility to bear each other's burdens. We are to bear each other's burdens even though every person is responsible for bearing his or her own burden. Don't get me wrong with what I am about to say.

I taught a message that *I am not my brother's keeper*. The idea there is that I can only help my brother when my brother is in my presence. The word that is used is [referring to] the only person that has the capacity to keep someone. [That is YeHoVaH]. We find this in the Aaronic benediction:

"May YeHoVaH bless you and keep you."

Just because I am not my brother's keeper does not mean that I can't help my brother bear his burden. That word there "burden" is actually used in another place. We will look at it in just a moment, but according to what Paul said in verse 2 (and later on in the same chapter):

"Every person, every man is responsible for his own burden. Every man is responsible for his own burden."

Here he says:

Galatians 6:2 - "Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Messiah."

In Romans 15 he writes:

Romans 15:1 – "We then that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, and not to please ourselves."

Romans 15:2 – "Let every one of us please *his* neighbor for *his* good to edification."

Romans 15:3 – "For even Messiah pleased not himself; but, as it is written, The reproaches of them that reproached thee fell on me."

What Messiah did was carry the burdens of the world upon himself. He carried all of our burdens. The capacity to carry burdens is not something that should be foreign among us. What he is dealing with here are people who are weak. There are weak people among us who are not yet at a place where they can walk on their own. You have to bear their infirmities. There are weaknesses. There are explanations. You have to explain to this person who just came in, just like you had to explain to the other person who came in a couple of years ago and who is now explaining it to new people.

This is how the whole discipleship process works. We are constantly dealing with new people and having to explain some of the same stuff over and over; not to the same person, but to different people. I have become frustrated at the fact that I am explaining the same thing over and over and over and over. But the solace is that I am not explaining the same thing over and over to the same person. This is new blood.

In Galatians 2 he says:

Galatians 6:2 – "Bear ye one another's <u>burdens</u>, and so **fulfil the law of Messiah**."

Here is the deal. How do you "fulfil"? What law is he talking about? That is the question. I think that the answer is in the word itself. When we look at this word, it is the word "baros." It means: heaviness, weight, burden, trouble. It is used four times in the Bible as "burden" and as "burdensome" and as "weight."

1 Corinthians 9:20 – "And unto the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might gain the Jews; to them that are under the law, as under the law, that I might gain them that are under the law;"

Notice here that he is talking to two categories of people. He says:

"...unto the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might gain the Jews"

What he is talking about with "gaining" them, is winning them over to Messiah. Then he says:

"...to them that are under the law,"

Just as in his day, there are people who are Jews but who don't observe the commandments. There are secular Jews. Do you know that there are secular Christians? Do you know what a secular Christian is? It is a person who is born to parents who are in church. They "received Jesus" at an early age. This is what is usually printed in the obituaries. They have been living like a thug. Seriously. All of a sudden during the funeral they are "saved."

"We'll join them in Heaven."

This is what they say. How are you going to live like a thug but live for Messiah? You can't unless you are "thugging for Jesus!" He says:

1 Corinthians 9:20 – "And unto the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might gain the Jews; to them that are under the law, as under the law, that I might gain them that are under the law;"

The word he uses here is the word "nomos." The word nomos here in this particular definition of law is:

"...to them that are under the law, as under the law, that I might gain them that are under the law;"

These are people who have access to the law. *Nomos* are those who know the law. These are folks who supposedly know and understand the law, but they are not keeping it. The *anomos* are the ones who are without law. We don't confuse this with *anomia* [lawlessness]. It is *anomos*:

1 Corinthians 9:21 – "To them that are without law, as without law, (being not without law to God, but under the law to Christ,) that I might gain them that are without law."

What Paul is saying here is:

"I have gone to some people who did not know the law. I didn't become like the lawless person in order to win them."

This is what he is saying here. Notice in the parenthesis:

"(being not without law to God, but under the law to Christ,)"

There are people who say:

"Well, I became all things that I might win a few."

Paul never abandoned the Law of God in order to win anybody. Paul didn't go and eat pork to prove that he was like a person or being like them. That is not what he did. He said:

"But not without law to God"

In other words Paul says:

"I always kept the Law of YeHoVaH."

But what Paul did not keep as we have already made clear in this teaching on *Galatians*, is that there is a difference between the Law of YeHoVaH and Pharisaic law. Let me put it this way. There are Baptists who hold to traditions that Pentecostals don't. A Pentecostal person will say that because they don't speak in tongues and they don't operate in the gifts of the Spirit, the Baptist Church is not what? Saved. The people in the Baptist Church will say that those people are operating in the power of the Spirit "by the devil." They are "not" saved. There are folks in one camp who are calling the folks in the other camp "unsaved" people. What we have are people who are saying:

"Okay, we have our law. Those guys don't keep it, so they are not going to make it."

And the other guys are saying:

"We have our law."

**That is basically their traditions.** This is what Paul is dealing with here. He says:

"I never abandoned YeHoVaH's Law."

He was brought up how? He was brought up as a Pharisee. He kept the Pharisaic understanding of the law so that he might gain them.

1 Corinthians 9:21 – "...but under **the law to Christ,**) that I might gain them that are without law."

This is *anomos*.

Paul had been taught the "law" according to Pharisaic doctrines which were twisted and perverted. That is because it had added manmade religious traditions to the law; thus destroying the law. **Yeshua taught the law as it was originally intended.** That is the whole purpose here. It is understanding the law as it was originally intended versus understanding the law as it was taught by those who were responsible.

Remember that Yeshua came to the Pharisees, the Sadducees and the Herodians. He told them:

"Listen. You guys are worshipping in vain."

Why?

"Because you are teaching for commandments, the traditions of men."

The traditions of men contain the law. Understand this. The traditions of men were the Pharisaic interpretations of certain laws that had been handed down by the elders. When it came down to the washing of hands; remember when they came to Yeshua and his disciples and they weren't washing their hands? The elders said:

"How come the disciples don't wash their hands?"

It is not commanded in the Bible how to wash hands, so where did they get the hand-washing ceremony? It was the interpretation of certain commands that the elders handed down through the traditions or through generations, yet it was being taught as if these guys were keeping the law. Yeshua said that they didn't keep the law. If they weren't keeping the law, then what were they keeping? You couldn't tell them that they weren't keeping the law. You can't tell religious people that they are not religious. Imagine telling somebody who has been in church all of their life:

"You are going to Hell."

That won't go over well. Imagine telling somebody who has rejected the commands that they are liars if they say that they love God. How well do you think that is going to go over? They want you to believe that they do love God and that they don't have to keep the commandments. Do you see where the problem comes in?

Galatians 6:3 – "For if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he **deceiveth** himself."

In other words, it is when you think that you are somebody when you are actually nobody. According to "Jesse" [Jackson], we all are "somebody."

Understand what Paul is saying here. He is saying:

"Listen. I know that you are someone in Messiah, but don't let that go to your head. Don't think that you are better than someone else. Do you understand? Don't think that you are better than that guy over there or better than that lady over there. Don't puff yourself up. Humble yourself. Submit one to another. It's hard to submit to anybody if you have a big head."

That is what he is really trying to say.

The word "deceive" [Greek: "phrenapatao"] means: to mislead. Now imagine misleading yourself. It is something when someone else misleads you. You have someone to blame, but what about when you mislead yourself?

Galatians 6:4 – "But let every man **prove** his own work, and then shall he have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another."

This word "prove" ladies and gentlemen, is a really powerful word. Basically it is saying that you really have to examine yourself. That is really all that it is saying. That is something that I lived most of my life without doing. Yeshua said it this way:

"If you are going to follow me, you are going to have to deny yourself."

"Okay. Does that mean that I deny myself the basic things that are needed to survive?"

No. What does he mean when he says that you have to deny yourself? He is talking about the flesh and the works of the flesh. That is it. What are the works of the flesh? Paul talks about the works of the flesh in *Galatians* 5.

Do you know that as a person, the only way that I knew that having sex without being married was wrong was that I heard it somewhere in a sermon one time? Because I heard it somewhere in a sermon one time, it didn't register with me. It didn't. The only time having sex without being married became a problem was when the person you had sex with had a jealous girlfriend or boyfriend and they came after you. Can we just talk with each other here?

When we talk about denying ourselves, what do I deny myself? How do I know what to deny myself? I live in a world where we are pleasure-centered and where everything is about pleasure and self-satisfaction, so how and what am I supposed to deny myself?

We are surrounded by it. I was watching a television program the other day. I was just passing through and there it was. A woman was sitting down and talking to a girl about somebody's husband and going after somebody's husband and it was like the woman was saying:

"Don't you hear yourself?"

The girl said:

"Well, what's wrong with that? I mean, look at how they interact. It doesn't look like they are into each other!"

That is somebody's husband, somebody's wife or somebody's spouse! So what do we deny ourselves? When I read this verse, it says:

"If any man will follow after Messiah, they must deny themselves, pick up their cross daily and follow me."

When I heard this verse, I was in a church full of people who weren't denying themselves anything. The preacher who was preaching it certainly wasn't denying himself certain things. The ministers who were "Amen-ing" certainly weren't denying themselves, so how do I comprehend this stuff? What am I supposed to deny myself? Do I even know what I am supposed to deny myself? Do you?

Many people in the church don't have a clue as to what most of these words that Paul used actually mean. Let me tell you something. "Fornication" covers gays, lesbians, transgenders, bisexuals, homosexuals, queers and every other sexual immoral act that is on the planet.

How can I be a Torah-observant person but have companions who are gay, as my friends? If I believe Torah, it says that people who live certain lifestyles, in certain areas are supposed to be put to death. Now, putting people to death was never the responsibility of an individual. The individual was always responsible for taking a violator to the leadership. There would be a trial.

If I saw someone doing something that in the Torah in the land of Israel was worthy of death; if I killed that person and they were worthy of death, I would be a murderer. All that the people know is that I killed them. I could say:

"Well, he was committing a crime that was worthy of death."

"Well, where is the witness? Who can vouch for that?"

Do you see? There are Christians out there who are saying:

"Brother, are you all still putting people to death? If you are going to keep the law, you might as well keep the whole law."

You have to understand how the law was given. The law was always given in the context of community. No person could take the law into their own hands. We live in a community now that rejects the Law of God, but they still have a community of laws. If a person violates the law, they are entitled to a trial.

A person was entitled to a trial in the Torah in the land of Israel. You couldn't just kill somebody. They had to go to trial. In a community like this, you bring a person to trial by two or three witnesses. If they hear you, they may repent or you bring the matter before the whole congregation. When a matter is brought before the whole congregation; if that person still does not want to hear the congregation, what do you do? You ex-communicate them.

There is that word again. You put them out. When you put them out from the community or from the congregation, they are no longer covered by the God of that community. If you are not covered by YeHoVaH, you have been turned over to Satan. You have no cover. You have no protection. Do you understand what I am saying?

When a person does something in a community, they are entitled to a trial. They are entitled to face their accuser. Remember the man who was kindling firewood on the Sabbath day? What

did they do? They put him in prison. Moses inquired of the Almighty. The Almighty gave him a verdict. Do you understand this? That is the process.

"So let every man prove his own work."

The word says that if you judge yourselves, you will not be judged.

"Well, how do I prove myself?"

Okay, I am not fornicating, but am I lusting? Am I lusting after someone else's wife? How would anybody know that? Nobody would know that unless I tell them. But even if I don't tell somebody, the Almighty sees the heart. That is the deal. You see, he knows what is in a person's heart. When he judges, his judgment is righteous. This is why Yeshua says:

"You have heard it said 'thou shalt not commit adultery'. But I say that if a man lusts after a woman in his heart, he has already committed adultery."

So how do I know? I have to know.

"Am I lusting? Am I lusting after someone else's wife?"

Well, what am I going to do about it if I say "yes" to that question? Am I even willing to ask myself the question? What questions am I willing to ask myself? What questions are off limits? You see, I can hide stuff and lie and cover it up.

"Cursed is the man who hides his sin."

If I am not looking to YeHoVaH as my covering, I don't have a covering. And if I don't have YeHoVaH as my covering, then guess what? I am turned over to Satan. There is nothing to keep him off of me. There is nothing to keep him from taking me captive as a hostage. Are you all following me here? So you can keep it from your wife. You can keep it from your husband. You can keep it from your mama. You can hide it from your girlfriends. You can hide it from everybody, but you can't hide from him. David put it this way:

"If I go to the depths of the sea, you are there. If I go to the highest peak, you are there. Where can I go to get away from you? Nowhere! Nowhere."

I can't put my faith in you examining me. I have to examine myself. Why? That is because you may approve of something in me that the Father flat-out rejects.

"Well brother, there is nothing wrong with getting a little something on the side."

"Brother, there is nothing wrong with it. After all, what's wrong with smoking a little weed?"

Nothing, but how many of you know that a little weed leads to a little more weed? A little more weed leads to a lot more weed. What is wrong with doing a little "something something," as the young folks used to say? I think I am old-school now, so I don't even know if "something something" is still being used. I am constantly reminded by those in my house that:

"You know, there is no help for you."

We have to examine ourselves, ladies and gentlemen. Then we have to examine one another. How many of you have ever heard of being an accessory to the fact or partakers of others' wrongdoing or aiding and abetting?

The place that I have to come to and the place that I have to help you get to is this. I have to get to a place where I see the Law of God above the law of man. There are some things that the law of man will allow me to do. The laws of man won't condemn me for the things that I do; whereas I now have to answer to a higher law. Most people don't look at violating the Law of God as a crime. People look at breaking the laws as a crime. If I run above the speed limit and the police pull me over and give me a ticket, I have violated the law.

If I murder someone or I hit someone and end up in jail and I end up having to go to prison for some time; if I commit crimes that require that I pay fines and be incarcerated, I have no problem saying that I have committed a criminal act. I can say [not guilty] and fight it. I can even say that the punishment outweighs the crime that is committed. I can try to fight for a lower time that is commensurate with the crime, but the thing is that I see it as a crime. Do you understand this? If I don't see breaking his law as a criminal offense, then how am I going to relate to it? I personally know this for a fact.

I haven't had a ticket. It doesn't mean that I haven't violated the speed limit law. I have violated the speed limit law. That is a confession. There are times when I have intentionally violated the speed limit laws; knowing that if I get caught, I am not going to argue. I would take the ticket and pay the ticket.

I remember the last time that I got stopped by the police. I was zooming like (as they say back home) "a bat out of Hell." I was driving and the police pulled me over. He said:

"Can I see your license, registration and insurance?"

I showed it to him. He says:

"Mr. Bailey, do you know why I stopped you?"

I said:

"I think I do, but explain it to me."

That is what I said. He says:

"Sir, you were driving erratic."

I said:

"Man, these people out here are frustrating me!"

I was frustrated. I said:

"They are driving like they have no sense; like they have no place to go!"

He says:

"I know sir, but you have to slow it down. Now, I'm going to let you go this time."

You see, I admitted it. I know that I was driving erratic. The reason I was driving erratic was because I was frustrated; not that that was a justifiable excuse, but I owned what I did. I was not sitting there denying it. I said:

"Listen, I know that I was driving erratic."

That is not to say that it was right, but I was ready to pay the ticket. *If you can't do the time, don't do the crime!* If you are going to do the crime, then be prepared to do the time. That works with manmade laws, but what happens if we can get our minds to see YeHoVaH's Laws as a criminal act? That is because in actuality it is a criminal act in the Kingdom in which I live.

Most of us don't realize that daily we live in two kingdoms. We live in two worlds. We see ourselves in this world-world, but do we see ourselves in the Kingdom? The power that I need to operate in to get things done, comes from this realm. If I don't recognize that what I need comes from this [Heavenly] realm, then I won't be tapped into the realm that I need to be tapped into. I will try to make everything happen in this [worldly] realm.

This realm works in opposition to that [Heavenly] realm. This realm doesn't care about the feasts. This realm doesn't care about the Sabbaths. This realm doesn't care about integrity and honesty and the commands of YeHoVaH. This world doesn't operate by those principles. I live in this world [raises hand] and in this world [lowers other hand]. I can lower my principles to operate and to get along in this [lower] world. But I recognize that there is a day coming where I am going to have to answer to the King of this [Heavenly] world.

I may be able to keep from going to jail. I can get my little radar detector and hopefully it is an accurate one. I can violate the laws and do the kinds of things that I know that I shouldn't be doing and get away with it, but I can't get away with it here [in the Kingdom]. The question is: which of these worlds am I trying to become successful at? I want to succeed here [in this world], but I also want to succeed here [in the Kingdom]. When the day comes when I stand before this King, I want to be able to answer and to feel as if:

"Okay, I know that I didn't do everything right, but my heart desired to do everything right. And the things that you revealed to me, I am trying to get right. I know that I am still working on some stuff. If you had given me a little bit more time, maybe I would have got all of that right."

Do you see? But the question is: are we trying? Are we even aware? Which world are we more focused on and cognizant of in our daily walk? That is going to determine whether I just live in the Spirit or I walk in the Spirit. In order for me to walk in the Spirit, I have to walk in the Spirit in this [worldly] realm. I can live in the Spirit and now I am going to walk in the Spirit. The Spirit is enabling me to live my life in this world in a way that is pleasing to him. It may not necessarily be pleasing to the people in this realm. Is this making sense? I have to prove myself. You have to prove yourself.

My wife lets me travel. She gives me the freedom to go and do ministry. The only time she may have issues with me going and doing ministry is when I am trying to push her to go and do ministry with me. That is the only time. She gives me the freedom to go. In some places where I go are people [who idolize]. They do this because we have a television ministry and because they can find our videos on *YouTube* and because they come into our services and see other people. I heard about one person who said to other people:

"You all worship Arthur Bailey."

Nobody worships Arthur Bailey here. Arthur Bailey doesn't allow that! I don't permit that! As a matter of fact, I do everything to condemn it and to dissuade it, but it doesn't stop people from thinking that other people worship me. There are people who see me as some kind of celebrity because I have a television ministry. I get phone calls. I call people. I called people today.

"Huh-ahh! I can't believe it! I'm talking to Arthur Bailey! I'm talking to Arthur Bailey! Hey!!!"

And it is like:

"My mama doesn't act like that when I call her. None of my siblings do either."

They might say:

"What do you want? Hey, what's up bro?"

But there are people who behave in such a way. I let them calm down and then I talk to them. I am saying this to say that if I don't keep myself grounded, I can allow people's reactions and responses to me to cause me to think that I am somebody when I am nobody. Do you understand what I am saying? It is a terrible thing when you start believing in the celebrity that people try to make you. I remember back in 1992. These are words that I will never forget. It was 1992 and transitioning into 1993. I had left the Baptist Church. I was now in a church where I never thought I would end up because I didn't agree with those people until Father said:

"I want you to go there."

I left the pulpit, the robe, the communion and all of that. I left the [title] "Reverend." I left that status. I was in Michigan. I was in Michigan in the church that I was in. But I was in another church and I was working in the parking lot during rain, shine, sleet and snow. I ruined two good pairs of shoes directing traffic in the snow in Michigan. I remember because Father was preparing me then. He said:

"Do not allow people to put you on a pedestal because none of them will be there when I bring you down."

That was his warning to me. I had no idea where he was taking me, but this is what he said and I will never forget these words.

"Do not allow people to put you on a pedestal because none of them will be there when I bring you down."

Imagine hearing these kinds of words. They have stuck with me. This has kept me in a place where I realize that I am no different than anyone else. I am one of you. I know that there are people who would prefer that I not be that way, but that is who I am. That is just who I am. I have been around people who think that they are something when they are not.

You get a few high-priced automobiles and a few nice homes in different cities. Father forbid you mess around and get an airplane or a couple of jets. It is easy to get big-headed. Some people don't need anything. They just need a few members and they get big-headed. You probably know some people like that.

The point is that every single day I am aware of the demons that used to hang out with me. I am also aware of the fact that those demons are constantly coming back and checking to see if there is a way to get in. The fact is that I go places and I am in places where if I permitted myself to do so, it would be easy for me to do things that are not approved by the word – and I could cover it up.

But here is what I know. **The one that I answer to sees everything.** That is what I know. If I get a thousand miles from that woman, I don't care how pretty, I don't care how fine, I don't care

how sexy, I don't care how nothing it is. There are boundaries. There are things that I am not going to do. There are places that I am just not going to go.

I am consciously aware and mindful of everything. I don't even want people to take a picture and then see something that doesn't look right. That is how closely I watch myself. The reason I watch myself is not because of all of you. It is not because of her. It is because of him.

He is the one that I am trying to please. He is really the only one that truly matters when it comes down to our relationship. Do you understand what I am saying? I mean, I love this woman. I love me some Marvina [his wife] even though sometimes I can't stand her. She knows it. She gets on my nerves, but I can't think of anybody else I would rather have getting on my nerves! Do you understand what I am saying? But what keeps me committed to her is him. That is the one who "keeps" me. I pray that he will keep you.

Galatians 6:4 – "But let every man prove his own work, and then shall he have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another."



## Class Twenty-Four

Evil communications
No Paul, No New Testament
Yeshua calls us to work.
Discipleship versus indoctrination
Add or subtract and destroy
Illegal entry?
What did they preach?

## **Right motivations**

Halleluyah. Bless his name. We are in the Book of *Galatians* chapter 6, part 24. As we look at the Bible, this book is kind of a small book when you think about the volume of material that has been written about it. I have a commentary or at least I had a commentary. John Calvin wrote a commentary on the gospels. He spent a great deal of time in the Book of *Matthew*. There were twelve volumes on that commentary. That is twelve volumes! Each volume was about 300 pages.

I think about all of the different volumes and commentaries that I have had. In Grand Rapids, Michigan, I had a builder come into my home. I transformed the basement into a library. I had shelves built all around. At that time I had a library of books that I think were second to none. There are a few pieces that I didn't even know existed yet. Had I known, I would have bought those as well.

There were a couple of books in particular, including the *Aleppo Codex* and the *Leningrad Codex*. The Leningrad Codex was put together by Eerdmans. The Eerdmans Publishing Company was right there in my home town in Grand Rapids. Some of you know of Baker's books. I knew the Bakers. They were also right there in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Zondervan Publications was right there in Grand Rapids as well! I mean, I could walk to Zondervan. I could walk to Baker's. I could walk to Eerdmans. I didn't walk, but I could.

All of these major publishing companies where there. Most of the doctrines that have permeated denominations (not only nationally but internationally) came right out of those publishing houses. I am saying this because if I had known about the Leningrad Codex that Eerdmans put out, I could have gone to the store and bought it for about thirty dollars. Now it costs about eight hundred dollars and you can't find it. Oh, the things that I wish I knew then that I know now.

We are in the twenty-fourth part of the Book of *Galatians*. It would seem that it would have been something that we could have just blown through, but the fact is that when we look at *Galatians*, I think that *Galatians* is a compilation of all of the letters that Paul wrote. We can look at *Galatians* and I can show you this. We are going to look at some of this today; how Paul incorporates *Romans*. He incorporates *1* and *2 Corinthians*. He incorporates *Thessalonians*. He

incorporates *Colossians* and *Ephesians*. He incorporates all of these particular books that he wrote; right here in the Book of *Galatians*.

We can look at something that he said in *Galatians* and see where he expounded on that very topic in some of his other writings. We are going to look at some of that. I want to read to you from *Galatians* 6, but if you remember, we backed up into *Galatians* 5. The transition is not a good transition from *Galatians* 5 to *Galatians* 6.

We explained to you that Paul's letters were not written in chapters and verses. Commas are sometimes put in places that they probably shouldn't be and a period is sometimes put in a place. A new paragraph, which supposedly represents a transition of thought or subject, is not always necessarily in the right place.

Galatians 5 doesn't conclude at the end of Galatians 5. It continues in Galatians 6 and you can see this.

Galatians 5:24 – "And they that are Messiah's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts."

Galatians 5:25 - "If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit."

Galatians 5:26 – "Let us not be desirous of vain glory, provoking one another, envying one another."

Galatians 6:1 – "Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual,"

He is pulling on what he has just explained in *Galatians* 5. It is that those of us who are spiritual; let us walk in the Spirit. It takes someone who is spiritual to engage in the process of restoration without being overtaken in the same issue. If you are struggling with a particular issue, it is very difficult for you to help somebody with the same issue.

When I was in a drug rehabilitation center, one of the keys that they taught me was that if you are going to successfully walk out your sobriety, you are going to have to avoid people who do drugs. You are going to have to avoid places where drugs are. You are going to have to avoid things that remind you. All of us have triggers in certain areas for things that we used to engage in. If we are not careful, we will find ourselves returning to that like a pig to wallow in the mire.

This is how you will find a person who has asked forgiveness and who has tried to overcome certain issues. They have a certain degree of freedom and sobriety and yet they find themself relapsing into the very thing that they worked hard to get away from. It is the same thing in the spirit; the very same thing. This is why in rehab they say that you have to avoid certain people, places and things.

Paul puts it this way in 1 Corinthians 15:

"Evil communications corrupt good character."

If you are trying to live holy and walk a holy life, should you be in fellowship with someone who is not trying to live and walk a holy life? If your friends are not on the same path that you are on, you are either dragging them or they are holding you back. In order for us to walk successfully in this spiritual walk, you will find (as Yeshua says) that the road continues to narrow. The reason why the road is not so much as narrow as it is lonely is because there are many people who you used to walk with who are no longer on the same path.

It just looks like the road is getting smaller and smaller (if you would). But that is because you have decided that you are going to walk in the truth while being surrounded by the many people in our lives who are not walking in that truth.

You can't restore someone if you are not spiritual.

Galatians 6:1 – "Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted."

Galatians 6:2 - "Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Messiah."

Galatians 6:3 – "For if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself."

Galatians 6:4 – "But let every man prove his own work, and then shall he have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another."

We stopped in the last lesson on verse 4. That is where we are going to pick it up this week.

Galatians 6:5 - "For every man shall bear his own burden."

Galatians 6:6 – "Let him that is taught in the word communicate unto him that teacheth in all good things."

Galatians 6:7 – "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."

We are going to spend some time on that one. Sometimes the harvest that we have sown is delayed.

Galatians 6:8 – "For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting."

Here we are going to see that he is referring back to some things that he said in the fifth chapter of *Galatians*. There he talks about the flesh and the Spirit and what you reap when you sow, engage or put your energy into things. Verse 9:

Galatians 6:9 – "And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not."

Galatians 6:10 – "As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all *men*, especially unto them who are of the household of faith."

## Then he says:

Galatians 6:11 – "Ye see how large a letter I have written unto you with mine own hand."

Galatians 6:12 – "As many as desire to make a fair shew in the flesh, they constrain you to be circumcised;"

Now (like any good letter) Paul is pulling everything that he said together and bringing it to a conclusion.

"...only lest they should suffer persecution for the cross of Messiah."

Galatians 6:13 – "For neither they themselves who are circumcised keep the law; but desire to have you circumcised, that they may glory in your flesh."

Galatians 6:14 – "But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Yeshua Messiah, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world."

Galatians 6:15 – "For in Messiah Yeshua neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision, but a new creature."

Galatians 6:16 – "And as many as walk according to this rule, peace *be* on them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of Elohim."

Galatians 6:17 – "From henceforth let no man trouble me: for I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Yeshua."

Galatians 6:18 – "Brethren, the grace of our Lord Yeshua Messiah *be* with your spirit. Amen."

As I said, in the last lesson we left off in *Galatians* chapter 6, verse 4. I want to pick it up there because I want you to see something. This particular verse is so chock-full of application that it is easy to glance right over it and ignore what is there. He says:

Galatians 6:4 - "But let every man prove his own work,"

I grew up in an environment where people said:

"We are saved by grace, not of works, lest any man should boast."

Concerning spiritual things, that mindset caused me to reject anything that was associated with work. If I do any work or anything that even seemingly looks like I am trying to earn or please; or do anything to warrant my salvation, then I am trying to "earn" my way to Heaven. These are the kinds of things that are said about the Jehovah's Witnesses and the Seventh Day Adventists. These are also the kinds of things that are said by those who don't necessarily buy into the "grace-alone" message which 99% of the Christian community buys into.

"We are saved by grace, not of works, lest any man should boast."

So [they say that] I can't do *anything* to warrant my salvation. It is a complete act of the Almighty.

I was in a denomination. It was the Christian Reformed Church of North America, which are Calvinists. Down here they are Presbyterians. But if the Christian Reformed, the Reformed Presbyterians or those who are of a Calvinist persuasion believe in the doctrine of predestination, it means that everybody who is going to be saved has already been saved. You don't have to do anything; not even evangelize. That is the doctrine of predestination. The only way that you will be able to engage in or are predestined is that you are part of a Calvinist denomination. If you are not a Calvinist, you are not "in." It was even narrowed down. It was interesting. The Calvinist model was primarily a Dutch model. The Lutheran model is a German model. And the Dutch even narrowed it down to the point where if you are not a Calvinist, you are not in.

"If you ain't Dutch, you ain't much!"

It's a funny saying, but this is serious to the core. That is this whole apartheid mindset. I mean, it goes so deep!

Galatians 6:4 – "But let every man prove his own work,"

If I don't have to *do* any work, why do I have to *prove* work? That is not to mention the fact that:

"Okay, what do you mean 'work out your own soul's salvation'? Why do I have to work out anything?"

There are verses in the Bible that contradict belief systems. Even with those verses, the belief systems find ways to contradict the verses. Any denomination will do that, ladies and gentlemen. One of my favorites (not mine personally) is to discredit certain portions of the Bible. There is a reason why people want to discredit the writings of Paul. If you can get rid of Paul, you can get rid of the majority of the New Testament. You can certainly get rid of all of that supernatural stuff. You get rid of all of those gifts. You get rid of all of the power of the Spirit. You get rid of all of that simply by denouncing Paul and his writings. But if you want to hold onto certain parts of Paul's writings, then you can say:

"Well, that's not what that literally means."

When you get into the Concordance and its words and definitions, you will find that many words have several definitions. You can pick and choose, but the only way that you can properly pick and choose is by context. Some things are not cut and dry. Some things are not black and white. You have to be able to look at the context.

Let us understand ladies and gentlemen, that we read from a modern book whose contents were written almost two thousand years ago. This book is three times the age of our country. The writings in this book existed long before there was an America, yet the dominant force that perpetuates the writings in this book is American.

What America is doing is importing its brand and its Western religious concepts to the rest of the world. That is why there are people in Kenya who are celebrating Christmas except that they don't have a White jolly St. Nick on a sleigh. They have a Black Santa Claus riding on a horse. All of that is an adaptation of what has come from America. America has imported so much religion into other places.

I have gone to Israel. I have gone to Russia. I have gone to the Philippines. I have listened to other people when they are reading to me, an American version of the Bible that is in their language. I was really dumbfounded when I was in Israel. I was listening to the Hebrew Scriptures being read. They were sent to Israel in the Hebrew language from Dr. Charles Stanley. It was like:

"Really?"

He is reading in Hebrew, the Hebrew Scriptures from an American perspective. When you have these translations of the Bible in a language other than the language of the people, it is a *translation* that is sent to them with no way of searching it out. There is no *Strong's Concordance* in Urdu. There is no *Strong's Concordance* in Modern Hebrew. There is no *Strong's Concordance* in Russian, so you can't look at the Greek. You can't look at the Hebrew. You can't even look at the origin of the word to get its proper meaning. **You are at the mercy of the translators.** To even try to take somebody into what something actually means – they are looking at the Bible and saying:

"Well, that ain't what the Bible says. See what it says right here?"

And I say:

"Yeah. You have an English version in your language."

You can't even really show them and that is sad. Anybody who is not from America knows what I am talking about.

Galatians 6:4 – "But let every man **prove** his own **work**, and then shall he have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another."

The word there is "dokimazo." It means: to test, examine, prove, scrutinize (to see whether a thing is genuine or not), as metals; to recognize as genuine after examination, to approve, deem worthy.

Brother David and I were having a conversation about the father's role in the marriage of a daughter and even of a son. Here in our country there is a tradition of giving away the bride. The father gives away his daughter to someone who he approves of. If it is someone he doesn't approve of, she finds a way to marry if she really wants to. That is where eloping comes into the picture. Oftentimes when you find individuals marrying someone without the blessing of the father, it is because they know that the father doesn't approve. The approval is an examination to make sure that this person is worthy to uphold the values that I have instilled in my child. I am not going to give my child away to someone who I don't approve of.

As a parent, I don't want my children playing with other people's children that I don't approve of. I use this process when it comes to other things. If you don't, then the illustration is like when you pull into a gas station and use unleaded gas. This is a confession. I was at one of those new-fangled gas stations. The pump had two nozzles. One of them was green and the other one was black. I am accustomed to where when I go to pumps that have different nozzles, I use premium. I don't use certain pumps. I am accustomed to going to the one typically on the far right. I am at the pump and I am trying to get this nozzle into my gas tank. It won't fit and I am getting frustrated! It is like:

"Wait a minute. Why is this thing not fitting?"

Lo and behold after a few seconds of frustration, I decide that I am going to read. All of that frustration was for nought. Now I am feeling like a real heel. Not only am I now frustrated, it is like I am kicking myself for allowing myself to get frustrated. I should have just read the thing up front. The point that I am trying to make is that the nozzle was not approved for my tank.

Sometimes in life we have mechanisms in place that resist us. The only way that I would have got that nozzle into my tank was if I would have destroyed something. Sometimes in order to get our way, we destroy stuff. You can destroy a relationship because instead of wanting approval, you decide that you are going to get around the approval; only to find out later that you should have gotten the approval. Do you understand what I am saying?

The Bible is saying that you have to examine, prove, scrutinize and see whether a thing is genuine or not; to recognize that it is genuine and after examination to approve and deem worthy. Well, what am I supposed to be doing with this?

The next word there is "works" or "ergon." It refers to: business, employment, that which any one is occupied; that which one undertakes to do, enterprise, undertaking; any product whatever, anything accomplished by hand, art, industry or mind. It also means: an act, deed, thing done: the idea of working is emphasized in opposition to that which is less than work. It is used as "work" 152 times; as "deed" 22 times, and as "doing" and "labour" one time each.

What he is saying is:

"Let every man prove his own works."

Why? Why do you have to prove your works? It is because your works will be proven. If you don't prove your works, then you have to wait until the judgment because your works will be proven. Your works will be tried. It is up to us to do it so that in that day we would be approved. And that will cause you to hear either:

"Well done."

Or:

"Depart from me."

"But why should I have to do anything?"

**Paul doesn't teach that kind of grace.** If you avoid certain parts of Paul's letters, you can get away with a grace like that and blame it on Paul. But if you examine, test and prove Paul's writings, you are going to see that Paul doesn't say that. Let's look at it a little further. In *1 Corinthians* 3 he says:

1 Corinthians 3:13 – "Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try..."

"...shall try every man's work of what sort it is."

- 1 Corinthians 3:14 "If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward."
- 1 Corinthians 3:15 "If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire."

The word here interestingly enough (if you look at this particular word) is:

"Every man's work...and the fire shall try"

I am going to show you this a little further. We find the word "prove," which is "dokimazo." But it is also the word "try." It is the same word that we find when we look at "try the spirit" or "test the spirit." Let me show you. Paul explained the works of the flesh earlier in chapter 5 and which obviously are bad works. He described the works of the flesh. He gave us the word. We looked up the definition. Then we looked at what they are.

Speaking to the multitude, **Yeshua said that we are to do good works.** Here we have work that Yeshua says that we have to do or that we are supposed to do. But if you are brought up in a culture where "work" looks like earning something, then what works are you going to do? You are not going to do any work. Yeshua says that there are supposed to be some good works that come from us. He says:

"We are to let our light shine so that men may see our good works."

Do you understand this? Not only are there works, but there are works that are supposed to be seen.

Matthew 5:14 – "Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid."

When you look at *Matthew* 5:14-19, you are looking at what is known in theological circles as the Beatitudes. It begins in verse 1 where the multitudes come to him. He is speaking to a multitude of people. He is not just speaking to the twelve. He is not just speaking to those who have already become his *talmidim* (his disciples). He is speaking to the multitude of individuals who happen to be of Hebrew persuasion. He is saying:

"Listen folks. You are the light of the world."

Now imagine me telling you:

"Did you know that you are the light of the world?"

"Who, me? How can I be the light of anything? How can you even say that?"

Those very words are a clear indication that you don't even know who you are.

It reminds me of a saying of a now deceased minister. A fellow by the name of Miles Monroe made a statement some time ago that I thought was quite profound. He was talking about how he passed a graveyard. He got a revelation as he was passing a graveyard. It was that the majority of the people that were in the graveyard never arrived on earth. They lived and died without ever knowing what their purpose or reason for being here ever was. If you don't know the purpose or reason why you are supposed to be here, you will spend a lifetime doing things that have absolutely nothing to do with the purpose or reason why you are here.

In the environment that I grew up in, the whole goal was to make it to Heaven. The whole point of salvation was to go to Heaven. The opposite of Heaven was Hell. When the goal is Heaven, then the object of obtaining that goal becomes salvation (i.e. give your life to Jesus).

"If you don't give your life to Jesus, you're going to spend eternity in Hell."

How many of you have ever heard those sermons? The idea of eternity in Heaven gives what some would call an "I will fly away" mentality; which manifests itself in songs.

"One of these ol' mornings, I'll fly away. I'll fly away dear Jesus, I'll fly away..."

How many of you have ever heard that song? They are just going to fly away.

"Really? Where are you flying to?"

That was the mindset! It even got to the point where people made up sayings.

"Man, you are so heavenly-minded, you are no earthly good."

Now there are individuals whose ultimate goal is Heaven, therefore there is nothing in the Earth that is of any good. What happens is that individuals spend their life in the Earth with an "I'll fly away mindset." Whereas if the goal was Heaven, don't you think that Yeshua would have just taken the disciples with him when he left? One would have to ask the question: why did he leave them? He said:

"I'm going to come and get you, but not today. Until I do that, you have work to do."

But the way that the church got around this was that the works that Yeshua was talking about were "for the twelve apostles." Now that the twelve apostles are dead and the Bible has been finished, there is nothing left for us to do except to wait on Jesus. With that mindset, what is the point of discipleship? You see, discipleship in most denominations is indoctrination into a

denomination which shows you how to be a good Baptist (for example). So you spend your life trying to be a good Baptist or a good Methodist or a good Pentecostal or a good Seventh Day Adventist or a good whatever denomination it is that you are part of. It is not doing the work that Yeshua called us to do. What are those works? Most people don't even know! All that we know is that we are supposed to do good works. That has been translated into food pantries and non-profit organizations to help pay people's electric bills and to give them their first month's rent, a free phone and some food stamps.

"Brother, there you go hitting food stamps."

I am not hitting anything! I am just demonstrating how this mindset manifests itself. It becomes an entitlement mentality. An entitlement mentality is not just for the poor. There are rich people who feel entitled and that poor people are beneath them. In certain economies there are people who believe that there are people who are born for the sole purpose of serving them. Whole societies are built upon that idea.

Even in this Capitalistic society that we have, there is the high income level or the upper class. You have the wealthy, those who are lower class wealthy and those who are middle class. Then you have the lower middle class and the poor. In India they have what is known as a chase or a system where you fit into one of these categories. Whatever category you are born into is the category that you will spend your life in. We don't have that kind of system, but we have that kind of mentality.

There are people who, if they were born into a certain class, that is the class that they spend the majority of their lives in unless they aspire to do something greater than that. Where I come from, the people have what is called a "crab in the barrel" mentality. You fit where you belong. If you try to get out of that barrel, other crabs are pulling you back down into it.

He says:

Matthew 5:14 – "Ye are the light of the world."

Think about this. Have you ever thought of yourself as the light of the world? Yeshua is saying to this multitude:

"You are the light of the world."

That is what he is saying. You see, Israel was supposed to be the light of the world. This is why *Deuteronomy* says:

"If you hearken to do these commands, I'm going to place you high above all nations. Every nation will look to you."

Yeshua puts it into an example:

"You are a lamp that is on a hill. You don't take a lamp that is supposed to be on a hill and hide it under a table or a bush."

What that does is cause you to lower yourself to a degree that you were not created for. Therefore you give away or don't operate in the capacity or authority that you have been designed to operate in. If you don't see yourself as the light of the world, you are not going to try to shine.

Matthew 5:15 – "Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house."

You may say:

"Well, I'm the only one in my family..."

Then light them up!

"Nobody in my family but me..."

Light them up! That is our role. It is not to be hiding and all mealy-mouthed and afraid and saying:

"But they don't want to hear it!"

They don't want to hear it? You listen to *their* stuff! You start speaking and everybody gets quiet. Now you have a captive audience. It's all about your perspective, ladies and gentlemen.

Matthew 5:16 – "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your **good works,** and glorify your Father which is in Heaven."

Here he says that there are some good works that are supposed to bring glory to the Almighty when people see them. We are going to identify some of this.

Matthew 5:17 - "Think not that I am come to destroy the law,"

What I find to be quite interesting is what he says before this and what he says after. He says in the previous verse:

"Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil."

He is speaking this in the context of being the light of the world and the works that we are supposed to be doing. That is a clue. The average Christian doesn't know that in the day of Yeshua, the Jewish people were not living Torah. They don't know this.

"But they were doing the law."

NO! They were doing Pharisaic denominational practices which Yeshua says were the traditions of men! They weren't keeping the law. One addition to the commandments destroys the entire law; which is why Yeshua uses a specific word:

"Don't come to think that I came to destroy. I didn't come to add anything to it. I didn't come to take away."

You have all of those people; Pharisees and Sadducees alike who have done just that. He later says:

"And none of them are keeping the commandments! Moses gave them the law, but none of them are keeping it! They are teaching for commandments, the traditions of men!"

So what is Yeshua saying? They weren't keeping the law. Why weren't they keeping the law? It was because they had added to it. They destroyed it.

"I didn't come to destroy it."

Why would Yeshua come and then have to keep the law? You have these foolish theologians who are saying:

"He kept the law so we don't have to!"

Well, he went to Heaven. You don't have to do that either! As a matter of fact, if you don't follow him, you won't! In the process of following him, you have to deny some stuff. One of the things that you have to deny is those traditions. You are going to have to deny those denominational doctrines. You are going to have to deny all of that stuff that you have heard it said:

"You don't have to do this."

They didn't know that they weren't keeping the law. They weren't teaching the law. They saw the word "law" and came to the conclusion that even though Yeshua said that he didn't come to destroy the law, that he destroyed it. They didn't understand what "destroy" meant. It means to add to or to take away from.

They understand this when it comes down to the prophesy of revelation – that if you add one thing or take away one thing from this prophesy that your name will be blotted out or it will be removed from you in Heaven. This is exactly what the Torah says. You don't add to and you don't take anything away. That is because **if you add anything or take away anything from it, what you have just done is reduced the Almighty.** If he gave it and you add one thing, you are saying:

"I am greater than him."

If you remove one thing from it, you are saying:

"I am greater than him."

What you do by that is make the creator your servant. This is exactly what the world has tried to do – make the Almighty a servant.

Mathew 5:18 – "For verily I say unto you, 'Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled."

Mathew 5:19 – "Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so,"

Interestingly enough, this word "break" means: to release, to loosen, to undo. Anyone who teaches that you "don't have to do," has just loosed you. They have loosed you from the requirement that the Almighty through Yeshua said that they should do. If anyone:

"...shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach *them*, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven."

If nothing else ladies and gentlemen, we see two things here. There is least and great. I remember way back in the day when I said to myself:

"At least I'm in. At least I'm in."

Think about this. Would you rather be least or great? All of you who desire to be great, let me see your hands. All of you who desire to be least, let me see your hands. It is really a mentality, ladies and gentlemen.

But what of good works? First, what works are we not to do? That is a good place to start. Yeshua spelled it out.

Matthew 23:1 – "Then spake Jesus to the multitude, and to his disciples,"

He is speaking to his disciples and to the multitude. He says:

"Listen. Listen to me guys. There is a system here that was there before I came. It's the scribes and the Pharisees. These guys are lawyers. They are the ones who are the ones who are supposed to teach the law."

The scribes and Pharisees were lawyers. They sat in Moses' seat.

Matthew 23:2 – "Saying, 'The scribes and the Pharisees sit in Moses' seat.'"

If you remember and go back to the days in the wilderness, Moses would sit all day and give counsel to the people. Everybody didn't have a *King James Version* of the Bible. They didn't have it. Moses was given the tablets that were supposed to go into the Ark. When he was given scrolls, they were supposed to be kept outside of the Ark. These were kept in the tabernacle. The people didn't have access to the written word. Since they didn't have access to the written word, they needed interpretation and instructions on how they were to conduct themselves. This is why they would stand [in line].

Imagine the chosen people of the Almighty who have been in the presence of the Almighty and have had the Almighty shout down the commandments. Yet Moses sat all day and all evening explaining with lines and lines of people. They were waiting for their turn to speak to Moses.

Of course we get this word "burden." We will see this word show up later. YeHoVaH told Moses through Jethro, a Midianite who gave Moses counsel, saying:

"Moses you need to choose some men to help you bear this burden."

We are going to make a connection here in a few more verses. These elders were supposed to help Moses bear the burden. What burden? It was the burden of counseling the people in accordance to the commandments and how they were to interpret and conduct themselves and live out the commandments within a community. Moses was sitting there day in and day out.

Yeshua comes along and says:

"These individuals, these religious leaders have now been given the authority of Moses."

In other words, they are the modern day Moses who is responsible for interpreting the law and how you are to conduct yourself. After all, they didn't have scrolls. They didn't have a *King James* Bible either. The only access to the scrolls was in a temple. Or if a synagogue could afford one, people would be able to go to the synagogue to hear the Torah or the prophets read. They didn't have that. They had to come to the scribes and the Pharisees for their disputes.

There was a man who came to Yeshua by night and who said:

"We know you are a man sent from Elohim because no man can do the **works** you do if Elohim wasn't with him."

In the conversation he said to this Pharisee:

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

He was talking about the born again process. Here was a Pharisee who didn't understand what it meant to be born again. Yeshua expected him to understand.

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

This is straight from *Ezekiel*. *Ezekiel* said that he is going to put in you, a new heart. He is going to sprinkle you with clean water and put his Spirit in you, so you must be born of water and you must be born of Spirit. The Spirit (the word) which washes and cleanses is where the renewing of the mind comes. The Spirit reminds us that our minds have been renewed. If the Spirit is not there to enable us and to help us, then guess what? We go back to that old nature. All of us will do that; especially if we decide that we are going to hang out with carnal, unspiritual people. Then we really don't have much of a choice but to go back to the old nature. This is why we need to hang out with people who are walking this path. It is to provoke one another unto good works.

Matthew 23:3 – "All therefore whatsoever they bid you observe, *that* observe and do;"

We could just throw *Shema* right there. That means: to hear and obey.

"...but do not ye after their works: for they say, and do not."

There are some things that they are doing or saying or teaching that is contrary to what they are doing. That is hypocrisy. So what is he saying? He is saying that the scribes and the Pharisees are hypocrites. He is telling that to the people, but he told it to the scribes and to the Pharisees too!

"You hypocrites! You're full of dead men's bones!"

He said to them:

"Woe to you scribes! Woe to you Pharisees!"

He wasn't saying anything to the people that he wasn't saying to the scribes and to the Pharisees. Then he said to the people:

"They are hypocrites! They have the word, but what they are doing is not in line with it. So whatever they say, bid you..."

Basically this means:

"whatever Moses teaches."

How are they going to know? This is why it is dangerous to follow a man. It is dangerous to follow a man because if you follow a man, what are you going to do? You are going to look to the man and follow that man's example. Paul puts it this way:

"If you are going to follow me, follow me as I follow Messiah."

Okay, how do I know how Messiah walked and what do I compare Paul's walk to? How do I know that Paul is following Messiah? If Paul is saying:

"Follow me as I follow Messiah."

Would Paul be teaching something that Messiah didn't teach? Would Paul be teaching something contrary to what Messiah would teach? If Paul is teaching something contrary to what Messiah is teaching, then Paul is saying:

"Follow me as I follow Messiah and wherever I'm not following Messiah, don't follow me."

I am just breaking it down for you. If Paul is following Messiah, then he must be teaching what Messiah taught. If Messiah didn't come to do away with the commands, then Paul certainly didn't do it. Paul even taught us that he believed in the commands as they had been given. But look at what Yeshua said:

"Don't follow them. Don't do what they do."

As a young minister who didn't know ministry, my only examples were the ones who were ministers before me. Being called to the ministry; I never had to conduct myself as a minister. I didn't even know how ministers were supposed to conduct themselves. So how am I going to learn how a minister conducts themself? You watch them. This is why you will find in denominations that most ministers preach and teach like people in that denomination. They practice. You will never see a Catholic in a traditional Catholic Church saying:

"And the Lo-o-o-r-d-d-d-d-d-ah!"

You would scare those Catholics right out of there! The next thing you know, they are forbidding the Catholic priest from going down to the Baptist Church on his day off.

"You are picking up some of those Baptist ways and you are bringing them in here. We don't want you going down there anymore."

If you have been part of a denomination, you will find that in every church in that denomination, the preachers preach a certain way. How do the young preachers end up preaching like the old preachers? Do you think that they got that from the Bible? They learned that from watching their preachers. If you go into a congregation and you are Messianic and the minister is wearing a prayer shawl and a kippah and you come up as a minister in that congregation, guess what you are going to do?

I remember that there was a church in Midland, Michigan. A preacher had a certain haircut. All of the preachers had the same haircut. It's that way in some places!

He says:

"Don't do what they do."

Matthew 23:4 – "For they bind heavy burdens and grievous to be borne and lay *them* on men's shoulders; but they *themselves* will not move them with one of their fingers."

You have Pharisees with armor-bearers. That is what you have. They are not carrying their own briefcase. They have an armor-bearer. They are not doing certain things. They have other people to do it for them.

Matthew 23:5 – "But all their works they do for to be seen of men: they make broad their phylacteries, and enlarge the borders of their garments,"

I just did some research on phylacteries because in the past it was enough for me to know that it was a leather-bound strap that they tie around their arm above their heart with Scriptures engraved upon it and a box where they put certain passages inside of it. But it went much deeper than that. This also falls in line with people who carry the Torah scroll and who let people touch it and kiss it. **It is grounded in superstition!** 

In most of Judaism, **the spirit behind Judaism is mysticism.** Mysticism is where the whole "four levels of Torah" comes from. In order for you to be a rabbi who is able to go to all four levels, you have to attain certain knowledge. This came as a mindset that was etched in Judaism long before they knew anything or believed in the Holy Spirit. **The Holy Spirit is only given to those who follow Messiah Yeshua.** It is the Holy Spirit that takes us into the deep things. So if people are going into the deep things that don't have the Holy Spirit, how are they getting there?

The Holy Spirit is only given to those who follow Messiah Yeshua.

Yeshua says it this way:

"Every one of these guys who have come before me; they are thieves and they are robbers."

He says:

"I am the door. The only way that you get in is through the door. If you get in by any other way, you will be cast out!"

What is he saying? There are other ways in. **There are other ways into the supernatural. It is called witchcraft.** You can move into the supernatural and you can get things out of the spirit realm that are accurate. There are people who read palms. There are sorcerers. There are witches. There are soothsayers, charlatans. There are people. There was a witch of Endor. YeHoVaH says:

"I want you to get all of these people out of the land."

These are people who are able to go into the spirit realm other than through Maschiach [Messiah]. There are people who can go into the spirit. "1-800-DION." I am telling you. They have tarot cards. They can read your future. They can tell you stuff and let me tell you something. Many people swear by them. They have gone and **illegally** pulled things out of the spirit.

Yeshua acknowledged the fact that there is an <u>illegal</u> way to get into the spirit realm that is not through the door.

It is really shameful when Messianics who have access to the Holy Spirit look to the sages for wisdom. The sages don't have wisdom. Wisdom comes from above! Wisdom comes by the

Spirit. There is the gift of wisdom that comes from being filled with the Holy Spirit. If I want wisdom, then all I need to do is go to my Father. I don't need to go to ancient books. Is there anything wrong with ancient books? For information purposes, no.

The phylacteries were a form of superstition. The boxes are amulets. This is the same thing that you see in vampire movies. People figure that if a vampire comes, all they need is a cross. Now you have people doing this (makes a cross sign with his arms). This is what they do as a time out in the sports arenas. Then you have people who wear crosses. There is the rosary. Gangsters have big crosses and cross tattoos. It moves into the realm of superstition where people believe that there is some power in the cross. Now you have people singing:

"There's power, power in the blood."

Then there is power in the name. There is no other name. These things go into a variety of avenues.

When Yeshua said:

"Whatever you ask for in my name..."

He wasn't saying that you need to end your prayer in Jesus' name. He is saying:

"When you as a follower of Messiah are walking in authority and doing the will of the Father, whatever you ask the Father <u>in my authority</u>, he is going to give it to you."

But people can take that and use it as some kind of magic potion or magic thing or magic spell. I have been there. I remember. When I was in drug addiction, these spirits would come. I would be laying there. I was just held. It is weird laying in your body with something on you and you can't move. You have no control. All you can do is move your eyes and say something.

I remember reading a Larry Lee book. I remember people saying:

"If it ever happens to you, just say the name 'Jesus.' The devil is scared of the name 'Jesus.'"

I remember that I said the name 'Jesus' and that thing lifted. Now the question was: is the power in the name 'Jesus' or in me believing that by my saying 'Jesus' that it would do something? You see, it was an exercise of faith. They could have said:

"All you have to do is say 'abracadabra.""

There are some people who are taught:

"Just say 'abracadabra.""

They say "abracadabra" and something happens. Do you understand? It is really just an exercise of faith that people have attributed to certain sayings as if there is magic or power or something.

"If I say this, something supernatural is going to happen."

The same thing was associated with the wrapping of tefillins and phylacteries; even for people who want to pray with a prayer shawl. Let me tell you something folks. There is nothing in my mind that says that there is anything wrong with a leather band with words of Scripture

written on it. The question is: why are you doing it? Where did it come from? It came from *interpretation*. Whose interpretation?

When you go to the origin of a thing, you can see where it came from. You can even see the spirit from which it came. Do you understand what I am saying? There are Messianics now who are tying tefillins as if Yeshua tied tefillins or that he wore phylacteries or that he davened. There are a lot of things that people are simply importing in. They have no idea where it came from or why they are doing it. It *seems* spiritual. Let's keep reading.

He says:

Matthew 23:5 – "But all their works they do for to be seen of men: they make broad their phylacteries, and enlarge the borders of their garments,"

Their tzitzits are hanging almost all the way to the ground.

Matthew 23:5 – "And love the uppermost rooms at feasts, and the chief seats in the synagogues,"

These are the front row seats at the fights. I remember when I was sitting in my Baptist Church. The ministers would all come out. They would have all of their chairs sitting there. In most Baptists Churches there are the thrones. Then there are the two shorter thrones.

Remember John and James, sons of Zebedee? Do you remember when their mother came to Yeshua and said:

"When you inherit your throne, when you come to your throne, I want my sons to be sitting at your left and at your right."

There was a practice in the Baptist Church that I was in. If I had been assigned one of the bench seats and today I am going to do the preaching, I get elevated to one of the thrones. It is not the big throne, but the smaller throne. I sit in the smaller throne until the pastor gets up and introduces me. When the pastor gets up and introduces me, I am supposed to transition from the little throne to the big throne because today I am going to be the one bringing the message. Then the pastor introduces me and goes back. What is going to happen is that before I get up, he says:

"Today we're going to have a message brought to you by Arthur Bailey. After this choir selection, the next voice you hear will be the voice of Arthur Bailey."

Now the pastor goes back and sits in the smaller throne because I am sitting in the big throne. When the choir finishes singing, I get up. Has anybody ever seen that happen? No? Just a couple of you? You saw it. You just didn't know what was going on. You had no idea what was going on. These were the instructions that only we elite had. You were just wondering:

"Why do they keep moving chairs? Why are they playing musical chairs?"

That is the chief seat. That is Moses' seat. That is Moses' seat in the Baptist Church.

"the chief seats in the synagogues,"

Matthew 23:7 - "And greetings in the markets,"

And get this one:

"...and to be called of men, 'Rabbi, Rabbi.'"

If you weren't in the synagogue, you were called "Reverend" in the church. So you go from minister to Reverend. If you have never been called "Reverend," you don't know what that does to the psyche. He says:

Matthew 23:8 – "But be not ye called 'Rabbi': for one is your Master, even Messiah; and all ye are brethren."

There are a lot of folks today who are followers of Messiah. They not only call themselves "Rabbi," but they demand that people call them "Rabbi." Yeshua says:

"But be not ye called 'Rabbi:"

Basically he is saying:

"Don't let people call you that."

If you don't let people call you that, you are certainly not going to demand that people call you that. This is one of the ways that I know that I am in a place that is probably going to have a whole lot of traditions that we are not supposed to be doing.

Matthew 23:9 – "And call no *man* your father upon the earth: for one is your Father, which is in heaven."

Matthew 23:10 – "Neither be ye called masters: for one is your Master, *even* Messiah."

Matthew 23:11 – "But he that is greatest among you shall be your servant."

Matthew 23:12 – "And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased [humbled]; and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted."

Good works are the works that Messiah did. When Paul talks about proving your works, now we see works that we *shouldn't* be doing as Messiah gave us. Let me end this with works that we *should* be doing.

John 14:10 – "Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me. he doeth the works."

That is first and foremost. When healing takes place, it is Father working in someone. When prophesy takes place, it is Father speaking through someone. When miracles are being performed, it is Father working miracles through a vessel who has yielded itself for miracles to be operational. It is the Father doing the work in all of us.

John 14:11 – "Believe me that I am in the Father, and the Father in me: or else believe me for the very works' sake."

John 14:12 – "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater *works* than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father."

We know that Yeshua said that there are works that we are supposed to do. Paul says to prove your works so that when they are tried – they are going to be tried in the fire. What this is saying to me is this. What are the motives for doing what you are doing? Why are you doing

what you are doing? Why are you doing good? Why are you helping someone? What is the motivation behind your actions or your activities or what it is that you are doing? We always have to examine our works.

A lot of us don't even realize until people we have done good works to, do something crazy. Then we begin to think:

"After all I've done for you? After all I've done for you?"

I remember a gentleman, a brother. I gave him a car. He backslid. I don't think it was the Holy Spirit. It was a spirit. A spirit started talking to me.

"That car that you blessed him with, now he's using it to do devilment."

What that voice did or attempted to do was make me want to take back what I had given him. I know it wasn't the Holy Spirit because I got rebuked when I started thinking along those lines. It was after awhile of course, because I had allowed myself to go there. There have been other times when I have done stuff; especially when people have manipulated me or begged me for something that made me want to do something for them. Then it comes to a point where the ingratitude or the ungratefulness or whatever the case may be is there. You remind them of what you did and they say:

"I never asked you for anything. I didn't ask you to do that."

Has anybody ever said that to you? Remember that feeling that you got? That feeling should say to you that your motives weren't right when you did it and you did it with some kind of expectation in return; which is contrary to what Yeshua said. You don't give to them who are able to pay you back. Give to those who are unable to give back to you. Don't be like the heathens. When you release something and you are doing it because you believe you are being led to do it, you shouldn't be second guessing it at some later point. Your motives have been exposed as not necessarily pure. We can deceive ourselves in thinking that what we are doing, we are doing to the glory of the Almighty until we are face to face with reality. It is at that moment:

"Now wait a moment. Did you do this to the glory? Because if you did this to the glory of the Almighty, you don't have a right to have an emotion associated with this. You did what you did and your hands are done. Amein?"

He says:

"Greater works shall you do because I go unto my Father."

Paul gives this example. He says:

Titus 2:1-2 – "But speak thou the things which become sound doctrine. <sup>2</sup>That the aged men..."

He has something for everybody; for the older men, for the older women and for the younger men. He says to the aged men:

"...be sober, grave, temperate, sound in faith, in charity, in patience. <sup>3</sup>The aged women likewise, that *they be* in behavior as becometh holiness, not false accusers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things; <sup>4</sup>That they may teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children, <sup>5</sup>To

*be* discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of Elohim be not blasphemed. <sup>6</sup>Young men likewise exhort to be sober minded. <sup>7</sup>In all things shewing thyself..."

In other words, be an example to the young men with:

"...a pattern of good works:"

Good works in teaching..."

"...[in] doctrine"

Good works in:

"...shewing uncorruptness,"

You are not doing things with the wrong motive. You are not misappropriating or misusing or abusing. Good works in:

"...gravity, sincerity, 8Sound speech, that cannot be condemned:"

Nobody is going to come and say:

"You said."

And now you are not doing what you said.

"...that he that is of the contrary part may be ashamed, having no evil thing to say of you."

I am looking at this and it is like, okay. If I was to do a survey of people who know me, what would they say about me if they had the freedom to do so without me being around? What if they could speak freely about what they think about me? What do you think they would say about you?

What he is saying here is that basically there is a way that you are supposed to conduct yourself. If I was to go around the community and your neighborhood and ask people about you, what would they say? How do your neighbors see you? How do the people who know you see you? That's a scary thought, isn't it? The bottom line is how does the Almighty see you? How are you conducting yourself? What kind of image are you giving people? If you are a believer, you supposedly represent him. Whatever people see in you is a reflection of him.

<sup>9</sup>"Exhort servants to be obedient unto their own masters, and to please them well in all things; not answering again, <sup>10</sup>Not purloining, but shewing all good fidelity; that they may adorn the doctrine of God our Savior in all things."

Now he gets into the purpose of grace.

<sup>11</sup>"For the grace of Elohim that bringeth salvation..."

This is a specific grace. This is *saving* grace.

"...hath appeared to all men,"

Why? Because YeHoVaH desires that all men are saved and come to the knowledge. That is not just to be saved, but to *come to the knowledge of truth!* **Truth is what is going to set you** 

**free!** You can have people who are saved but who are in bondage. You can have people who are struggling in areas that the power of the Holy Spirit provides: obedience, self-denial, resistance.

I remember when I was trying to quit smoking. There is a simple, simple, simple solution. The Spirit says:

"Don't buy them and don't beg. Don't buy them and don't beg."

Do you know that is a pretty simple solution? The only way that I got cigarettes - I remember there was a time when somebody threw one away. Those were desperate times. I was young then. Somebody would throw a cigarette out and it wasn't done.

I am sure that if I asked some people in here if they ever did that, that I am not alone. I am not going to put you on the spot like that. I have picked up cigarettes. I am not proud of it. It is just reality. So don't buy them and don't beg. And guess what? You are going to find yourself having to deny yourself. You have to say to yourself:

"I'm not going to buy them."

Do you know that I have never known a cigarette to jump off of the store shelf and jump into people's pockets? I have seen this commercial about the *Tums* tablets. You know, you have had food. You have had a meal and your meal follows you and smacks you around. I have seen that commercial. But for cigarettes, I have never seen it! There are two ways that people typically get them. They what? They buy them and they ask for them. Don't do it. That's the remedy for quitting. But:

Titus 2:11 – "For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men,  $^{12}$ Teaching us that, denying ungodliness..."

There is that word, "denying."

"...and worldly lusts,"

There are some things that I have to say "no" to. Just because I say "no" to a habit doesn't mean that I am not going to do it. I may have to say "no" a thousand times.

"...we should live soberly,"

This is the grace that brings salvation in what it teaches. We should deny ungodliness.

"Well, what is ungodliness?"

We need to identify it. We need to deny worldly lusts. Worldly lusts are not just sexual. There are some things that the world lusts after. There are some things that the world pursues. Yeshua says:

"Seek first the kingdom of YeHoVaH and his righteousness, and all of the things that the world is lusting after or the world is seeking or the world is pursuing will be added."

Father knows what we need. So he says:

"Denying worldly lusts."

What are worldly lusts? Worldly lusts are the stuff that we pursue that keeps us from pursuing righteousness. Worldly lusts are the stuff that we do that causes us to violate the commands.

"...we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;"

While we are...

<sup>13</sup>Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great Elohim and our Saviour Yeshua Messiah;"

<sup>14</sup>"Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works."

<sup>15</sup>"These things speak, and exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no man despise thee."

This is the role of ministers. It is not to tickle people's ears, but to give them the truth that makes men free. It is not denominationalism and doctrines, but teachings that are literally going to help them overcome. That is what we are trying to do here, ladies and gentlemen. The whole goal is that if we begin to look at this proving your works – as I said that verse in itself is so chock-full of information. When we begin to look at trying to apply it, if I am going to examine my works, I have to identify what they are. What works am I doing? When I look at my life, it is like:

"Okay, Arthur, what are you doing? What are you doing? Okay, you've got ministry. What are you doing in ministry? Okay, you are teaching. What are you teaching and what is the goal? What are you trying to accomplish?"

"What am I trying to accomplish? I am trying to accomplish helping people get free so that they can live for Messiah with all of their heart, with all of their soul and with all of their mind."

Once I begin to follow this out, it is going to affect the kind of teachings that I teach. If I have a sermon to preach next week and I approach it like this:

"Okay, I have a sermon to preach next week. What am I going to preach? Okay, I can preach on this. That's what I'll do, I'll preach on this."

I would do my research and come and present my sermon. There was a time in my life that that is what I did.

"This is your week to preach bro, what are you bringing?"

"Okay, I've got a good message."

I was surrounded by people who did that. There are people out there who can move you. They can move you with their eloquence and with their showmanship in how they present a good message. You can get really excited. There are people who can preach you into excitement; where you get excited. How many of you have ever heard people say:

"That was a good message!"

"What did he preach?"

"I don't know, but it was a good message."

There are folks who can preach like that. What I see Messiah doing is addressing the things in people's lives that will help them get ready for his return.

We began to look at what we do along those lines. This is not just for me, it is for my household. If I am doing this, what is my role as a father? What are my works as a father? What is my role as a dad and as a husband? What is my work? When I began to examine and prove my works in every aspect of my life, then it shows me my motivation and why I do what I do. If I need to make some adjustments in my motivation, then my motivation is not in the right place. I think that is true with all of us.

The reason why I don't cheat on my wife is not because I don't want to hurt her. I don't cheat on my wife because my Father says that this is how I am to conduct myself. If I am going to conduct myself, then I am not going to do that. I know that cheating can start with the eyes. It can start with a thought, so it's not that I "look but don't touch." Don't even look!

When I look at my motivation for what I do, I have to examine it. If I am going to be true to examining myself, then I have to be willing to examine my works in every area and in every aspect to make sure that my motivations are inspired of Heaven. I am not there yet, but I can guarantee you this. I am working on it. What about you?

You see, my earlier thoughts were that I need to raise my children like my parents raised me. I have to give them the tools that they need so they can go out and be successful. My motivations have changed. My motivation is that I need to raise my young ones in the fear of YeHoVaH. I need to teach my young ones. I need to teach my young ones and my old ones. In order for them to be successful, they are going to need his help. And I know that as a father, I don't want to help any of my children who don't want to do what I say.

I don't know any parent who can continue to provide everything that their children want but who continue to disrespect and disobey them. That is not wise parenting. Loving parents discipline their children. If I want my children to be successful, I know that my children are not going to be successful from a biblical perspective without the fear of YeHoVaH. Part of my desire for them to be successful means teaching them his commands. That is so that when they are away from me and raising their own family, they are going to do the same thing.

What are my motivations? What are yours? When I start examining this ladies and gentlemen in every area of my life, it totally affects how I see things and how I respond and react or how I implement or start something.



# Class Twenty-Five

Prove your works.
Following traditions is wrong.
The right to choose
Bearing the right burden
Be not deceived.
Watch your words.
You are what you reap.

### Reaping what is sown

I believe this is the most profound teaching in the Book of *Galatians* that we have done to date. This is part 25 and we are in chapter 6 of the Book of *Galatians*. We have been able to get through four verses over the last three lessons. You will see why we are taking our time to go through this. I believe that Paul saved the best for last. He saved the best of the Book of *Galatians* for chapter 6. He begins to reiterate and to conclude, but he reminds readers of the things that he has already communicated. He sums it all up. Then at the end of the six chapters, he brings it to a close. I believe that there is so much packed in here. I didn't want to cheapen it or to sell you short. I will read it and then we will pick up where we left off in the last lesson.

Galatians 6:1 – "Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted."

Galatians 6:2 - "Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ."

Galatians 6:3 – "For if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself."

Galatians 6:4 – "But let every man prove his own work, and then shall he have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another."

Galatians 6:5 - "For every man shall bear his own burden."

Galatians 6:6 – "Let him that is taught in the word communicate unto him that teacheth in all good things."

Galatians 6:7 – "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."

Galatians 6:8 – "For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting."

Galatians 6:9 – "And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not."

Galatians 6:10 – "As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all *men*, especially unto them who are of the household of faith."

Galatians 6:11 – "Ye see how large a letter I have written unto you with mine own hand."

Galatians 6:12 – "As many as desire to make a fair show in the flesh, they constrain you to be circumcised; only lest they should suffer persecution for the cross of Christ."

Galatians 6:13 – "For neither they themselves who are circumcised keep the law; but desire to have you circumcised, that they may glory in your flesh."

Galatians 6:14 – "But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of your Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world."

Galatians 6:15 – "For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision, but a new creature."

Galatians 6:16 – "And as many as walk according to this rule, peace *be* on them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God."

Galatians 6:17 – "From henceforth let no man trouble me: for I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus."

Galatians 6:18 – "Brethren, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ *be* with your spirit. Amen."

In the last lesson we left off in *Galatians* chapter 6:4. Here is what it says:

Galatians 6:4 – "But let every man **prove** his own **work**, and then shall he have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another."

We looked at that word. The word "dokimazo" means: to test, examine, prove, scrutinize (to see whether a thing is genuine or not), as metals; to recognize as genuine after examination, to approve, deem worthy.

"Let every man examine, test, prove, scrutinize his own work."

The usage of this word is: prove, try, approve, discern, allow, like, examine.

Remember that we have to try the spirit and test the spirit to see if it is from YeHoVaH. We talked a little bit about how to do that. The "works" here is the word "ergon." It is used many times in Yeshua's, Paul's and the other apostles' writings. Yeshua says that we are to let our light so shine that men shall see our good works. Our works are not only supposed to glorify the Father, but to cause others to glory in our Father who is in Heaven.

**Faith without** *ergon*, or **faith without works is dead.** Works is a pivotal part of the believer's life. Paul puts it this way in the Book of *Ephesians* when he talks about how **we are YeHoVaH's workmanship created unto good works.** There are bad works and there are good works. The *Hebrews* writer says let us now not necessarily lay the elementary foundations of the faith, but let us move on from that. He talks about not laying again the doctrine or the teachings

on faith toward Elohim or repentence from dead works. Basically this is repenting from dead works and then faith toward YeHoVaH. We have to conclude that works are a part of our walk. I know that many of us came out of environments where they say:

"We are saved by grace, not of works."

Works are not something that we do to earn salvation. Salvation can't be earned. Deliverance can't be earned. Being made whole can't be earned. But we know that when we come into the knowledge of the Almighty, if we are going to be true to the Messiah and our lights are going to shine, there are going to be some works.

There are the works that the churches do. There is the stuff that the church teaches us concerning evangelism, serving, feeding people, visiting folks and all of those kinds of things. Those are church works to which people can ascribe value from the Scriptures, to justify and to encourage people to do those kinds of things. But concerning the works that Yeshua did, how many of you know that Yeshua never ran a food pantry? He fed people. There was a miraculous feeding both times. Halleluyah! How many of you know that Yeshua didn't go door-to-door?

There are works that denominations teach us that we should do. When we do those works, we believe that we are doing the works that are founded in the Bible. I am not denying or denouncing that; but when Yeshua talked about works, he was talking about supernatural abilities that occur when we yield to the Spirit working inside of us to do the works that are of Heaven.

These works are generally done in a supernatural way. There are some natural things that we do. Don't get me wrong. We are his workmanship created unto good works which were preordained. Every one of us has a path that has been preordained. As we get into relationship with our Father, he orders our steps along the path upon which he preordained us to walk.

This word also translates as "deed." The word "ergon" is used 152 times as "work," 22 times as "deed," and once each as "doing" and as "labor."

Why does everyone need to prove their own works? It is because our works will be proven or tried on the Day of Judgment. We looked at Scriptures about this.

What are good works? We identified some good works. We looked at examples of works that we were not to do. When he is talking about works, Paul is dealing with the idea of us making a distinction between the works that are of the flesh and the works that are of the Spirit; except that he doesn't use the word works of the Spirit. He uses the word fruit.

There are fruits and there are manifestations. We call these gifts. There are the manifestations of the Spirit and there are the fruits of the Spirit which equate to and reveal themselves as works. That work is within us where the word is transforming and changing us from the inside out. Halleluyah. It is not from the outside in. With this work, the word is transforming us. Our minds are being renewed. We start seeing things the way that Father sees things. That is the key: seeing things the way that Father sees things.

We are either going to see things the way that we see them or we are going to see things the way that he sees them. The only way that we are going to be able to see things the way that he sees them is that his word (which is him) resides in us. It renews our minds and transforms the way that we see so that now through the mind of Messiah we can see the way that he sees. This causes everything to change.

We looked at some examples. We noted that good works are the works that Messiah did, so there are some good works. There are also some works of the flesh. We need to pay attention to that. Paul gave examples to Timothy of good works and how works were to be proven. We looked at that in an earlier lesson. Then Paul used similar language when writing to the Corinthians and the Thessalonians. Paul uses the same word when writing to Timothy concerning deacons and the whole idea of being proven. In *2 Corinthians* 13:5 he says "examine."

2 Corinthians 13:5 – "Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; **prove** your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates?"

Examine yourselves. Who should examine who? I can examine you or I can examine myself. You have to be honest with yourself. When I start examining myself, I realize that I spend a lot more time examining other people than I do examining myself. When I examined myself and realized that I spent a lot more time examining other people than I did examining myself, I realized that my "examining" was off. I was examining the wrong thing. That doesn't mean that I shouldn't examine. I have to make some decisions concerning relationships. I have to examine, but I also need to examine myself. I have to know what my motives are.

I have had a lot of experiences in different areas that were not holy. As I was sharing with a congregation out in California, people come to services for a variety of reasons. Every last one of you is not here for the same reason. I know that. Just because you walked through that door, it doesn't necessarily mean that you came here to do good or that you came here on your own conviction. It doesn't mean that you came here because someone told you that in order to have relationship with or to hang out with us or to be with us that you have to do this. That is the emphasis we have put on it for our children.

"If you are going to live in our house, you have to come to church with us."

We realize that this is a rule that we established. Whether they accept that rule as their own or not will be determined by how quickly they get out of here when the service is over. That is examining. I am examining my house. I am examining what they are doing. The beauty of this setup is that I can see almost everything except for around that corner. I can see when folks are listening or folks are distracted and all of that kind of stuff. You can see (if you are honest with yourself).

I have come to the conclusion that for some folks in my house, the only reason they are doing this is because I am requiring it of them. It is not because they want to. There are husbands who come to services because their wives require it. There are wives who come to services because their husbands require it. There are boyfriends who are trying to get hooked up with you and who come to services because you require it. It is not that they are coming here because they want to. They are coming here for you! Don't get it twisted. You are all excited because they are here, but cut them off and see if they still come. You will see why people do what they do if you pay attention. Halleluyah.

You have to examine yourself. Why is it that you are taken by certain things? Why is it that you allow yourself to fall for certain things? Why is it that you allow yourself to be motivated by certain things? Why is it that you allow yourself to choose the company of certain people that may be contrary to your beliefs? Why are you choosing relationships with those who don't agree with you? Maybe it is because you don't agree with what you say that you agree with. You agree

more with them than with what you say that you agree with. Birds of a feather [flock together]. Ducks don't hang out with chickens. Do you hear what I am saying?

So examine yourself and see whether you are in the faith. When I started examining myself some time ago, I realized that I was going through the motions. It wasn't that I set out to go through the motions. I was doing what the leaders told me that I was supposed to be doing. When I was in the Baptist Church, they told me that I was supposed to do "this," so I did it. When I went to the Pentecostal Charismatics, they told me that I was supposed to be doing "this," so I did it. When I went to the Lutherans, they told me:

"You are supposed to be doing this."

So I did it. In the Christian Reformed it was the same thing. Everybody has their own set of righteousness. In order to demonstrate yourself as a person in good standing, you do what they require; so many do. There are many folks who only seek the baptism of tongues because they are in a congregation that teaches that you must be baptized with the "evidence of speaking with other tongues." Folks who are not in those congregations aren't seeking the baptism of the Holy Spirit because that is not what they are being taught. Wherever you are, there are people who are keeping the Sabbath because they are taught to do so. Even though it is in the Bible, I could not understand why some people say:

"We don't keep the dietary laws; not because they are commanded in the Bible, but because of health reasons."

Really? If it is because of "health reasons," how can you ascribe whether you will sin or are not to sin based on those health dietary laws? Do you hear me? I am talking about the Seventh Day Adventists. That is who I am talking about. Let me just throw it out there. They want to keep the Sabbath but reject the feasts. They want to keep the Sabbath but reject the law. The dietary laws are part of that law, but they make dietary life part and parcel with being a Seventh Day Adventist.

You don't eat pork because it is not healthy; not because the Bible says "don't eat it" and even though you use the Bible to make the argument. There are people who do things denominationally; not because it is scriptural. They use the Scripture to verify and validate what they do as a denomination. I was in all of these denominations. I was doing what they said to do in order to be in right standing with them. But the more that I read the Bible, the more I realized that they weren't in right standing. I was following the traditions of men. It is not just a Messianic Jewish thing. There are traditions of men in the Baptists. There are traditions of men in the Pentecostals. There are traditions of men in the Adventists. There are traditions of men in every denomination!

"Examine yourselves whether you be in the faith."

Paul is telling these individuals this. Why would he tell them this? It is just as Yeshua said to the Pharisees:

"Search the Scriptures. You think you have eternal life? Search the Scriptures. The very person that you are trying to persecute is the one who brings eternal life to you. Search the Scriptures! The Scriptures are talking about me!"

There are people who are going through the motions, but who are rejecting the message. They are creating their own message that they sprinkle some Scriptures upon. It looks like the

biblical message. They are going through the process of maintaining good relationships among their Pharisaic denominations and sects thinking that they are pleasing the Almighty until the Almighty comes and looks at them in the face.

"Do you guys think you have eternal life? Why are you trying to kill me? Do you say that you are Abraham's seed? Abraham never would have done something like that. You think you have eternal life and yet you are trying to kill the one who brings eternal life. If you kill me, your faith is doomed!"

Guess what? That whole Pharisee spirit and denomination is still alive today. It is masquerading itself as Messianic Judaism.

2 Corinthians 13:5 – "Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; **prove** your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Yeshua Messiah is in you, except ye be reprobates?"

"Pray without ceasing" is what Paul writes. He uses this term again.

1 Thessalonians 5:17-19 – "Pray without ceasing. <sup>18</sup>In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of YeHoVaH in Messiah Yeshua concerning you. <sup>19</sup>Quench not the Spirit."

How can you quench the Spirit? You can because you have that ability.

1 Thessalonians 5:20 – "Despise not prophesyings."

How can you "despise not prophesying?" Many of you who come from different denominations hear someone prophesying and skepticism kicks in right away. It just happens.

"Well, I don't know about that."

How do you *not* know? Many people don't even give prophesy an opportunity because of the denominational dogma and garbage that has been fed into their Spirit. I have heard people say:

"You can't hear from God."

You might not, but I can! How are you going to tell me who I can hear from? Do you hear me? People will put you into their box.

"Well, I don't believe that."

Okay, then you are just an unbeliever, so guess what that means? If I am a believer and you are an unbeliever, how are we going to get along? We are going to contend every step of the way. I believe but you don't. Now if I allow you to feed your belief onto me, then guess what? I will become like you. If you continue to resist and reject what I am saying, then at some point I have to shake the dust anyway. I might as well shake it off now.

1 Thessalonians 5:20-21 – "Despise not prophesyings. <sup>21</sup>Prove all things;"

This is Paul writing.

<sup>21</sup>"**Prove** all things; hold fast that which is good."

Well, what is "good?" There is none good. There obviously is some good stuff in Messiah. In and of yourself, there is none good. The heart is deceitful and desperately wicked. Who can

know it? There are some people in church who are doing some deceitful, wicked stuff. They are saying:

"I'm saved."

Really? Well, let me show you something in your words that you say that you believe. I have found that there are many people who read the Bible but who don't believe the Bible. They think that they are okay because they read the Bible.

"Well, I read the Bible just like you."

"Oh yeah? But are you doing what the Bible says?"

Are you doing what the Bible says? You say that you are. It is like when I say to people:

"Do you believe that you should do the works of Messiah?"

"Yeah! The Bible says that I can do the works of Messiah!"

"What are some of the works of Messiah?"

"Uh..."

I am just calling it out. I am calling it what it is. You believe that you can do something that you don't even know what it is, so how do you know that you are doing it? And if you *do* know what it is, are you doing it? Many people will say:

"Yes, I believe that I can do the works of Messiah."

"Do you believe that?"

"Yes."

I have had whole congregations stand up. When I start telling them what Messiah said that his works are and the works that we are supposed to be doing, it is like:

"I didn't know that he said that."

1 Thessalonians 5:22 – "Abstain from all appearance of evil."

What is "evil?" What is "good?" Right now evil and good are so convoluted and distorted that it is to the point where the world around us has made evil good and given it "rights." Just because somebody has a right to something, that doesn't make it good. If you have a right to do evil, your actions are evil even though the government man has given you a right to it.

The government can say that you have the right to marry another man if you are a man. It might be legal, but it isn't *right*. It isn't *good*; at least in the Kingdom. In the Kingdom, **people who do these things will not inherit the Kingdom.** They will be cast out into outer darkness where the dogs are. So if your destination is the dog house, then I might as well call you a "dog" now. I am not advocating for the rights of dogs. You may say:

"Brother, you're being rough."

I am not advocating that people go out there and bash people. We don't have a right to discriminate, but we do have a right to examine. I am going to examine your works. If your works are not righteous and I bring that to you and you choose to continue down a path of unrighteousness, then your choice has caused a fork in the road. I am not choosing not to like

you. You are choosing not to like *me. That is your choice*. You have made the choice. Why should I feel guilty about a choice that you have made? *You* made the choice! You made the choice to live a certain lifestyle. I make the choice *whether I accept it or not*.

If you have a right to choose, what about my right to choose not to like what you chose? You can't take my right from me but demand your own rights. No, I don't hate you. I just don't like your choices! It is not you that I hate. It is the choice that you made. You and the choice are one. Unless you change your mind or I change my mind, how are we going to be in fellowship anyway? And if I believe what this book says, I can't even sit at the same table and eat with you.

Now, do you believe this book? There are a lot of people who say that they believe it, but they are compromising it almost every step of the way. You will know them. Do you know how you know them? You examine them. You examine their work. Examine yourself. Everybody is making choices.

1 Thessalonians 5:23 – "And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and *I pray God* your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Yeshua Messiah."

Do you see this? Your spirit, your soul and your body can pursue a blameless path. You may not perfect it, but at least you are pursuing it. And when you fail in an area, then guess what? You get up and try again. Don't be like the foolish man who says:

"We can't even keep the law, so why try? You know, if you break one law, you break them all!"

Really? Do you believe that?

"Yeah."

Then why aren't you breaking them all? If you really believe that, then break all of them! Don't use that as an excuse. No, you only break the ones that you want to break. You choose the ones that you are going to break. (Rhetorically speaking:)

"Go rob a bank!"

"Well, now really. You are taking that too far."

"No. Go over there and hit on your neighbor's wife while he is standing there. Go ahead. Why don't you go over there and have sex with that dog?"

"Well, I don't believe that."

"See? You have your own system of beliefs."

"Well, I don't believe that's right."

"But wait a minute. You have a right to do it. Why don't you do it?"

"Brother, you just went too far now."

"Well, you went too far when you made that stupid statement. So you can go too far, but I can't?"

I am telling you ladies and gentlemen, it is time for the righteous to stand up and start standing for something. Stop sitting around accepting everything that the government and society

are trying to shove down your throat! You are not part of this world! You are in it, but you are not of it. If this is making you feel uncomfortable, then good!

In 1 Timothy Paul writes:

1 Timothy 3:8 - "Likewise must the deacons be grave,"

Man, I am telling you. Some of the most ungodly people I have met in the church are deacons. These people are just flat-out ungodly. There are some deacons and elders and bishops who are pedophiles and perverts!

"Brother you're pretty hard..."

Listen. Yeshua demonstrated – the Bible says...

"Well, you're not Yeshua."

But he said that we can be like him! Yeshua lived his entire life without having sex once. He had a lot of chances. I tried to imagine this. Try to imagine. Here you have a woman wiping your feet, kissing your feet and drying and oiling your feet and drying them off with her hair. Brothers? Now, I am not talking to you women. I am talking to you brothers. This is a very precarious situation.

I am thinking about massage. I was just having a thought this morning. I don't even want somebody who is not my wife, rubbing my body. For those of you who are into massages, that is fine. I am not talking about you. I am talking about myself. I can't imagine myself being in a room with most of my clothes off while somebody is rubbing on me and massaging me. That is just me! There is something about the nature [of it]. Do you understand what I am saying? For those of you who need the blue pill, you know, you are good. For the rest of us, we have some work to do. We have to hold back, you know? Oh yeah, you all. We are going to get "real" up in here because there are some folks out there who are saying:

"I'm going to get me a 'massage.'"

And you are in there lusting.<sup>3</sup>

"Touch me right there! No, right there. Get close."

It is like, come on man! And you know the places that some folks go to for a massage are really just a storefront. We know what is going on in there.

1 Timothy 3:8-10 – "Likewise *must* the deacons *be* grave, not doubletongued, not given to much wine, not greedy of filthy lucre; <sup>9</sup>Holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience. <sup>10</sup>And let these also first be **proved**;"

...tested, tried...

"...then let them use the office of a deacon, being found blameless."

<sup>3</sup> Editor's note: This refers to those who use massage as an unrighteous point of contact for sexual sin or arousal. This is not referring to righteous massage as a method of pain or stress relief for those who have physical health issues.

These are upright, upstanding individuals filled with the Holy Spirit, walking in the integrity of the law.

Galatians 6:5 – "For every man shall bear his own burden."

The word that Paul uses is the Greek word "phortion." It means: a burden, load; of the freight or lading of a ship; metaphor: of burdensome rites; of the obligations Messiah lays upon his followers, and styles a "burden" by way of the contrast to the precepts of the Pharisees, the observance of which was most oppressive; faults of the conscience which oppress the soul. It is used as the word burden. This word was used when Yeshua said:

Matthew 11:29-30 – "Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. <sup>30</sup>For my yoke *is* easy and my **burden** is light."

Let me tell you something. The burden of keeping the commandments is a lot lighter than the burdens that this world puts upon you. Those of you who have removed the burdens from yourselves, you realize that. For the rest of you, I remember the first time that we didn't celebrate Christmas. We didn't have the burden of going out there and buying all of those presents. Then we would give them to somebody and hope that they would be excited when they opened it. Then they would say:

"This ain't what I wanted!"

You are searching all over the place to make sure that you find the perfect gift only to find out that you didn't. The only way that you know what the perfect gift was, was if somebody told you what it was. Then you went out and bought it. But when they told you what the perfect gift was, you said:

"I ain't spending that much!"

Then remember when you took that burden off of yourself and decided to give that burden back to the world? Remember the lightness that you felt? You are now watching people running all over the place; especially during this time of year. They are just running here and there and there and there. They are standing in line on Black Friday. It is three o'clock in the morning and they have on three or four layers of clothing just so they don't freeze. They stand in the rain just to get a 27" TV with a hundred dollars off of the price.

Look man, you stood in line for eight hours for a hundred dollars? Let's see. That is about what, eleven dollars an hour? Most people don't want to work for eleven dollars an hour. That is not enough money. But you would stand in line for that or for less. They only had two TVs anyway and if you were the third person in line, you had to fight for that. You had to take it from somebody! Yeshua says:

Matthew 11:30 - "For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

Keeping the commandments is a lot less burdensome than trying to keep the feasts and festivals and holidays of this world. This Hebrew word is also found in the Torah.

Exodus 18:21-22 — "Moreover thou shalt provide out of all the people able men, such as fear God,"

The concept of deacons and elders came here.

"...men of truth, hating covetousness; and place *such* over them, *to be* rulers of thousands, *and* rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties, and rulers of tens:"

<sup>22</sup>"And let them judge the people at all seasons: and it shall be, *that* every great matter they shall bring unto thee, but every small matter they shall judge: so shall it be easier for thyself, and they shall bear *the burden* with thee."

If you remember, there was a situation in the Book of Corinth. Earlier in *Corinthians* Paul says:

"Listen. You all are going to judge the world. Can't you at least judge matters among yourselves? Why are brothers taking each other to the secular institutions to have their matters judged as though you all in here who are going to judge the world, can't judge a simple matter between a man and his wife or two people who are having issues amongst one another?"

You will find that judging in the church is taboo. But making it taboo is a violation of the very Scripture and Bible that people say that they believe in! If we are going to judge the world, why are we suing people in courts? That is a violation of the New Testament! It certainly is a violation of the Old, yet people do it all of the time. They are taking brothers and sisters to court and are suing one another. You should take a loss if you have to go through all of that! There are folks who haven't spoken to one another for the last twenty years all because of twenty dollars.

"Well, it's not the money, it's the principle."

Yeah, sure. Look at verse 6. Now we are about to get into the good stuff.

Galatians 6:6 – "Let him that is taught in the word <u>communicate unto him</u> that teacheth in all good things."

That word communicate "koinoneo" means: to come into communion or fellowship with, to become a sharer; be made a partner. It means to be made a partner. It is the word that we get "partner" from here. When you talk about partnering, it means that you are sharing. You are participating. When you sow your seeds, your tithes and your offerings, you are sharing in the ministry. You are sharing in the work. If you are receiving from this ministry, like Paul says:

Galatians 6:6 - "Let him that is taught in the word communicate unto him"

We think that it says:

"Okay, if I find something in the word, I'm going to share it with a person."

No. It goes beyond that. It means to enter into fellowship; to join one's self to an associate, to make one's self a sharer or partner. Now we are walking together. It is to be a partaker, to communicate, to distribute. That is the way that the word is used. Then he says:

Galatians 6:7 – "Be not **deceived**; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man **soweth**, that shall he also **reap**."

Who is he speaking to? He is speaking to the brethren in the region of Galatia. He says:

"Listen brothers. Don't be deceived."

"Well, who is going to deceive me?"

You can deceive yourself. I am going to show you right here in these next two verses, how it is done. Are you all ready? Notice what he says:

Galatians 6:7 - "Be not deceived;"

God isn't. YeHoVaH is not deceived, so don't you be deceived.

Galatians 6:7 - "Be not deceived; YeHoVaH is not mocked:"

He is not sneered at. Don't turn your nose up at him. We turn our nose up at YeHoVaH. I was thinking. Let me bring this to us [in the present day]. When your child fails to uphold your instructions and gets away from you and does the total opposite of what you have communicated, they think that because they are not doing it in your presence, that it is okay.

"Well, at least I'm not doing it in your face."

Do you think that the instructions are there just for me? As a parent, we give our children instructions because we want them to do well. We want them to succeed. I have a motivation for my children to succeed. The main motivation is that when you leave, I don't expect you to come back; not with your bags (unless you are visiting).

When most of us in this room left home, we didn't go back home. When we left home, we established our own home. For those of you who have had to go back home, I am not picking on you. But as a parent, my motivation is that I need to give you everything that you need so that when you leave here, you can succeed on your own.

I can help you from a distance. I don't mind. If you need help and I have it, I am going to help you. If you need a loan and I have it, I am going to lend it to you. But your return home if we are honest with one another, is an indication that the exit was not successful. It is an indication of some means of failure in some area. Don't get mad and bent out of shape; just own it. Something didn't work. It didn't work out the way that you planned. Things didn't go the way that you wanted them to go.

You thought that just because your parents didn't tell you how much money it took to run a family, that it was free. You thought that they gave cars and insurance and rent and gas and water and electricity away. Now you have bills coming. Because they gave you a credit card, you spent money that you didn't have. Now those bills are coming. You have credit card bills. You have rent. You have insurance on your stuff. You have furniture. You have gas, electricity and lights.

"I didn't know it was all of that! Shoot. It was easier staying at home. As a matter of fact, I think I'll go back home!"

That is what is happening. Folks are making U-turns and heading back home. Some parents are moving into one bedroom apartments.

"We don't have any room!"

They are downsizing. You know it, because you can't say no. That's the reality of it. Let's just be real.

Galatians 6:7 – "Be not **deceived**; YeHoVaH is not mocked: for whatsoever a man **soweth**, that shall he also **reap**."

Let's look at this verse and the following verse. The word here is deceived or "planao." It means: to cause to stray, to lead astray, lead aside from the right way; to go astray, wander, roam about; metaphor to lead away from the truth, to lead into error, to deceive.

You see, most of our children are rejecting the counsel that we believe is truth. They say:

"That's not absolute truth. There is 'another' truth and it's not your truth. That's your truth. That's how you want to live. That's what you want to do. But that's not what we want to do."

This means that there must be "another" truth that is different than the truth that you are communicating. It is their way of truth; which is their way of living and being true to themselves. They are led away and led into error. That is a means of deception. It is deceitful, but you don't see it. The thing about deception is that you don't know that it is deception. It paints a picture. We call it this:

"The grass looks greener on the other side."

It is not that we are looking at grass. It is a metaphor that is saying that it looks better over there than it does over here until you get over there. Then you realize that it was deception.

That word also means: to be led into error, to be led aside from the path of virtue, to go astray, sin; to sever or fall away from the truth; of heretics; to be led away into error and sin. The word is used to deceive, err, go astray, seduce, wander, or be out of the way.

Galatians 6:8 – "For he that **soweth** to his **flesh** shall of the flesh reap **corruption**; but he that **soweth** to the **Spirit** shall of the Spirit **reap life everlasting**."

Typically whenever we see:

"Be not deceived. God is not mocked. Whatever a man sows, that is what he shall reap."

Not everybody, but many of us get the impression that what you do to somebody else is what is going to happen to you. That is a small part of this, but that is not really what Paul is saying here. This is not about you and somebody else. This is about you and YeHoVaH. It is about the relationship between you and YeHoVaH; not the relationship between you and the world. It is about the relationship between you and YeHoVaH.

"Be not deceived. YeHoVaH is not mocked."

It is not:

"Be not deceived, your girlfriend, your wife, your husband, your neighbor is not mocked."

"Be not deceived, YeHoVaH is not mocked."

In other words, he is saying:

"Everything that you do, I see it. Everything you are thinking, I know. Every intent that you have, I already know the intent and the motive of your heart. "Your parents may not be able to see it. Your spouse may not be able to see it. Others may not be able to see it, but I know your thoughts before you think them. I

know the intent of your heart. I know where you are going long before you start! I am not mocked!"

This is how we mock him. We either mock the Almighty or we take him seriously by what we sow into ourselves. That is what Paul is saying here.

"For he that soweth to himself. He that soweth to his flesh."

What you put into yourself is what is coming out of you. You can't gorge on TV and movies all day long and not read your Bible and expect righteousness (which comes from the Bible) to come out of you! What you put into yourself is what is going to come out of you.

You can't gorge yourself on entertainment. You can't gorge yourself on stuff! If you are not putting the word into yourself, then guess what? You are not putting YeHoVaH into yourself. And who is going to judge in the end? It will not be the world. It will be him. If you know him; just like the Bible says, without faith it is impossible to please him. He that comes to him must first believe that he is. There are people who say:

"I believe that he is."

Do you really? If you believe that he is, then you must believe that he is who he says that he is and that he will reward those who diligently seek him. But he is also going to reward them that don't; except that it is not going to be your kind of reward. The Bible says very clearly:

"The wages of sin is death."

"Wage" is a reward. "Wage" is an income. A wage is something that you earn. You earn it by what you are spending, what you are putting in yourself and what you are gorging yourself on. You are earning exactly what is going to come to you. The bad thing about that is that the paycheck doesn't come until judgment. You can't see it until judgment. The good thing about sowing to your spirit is that you can see it in your life. Watch what this says.

Galatians 6:8 – "For he that **soweth** to his **flesh** shall of the flesh reap **corruption;**"

This is not what you sow to someone else. This is what you sow to yourself. Let me show you.

"...but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting."

Notice that he put "life" before "everlasting" instead of "everlasting life," which he uses in some other places. What he is saying is that this life that Yeshua came to give us is a full life. It is an abundant life. It starts right now and it is everlasting! You can have it now!

You see, in the Kingdom you can have your cake AND eat it too if you know who makes the cake. That is if he is baking it and you are not in there stirring and manipulating and trying to figure it out. The ingredients for success have already been given in the Torah. You don't have to wait until the end of life to reap life everlasting.

The Father gives you the ability to enjoy the sun going up and the sun going down. He gives you the ability to enjoy the smell of the flowers, the sowing of seeds that bring in a harvest in a garden and the ability to go on vacation if you so desire. He gives you the ability to travel the world to do his will to fulfill the call that he has on your life. He gives you the ability to enjoy the things with which he has blessed you. That is the beauty of walking with him. He not only gives you stuff, he gives you the ability to enjoy the stuff that he gave you.

I am telling you, that is the ultimate. There are a whole lot of people who have stuff but they can't enjoy it. They have a whole lot of stuff. They are prisoners in their own home. They can't enjoy the stuff that they have. They are always feeling that somebody is trying to take it from them. YeHoVaH says:

"You all go on up to the feast. Don't worry about your stuff. I've got it! I've got it covered. I gave you the stuff. I dare somebody to mess with your stuff! I'm a better watchman than ADT and all the rest of them."

So he says:

Galatians 6:8 – "For he that **soweth** to his **flesh** shall of the flesh reap **corruption**; but he that **soweth** to the **Spirit** shall of the Spirit **reap** <u>life</u> <u>everlasting</u>."

The question is this. What are we sowing to? What are we feeding? What are we planting in? What are we investing in? Are we investing in our flesh or are we investing in our spirit? You make that determination through the examination of yourself.

I can watch your actions. I can see your works. I can judge your fruit. I can't judge your heart, but your actions are very clear. If I see you doing something that is a violation of the Torah, that is an action. I don't know what is motivating you to do it. I don't know what is going on inside of you.

Think of a man who has a child that has been kidnapped. He goes through great pain to raise money to pay a ransom without knowing if when he pays the money, he will get his child back. He is told not to contact the police. Those are the ones who may be able to help or who may destroy and foil everything. When you see a person who goes through great lengths to get their child back or their spouse back by paying a ransom, they put themselves in danger.

I don't know the motivation. I don't know what motivates a person to choose to go this route or that route. Only they know that. All I know is what they do, such as if I see somebody doing something that they know is wrong. It is true that only Father knows their heart. I can judge it, but I can't judge them. That means that I cannot pass judgment and say:

"That person is going to the Lake of Fire."

I can say that the person is headed in that direction, but I can't say that that is where the person will go. Somewhere down the road they may come to their senses. I don't know. They may have an encounter on the road to Damascus. I don't know what may happen. This means that we don't ever give up on people, but we have to back up and let people choose their own way.

The thing that I don't understand is how you feel you can demand to have your own way in the house where I am paying all of the bills. We have a problem. You can't call the shots here; even if you pay rent. Do you understand what I am saying? You have some space, but this is the head here (points to himself). There are people who are demanding their own way in your house. It is like:

"Really? It's time for you to have your own place. That way you can rule it however you choose. I'm not mad at you. As a matter of fact, you would be doing me a favor. I don't want to be in conflict with you anyway."

I have chosen the path that I am going to walk. How are you going to choose to walk a path contrary to the path that I am walking and then expect me to pay the bills? What kind of fool do I look like?

What you put into yourself is what you will get out. Notice what he says:

### "...soweth to his flesh"

This is whatever you sow to the flesh. When you sow to the flesh, the harvest is corruption, period. The harvest is corruption. This is what he is saying. Sowing is generally connected to seed and seed is generally used as words. Let me show you.

Matthew 13:37 – "He answered and said unto them, 'He that soweth the good seed is the Son of man;"

Here he is talking about somebody sowing good seed and somebody coming along at night and sowing tares. The one who sows the tares is the devil. The one who sows good seeds is YeHoVaH. The seeds are words. See what he says here?

Mark 4:14 - "The sower soweth the word."

Here he is talking about sowing in the parable and understanding what sowing is. Seed is the word. Understand that words are seeds. Why? Because they bring forth harvests. Let me put it to you this way. Think about when somebody speaks forth to you. If somebody sows negative words, it is going to bring forth a negative harvest. If it is a positive word, it is going to bring forth an angry harvest.

Whatever people speak into you is what you respond to. You not only respond to the words, but you respond to the tone in which those words have been spoken. Those words are seeds. You can literally change a person's environment by the words that you speak. You can go into a happy environment and say one statement and bring the joy meter all the way down.

"Aw man, why did you show up? We were having fun until you came!"

They call it "Debbie downer." Some of those other names – you all know those names.

"Kill joy! Man, you just came in here and who let you out of jail?"

Study. Understand this. I want to go into this word here. I want to show you something. You are going to see something here that you may have caught already, or maybe you haven't. Paul wrote this too, you know.

2 Timothy 2:15-17 – "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the <u>word</u> of truth. <sup>16</sup>But **shun** profane *and* vain **babblings**: for they will increase unto more **ungodliness**. <sup>17</sup>And their **word will eat as doth a canker**: of whom is Hymenaeus and Philetus;"

This is what Paul is saying. He is writing to his disciples. Let me break this down for you. Are you all ready? The word he uses when he says:

"dividing the word of truth"

Is the word "logos."

<sup>17</sup>"And their word will eat as doth a canker:"

That word is "logos." Both of these are "logos." They are both the same word. There are words that are going to bring forth a harvest of truth. There are words that are going to eat like a canker. It all depends upon which words you are listening to. Let's look at these words.

"Logos" means: of speech; a word, uttered by a living voice. It embodies a conception or idea; what someone has said; a word; the sayings of God; decree, mandate or order; of the moral precepts given by God; Old Testament prophecy given by the prophets.

When those with a Christian, Messianic Hebrew Roots mind hear "word" as in "YeHoVaH's word," let me tell you something. The words of YeHoVaH are what created everything. Your words also create. Your words can create an environment. Your words can create and change the environment of a space. Your words can bring life and your words can bring death. You can speak life into somebody's life. You can speak death into somebody's life. You can speak words of encouragement, words of edification or words of joy to someone and they smile. They feel good inside. You can tell somebody they are ugly. You can tell them:

"You are a witch."

You can call them a Jezebel. You can call them names like the B-I-T... [word] and all of the other names and it does something totally different. They are all words. But once those words have been released, they are death or life. You can speak life or you can speak death. It is in the power of the tongue. You can speak life over your life or you can speak death over your life. You can speak these words.

Those who love words will eat the fruit of the words that they have sown. Why? It is because the words that you speak bring forth a harvest. Everything you let come out of your mouth is a seed. That seed is going to produce a harvest. If you don't like the harvest that you are getting, you might need to change your conversation. When you start looking at words as seeds; that is exactly what they are. Once you release them, they go to work.

When a seed has been sown into the ground, you don't know how the germination of that seed works, but pretty soon something is going to come up. Then it is going to grow and start bearing fruit. Many people who I counsel today are in the state that they are in because of words that somebody said to them.

"My daddy said I'd never be anything."

"My mama cussed me. They said things to me."

People want to reflect on the things that were said.

"They talked down to me. They mean-mouthed me. They badmouthed me. They cursed me with their words. They spoke evil over me. They made me feel like I was worthless. I was nothing. I was no good."

It was all because of words. Those words go into somebody's spirit. Then guess what? It produces a person. Those attitudes and mentalities and outlooks and how you see yourself and what you think about yourself are the result of people's words that you have allowed into your spirit. Now you are the harvest of their words.

You either allow the word of YeHoVaH to make you over so that you are the harvest of his word, or you continue to go through life being the harvest of the words that are spoken over you and which brought death instead of life!

You need to watch what you say to other people. You are speaking death or life. This means that you need to think before you speak. You need to look at the outcomes and the potential of your words and what they can do once they are sown into the soul of someone in their hearing.

Regarding the act of speaking and of speech, he says to **shun** it. The word "shun" is "periistemi." It means: to place around one; to stand around; to turn one's self about for the purpose of avoiding something; to avoid, shun.

If there are people that I know who are acting or behaving or doing something that is against my principles, my core or my belief of who I am, I know that I will be affected by it unless I confront it. It happens so easily. Can I share with you how easily this happens?

Brother Gonzalez said to bring some materials with me when I come [to speak]. This has happened to me twice before. I didn't catch it until after the fact. This is when I had to rely upon grace. You see, grace is for believers; even Torah-centered, Torah-observant believers. There is a place for grace. I was at a University. In the environment that I went into, they still have armorbearers. They even have cup-bearers. They have bearers for everything. They are like kings. They have people who bring the bishop the cup. They have people who carry the bishop's suitcase. They have folks who carry the Bible. Folks wouldn't even let me carry my own briefcase. I said:

"I can carry this."

"No you can't. We've got it."

They want to open the door for me. I am not a "girly-man." I can open my own door. That is the environment that I was in. I could either fight it or let them do what they do, so I let them do what they do. They took my stuff. They took it to the back of the room while I was sitting. My back was turned. It is the Sabbath morning and I am speaking at a University. I am up speaking and all of my products are back there on the table being sold.

I had a serious lapse in judgment because when I finished, some people were asking me about this. I went to the back of the room at the table and started explaining the materials while my stuff was being sold. I was watching them collecting money and it never dawned on me that today was the Sabbath day. Now I go to the local fellowship House Of Israel and they are taking my stuff. They have taken it from the University over to the House and they are setting it up. Now I am in a totally different environment. I am saying:

"No, wait a minute. You can't do that. The Sabbath is not over."

The moment that I said that the Sabbath is not over, it hit me. At that moment I just started repenting. I said to myself:

"How could this happen?"

It happened because of the environment that I was in. I know how it happened. I was totally blindsided and didn't see it until I left that environment and went into another environment.

It happened at another Christian church in Russia. I didn't have stuff to sell, but I had stuff that people wanted to buy. I gave it away. I was thinking. What got me was when they were talking about taking us out to eat after the service. It was the Sabbath. This wasn't a Christian environment. This was a Messianic environment where they wanted to take us out to eat on the

Sabbath day. The environment that you are in affects you. It affected me. I am not standing here saying that it doesn't. I think that I am as spiritual as anybody in this room, but for that moment...

I teach that you can't keep the Sabbath in fellowship with people who don't honor the Sabbath. You can't do it. You can't do it! That is what community and Sabbath-keeping is all about. It is about you getting together with other people who keep the Sabbath. If I even attempted to do something like that in here, there would be people saying:

"Man, what are you doing?"

I have to make excuses for it if I continue. There is accountability if you are around people who honor the word. They keep you accountable. If you are not around people who honor the word, there is nobody to keep you accountable. You will become just like the world that you are surrounding yourself with. **Evil communications corrupt good character.** That wasn't spoken to children. It was spoken to mature, so-called adults. I see how easily it happens. It is a teachable moment for me. I am going through this in my mind. I am thinking:

"Man I can't believe you did that. What were you thinking?"

Nobody there knew what I had done because they weren't thinking along those lines, so I exposed myself.

"Man, do you know what I did?"

"Aw, that's right!"

So now I am exposed. I told you all that I wasn't perfect, but that is not going to stop me from trying. It is really not going to. I have to assess myself and be willing to call myself out. I have no right to call somebody else out if I don't call myself out. How can I judge you if I don't judge myself? How can you judge someone but not judge yourself? First take the moat out of your own eye. Then you can see clearly.

Now you see, what it did was help me to understand how people [make mistakes]. You see, this is where the heart issue comes in. If my actions were judged, I would have been judged unrighteously because people did not see my heart. My heart wasn't thinking along those lines in that place because of the environment that I was in. I am not blaming the environment, because the environment is not a good enough excuse. If that was the case, I wouldn't have felt a conviction that brought me to a place of repentence. Don't make excuses for your wrongdoings.

This word for babbling "kenophonia" means: empty discussion.

He said:

"Shun profane and vain babblings."

It means: empty discussions of vain and useless matters, vain babblings. Why [shun them]? Because they increase. They increase.

The word increase here "*prokopto*" means: to beat forward, to lengthen out by hammering (as a smith forges metals); to promote, forward, further; to go forward, advance proceed; of time: the night is far spent; metaphor to increase, make progress. The usage of this word is: to increase, be far spent, profit, proceed, wax. Let me go back to what it says here.

2 Timothy 2:16 – "But **shun** profane *and* vain **babblings:** for they will increase unto more **ungodliness**."

This word "asebeia" (for ungodliness) means: one of reverence towards the Almighty, impiety, ungodliness.

Vain babbling will cause you to not reverence the Almighty. If you are allowing these things in yourself, what they are doing is slowly pulling you away from YeHoVaH. It is not a shock. It is a subtle thing. It is very subtle. You don't even realize it is occurring.

What I used to do when I was in the world and when I found myself in a situation like that, I would say things like:

"I enjoy that. I enjoy that company. I enjoy doing that."

Why? I did that because I was convincing myself that it was okay with me so that I gave myself permission to continue to do it. If I said that it was wrong, it meant that I had to do something about it. If I don't want to do anything about it, I have to say something to make myself feel good about the thing that I don't want to change. I have to convince myself that I like something that I don't even like.

It is like I had to say that I liked smoking after I got defeated. If I liked smoking so much, why did I try to quit so many times? If I like certain things, why am I trying to quit? Why have I tried to quit? The reason why I tried to quit was because something said that either I don't like it or it isn't good for me or something. There is a reason for my desire to quit. But when I accept it, I am defeated. I don't want to admit defeat so I permit myself to say that I am doing it because it is something that I like doing; when inside I can't stand it. I have to examine that.

What is coming out of my mouth and what is going on in here are two different things. I can tell you that, but what am I saying to myself? I can convince you, but what about me? The moment that I convince myself against that which I despise is the moment that deception has become full-blown. I am just flat-out deceived now and you can't talk to me. You can't talk me out of anything because any way that you come at me, I have something for you.

After this word "ungodliness" is another word. It is "canker."

## <sup>17</sup>"And their word will eat as doth a canker:"

It was interesting when I came across this word "canker." It is the word where we get the word "gangrene." It will eat like gangrene. The word is "gaggraina" and it means: gangrene.

What we don't realize is that when we are not putting the word in us, there is another word at work in us. Something is at work in you. Something is at work. It is either the word that you study yourself to be approved as a workman who is able to rightly divide the word of truth, or it is other words that are contrary to the word of truth that are at work. It is like a cancer. This word is gangrene or a canker.

Paul is saying that receiving the world's words is like receiving cancer. It is going to eat at your faith. And guess what? This is a disease by which (according to the definition) any part of the body suffering from inflammation becomes so corrupted that unless a remedy be seasonably applied, the evil continually spreads. It attacks other parts and at last eats away the bones. You may say:

"How can words do that?"

Can I show you? Here are YeHoVaH's words:

Hebrews 4:12 – "For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit,

and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart."

There is that bone. This is his word. There is a song out there that says:

"Bad to the bone."

The word of YeHoVaH gets all the way into the bone. It will correct bad blood. It will correct bone disease. This is what it does. The word is powerful! It is powerful! You can speak it! I have spoken the word of YeHoVaH to cancer. Cancer eats like gangrene. AIDS eats like gangrene. There are things that are in people that are killing them!

The word of YeHoVaH - a word from YeHoVaH just turns all of that cancer. It goes in. It heals the blood. It heals the marrow. It makes the wrong right and completely restores a vessel that was on its way out. How does healing take place? By the word, by speaking the word; the word of faith. **He sent his word and healed them of all of their diseases.** 

His word going forth is either going to bring healing into your bones or the word of the world is going to bring gangrene into your bones. Either way, these words are going to affect the bone. These words go all the way in and they are going to eat. You are either going to have a word that is eating you alive or you are going to have a word that is restoring life. Are you all getting this? Either way it is your choice. I am laying it out like this so that you can now rightly divide. You are going to make some decisions. Some of you will continue to do what you have been doing. Some of you will say:

"You know, I never saw it like that. What do I do now?"

I am glad that you asked! You receive his word. You put his word in you. You study his word. You read his word. You listen to his word. Be around people who are in the word.

Galatians 6:8 — "For he that **soweth** to his **flesh** shall of the flesh reap **corruption**; but he that **soweth** to the **Spirit** shall of the Spirit **reap** <u>life</u> <u>everlasting</u>."

The words are seed. The word of YeHoVaH is seed. The words of the world are seeds. Words are seeds sown that bring forth the harvest. When you speak encouraging words to your children, guess what? They are encouraged. If you tell your children when they are young that they can accomplish anything, they believe it.

If you tell them that they are nothing, they will believe it. You can feed those young minds whatever you want to feed them. When they get older, they are going to walk in that. If you are speaking life and if you are speaking things into them that cause them to believe that there is nothing impossible for them to achieve, then help them garner that and reinforce that over the course of their lives.

Do you know that your child will grow up thinking that they can be President? Imagine that. I don't know who would want to be President, but that is what they want. Once a child gets past that formative stage where they have made up their own mind, it is hard after that. They have listened to something else that is opposed to what you are trying to put into them.

The mistake we made is that we put stuff into them that we realized later on was wrong. We were putting in some of the stuff that had been put into us; only to realize that it had some truth.

It had a form of Godliness, but the power was not there to bring transformation. The words and the power that it had at the time; kept them in that place.

This is why for some of our children; we brought them up in the church. We came into the Hebrew Roots and start keeping the commandments. The very child or children that we taught the [other] faith to used the very faith that we taught them to dispel what we were now trying to teach them. That was because those words had taken root. Now those things had to be dug out, but you don't have the same influence that you had then. Your influence is not there anymore like that. Now you have to threaten them. You have to take them out of the will and threaten them.

"You won't get a penny. You won't see any of this."

Hopefully that will change their mind. Yeah, right. You all know that I am telling you the truth. Come on.

"Yeah, but you aren't supposed to preach it."

Here is sowing to the flesh and sowing to the spirit in a nutshell. Feed your flesh and you corrupt yourself. Feed your spirit and you not only have life, but everlasting life.

Feed your flesh and you corrupt yourself.
Feed your spirit and you not only have life, but everlasting life.

Again the word "soweth" or "speiro" means: sowing, to sow, scatter, seed. And of course the flesh is "sarx." We talked about this.

Now Paul is tying in *Galatians* 5 works of the flesh and the fruit of the Spirit. That is what he is doing here in chapter 6 as he summarizes everything that he has written. He says:

"Listen. If these are the works of the flesh, the works of the flesh are to be carnally minded. To be carnally minded is death. "

The carnal minded man is an enemy of God. God is Spirit. The carnal minded man is the man who feeds his flesh. If a man feeds his flesh, then he is sowing into his carnality. His carnality is at enmity or he hates God. That is the word – enmity. Enmity is to hate. **To be carnally minded is to hate God.** The way that we become carnally minded is that we don't feed our mind the word or we don't renew our mind with the word.

We continue to listen to our worldly music. We continue to listen to our secular television programs. We continue to entertain ourselves with secularism. We surround ourselves with secular people, people who are using profanity, people who are using vulgarity and people who are doing whatever appeals to the flesh. That person becomes a carnal, fleshly person. The word just bounces off of them. You can give them the word, but it bounces off. They are on a path that unless the Almighty intervenes – all we can do is continue to give that word. That is it.

You sow to the flesh. The flesh is the physical person, the carnal person. Here the flesh denotes human nature. The flesh is flesh. It is carnal, carnally minded and fleshly. In the churches I came out of, they called it "worldly."

"Worldly. Flush. You are just full of flesh."

This word "corruption" is "phthora." If you sow to the flesh, here is what your wages are and what you reap. That word corruption means: destruction. It means perishing. Yeshua says:

"Those who believe in me will not perish but have everlasting life."

To believe in Yeshua, who is the word made flesh, is to receive the word which is literally going to transform you from the inside out. When we sow to the flesh, we reap corruption. That word leads to destruction. When we feed ourselves (our carnal nature), we are actually destroying ourselves. There was a song out there. Some of you remember it. It says:

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"It hurts so good."
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"It hurts so good."

There are all kinds of music out there that we gorged on when we were young.

"If loving you is wrong, I don't want to be right."

There are things that once we have justified them in our minds:

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"If it feels good, do it."
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"You only have one life to live."

"Live it full of gusto."

"Whose life is it anyway?"

These are the things that we have convinced ourselves. Therefore like Solomon, we get to a place where we are not going to deny ourselves anything. Whatever we put our minds to, whatever we desire, we are going to pursue it. We are going to go after it with everything within us. The same thing happens when we set our mind like a flint to pursue everlasting life. The thing is that nobody ever told me that if I feed my flesh, that it is going to cause me to perish. I am destroying myself. Now, the church will preach this word. They have said:

"You sow to the flesh, you reap corruption."

Okay, I never looked up "corruption." I never looked up "flesh." It was like worldly.

"Well, we're all worldly. How are you going to tell me not to watch TV and you're watching TV, Reverend?"

"How are you going to tell me not to go to the movie and you're going to the movie, Reverend?"

"How are you going to tell me not to watch rated R and rated X and you have pornography in your house, Reverend?"

"How are you going to tell me to love my wife and you have a mistress, Reverend?"

We have heard the word but have not necessarily applied it. We have applied the pieces that we want, especially when we are in trouble. (This is some of us, not all of us). But at some point ladies and gentlemen, we have to come to a point where we realize the crux of the matter. You are either going to feed your flesh or you are going to feed your spirit. If you feed your flesh, you are going to be destroyed. If you feed your spirit, you will have life and everlasting life.

I know some of the stuff that you out there are thinking. I know folks who entertain themselves. In order for them to have a good day, it means that they have to spend \$20 or \$30 dollars. If you go to a movie, movies are \$8, \$10 or \$14 dollars. And there is popcorn. By the time you go to a movie today and you get some popcorn, a hot dog with all of that pork and a drink, you are out \$30.00. That is for an hour and a half or two hours. What are you going to do with the rest of the day?

"Well, we gotta go here. We gotta go there. We gotta do something. Let's go to Netflix. Let's download. Let's do something."

Why not read your Bible? Why not pray? You want to text. You want to make some music. You want to do everything but. All of this ladies and gentlemen, is sowing to the flesh which is going to bring corruption. Parents? Children? Young people?

I am going to stop right here. I do want to touch on this a little bit later. I really believe as I have said, that when it comes down to trying to bring this word into its simplest form and by putting it out there, I think that it causes us to see things just a tad differently.

I know that as I am examining myself and looking at the things that I am doing and how I am spending my time, you don't have to tell me. I already know. When you come and tell me something that I already know, it is simply as a witness. It is not a means for contention. I already know, but I have allowed myself. Now you are coming to me and bringing it to me; which is saying to me that I have allowed myself to do something that I probably should not have allowed myself to do.

It means that I probably could have spent that time a little more wisely if I claim to desire wisdom. If I am going to be wise, if I am going to seek wisdom, if I am going to want the wisdom from Heaven which comes from the word, then I need to invest a little bit more time in this word. I hope this has blessed you. Halleluyah.

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# Class Twenty-Six

Who has bewitched you?
The word for life
Faint not
"Pentecostal" begging
Have no company
Discernment is key.
A Kingdom of priests

### The household of faith

Shabbat Shalom saints. We are going to read *Galatians* 6 beginning with verse 1.

Galatians 6:1 – "Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted."

Galatians 6:2 - "Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Messiah."

Galatians 6:3 – "For if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself."

Galatians 6:4 – "But let every man prove his own work, and then shall he have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another."

Galatians 6:5 - "For every man shall bear his own burden."

Galatians 6:6 – "Let him that is taught in the word communicate unto him that teacheth in all good things."

Galatians 6:7 – "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."

Galatians 6:8 – "For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting."

Galatians 6:9 – "And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not."

Galatians 6:10 – "As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all *men*, especially unto them who are of the household of faith."

Galatians 6:11 – "Ye see how large a letter I have written unto you with mine own hand."

Galatians 6:12 – "As many as desire to make a fair shew in the flesh, they constrain you to be circumcised; only lest they should suffer persecution for the cross of Messiah."

Galatians 6:13 – "For neither they themselves who are circumcised keep the law; but desire to have you circumcised, that they may glory in your flesh."

Galatians 6:14 – "But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Yeshua Messiah, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world."

Galatians 6:15 – "For in Messiah Yeshua neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision, but a new creature."

Galatians 6:16 – "And as many as walk according to this rule, peace *be* on them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God."

Galatians 6:17 – "From henceforth let no man trouble me: for I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Yeshua."

Galatians 6:18 – "Brethren, the grace of our Lord Yeshua Messiah *be* with your spirit. Amen."

In the last lesson we left off in *Galatians* 6:8. It has been a slow grind as we come to the conclusion of this particular book. As I have said before, I believe that the Book of *Galatians* is a compilation of all of Paul's letters. In this book Paul addresses many of the same titles, topics or subjects that he has addressed in the other books; except that the Book of *Galatians* is in and of itself, unique.

You can understand the other books or letters of Paul by reading the Book of *Galatians*. And yet the letter to the Galatian community is not necessarily fully understood by those who are outside of Galatia. I believe that the main difference between Paul's letter to the Galatians and his letters to the other congregations is that Paul uses a term in this particular letter that is used in no other letter. That term is "bewitched." This term means: coming under a spell or coming under someone else's spiritual control.

When you look at this particular term that Paul uses, other communities suffered and experienced some of the same issues that the people in Galatia experienced, but Paul doesn't address them as being "bewitched." He even goes as far as to say:

"Who has bewitched you?"

He knew who had bewitched them. He then began to address those who had bewitched them. He continues to do this in the sixth chapter of *Galatians*. Let's continue here from the last lesson.

Galatians 6:8 – "For he that **soweth** to his **flesh** shall of the flesh reap **corruption**; but he that **soweth** to the **Spirit** shall of the Spirit **reap life everlasting**."

In a nutshell what he is saying in this verse is that whatever you sow to is from where you are going to reap. He says something that we touched on in the last lesson, but we didn't go into any real depth with it. It is that if you sow to the flesh, you will reap corruption, period. There is

nothing good in the flesh; nothing. Unfortunately the world that we live in spends all of its energy and marketing resources to get you to do just that. We are inundated in a world that is banking on you. Its very survival is banking on your desire to sow to your flesh. The clothing industry is banking on it. The hair industry or the non-hair industry is too. Now there is Bosley and Rogaine and everybody else who is going after us hairless ones.

For the most part, everything in television, in marketing and on the internet is banking on you sowing to your physical, natural man. Are you getting this? There is very little effort from the world that is trying to get you to sow into your spirit man. As a matter of fact, there is no effort. Many of the ones who are responsible for getting you to sow into your spirit man are giving us spiritual candy. It is like when you get a lot of spiritual, sugary, sweet snacks that give you a little adrenaline and make you feel all good and warm and fuzzy inside.

But when the effect wears off, you have to come back for another dose. When people stop getting that spiritual candy (if you would), they come to the conclusion that they are no longer being fed. Now it is about getting serious. This is what this is about. You are either going to sow to your flesh or you are going to sow to your spirit. There is no in-between.

Don't get me wrong. There is absolutely nothing wrong with buying nice clothes or buying nice things. If you are a person of quality and you like buying quality clothes, quality wares and quality furniture and you are living in a quality home, there is absolutely nothing wrong with that.

The problem is when that is your *focus*. Our focus should be *investing in our spirit man*. If according to the word we effectively invest in our spirit man, all of the other stuff will just come. Why? That is because we are doing what pleases Heaven. Heaven therefore is going to make sure that you have everything that you need. You see, our Father in Heaven knows what you need even before you ask. He is the one who supplies all of our needs. Either he is going to supply all of your needs or you are going to work at supplying your own needs. That is just the way that it is. Either he is going to supply your needs or you are going to work your fingers to the bone trying to meet your own needs.

That is all because we focus on sowing to the flesh, the natural, the carnal, the physical and the visible. If you do that, you will reap corruption. There is nothing else. Why? That is because everything that you gain is going to what? It is going to rust. It is going to waste away. It is going to come to naught. When you leave here, you have to leave it here for someone who hasn't even worked for it.

You see, if you are in touch with your mortality – this is one of the things that I want to share with you. On my way back from California a couple of weeks ago, I spent the entire time on the flight reading from the Book of *Ecclesiastes*. I love *Ecclesiastes*. In *Ecclesiastes* is the wisest man who ever walked the earth who was born of a man and a woman. He experienced everything in the earth that could be experienced. The man had more money than anyone ever had. He had more palaces and places to stay than anyone ever had. He had more gold and silver than anyone. He had 700 concubines and 300 wives. He had male servants and female servants. He had the best music; the best musicians and the finest that money could buy. He said:

"It was all vanity; all of it."

You see, all of these multi-million dollar mansions will not go in the grave. They won't. I love reading about multi-millionaires and billionaires. It allows me to see. You can't be in but one house at a time. Many of these individuals believe that they are trying to make a difference.

Some of them believe in doing good works. It is called "philanthropy." Philanthropy is the wealthy way of saying:

"We are trying to do something good with the resources that we have made."

Do you understand this? They are trying to give back because within themselves they know that doing something good is good for us. **But what if we live our lives doing what is good in the sight of YeHoVaH?** There are few people out there who have all of the material things that they are able to fully enjoy. Only YeHoVaH can give you the ability to enjoy the stuff that you have accumulated.

When we sow to the flesh, we reap corruption. There is no if, ands or buts. That is what it says. When we sow to our spirit, we reap everlasting life or life everlasting. That is a full life. Imagine if you would, being able to pick up and go whenever you felt like it and wherever you want to. Imagine that there is nothing restricting you; nothing. Imagine you and your family just leaving. If Father says:

"Go to Switzerland."

You can get on a plane; maybe on your own. Imagine that kind of life. Just think about it. You pick up the phone:

"Hey Charlie. I'm headed to the airport. Can you have jet number six ready? I think we're going overseas. We're going to need the big boy today."

Imagine that! Many of us have to go online to "cheapflights.com." I am just exposing myself now. We have to go through the airport and do one of these numbers [Arthur raises his arms to be "searched."] You all know what I am talking about!

"Take off your shoes sir."

"Take off my shoes?"

"Yeah, while you are at it, take off that belt."

"Take off that belt?"

Now for you brothers who are sagging, you can't do this [Arthur holds pants up with one hand while raising one arm.] Don't fly with TSA! Let's get serious here.

What you put into yourself is what you will get out of yourself. Sowing is generally connected to seed and seed is generally used [in the Bible] as words. We looked at that in the last lesson. We dealt with that with the Messiah. We went through quite a few Scriptures.

The idea of reaping corruption is that when we sow to the flesh, we reap corruption. That word "phthora" means: destruction. When you invest in your flesh, what you are doing is building up your carnal man.

I remember when I was a young person. I didn't know that I grew up in poverty because there were a whole lot of people who were a lot poorer than we were. We were poor. They were "poe." When it comes down to poverty, I know that it affected me to a degree that when I was a young man, I couldn't afford real gold. I bought that shiny stuff. You know that stuff that turned green after a few wears? I didn't know. They didn't explain to me that you couldn't shower in it. I bought rings and gold pieces that weren't real gold. They just sparkled and glittered like gold.

The question is what motivates a person to do that? I think that if many of us were honest with ourselves, we would admit that we tried to buy expensive-looking, but cheap stuff. We wanted to look nice, but couldn't afford the real stuff, so we bought the fake. Does anybody know what I am talking about? I know that I am not alone. I saw other people with green rings around their necks and green rings on their fingers. You know what I am talking about.

The point is that even back then it was about trying to look good. We were sowing to the flesh. I remember. I was a big-headed, big feet kind of guy. I wore shoes that were too small because the right size made my feet look too big. I am just going to expose myself. Now I have this big bunion on my foot because my foot fought back! Man! The whole point was trying to look good, to be appealing and to fit in. Where did we get that? Why do we do that? It wasn't just poor people. It was also people who were well off.

Children who grew up in well-to-do homes wanted everyone to know that they had nice things, so they bought the real stuff when we could only have the other stuff. They had the nice cars. I remember going to school. I used to envy young people who drove to school. I mean, here you are in the twelfth grade and you are driving a car to school. You are in the eleventh grade and you are driving a car to school? It does something to a person who has those kinds of privileges. It also does something to a person who doesn't have those kinds of privileges.

From a very early age we are taught to walk by sight. Are you all getting this? We spend a great deal of our lives walking by sight. What is visible is the flesh, the natural, the carnal. The invisible cannot be seen. That is where faith is required. You can't see it. Therefore it really doesn't make a whole lot of sense to the natural mind. What makes sense to the natural mind are things that can be seen, things that have been proven, things that are tangible and things that you can touch. The unseen doesn't make sense.

The Bible says that a natural-minded man doesn't understand spiritual things because spiritual things are things that you can't see. Therefore it is foolishness. When you start talking about something that you can't see to a natural, carnal-minded man, it doesn't make sense. This is important because we are going someplace with this. That aspect doesn't make sense. We are taught and trained to walk by sight. We pursue our lives or we pursue stuff. We pursue things. We don't pursue the one who is able to give things; the one that the things ultimately come from and the one who gives us the ability to enjoy those things. We pursue the things. That's visual. We pursue things that are going to rust, wear out and break instead of the things that are eternal. We pursue things that are temporal. This is really what Paul is trying to get to. He says:

"If you sow in the natural; if you spend your life going after those things that you can see, you are going to reap destruction because the end thereof is nothing. It all goes to nothingness."

Imagine yourself becoming wealthy. Let's say that you are a billionaire. I have known some wealthy people. I know that people who aren't wealthy have some of the same issues. It's a terrible thing when you have a lot of money and a lot of problems. Even though you have the money, the money can't solve the problems that you have. You can't buy your way out. Now sure, if you get a drunk driving charge, you can get a good lawyer. If you kill somebody while you are out driving, you can get a good lawyer. If you end up with AIDS, you can get a good doctor. You can get access to good medicine and drugs that people who don't have money can't access. You can get access.

But for a broken heart or a broken spirit, there is nothing. You can have a big house, but it is like a prison. You can have acres and acres of land, but there is no one to share it with. Only the Almighty can give us the ability to enjoy the things that he gives.

Those who sow to the flesh and the carnal, natural man are going to reap destruction. Those who sow to the spirit – that is the inward man. That is the man that you can't see. You know that that man is there. You can't see him, but you know that he is there because he talks to you. That man talks to you when you are about to do something stupid. That is usually when he shows up. He tries to talk you out of doing something that you are going to suffer from. But oftentimes because we put more energy into the other man, the stuff that we are pursuing screams louder than the voice of the man that is saying:

"Don't go there!"

We find ourselves going there only to find that now that we are in trouble – there are a lot of people who can't do the time. They don't have a problem with the crime. They don't want to do the time. They don't have a problem doing the stupid stuff. They just don't want to pay the price that has to be paid now that they have been busted doing the stupid stuff. All the while the spirit man was saying:

"Don't do that. Don't go there. You know better. You've been trained better."

That voice speaks to us. We can't see him, but we know that he is there. When we sow to that man, we build this man up so that this voice becomes louder. The only way that the voice becomes louder is when you consistently yield to what is right instead of yielding to what is wrong. If you consistently yield to what is wrong, then "right" becomes a thing of the past. It is as if it is a faint voice.

Ultimately what happens is that a person gets to a point where they can no longer hear that voice. That is when being *reprobate* sets in. They are now void of judgment. They are calling what is wrong, right. They are living a life. Now they want everybody else to accept their wrong way of life; even folks who believe that it is a wrong way of living. They figure that if they can get the right people into the political positions to make laws to support their unrighteousness and make unrighteousness legal, then the world "has" to accept it. Then the church cries out:

"That's wrong!"

Then they go after the religious institutions and not in a legal way, but by using perverted explanations and interpretations. They are *eisegesing* Scripture. One of the most commonly used statements is:

"Well, God is love. God says that we should love one another. What's wrong with me loving my same-sex partner just like you love your opposite sex partner? Love is love and God is love, right?"

There are people who are believers, but who are unbelieving believers. They buy this hook, line and sinker.

"Do you know what? Now that I think about it, God is love. The Bible does say that, doesn't it? God is love!"

Then they begin to ordain people. Now they are going full-fledged. The next thing you know, there are congregations called churches that are advocating and pushing that agenda. Now they

have the government and churches and neighbors. Guess what? The more people that get onto that bandwagon, the lonelier you become. The narrower your road becomes. You will find yourself on a very narrow road without a whole lot of people going in the same direction. That road gets lonely. If you are not careful, you will start compromising and becoming just like the world around you. The moment that we lose sight that we are in this world but not of it is the moment that we become assimilated and acclimated to the world. Father is saying:

"Don't do that, because if you love the world, you hate me."

"But we love you God! We love you!"

"Really? If you love me, keep my commandments. They are not grievous. My commandments are not burdensome. They are not too hard or heavy for you to bear. If you love me."

The word for life is "zoe." It means: life, the state of one who is possessed of vitality or is animate; every living soul; life; of the absolute fullness of life, both essential and ethical, which belongs to Elohim, and through him both to the hypostatic "logos" and to Christ in whom the "logos" put on human nature.

What he is saying here is that the word became Yeshua. Yeshua is the word. Yeshua is the physical manifestation of the word, which is Spirit.

Then there is the word everlasting. This word "aionios" means: without beginning and end, this which always has been and always will be; without beginning; without end, never to cease, everlasting.

Yeshua is the word. Yeshua is the physical manifestation of the word, which is Spirit.

This is what happens ladies and gentlemen when we come into that place. There are times when everlasting life looks boring to the world, but the world is in a perpetual state of boredom. In this perpetual state of boredom, the world needs entertainment. The world needs to stimulate the flesh. The flesh needs some kind of stimulation, so it is going to sleep and eat and watch TV and go to the movies and do all kinds of stuff.

I was thinking just yesterday that at some point when I was a young man, I joined the Navy because I wanted to see the world. The more that I saw the world; the more I realized that the world looks the same. If you go to Israel, it doesn't look too different in some places than Jersey. If you go to Mexico, it doesn't look too different than places in Kenya. If you go to the Philippines or Asia, it doesn't look very different from New York. You go from place to place. Then you try new foods. Then it is:

"Wow. This food tastes almost like that food."

"These people look almost like those people."

"This language is similar to that language."

Pretty soon you realize that there is not a whole lot of difference. You are just in a different place at a different time; spending different types of money or monies with different people's

faces on it. You are doing the same things. The ocean is the ocean. If you go to that beach, of course the sand may be a little bit whiter than the beach that you were at before. It might be a little bit cleaner, but it is still an ocean with salt water. There are similar fish. Do you understand what I am saying? The world is the world is the world.

This life everlasting is really life without end. It is also an ability to actually enjoy it. This everlasting that the Father is calling us to is the ability to enjoy. Do you know that the best way to enjoy life is to enjoy spending time with yourself? When you enjoy spending time with yourself, you are really experiencing life, but most people can't stand to be alone. Most people don't like themselves that much. It is sad, but they don't.

They feel that they need someone else to complete them. In fact, the one who completes you is the one who made you. Other people can add to you, but they can't make you whole. If you aren't whole when you go into that relationship, then guess what? You are a broken vessel.

You all forbid if you go into a relationship with another broken person. But when you have two people who enjoy themselves, they can enjoy each other. This is what I believe. But if you don't enjoy yourself, then what you will begin to do is automatically start trying to force the person you have come into relationship with to conform to your ways.

It happens on a lot of levels. If you get into a relationship, you immediately go to work trying to change the other person. When the person changes as you are making them over, you are turning them into a new creature. They allow you to do that. Then you realize that what you have made them into is not really what you wanted; so we let Father do all of that.

The main thing is that you have to learn to like yourself. The way that you come to like who you are will be evident when you don't mind spending time with yourself. I laugh at my own jokes. I can have a good old time all by myself, but I realize that I am married, so I have to share. I have children. Occasionally I have to share some of that precious time with other people. But I love some Arthur Bailey! I couldn't always say that.

When I didn't love myself, I put all kinds of stuff inside of myself to make myself feel better. I puffed on cigarettes and drank alcohol to get drunk and intoxicated. I smoked drugs to make me not think normally. You know as well as I do that the moment that you start taking substances and controlled substances that they alter who you are as a person. Some people get silly under the influence of alcohol. I don't need alcohol to get silly. I just get silly; not in front of all of you, because you can't handle my silliness. My wife can.

Verse 9:

Galatians 6:9 – "And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not."

I have talked to many of you. I have heard a lot of weariness from you. The way that this weariness manifests itself is that you tell people about your faith but they don't want to hear it, so you get tired of telling them. This is what causes people to want to congregate among a select few people and to keep everybody else out. They want to judge everybody else to make sure that they don't come in and disrupt their little controlled environment.

This is the way that it works. People get weary. The way that you know that you are weary is that you stop telling people about your faith. When you stop telling people about your faith, you have lost excitement for your own faith. You would prefer to be around people who are just like you most of the time. Now you can tell each other. Let me tell you something. Well people don't need a doctor. Healthy folks don't need a physician. There are people who need what you have.

They aren't in here. But we get tired. We get tired of going through the same old rejection and telling the same old lines and hearing the same old responses.

"Nobody wants to hear me."

Listen. If they are not listening, maybe you should talk to somebody else. There are a whole lot of people out there. There are a whole lot of folks you haven't talked to. I know where the problem comes in. Because we are operating in such a small cluster, we have only a small group of folks to tell our faith to. Once we have hit them up a few times and they have rejected us; we close ourselves off when there is a whole world around us. You can share your faith.

For those of you who get stuck in Atlanta traffic; roll your window down. Do you hear what I am saying? There are a whole lot of folks who are stuck right next to you in traffic.

"Hey!"

You have a captive audience! They aren't going anywhere! Instead, you have your music blasting. They are rolling up their window so they can't hear whatever profanities are coming out of your mouth. That is not folks in here, but you all know what I am talking about. Roll the window down and ask them a question:

"Hey, did you know..."

Ask whatever the "did you know" question is. You would be surprised by how many people will talk to you on the streets in public. They don't even know you. Are you hearing me? Don't be weary. Don't get tired. Don't stop. Share when you feel like it and even when you don't feel like it.

I get phone calls. Sometimes the last thing I want to do is talk to somebody, but after I am done talking, I am so happy that I picked up that phone even though I didn't want to. The life that is emanating in you from the Spirit is quickened when you allow that person to come alive. That person comes alive when you start sharing with other people what the Almighty has put in you. You would be surprised at what other people will listen to.

Here is what I have had to do. I have had to stop trying to give people what is up here (points to head) and give people what he is giving me to give to them. This means that I need to be listening. You will see sometimes that it may look like I am not paying attention to you. It may look like I have just checked out, but I am hearing. What I am really trying to do is to hear him tell me how to communicate with you.

Galatians 6:9 – "And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not."

What are we going to reap? What are we going to reap if we don't faint? Last week there was a couple here from Canada. They came and visited with us. I will tell you that after talking with them, I wanted to get into their suitcase and go back to Canada with them!

One of these days I am going to go and visit them because they were talking about a Utopia. They have a lake, vineyards and all manner of fruit trees. You come over the hill and you can just see it. It looks like paradise. It looks like Eden. They described it to me, but that is not the thing that really resonated with me. What resonated with me was that they have both committed their lives to their faith. They have committed everything that they do, including their business.

They have incorporated their faith into what they do. As a result of that, they have a young couple who they have invited to be with them. He and his wife came and moved to Canada and the couple are discipling them. One of them gave up a lucrative hockey career with the ability to make a whole lot of money. He was already making six figures from what I am told. But when he began to assess his career, he looked at the fact that if he was going to excel in that career, he had to constantly violate the Sabbath. He had to constantly violate the feasts in order to pursue that career. He made a decision to say "no" to the career (which is the money) in order to follow YeHoVaH. To me, that is Kingdom work. Others are trying to pursue the stuff. But you see, the ministry that they are providing to individuals is causing people to say:

"You know, I really do need to evaluate this."

I say it to my children. I would say it to anybody. It is hard to be a Torah-observant person in retail unless you own the store. Then you can shut down on the Sabbath. You can shut down on the feast days because you are the boss. But if you work in retail and the boss says:

"No."

Pharaoh says that you have to work. Then I am here to say:

"Pharaoh, let the people of YeHoVaH go."

But when Pharaoh says:

"You're fired."

You know, that is one way of letting you go. Sometimes you just have to rejoice; as long as you haven't done anything to get fired. When you want to serve the Almighty, there are constant decisions that you face. You can't serve God and mammon. You can't serve YeHoVaH and mammon. Even in my religious home I was taught to pursue mammon and not YeHoVaH. I was taught to do this. Most of us have been taught to do this. Subconsciously we have been taught to get a good education so that we can get a good job. Very few of us came out of good homes where our parents advocated entrepreneurship and starting your own business. It was too much of a risk.

"No, you need a job! You need a steady income. You need some benefits. You need medical and dental. You need all of that medical and dental."

"Really? Because the medical people are going to put a lot of poison into me and the dentists are going to put a lot of metal in."

I have silver and lead and mercury and everything else in my mouth and in my body. They are banking on the fact that you are going to need some medication to get through your senior citizen, Social Security, fixed-income era. That is a fixed income! Think about that. You are working toward a fixed income. Who fixed it? You have to make a decision between getting some cat food and getting your medicine. No folks, it isn't supposed to be like that. But that is what we have been trained to work for.

The word here for weary or "ekkakeo" means: to be utterly spiritless, to be wearied out, exhausted. When a person gets weary, they are tired. They are spiritless. They are exhausted. This is the word. It says:

"Don't grow weary in well doing."

That means that what you do are the things that you could have done long before you got filled with the Spirit. Here is the thing. There is a side of the Holy Spirit that is not talked about much. Much of what we hear concerning the Holy Spirit has to do with the spiritual gifts and the fruit. For the most part and what we don't talk about much is that the Spirit makes us spiritual. If Spirit is life, the Holy Spirit is what makes us alive. Why? Because we were born dead.

When Paul talks about the works of the flesh and the works of the Spirit, what you will now be able to see is whether you are operating in death or in life. This is really what he is talking about concerning sowing to the flesh. When we sow to the flesh, we are operating in death. The end is what? Perish, corruption, destruction. When we put energy into the Spirit, what now happens is that we are made alive. We are able to really be content in whatever state we are in. We are faithful and trusting the Almighty, no matter what is going on in our lives. We know that he is still in control.

Paul gives that same encouragement to the Thessalonians. Please listen up. In the Book of *Thessalonians* and in the letter that Paul wrote to the people of Thessalonica, he says:

2 Thessalonians 3:7-8 – "For yourselves know how ye ought to follow us: for we behaved not ourselves disorderly among you; <sup>8</sup>Neither did we eat any man's bread for nought; but wrought with labour and travail night and day, that we might not be chargeable to any of you:"

What Paul is saying here in these first couple of verses is this:

"Listen. When we came into your midst, we tried to set a good example. As a matter of fact, we set an example. You know how we conducted ourselves."

This is what he is saying to these individuals. He says:

"When we ate at your house, we weren't looking for a handout. We were able and willing to work and to contribute."

One of the things that I do when I go into people's homes is speak a blessing over their home. I also look for ways that I can make my presence and time with the people that I am spending time with [fruitful]. Whether you know it or not, when I go into places, I prefer staying at people's homes instead of a hotel. That is just my personal preference. Some people prefer that I stay at a hotel instead of their home and that is okay, but that is what I prefer.

I have been in some places ladies and gentlemen, that are not the most accommodating of settings. You are sleeping on floors. I remember. I slept on one bed and the thing just collapsed under me. I felt bad. It was like:

"Man, I just broke your bed!"

I would still much rather be with people. Hotels can be cold. You are just stuck in a place. I like being with and interacting with people. Some people like the fact that I am staying with them. I don't put other people into that. This is just me personally. When I go into people's homes, I am very mindful of how I act and how I conduct myself. I respect their property. I respect their space. I wait for an invitation. I don't just go into people's refrigerators or their cupboards or anything like that. I don't say:

"This is my space."

I wait and let them show me where I am going to be. I try not to be a burden or a problem. I see if there is any way that I can be of service. Part of what I do in my work is minister. For those of you who are here, you have the privilege of being here and interacting. There are people who would love to be in some of these chairs. When I go into their space, I don't need to spend hours in a hotel looking at the walls or the TV. I would much rather spend hours sitting at the table and pouring and ministering to them. I can't do that at the hotel. For me, that is my work. That is what I do. I serve in that capacity.

Paul is saying that when you go into someone's home and they offer you food, eat it. Eat it, but don't take it for granted. Work for it. Earn it.

"How do you earn it?"

"Well, what do you have that you can give?"

Maybe it is picking up your plate and taking it. Maybe it is washing dishes or taking out the trash. Maybe it is doing something that you see needs to be done so that you are not sitting there waiting for somebody to serve you. Look for ways to serve. That is what he is saying.

8"Neither did we eat any man's bread for nought;"

In other words, we didn't take. We didn't just eat freely.

"...but wrought with labour and travail night and day,"

Whether you are there praying for people or ministering to people, you are giving of yourself to people in a capacity that they otherwise wouldn't have. Then he goes on to say:

2 Thessalonians 3:9 – "Not because we have not power, but to make ourselves an ensample unto you to follow us."

When we went to Israel and Russia and London, we could have reserved hotel rooms. It was tempting. The time that we spent with people; you couldn't pay for that. He says:

2 Thessalonians 3:10 – "For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat."

Let's look at what Paul is saying here. He says:

- 2 Thessalonians 3:11 "For we hear that there are some which walk among you disorderly, working not at all, but are busybodies."
- 2 Thessalonians 3:12 "Now them that are such we command and exhort by our Lord Yeshua Messiah, that with quietness they work, and eat their own bread."

For those of you who don't know, it has been this way for years; even this year that we are in. There were people who were expecting the Messiah to come. There were people who were expecting the end of the world to come. There were people who were expecting the second coming. In that mindset are people who have been convinced by whatever teacher they have been listening to, that the end is coming. They start looking at their material possessions and their gold. They don't need that stuff, so what do they do? They start giving it. They start getting rid of it.

One particular individual, Harold Camping, is no longer with us. Folks were donating all kinds of money. He had this mindset that he was going to get billboards and television programs

and everything else to warn the world that the end of the world is here, so a lot of people gave their childrens' inheritances. They gave this man all of their money to get the word out. Then they started travelling all over the world to warn people that the end was near. The time came but the world continued. This has been happening since the time of Paul! In fact, Paul is writing to some people who have done just that. They have come to a place where they have said:

"Listen. Messiah is coming! Messiah is coming!"

They stopped working. They quit their jobs. They sold their goods. They ran off. They ate all of their money up. Now they don't have any money and the end hasn't come. They are looking at other people who have food and they don't have any. They are brethren. There are people who were looking at these individuals and feeling sorry for them because they knew these people.

You are a person who is so sold out to Messiah that it is to the point where you are willing to give away or sell everything and be left with nothing. Now you are sitting there waiting for him to show up, but he doesn't come. Then your stomach starts talking to you. It starts growling. It starts making these noises and sounds. You go over to peoples' houses, but you are not going to ask for anything. You are too proud for that, but you are hoping that they hear those growls coming out of your stomach so that they offer you something to eat.

I know that you don't know people like that, but they are out there. They were out there in Paul's day. Back in the Pentecostal days, we used to call it "Pentecostal begging." They are not going to ask you, but they are going to make sure that you know what they need. They are going to constantly be in your hearing and tell you what they need.

"You know, I don't have any money. I don't have any food. You know, in two more days, my light bill. They are going to cut off my electricity. I don't know what I am going to do, but I know that 'God will provide.'"

It is like:

"Why are you telling me that?"

They are not going to ask because they don't ever want you to come to them one day saying:

"I did this for you."

Do you know what they are going to say?

"I didn't ask you for anything."

Has anyone ever had that happen to you? Come on, let's just do a poll. This is one of those areas where I need to do a poll. Have you ever let somebody get you into a place where you did something that they didn't ask for and you brought it up? They say:

"I didn't ask you for anything."

Come on, put your hands up. Look around. How did that make you feel? You felt suckered, didn't you? I know that I did.

"I didn't ask you for nothing."

Then they do it with a little twang. [Rhetorically speaking:] You just want to reach down their throat and take out all of those vittles that you fed them. You want to snatch some clothing off of them because you know that they used your money to buy that stuff. That is how you feel.

You don't do that, but I have felt that. Has anybody else besides me ever felt that way? I know that I am not alone. He says that there are people out there like that. These folks are busybodies. They are in other people's business. He says:

2 Thessalonians 3:12 – "Now them that are such we command and exhort by our Lord Yeshua Messiah, that with quietness they work, and eat their own bread."

Now get this.

2 Thessalonians 3:13 – "But ye, brethren be not weary in well doing."

"Don't be like that! You work for your own food! You labor for your own things. Don't become dependent upon someone else. Don't use other people to get you through life. Man up! Woman up! Carry your own weight. Carry your own burden."

This is what he is saying.

"And if any man..."

Here is where it gets interesting. Paul is writing this.

2 Thessalonians 3:14 – "And if any man obey not our word by this epistle, note that man,"

Note him. Mark him. You don't put a mark on him, just note him. They are among us. Just note them.

"...and have no company with him, that he may be ashamed."

The whole purpose of cutting people off or shunning or excommunicating people is that if you are accustomed to being with someone in a relationship and they cut off that relationship, there is a void in their life. Because it creates a void, people are reluctant to cut off a relationship that you know you should have cut off a long time ago.

It takes some time once you have cut off that relationship for you to get that relationship out of your system so that you can go on in a normal way of life. But for the person who has become dependent to be cut off, hopefully they will see and hear what you have been trying to communicate all of this time. Then they might repent and try to get it right. If they don't, so be it.

Here is what I want you to see in this next verse. He is saying that if a person doesn't work, that he shouldn't eat. If a person is manipulating and using these kinds of tactics, note them. When you note them, you are knowing them that labor among you (or not).

2 Thessalonians 3:15 – "Yet count him not as an enemy, but admonish him as a brother"

See what he is saying here. This is 2 *Thessalonians*. He says:

"I want you to pay attention to the people who are fellowshipping with and celebrating and eating and congregating in your midst. You need to know them that labor among you. You need to know how to treat certain people who have certain behavioral issues, challenges or patterns; whatever you want to call them. You want to admonish them but not as an enemy. They are not your enemy. They are your brother, but you have to deal with them differently."

You can't deal with this brother like you deal with that brother.

"But isn't that favoritism?"

Yeah. It is favoritism.

"Are you advocating favoritism brother?"

I am because YeHoVaH shows favor.

"But wait a minute. He is no respecter of persons."

When it comes to salvation, that is true, but if you want to walk in his favor, you had better walk in obedience. What if you are walking in obedience but other people aren't? Then you may be more favored than them. I am going to tell you right now that there is favor that I walk in that I know that other people don't walk in. Why? I have made the decision that I am going to pay the price to walk this walk. If you are not willing to pay the price for the favor, then the favor is not yours.

Any one of you know who you show favor to. You show favor to people who please you, who are pleasant to you, who are nice and good to you, people who do what you ask and people who are there when you need them and you call on them and can count on them. You show them favor. Don't sit up in here and act like you don't show favor, because we all do. That is every last one of us. There are people who, when they call you, you answer the phone. There are people who, when they call you, you click that thing and they go into voice mail. I know who I am talking to. I have seen some of you do it! You avoid certain people. Then when you can't avoid them anymore, you are smiling:

"Hey girl, it's so good to see you!"

"No it ain't. I tried to get away from you, but I couldn't."

"Oh, your hair looks nice!"

"That head is jacked up!"

I am just calling it out, right? You know that you do it! Stop playing! There are folks you don't want to be bothered with. You see them coming this way and you go that way. You have seen them in the supermarkets [avoiding you]. Halleluyah! They come in that door and you go in the other one. If they sit on the floor, you sit in the balcony. You can't do that here!

2 Thessalonians 3:15 – "Yet count *him* not as an enemy, but admonish *him* as a brother"

He says:

"Have no company with him. You are to have no company with someone who is playing on the good will of the brethren."

The reason why I am pointing this out to you is because these people can wear you down. There are people in the churches and the Messianic communities that have worn you out. They have more money, more stuff, more attention and more resources. It is to the point where you are so tapped out that you don't want to do anything for anyone. Do you know what I am talking about here? When you get burned, it now makes you judge everyone else by that standard.

"Well, the last time I tried to help a brother and sister; this is what they did."

Now our favorite word is "no" or we avoid them. Or get this one:

"Let me pray on it."

2 Thessalonians 3:14 - "have no company with him."

Wait a minute. This brother is simply leeching. That is what they call them. "Leech." They are just sucking you dry. This is a leech. Paul is saying here to watch out. Not only watch out, but with that person, do not keep company with him. I find this particularly fascinating because the word "sunanamignumi" means: to mix up together, to keep company with, to be intimate with one.

If you have somebody who comes in who is like this, what do you do? They sit at your table. Some of you do this anyway. You just politely get up and move. I have seen you. Paul also uses this same word in *I Corinthians* 5:9-11 when he puts a man who does not work into the same category as a fornicator and an ungodly person. That is what he does.

This word company, remember? "Sunanamignumi" means: to keep, know, to mix together. Look at what he says. Paul wrote *Thessalonians*. He also wrote *1 Corinthians*. He is using a term that he is also using in the Book of *Galatians*.

"Don't be weary. Don't be weary in well doing."

There are people who will take advantage of your well doing. They will wear you out if you let them do it. That is because you are not taking notice of what Paul is saying.

"Well brother, isn't that being a little cold?"

No, it is not being cold. It is being spiritual. What if I see and acknowledge and assess and discern that you are a leech or a person who is going to "play" me? What if I see that you are a person who is going to use witchcraft and manipulation to get something out of me that I wouldn't obviously voluntarily give?

What if you are going to sit here and play me like I am stupid or as if I have no discernment? What if you think that I fell off of the boat and bumped my head on a stone in the water? Is that the way you want to play me? If you want to come on out, then do you want something? What are you getting at? Stop playing games. Do you need something?

Don't sit here and manipulate me and pull on my heart strings to get me to volunteer to do something for you because you don't have the courage to come out and ask for it so I can hold you accountable. If you want to play that game, I don't play that game. I'm just calling folks out because I don't have time.

"What do you want?"

"Well nah, I don't want..."

"Well, you must want something. Why do you keep saying the same thing over and over? I have heard it now seven times. You said it to me. You said it to that person over there. You said it to that person over there. I saw that person. They felt guilty. They felt sad. They felt like they needed to do something so they went into their pocket all spiritual and handed you a twenty like they were shaking your hand. I saw the twenty! Now you are going to go to the next person."

I have watched folks in congregations go from person to person! I have caught them in the hallway and have pulled them aside.

"I see what you are doing. You are manipulating the saints. That is not acceptable here."

Folks have shown up here. I have told them:

"This is the last dollar you are getting. Don't come back!"

"Brother, I just need bus fare."

"Every time I see you, you need bus fare!"

Isn't that being mean? No, because you go from this church to that church to that congregation to that community. You aren't trying to get a job. You are doing your job! You are trying to get bus fare to get to your next "job," which is the church over there on Sardis Road. You meet with them every Wednesday.

I know people! I am telling you folks. If you have hung out in the streets like I have, there are folks who know where all of the "bleeding hearts" are. They know where they are. They usually find churches where people drive in and drive out because they have no connection to the community. They already feel guilty because they have no connection to the community.

They live in their nice little gated communities and their nice little homes. They don't talk to their neighbors. They don't deal with anybody. They are not involved in any community activities. They come to service, go to work and come to church. They see someone who is in need. This is an opportunity to be a Good Samaritan. It is getting a little quiet in here, but this is what Paul wrote. He says:

1 Corinthians 5:9 – "I wrote unto you in an epistle not to company..."

There is that word again. He says:

"...not to company with fornicators:"

He says don't company with fornicators, just like you wouldn't keep company with someone who is trying to manipulate or to get something for nothing.

1 Corinthians 5:10 - "Yet not altogether with the fornicators of this world,"

What is he saying? Listen. There are people who don't claim to be part of the fold. They don't claim to be believers. These are worldly people. They let you know that they are worldly. He is not talking about those folks. For example, when you go to lunch at work and somebody who is not a believer is there. I would have a hard time sitting at a table with someone who cross-dresses, but guess what? Some of you have let them serve you in restaurants. You have left tips.

"Are you saying that's wrong brother?"

I am not "saying" anything, I am just saying. These are people who are in the world. It is hard to go to a restaurant now and not be served by a homosexual or a lesbian. It is really difficult. Some of them are and you know it! Those are people in the world. That is who they are. You let them be themselves. He is not talking about those people. He is talking about the people who come in "here" like that.

1 Corinthians 5:10 – "Yet not altogether with the fornicators of this world,"

He says:

- 1 Corinthians 5:9 "I wrote unto you in an epistle not to **company with fornicators:**"
- 1 Corinthians 5:10 "Yet not altogether with the fornicators of this world, or..."

Not to [keep] company with:

"...with the covetous, or extortioners, or with idolaters; for then must ye needs go out of the world."

You cannot live in this world and not be in the company of these people. That is just living. There are going to be extortioners. There are going to be cross-dressers. There are going to be people who are in the world.

1 Corinthians 5:11 - "But now I have written unto you not to keep company,"

Notice that he uses this word twice. He uses it in *1 Corinthians*. In *1 Thessalonians* he uses it in the same verse as being "weary in well doing." Now he is connecting company and getting weary with company and people who are in the congregation. He is saying that for a person who is living as a brother in this manner; not to keep company with them just as you would not keep company with someone who is in the congregation and who is hustling folks. That is the best way to put it. They are spiritual hustlers.

1 Corinthians 5:11 – "But now I have written unto you not to keep company, if any man that is called a brother"

He is driving this home.

"...be a fornicator, or covetous, or an idolater, or a railer, or a drunkard, or an extortioner; with such an one no not to eat."

Do you know that these words are found in the Torah? What is an idolater, folks? It is an idol worshipper. We live in America. What kind of idols are there in America? There are American idols.

"But we watch American Idols!"

"Mmm hmm. That's what I'm talking about."

They aren't covering it up!

"Hey, we're idols. Watch us!"

Then we go and vote.

"Vote for our idol."

"Well brother, that's different."

"Really?"

An idol is an idol is an idol, no matter how you want to paint the picture. What about covetousness or a fornicator? Almost all of us have fornicators in our family. Many of them call themselves brothers and sisters. We eat with them. Don't we? He says:

"Don't keep company with them. I wrote you. I'm telling you again."

Why? The moment that you start compromising your faith is when your faith gets weak. A little leaven, just a little; just a little leaven and the next thing you know, it starts leavening the whole lump. Now you are seeing the world differently. Your values, morals and principles are being compromised. Pretty soon you have a case for same-sex marriage.

"Now brother, you have gone too far."

"Well, you aren't condemning it!"

"Well, you know, we have people in our family like that!"

"Mmm Hmm. Let me tell you something. It's not just people in your family like that. I have nieces and nephews too. I cut them off."

"Brother, that's kind of harsh, isn't it?"

"Well, that's the life they have chosen, so they kind of forced my hand."

You see, why should I compromise my faith? The moment that I start compromising my faith, then guess what? Where do I stop? If I compromise my faith over here, then how can I uphold my faith over there with any real integrity? Do you know what? That voice is going to be calling me a hypocrite. I will be calling myself a hypocrite.

"Well, you did it for them, but you didn't do it for them. What's the difference?"

I will tell you what the difference is for many. It is blood; the blood line. For many it is a blood line issue. Blood is thicker than water.

"Well, that's my family."

"Really? I've got something for you."

He says:

"...that is called a brother be a fornicator, or covetous, or an idolater, or a railer, or a drunkard, or an extortioner; with such an one no not to eat."

Galatians 6:10 – "As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all *men*, especially unto them who are of the **household of faith**."

The question is: who are those of the household of faith? Here is the deal, ladies and gentlemen. It is a simple deal. The Yeshua that we say that we believe in solved that issue.

"Who is my mother? Who is my brother?"

He solved that issue. If we are still struggling with it and we call ourselves "following him," then we are unbelieving believers. We believe *in* Messiah, but we don't *believe* Messiah. He said:

"Who is my mother? Who is my brother?"

He answered the question. He didn't leave someone else to answer it. He says:

"My mother and brothers are them who do the will of my Father who sent me."

Here is the dilemma. I am of my Father who is in Heaven and I am of my biological father. My biological father for me personally, is deceased. My Father in Heaven is eternal. When I leave here, I am not going to be standing in front of my biological father giving an account for how I treated my brothers and sisters. But I will stand before my Father in Heaven and give an account as to how I treated my brothers and sisters.

So who are those of the household of faith? Paul makes it very clear that we need to be especially mindful of how we relate and how we do good unto all men; especially those of the household of faith. He identifies this in *Ephesians* 2.

Ephesians 2:19-22 – "Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God [our Father who is in heaven];"

We have dual citizenship. We are in the world but we are not of the world. We are of Heaven. We are citizens of the Kingdom. Where is this Kingdom? It is in us. We are citizens of the Kingdom. The Kingdom of Heaven has come. Do you understand this?

This Kingdom of Heaven that has come creates a dilemma in my natural man. It creates a dividing wall between my natural man and my spiritual man. They are both warring within me for attention and for dominance. My natural man is associated and intimately affiliated with the things of this world; including my natural, biological family.

My spirit man desires to please the Almighty. It desires to do the things that please the Father who is in Heaven. Therefore by the love that I have for my biological spiritual family or my supernatural family will men know that I am his. What if I treat this family differently than I treat this family? Let's say that I treat this family over here (which is of the natural realm) better than I treat this family (which is of the Spirit). What am I saying? What am I identifying with? Who am I identifying with?

This is how we teach our mouths to lie. We say one thing, but our actions show us who we are. There is my natural and there is my spiritual. There is my biological and there is my bornagain, supernatural relationship. That is a dilemma within me. I will be the first one to say that we are more inclined to help our biological family than our supernatural family. The reason is because we know who our biological family is (or so we think). We question our spiritual, supernatural family.

We know these, but we don't know them. We have lived with them and got a chance to know them, but we don't have the time, energy or wherewithal or desire to get to know them. By our very actions we have made a decision. Our decision is exposed by our actions. All we have to do is just be honest with ourselves, but that is hard. It is hard for someone to say:

"I am a believer and I follow the King of Glory. I believe in him and I am obedient to him."

My actions show something totally different.

"Don't judge brother."

How can I *not* judge? **Your fruit shows me who you are.** I would be foolish to ignore it. You said who you are by your actions. You will know a tree by its fruit. We haven't been good fruit inspectors, ladies and gentlemen.

We read this book and say that we believe this book, but when it comes down to doing what this book says, it is like Zorro. It hits that flesh [makes "Z" motion with an invisible sword]. For those of you who don't know Zorro, it just cuts you. It puts that – no, "Yorro." Let's put a "Y!" No, a "Z." That's what that word does. That word is quick, sharper and powerful. It is quicker than a two-edged sword. It gets you coming and going. You can't get away from it. You and I have to do a real assessment so that we at least know where we are. Nobody can do that for you. Nobody can do that for me.

The more I do it, the more I realize how much I have compromised. I have compromised a great deal. I can tell you why and give you excuses and reasons for it, but it is not going to hold water. As a parent, it is hard not to. It is very difficult as a parent not to compromise. Why? That is because we love our children. We love them. Any parent who doesn't love their children; what kind of parent are you? When we love our children; if we truly love them, then we have to correct them. What if they don't endure correction? I am not one for putting people out, but I learned the art. My parents taught me something that I kind of forgot.

I remember hearing a sermon about how the eagles deal with their young. Of course the eagle builds its nest up high. What happens is that when the eaglet gets bigger, they start taking things apart. They build their nest with thorns. This is what was told to me. I haven't researched it. I am just going off of what I was told. They pad this nest of thorns really well. When the eaglet gets to the point where they are able to begin flying, the mother eagle starts removing the padding. Now being in the nest becomes uncomfortable; whereas being outside the nest (even though there is a lot of ground way down there) seems and feels mentally as if there is a more comfortable spot elsewhere than being in the nest.

The way that my parents equated it was like this. They just made it difficult for us to be at home. I remember when I was about fourteen years old. I started hearing it. Actually I heard it said to my older siblings before I heard it said to me.

"When you get to 18, you are out of here. You are out of here!"

I heard that when I was little. It was said to my siblings. By the time I got to that point, my parents (who used to say it to all of them) started saying it to me.

"When you get to 18..."

I knew that there was a deadline to my stay. Parents today don't have deadlines. I believe that the Kingdom is like that. There comes a point where you stop being a baby. Now you have to eat the meat of the word. It is not just the milk. You have to eat the meat. There is a transition where you are going to have to go from a babe to where you now become mature. When we become mature, mature people are not living off of someone else's dime. A mature person is carrying their own weight. If this message is uncomfortable for anyone, then good. It should be.

Ephesians 2:19-22 – "Now therefore ye are not more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God;"

<sup>20</sup>"And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Yeshua Messiah himself being the chief corner *stone;*"

<sup>21</sup>"In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord:"

<sup>22</sup>"In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of Elohim through the Spirit."

So you are a stone. We are all part of the house. As a matter of fact, we make the house. When we come in, we become part of the foundation which is Messiah. The apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers are building. They are not building their church, but the household of Elohim. This means building people so that people can get in the place where they are designed to fit and to function. They are not to be dysfunctional.

We are all supposed to be functional. We are all supposed to be spiritual. We are all supposed to be maturing. We are all supposed to be growing up. We are all supposed to be supplying every joint. We are all supposed to be helping to make all things that are needed in the house of the Almighty. We are to make it functional.

You have a role to play. I have a role to play. Everyone is supposed to bring something to the table. The only ones who don't bring anything to the table physically, but who do bring something to the table are the babes. The babes bring something to the table. They bring an opportunity for you to exercise your faith in discipleship and to train up.

The way that you know that you have done a good job is when they take their place next to you and start to disciple others. They are building them up. If everybody is building up everybody else, there is no tearing down!

Peter weighs in on this household of faith and gives additional insight.

1 Peter 2:5-6 – "Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood,"

One of these days we are going to get into the order of Melchizedek. Every one of you is a priest after that order. Every one of you is holy after that order. No matter how you look at yourself, it is time to put on a new set of glasses. We are to see ourselves the way that the Almighty sees us. We are to begin to become what he is calling all of us to be.

1 Peter 2:5-8 — "Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to Elohim by Yeshua Messiah."

<sup>6</sup>"Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded."

<sup>7</sup>"Unto you therefore which believe *he is* precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner,"

<sup>8</sup>"And a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense, *even to them* which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed."

Yeshua is that stumbling block to the Jew and an offense to the Greek. That is Yeshua. The Greek are the Gentiles. There are places where it uses the word "Greek," but it is "non-Jew." In some versions, this could also be considered to be Gentile because a Gentile is a non-Jew

according to those interpretations. Yeshua is an offense to the Greek. Why? The Greeks are philosophers. The Greeks are heady. The Greeks are intellectuals. The Almighty uses the foolish things of this world to confound these wise folks; these philosophers.

I just received a Ph.D., which is a Doctor of Philosophy. I was thinking to myself:

"What am I going to do with that? Should I call myself 'Doctor? Arthur Bailey (slash or comma), Ph.D.?'"

The fact of the matter is that the Greek society is from where we got sororities and fraternities. That is what they are. They are sororities and fraternities. Why do you think that they all have Greek names and Greek symbols? It is the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. They are both there.

The good are frowned upon to a degree because students who go and eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil find themselves on the dark side. They are pledging, partying, drinking and getting high. They are losing their virginity, losing their identity and losing their faith. We send them into these institutions of higher learning and they come back heathens with Ph.D.s and M.D.s.

"Now brother, you are being too hard on it."

You know I am, but it has earned it. That is why they call them institutions of art. Art, ladies and gentlemen, is a nice, fancy way of saying "perverted." That is because most art is perverted. When I say "perverted," I mean void of YeHoVaH.

When a doctor says:

"Do you know what? We practiced our craft. We've done everything that we can do. We have danced around the pot. We have put different ingredients into the pot. We have tried different formulas. We have said different chants. We have even brought in other doctors of pharmakeia. We brought in masters. We brought in Ph.D.s in that particular field."

They have danced. They are befuddled because they can't figure it out. They don't know what is going on. Then they say:

"Well, we've done everything that we can do. Now I guess it's up to God."

It has always been up to him, but it is sad that a person has to come to the end of their craft before they acknowledge that they can't solve the problem. They can't fix the problem. All they can do is try to bypass the problem by shutting something down, by awakening something, or by cutting something out or adding something to it. The Almighty is the only one who knows this physical design. He designed it. He knows how to fix it. He knows how to do whatever he needs to do with it.

Don't get me wrong about these institutions of higher learning. I am not against higher learning. But I say to people that you had better have your faith secure before you go in there; even in the Christian or the religious ones. There are as many heathens in the Christian colleges and universities as there are elsewhere. They are just paying more money.

1 Peter 2:8 – "And a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense, even to them which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed."

1 Peter 2:9 – "But ye *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation,"

Peter is reminding the people who they are. When we do our vision statement, it is a reminder. Peter here is reminding them. He says:

1 Peter 2:9 – "But ye *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:"

1 Peter 2:10 – "Which in time past *were* not a people, but *are* now the people of Elohim: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy."

We will continue here in the next lesson.

Galatians 6:11 – "Ye see how <u>large</u> a letter I have written unto you with mine own hand."

I really want to take some time to explain what Paul says. As I have said before, when I look at the Book of *Galatians*, I think that Paul sums it up here. I see a compilation of all of the subject matter that Paul has addressed to all of the other congregations that he wrote to, except for the *Galatians*.

They were in a very particular position because they who had received the faith had allowed someone else to come in and talk them out of the very faith that they had received. It was to the point of bewitching or bringing them under a spell. Believe it or not, there are so many people who are under a spell. I am not even talking about the Christian community. I am just going to push that over to the side for a minute.

You see, this whole issue of being bewitched is particularly associated with those who want to mix Judaism and the Bible. It is specifically addressing the Messianic Hebrew community. The Christian church has already rejected that. They have rejected everything Old Testament except for tithes, offerings and the blessings. They have rejected it all.

It is those in these particular circles who are coming into the faith once delivered to the saints but who are also mixing in some Jewishness and some traditions. These are the ones who bewitched the Galatians. They brought in their traditions, their Hanukkias, their stories and hamantaschen and traditions that are associated with trying to celebrate what has been erroneously dubbed as the "Jewish feasts."

There are only two Jewish feasts that people in the Messianic community celebrate. Those are Purim and Hanukkah. Those are Jewish feasts. Tabernacles is not a Jewish feast. Passover and Unleavened Bread are not Jewish feasts. These are the Feasts of YeHoVaH. YeHoVaH established these feasts! Hanukkah and Purim were established by some Jews, so don't call them "Jewish feasts," because they are not. They are the Feasts of YeHoVaH. You can't put them in the same category. The moment that you put Hanukkah and Purim into the "feasts" category, do you know what you have done? You have added to the word. They are not feasts! Can man add a feast to YeHoVaH's word? No, he can't! Are you all with me here? We have to see the Bible.

"Are you against Hanukkah?"

No, I am not. This year I chose not to celebrate it.

"Are you against Purim?"

No, I am not. I don't think I have ever celebrated it. Perhaps once, maybe twice. If I choose to, then so what? One thing I am not going to do is equate something that did not come from YeHoVaH but man, to the same level as that which came from YeHoVaH. You don't add and you don't diminish. That is a biblical command from the creator himself.



## Class Twenty-Seven

Born dead
Many teachers, no fathers
Religion isn't Bible
Conversion isn't necessary.
Only one law
Corrupted word?
To love is to obey.

## Too many teachers

Halleluyah. We continue to be challenged by the word. That is good because the word should challenge us. We are going to read *Galatians* 6 and then continue where we left off in the last lesson. As we began to read *Galatians* 6, we noted that when Paul wrote, *he wrote letters. The letters that he wrote were not written in chapters and verses*. As we transitioned from chapter 5, we realized that in chapter 6 there really wasn't a transition, but a continuation. As it is in the Bible, he is dealing in chapter 5 with an issue of the flesh and the Spirit and how we are supposed to be individuals of the Spirit. When we walk by the Spirit, we do not fulfill the desires of the flesh. The flesh is the carnal part of us. It is the carnal nature. It is the human side of us.

I want to show you some things that I found. This is not just my word. They are validation and proof whereby we are supposed to be more focused on our Spirit than on our natural side. It is unfortunate that because we were born in the flesh, that flesh gets the priority versus our spirit. It is when we are born again that our spirit man is quickened and awakened. Now the Almighty begins to commune with our spirit. It is his Spirit communing with our spirit. His Spirit bears witness with our spirit that we are his children. Therefore we should be more spirit than natural and more spiritual than carnal.

The Bible tells us and Paul says in a later writing in *Romans*, that we are spirit beings. When it comes down to us being spirit beings, those who are led by his Spirit are the sons of Elohim. Again, what makes us children of Elohim is that we are led by the Spirit of our Father. We also understand that we not only have a heavenly Father, we have a biological father. If everything is left alone; as sons, we become like our fathers. You don't even have to work at it. It is scary sometimes. I look in the mirror and see my dad! Has that ever happened to any of you? You look in the mirror and see the image of your father or your mother.

I have told men this and have shared this in private. I don't necessarily share this in public. I have told men that when you talk about getting connected with a woman, you had better take a good look at the mother because that is who you are going to end up with. That is unless of

course she is born again! In the born again process, we have to work really hard not to become like our mother or father. There are too many people who use that as an excuse.

"I am just like my mother."

"I am just like my father."

The fact of the matter is that we are supposed to be like our Father who is in Heaven. This means that there is some work that we have to do. If you don't do the work, you will become like your biological, natural parent.

Some research has been done that has found that because of their DNA, even individuals who have been separated at birth from their biological parents have certain characteristics and traits of their biological parents. At some point, children who are adopted recognize that there is "something" that is different. They might not know what it is, but there is something that is different.

"I am not like all of you."

It shows up.

What we want to do here is pay attention to what Paul is laying out. We want to become more like our Father who is in Heaven. In *Galatians* 6:1 you will see this. It is really not a transition, but a continuation.

Galatians 6:1 – "Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual,"

In chapter 5, Paul explains the difference between the carnal nature and the spirit nature and the works of the flesh and the fruit of the Spirit. The fruit of the Spirit is what the Spirit at work in us begins to produce. The works of the flesh are the things that we do by nature. We have to constantly work at putting to death this carnal nature. That is because the carnal nature grows on its own. You don't even have to invest in the carnal side. It just becomes what it is.

We are born dead. We are born dead and therefore unless we are born again, we will die like we were born. We were born as men. We will die like men. But when we become born again, we become spiritual. Therefore the words of Yeshua can be applied here.

"Those who believe in me will never die."

Are you with me?

Galatians 6:1 – "Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted."

Galatians 6:2 – "Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Messiah."

Galatians 6:3 – "For if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself."

Galatians 6:4 – "But let every man prove his own work, and then shall he have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another."

Galatians 6:5 – "For every man shall bear his own burden."

Galatians 6:6 – "Let him that is taught in the word communicate unto him that teacheth in all good things."

Galatians 6:7 – "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."

Galatians 6:8 – "For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting."

Galatians 6:9 – "And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not."

Galatians 6:10 – "As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all *men*, especially unto them who are of the household of faith."

Galatians 6:11 – "Ye see how large a letter I have written unto you with mine own hand."

Galatians 6:12 – "As many as desire to make a fair shew in the flesh, they constrain you to be circumcised; only lest they should suffer persecution for the cross of Messiah."

Galatians 6:13 – "For neither they themselves who are circumcised keep the law; but desire to have you circumcised, that they may glory in your flesh."

Galatians 6:14 – "But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Yeshua Messiah, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world."

Galatians 6:15 – "For in Messiah Yeshua neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision, but a new creature."

Galatians 6:16 - "And as many as walk according to this rule, peace *be* on them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God."

Galatians 6:17 – "From henceforth let no man trouble me: for I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Yeshua."

Galatians 6:18 – "Brethren, the grace of our Lord Yeshua Messiah *be* with your spirit. Amen."

As I said, in the last lesson we left off in *Galatians* 6:11. I want to look at this particular verse because Paul speaks volumes when he makes this statement:

Galatians 6:11 – "Ye see how <u>large</u> a <u>letter</u> I have written unto you with mine own hand."

This is the only place where Paul uses this in his writings. What he is saying here is that he has written a full, comprehensive and complete letter on a particular subject that all of the congregations were dealing with. The Galatian region was impacted and affected more than the others when it came down to the faith once delivered to the saints.

If you remember; he speaks about being bewitched, coming under a spell, or some other authority or spirit. I have to tell you that when it comes down to the Hebrew Roots Messianic

faith, there are a lot of influences that have come in and which have (in a sense) caused the word of YeHoVaH to be watered down. I will share that with you as we look at this.

I want to stick with what the word says. Here this particular word for large is "pelikos" from the Greek. It means: how great, how large; in a material reference (denoting geometrical magnitude as distinguished from arithmetical); in an ethical sense: how distinguished.

What he is saying and the usage of this word is that it is great and large. This is a large letter. It is a great letter, but it is also a comprehensive letter. We will pick that up in the next lesson when we conclude this particular book.

The word here "letter" is from where we get the word "epistle." Paul wrote letters. We call them the Book of *Galatians*, the Book of *I Corinthians*, but they are actual letters that Paul wrote to individuals whom Paul had led to Messiah. Paul uses the term in *2 Corinthians*. He talks about how:

"You have many teachers, but you have not had many fathers."

A father in the faith is one who brings people to the faith. It is one who actually brings people to belief and faith in Messiah.

Paul didn't write letters to the congregations that Peter started. Paul didn't write letters to the congregations that other apostles started. Some would argue as to whether or not Paul's letters should even be in the Bible because Paul was not a disciple of Messiah. I will tell you that as we look at Paul's writings, we find that they are so full of Messiah's teachings and Torah that for someone to make such a charge against him is really unfounded. Yet they read Paul's letters and come away (as Peter said) as confused or distorting or perverting what Paul wrote. We are going to look at what Paul wrote here more deeply as we have been doing over the past twenty-six lessons.

A major subject in Paul's letters to the *Galatians* has to do with circumcision. As a matter of fact, this word is woven throughout the letter. This gives us an indication of what Paul is addressing when it came down to being bewitched.

You have to know that with different religions come different traditions. Traditions can be beautiful. Traditions can have a lot of meanings that are rooted in and handed down from generation to generation and which become part of the culture. There are American traditions that have been infused with interpretations and teachings and that have been exported to other countries.

It is so amazing when I go into different countries. I have been in a few. Their influence and understanding is not so much from the Bible as much as it is from their access to Christian television. You see, Paul Crouch has done a phenomenal job in getting Christian television into the far reaches of the globe. The late Paul Crouch is the founder of TBN (Trinity Broadcasting Network). It is not just him, but others who have also come along.

There are literally 33 television networks that are broadcasting the gospel from America. It is an American form of gospel. When a person in Kenya is watching Christian TV around Christmas time, they are seeing the Christmas trees and the carols and all of the things that are associated with Christmas. They see this as part of the gospel. They even incorporate the idea that Christmas is the "birth of Jesus." They didn't get that from the book!

There are a lot of things ladies and gentlemen, that we didn't get from the book. Many of us who were brought up in Christianity have watched Christian movies. I am going to tell you that there is something about Christian movies that is a little different than the movies of the world.

They were always slow. For a child, it was boring until Cecil B. DeMille's *Ten Commandments* came along. Then all of a sudden, Christian television took on a new light.

But even with the *Ten Commandments*; many of us learned what we know today about the Ten Commandments from the movies. If you were to go back and watch the *Ten Commandments* now, you would see that there are verses that are being left out and quotes that are being quoted or quotations that end at a certain point. They are cut off. The bottom line is that the *Ten Commandments* movie had a Christian spin. It was not a Hebrew spin, but a Christian spin.

A lot of what we have learned has not been from our study. It has not been from reading. It has been from television, from movies and from sermons. Personally I have lots of sermons that have been downloaded into my brain because I watched a lot of Christian television. I have been in churches a lot of my life. I have heard practically every sermon and spin on sermons that are out there. That is not to say that I know them all, but I can listen to a person who is talking to me and tell you who they have been listening to.

Parents have this innate ability; especially moms. You have a guarded community and a guarded home. You are instilling values and principles into your children. When your children come home and start having conversations that are very different from what you have taught them, you know that they have picked up something from somewhere else other than at home. Your questions are:

"Who have you been with? Who have you been talking to?"

Do you understand? We pick things up. Things are deposited in us. We find ourselves walking these things out. What does that have to do with *Galatians* 6? Those of you who have read the Book of *Acts* know that everywhere that Paul went – sometimes before Paul even left a particular area, there were groups of people who were trying to undermine what he was teaching. Paul found himself being persecuted and his work being undermined. In some cases it was undone.

Paul scathed the Corinthians. He spoke some things to the Corinthians. He actually called them "carnal." He called them "babes." He called them individuals who still needed the sincere milk of the word. This is like saying that they were adults who needed to be breastfed all over again. It doesn't look or feel right, but what he is saying is that there were these grown individuals who were supposed to have certain knowledge of the word, but they were carnal. Then he makes a statement in *Romans*:

"To be carnal minded is death."

He is calling these individuals "carnal." He says:

"When I came to you, I couldn't speak to you as spiritual. Even now I can't talk to you."

In the letter that he is writing, he can't talk to them as spiritual. Imagine that there are grownups who have been in congregations and who have access to the word and to Paul and others who are still babes. He is writing to them in such a way that he is calling them out. Here he says:

Galatians 6:12 – "As many as desire to make a fair shew in the flesh,"

What is he saying here? He is saying that there are some people who want to count you amongst themselves. They want you to be numbered amongst them. If you remember, there was a Pharaoh who came along and who did not know Joseph. He began to think to himself:

"These people are growing in number. They are growing in number. If they continue the growth that they have already exercised, they are going to outnumber us. What is to stop them from joining sides with our enemies?"

So the rationale was to bring them into bondage and try to control the population. It was population control. Do you get this? It even came to the point where it went beyond bringing individuals into bondage. Now it was about stopping the growth and actually persecuting people and putting the male children to death. What is the rationale behind that? The rationale is control. Fast forward. When you look at Israel, Israel actually started numbering themselves. Fast forward to the day of Yeshua. Yeshua's parents had to go to their place of birth for a census.

Fast forward to our day. When you have censuses, you begin to identify where every citizen is supposed to be. Now you can begin to determine the legals from the illegals. Let's take this into the church because it is all relevant. When you begin to look at churches, a church's influence is based on their numbers. Let's analyze this and attach it to evangelism.

Evangelists are taught to go out and evangelize. They try to win the "lost" for Christ. In essence it is to bring people into their congregation so that they can grow. Pastors are hired and fired based on their ability to grow a congregation. People today identify the influence of a congregation by the number of people who regularly attend their worship services. Banks loan money based on the number of people (the head count) and the value of each individual's worth over the course of a year. They do this to determine whether or not they are going to lend a congregation money to build a building or to do other things that a congregation may want to do.

The whole goal for numbering and censoring (if you would) is for power, recognition, control, influence and for authority. *Galatians* 6.

Galatians 6:12 - "As many as desire to make a fair shew in the flesh,"

Something happened a few years ago when Mitt Romney was running for President. Some of you may remember that something was exposed that for many people didn't make a whole lot of difference, but with my inquiring mind, I noticed it. It was exposed that the Mormons were literally baptizing deceased Jews. These were individuals from the Holocaust who were known to be deceased. For many of you, that went right over your head. It was in the news! The Mormon Church was baptizing deceased Jews for what purpose? To increase their numbers! Even the Mormon Church declared itself to be the "spiritual Israel" or the "spiritual Jew." It was like:

## "Why would they do that?"

When it comes down to making a show, this happens. The State of Israel addressed the Mormons. Some high-ranking rabbis addressed them and threatened to take them to court if they didn't stop. It was all for the purpose of numbers. In Judaism it was the same way; especially in Yeshua's day. Those of you who have done any of the research know that in order for there to be an actual service in some synagogues, a certain amount of men have to be in attendance. If there isn't a certain amount, they can't have a service. Numbers are important. They always have been and always will be.

Galatians 6:12 – "As many as desire to make a fair shew in the flesh, they constrain you to be circumcised;"

Why? In order for a Gentile or a non-Israelite to be numbered among the Jewish community, the men had to be what? They had to be circumcised. Circumcision was a means of conversion, so they would give an account. For those of you who have gone out evangelizing, at the end of the day everybody comes back and tells folks how many souls they have led to Jesus. Have any of you ever been in places like that? You come back and give a report. This was very famous during Dr. Kennedy's evangelism explosion.

The job isn't done until the paperwork is finished. You would go out. You would evangelize and then come back. You would give a report. You would say that this is the number of people who you brought the good news to or that gave their heart to Jesus or that made a confession of faith. This was going on in Paul's day. People were converting.

Even today there are a handful of prominent individuals who, in order for a person to be recognized as a bonafide Jewish person and to make Aliyah, they have to show that they are Jewish. Therefore they have to have a signature of a prominent congregation vouching for their identity. So if I wanted to make Aliyah, I would simply need to start a process.

The women's process is a little different. They don't have to be circumcised. But as a man, the vital step is circumcision and possibly a mikvah. Now I have to be circumcised. This means that if I want to make Aliyah as a believer in Messiah – and some of that is starting to change, by the way. Now there is a fight going on in Israel to be able to recognize followers of Messiah, but that has not always been the case. The fight is going on behind the scenes. Whereas before a person would have to renounce their faith in Yeshua and convert to Judaism [in order to make Aliyah]. Paul is dealing with this issue.

As we pointed out earlier, when a person is talking about Judaizing; Judaizing is a Jewish believer in Messiah who compels individuals in such a way that in order for them to be part of the congregation, they have to hold to Jewish traditions. The issue is never about whether a person is a Jew or a Gentile. Paul is not addressing that issue. What the issue is for some people is that it is taught that before you can become a believer in Messiah, you first have to convert to Judaism and that requires circumcision. So it is not about circumcision according to the Abrahamic Covenant. It is circumcision according to the Mosaic Covenant. There really was no circumcision associated with the Mosaic Covenant.

You have to understand that the law didn't start in *Exodus* chapter 20. It started with *Genesis* chapter 1. When Moses is writing about circumcision, the Covenant of circumcision was not made with Moses. It was made with whom? With Abraham, who kept the commandments! **The difference is Abraham's Covenant of circumcision versus circumcising to convert to Judaism.** 

We have to continue to make that point even though for some it may seem a little confusing and difficult to hear, but this is what Paul is addressing. These individuals were constraining people to circumcise in order to make a show. How are they making a show?

"We've converted somebody else. We've converted..."

Now there is a testimony. This Gentile got converted. This Gentile got converted. It was just like when we went out evangelizing and were saying:

"This person gave their heart to Jesus."

"This person gave their heart to Jesus."

It is making a show. He says:

"...only lest they should suffer persecution for the cross of Messiah."

Now we see:

"Why are they doing this?"

"Why are they doing this?"

They are doing this so that they don't have to suffer persecution. Persecution from whom? Persecution from those Jewish unbelievers. There were individuals who still rejected Yeshua and who were controlling the synagogues; and others who were controlling the temple.

Remember when Paul went to the temple but ended up in the mob because they had seen him earlier with some Gentile brethren? They assumed that Paul had taken them into the temple. That was an assumption. Now Paul is being tried for violating the temple and for teaching Jewish people that they no longer had to circumcise their children. Paul wasn't teaching that they didn't have to be circumcised. Paul was teaching that they didn't have to convert to Judaism to be a believer! Now that he is writing to these non-Jewish people, he is saying to them:

"You need to be aware that there are some people who are going around trying to get you to convert and you don't need to do that."

They heard:

"You don't need to be circumcised."

That is what they heard. They still hear it today. The moment that I bring up circumcision, I am going to get some emails.

"Are you telling people that they have to be circumcised? All they have to do is believe in Jesus!"

Paul wasn't teaching that they didn't have to be circumcised.

Paul was teaching that they didn't have to convert to Judaism to be a believer!

Let's move a down few verses and let me show you this. The word here "peritemno" for "circumcise" means: to cut around; to circumcise; cut off one's prepuce (used of that well-known rite by which not only the male children of the Israelites, on the eighth day after birth).

I don't think that I need to get too deeply into that. I think that most of you understand what circumcision is, right? It is to cut off one's prepuce. This is only the male children. It is unfortunate that in some cultures and in some countries, they are actually forcing females to be circumcised. **That is not biblical.** 

Females were never, ever required to be circumcised, but there are cultures that circumcise females. How did they get that? Someone misinterpreted or added to the Bible. They said that if you are going to be part of the "spiritual Israel," women (just like the men) needed to be

circumcised. That is of course, not Scripture. This rite was not only for the male children of the Israelites on the eighth day after birth, but it was also subsequently for proselytes of righteousness.

You can read in the Book of *Acts* 2 when it begins to give us information about where individuals were coming from. Let me give you the verse. It is *Acts* chapter 2, verse 10 for those of you who may not be familiar with it. At least you can have a reference point. Here it is in verse number 10. Well, first let's look at verse 8:

Acts 2:8-10 – "And how hear we every man in our own tongue, wherein we were born? <sup>9</sup>Parthians and Medes, and Elamites, and the dwellers in Mesopotamia, and in Judaea, and Cappadocia, in Pontus, and Asia, <sup>10</sup>Phyrgia, and Pamphylia, in Egypt, and in the parts of Libya about Cyrene, and strangers of Rome, Jews and..."

What does it say there?

"...proselytes,"

There is a distinction that is being made. There are those who were born Jews and those who converted to Judaism. That is what a proselyte is. A proselyte is a non-Israelite who has converted to Judaism. In order to convert, there was a process of circumcision. We find this term being used. In verse 13 he says:

Galatians 6:13 – "For neither they themselves who are <u>circumcised</u> keep the law;"

Now we get to the heart of the matter. There are individuals who are forcing people to go through a process in order for them to be accepted. In most Messianic congregations today, there is still a division between those who are born as Israelites and those who convert. The converted ones are "second-class citizens."

In Judaism they invented a term for non-Israelites. The term is "Noahide." The "Noahide laws" are laws that were erected for non-Israelites. Even today there are those in Judaism who believe that the Gentiles do not have to keep the Jewish traditions or celebrate the feasts. All they have to do is adhere to the "Noahide laws."

Some would even say that *Acts* 15 was the conclusion of the council when it talks about abstaining from meat sacrificed to idols, from blood, from fornication and from the worship of idols. I believe that is what it is. I believe that those are four laws that are associated with the Noahide laws. These are laws that are only for the Gentile converts.

The Bible *explicitly* says that **there is one law.** There is one law for the Israelites and one law for the stranger who becomes part of the community. There are *not* two laws. There is not a separate set of laws for Gentiles. There is one law, but that is not what is being taught.

Galatians 6:13 – "For neither they themselves who are <u>circumcised</u> keep the law; but desire to have you <u>circumcised</u>, that they may glory in your flesh."

This is another power-packed verse that Paul exposes. Remember that Paul was brought up as a Pharisee. Paul was extremely learned. It doesn't take long if you do a little research, to find Gamaliel (or Gamliel). I did some research on Gamaliel. Some of you have heard of Hillel and of Shammai. There was Hillel I and Hillel II. Hillel had a son. Hillel II had a son. Hillel I was the

son of Hillel. Hillel II had a son who gave birth to Gamaliel. Paul was actually four generations or people away from the one who supposedly established Judaism in Babylon.

Understand that **Judaism is not found in the Torah! Judaism was established in Babylon.** The synagogue system didn't exist before the exile. If you have been around and have lived and all that you have known is a synagogue, then you assume that the synagogue has always been there.

I have had one misguided brother tell me that:

"Judaism is the religion of the Bible."

No, Judaism is the religion of the Jews. Not all Jews practice Judaism. There are some Jews though who literally follow Messiah like all of the ones who followed Yeshua in his day. Peter, James, John and all of those guys were followers of Yeshua. They did not adhere to Judaism. This is what got Yeshua and his followers in trouble. It was because they wouldn't follow the traditions of men.

Judaism is not found in the Torah! Judaism was established in Babylon.

Yeshua even confronted those who were responsible for teaching Israel the truth. He said:

"You guys are not keeping the commands! Moses gave them to you, but none of you keep them. Instead, you are teaching for commandments, the traditions of men. You are making the commandments of YeHoVaH of no effect. Your worship is in vain!"

The synagogue worship was in vain! It is sad to say that even the worship that was being conducted in the temple was being conducted in vain. Yeshua goes into the temple service and sees all of the stuff going on. He probably said:

"What?!"

He started turning over tables, whipping people and shooing them out of the temple. He said that they had made the House of YeHoVaH a "den of thieves." It got him into trouble.

"By whose authority doeth ye these things?!"

As I have pointed out, we see that from the very beginning, the one that came before Yeshua was a fellow by the name of Yochannan the Immerser. He was also known as John the Baptist. John really had only one message.

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

John was sent to one people – Israel. John didn't preach to the Gentiles. John didn't preach to the other nations. John preached to one people. His message was "repent." Think about this. Why would Israel need to repent? Repent from what? Today people say that they need to repent from their sins. What are their sins? John tells us what sin is. **Sin is the violation of the law. In** *I John* 3:4, sin is a violation of the law. So when John came preaching to Israel that they needed to repent, what he was saying to them was:

"You are no longer keeping the law."

Instead they were keeping a *form*. There was a form. This form was the traditions of the elders that were handed down from generation to generation. They had abandoned the law. Judaism is *based* on the Torah.

The Baptist tradition is not based on the Torah. It is based on the Bible and specifically the New Testament portion. Let's look at Protestantism and even Catholicism. Catholicism is the "Dad." Protestantism is the "child" of Catholicism. The Pope claims his "popery" as a "descendant" of Peter. There is the Catholic Church and there are people who protested and who are called Protestants. They protested the control of the Catholic Church, but they brought Catholicism with them into Protestantism! The Pope claims control even of the Protestants.

Those of you who have read my book *Sunday Is Not The Sabbath?* can see the position of the Catholic Church. The Catholic Church says that if people are truly *Sola Scriptura;* if they are truly following the Scriptures alone, they would be keeping the Sabbath Day. The fact that you are worshipping on Sunday shows that you are the offspring of or are under the control of or teaching of the Catholic Church. The Catholic Church said:

"We changed the Sabbath to Sunday."

Everyone who worships on Sunday is under the control of the Catholic Church, who changed the Sabbath to Sunday. Do you call yourself a Protestant? The Catholic Church says:

"The fact that you are worshipping on Sunday is an indication and clear reference to the fact that you are still Catholic; no matter what you call yourself."

The Catholics take that credit. The Protestants follow that credit. The Pentecostal tradition is based on the New Testament. The Methodist traditions and all of the traditions with the exception of Judaism are "based on."

Judaism rejects the New Testament. It rejects Yeshua. It rejects the New Testament. Messianics want to come in and bring the traditions and the New Testament together. What Messianics should be doing is bringing the Torah, the writings and the prophets together minus all of the traditions associated with that and which came out of Babylon.

He says:

"These individuals desire to have you circumcised that they may glory in your flesh."

How do they glory in your flesh? If you adhere to what they say, it means that you are following their teaching. It is the same thing today. Where did people get this from? [Arthur makes the sign of the cross.] So why is it that people who are not Catholic make the sign of the cross? What about Lent? There are people who are walking around on Ash Wednesday with ashes on their forehead. Where is that at in the Bible? Where did it come from? It came from Catholicism! So why are Protestants observing Lent? It happens to be [based on the tradition of] weeping for [the pagan god] Tammuz. Why?

Why are Protestants observing Easter? It saddens me. There are biblical scholars who are advocating Easter when anyone with a simple Concordance knows that "Easter" is an insertion [in the Bible] of a word to remove Passover. Easter is Pesach! Easter is Passover! It is supposed to be! Easter is simply a word. If you look up the word "Easter" in the Strong's [Concordance], it

will tell you that "Easter" is the word *Pesach*. **Easter is not Pesach**. **Easter <u>replaced</u> Pesach**. So now you have the church celebrating Easter and rejecting Passover.

"Well, that's for the Jews."

"Where did you get that from? That's for the people of YeHoVaH!"

That is for the Jew and Gentile (if you prefer to be called that). Paul echoes the words of Yeshua. You will find it in *John* 7:19.

"Has not Moses given you the law? Yet not one of you keeps the law. Why are you trying to kill me?"

Yeshua addressed the leaders of Judaism on several occasions. Basically this is what Judaism does. The Torah says that you can't add to and you can't take away [from the law]. I think I gave this illustration, but I think that it is worth giving again.

You are a king, a ruler or the head of your house. Let's say that you send a message to someone else. This message has five words; just five words. If the message gets to the recipient and there are six words, is it the same message? What if there are four words? No. So to take away or to add to, changed the message. The moment that you add to or take away, you have changed the message. Now you have another message. That is what Judaism did. It added. From what I have been told, it put a fence around the Torah in its effort to protect people from getting to and violating the Torah. It was supposedly a mechanism to keep the people from violating the Torah; but it brought people under the control of the rabbis.

At the last count, I think I have about sixteen or seventeen different versions of the Bible. Some of you have one or two. Those of you who don't have them probably have smart devices on which you can look. You not only can get the Bible, you can have Concordances and Lexicons and all types of other mechanisms of study on that little handheld device.

In the Pharisees' day, the people were not that fortunate. The people didn't have their own copies [of the Bible]. They didn't have Palm Pilots and iPads. There is a certain term that people in business use. They use a certain phone. What do you call them? Blackberries and iPhones. They didn't have those, so how did they hear the word? They couldn't go home and read it. It was only in the assembly. Who had access to the word? The rabbis. That was the Pharisees and the Sadducees. Who interpreted the word for them? The rabbis and the Pharisees. Who were they at the mercy of? The rabbis and the Pharisees. They couldn't go home and see if what the rabbi was saying was true. There was such dominance that even during the days of Yeshua, they threatened the people.

"Anyone that believes in this Yeshua will be put out of the synagogue."

There is evidence of this throughout this book. Paul is writing to some people who have allowed other individuals to come in and bewitch them and bring them under a spell. Even in their day, the only way that you would actually have access to a Torah scroll [was in the synagogues]. They didn't have them in the temples of the idols. They weren't in the temple of Diana or any of the other temples. In order for a person to know what the word of YeHoVaH said, they were at the mercy of people who had access to the Torah, to the writings and to the prophets.

Paul would come in. He had access. He learned. He gave up. What do you think that Paul counted as "dung?" Paul didn't count the Torah as dung. He counted the things that he had

**learned as a Pharisee as dung.** Why dung? He realized when he was knocked to his senses that the things that he was teaching were traditions that had been handed down. They were *based* on the Torah. Because these traditions were *based* on the Torah and were being taught *instead* of the Torah, **they had destroyed the Torah!** They wouldn't say:

"We destroyed the Torah."

But what did they do? They added to and took away from it. Remember when the disciples were out in the field eating corn? One of the Pharisees came to them and said:

"Why is it that your disciples eat without washing their hands?"

I can see Yeshua saying in a nonchalant way:

"Well, where is that at in the Torah?"

Basically Yeshua's disciples were violating the rules that had been laid out by the Pharisees and the Sadducees.

I remember that as a child growing up in the Baptist Church, there was a Scripture that we were always quoting but that I could never find. It was:

"Cleanliness is next to Godliness."

It was like:

"Really? Wow."

Has anybody other than me ever heard that verse?

"Cleanliness is next to Godliness."

That was used to clean and wash. It was about personal hygiene. If you wanted to be "Godly," then you needed to wash. You needed to do these things. So he says:

"Why are you trying to kill me? Moses gave you the law, but none of you keep it."

Verse 14:

Galatians 6:14 – "But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Yeshua Messiah, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world."

Galatians 6:14 – "For in Messiah Yeshua neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision, but a new creature."

Oh boy, I can hear the naysayers and see and feel the salivating. Let's break this down! Paul speaks of this creature. Notice what he says:

"...nor uncircumcision, but a new creature."

Paul doesn't address this here, but he addresses this issue in other parts of his writings. A person will take *Galatians* and try to use *Galatians* to tell you as a believer that you don't have to keep the commands. You are not under the law. You don't have to be circumcised. You don't have to do any of that stuff.

"It's about a 'circumcision of the heart.' All you have to do is believe in Jesus."

That is what they say! That is what they told me. That is what I taught! I taught this! Then I didn't have a Damascus Road experience, but it was an experience of a different kind. What does Paul say about this in other places?

2 Corinthians 5:17 – "Therefore if any man be in Messiah, he is a new creature:"

Notice what he said in this verse:

Galatians 6:15 – "For in Messiah Yeshua neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision, but a new creature."

He seems to be saying:

"Listen. You don't have to be circumcised. Being circumcised means nothing."

That is what it seems like he is saying, but that is really not what he is saying. He says:

- 2 Corinthians 5:17 "Therefore if any man *be* in Messiah, *he is* a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new."
- 2 Corinthians 5:18 "And all things *are* of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Yeshua Messiah, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation;"

You have a ministry. **Your ministry is the ministry of reconciliation.** Your ministry is telling people that they can be reconnected to the Almighty and that he is not holding their sins against them. That is the good news. The good news is that no one has to die and spend eternity apart from the Almighty – nobody. No matter what you have done or committed, when you genuinely commit your way to YeHoVaH, then what you will find is that you are forgiven. He will even cleanse you and use you for ministry.

Your ministry is telling people that they can be reconnected to the Almighty and that he is not holding their sins against them. That is the good news.

We see this perfect example in Moses; the one who went up at Sinai and brought down the writings. Moses was a murderer and yet YeHoVaH called Moses. Moses became the greatest leader of Israel in his day. For centuries and even down to this day, he is. Many people quote Moses and attribute things to Moses that Moses didn't do.

The fact is that **nothing that you have done in your past cannot be forgiven.** There is one thing that is not forgiven. It is blasphemy. The reason why blasphemy is something that is not forgiven is because a person who is actually in that place does not recognize the Almighty. They are attributing the works of the Almighty to some demon:

"He casts out demons by the power of Beelzebub. What he is doing is not by the works of the Almighty. We're doing the works of the Almighty."

"Well, what are you doing? You are standing at the door. You won't go in, but you won't let anybody else go in. You are exercising control and dominion over men. You are supposed to be teaching the people what 'Thus sayeth YeHoVaH.' Instead you are teaching them your traditions!"

Remember Nicodemus?

"How can these things be?"

"You are Israel's teacher! Don't you know this?"

You are teaching people something that didn't come from him, but from others. This is where the traditions come in, ladies and gentlemen. **No matter how beautiful they are, traditions will never, ever take the place of truth!** What happens when truth confronts tradition? Which one do you believe? Which one do you go with? Some people hold onto their traditions. You can tell people all day long that Jesus wasn't born on December 25.

"We know that. Everybody knows that."

"Then why do you celebrate his birthday on December 25?"

"That's just the day that we chose."

"Well, let's just choose a day to celebrate your birthday."

People will go off on you if you try to change *their* date of birth, yet there are people who are celebrating a day that everyone knows is untrue. They are teaching this to their children. Why would you teach your children lies? It is because you inherited lies. Once you have inherited lies, you teach lies. Our fathers have inherited a lot of lies. We were brought up in that stuff.

On Thursday, many of you were here. I didn't make a phone call yesterday because I didn't want to hear:

"Happy New Year!"

I knew what I was going to hear. By the way, we have some [business] cards about the biblical New Year. <sup>4</sup> They are available from the ministry. Please take advantage of them.

There are people who want to celebrate a pagan New Year, but they totally ignore the biblical New Year. There are people who want to celebrate the New Year in the Fall; when according to *Exodus* 12, the New Year is in the beginning of the year (the month of the Aviv) or the month of Passover. But once again, traditions prevail.

"We know that!"

2 Corinthians 5:19 – "To wit, that God was in Messiah, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.  $^{20}$ Now then we are ambassadors for Messiah, as though God did beseech *you* by us: we pray *you* in Messiah's stead, be ye reconciled to Elohim."

This is the end of 2 Corinthians 5.

<sup>21</sup>"For he hath made him *to be* sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Cards are available to hand out and which contain links to our online teaching videos and study programs. Be sure to take advantage of these and help share these important teachings (i.e. Discipleship101.tv and Leadership101.tv).

That is what I profess. I am a righteous man. What about you? I am a holy man. What about you? I am a saint. I spent most of my life telling people:

"I'm no saint."

Well, I wasn't then, but I am now! I am set apart. I am sanctified. I am holy because he has invited me to be holy as he is holy. I am righteous because in Messiah I have been made righteous. I am a holy man. I am a righteous man and I am a saint. What about you? There is at least one person! Halleluyah! I've got a witness! Again:

Galatians 6:13 – "For neither they themselves who are <u>circumcised</u> keep the law; but desire to have you <u>circumcised</u>, that they may glory in your flesh."

I think I was supposed to go over to 1 Peter. You can read that in your spare time.

2 Corinthians 5:21 – "For he hath made him *to be* sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him."

1 Peter 4:12-14 – "Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you: <sup>13</sup>But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Messiah's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy."

<sup>14</sup>"If ye be reproached for the name of Messiah, happy are ye; for the spirit of glory and of Elohim resteth upon you: on their part he is evil spoken of, but on your part he is glorified."

You can look at this and identify who that party is that is "evil spoken of." There are people who blaspheme Yeshua. Remember in the Book of – I think it was *John*, when Yeshua was crucified? There were some fellows who were paid. There were some guards that were standing at the gate. They came back and reported that the body had been removed. They were paid a sum of money and told:

"You keep this to yourself. If anybody asks, here is what you say. 'His disciples came in the middle of the night and stole his body. There was no resurrection.'"

"His disciples came in the middle of the night and stole his body. There was no resurrection."

"His disciples came in the middle of the night and stole his body."

This is the word that has been perpetuated. There are people today who believe:

"He didn't resurrect. His body was stolen in the middle of the night by his disciples."

This is what he is saying here. He says:

"...on your part he is evil spoken of"

He was evil spoken of in his day. He is still being evil spoken of today. It is appalling sometimes. I am looking at video. I am looking at well-known rabbis who have many followers. They are saying:

"Let his name be accursed."

They are speaking of my Messiah!

"Let his name be accursed."

"Let his name be blotted out."

They are saying things about our Messiah! Why? It is because he is evil spoken of. He is rejected. They don't want any of their followers to embrace him. So on their part he is evil spoken of, but on our part he is glorified. I glorify. You glorify someone that others speak evil of. We might as well accept that. Everyone is not happy about Yeshua. Not everyone loves Yeshua; even people who claim to love Yeshua. If you love him, you will keep his commandments.

The Bible says, and we believe and teach that if you say that you love God but you don't keep his commandments, then you are a liar. You are a liar and the truth is not in you. How do you tell this to people who "love" Jesus? They are in church every Sunday. They give and serve and do everything that they do. Then they turn around and say:

"We don't have to keep the commandments!"

It is like:

"Really? Where do you find that at?"

You don't find that in the Bible. It came through sermons. This is what sermons do. This is what men who twist the word to say what they want it to say, do. Paul never taught that we don't have to keep the commandments! I am going to show you.

1 Peter 4:15-18 "But let none of you suffer as a murderer, or as a thief, or as an evildoer, or as a busybody in other men's matters."

<sup>16</sup>"Yet if any man suffer as a Christian,"

Yet if any man suffer as a Messiahian, not as a Christian. Look it up in the Strong's.

"...let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf. <sup>17</sup>For the time *is come* that judgment must begin"

Where? When? After the House of God is "raptured?" Judgment begins with us, but if we judge ourselves, we won't be judged. What are we going to judge ourselves by? [Arthur holds up the Bible.]

<sup>17</sup>"For the time *is come* that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if *it* first *begin* at us, what shall the end *be* of them that obey not the gospel of God?"

Here is where I identify three classes of people.

<sup>18</sup>"And if the righteous..."

...which I am. What about you?

<sup>18</sup>"And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear?"

There is the righteous, the ungodly and the sinner. The reason why the sinner stands out to me is because as a Baptist I was told:

"I'm a sinner saved by grace."

"I'm a sinner. We are all sinners. We fall down, but we get up."

Then I see this word "sinner." It is "hamartolos." This is a Greek word that tells us that a sinner is someone who says that they believe in God. They give him their leftovers. They go to church when they feel like it. They serve when they feel like it. They do their own thing and live their life their way and expect him to bless them. That is what a sinner is. The sinner fits into the category of the ungodly except that the ungodly knows that they are ungodly. The sinner plays Godly. Verse 13:

Galatians 6:13 – "For neither they themselves who are <u>circumcised</u> keep the law; but desire to have you circumcised, that they may glory in your flesh."

## Whether you are a Jew or Gentile, it doesn't matter. This is what Paul writes:

1 Corinthians 7:19 – "Circumcision is nothing, and uncircumcision is nothing, but the keeping of the commandments of God."

"Oh, wait a minute. So keeping the commandments is important, but circumcision is nothing?"

That is not what he is saying here. People will tell you:

"It doesn't matter whether you are circumcised or not."

Listen. If you are going to partake in the blessings of Abraham, then the Covenant of Abraham requires a circumcision of all males; specifically on the eighth day for those who are born into the household of faith. For those who weren't, just like Abraham who was not a Jew, [you get circumcised]. Abraham was a Syrian from Ur of the Chaldeans. He identified himself as Syrian. We all know that he came from Syria. He was Hebrew or *Ibri*.

What does it say? In *Romans* 2 this is what Paul writes. You do know that Paul wrote *Romans*, right?

Romans 2:13 – "(For not the hearers of the law *are* just before God, but the doers of the law shall be justified."

Paul is saying that when you do the law, you will be justified. Isn't that what it says here?

Romans 2:13 – "(For not the hearers of the law *are* just before God, but the doers of the law shall be justified."

Isn't this what James writes when he talks about the perfect law of liberty and that when you are a hearer only that you deceive yourself? There are a lot of people who hear it but who do not do what it says. He says in verse 14:

"For when the Gentiles"

Get this. Remember the prophet Jeremiah? Jeremiah says that Father is going to establish a New Covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah – two houses. This is not like the two-house doctrines that people want to teach today. That is that there are Jews and there is Israel (which are the Jews that are in the church). Those are their two houses. It is that the church is Israel and the Jews are Judah. That is not what Jeremiah is talking about. He says:

"After those days"

He specifically talks about Israel. Israel is not going to be converted to Jews. Judah is going to be brought back into Israel. It is going to be one house; the house of Israel. It will consist of all of the tribes.

What is he going to do? He says that he is going to write his law. It won't be like the covenant of old where he wrote his law on tables of stone. He is going to write his law where? On our hearts. Now guess what? What houses will he make a New Covenant with? With Israel and with Judah. Why? It is because before the Babylonian captivity and after Solomon's death, Israel became split. There were the Northern tribes and the Southern tribes. The Southern tribes consisted of Benjamin and Judah. Of course Simeon was dispersed among the land of Judah. Then there were the Northern tribes (which were the ten tribes). It is like:

"Which one of these was Levi? Which house was Levi part of?"

They were part of both. Why? It is because Levi wasn't given land. Levi had cities dispersed. The point is that YeHoVaH is not making a covenant with the Gentiles. He has made a covenant with Israel and with Judah; which consists of all who join themselves with Israel. This is what Paul talks about in *Ephesians* 2 when he talks about being grafted and brought into the commonwealth of Israel. Those who are saved by grace are brought into the commonwealth of Israel. There is no "spiritual Israel." There is only one Israel. It is the Israel of YeHoVaH!

There are people who want to spiritualize the Bible. They say that they are "spiritual Jews." How are you going to be a "spiritual Jew?" You are either Jewish or you are not! You can't be spiritually Jewish. You can't be spiritually Black! You can't be spiritually African! I mean, people say some foolish stuff and fools buy it. Foolish people buy it until the truth comes and their eyes are opened. Then they say:

"Man, we've been fooled!"

"Yeah, I know the feeling brother."

Get this ladies and gentlemen. Paul is saying something. You won't see *Jeremiah* 31 in this unless you know *Jeremiah* 31. Notice what he says:

Romans 2:13 – "(For not the hearers of the law *are* just before God, but the doers of the law shall be justified."

Romans 2:14 – "For when Gentiles, which have not the law, do by nature the things contained in the law, these, having not the law, are a law unto themselves:"

Romans 2:15 - "Which shew the work of the law"

Where?

"...written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another;)"

Where do we find out about the law being written on the heart? There is only one place. Two? I mean in the Old Testament. That is in *Jeremiah*. Paul is saying:

"Listen. What these individuals are doing; they haven't been taught the law. They don't know the law. They haven't been exposed to the law, but look at them! They are living out the law."

Let me tell you something. We are seeing this stuff happening all over America and around the world. People are waking up one day and saying:

"Do you know what? I dreamed about the Sabbath last night."

They start researching the Sabbath. They start having dreams about Passover and other feasts and it is like:

"What does this mean?"

They start searching. It is like the Father is writing his law upon the hearts of people. That is how many of us came here. He says:

Romans 2:15 – "Which shew the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and *their* thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another;)"

Your conscience is either accusing you or condemning you. When a person continues to follow their conscience in unrighteousness, then their conscience has turned into a reprobate state. He says in *Romans* 2:16:

"On the day when, according to my gospel, God will judge the secrets of men through Messiah Yeshua."

**Romans 2:17:** 

"But if you bear the name 'Jew' and rely upon the law and boast in God,"

Notice what he is saying. It is not relying on Yeshua.

Romans 2:17 – "But if you bear the name 'Jew' and rely upon the law and boast in God,"

Romans 2:18 – "and know *His* will and approve the things that are essential, being instructed out of the law,"

Romans 2:19 – "and are confident that you yourself are a guide to the blind, a light to those who are in darkness,"

Romans 2:20 – "a corrector of the foolish, a teacher of the immature, having in the law the embodiment of knowledge and of the truth,"

Romans 2:21 – "You, therefore, who teach another, do you not teach yourself? You who preach that one shall not steal, do you steal?"

Romans 2:22 — "You who say that one should not commit adultery, do you commit adultery? You who abhor idols, do you rob temples?"

Romans 2:23 – "You who boast in the law, through your breaking the law, do you dishonor God?"

Romans 2:24 – "For 'the name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles because of you,' just as it is written."

This is what Paul is saying to Judaism. This is Paul's writing! I am just a preacher.

"the name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles because of you,' just as it is written."

Romans 2:25 - "For indeed circumcision"

Notice what he says:

"...is of value if you practice the law;"

What I don't get is that Torah-observant people, law-observing people are teaching against circumcision! It is like:

"Really? Where did you get that from?"

There are people who say:

"We are Torah-observant but we don't have to be circumcised."

"Really?"

Romans 2:25 – "For indeed circumcision is of value if you practice the law; but if you are a transgressor of the law, your circumcision has become uncircumcision."

How does one who is circumcised become uncircumcised? It is when they <u>teach based</u> <u>upon the law</u> instead of <u>teaching the law</u>. They teach traditions based on the law; but because they are teaching traditions, they are adding to the law. Their circumcision has become uncircumcision. So this is anyone out there who rejects Yeshua. This is the other thing that he says. He says:

"You boast in the law."

There are people who are boasting in the law. They are "the chosen." Let me tell you something, ladies and gentlemen. Jacob was chosen.

"Well, we're descendants of Jacob."

"Okay, but it was Jacob [who was chosen]."

But if we were simply to *eisegete* and not *exegete*, people would come away with the belief that all of the descendants of Jacob were chosen. The fact of the matter is that Jacob was the chosen one. Are you with me? Therefore the descendants of Jacob; if they followed Jacob, if they adhered to what was taught to Jacob – it really doesn't matter what tribe it was. The fact is that it was Jacob who was chosen by YeHoVaH. **Those who claim to be chosen will adhere to the commandments of YeHoVaH and not the commandments of men.** 

Romans 2:24 – "For 'the name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles because of you,' just as it is written."

Romans 2:25 – "For indeed circumcision is of value if you practice the law; but if you are a transgressor of the law, your circumcision has become uncircumcision."

Romans 2:26 – "So if the uncircumcised man keeps the requirements of the law, will not his uncircumcision be regarded as circumcision?"

How are we circumcised of the heart? Paul answers it earlier. It is by keeping the commands. The commands are written on the heart. If one who is uncircumcised keeps the requirements of the law, an uncircumcised man will be regarded as circumcision. Let's break this down.

It is if an uncircumcised man keeps the requirements of the law, which requires a man to be circumcised. How can you keep the law and not keep the Law [of YeHoVaH]? This is what they were doing! They were preaching and teaching and boasting in the fact that they were keeping the law, but they weren't keeping the law. This is why John came and said:

"You all need to repent!"

"Repent!"

He was speaking to Israel. The people received John. Who rejected him? It was the same ones who rejected Yeshua. They put pressure on Herod. Herod eventually got caught up in his own perversion.

Romans 2:27 – "And he who is physically uncircumcised, if he keeps the law, will he not judge you who though having the letter *of the law* and circumcision are a transgressor of the law?"

Do you see what he is saying here? He is saying "and he who is physically uncircumcised, if he keeps the law." Well, how can you keep the law and remain physically uncircumcised? Understand that a person does not have to be circumcised to be saved. A person does not have to keep the commandments to be saved, so let's not get it twisted. You are not required to keep the law in order to be saved. Remember that Israel was delivered before they were given the law.

You see, the law is what <u>helps</u> you stay saved! The law is what helps you stay delivered. The law is what separates you and sets you apart from those who are without law. As one who honors the Law of YeHoVaH, what you are showing is that he is the one that you serve Why? Because you are keeping his commandments. You are not keeping the commandments of the Pharisees and Sadducees and Herod and the Baptists and Pentecostals and the Catholics.

You are keeping the Law of YeHoVaH! That is what marks you. That is what causes your heart to be circumcised. It is because the law has been written on your heart. Once it has been written on one's heart, do you know what it is going to do? It is going to cause you to do what everyone that is awakened does. That is to *Search the Scriptures*. Remember what Yeshua said to the Pharisees?

"Search the Scriptures, for therein you think that you have eternal life. But they speak of me."

Remember that when he told them this, there was no *Matthew, Mark, Luke* or *John*. There was no *Acts, Corinthians, Galatians* or *Philippians*. There was none of that. He says:

"Search the Scriptures, for the Scriptures speak of me!"

Yeshua is all the way. He is the rock. He was before:

"Let there be light."

He was the Lamb slain before the world was created. He always was. He is the word that was with God and that was God from the beginning. This word became flesh. Are you with me?

Romans 2:27 – "And he who is physically uncircumcised, if he keeps the law, will he not judge you who though having the letter of the law and circumcision are a transgressor of the law?"

You will notice that "of the law" is in italics. Basically it is the letter. Paul addresses it in other places as "the letter killeth." The Spirit gives life. Some people interpret that as:

"See? The law kills."

No, depending on the law while rejecting Yeshua means that you will never receive the Spirit that gives life. The Spirit that gives life only comes by faith in Messiah! You cannot receive the Spirit of YeHoVaH without faith in Messiah. He is the way! He is the life! He is the door!

There is no other way to the Almighty other than through him.

You cannot receive the Spirit of YeHoVaH without faith in Messiah. He is the way! He is the life! He is the door! There is no other way to the Almighty other than through him.

He was the word that was in the beginning. So for people who were around before Messiah came, the way that they could enter in and receive his Spirit was because they were keeping his commandments! That is what separated the righteous from the unrighteous.

They kept his commands. When those around them were doing their own thing, they held true to his word. At one point in history, there was only one man found to be righteous but who was surrounded by hundreds, thousands or possibly even millions of people. YeHoVaH wiped out the rest of mankind and preserved him and his family. It was all because he was found to be righteous. There have always been righteous people.

Romans 2:28 – "For he is not a Jew, which is one outwardly; neither *is that* circumcision, which is outward in the flesh:"

Romans 2:29 – "But he *is* a Jew who is one inwardly; and circumcision *is that* of the heart, in the spirit, *and* not in the letter; whose praise *is* not of men, but of God."

How do I know that my heart has been circumcised? Even if I didn't know the law, I would be instinctively doing what the law says. My conscience would tell me. Why? He would be communicating with me. He would be showing me things. He would be giving me dreams and visions. He would be waking me up at night and causing me to search this and to search that and to find my way. He will lead me straight to him. When I find him, I am going to say:

"Woe, woe, woe is me!"

I am going to look back on my life and see how I lived it. I am going to know that my life was not lived according to his word. I am now going to cause my mind to be renewed so that I can be transformed into his image. How can I be in his image while rejecting his commandments?

You see, there is a lot of foolishness being taught. I know, because I used to teach it. I am teaching stuff and asking questions while I am teaching. I was unsure and unstable; but I am supposed to know. Not anymore!

Romans 2:29 – "But he *is* a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision *is that* of the heart, in the spirit, *and* not in the letter; whose praise *is* not of men, but of God."

Galatians 6:16 – "Peace and mercy to all who follow this rule, even to the Israel of God."

Who is the Israel of God? It is those who keep his commandments. It is those who have the testimony of Yeshua and who keep the commandments of God. That is Israel. It is those who come into the knowledge of him and who begin to keep his commands regardless of what your last name is or your skin pigmentation or what your nationality is. Your faith in Messiah makes you part of the Israel of Elohim.



# Class Twenty-Eight

Which gospel do you follow?
Suffering for Messiah's sake
The proper vision
Every word is not Scripture.
Speaking not as fools
Deny ungodliness
The law is for all believers.

## **Summing up Paul**

I said that we were going to conclude the Book of *Galatians* and I intend to do just that. What we are going to do is begin by reading chapter 6 of the Book of *Galatians*. We will deal with the last few verses of *Galatians* and then recap the things that we have picked up. Please turn with me again to *Galatians* 6 verse 1:

Galatians 6:1 – "Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted."

Galatians 6:2 – "Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Messiah."

Galatians 6:3 – "For if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself."

Galatians 6:4 – "But let every man prove his own work, and then shall he have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another."

Galatians 6:5 - "For every man shall bear his own burden."

Galatians 6:6 – "Let him that is taught in the word communicate unto him that teacheth in all good things."

Galatians 6:7 – "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."

Galatians 6:8 – "For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting."

Galatians 6:9 – "And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not."

Galatians 6:10 – "As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all *men*, especially unto them who are of the household of faith."

Galatians 6:11 – "Ye see how large a letter I have written unto you with mine own hand."

Galatians 6:12 – "As many as desire to make a fair shew in the flesh, they constrain you to be circumcised; only lest they should suffer persecution for the cross of Messiah."

Galatians 6:13 – "For neither they themselves who are circumcised keep the law; but desire to have you circumcised, that they may glory in your flesh."

Galatians 6:14 – "But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Yeshua Messiah, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world."

Galatians 6:15 – "For in Messiah Yeshua neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision, but a new creature."

Galatians 6:16 – "And as many as walk according to this rule, peace *be* on them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God."

Galatians 6:17 – "From henceforth let no man trouble me: for I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Yeshua."

Galatians 6:18 – "Brethren, the grace of our Lord Yeshua Messiah *be* with your spirit. Amen."

In the last lesson we got all the way up to *Galatians* 6:17. That is where we will continue here. We only have a few verses to go. Because of the nature of these verses, it is not going to take us a whole lot of time to get through them. He says:

Galatians 6:17 – "From henceforth let no man trouble me: for I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Yeshua."

What Paul is recounting here is everything that he had experienced when getting the gospel of Yeshua to the various places that he had taken the gospel. We find that many people gave Paul trouble. Paul gives a list of some of this trouble and how he obtained the marks on his body for suffering for the sake of the gospel that Yeshua preached; the Gospel of the Kingdom.

Notice that I said the gospel that Yeshua *preached*. There are many who have confused the gospel of Yeshua or the gospel of Jesus to be the death, burial and the resurrection of Christ. If you ask practically any pastor out there to tell you what the Gospel of the Kingdom is; the majority of them will say that it is the gospel concerning the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus.

The fact of the matter is that **Yeshua didn't come preaching that gospel. That is a church gospel.** That is a denominational gospel. Yeshua rarely talked about his death. As a matter of fact, it wasn't until almost the end of his life that he declared the things that were going to happen to him. In *John* 17 we find that he began to pray for his disciples. He warned them and told them about what was going on. He told them where he was going and how he was going to come back and get them as he had predicted earlier in *John* 14.

For the majority of Yeshua's life, he wasn't teaching about the death, burial and resurrection. That is what the gospel has <u>evolved</u> into through theological circles. The

gospel that Yeshua preached was the Gospel of the Kingdom. This gospel embodies repentence. John came and declared:

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

Yeshua wasn't teaching about the death, burial and resurrection. That is what the gospel evolved into through theological circles. The gospel Yeshua preached was the Gospel of the Kingdom. It is a gospel of repentence!

The Bible says that when John was put into prison, from that day forward Yeshua began to teach repentence "for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand." He sent out his disciples. He sent out the twelve. Later on he sent out seventy others. He gave them specific instructions about what they were supposed to preach. It was repentence for the Kingdom of Heaven was at hand.

They were to heal the sick. They were to raise the dead. They were to do the things that he instructed. Even the disciples weren't preaching the gospel that we know of today as far as the death, burial and resurrection. Instead, it was a gospel of repentence for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand.

We did teachings on the Gospel of the Kingdom.<sup>5</sup> Those teachings are on our website. They are in our online bookstore. As we know, the instruction that Yeshua gave is the gospel that was coming to us. It is the Gospel of the Kingdom. The Kingdom was coming to us. As he told his disciples:

"Preach. The Kingdom of Heaven is at hand."

Yeshua later preached a message. He said:

"The Kingdom is not here or there."

Where is the Kingdom? The Kingdom is within us. The Kingdom of Heaven is within us. The way that the Kingdom of Heaven is within us is when the King is sitting on the throne. When the King of Heaven has become the Lord of our lives, we can boldly declare that the Kingdom of Heaven has come.

This is the message that John preached. This is the message that Yeshua picked up and preached. This is the message that his disciples preached. This is the commission that he gave to his apostles. If you remember in Acts 2 when men and brethren were hearing Peter speak, they cried out:

"Man, what shall we do?"

What did he say?

"Repent! Repent every one of you!"

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>Our DVD teaching *The Gospel of the Kingdom* is available at our online www.ArthurBaileyMinistries.com/collections/all. It is also available for FREE online on our teachings page. www.ArthurBaileyMinistries.com/pages/teaching-videos.

Everyone needed to repent. What did they need to repent from? They needed to repent from the gospel of the Pharisees, the gospel of the Sadducees, the gospel of Herod, the traditions of men and the religion of the Jews that had taken the place of the commandments of the Almighty. As we read, Paul stated that:

"Even those who wanted to have you circumcised; they don't even keep the law."

Individuals who were trying to get people circumcised according to the law, were themselves not keeping the law. In the last lesson we looked at Paul referencing Yeshua when Yeshua said:

"Moses gave you the commands but instead of teaching the commands, you are teaching the commandments of men!"

They weren't teaching the commandments of YeHoVaH. Instead of teaching what he instructed was to be taught, men were now teaching the instructions according to the leaven of the Pharisees, the leaven of the Sadducees and even the leaven of Herod. Paul came proclaiming. You need to see this, because he says:

"Listen. I bear in my body, the marks of the Lord."

There are people who literally beat him and stoned him. We are going to see this in just a moment. The same fate that Yeshua faced is the same fate that Paul faced. When Paul embraced Messiah, the very same spirits of the people who had sent Paul to persecute those who followed Messiah were now beginning to persecute him.

What does that say for us, ladies and gentlemen? We have example after example from *Genesis* all the way to the *Revelation*. When you follow Yeshua for real; according to this book, persecution is yours to enjoy. I said "enjoy" because Yeshua said it. He said:

"When men persecute you and revile you falsely for my sake..."

What should be our response? Rejoice! Not only should we rejoice, but rejoice and be exceedingly glad! Do you all remember reading that? Those who don't remember reading that, let me see your hands. Nobody is going to raise their hand. There is one. Okay. For the sake of one, we have to go there. If you will turn to *Matthew* 5:11, he says:

"Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake."

Has anyone here ever had this happen to them? How many of you have had people accuse you of "falling from grace" or "going back under the law?" How about "abandoning the faith" of your father and your mother? It is persecution. Persecution is what Yeshua had to experience. He said:

"Listen. When men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake, your response should be to rejoice and be exceedingly glad for great is your reward!"

You see, the reward comes because you are faithful to following Messiah. If you are faithful to follow Messiah, you will experience persecution by those who only want to give Messiah lip service. There is a lot of lip service going on. There are many who honor Yeshua and who honor YeHoVaH with their lips but their hearts are someplace else.

How do you know where people's hearts are? By their actions. You will know where a person's heart is by their actions just like you will know where a person's treasures are. The Bible lets us know that where you treasures are is where your heart is. That is where your heart will be. What do we have as treasures? We have treasures as money. We have treasures as investments. We have treasures as material goods. The bottom line is that where people put their money or their investments is where their hearts are. Are you following me? So he says:

"Rejoice and be exceedingly glad."

Now Paul comes along and lets us know that in order to take the *true* Gospel of the Kingdom, there is going to be persecution. You can't get around it.

In 2 Corinthians 11 Paul begins to give us a list. I could have read the entire chapter and gone into 2 Corinthians chapter 12. Paul goes from talking about the persecution that he experienced to receiving dreams and visions.

I remember when I was in the secular world. We used to have "vision casting." In our businesses, we would cast a vision. In some circles it is called a business plan. It is called a 5-year plan, a 3-year plan or a 1-year plan in other circles. The idea is this. Where are you going to be in five years? What do you anticipate your business doing? We would get together and have what is called vision casting. Ironically I found that when I came into the church, people would do the same thing. From a business perspective it was like:

"Okay, here is where we are. Here is where the ministry is. Where do we want to be in five years? How are we going to get there?"

It was vision casting. Some people got the impression that this is casting a vision. They would even associate it to the *Proverbs* where it says:

Proverbs 29:18 – "Where there is no vision, the people perish:"

Let me tell you something, ladies and gentlemen. It is where there is no vision from YeHoVaH. You see, he is only obligated to fulfill the vision that he gave, but there are many who want to fulfill their own vision. Do you understand what I am saying? Where there is no open revelation, where there is no revelation from the Almighty, where there is no vision, the people perish.

Because of the visions and dreams that Paul received from the Almighty, he was able to endure whatever he went through. That is because he knew. Remember those who have read it; that before Paul went to Rome, he knew that Rome would be his final destination. He knew it before he went. Why? Because it had been revealed to him that he was going to die in Rome. People tried to stop him from going, but you see, that is vision. If Father told him:

"Go to Rome."

Someone tried to stop him by saying:

"Listen, you are going to die!"

There were even prophetic demonstrations on how he was going to die. They were begging him:

"Please don't go! Don't go! Don't go!"

But because of the vision, he really had no choice. I mean, he had a choice. He could have refused, but that wasn't a good choice. So Paul went forth. In 2 *Corinthians* chapter 11 he says:

2 Corinthians 11:16 – "I say again, 'Let no man think me a fool; if otherwise, yet as a fool receive me, that I may boast myself a little.'"

The thing that really stirred Paul up was the fact that individuals had boasted concerning others. If you remember, this is 2 *Corinthians* chapter 11, but it is actually the third letter that Paul wrote to the Corinthians. It really should be 3 *Corinthians*. We know that 2 *Corinthians* was really 1 *Corinthians* because in 1 *Corinthians* chapter 5 he said:

"In the previous letter that I wrote to you..."

This means that there was a letter before 1 Corinthians (which makes 1 Corinthians really be 2 Corinthians). Now, what is he saying here? In his second letter, he wrote about how individuals were boasting.

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"I'm of Cephas."

"I'm of Messiah."

"I'm of Apollos."

He says:

"Listen. That is carnality."

You will see this stuff happening all around today.

"You know, my bishop is So-and-So-and-So."

"My pastor is So-and-So-and-So."

"I got to So-and-So-and-So's church."

"I'm an armor-bearer of So-and-So-and-So."

It is like:

"Who cares?"
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Really. Who cares? The moment that you begin to have some kind of authority and power; you start prophesying and people see the results of your prophesy. You start ministering healing and people get healed. Folks want to make you a god. People want to put you on a pedestal. They want to start piling accolades upon you.

It is something when you establish ministries. I have seen this happen. We have established ministries and ministers and they have found some revelation from somewhere else. Then they want to turn the entire ministry and start following that revelation only to find out that it is not the direction that YeHoVaH is leading them. That is the direction that men want to lead you. People do this all of the time.

Before I went into ministry, I was establishing ministries. I was part of ministries. People would come in and get their ordination and papers. Then they would be sent out. The next thing you know, they wanted to come out from under the leadership that sent them out, to come under another leadership.

People can do what they want to do, but the thing is that if you are not careful, people will try to exalt you and put you on a pedestal. The moment that you start believing that is the day that your demise starts. I remember emphatically what the Father spoke to me. Father spoke to me in the parking lot of a ministry while I was out there in the cold. He was telling me that he was about to put me into another realm. He warned me:

"Don't let people put you on a pedestal."

Folks, if you are here, sometimes you will hear the little children say:

"Arthur Bailey!"

It sounds so beautiful. At the same time, I know that I am just a man. I am not going to allow anybody to make me anything other than that; as much as folks would like to do that. Are you with me? Paul was very much aware of that. It was happening in Corinth. He says:

"You all are letting these folks come in here. They are boasting and telling you things. And they are giving you all kinds of accolades of all of the things that they have accomplished and all of the things that they have done. They are taking you hostage. They are bringing you under their authority and exercising dominion and control over you. That's foolish! How could you all get to that place? But since you are there, since you like folks boasting in your midst..."

Paul is saying:

2 Corinthians 11:16 – "I say again, Let no man think me a fool; if otherwise, yet as a fool receive me, that I may boast myself a little."

Paul moved into a place of boasting knowing that where he was going was wrong. But he tried to prove a point to the people where he had planted the ministry. Imagine that Paul is telling these folks:

"You know, I became a father to you. You have many teachers, but you have not many fathers. I became a father to you. I birthed you. I brought you all into the knowledge of Messiah, and yet you have accepted others."

Basically they rejected Paul as their leader. He says:

2 Corinthians 11:17 – "That which I speak, I speak it not after the Lord,"

Here is one of those things that Paul is saying. This is a red flag for those of you who believe that everything in the Bible is Scripture. **The Bible contains Scripture**, **but every word in the Bible is <u>not</u> Scripture**. There are things that are of men and there are things that come from YeHoVaH. Paul makes a distinction. He says:

"What I am about to do, the Lord doesn't have anything to do with this. So understand what I am saying."

The Bible contains Scripture, but every word in the Bible is not Scripture.

### He says:

- 2 Corinthians 11:17 "'That which I speak, I speak it not after the Lord, but as it were foolishly, in this confidence of boasting.'"
- 2 Corinthians 11:18 "Seeing that many glory after the flesh, I will glory also."
- 2 Corinthians 11:19 "For ye suffer fools gladly, seeing ye yourselves are wise."

He is rebuking them. He says:

"Look, you all are letting these individuals come in here. They are saying things and you are so wise and yet you are still allowing yourselves to fall at the mercy of these people."

"I have never tried to take advantage of you. I have never tried to subject you to my authority. I have always spoken the true gospel to you. I have always brought you a message of freedom, and yet you desire to be in bondage!"

"So let me just take a moment. You want so much to be in bondage. If anybody has the authority to put you into bondage; since I birthed you, it should be me! Let me just take a moment and step off into the foolish realm!"

That is what he is saying here.

"Since you suffer fools gladly and seeing how you yourselves are so wise."

Oh, I wish there was different punctuation. I wish there were exclamations instead of just periods here.

2 Corinthians 11:20 – "For ye suffer, if a man bring you into bondage, if a man devour *you*, if a man take *of you*, if a man exalt himself, if a man smite you on the face."

He is saying that you are receiving all of this.

2 Corinthians 11:21 – "I speak as concerning reproach, as though we had been weak. Howbeit whereinsoever any is bold, (I speak foolishly,) I am bold also."

He is continuing to remind us that he is speaking and this speaking that he is doing is foolish, but he is among fools. He has already called them that. Look at what he says:

- 2 Corinthians 11:16 "I say again, Let no man think me a fool; if otherwise, yet as a fool receive me, that I may boast myself a little."
- 2 Corinthians 11:17 "'That which I speak, I speak it not after the Lord, but as it were foolishly, in this confidence of boasting."
- 2 Corinthians 11:18 "Seeing that many glory after the flesh, I will glory also."
- 2 Corinthians 11:19 "For ye suffer fools gladly, seeing ye yourselves are wise."

You gladly put up with fools! You go along with the foolish stuff – gladly, eagerly! Somebody comes along and prophesies some prophetic nonsense and you just eat it up and run with it! Now he is speaking to the Corinthians, but he also spoke this way to the Galatians. He said that they had even gone to the point of being bewitched.

"You all who are supposed to know so much word, you let somebody come in here and bring you under a spell! I warned you that these things were going to happen when I left."

And yet it happened anyway. Did you ever have children where you saw calamity? You saw the destruction. You saw the path. You saw the end of the decision that they had made. You tried to warn them:

"Don't go! Don't do that!"

"I know what I'm doing!"

### Really?

"I'm not a baby anymore. I can make my own decisions."

"Yeah you can, but obviously based on the evidence that is before us right now, your decision-making capacity is off. It's not where it is supposed to be yet, because this is a foolish decision that you are making."

Yet no matter how harsh and no matter what words you choose to try to articulate and communicate to that hard-headed, stiff-necked stubborn son or daughter of yours, the words were ignored. Do you know that YeHoVaH had the same problem? Yeah. He continues to.

#### Paul said:

"For you suffer fools gladly."

## And he says:

2 Corinthians 11:21 – "I speak as concerning reproach, as though we had been weak. Howbeit whereinsoever any is bold, (I speak foolishly,) I am bold also."

I can get bold now.

2 Corinthians 11:22 – "Are they Hebrews? so am I. Are they Israelites? so am I. Are they the seed of Abraham? so am I."

Now we see who they are boasting in, don't we? When we look at *Galatians*, we know that when the Galatian congregations were established by Paul, individuals came down and began to speak. They told the people that before they could actually become a follower of Yeshua; they had to undergo certain Jewish rituals.

We identified that the individuals that Paul was adamantly opposing in his letter to the Galatians were who we know of today as "Judaizers." Remember that a Judaizer is a believing Jewish person who is preaching and teaching that you have to keep the traditions in order to be true to the Bible. That is just not true.

2 Corinthians 11:22 – "Are they Hebrews? so am I. Are they Israelites? so am I. Are they the seed of Abraham? so am I."

2 Corinthians 11:23 – "Are they ministers of Messiah?"

Now I speak as a fool.

"(I speak as a fool) I am more;"

In other words, think about what he is saying. They say that they are a minister of Messiah. I am more a minster of Messiah than they are. You see that Paul is really speaking out of his head, but who is he dealing with? These are people who are not thinking according to the mind of Messiah. They are carnal. These are carnal, religious people. These are people who are in the synagogue, in the congregation and in the assembly and yet they are carnal and natural-minded. They are not Spirit-minded. He says:

"...I am more; in labours more abundant, in stripes above measure, in prisons more frequent, in deaths oft [often]."

2 Corinthians 11:24 – "Of the Jews five times received I forty stripes save one."

Wasn't Paul Jewish? So why is he getting a beating from the Jewish people? Do you get this? Who is beating him? He says:

"I received 39 lashes, 5 times. How many lashes have you all received?"

Five times! I am going to tell you ladies and gentlemen, that if some of us got a whipping for preaching Yeshua, that would be the last time that Yeshua came out of our mouth! But that shouldn't be! We shouldn't be afraid of persecution for the sake of Messiah. Now, we don't want to go out there looking for it.

"Come on beat me so that people know that I serve Jesus!"

No, we are not going out there looking for a beating, but we are not running from it. We are not shutting our mouths. We are not keeping quiet while heathens all around us spout out their nonsense. Sometimes I tell folks:

"You just need to be quiet. No, you need to shut up."

You know, you try to be nice about it, you really do. But when people start speaking things into your life that you don't agree with, you can't just not say anything because silence is acquiescence. Sometimes you have to boldly declare and boldly speak against what is spoken so that those words will have no place to go but down. Do you know that if left alone, words bring to pass the things that have been spoken? Everything that is created, YeHoVaH spoke it in a word. He says:

"Let there be."

He spoke it into existence. When we declare, the power of words causes things to happen. The Bible says and Yeshua says:

"Every word that you speak, you are going to have to give an account."

Your words are going to either justify or condemn you. How many of you intentionally condemn yourselves? I don't think that anybody in this room intentionally condemns themself; but I think that when we speak things that are not in our best interest, we are speaking death and condemnation over our lives. When we come into agreement with things that people say by not speaking against it, we are actually in agreement with it. It is not about a thought. If somebody speaks to you and says:

"You know, I think that you have cancer."

"I have cancer? Oh God."

What just happened? You just agreed with what somebody said. Now get this. Yeshua says that by his stripes you were healed. Do you see how there is a conflict right now? Yeshua says that I am healed. This person says that I have cancer. Who should I believe?

"Well, what about the symptoms, brother?"

"Well, what about them? What about them?"

It is when you come into agreement with something that it has a right to take occupancy. If you never come into agreement, you are constantly in a fight. You are constantly in a battle. You are constantly denying and rejecting and standing on the word of YeHoVaH. You can't stand on the word of YeHoVaH and come into agreement with something that you don't agree with. That is being double-minded. That is unstable. That is instability.

## Paul is saying:

"Listen. I got beaten five times."

- 2 Corinthians 11:25 "Thrice was I beaten with rods, once was I stoned, thrice I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day I have been in the deep;"
- 2 Corinthians 11:26 "In journeyings often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils by mine own countrymen, in perils by the heathen, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren;"
- 2 Corinthians 11:27 "In weariness and painfulness, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness."
- 2 Corinthians 11:28 "Beside those things that are without, that which cometh upon me daily, the care of all the churches."
- 2 Corinthians 11:29 "Who is weak, and I am not weak? who is offended, and I burn not?"
- 2 Corinthians 11:30 "If I must needs glory, I will glory of the things which concern mine infirmities."
- 2 Corinthians 11:31 "The God and Father of our Lord Yeshua Messiah, which is blessed for evermore, knoweth that I lie not."
- 2 Corinthians 11:32 "In Damascus the governor under Aretas the king kept the city of the Damascenes with a garrison, desirous to apprehend me:"
- 2 Corinthians 11:33 "And through a window in a basket was I let down by the wall, and escaped his hands."

## Paul is saying here:

"I don't want you all to bother me or trouble me."

Basically that is what he says in chapter 6 verse 17:

Galatians 6:17 – "From henceforth let no man trouble me:"

"Don't trouble me with that."

Galatians 6:17 – "From henceforth let no man trouble me: for I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Yeshua."

Basically he is saying:

"I have suffered for this cause."

Based upon what we read, he can honestly say that no one suffered greater than Paul did for the Gospel of the Kingdom. You are going to suffer. That is not anything to be afraid of. There really is nothing to be afraid of. But if you can't get over people saying:

"You have fallen from grace."

And it causes you to stumble for a week, come on. Those are just words. People are saying:

"You're going to Hell."

"You're trying to keep the law."

"The law has been fulfilled in Jesus, brother."

I remember when I did the teaching on *Where Law Meets Grace*. I got so much opposition! I have had enough opposition to quit several times, but I know this because people have been inundated by false doctrines and false gospels. This is to come. This is one of the reasons why I believe that the Father called me to be an apostle. It is to go forward, to speak and to stand.

After I stood in the Christian Church, I came into the Messianic and Hebrew Roots movement. Now I am finding myself being persecuted all the more. I am persecuted because I don't practice traditions. I am persecuted because we don't believe that we have to keep Jewish traditions to be followers of Messiah. If anybody wants to keep a tradition, that is your right. That is your privilege. But to anybody who wants to tell me that I need to pray to the east or that I have to wear a kippah and a prayer shawl to attend their services, it is like:

"Where is that at in the Bible?"

Hello? Anyone who wants to exalt Hanukkah to the same status as the Feasts of YeHoVaH, understand me. **Hanukkah is not commanded by YeHoVaH!** A nine-branch Menorah can't be found in the Bible. But if you say stuff like that, then what happens? People come after you.

"Oh, now he's anti-Semitic!"

Really? All because I am pointing out the obvious? Everyone else is afraid. They think that to speak against tradition is to speak against the Jews. That is so far from the truth. I can speak against saggy pants without speaking against the Black community. I can speak against a lot of things without speaking against individuals. But there are individuals who are doing such things and because it is part of a certain group of people, now you are "racist." No brother, you can't connect culture with the Bible. The moment that you connect culture with the Bible, "it means that" you are attacking the Bible. But that is not true.

"So that means that you didn't celebrate Kwanzaa?"

"Kwanzaa?"

"Oh, boy. Now there you go messing with Kwanzaa! We were fine as long as you were messing with those Jewish traditions."

There is Christmas and Easter. Folks are doing a lot of things that we can't find in the Bible, but that have been associated with Scripture. The moment that you begin to address that issue, people get upset. If you are going to speak truth, you can't worry about people. These are the kinds of things that got Yeshua crucified.

Galatians 6:18 – "Brethren, the grace of our Lord Yeshua Messiah *be* with your spirit. Amen."

I want you to see this. It is interesting how Paul ends this letter.

"Not be with your flesh, but with your spirit."

What is he doing? You see, Paul in his writings is really speaking to the spirit man. He is not speaking to denominations. He is not speaking to one's head. Remember he has already said this in *Romans*. He reemphasized it in *1 Corinthians* and *2 Corinthians*. He spoke it through *Philippians* and *Colossians*. He even dealt with it here in *Galatians*. He said that to be carnally-minded is death.

Remember that in *Galatians* 5 we had the works of the flesh and the fruit of the Spirit? The works of the flesh is the fruit of the flesh. It is the natural, carnal nature. The fruit of the Spirit is the fruit of the Holy Spirit working with our spirit. Our natural man is not regenerated. Our spirit man is regenerated. Our natural man is not born again.

His Spirit is bearing witness with our spirit that we are the sons of God. He is renewing our minds. We are no longer conforming to this world but are being transformed by the renewing of our minds. Everything that Paul is speaking to us, he is speaking to our spirit man so that our spirit can take its rightful place in our lives. Therefore we won't be following the desires of our flesh. To be carnally-minded is death.

So if you are filled with the Spirit, then walk in the Spirit! Those who are led by the Spirit are the sons of God. Again, to be carnally-minded is death! A carnal-minded man will not understand spiritual things because they are spirit-discerned. But there are carnal minds that say:

"Doesn't God forgive?"

Yeah, that is carnal.

"Well, we are all sinners!"

You don't know your Bible. We may have *been* sinners, but we are now the righteousness of YeHoVaH.

"Well, we're all just saved by grace."

I was saved by grace and hope and faith. Now I am walking in authority in the name of Yeshua. I am not relying upon grace. People who rely upon grace are disobedient. They are not trying to be obedient. They don't even think that they have to be obedient.

"Well brother, it's all about grace."

Grace? Really? So that says to me that every time that you fall, you are not falling. You are walking right into it.

"Well now brother, you are judging."

No, your actions are judging you! Your actions are judging you already. I am just looking at the fruit of the judgment. Are you seeing this? Religion has turned things around and caused people to accept a sinful lifestyle and condition while relying upon grace. No. **Grace that brings salvation has appeared to all men; teaching us to deny ungodliness and wordly lusts and to live soberly and blameless in this present age!** That is what grace has come to do!

Grace hasn't come to give you a license to sin so that you can live in lust anywhere you feel like it. There are people who just want to live carnally. They say that they are believers. They are unbelieving "believers." You need to start believing!

This is what happens with the pagan church – yeah, I said it. It is a pagan institution! Any preacher that teaches you that you don't have to keep the commandments of YeHoVaH is not preparing you for the coming of Messiah! No, you won't be ready! That is why they always have to "assure" your salvation.

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"Well pastor, I don't feel saved today."

"Well, it's not about feelings brother. It's about faith."

"Faith?"

"Yeah."

"Well, I've got faith."

"Just believe."

No, go and sin no more!

"You mean that I can sin no more?"
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Either you can or Yeshua is a liar. He is not a liar, but there are a lot of lying preachers! You see, I am even hitting the preachers! No one is off limits. It is the word.

"Well, your words are going to come back at you."

Let them come. I am ready. I really am. I believe with all of my heart that I am ready to deal with anything that I have said. Am I ready to meet Yeshua? I am working on it! I am. I would love to tell you that I am ready right now. The last time that I checked, I didn't see anything that would cause me concern, but it was a surface perusal. Every time I look more deeply, I realize that there are areas in my life that have not fully conformed to him. It shows me that I still have work to do.

But my eyes don't go wherever my eyes want to go. They go wherever I send them. My feet don't go wherever they want to go. They go wherever I take them. My mind doesn't go wherever it wants to go. Sometimes it does, but I have to pull it back. I put a guard on my heart and a guard on my mind and on my thoughts. Why? Because I believe that we have authority. Before I can call him "Lord," I have to first take over this flesh with his help. His word is what convicts me.

When conviction comes, what is my response? To make excuses? I was taught to make excuses when I was in the Baptist Church. Everybody was making excuses and excusing their sins. They were fornicating and committing adultery and lying and coveting and cheating and stealing and back-biting and slandering and gossiping.

"Don't judge brother."

The Bible is already judging us. Now what is our response?

Galatians 6:18 – "Brethren, the grace of our Lord Yeshua Messiah be with your spirit. Amen."

The word is Spirit. YeHoVaH is Spirit. What is he trying to do? He is trying to get us to be spiritual; not religious spiritual, but biblically spiritual. There is a difference. When you become biblically spiritual, you see your body as the temple. That is what you see. You are not just putting on clothes. You are clothing your temple. You are not just eating food; you are feeding your temple. The Almighty has already told us that there are certain things that shouldn't go into the temple. Even when he gave instructions concerning the physical temple, there were certain things that weren't permitted. What you put on it is as important as what you put in it. But you wouldn't know that if you abandoned the law.

We did the teaching on *Touch Not The Unclean Thing* and:

"I will receive you."

Says YeHoVaH.

"And I will be your Father and you shall be my children."

The majority of the church world doesn't even have a clue what the unclean things are! They say:

"Brother, touch not the unclean thing."

"Well, what is the unclean thing?"

"The law."

Really? Oh, it is in bad shape!

Galatians 6:18 – "Brethren, the grace of our Lord Yeshua Messiah *be* with your spirit. Amen."

Paul does a couple of closings in his letters using this statement. First he concludes 2 *Timothy* 4:22 with it.

2 Timothy 4:22 – "The Lord Yeshua Messiah *be* with thy spirit. Grace *be* with you. Amen."

In *Philemon* when he is writing:

Philemon 1:25 – "The grace of our Lord Yeshua Messiah *be* with your spirit. Amen."

If you look at Paul's writings, Paul is big on Spirit. He talks about the fruit of the Spirit. He talks about the gifts of the Spirit. He talks about spirituality and being spiritual. He talks about the difference between the flesh and the Spirit, carnality and Spirit, natural and supernatural. He is speaking to us but he is not speaking to us like this [in our ears]. He is speaking to our spirit. This is why it says:

"Let them that have ears"

Everyone in here has ears, right? Let them hear what the Spirit is saying. You see, the natural ear is going to have a difficult time hearing the Spirit. The Spirit speaks to our spirit and not necessarily to our natural ears. Are you with me? We hear naturally. But when it comes to hearing from the Spirit, we hear from the Spirit by the spirit.

It is the Spirit that is communicating with our spirit. We must become spiritual. That means that we have to stop feeding and building up our natural, carnal nature. We must begin to build our spirit man so that as John says, our natural man decreases so that our spirit man increases. Then we will stop being led around by our fleshly, carnal desires.

We are putting to death the things of the flesh. If we don't put to death the things of the flesh, Paul says in *Colossians 3* that *for these things the wrath of God is coming for the children of disobedience*. It is coming for the ones who do not want to obey the word from *Genesis* to the *Revelation*. That is why judgment is coming. It is coming to us first.

For those who think "rapture," you can forget about it. Judgment is coming to the House of YeHoVaH first. But if we judge ourselves – how are we going to judge ourselves? By righteous judgment [from the Bible] and not by denominational judgment. We use biblical judgment. What does the Bible say? Are you aligning yourself with that word versus denominations?

It hit me several years ago. When I was a Baptist, I didn't understand why the Baptists had such hostility toward the Pentecostals. The Pentecostals are over there speaking in tongues and casting out devils. They are running around the church and Holy Ghost dancing but the stoic Baptists are over there saying:

"Those people are full of demons."

And the Methodists and the Reformed are the "frozen chosen." I mean, everybody had names for everybody else. Just like the people in my church, all of those people claimed to be lovers of God. Think about it. This denomination said:

"Those people over there who say that they love God, they are going to Hell."

Maybe you haven't been in churches like that, but those are the churches that I have been in.

"Those people over there? Yeah, they say that they love God, but they are going straight to Hell. As a matter of fact, those folks over there are going to bust Hell wide open!"

I was listening to this and trying to figure it out.

"How come they are going to Hell but we're not?"

"Well, because you are part of the right denomination. Now don't listen to those people."

This is what in many denominations is called "equipping the saints." They don't trust the saints with the ability to understand the Bible. They have to tell them what the Bible says.

From the very first verse in Paul's letter, he comes out swinging by letting us know that the things that he is writing to them did not come from him. That is chapter 1. He is writing them.

"The things that I am writing to you, the Spirit can bear witness. These things I didn't get from the Pharisees. I didn't get them from Gamaliel. I didn't get them from any sage. This came straight from Heaven."

If we were to continue in 2 Corinthians chapter 12, he would have given us a glimpse of when he was taken into the third Heaven. It was when he received visions and things that he couldn't speak of when he returned. I don't think that he ascended as much as I think that he may have been asleep. He may have been in a trance. He may have had a visitation and in this visitation he had an out of body experience. I don't know. All that I know is that he went there and that he saw things.

I know what it is like to be in that place. I don't think that I have ever gone to Heaven, but I know that I was in a place where I was face to face with the Almighty in Heaven. It was so much so that my body quaked to the degree that I felt that if I stayed there, I was going to die. I wanted to come out of that place. It was intense to the point where it was like:

"I can't take this. I just can't take it."

The closest thing that I can liken it to is this. I have shared this with some people. Several years ago there was a movie called *Scanners*. Has anyone ever heard of that movie? It opens up where a guy is sitting there. All of a sudden his head just explodes. Of course it is a movie, so there is some artistic genius there. It didn't just explode, but that is what it felt like, if I could use an illustration. That is what it felt like for me to be in that place. I felt like I was just going to explode.

That is the last verse of *Galatians*, so let's do a quick recap. I told you that when we went into this teaching, there were certain questions that we were going to ask and certain questions that we were going to answer. Actually the questions that we asked, we gave answers to. We gave them up front. Let's recap.

• We learned that Paul's letter to the Galatians cannot be looked upon at face value.

There is much tradition addressed to the point that if you did not know the traditions, you would not be able to recognize them as Paul addresses them in this letter to the Galatians.

• Did Paul teach that Jews no longer had to keep the Law of YeHoVaH?

NO.

Did Paul teach that Gentiles did not have to keep the Law of YeHoVaH?

NO.

Did Paul teach that the Law of YeHoVaH was for the Jews and not for the Gentiles?

NO.

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Remember that we discussed *Noahide laws?* Some sages came up with the idea that Gentiles did not have to keep the traditions of the Jews. They didn't refer to them as the commandments of YeHoVaH. They said that they didn't have to keep them. Instead, they only had to keep what they called *Noahide laws*; which were laws that are scattered throughout *Genesis*. You can find some of them in *Leviticus*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup>Again, there are no such things as Noahide laws in the Bible. As we know, this is a man-made term and concept. There are however, Laws of YeHoVaH from which the supposed Noahide laws are derived.

There are others who teach that when the first Jerusalem Council came together in *Acts* 15, they reaffirmed the supposed Noahide laws by abstaining from fornication, from meat sacrificed to idols, from blood and from idolatry. **But Paul did not teach that.** 

• Did Paul teach that the Law of YeHoVaH was no longer to be observed?

NO.

Paul did not come to teach that the people no longer had to keep the commands. Paul himself kept the commandments. We found where Paul said in his word:

"Concerning the commandments of God, I keep them."

• Did Paul teach that those who keep the Law of YeHoVaH have fallen from grace?

NO.

He never taught that.

• Did Paul teach that neither Jews nor Gentiles needed to be circumcised?

NO.

He was *accused* of teaching it. There were those *who said* that Paul taught that the Jews no longer had to circumcise their children. Paul was adamantly opposed to that.

Did Paul teach that circumcision was for the Jews but not for the Gentiles?

NO.

He did not teach that.

• Did Paul teach that the law was cursed?

NO.

Absolutely NOT!

• Again, did Paul teach that those who had kept the law had fallen from grace?

NO.

We identified that Judaizers were Jewish believers from a Pharisaic background. How do we know that they were from the Pharisees? We know this because the Sadducees were the ones who maintained the temple. The Sadducees were not out there trying to establish temples in every city. It was the Pharisees who felt that it was their mission to establish synagogues in every city where there were Jewish people. That was not a mission of the Sadducees.

As a matter of fact, Sadducees held strictly to the Torah. Why? They did so because they were responsible for the sacrifices and the daily offerings. The Pharisees did not serve in the temple. Only Levites or the tribe of Aaron served. The high priests were from Aaron's lineage. The Pharisees were mostly from Judah and others who had converted to Judaism. These others did not become Pharisees. They became like many Pharisees.

These individuals who came to the knowledge of Messiah became zealous for the things of tradition. This problem is still at work today, ladies and gentlemen. It really is. That is why we did a teaching called *Avoiding the Religious Traps of the Messianic Faith*. There are a lot of traps

out there. I deal with folks all of the time who come here and who tell me all of the things that are going on in some of these places. I wonder:

"Why can't we just stick with what the word says without having to add all of this other stuff?"

My problem with tradition is that people learn from what they see more than from what they hear. They watch what you do more than listen to what you say. You will notice that this is something that we are born with. We came into the world like this. You will see sons watching their dads. You will see daughters watching their moms. They will pick up mom's habits and dad's habits. They are watching your movements and everything that you do. Do you see? The moment that you say something that is contrary to what you are doing, they will call you out!

"Well, you don't do that."

"But I'm the parent!"

Yeah.

"Don't do what I do, do what I say."

Right. That was popular among the Pharisees. They put burdens upon other people that they themselves wouldn't carry. I guess we have inherited that too.

Judaizers were Jewish believers from a Pharisaic background who taught that Gentiles needed to practice Jewish traditions and convert to Judaism before they could become a follower of Messiah Yeshua. That is what *Acts* 15 is all about. But some people want to say that *Acts* 15 gave us the right to eat pork and shellfish and every other abominable thing. Judaizers taught that a person must be circumcised in order to be saved. What they were teaching was not circumcision as a *covenant*, but circumcision as *conversion*. Circumcision as conversion became like baptisms are today.

"In order for you to be a bonafide member of this organization, you have to be baptized according to our doctrine."

One of the largest issues that we saw when we looked at the Maccabean account was individuals who were uncircumcizing themselves because they wanted to be more like the Greeks. It is like:

"Uncircumcision? That's interesting."

Then of course there are folks who talk about the "circumcision of the heart." We will get there.

Biblical circumcision is the <u>seal</u> of an Everlasting Covenant between YeHoVaH and Abraham and his seed. You cannot claim the promises of Abraham outside of the Covenant of Abraham!

The Covenant of Abraham is circumcision. Women never had to be circumcised, but men were required to be circumcised in order to obtain the covenant promises made to Abraham. Part of the covenant is that any male child that failed to be or that refused to be circumcised was cut

off! If you didn't want to get your foreskin cut, then you got cut, so which cut do you want? But there are people who want to argue:

"You don't need folks to get circumcised."

Really? Where do you find that in the Bible? You don't find that in the Bible. You find that in your church.

"But brother, that's 'under the law!"

Right! Torah people! Folks like using the word "Torah." I use the word "law."

"Well, Torah is the instructions."

It sounds "prettier." It does. If you say "Torah," half of the Christian world doesn't have a clue as to what you are saying.

"We rejoice in your Torah."

"What's the Torah?"

"The law."

"The LAW!!!???"

Yeah. Circumcision of the heart means to stop being hard-hearted, stubborn and difficult. Circumcision of the heart was required in the Torah. It is not a New Testament phenomenon.

"Well, all God wants is a circumcision of the heart."

He wanted that in the commandments! It's a command. Circumcise your heart!

Deuteronomy 10:16 – "Circumcise therefore the foreskin of your heart, and be no more stiffnecked."

In other words, stop being hard-hearted. Stop rejecting. Stop rebelling. Stop resisting. Obey the commands. Do you want to be blessed? Do you want the blessings? Do you want my presence and power to manifest in your life? Father is saying:

"How is it that you expect me to do all of this stuff for you, but you won't even follow my instructions?"

If we can gain right standing with YeHoVaH by keeping religious traditions, then we don't need Yeshua. That is what Paul is dealing with. There is only one way to become righteous with YeHoVaH, ladies and gentlemen. That is through Messiah Yeshua! As I have said so many times, YeHoVaH didn't tell Israel:

"Keep my law and I will save you."

He saved them! He delivered them. He brought them out of bondage and said:

"Now, if you want to stay out of bondage, keep these commands."

The commandments are not bondage. Not keeping the commandments brings you under religious bondage. Now you don't know how to please God. You have to make this stuff up! He tells us how to please him. He tells us what to do to stay in right standing with him. He

tells us how to stay in right standing with your neighbor. He tells us how to treat one another. He tells us how to come into his presence.

He tells you the days to sanctify because you are sanctified. He tells us how to live and how to relate to our husband or wife and our children. He tells us how to relate in a community and how to conduct ourselves. If you don't have his commandments, you have to make this stuff up! That is what denominations are doing. They are making it up!

"Well brother, if you want to be in right standing, you need to tithe ten percent. You need to give offerings and you need to be at the meetings."

"Is that all? What if I tithe but I don't come to every service?"

"Well, as long as you send in that tithe, Ha Ha Ha. Praise the Lord."

Father is not concerned about your giving as much as he is concerned about your *living*. He doesn't want your stuff. He wants you! If he has you, he has the stuff. Some people say:

"Yeah, take that God, and leave me alone until I need you."

You don't say that, but that is what people do.

"I'll call you when I need you. I've got this."

Newsflash!! **The Jews did not kill Yeshua!** I am going to tell you something that may be news to you. I have been part of many denominations. As a matter of fact, Brother Vincent and I were together yesterday. We were overlooking the city. We asked a question about a building. It was a school. A guy responded. I remember what he said because it hit me. He said:

"Some rich Jew from New York came down and bought this."

I thought:

"Look at this."

This tells me what and who I am dealing with. It was the way that he said it, you see. I am picking it up. Let me tell you that racism does not have compartments. A racist is a racist is a racist. I wonder if he would have said that to that "rich Jew" like that. He would have been smiling. You see, there are people who will talk about people to you, but then they will talk about you to other people. You talk about the Mexicans. You talk about the White people. You talk about the Jews. I wonder what you say about me. You just told me who you are. If folks will laugh and gossip with you, they will laugh and gossip *about* you. If you choose these kinds of relationships; then woe to you. You need to call them out. I am sitting there listening to him and I am thinking:

"Okay, I'm going to deal with this. I'll deal with this. I have to deal with this if we are going to have a relationship."

You can't be in a relationship with just anybody. You can't just let people say anything and let it slide.

"Well, brother that's a lot of confrontation."

Do you know what? Typically best friends are the result of confrontation. You will find people who have a drag-out knock-down fight. There is blood everywhere, but when they are

done, they have respect for each other. The next thing you know, they are hanging out with one another and the next thing you know, they have each others' back.

The Jews did not kill Yeshua, but there are many people who teach this and who believe this. This has caused Judaism. I was surprised as I was listening to a former rabbi who believes in Yeshua. Unfortunately he has the Christian Jesus, but I am sure that it is not over yet. As he was sharing his testimony, he was talking about how he was taught as a Jewish boy growing up. He was told to stay away from the New Testament. He was told. I am using his words. They are not mine, but I have heard this from several people. I am saying this because I have heard it from different Jewish people.

They state that the New Testament is the Gentile Bible and that in the New Testament the Gentiles teach that we are supposed to kill Jews! When you think about this, some of the most vicious terrorists on the planet and vicious individuals who have ever lived have been motivated by religion; many by the New Testament portion. Do you hear me? The Ku Klux Klan in the South used to quote Scripture while they were hanging Black folks. Hitler was inspired by Martin Luther. Do you understand? There is a lot of "inspiration" from the Bible that has inspired racism and acts of terror. I have grown up in churches where people in the church despise the Jews because of Jesus.

"The Jews killed Jesus! The Jews killed Jesus!"

Many of you have probably heard these words. I know that I did. I know of a guy right now who is this way. I am telling you that if you mention Jews, he has nothing but nasty stuff to say. Understand that in every nationality there are nasty people. You can't judge a nationality by the works of a few. That is stereotyping.

**RELIGION** is what killed Yeshua. Individuals who were practicing a religion are what killed him. Why? It was because he was a threat to their religion! He was taking people and giving them truth and exposing them to the traditions which held them in bondage! That is why John came preaching repentence.

The Law of YeHoVaH is not cursed! <u>Judaism is</u>. I know that when I said that, many people cringed. Why? Remember the illustration. YeHoVaH sent his messenger. The messenger had simple words. I shared this illustration. You send your messenger to deliver a message and there are five words in the message; just five. But by the time the messenger gets to deliver the message, there are now four words. Is that your message? No. By the time the messenger gets to the person that they are delivering the message to, now there are six words. Is that your message? No. They have added or they have taken away. The moment that you add to or the moment that you take away, you destroy the message. Yeshua said:

"I didn't come to destroy the message. I didn't come to do away with it. I didn't come to destroy it."

The Bible says that the man who does such things is what? He is **cursed**. You don't add to the message and you don't diminish it. That is a command. But people start adding traditions and trying to hold people to traditions and call themselves "building a fence." As religious and as righteous as it may sound, now people are doing things that the Bible doesn't require; but you require them. You have added to the message. You have taken away from the message. **You have destroyed the message.** Yeshua addressed this issue. He said:

"You people – Moses gave you all the law, but none of you are keeping it! Why? You are teaching for commandments, the traditions of the elders. You are teaching for commandments, the traditions of men. You are teaching for commandments, the commandments of men. Therefore you are nullifying the commandments of God and your worship is in vain!"

"How DARE you talk to us like that! By whose authority?!"

By the time that Yeshua had come, the message had become so distorted. Remember that if the people don't have access to the word, they won't know what the word says. They are dependent upon people to tell them. Yet there are so many people who have access to the word, but they are still depending upon other people to tell them.

I try to tell folks what is in here and show you where it is and all of these kinds of things. People want to confront me with religious traditions. You can confront all you want. I am not going anywhere and I am not scared.

There were several laws in operation during Yeshua and Paul's times, but the Greek [text] does not distinguish between them. There was:

- 1. The law of the Pharisees
- 2. The law of the Sadducees
- 3. The law of Herod
- 4. The law of Rome
- 5. The Law of YeHoVaH

The Law of YeHoVaH should be number one, but that wasn't the case. They weren't keeping the Law of YeHoVaH. Yeshua referred to them as the "traditions of men" and the "leaven." Why? Because a little leaven – if you add one thing to the commands, it blows them up. Anybody who understands baking knows this.

I have a degree in Culinary Arts. I was a chef in the military. I cooked for the Captains and the Admirals. I got out of the military and wanted to expand my cooking career. I went to the second highest cooking institute at the time. It was the Grand Rapids Community College's Culinary Arts Department. I obtained a degree as a chef. The worst part of going through the process of getting a chef degree was going through baking. Baking is a science. Cooking is an art. That is why they call it Culinary Arts. Baking is a science. You can't fix it! There isn't any fixing it. You have to start over. With cooking, you can fix it. Just add a little sugar. Just change the taste a little bit.

## "Okay, that's better."

With baking, if you don't put in the right ingredients and the right amount of ingredients, you are not going to get the right results. You can't take the salt out once you have put the salt in. You just can't do it. It's scientific. It is a science. I hated it. I didn't like baking. I like cooking. I passed.

The point is leaven. When you add a little leaven to your products – there were products that you didn't put leaven in. You put some leaven in that thing and let it poof. When you come back, man, the whole oven is just one big glob. Do you know that the thing that I hated about this process was that everything that we did was supposed to be for the restaurant? There were times when the restaurant opened but there were no baked products for it. That was because all of us students who didn't understand science were given the responsibility to bake muffins, rolls and

all of these kinds of things. We produced something that was inedible, so they had to scratch the menu, change it and go on.

Leaven is adding something. This is what Yeshua is saying here. He says:

"Beware of the leaven."

It is the leaven of the:

Pharisees

That was the synagogue rulers.

Sadducees

That was the temple priests and the Levites.

Herod

That is the government. Today the Pharisees and the Sadducees could easily be denominations. Of course Herod could easily be Capitol Hill in Washington.

Matthew 16:6 – "Then Yeshua said unto them, 'Take heed and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees.'"

Mark 8:15 – "And he charged them, saying, 'Take heed, beware of the leaven of the Pharisees, and of the leaven of Herod.""

Paul referred to them as the Jews' religion and traditions of his fathers.

Acts 26:5 – "Which knew me from the beginning, if they would testify, that after the most straitest sect of our religion I lived a Pharisee."

Paul identified that he was a former Pharisee.

Galatians 1:13 – "For ye have heard of my conversation in time past in the Jews' religion, how that beyond measure I persecuted the church of God, and wasted it:"

Galatians 1:14 – "And profited in the Jews' religion above many my equals in mine own nation, being more exceedingly zealous of the traditions of my fathers."

Being under the law was generally associated with Pharisaic law, not YeHoVaH's Law.

Paul was a Pharisee. He kept Pharisee law until his conversion by Yeshua. When Paul said that he counted it all as dung, he didn't count the Law of YeHoVaH as dung. He counted the law of the Pharisees as dung. Paul kept the Law of YeHoVaH.

We learned in *Galatians* 5 that the works of the flesh are carnal. They result in death. The fruit of the Spirit is the result of the Holy Spirit.

The book/letter/epistle of *Galatians* appears to be a compilation of all of Paul's teachings. It touches on most of the same topics [of his other letters] except that the Galatians had been bewitched or had come under the spell of Judaism. (This would be modern day Messianic

Judaism if there is such a thing.) This is indicated by Paul's reference to "the large letter" that he wrote to the Galatians when he said:

"What a large letter I wrote..."

We looked at this in the last lesson. Paul pulled in many of the topics that he had written to all of the other congregations combined. As we identified in the beginning of our study, there was no city of Galatia like there was a city of Corinth. Galatia was not a city. Galatia was a region. Within the region were many congregations. There wasn't one city here, but many cities within a particular region or province by modern terminology.

Finally, this letter is written to us *as spirit beings*. We need to understand this. The words of YeHoVaH are (as Yeshua said):

"My words are Spirit."

"My words are Spirit."

"My words are Spirit."

"My words are Spirit and they are life."

These words really cause me to take a hard look at myself. As one who has reveled in the flesh for much of my adult life, putting this flesh under is not the easiest thing to do. It is not about having the knowledge, because knowledge puffs up. There are so many who know the right thing to do, but they don't do the right thing. They know.

I saw it. I have seen this in every congregation that I have been in; every one of them. I would love to tell you something different, but that is not the case. Every congregation that I have been in, I could almost count the people who were sincere and righteous and who lived this out in their lives. If you saw them on Monday or Wednesday or Thursday or Friday or Saturday, they were the same person that you saw on Sunday. I can count out these people on one hand or maybe on two hands. I have been part of congregations with hundreds of people.

You can probably do the same thing. If you look back over your life, there are certain people in your life who stand out. These people believe and live what they believe. But I can also tell you that I saw a lot of people who didn't. I couldn't understand how people could be singing in the choir and be living like they were married but they weren't married. I couldn't understand that. I couldn't understand how homosexuals could have prominent places in congregations. It didn't make sense to me. I couldn't understand how lesbians could be lead singers on the praise team. That didn't make sense. I couldn't understand how pastors were sleeping around and how they had babies spread out throughout the congregation. This stuff didn't make sense to me. But when I was in the world, it was no big deal. Unfortunately, folks will fall for anything. It is sad now that I look back on it. **Our spirit is what we should be building.** 

Galatians 6:18 – "Brethren, the grace of our Lord Yeshua Messiah *be* with your spirit. Amen."



## Also Available From Arthur Bailey Ministries

Check out our wide selection of important teachings that are also downloadable for FREE from our website at <a href="www.ArthurBaileyMinistries.com">www.ArthurBaileyMinistries.com</a>. We have books, DVDs, videos, Discipleship & Leadership Training classes and more! Here is a sampling of our most popular teachings:



**28** Blessings of Deuteronomy **28** — Summarizes the 28 Blessings of Deuteronomy 28; identifies what the blessings look like today. Learn how the blessings manifest and the importance of living a Torah-observant, Spirit-filled life. 4-DVD teaching. Approx. 5 hrs.



<u>Feast of Firstfruits</u> — In this exciting teaching you will learn what are considered to be the Firstfruits offerings; when they are to be presented, and why Firstfruits offerings are so important! You will also learn the prayer that is recited during this vital offering which assures the blessing of prosperity upon those who present these gifts unto YeHoVaH. Approx. 1.5 hrs.



**Hear, O Israel** — "Hear, O Israel" is a call for ALL of the people of YeHoVaH to hear and to obey his commands. Oftentimes when people hear the word "Israel," they think "Jews." Israel consists of 12 tribes. The Jews are only one of those tribes. In this eye-opening, engaging and life-changing teaching, Arthur Bailey explains in-depth, Yeshua's response and the benefits of what it really means to hear and to obey! Approx. 2.5 hrs in a 2-DVD set.



How To Hear God's Voice — Author and teacher Arthur Bailey shares important biblical truths to help you identify and distinguish the voice of the Almighty from all other voices. Learn 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!

4-DVDs. Approx. 5.5 hrs.



<u>Relationships</u> — Arthur Bailey presents from Scripture how the relationships in our lives must be categorized and prioritized according to their importance. You will learn the kind of relationship the Almighty wants with you, how to categorize and prioritize your relationships according to Scripture, how to identify and rectify wrong relationships and more. 2-DVDs.

Approx. 2.5 hrs.



<u>Maximizing Your Talents</u> — Arthur Bailey explains the parable taught by Yeshua after sharing 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 parable was

determined by what they did with the talents they had been given. Approx. 1.5 hrs.



Merry Christmas? — Where did Christmas originate? What does the Bible have to say about Christmas and its relationship to the birth of Christ? Is Christmas even in the Bible? Should "Christ" be in Christmas? Is Jesus the reason for the season? How should true believers respond to Christmas? These questions and so many more will be answered in this timeless Christmas message. Approx. 1.5 hrs.



The ReNEWed Covenant — In this teaching Arthur Bailey gives a clear, eye-opening, biblical explanation of what the New Covenant is and with whom it is made. He explains how Jews and Gentiles enter into this covenant and what it means for believers today. You will understand why it is called The ReNEWed Covenant and the significant power that is released within the lives of all who embrace the ReNEWed Covenant. This teaching will change your

life forever! Approximately 1.5 hrs.



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. 4-DVDs. Approx. 5.5 hrs.



**True Biblical Prosperity** — In this teaching Arthur Bailey will address: What is prosperity? Is prosperity biblical? 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 to help you understand why YeHoVaH wants his

people to be prosperous and to know what True Biblical Prosperity looks like! 4 DVDs. Approx. 5.5 hrs.



You Must Be Born Again — 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 context in which it was originally written. Approx.2.5 hrs. in a 2-DVD set.



The Love of God — Paul wrote in the Book of Romans, "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet 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 our 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. 4-DVDs. Approx. 5.5 hrs.



The Fall Feasts Of YeHoVaH — The Fall Feasts of YeHoVaH is a 6-DVD set with over 6.5 hours of teaching. This series includes teachings on the Feast of Trumpets/Yom Teruah, Day of Atonement/Yom Kippur, the 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 to understand how to celebrate these amazing days in a way that pleases Almighty YeHoVaH.



Now Concerning Spiritual Gifts — This is a 6-DVD set with over 6.5 hours of teaching. Many 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 the days of the Corinthian assembly whom Paul wrote to correct — thus the controversy! In this series, Arthur Bailey takes the mystery out of manifesting spiritual gifts and empowering believers.



The New Covenant — When did the New Covenant begin? Arthur Bailey 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 among believers. Arthur Bailey is a Spirit-filled, New Covenant minister who boldly teaches the Hebrew Roots of the Christian faith. He

removes the confusion from covenants that are as important today as long ago. Two episodes.



Keeping Torah Living Spirit Filled — Join Arthur Bailey as he journeys inside the first Jerusalem Council to explore how early leaders through the Ruach Ha Kodesh dealt with false teachings circulating among believers and incorporated 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 hrs.



<u>The Baptism of the Holy Spirit</u> — 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.



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 always instructive journey through his ministry spanning more than three decades. He generously shares his lifechanging 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 Christian 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 Torah-obedience and in Yeshua Messiah. About 1.5 hours of teaching.



<u>And The Heavens Were Opened</u> — An in-depth, inspiring journey through the feasts of Shavuot, Yom Teruah and Hanukkah. Reveals the importance of these biblical events for today's Spirit-filled believer in Yeshua. Learn about operating in the gifts of the Holy Spirit, the works of Yeshua Messiah and the rededication of the second temple at Hanukkah. 3-DVDs.

About 4.5 hours of teaching.



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 on 2 DVDs.



What Do We Do With Those Gentiles? — Discover 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 circulating among 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.



Messianic 101: "The Essentials" — Today there is as much confusion about being "Messianic" as there is of 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 to the family of YeHoVaH, it is vitally important that they get started on the path the right way. In this very important teaching series, 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. The first in a series of teachings. Follow up with *Messianic 201* and *Messianic 301*.



Messianic 201: "Adding to your Faith" — This is the second in a series of three introductory teachings. Messianic 201 picks up where Messianic 101 "The Essentials" leaves off. In this teaching you will learn the crucial elements that should be added to the believers' faith to keep from falling. This teaching is a must-have for anyone desiring to build their faith in Messiah Yeshua. About 2.5

hours of teaching in a 2-DVD set. Follow up with Messianic 301 "Perfecting Your Faith."



<u>Messianic 301: "Perfecting Your Faith – Maturing in Messiah"</u> — Today there is as much confusion about being "Messianic" as there is on certain issues across denominational Christianity. In *Messianic 301: "Perfecting Your Faith – Maturing in Messiah,"* the teaching continues where *Messianic 201: "Adding to your Faith"* left off. This is the third installment of this phenomenal series which deals with perfecting the faith that we have been given. The series provides essential tools for

maturing your faith in Messiah Yeshua. Over 5 hours of teaching on 4 DVDs.

## **A Fine Selection of Resources**

Check out our comprehensive collection of books, book/DVD combos, study tools, gifts and other teachings. There is something for everyone. Makes terrific gifts as well as study programs and witnessing tools for individuals or church ministries! Here is just a sampling of our books and educational materials:

Feast of Firstfruits	How To Hear God's Voice	It's Not Finished	Maximizing Your Talents
Sunday Is Not The Sabbath? (English)*	To Tithe Or NOT To Tithe	The Feast Of Pentecost	What About Grace?

# Discipleship Training & Leadership Development Programs

Enroll now in our FREE Discipleship Training and Leadership Development programs! These are the only Messianic Hebrew Roots of the faith programs like them on the planet! Learn more about the true history of the faith once delivered to the saints as you prepare for ministry and leadership services of any kind. The *Discipleship Training program* is our 105-class, 2-year accredited, Seminary-level program. Our 27-class *Leadership Development* course is useful for both ministry and personal enrichment. For all believers today, no matter where you are in your spiritual walk. All courses are available online and workbooks are available through our online store. Visit us today at:

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