

False Teachers and Those That Follow Them

Disclaimer

This Teaching may cause an offense to some religious leaders and individuals who consider themselves a part of the Body of Messiah. Before you harden your heart, or stiffen your neck, listen carefully as I expose the deception of men responsible for teaching the Word of YeHoVaH. This message is intended for the religious leaders and those who follow them.

Key Passage

John 3:1-10

¹There was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews:

²The same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him.

³Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

⁴Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born?

⁵Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

⁶That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

⁷Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.

⁸The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit.

⁹Nicodemus answered and said unto him, How can these things be?

¹⁰Jesus answered and said unto him, Art thou a master of Israel, and knowest not these things?

What is a Pharisee?

A Pharisee (Pharisaios) is a separatist that is exclusively religious. The Pharisees hold firmly to the ancient **traditions** and continue to pursue in an argumentative spirit a close investigation into the things that are clean and unclean according to the law. Pharisees believe in a resurrection of the flesh and hell as an everlasting punishment for the wicked.

Who was Nicodemus?

- Nicodemus was part of the Jewish governing body known as the Sanhedrin. The Sanhedrin was the Jewish council of Elders. He possibly came by night in order to not be seen by his peers or to communicate with Yeshua in private.
- If Nicodemus admits to Yeshua of being a teacher that comes from YeHoVaH, where do the other teachers in Israel come from?

Master is "didaskalos" G1320 an instructor or teacher. Yeshua questions Nicodemus as to how he can be a teacher of the Scriptures but not know a key concept (being born again) contained therein.

Seminary aka "Religion College"

A lot of religious leaders attend seminary education before starting a ministry. As a seminarian, the courses one takes include Biblical studies, church history, language studies, homiletics (preaching sermons), pastoral counseling, and ministry leadership.

- Christians have a nebulous perception that a seminary degree is a license for Pastoral Ministry. It's not! YeHoVaH ordains His Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors, and Teachers and they are holy. (See *Ephesians 4:11-15*). Too many have taken upon a self-calling to Ministry.
- In religion we have a lot of "monkey see" - "monkey do". Religious leaders often copy what they have seen from other religious leaders whom they respect. The respect of persons prevents most leaders from questioning their practices and standing with YeHoVaH.
- I undoubtedly believe there are many with a love for YeHoVaH and His Kingdom; they intend to teach and/or preach the Gospel. However, according to John 14:15, "If you love me, keep my commandments."

If you say you love God, but keep not His Commandments, YOU ARE A LIAR!

Let's just see what Yeshua has to say regarding the teaching at hand.

Matthew 18:6 (NASB)

⁶ But whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to sin, it is better for him that a heavy millstone be hung around his neck, and that he be drowned in the depths of the sea.

Matthew 16:6

⁶ Then Jesus said unto them, Take heed and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees.

Do not think like the Disciples that Yeshua was talking about bread. The Disciples thought Yeshua was regarding the fact that they had forgotten to bring bread with them as they journeyed to the other side of the coast of Magdala.

Matthew 16:11-12

¹¹ How is it that ye do not understand that I spake it not to you concerning bread, that ye should beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees?

¹² Then understood they how that he bade them not beware of the leaven of bread, but of the doctrine of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees.

Doctrine – G1322 – διδασχῆ - didachē (pronounced did-akh-ay') instruction (the act or the matter): - doctrine hath been taught. KJV Usage: doctrine (29x), has been taught (1x). Occurs 30x.

Luke 12:1

¹ In the mean time, when there were gathered together an innumerable multitude of people, insomuch that they trode one upon another, he began to say unto his disciples first of all, Beware ye of the leaven of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy.

Hypocrisy – G5272 - ὑπόκρισις – hupokrisis (pronounced hoop-ok'-ree-sis) acting under a feigned part; that is (figuratively) deceit (hypocrisy):-condemnation dissimulation hypocrisy. KJV Usage: hypocrisy (5x), dissimulation (1x), condemnation (1x). Occurs 7x.

- The religious leaders are deceiving many by telling them that they do not have to keep the Law. Their hypocrisy is in their claim to be holy and love YeHoVaH all the while disobeying His Commandments and encouraging others to do so as well.

Ephesians 5:6

⁶Let no man deceive you with vain words: for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience.

Yeshua calls out the Pharisees' and Scribes' hypocrisy in Mark 7 when confronted with the fact that His Disciples did not follow the tradition of the elders.

Mark 7:5-9

⁵Then the Pharisees and scribes asked him, Why walk not thy disciples according to the tradition of the elders, but eat bread with unwashen hands?

⁶He answered and said unto them, Well hath Esaias prophesied of you hypocrites, as it is written, This people honoureth me with their lips, but their heart is far from me.

⁷Howbeit in vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.

⁸For laying aside the commandment of God, ye hold the tradition of men, as the washing of pots and cups: and many other such like things ye do.

⁹And he said unto them, Full well ye reject the commandment of God, that ye may keep your own tradition.

These same leaders teach their followers that the Law has been done away with and assume that grace alone covers them.

Matthew 5:17-18

¹⁷Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil.

¹⁸For 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.

Grace – G5485- charis (pronounced khar'-ece) – graciousness (as gratifying), of manner or act (abstract or concrete; literal, figurative or spiritual; especially the divine influence upon the heart, and its reflection in the life; including gratitude):—acceptable, benefit, favour, gift, grace(-ious), joy, liberality, pleasure, thank(-s, -worthy).

Question?

Without obeying YeHoVaH's Laws and Commandments, how does one expect to obtain the "favour" of YeHoVaH?

Romans 6:1-2

¹What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound?

²God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?

Ephesians 4:11-14

¹¹And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;

¹²For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

¹³Till 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 stature of the fulness of Christ:

¹⁴That 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;

You may be asking yourself ... what about the false prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers?

Matthew 15:13-14

¹³ But he answered and said, Every plant, which my heavenly Father hath not planted, shall be rooted up.

¹⁴ Let them alone: they be blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch.

Remember the parable of the wheat and tares of Matthew 13 where they both grew together until harvest time?

The tares were gathered to be burned and the wheat was gathered into the barn (the Kingdom).

Today, the Body of Messiah appears to have more tares than actual wheat.

As humans with a sinful nature, very few individuals actually die to self and live for YeHoVaH.

Personal pleasures and desires seemingly take precedent over YeHoVaH to the point that truth is disregarded and soothing messages, if any, are taught regarding the consequences of sin.

2 Timothy 4:3-4

³ For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;

⁴ And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.

Psalm 50:16-17

¹⁶ But unto the wicked God saith, What hast thou to do to declare my statutes, or that thou shouldest take my covenant in thy mouth?

¹⁷ Seeing thou **hatest instruction**, and castest my words behind thee.

As members of the Body of Messiah, we are personally commissioned to teach all nations and create Disciples by teaching what Yeshua taught.

Matthew 28:19-20

¹⁹ Go ye therefore, and teach ((NIV) make disciples of) all nations , baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

²⁰ Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

The problem is, Believers have entrusted their understanding of the Word to religious leaders who continuously spoon feed them religious doctrine and stifle their development in Messiah.

Hebrew 5:12-14

¹² For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat.

¹³ For every one that useth milk is unskilful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe.

¹⁴ But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.

In ministering for YeHoVaH, we must be sure that we **minister in truth according to His Word**.

How do we do that?

2 Timothy 2:15 ¹⁵ Study and show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

The word “study” could also be translated as “be diligent.” One way to do so is to make sure we handle the Scriptures correctly.

As a Believer, one might ask, how do you know if you are being exposed to the truth or the religious traditions of men?

Whatever is being taught, at the very least, should be found within Scripture.

Contrary to belief, Yeshua did not establish a new Commandment. He reiterated the Commandments given by Father that are found in the Torah.

A key indicator that your teacher may not be in alignment with the Word is the fact that he or she refrains from teaching from the Old Testament, specifically Torah, and their actions oppose YeHoVaH's Commandments, even though they confess Father and His Son with their lips.

Pray and sincerely ask Father to help you discern His Word and to keep you from being deceived by the traditions of men.

It is wonderful to have a true teacher of YeHoVaH to provide instruction. However, the beautiful thing about Father is, if none are available, He has made it so that we need no man to teach us.

The Holy Spirit will guide you.

1 John 2:27

²⁷ But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him.

Lastly, to fellow ministers and teachers, to refrain from hypocrisy, I must admit my own past errors in information I delivered to others before coming into the truth. This is why it is necessary to thoroughly search out the Scriptures; and if by chance you unintentionally distributed false information, you should make an attempt to correct it and also be humble enough to admit it.