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# Arthur Bailey



### The 1<sup>st</sup>,

### 2<sup>nd</sup> and

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Tithe

#### **Arthur Bailey**

Taking The True Gospel Of The Kingdom To The Whole World

Arthur Bailey Ministries International Restoring the Hebrew Roots to the Christian and Jewish Faiths

#### The 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tithe

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Words in brackets [] are typically added for clarification by the editor and publisher.

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#### The 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tithe

#### **Reflection Led to Correction**

I was extremely encouraged yesterday. When I left here, I knew I was on a mission for today. As the teaching went forth, there was a conviction in my spirit, and that conviction was based on the concluding portion of the teaching yesterday.

We talked about **Reflection**, we talked about **Correction**, and we talked about **Projection**. In that dialogue, I gave some instructions concerning Reflection, Correction, and Projection, and I received correction. The correction that I received yesterday is what has led to the teaching that I'm going to do today.

I'm stepping way out today. You know, the Bible says there are some who plant, there are others who water, but it's YeHoVaH that gives the increase. There has been some planting, and yesterday there was some more watering that led to the teaching that I am going to do today which stemmed from a question concerning the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tithe.

So, I've been in study mode since yesterday. The teaching we're going to do today is *The 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tithe*. So you all need to get ready. I pray that it comes across the way Father would want it to. I know that I don't have all the answers to all the questions, but I have some answers to some questions.

As I shared yesterday, it's very difficult for me to go forth with a teaching if I don't feel I have an adequate understanding of it. I believe ... actually it is one of those teachings I just continually put off. I've put it off, and put it off, and put it off, and put it off. When the question came yesterday, and the dialogue that came after the question, it was like,

#### "You can't put this off anymore!"

And the reason why I came to that conclusion is because of the content of the teaching itself, which was dealing with projection. We're going to talk about the 1<sup>st</sup>, the 2<sup>nd</sup> and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tithes for the purpose of preparing ourselves for next year's Feasts. In the Projection part, we asked questions, or rather I shared with you some questions.

The conviction that came on me concerns preparing the people that Father has placed under this Ministry. See, if you aren't making preparations for next year's Feasts, then you aren't preparing to celebrate next year's Feasts. If you're not making preparations to come and be with the Brothers and Sisters for the Feasts, then you're not preparing to come. This is not something that can happen at the last minute. You have to start projecting and preparing well in advance. Therefore, for me **it's important that we start the preparation for next year's Feasts today.** 

There's a saying that many in Israel, and many who have joined themselves to Israel say,

"Next year in Jerusalem!"

But the people who started saying "Next year in Jerusalem!" were the people who came up to Jerusalem. The folks who didn't come weren't part of that salutation or that greeting. If we're going to talk about celebrating the Feasts together, then it is important that we start planning now. Which is why I felt compelled to share with you some of the things I'm going to share with you today.

#### Hallelujah!

Well, greetings everybody. Bless you all. Amein.

We are talking about *The 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tithe*. We have several passages that we are going to look at. My goal is to present and then your job is to determine. The Bible says that the Bereans were of noble character because they searched the Scriptures daily, to see if the things that Paul was saying were true. I'm challenging you today, to make sure that you take on that kind of mindset, to **search the Scriptures**.

I'll be the first one to tell you that, this is one of those teachings that I knew that I had to do, but I've been putting it off. One of the things that I've learned in my years of working in nonprofit ministry and being in denominational ministry is that you don't want to tax the people. You don't want to wear the people out.

#### **Running From God**

Brother Roosevelt and I were having some conversation yesterday. We got raw. Cause you know, sometimes based on where we have come from we want to just cut to the chase, come straight down the middle, and talk as men. Of course, being respectful and honorable in the conversation, but really coming straight from the heart.

I admit that as a heathen, when I first came into this thing called church, I already had a problem with preachers. Before I accepted the call of Ministry, I had been running for many, many years. I'm one of those people who ran from God and knew I was running. It wasn't a hind thought; it wasn't a second thought. I knew that I was not going to embrace what He called me to. I have known since I was about eight years old, that what I'm doing today is what I was supposed to be doing. It took me a lot of years to embrace what He called me to do. There were reasons why I ran.

One of the reasons I ran was because I didn't really understand church people. They didn't make sense to me. It didn't make sense to me that people would go to church, hear a sermon, and then go home and do the opposite. That stuff didn't make sense to me. It didn't make sense to me that we would talk about God, and Jesus and the Bible and then do everything other than what God, Jesus and the Bible said to do.

I got the impression that there was really no fear of God. There was the knowledge of God, but He couldn't do anything. Now I got to tell you, I was brought up very religious.

Some of you have heard some of my testimony. I used to sneak and smoke cigarettes when I was away from home and nobody could see me. I would smoke with my friends and we would be walking down the street. For some strange reason, when we passed by a church, I would hide my cigarette. That didn't make sense to me, but that's what I did. For some reason, even though the church was empty, I felt that was God's house. I didn't realize I was hiding from Him. Like I could hide from Him!

See ... people have a tendency to think if they're not in church, God doesn't see them. So for me, church was a place where you went to see Him and when you left, you left Him there. That was His house. He wasn't in my house and some of you all know He wasn't in your house either. People talk about Him but He wasn't there. And when Father called me, I made a conscience decision that I will not be a preacher.

Now I didn't know that when I joined the Navy, that was kind of like what Jonah did. He just got on a ship. And I could recall, out in the middle of the Pacific, no it was the Atlantic Ocean, where I would be on our submarine tender [a depot ship that supplies and supports submarines]. This ship had about 3,500 men. I would go to the deck and just sit for hours staring out over the ocean. For me that was peace; being in that ocean where there were no people and finding a place where there was no one around. It was just me and the ocean. But I didn't realize that in that place, I was looking for something that I didn't have and that was peace.

You see ... the peace that comes from Him, you can't find it anywhere else. You may have moments where you have quietness, but inside there is a raging.

The ocean with the quietness of the water, the sun, flying fish, dolphins and every now and then a whale ... It was like nature being out in the ocean, but actually being in His presence.

When I got discharged from the Navy, I continued to run from Him. The more and the farther I ran from the Almighty, the more of a heathen I became.

Until one day, it was like there's no place else to run. It was then that I embraced the fact that He had called me. But even after I came in, I also realized, like some of us, even though I came in, I hadn't completely surrendered. And part of the problem was preachers.

You see, I had a real problem with preachers. See, having a problem with preachers, and then becoming a preacher meant that I would have problems with me. In that process, Brothers and Sisters, what I had come to realize was when it came down to money and preachers, was that all preachers were in it for the money. So I kind of avoided the issue of money and Tithes. I just wouldn't.

#### The Tithe Is Like Protection Money

I wouldn't give my money. I remember seeing one of those Elliot Ness and Al Capone gangster movies. Father gave me an analogy of protection money. The gangsters would harass the proprietors of businesses for protection. The issue was they weren't protecting them from someone else, they were protecting them from the ones wanting the protection money.

Father spoke to me in a language that I understood. He spoke to me and said,

"You see how the gangsters are harassing the proprietors for protection money?"

In essence, what the people were paying for was protection from the gangsters!

This resonated with me. It's like YeHoVaH said,

"I'm coming to you for some protection money."

The protection money was that which was due Him. When that analogy hit me, I stopped the one dollar Tithe, or just the giving of offerings, and from that moment on I began to really Tithe.

What it showed me is that regardless of whether the preacher might be driving a Lexus, a Mercedes Benz, a Volvo or whatever the case may be, that ain't your business.

"You see the money is not the preacher's money. The money is MY money, and if you want MY protection

### then you're going to have to give up what I've already ordained for you to give."

Now this is how He talks to me, and He may talk to you a different way. But I got it.

I've had an issue with tithing and then fund raising, because it seems like the last 25 years of my life I've spent fundraising. I've been in fundraising mode for a long, long time. I've had a prophecy. Actually I've had several prophecies that I'm going to raise millions and millions of dollars for the Kingdom. When I look back over the life I've lived, and especially since coming into the Kingdom, millions of dollars have been raised for the service of the Kingdom.

I've seen that, and I know that to be a fact. And what I've seen in this short period of time ... We just spent \$1.45 million for a building, cash. I mean that's no small feat folks. It wasn't my doing. It was Him providing the resources. There was a time when we were coming into this Ministry and we didn't even know how we were going to pay the rent. Then He brought cameras, equipment, and all that kind of stuff. Father's just been really blessing us.

#### How to Help People

About a year and a half ago the issue of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tithe came up. And I didn't know about the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tithe. I'll just tell you that my understanding of tithing came from Crown Ministries and places like that. You pay God and you pay yourself, I didn't know that was the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tithe.

That's not how it was presented to me. You set aside 10 percent for God, you set aside 10 percent for yourself, and then you give to charity. That was the Christian's way of addressing the issue of <u>The 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tithe</u>. It wasn't until about a year ago that it really began to resonate that there is something to it and that I needed to search it out. I kept saying, "One of these days I'm going to teach on it. One of these days..."

#### It's one of these days, and today is that day.

So we're going to get into it. About three or four months ago I began to think about what are we doing to help widows? I started looking. This is something I've been doing privately, and secretly. What my wife and I have done privately and secretly is we've handed out little somethings here and there. A lot of what we've done, we've done secretly, and not made an issue out of it. We still won't make an issue out of it because I believe what the Word says: That what you do in secret, He will reward you openly. So it's not about drawing attention to what we do.

I began to look at ways as a congregation we could be able to help the widows, the orphans, and the poor. I was looking at ministries. At one point I was giving to certain types of ministries. Then I realized they weren't teaching Yeshua; they were teaching Judaism. So I stopped giving there and started looking for other avenues. I would give offerings here and there and that kind of thing. Then, I purposely began to set aside resources for that purpose.

The second thing was when we came up with the disaster relief fund and were really trying to help people who were struggling. This all goes back to when I was searching out Paul and how Paul was going around collecting for the Saints because of the famine that had hit Jerusalem. So I'm looking for ways we can be an authentic Ministry and literally do what the Bible teaches. That means that somehow, we have to figure out how to help people. Not just help ourselves, but we also have to take the responsibility of what that means so that we can effectively help people. Not just throw money at problems.

For years we threw money at problems in our attempt to help a situation. This is what I realized, **you can't help a person unless you give them His truth, and they're willing to walk in His truth**. Otherwise you will be married to a problem in perpetuity. I realized when I was going through counseling in Bible College that many people who came for counseling ended up in a lifelong relationship with their counselor. I wasn't looking to become a counselor for life.

If people aren't willing to apply what the Almighty gives them, they will always be in a situation where they are going to need help. Oftentimes, the best way to help people is to get down into their situation and see where the problem really is. Then, address the foundation and the root of the problem. Now, the person can apply the remedy to solve the problem. Then, walk out that solution from that point on. Therefore, they don't need me in their business any more.

#### Father's Creation

Well how many of you know that from the very beginning, Father is more concerned about His Creation than any of us? He made provisions for the animals. He made provisions for the sparrows, for the crickets, and even for the worms. The maggots have a job. Everything He created, He created for a purpose. The moment the purpose of the thing that was created is distorted; things go into a problematic state. It's going to be a problem till He intervenes, or somebody under His tutelage, intervenes and resolves that issue.

You see, part of the problem that many of us have today is that we grew up in families that weren't about Father's business. They may have been about denominational business. They may have been about religious business. They may have been about church business, but you can't be about Father's business ignoring His Commandments.

You see, He's already set things in order. He's not going to go back and readjust the Moon or readjust the way the Sun functions or the planetary movements of all of His Creation. That's already done.

And He didn't make something clean to come along later and say,

"You know I think I made a mistake. I should make that clean now so that the people that want to disobey Me can eat it." The swine will always be a swine, the catfish will always be a catfish, and the crab will always be a crab. They all have a purpose. You see, when you take all the crabs, the catfish, the shrimps, and the mollusks out of the water, then the eco system of the water gets contaminated. And that which is clean becomes, what do you call it? It becomes contaminated.

So now the fish have too much mercury or something else that it is not supposed to have. Because the things that are designed to keep the water clean, for the fish that are clean to stay clean, are being eaten.

People are eating the unclean stuff that Father designed to keep things clean. Those things, that are supposed to be kept clean by the unclean stuff, when you remove the unclean things, how are the clean things going to stay clean? So now everything gets contaminated.

Father made provisions for the fish, the creepy crawly things, and He made provisions for His people. He made provisions for the poor, the widow, and the orphans. (Leviticus 27:30)

#### The 1<sup>st</sup> Tithe

We're going to talk about The 1<sup>st</sup> Tithe, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tithe and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tithe; and then we're going to talk about gleaning. First, we're going to talk about the 1<sup>st</sup> Tithe, Leviticus 27:30.

Brother Wade came here and started something. He didn't know he was watering the seeds that had already been planted. Father says,

"Okay. How long are you going to ignore this teaching?"

And when I got home last night, after teaching the message about **Reflection**, **Correction**, **and Projection**, I was thinking,

"Okay, I'll put this teaching off till the first of the year."

But, the people won't be prepared for Passover if I do that! There are those who will take this and run with it and those who won't, then that's totally up to them.

**Leviticus 27:30** And all the tithe of the land whether of the seed of the land, or of the fruit of the tree...

Is whose? Whose? Does that ever change?

You see, the thing about YeHoVaH is that **He can take what's His and give it wherever He pleases**. He can. Now this is important because there are people today who say,

"The tithe belongs to Levi."

That's what they say. And the fact of the matter is that the tithe never belonged to Levi. It always belonged to

**YeHoVaH.** And that's an important piece. That's probably the most important piece in this whole 1<sup>st</sup> Tithe issue.

**Leviticus 27:30** ... the land whether of the seed of the land or of the fruit of the tree is YeHoVaH's.

It is holy unto YeHoVaH.

**Leviticus 27:31** And if a man will at all redeem aught of his tithes, he shall add thereto the fifth part thereof.

**Leviticus 27:32** And concerning the tithe of the herd, or of the flock, even of whatsoever passeth under the rod, the tenth shall be holy unto...

Who?

Leviticus 27: 32 ... YeHoVaH.

Now I'm going to tell you something about this fifth part and I'm going to tell you a little about why I don't get involved in people's tithe. You see your tithe is not between you and me. It's not. Whether you tithe or not is totally up to you. Nobody can make you do it.

You know there are people who think they're slick. They ball up their little money, put their hand in the basket, and drop it, so people can't see them. Now, that may be one way that people give secretly. I don't know.

Others put it in an envelope and don't put their name on it; maybe that's secretly. I don't know. But the fact of the matter is nobody in this room knows whether you're tithing, but you and Him. Did you get this? I don't know. I don't know how much money you make. It's not my business. How much money you make is none of my business, and I have no problem telling you that. Because, it's not. And whether you're giving a tenth off the gross or a tenth off the net, I have no clue. And truthfully, it's not my business. Why? Because it's not my tithe. **Tithing is between you and Him.** 

Now how do the Levites or anybody else know if a person redeemed part of their tithe? You wouldn't know. Would they? But YeHoVaH does. And whether a person adds the fifth part thereof, who would know that? Nobody else.

See, the point is that the tithe will always be between you and the Almighty. And whatever reason you have for doing it or whatever reason you have for not doing it, that too is between you and Him. Isn't that right?

I try to stay out of it. I don't try to count other people's money. I'm not trying to get into your pocket. What Father has for me, He knows how to get it to me. What He has for you, He knows how to get it to you because He's already made the provision. The only thing that hinders the provisions of the Father from getting to you ... is you.

**Leviticus 27:32** ... concerning the tithe of the herd of the flock even whatsoever passeth under the rod the tenth shall be holy unto YeHoVaH.

Leviticus 27:33 He shall not search whether it be good or bad, neither shall he change it at all, and if he

change it at all, then both it and the change thereof shall be holy, it shall not be redeemed.

How would the Priests or the Levites or anybody else know that the animal that the person presented as a tithe was changed? They wouldn't know. Right? Who would know?

**Leviticus 27:34** These are the commandments which YeHoVaH commanded Moses for the children of Israel in Mount Sinai.

So that's the 1<sup>st</sup> Tithe. This Tithe is holy and who does it belong to? It belongs to YeHoVaH. This Tithe consists of all the tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land, or the fruit of the tree, the herd or of the flock. It is not to be eaten by you or your family, why? Because, it's Holy. It's not given to the stranger, you don't give it to the widow, you don't give it to the fatherless, or anyone else. It is holy unto YeHoVaH. The 1<sup>st</sup> Tithe. The Bible teaches: all the tithe of the land. This is every year.

#### The 2<sup>nd</sup> Tithe

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Tithe is a tithe that's done every year.

**Deuteronomy 14:22** Thou shalt truly tithe all the increase of thy seed, that the field bringeth forth year by year.

**Deuteronomy 14:23** And thou shalt eat before YeHoVaH your Elohim...

Now in this passage, it seems like now you eat the Tithe. Or is this the same Tithe?

**Deuteronomy 14:23** ...you are to eat it in the place which He shall choose to place His name there, the tithe of thy corn, of thy wine, and of thine oil, and the firstlings of thy herds and of thy flocks, that thou may learn to fear YeHoVaH thy Elohim always.

And so Deuteronomy 14 says that this particular tithe you're going to eat it in a certain place. The tithe that is holy you don't eat it, you don't give it to the widow, you don't give it to the stranger, you don't give it to the fatherless, you and your children don't eat it, but this one is different. Not only do you eat it, but you can only eat it in a certain place.

Now, this is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tithe.

**Deuteronomy 14:24** And if the way be too long for you, so that thou art not able to carry it, or if the place be too far from thee, which YeHoVaH thy Elohim shall choose to set His name there, when YeHoVaH thy Elohim has blessed thee,

**Deuteronomy 14:25** Then thou shalt turn it into money in thine hand, and shalt go unto the place which YeHoVaH thy Elohim shall choose.

**Deuteronomy 14:26** And thou shalt bestow that money for whatsoever thy soul lusteth after, for oxen, or for sheep, or for wine, or for strong drink, or for whatsoever thy soul desireth; and thou shalt eat there before YeHoVaH thy Elohim, and thou shalt rejoice, thou, and thine household,

And so this particular Tithe, which is a **2<sup>nd</sup> Tithe is a Tithe that is set aside for you**. Now this Tithe is not holy. It doesn't say that this is a holy Tithe and it does not say that this Tithe belongs to YeHoVaH.

**Deuteronomy 14:27** And the Levite that is within thy gates, thou shalt not forsake him...

Now He's saying something here. The Almighty has taken the responsibility here for the Children of Israel and He's taken the responsibility for the Levites.

**Deuteronomy 14:27** ...for he hath no part or inheritance with thee.

There's no part or inheritance. Not all of the tribes received an inheritance, which was land. So there was tribal land. **The Levites didn't receive tribal land**. They didn't receive land that they can call the land of the Levites. But **they were given cities within tribal lands**. They just didn't have an allotment of the land of Levi like the land of Judah or the land of Benjamin or the land of Ephraim, or the land of Manasseh and on and on with the other tribes. This is what He's saying. So this 2<sup>nd</sup> Tithe is to be eaten by you and your household, where? At the Feasts. You see when YeHoVaH gave His children these instructions, He expected them to obey them. The goal was that every one of the Torah observant Believers were going to go up to the Feasts, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tithe was their provision.

#### The 3<sup>rd</sup> Year Tithe

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Tithe is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Year and 6<sup>th</sup> Year Tithes.

**Deuteronomy 14:28** At the end of three years thou shalt bring forth all the tithe of thine increase the same year, and shalt lay it up within thy gates:

**Deuteronomy 14:29** And the Levite, (because he hath no part nor inheritance with thee,) and the stranger, and the fatherless, and the widow, which are within thy gates, shall come and shall eat and be satisfied, that YeHoVaH thy Elohim may bless thee in all the work of thine hand which thou doest.

Now here, there is an Instruction. Remember the 1<sup>st</sup> Tithe, we haven't yet been told what to do with that. But we have been told that this Tithe is what? **Holy**. So because it's holy, it belongs to who? **YeHoVaH**.

It is not to be eaten, but He hasn't given the Instruction as to what to do with that yet, but He made it clear who it belongs to.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Tithe was to be used to go up to the place where His name was put and if the place was too far, if there were animals or produce, fruit, whatever the case they could now sell it. No redemption necessary, and when they get to the place where He puts His name they can now exchange it and buy whatever they wanted and they could eat it.

This 3<sup>rd</sup> Tithe is in the third year and the sixth year. Or every three years. Which really is in a cycle of seven. A seven year cycle because **every seven years the land** 

**would rest**. So there would be the first three years and then there would be the second three years. And this Tithe is at the end of three years.

**Deuteronomy 14:28** ... thou shalt bring forth all the tithe of thine increase the same year and shalt lay it up ...

Where?

Deuteronomy 14:28 ... within thy gates.

So this tithe doesn't go up to Jerusalem or up to the place where He's placed His name. This tithe is to be gathered and laid up.

**Deuteronomy 14:28** ... within thy gates.

**Deuteronomy 14:29** And the Levite, (because he hath no part nor inheritance with thee,) and the stranger, and the fatherless, and the widow, which are within thy gates, shall come and eat and be satisfied, that YeHoVaH thy Elohim may bless thee in all the work of thine hand which thou doest.

#### **Differentiating the Tithes**

Now the way this seems to be presented is, the 1<sup>st</sup> Tithe is taken and that it is holy. It's separated from the rest. So when you take a tenth from a hundred what does that leave? Ninety. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Tithe is a tenth from the ninety and is set aside for you to go up to the place. This is done three times a year.

Now if the people operated in obedience to what the Almighty is giving them; then they would have the provisions to go up because the whole purpose of setting this aside is so that they can go up. They can have a good time. They can rejoice. Not only do they have enough, but they can also not neglect the Levite, or whoever they see that may have need. And they are to present something to the Almighty because He says don't come empty.

Now to the poor, that's a whole different ballgame. But we'll deal with that in a moment.

The Levites were paid. You see the Levites had a job and they were paid for their work. Who did they work for? Who paid them? **The people didn't pay them. YeHoVaH paid them. They didn't work for the people. They worked for YeHoVaH.** Because initially the Almighty says, "You're going to take that first born, and you're going to set that first born male aside and that's going to be the one that's going to work in the Tabernacle. Or they're the ones who will be redeemed. The first born are the ones who will be set aside." They are holy unto YeHoVaH. But then He instituted the Levitical system, to where He says,

"No longer will I be requiring the first born; however, you still must redeem the first born. The first born male needs to be redeemed. But the Levites are selected now, and they will do the work."

How do you know this? The Levites were paid by YeHoVaH for the work they did in the Tabernacle and later in the Temple.

Numbers 4 describes the work of the Levites and the Priests. So you can go to Numbers Chapter 4 and you can read it, but we're not getting into that today.

Numbers 18:21 And, behold, I have given ...

Who has given? YeHoVaH.

**Numbers 18:21** ... I have given the children of Levi all the tenth in Israel for an inheritance ...

Why? For their service.

**Numbers 18:21** ... For their service which they serve, even the service of the tabernacle of the congregation.

The word inheritance there is possession, property, a portion, a share.

The word service there is labor, work, labor of servant or slave, labor, service of captives or subjects, service of Elohim. This is service, and this is servile work. You see, while the people could enjoy the Feasts and were commanded not to do servile work, the work of the Temple, and before that the Tabernacle, had to continue. This is why Yeshua could talk about the Priests doing work, working on the Sabbath day and not desecrating the Sabbath.

Because if you have been instructed by the Almighty to work, then you have to do the work. And so the sacrifices were made; the morning and evening sacrifices, the Sabbath sacrifices, and the special sacrifices. Including if a person wanted to make a vow to YeHoVaH, then they would bring that vow. If they wanted to dedicate something unto YeHoVaH, then that would be brought and would be dedicated. If they wanted to make some kind of a special offering, whether it be to the service of the Tabernacle, or to the service of the Temple.

You're going to see that the table of Shewbread, somebody made it. The altar, somebody made it. The candelabra, somebody made it. The utensils, somebody made them. The Scriptures show us that there were skilled craftsmen; people who made the cart for the furniture to travel as they went through the wilderness.

The word, serve ... He says they have no inheritance, but they will present service. They will serve, and that word means they will work. They will labor, do work, and it's used "to serve" 227 times.

**Numbers 18:22** Neither must the children of Israel henceforth come nigh the tabernacle of the congregation, lest they bear sin and die.

So when He made the change, He said

"Listen. At first, I set aside the first born but now the Levites will be the ones who will do the work in the Temple. So don't send your first born into the Tabernacle, otherwise they will die."

When people see in the Bible where the people went up to the Temple, or they went in the Temple, we need to help them to understand that **no they didn't**. They did not go **in** the Temple. They may have gone into the Temple courts, or into the courtyard of the Temple, but **only those who had been designated to go in the Temple or the Tabernacle went in the Temple or the Tabernacle.** Or they what? Bear their sin and died because they have gone into an area that they had not been authorized to go into. And the Priests understood only one went into the Holy of Holies. And that was the designated High Priest. How often? Once a year.

**Numbers 18:23** But the Levites shall do the service of the tabernacle of the congregation, and they shall bear their iniquity: it shall be a statute forever throughout your generations, that among the children of Israel they have no inheritance.

So what's the statute? They will never have an inheritance and they will do the work of the Tabernacle and the Temple.

#### To Tithe or Not to Tithe

**Numbers 18:24** But the tithes of the children of Israel which they offer as a heave offering unto ...

Who?

You see, when you present your offerings, you're presenting your offerings unto YeHoVaH. You need to understand that. It's still Holy.

Now I know that there are folks out there who say,

"You know, we don't have to tithe anymore."

And I don't argue with them. I don't dispute with them. I don't. What I did ... I did a teaching on <u>To Tithe or Not to</u> <u>Tithe</u>. And some people got the book and got revelation. Some people heard the teaching and got revelation. Some people who didn't tithe began to tithe, and some people who didn't tithe, still don't tithe. But that's not my problem. Because what other people do, especially if they have been given the information, it's totally up to them.

My only responsibility is to get the courage to follow the Instructions. To stand before the people and tell them stuff they might not want to hear. Knowing that they might get upset, or that they might get angry. Some of them might try to rush me, but I'm glad I'm a big guy.

Hallelujah!

Some of you all heard about a gentleman that came to service one day and wanted the mic to testify. I'm always glad for a good testimony. When he got the mic, he said, "One day I was coming to the church with my gun to kill that man."

That's what he said, didn't he? Were you there honey? Yeah. She'll shake her head on that. Because I can't get her to shake her head unless you know, she's 100% in agreement.

This is what the guy testified. He came up because his wife had left their church and started coming to our services. They were Seventh-day Adventists and we were Messianic Hebrew. So the wife left the church and it upset the husband. She continued to come and then she started encouraging her mom and her dad and her sister. Now he has to go to church by himself, because it's the Sabbath Day. Right? They are coming to our services on the Sabbath and he's going to the Seventh-day Adventists church on the Sabbath.

So our Ministry created a problem in his house. And he figured the only way to resolve the problem was to eliminate me. Now I'm thankful for the Holy Spirit.

You see, because he testified that he was on his way to the church, that's what he called it, with his gun to take me out, but the Holy Spirit stopped him. Now again, that's his testimony. And it's like,

"Okay. Praise you Father."

HalleluYah!

That's one of those testimonies I can rejoice in for real.

But how many of you know the **Bible says the prophet's responsibility was to teach the people the difference between the holy and the profane**? That was the Priests' and the Prophets' jobs. YeHoVaH sent His Prophets to people to proclaim His word, and they killed them. They killed the prophets. One of them, it says, "between the altar and the holy place."

I mean they were so irate. These jokers went up into the holy place to get somebody. A Priest. And so I know that when we stand here, and we preach the truth ... sometimes, although most people want to hear truth and love it and embrace it, there are those who have their own agenda, and the truth that is being presented to them can be unbearable.

I was reading as I was preparing yesterday's Teaching. I am just realizing that there are people who, when we read about all of these plagues in Revelation that come upon people, instead of repenting, they will get harder in their hearts. They will not accept the fact that these plagues are coming from the Almighty. Even though it is clear that it is coming from Him, and yet they will not repent.

There are some people that no matter how you minister to them, no matter what you preach to them ... This is why Yeshua says,

"Listen you want to waste your time with that? Let Me tell you all, My disciples, when you all go into a town, and you're dealing with **people who won't receive you**, **shake the dust. Don't argue with them.** If they won't receive you and you're coming in My name, it's not you they are rejecting, **they are rejecting Me**." And there are people who are bent on celebrating their Christmases. They are bent on keeping their Easters. They are bent on doing their church stuff. They are bent on doing Sunday, and are probably never going to transition to the Sabbath because they are convinced that we are trying to earn our way to heaven. They are convinced that in grace they are good to go, and they don't have to do anything except wait on Jesus. They are convinced, and I'm not going to try to unconvince them, once I realize that all they've got is an argument.

Do you know what I like? I like that emoji with the face that has the frown and the tears coming down because for some of the people that I used to know and I see some of the stuff they post. I just use that emoji. You know I'm sad for you. You know I'm weeping inside for you. Because I know you know better. How do you know? How do I know? Because, I taught you. I taught you better than that. For you to be going down that path, I know there is no excuse.

Now there's some other people out there who don't know, and they've got an excuse. They can say, "I don't know.", but you can't.

This is the whole purpose of the gospel folks. The gospel message that we're supposed to go forth and share with people is so that they will be without excuse. They can't stand before judgement and say we don't know, if we've been doing our job.

Let me tell you something, the Bible says that if you, as a watchman, don't warn the people, when you see calamity coming, their blood is on your hands. We see calamity coming. We know Messiah's coming. We know He's waiting for the gospel to go to the ends of the Earth before He comes. And who has He given that responsibility to? So if we're not doing our job, we've got a problem.

This is why, I believe, Peter says judgement will begin with us. Before the Almighty will judge the World, He's going to start with us. He says if the righteous, the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the sinner and the ungodly be?

The sinner is in the same category as the ungodly. This is why I reject identifying as a sinner saved by grace.

When a sinner is converted by the Son of righteousness, then that ungodly sinner has now been converted into a righteous man or woman. You don't remain what you were before Messiah. If you remain what you were before Messiah, you can say

"I'm a sinner".

But you say, you've been saved by grace. And you're still a sinner? Where's the conversion?

There should be a conversion. And that conversion, Ezekiel puts it very clear, that **if a righteous man turns to unrighteousness, his righteousness will not be remembered anymore**. But **if an unrighteous person turns to righteousness, their unrighteousness will be remembered no more.** And this is the conversation Messiah was having with Nicodemus. See, when you are born again, you are no longer in the state you were before the born-again process. Now you are becoming the sons and daughters of the Most High, but that's a work on your part. The apostle, prophet, evangelist, pastors, and teachers are to help you in that transformation process.

# Levites Instructed to Tithe

The Levites also had to tithe.

**Numbers 18:26** Thus speak unto the Levites and say unto them, When ye take of the children of Israel the tithes which I have given you ...

He always reminds them where the tithe is coming from. Yes, it's coming from the people, but it belongs to Me. And I'm giving it to you. Just so that you are mindful of Whom it belongs to, you too have to tithe.

> **Numbers 18:26** Thus speak unto the Levites and say unto them When ye take of the children of Israel the tithes which I have given you from them for your inheritance, then ye shall offer up an heave offering of it for YeHoVaH, even a tenth part of the tithe.

> **Numbers 18:27** And this your heave offering shall be reckoned unto you as though it were the corn of the threshing floor and as the fullness of the winepress.

**Numbers 18:28** Thus ye shall offer an heave offering unto YeHoVaH of all your tithes which you receive of the children of Israel; and ye shall give thereof the LORD's heave offering to Aaron the priest.

So it says, I'm giving it to you, but you've got to take a part of it and give as well.

**Numbers 18:29** Out of all your gifts you shall offer every heave offering of YeHoVaH, of all the best thereof, even the hallowed part thereof out of it.

**Numbers 18:30** Therefore thou shalt say unto them, When ye have heaved the best thereof from it, then it shall be counted unto the Levites as the increase of the threshing floor and as the increase of the winepress.

**Numbers 18:31** And ye shall eat it in every place, you shall eat it in every place...

Now Father went as far as instructing who in the household could actually eat it based on their state and condition.

**Numbers 18:32** And you shall bear no sin by reason of it when ye have heaved from the best of it, neither shall ye pollute the holy things of the children of Israel lest ye die.

This was the Instruction to the Priests or the Levites.

# Shemitah

The seventh year, in the calendar cycle is called the Shemitah. We did a teaching on **Shemitah**, which is the seventh year. In the seventh year, Shemitah, there were tithes. You say well wait a minute, doesn't the land rest? Well yes. There was no produce that was to be harvested, but the animals were still having babies, and the tenth part of the animals was still required. Why? Because it was a tithe. So the tithe of the flocks and the herds continued but no produce, for the land is to rest. The land was not to be planted.

**Leviticus 25:1** And YeHoVaH spoke unto Moses in Mount Sinai saying,

**Leviticus 25:2** Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When you come into the land which I give you, then shall the land keep a Sabbath unto YeHoVaH.

**Leviticus 25:3** Six years thou shalt sow thy field, and six years thou shalt prune thy vineyard, and gather in the fruit thereof.

**Leviticus 25:4** But in the seventh year shall be a Sabbath of rest unto the land, a Sabbath for YeHoVaH: thou shalt neither sow thy field, nor prune thy vineyard.

**Leviticus 25:5** That which groweth of its own accord of thy harvest thou shalt not reap,

Now understand that if something was planted in the ground and the harvest took place, because the Almighty

designed everything to bear seed and reproduce, then it would be automatic that if the land was left alone during the harvest time, the seed from some of that which had been planted would fall to the ground. Therefore, it would produce all by itself. And so He says,

**Leviticus 25:5** That which grows of its own accord of thy harvest thou shalt not reap neither gather the grapes,

See the grapes are going to continue to come, the trees and the fruit thereof, the oranges and the tangerines and the apples and the pears they're going to continue to come. But He says, "Don't harvest it."

**Leviticus 25:5** ... neither gather the grapes of thy vine undressed for it is a year of rest unto the land.

**Leviticus 25:6** And the Sabbath of the land shall be meat for you; for thee, and for thy servant, and for thy maid, and for thy hired servant and for thy stranger that sojourneth with thee.

**Leviticus 25:7** And for thy cattle and for the beast that are in thy land shall all the increase thereof be meat.

**Deuteronomy 15:1** At the end of every seven years thou shalt make a release.

Now we went through this last year. And I have purposed in my heart because it's important to me ... We all know that when someone borrows money from us, that creates a place in our heart to where, we want to exact that which we have given out. As if somebody owes us something. And one of the things that can happen in the heart of people is that somebody owes them and then they don't pay.

You ever had people owe you money? They promised to pay you and they didn't pay you? Has it? Did it upset you? Did it bother you? And then you see them out there spending money? You go to the mall and they've got a cart full of stuff. That's troubling isn't it?

And you have to watch it. It's like you'd be wanting to go and take stuff out of the cart, especially if it's paid for. It's like,

"Why are you out here spending all this money? Have you forgotten that you owe me?"

And that can create malice, anger, bitterness, hatred, and unforgiveness in your heart.

And Father said,

"Listen and understand that what you have, you're a steward, it belongs to Me. So here's what I want you to do so that you don't take it personally, like that's your money that you loaned. Because it's not yours, it belongs to Me. And if you'd inquired of Me before you did it, I probably would have told you not to do it. But since you did it anyway, and you didn't ask Me, because I know them, and you knew too. Right?" Now you're all bent up and bound because somebody is spending their money and haven't paid you what they said or promised they would pay."

Father's saying,

"Listen. You can deal with that for six years and I'll allow it, but **in the seventh year, let it go**."

That's the year of release, you let go. He says,

**Deuteronomy 15:2** And this is the manner of the release: Every creditor that lendeth ought unto his neighbor shall release it, he shall not exact it of his neighbor or of his brother, because it is called **the LORD's release**.

Or YeHoVaH's Shemitah.

**Deuteronomy 15:3** Of a foreigner thou mayest exact it again: but that which is thine with thy brother thine hand shall release.

And so what is He saying? A person who is outside of the Covenant, you can hold onto their loan obligation. See, you don't have to release someone who is outside the Covenant. Someone within the Covenant, you don't really have much choice; you have to release them.

# **Obedience Eradicates Poverty**

**Deuteronomy 15:4** Save when there be no poor among you;

Now notice ...

**Deuteronomy 15:3** ... thou mayest exact it again but that which is thine with thy brother, with thy brother thine hand shall release;

**Deuteronomy 15:4** Save when there shall be no poor among you, for the LORD shall greatly bless thee in the land which YeHoVaH thy Elohim giveth thee for an inheritance to possess it.

Now here's something that I kept seeing from different places in Scripture. I had to kind of wrestle with it and I still don't have a conclusion on the matter. And that is, in this place it says:

**Deuteronomy 15:4** Save when there be no poor among you;

It's as if the people came into the land, and they were allotted land. Some poor folks came out of Egypt. Why? Because they were slaves. Some people were fortunate enough to garner silver and gold from their neighbors. But then, they messed around and used the silver and gold to build a calf, which ended up getting ground up, thrown in the water, and they had to drink it. So there goes that wealth. Right? So now they get in the land and there are some challenges. And Father's saying, "Except when there be no poor among you." In other words, He's saying there's going to be a day when there should not be any poor people among you. But this is predicated on people following His Commands. If you obey these commands, you will be a lender and not a borrower. So the only time, if a person is poor after Father has fulfilled His commitment to the people, it's on them. Because He's saying,

"I'm going to provide everything, I'm taking you into a land flowing with milk and honey. Keep My Commandments and guess what? You will prosper beyond your imagination."

And so He says,

**Deuteronomy 15:4** Save when there shall be no poor among you, for YeHoVaH shall greatly bless thee in the land which YeHoVaH thy Elohim giveth thee for an inheritance to possess it.

Deuteronomy 15:5 Only if thou carefully ...

Notice this, only if thou carefully. What if you don't? Then there may be some poor folks in the land.

Now, by the time Yeshua comes along, He says

"Listen. The **poor folks**, you're always going to have."

And what is He saying? He says,

"Listen. Look around you. **These people have been given the Commandments, but they're not keeping them.** If they were keeping the Commandments, they wouldn't be trying to kill Me. And the fact that they are going through the motions, but they're not keeping the Commandments, then the portion of Deuteronomy 28 that was not designed for those who keep the Commandments, but only those who violate the Commandments, they can rest assured that poverty is on its way to their house. That's a promise."

**Deuteronomy 28:2** If you diligently hearken to obey all these commands that I'm giving you then all these blessings will come upon you in abundance.

**Deuteronomy 28:15** If you don't diligently hearken to obey all these commands that I'm giving you today, all these curses will come upon you.

That's just the bottom line. And for the person who says,

"I don't have to keep those Commandments."

but still talks about

"I'm blessed in the city and blessed in the field."

Really? You've heard them.

"Oh, I'm highly favored."

Really?

"Who are you living with?"

"Well, you know, right now I'm living in my Momma's basement."

And you're blessed and highly favored? Stop lying! There's a lot of lying people.

Now you know, when I did the teaching on <u>*True Biblical Prosperity*</u>, we talked about how prosperity looks different to everybody. See, some people are happy simply having enough to live on and they are as content as two fish in a bowl. I mean they're just content. They just swim around in a bowl and stare. They're good.

Some people, because of their desires ... Now I know people who like horses. Now, first of all, if a person wants horses, they can't live in the city limits. So based on their own wants, this is going to affect where they look for property. They also know that for every horse they need a certain amount of acreage. They know this.

So depending on how many horses they want, they're going to look for property that has acreage. Well, with that property comes acreage tax. Property tax. With that acreage and those horses come feed and straw, or hay because you've got to take care of them. So that person's prosperity is going to look different than a person who wants a house on the corner with a picket fence. You might be able to get a dog in there. But you certainly won't have horses, chickens, geese, and ducks. Right? You won't have cows, because you won't have a barn to milk the cow.

So depending on what your idea of what prosperity looks like, that is going to determine where you want to dwell. Because you do not need all that acreage, don't point the finger at the person who has all the acreage. Their prosperity looks a little different than your prosperity. Right?

The Almighty says,

"Listen. I'm going to bless you in the city and in the field. I'm going to bless you. Everything that you put your hand to. I'm going to bless the fruit of your womb."

There are all of these blessings that He has promised. But yet in my generation, by the time I came along, it was like Torah what? What's Torah? I mean, I knew about the Tetragrammaton. I knew that. I didn't know about the Torah. I knew about the Law. I didn't know the Torah and the Law were the same thing. Did you hear what I'm saying?

There's a lot of things that I didn't know, because they didn't teach me. And that which they taught me... Because there was a time, before I decided to run from God, I was in the church all the time. I went to Sunday school every Sunday, without my parents. Church. Bible camp. BTU and VBS. Vacation Bible School, I mean I was all up in that. It was in those places that I saw the hypocrisy. And decided, do you know what? I'm not going to get into that.

But the Almighty has determined that He was going to bless His people, but they had to:

**Deuteronomy 28:15** ...hearken unto the voice of Elohim to observe to do all these commandments which He commanded them this day.

**Deuteronomy 31:10** And Moses commanded them, saying...

### Debt Release at the Feast of Tabernacles

And this is another portion that deals with the seven years, because the release of debt was to take place at the Feast of Tabernacles.

**Deuteronomy 31:10** And Moses commanded them, saying, At the end of every seven years in the solemnity of the year of release, in the Feast of Tabernacles,

So last year, in the Feast of Tabernacles we went through that process. And it was at the conclusion of the year that we let the land rest. So my house, our home and whoever else participated, because of the teaching, we didn't plant a garden and we didn't grow anything. And the fruit that came from the trees, you know, we brought here. And the people took them and enjoyed them. And that was us just trying to do what we read in Scripture.

**Deuteronomy 31:11** When all Israel is come to appear before YeHoVaH thy Elohim in the place which He shall choose, thou shalt read this law before all Israel in their hearing.

So even in the seventh year, when the land was resting, the people were still required to come up to the Feasts. They're required to come up three times a year. Every year.

**Deuteronomy 31:12** Gather the people together, men and women and children...

This goes with something that David taught some time ago. And you know it says, "That all the men are supposed to go up", but here ...

**Deuteronomy 31:12** Gather the people together, men, women, and children and even the stranger that is within thy gates, that they may hear and that they may learn and fear YeHoVaH your Elohim and observe to do all the words of this law:

The stranger, the sojourner, is a person who has decided to dwell with the people. Now it was these people that folks decided they would come up with some kind of means where they could have fellowship. And I wonder if that whole Noahide law was something that was developed for a person who didn't make a conversion, but who would dwell in the land with the people. They didn't have an inheritance. There were also the aliens, and then of course there was the widow and the fatherless, and this is where gleaning comes in.

# Gleaning

Because the Almighty had within His provision that everybody in the land would be cared for; so additional provisions for the poor, the stranger, the alien, the widow and the fatherless were made.

**Leviticus 19:9** And when ye reap the harvest of your land thou shalt not wholly reap the corners of thy field neither shalt thou gather the gleanings of thy harvest.

**Leviticus 19:10** And thou shalt not glean thy vineyard, neither shalt thou gather every grape of thy vineyard, thou shalt leave them for the poor and the stranger...

This was a Commandment of the Almighty. So when the owner of the land brought in the workers, he had to give them instructions. He had to give them instructions to leave certain portions of the field for the poor, the fatherless, the stranger, and the widow. This is what it says:

**Leviticus 19:9** ... you shall not wholly reap the corners of your field ...

You're going to leave some.

**Leviticus 19:9** ... neither shall you gather the gleanings of your harvest ...

In other words don't go over it a second time.

**Leviticus 19:10** ... thou shalt not glean thy vineyard neither shall thy gather every grape ...

You leave some grapes on the vine. Now I'm going to tell you, this is unheard of in our culture, but it is Father's way of saying,

"I'm concerned about the sparrow. The hairs on your head, I'm concerned about. Don't you think for a moment, I'm not concerned about the people you think are your enemy. So here's what you do, because your enemy is also part of my Creation, pray for them. And if he's hungry, feed him. If he's thirsty, give him something to drink."

You see, the way Father has designed His people is that we are not to take on the customs of the world nor become like the world. We're in it, but we're not to become like it, and **the only thing that separates YeHoVaH's people from the world is His Commandments.** 

Leviticus 19:10 ... I am YeHoVaH your Elohim.

**Leviticus 23:22** And when you reap the harvest of your land, thou shalt not make clean riddance of the corners of thy field when thou reapest, neither shalt thou gather any gleaning of thy harvest: thou shalt leave them unto the poor...

Now here's the thing about the poor, and the stranger, and the fatherless, and the widow; if they wanted to eat, they had to work. He says don't glean, thou shalt leave them. So if they wanted some grapes, they had to go out there and pick them.

Now twice, in the third year and the sixth year, the people were to take a tenth and bring it within the gates of their city and the poor could come and take from it. But during

the rest of the years, if they wanted to eat, they had to go out and glean. They had to go out and work. Which supports the teaching of **if a man doesn't work he doesn't eat**.

**Leviticus 23:22** ...thou shalt leave them unto the poor and the stranger I am YeHoVaH thy Elohim.

**Deuteronomy 24:19** When thou cutest down thy harvest in thine field, and hast forgot a sheaf in the field, thou shalt not go out again to fetch it...

Leave it.

**Deuteronomy 24:19** ...it shall be for the stranger, for the fatherless and for the widow: that YeHoVaH your Elohim may bless thee in all the work of thine hands.

Here's what you didn't see in the land. You didn't see any trespassing signs. Posted: Do Not Enter. That was not permitted. How could the poor get to it?

The people understood the Father allotted us this land, but it's not our land. Because we still have to conduct and behave ourselves in a certain way in His land; otherwise, we're going to see who this land belongs to.

Israel was kicked out of the land because they didn't obey the Instructions of the Father that would allow them to remain in the land. He says,

"Okay. You won't let My land rest. I know how to deal with you. I'll just remove you from the land, so the land can get its rest."

# **Healthy Living**

You know, when I think about that...because during the Feasts we had some conversation. Especially for those of us who are looking at gardening and planting and things of that nature, and we talked about pesticides. We talked about the kinds of things people spray. They spray roundup on their land, and all kinds of other stuff that creates some problems for people. We talked about people who eat produce that is coming from places and it's non-organic. It's dealing with herbicides and pesticides and the potential of being genetically modified.

People are putting these kinds of things in their bodies. And they don't understand how something that has been reengineered or something that has been defected to keep it from getting infected. We're putting the defect and the infected in our Temple. And we even went as far, at least I broached the subject, of individuals who are vegetarians who eat non-organic. It's just ingesting things into our bodies that are just not good.

As long as I have been in this world, I've yet to meet somebody who actually allowed their land to rest for a whole year. You know, that says something to me personally, that there are some things we can't really avoid. The fact of the matter is, unless you go through the process of growing enough of your own, learning how to preserve, and can, and do all of the kinds of things that are required, then it's going to be difficult for us to avoid some of the stuff that's coming at us. The other thing is that science has not caught up with some of the stuff that it has approved to go on the market to be consumed. People don't know the full effect of how some of this stuff is going to affect each of us. We have no clue. If you're eating something that is not real, then it confuses the body. If you're eating stuff that has been genetically engineered in a factory somewhere, with ingredients that you don't have a clue as to what they are, as long as it taste good; then I will say to you, without any offense or without trying to offend you,

# "You don't recognize your body as a Temple."

You see, when you see your body as Holy, like the Almighty sees your body as Holy; and when you see your body as the Temple, like YeHoVaH sees your body as a Temple; when you see the fact that He wants to dwell in you; then you would take the responsibility to make sure that you present something clean for Him to dwell in. But most folks just give lip service.

You see when your body is a Temple, you're going to be careful about what you touch. You're going to be careful about what you come in contact with. It's not that I'm afraid. I'm not afraid. But some of us, if we get around somebody sick, and they're coughing and sneezing, common sense would say,

"You know what? Maybe I don't need to be in that space lest whatever is on them jumps on me."

And then you know, they've probably got some organic tobacco out there. But most people that are buying cigarettes

aren't looking for organic cigarettes. First, they shouldn't be putting them in their body anyway. Only chimneys are supposed to smoke.

### It All Belongs to YeHoVaH

But Father has made it to where when you cut down the field and harvest it, He says,

"I want you, whatever you do, I want you to be mindful. I know, I gave you the field. I know, I gave you the seed. I know, you call that your land, but you need to understand it belongs to Me."

So here's the Instruction, when you go out there to plant, I want you to think about the fatherless, the widow, and the stranger. When you go out there to till and to care for the land, I want you to think about the harvest you're going to bring forth. And then, when you go out there to glean or to harvest, I don't want you to be so money minded that you forget about the vulnerable. I've instructed you to take care of them by simply leaving some food for them to come and eat. And if you see them out there in your field, don't chase them off.

Today, now I remember what I was talking about when I was a child. We used to steal fruit. Now, I know, I'm the only one in this room who probably went in somebody's peach tree and took peaches or went in somebody's apple tree and took apples or...Not alone? Thank you for being honest.

You know I ate up a lot of people's apples and oranges, well apples and peaches and pears. I remember Momma Sis saying

"Boy, get out of my tree",

We'd try to hide from Momma Sis. We would wait until she would leave, and then we would go back into her yard. Her son, Bruce, would say,

"Yeah, she's gone".

Then we'd go back there and eat peaches. We'd have a peach fest.

But I also went places to grab something and I would hear a shot gun. I don't know if they were shooting up in the air, or if they were shooting at me. I just heard the shot and you know what I did?

But that's the mindset of the world that we live in now because they've been disconnected from the Torah. You see, when people are connected to the Torah, they understand that this is not their land. They are simply a landlord. He is the LORD of the land. He says what?

"The Earth is Mine, the fullness thereof and all that dwell therein."

The beauty of YeHoVaH is that He's not selfish. He shares. And He shares with people that don't even like Him. He said,

"Listen. When I send rain, I send it on the just and on the unjust. When the sun shines, it shines on the just and the unjust. I maketh poor and I maketh rich. I created good and I created evil; and everything has its purpose. If you don't want to walk in the good that I've created for you, then I'll send you a little evil and hopefully you'll appreciate the good."

# **Be Compassionate**

# Sometimes He sends stuff our way to help make us appreciative.

Something about a famine. There's something about a drought that makes you see water different.

**Deuteronomy 24:20** When thou beatest thy olive tree thou shalt not go over the boughs again: it shall be for the stranger, for the fatherless, and for the widow.

**Deuteronomy 24:21** When thou gatherest the grapes of thy vineyard, thou shalt not glean it afterward: it shall be for the stranger, for the fatherless and for the widow.

**Deuteronomy 24:22** And thou shalt remember that thou wast a bondman in the land of Egypt: therefore I command thee to do this thing.

Before the Children of Israel went into Egypt, the Father already had a plan. He had a plan before they were even born. He spoke to Abraham hundreds of years earlier and told him what was going to happen. Now, the whole purpose of Egypt was to help them remember where they came from. Because by the time He brought the children out of Egypt, that's all they knew.

They knew nothing beyond bondage. They were in bondage for so long, they had a slave mindset. They never had freedom. Father wanted them to remember how they were treated so that they would never treat people the way that they were treated. When we forget where we come from, we lose our connection.

When you think you deserve...we know what we really deserve, and we need to be mindful of that. And so He says,

"Remember."

**Deuteronomy 24:22** ... remember you were a bondsman in the land of Egypt: therefore I command thee to do this thing.

I want you to show compassion even though people didn't show compassion to you. I want you to be a generous people even though people may have been stingy toward you. **Don't allow how people treated you to shape you and to form you.** 

Don't conform to the image of those who did not treat you well. Don't conform to that. Don't become like that. There's no justification in it. Always remember Whose you are, and Whose image you should always be reflecting. Because if you keep your eyes on Me then no matter what, you're going to project what I'm putting in you. And you're not going to allow what other people do to change who you are. Because your change should come from Me, and Me alone. Do unto others as you will have them do unto you, not the way they do. Don't take revenge, it's Mine. I'll deal with that.

You reflect My Glory. You reflect My Love. And then, when those who do things to you that is not good, I want you to show them kindness. I want you to be nice to them. Folks who are not nice to you, be nice to them. Cause in that manner you're heaping coals, hot coals upon their heads. People know when they're not having your best interest in mind. And without realizing it, it's easy to conform into that. But I'm going to tell you something, it takes work.

# It takes work to become a child of YeHoVaH.

It's a becoming process. He's constantly trying to get us, out of us. This is why from time to time I reflect on where He has brought me from because, I know where He brought me from and I want to always remember.

Why?

# So, I never go back there.

And, the more I focus on Him...I going to tell you something, the more this death process operates, the moment I want to get a big head, or feel good about what I've accomplished, is the moment I need to be humble. And that's where we need to be folks.

# **Tithing Without Crops and Animals**

Everybody in the land was not farmers and/or herdsmen. There were craftsmen who labored, but were not herdsmen or farmers. There were occupations that individuals had that didn't produce a crop, nor did it bring forth animals.

So the question is, "How would they tithe?" If you weren't a farmer or herdsmen. How? Were you not required to tithe? And this is one of those challenges that you know, folks want to say that the tithe is always the produce of the land. The tithe comes from the flock, the herd or the land. Well what if you weren't a farmer? You see that's code for we don't have to tithe.

The other is, well you know there's no Temple. There's no Levites. That's code for we don't have to tithe. Well what about when there was a Temple and there were Levites, but these people weren't farmers and herdsmen? What does that mean? Well that means they didn't have to tithe. Where do you find that at? Well, where do you find that they had to tithe? You see that's one of those questions that I don't have an answer.

All I see are examples. And the first example I see is Abraham. Again, I don't know where Abraham got the instructions to give a tenth of everything. I don't know. I suspect that Jacob got the instructions from Isaac, who got the instructions from Abraham. Who promised YeHoVaH? Jacob. He would give a tenth of all his possessions, if YeHoVaH would take him into the land and bring him back.

So I don't see those instructions. Which is why I can't make a hard argument on certain things. I don't see it. I do see where produce and animals were supposed to be tithed. I don't see where silver and gold. But, here's what I do see, there were craftsmen in the land. They didn't farm and didn't raise herds or flocks. And I have to ask myself, "How did they tithe? Were they required to tithe?"

And again, I don't have that answer from a Scriptural point of view. But, I suspect that the people who received the Instructions, and understood the blessings and the cursings, that were associated with those Instructions, looked for some kind of way to give something. And, I see this in the Kings. I see this in the Chronicles. There were people who gave of their service. They wanted to give; they didn't want to be left out. And that's the beauty, when we understand the Almighty and His desire to bless His people.

How many of you all want to be left out of the blessing? I know I don't. So if I wasn't a farmer and I wasn't a herdsman and I'm reading about the tithe or I'm hearing about the tithe, one of those questions I would probably be asking Moses is,

"Well, what about us? What do we do?"

Now, unfortunately I don't see that question or Moses' response. But I know if I was in that situation, I would be like,

"Well what do I give? Do I take my craft, change it into some money, and go buy some produce so I can give a tithe from that?"

I don't know folks. I don't know. But I know me. I would want to get in on the blessings. Somehow. Someway. And I would definitely be inquiring of Moses or Aaron or YeHoVaH. Somebody tell me something!

So there were Biblical occupations that were practiced. We know that by the time of Yeshua, they were building boats. We know that when Moses brought the Children of Israel, somebody built that candelabra. And when I look at Numbers 4 and some of the other places, I see certain people who are responsible for crafting the furniture of the Temple.

That means that somebody had to go and cut wood. Somebody had to powder gold. Somebody had to begin to layer and do all kinds of things. There were seamstresses and people who are crafted and gifted at making the tunics and linens. And everything that the Priests wore; and everything that the High Priest wore. All those kinds of things. I see that. There are weaving, spinning, and tent making. There are basket weavers and potters. There is a famous story about a potter in Jeremiah's day.

And so, like any person who desires to please YeHoVaH, I would be inquiring to find a way to please Him. So that I can experience the fullness of the blessings, that He desires for His people to have. The furniture in the Temple, they had to build a cart to carry it because after they built it, they had to move it from place to place.

And then there were mandatory offerings, Firstfruits; and of course if you wanted to find out about the redemption of the first born you can read Numbers Chapter 18. Then there were vows. (This was not in accordance with the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> Year Tithe or Firstfruits.) There were freewill offerings. These are things that people gave, based on the Instructions that the Almighty gave to Moses. So people could find a way, and maybe this is one of the ways that people would come. They would give these freewill offerings and they would make these vows unto the Almighty: dedicate a family member, dedicate themselves, a piece of their land, or whatever. There were opportunities for people to give unto the Almighty.

But let me tell you something, a stingy person is not looking for an opportunity to give anything, because all they want to do is take. And YeHoVaH is very clear that He's a giver.

With that I'm going to close.

Father in heaven, I thank You for the opportunity to share this teaching. I pray that You will be glorified in it, in Yeshua's name.

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