



Message 3-24-18
Tzav-Command
Leviticus 6:1-8:36
Malachi 3:4-24
Mattiyahu 14:7-15

Introduction

Jewish tradition holds that the eternal task of the Jewish people is to mold themselves into a nation of priests, a holy people. In doing so, the standards that apply to a priest are essential tools for elevating our own spiritual status as well. What applies to the Jewish people also applies to those who are followers of the Messiah Yeshua and walk in His ways, which was the way of Torah.

Leviticus 6:1-6

1 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, ² "If anyone sins and commits a breach of faith against the LORD by deceiving his neighbor in a matter of deposit or security, or through robbery, or if he has oppressed his neighbor ³ or has found something lost and lied about it, swearing falsely-- in any of all the things that people do and sin thereby-- ⁴ if he has sinned and has realized his guilt and will restore what he took by robbery or what he got by oppression or the deposit that was committed to him or the lost thing that he found ⁵ or anything about which he has sworn falsely, he shall restore it in full and shall add a fifth to it, and give it to him to whom it belongs on the day he realizes his guilt. ⁶ And he shall bring to the priest as his compensation to the LORD a ram without blemish out of the flock, or its equivalent for a guilt offering. (ESV)

With everything that is covered in this passage, to think that the person unknowingly committed these sins, begs to differ with the reality of the situation. It would be advantageous to the person involved in these sins to understand the teachings of Torah. In following Torah, one comes to understand their responsibilities under it. In the situations laid out in this passage, we could understand why someone might not understand what it is they are doing if they have never been exposed to the Torah before now. In our day and age, most are not exposed to the teachings of Torah, not even those who claim to be believers in the Messiah Yeshua. Why? It is because Torah is not taught to the bulk of those who profess to follow the teachings of their Messiah. The difference between right and wrong is built into each one of us as part of who we are. We all have a spark of the *Ruach HaKodesh* planted inside of us. Faith in Messiah Yeshua opens the door to *turning on* the Almighty's Spirit that lives within us helping to teach us about the covenant between man and the Father as mediated for us by the Son, Yeshua.

Luke 18:9 He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and treated others with contempt: ¹⁰ "Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. ¹¹ The Pharisee, standing by himself, prayed thus: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. ¹² I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.' ¹³ But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' ¹⁴ I tell you, this man went down to his house justified, rather than the other. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted." (ESV)

If you desire to follow Torah, you must learn to internalize it and not just do it without understanding what it is you are doing. We all learn things by repetition. The problem is when we do it because of repetition without doing it from our hearts, we are losing the intent the Almighty wanted when He created mankind. Adam and Chavah did not know what it was they had in the garden. They took their lives into their own hands pushing the Creator out. In doing that, they opened the door leading them down a path away from their relationship with the Holy One. It is a path we are all on, and it is incumbent upon us to follow the teachings of our Master, Yeshua, who came to show us the way to reconciliation with the Father.

Malachi 4:4-6 (Tanach 2:22-24)

4:4 "Remember the Torah of my servant Moses, the statutes and rules that I commanded him at Horeb for all Israel. ⁵ "Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the great and awesome day of the LORD comes. ⁶ And he will turn the hearts of fathers to their children and the hearts of children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the land with a decree of utter destruction." (ESV)

The Holy One of Israel did not give the Torah to His people simply to waste His time because He knew they would break the covenant anyway. He gave it to His people because He had placed them in a special position, one that would make them an example for the other nations to follow if they desired to be a part of His covenant people. He gave the Torah so we could see what it means to be part of Israel. Israel is not just for the Jewish people because we have seen in the Bible other people, from other nations, become part of Israel. The sojourner holds a special place in Israel, and we must always learn to make a place for them.

Genesis 23:4 "I am a **sojourner** and foreigner among you; give me property among you for a burying place, that I may bury my dead out of my sight." (ESV)

01616 גֵר {gare} or (fully) גֵרֵי (gare)

Meaning: sojourner, a temporary inhabitant, **a newcomer lacking inherited rights, of foreigners in Israel, though conceded rights**

Though a temporary inhabitant in Israel who lack inherited rights, they have conceded rights, meaning they have been granted certain rights among the native born because Israel itself were sojourners in Egypt, where they had certain rights while Joseph was

alive but later those rights were removed. Now, they were living in their own land and had to fight for what they were given by the Holy One. He never wanted them to forget where they had come from, and they were never to treat anyone else in the same way they had been treated. There is a lesson in this for all of us, in that we are all temporary inhabitants who have been loaned what we have by the one who created us and who redeemed us through His Son Messiah Yeshua.

There is a day coming when the Father sends His Son back to the earth to bring about His kingdom as He had promised from the very beginning. No man or woman are greater than the sum of all their parts because without the Messiah what do you really have? The state of mankind is no different than what it was in the days of Noah when the Almighty decided He had no choice but to destroy all of mankind except for eight people who would repopulate the earth. He cleansed the earth with water only to prepare the way for it to be purified by fire in that day Elijah prepares the way for the coming of the Redeemer – Yeshua.

Mattiyahu 14:7-15

7 that he promised with an oath to give her whatever she asked. ⁸ Prompted by her mother, she said, "Give me here on a platter the head of Yochanan the Immerser." ⁹ The king became deeply upset; but out of regard for the oaths he had sworn before his dinner guests, he ordered that her wish be granted, ¹⁰ and sent and had Yochanan beheaded in prison. ¹¹ The head was brought on a platter to the girl, and she gave it to her mother. ¹² Yochanan's *talmidim* came, took the body, and buried it; then they went and told Yeshua. ¹³ On hearing about this, Yeshua left in a boat to be by himself in the wilderness. But the people learned of it and followed him from the towns by land. ¹⁴ So when he came ashore, he saw a huge crowd; and, filled with compassion for them, he healed those of them who were sick. ¹⁵ As evening approached, the *talmidim* came to him and said, "This is a remote place and it's getting late. Send the crowds away, so that they can go and buy food for themselves in the villages." (CJB)

Yochanan the Immerser was the one who would be Yeshua's Elijah and prepare the people for His coming. That is why when news of Yochanan's death reached Him, Yeshua went to be by Himself because He wanted to ponder what was now coming His way that had always been promised from the beginning.

Matthew 17:10 The *talmidim* asked him, "Then why do the *Torah*-teachers say that Eliyahu must come first?" ¹¹ He answered, "On the one hand, Eliyahu is coming and will restore all things; ¹² on the other hand, I tell you that Eliyahu has come already, and people did not recognize him but did whatever they pleased to him. In the same way, the Son of Man too is about to suffer at their hands." ¹³ Then the *talmidim* understood that he was talking to them about Yochanan the Immerser. (CJB)

Mark 9:11 They also asked him, "Why do the *Torah*-teachers say that Eliyahu has to come first?" ¹² "Eliyahu will indeed come first," he answered, "and he will restore everything. Nevertheless, why is it written in the *Tanakh* that the Son of Man must suffer

much and be rejected? ¹³ There's more to it: I tell you that Eliyahu has come, and they did whatever they pleased to him, just as the *Tanakh* says about him." (CJB)

The passages from Mattiyahu and Mark are confirmation about the words Yeshua spoke in Mattiyahu 14:7-15. The kingdom of the Holy One of Israel had come over two thousand years ago. It had been once again planted on the earth, this time to take hold in the same way Israel has taken hold despite the odds being stacked against them.

Luke 1:17 He will go out ahead of *ADONAI* in the spirit and power of Eliyahu to turn the hearts of fathers to their children and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous, to make ready for *ADONAI* a people prepared." (CJB)

Yochanan the Immerser knew he had a calling from the Holy One. He walked it out in his life and was not "politically correct." He did what the Creator called him to do, and it was his responsibility to prepare the way of the Lord. He gave it everything he had up to and including laying down his life for the Almighty and His Son. He knew Yeshua from the womb and came in the power of Elijah.

John 15:13 Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. (ESV)

I will close with this: ***Torah man says: "To know God's will is life's greatest treasure. To do God's will is life's greatest pleasure."***

Blessings in Messiah Yeshua,

Mordecai Silver

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