PARSHIOT Bemidbar





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May the name of Yahweh be glorified. In Yeshua's name, amein.

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Preface

Some ask what English version I use. I begin with the New King James Version, and change the names to Hebraic forms. When it will help, I display the source texts alongside the English. The Hebrew is from the Hebrew Masoretic Text and the Greek is from Textus Receptus (TRG).

Some ask why I would reference Greek texts when I believe in a Semitic inspiration. I believe the Renewed Covenant was inspired in Hebrew or Aramaic, but I do not see how the two existing Aramaic texts (Peshitto and Peshitta) can be the originals, since there are so many Hellenizations ("Greek-isms"). The Greek texts appear to be older, and are therefore more valuable for textual analysis.

I believe Scripture is the highest and best authority on all matters of doctrine. Rather than list a bunch of footnotes from other authors, I simply try to show what Yahweh's word states, giving only what commentary is needed to show how the verses relate to each other. My hope is that you will focus on Yahweh's words, rather than my own.

If you have suggestions for making this study better, please email us at <u>contact@nazareneisrael.org</u>.

May Yahweh lead us all into His perfect truth.

Norman Willis.

Parasha Bemidbar

Numbers 1:1-4:20; Hosea 2; Luke 16-17

In this parasha we want to take several big steps back so that we can take in the big picture, panorama perspective.

Forgive me for noticing. But I have been with the Hebrew Roots movement and the Ephraimite movement, or the Messianic movement (whatever you want to call it) since 1999. And there are differences between those. But from reading Scripture and from what I see, it kind of seems like the big picture perspective is usually what is missing from Ephraim's half-baked theology, as Yahweh calls it.

Please join us for this parasha. We are going to take some very big steps back and take a big picture perspective like is not normally done in a parasha. But these are the things that are of interest to us if we want to survive the Tribulation. So if that is important to you, then we are going to talk about where we are in the big picture Panorama of things as we enter Bemidbar (or the Book of Numbers). So, please take a moment to pray and then let us talk all about Scripture.

We began this year's parasha series at the start of Shemote (Exodus). And it seemed like the perfect place for us to start and still seems like the perfect place. Because, at least from where I sit, Ephraim does not understand the need yet for organization. Ephraim seems to have no idea of the benefits in being a nation. But for contrast, let us take a look at brother Judah.

Judah does not lack organization. We will talk about the reasons for that some other time. They lack a right

relationship with their Messiah and King. But Judah does not lack organization. So, perhaps we can learn some things from Judah in that sense. Because Judah presently has organization, Judah also has a country! Do you know what I am saying? Let us think about that!

In our studies on <u>Revelation and the End Times</u>, we see that Ephraim is supposed to come back home to the land after Armageddon. And then, after Armageddon, will come the ingathering.

We know that Yahweh is completely in charge, and we are content to let Yahweh do all things by His Spirit. We do not want to do things by our own power and strength as brother Judah is doing. We want to wait for Yahweh's Spirit. So, we are content with His perfect timing, because His timing is always amazing! We just want to know what our job is so that He will be pleased with us, so that we can escape all the things that are coming upon the Earth in these end times.

So, it seemed to us like Shemote was the perfect place to begin this parasha series. Because Shemote records how Yahweh first helped our forefathers become a nation. We discussed this in detail in the <u>Torah</u> <u>Government</u> study. But everything we have seen from Shemote through Devarim (Deuteronomy) really is one great, big nation-building exercise! And in this parasha, we begin to reach the point where the nation is now formed, and they now have their own correct religious services. And so now, Yahweh is getting ready to build armies.

In fact, some people include Joshua in the Torah, with six books in the Torah (instead of five) because Joshua also deals with nation-building and establishing government, as well as the handling of internal disputes (such as in the case of Achan ben Carmi).

It is critical for us in Ephraim to realize this. Not that there have to be six books in the Torah. That is a separate issue. But the point is that Yahweh is bringing us into another season of nation-building, just like we are reading in the Torah. We are reading about how Yahweh brings us out of Egypt and gives us all the things to help us become a successful nation in Him and in His Son.

As we explain in the <u>Torah Government</u> study, to be recognized as a righteous government in a Biblical sense, we have to pass several tests. We have to manifest several righteous features of our righteous government. And among those things is that we have to have *Statutes of Government*. We have to have a *Code* of Law. That is what Elohim gives us.

We also have to have a means of accountability to that law which Scripture gives us. We also have to have a means of resolving disputes, which again, Scripture gives us, for example, in Matthew chapter 18.

Today, in the secular world, we call those means of resolving disputes *courts*. And that is the same thing we called them back in ancient times as well.

We had three different sets of courts for the nation in ancient times. We had Beit Din Gadol (the Big Court) for the nation. And the Beit Din Gadol was kind of like a Supreme Court for the nation.

Then we also have the Beit Din Katan (the Small or the Smaller Court). There was one Beit Din Katan per tribe, usually in the capital city. And it served kind of like how an appellate or a superior court would today in an intermediary level. And then at the base level we also had the congregational Beit Din (the Council of Elders) for the congregation and would have one of these in each town of a certain size. And they would all report to the Beit Din Katan. And the Beit Din Katanim would report to the Beit Din Gadol.

The thing is, we have rules for administering this both in the Tanakh and also in the Brit Chadasha (the New Testament). We just we need to realize that these two are all different facets of the same thing. And when we realize that they are different facets of the same thing and that Elohim still expects these same principles (precepts) to be carried out under the Melchizedekian Order (which is why it is called an order!), then the thing to do is to give total submission to Yeshua and His Spirit. Because then it is Yeshua in the Father and the Father in Him, Yeshua in us and us in Him! And the connection is reestablished.

Then with that, now we can become His hands and His feet doing His will. Now He is pleased with us once we have given Him that total submission.

It is the next level of the same thing our ancestors went through. The point of our ancestors' leaving Egypt was to leave Egypt, its rule, and the selfish Egyptian world system behind. Same thing with Babylon. We are supposed to leave Babylon and its Elite, top-down, selfish system behind. But then the second half of that is that we are supposed to submit to Yahweh's Spirit 100 percent. And in our case, we are supposed to submit to Yeshua's spirit 100 percent. And it is this overcoming and this spiritual transformation that is what is desired. And short of that, we really do not have a place in Yeshua. And if we are not aware of submitting to Yeshua moment by moment, we really have no place in Yeshua. People get all excited for the prophetic studies. And I am a prophecy guy, do not get me wrong. But if you want some meat, spend some time in the Beatitudes and let us see if we actually stack up. I mean, that is some meat right there in the Beatitudes!

What Yeshua wants is for us to submit to Him in His Spirit 100 percent and thus reconnect with the Father through Him. And that is when we are called to be His selfless *Helper Nation*, His Bridal Nation! That is what our forefathers were supposed to do! They were supposed to be glad for leaving Egypt so that they wanted to serve Him and so that they would love to serve Him! That is how we learn to become a set-apart helper bride, His set-apart helper people, a set-apart helper nation unto Him. To sit down and realize this is what Yahweh is saying and this is what we need to do.

And then we see the 99 plus percent that do not want to do it, just like our forefathers did not want to do what they knew how to do. And in like fashion, most of us also did not do what we know we are supposed to be doing.

So, where do we go with all this? It really makes doing the parasha hard. Because we tell the people each week what Scripture says to do. But just like in Scripture, most of Ephraim is not doing it. Most of Ephraim, just like our forefathers, are offering up *partial* obedience in lieu of obedience. And just like our forefathers we think we are doing great!

We are learning. We are resting. We are reading. But we are not helping! Yet we want to be chosen as His helper bride! Right.

So, we thought we need a new approach here. We thought what we would do instead is that we would

address a few who are trying to do everything that Yeshua said. Because that is what Yeshua did.

Yeshua spent the vast majority of His time with the very few (the less than one percent) who wanted to respond and who wanted to give their lives in His service. It is sad. These are people you love. But basically, the majority of us are *hearers and not doers*. So, what can you do? You know? They are on their own. We try to counsel them, we try to tell them what to do, but they do not want to do it. They call us names. They think we are whatever. Okay. They called the Master of the House Beelzebub, how much more His servants?

So we are going to have to make a change. We really cannot take responsibility for anyone who is not a *disciple*. And a disciple is defined as people who are trying to do all to help their Husband get the Kingdom He so richly deserves.

I am not really sure how to say this but what we keep hoping and praying for is that, over time, perhaps the Word keeps going in and slowly (like you talk with your children) maybe, possibly Yeshua's people are going to begin to understand what Elohim is calling all of us to be doing. And only a small percentage, a small, tiny fraction of us are responding. So, we keep teaching every week. But it seems like most of the listeners are missing the whole point of the Parashiot. Because we are supposed to be learning from the mistakes of our forefathers as they came out of Egypt. And again, we are going to see a lot of failures in the wilderness of Paran.

Up until now, Yahweh has brought us out of Egypt. We made a vow. We swore we would do everything. We have not been doing it. He gave us a different kind of a priesthood to accommodate our ignorance, our inabilities to hear, our unwillingness to do. So, then we take a whole year in the Book of Leviticus to set up the new priesthood and set up the Tabernacle. Everything is just right.

Now here we are a year later, and it is time to head out on the road. Yahweh is taking His armies (plural) on the road. So if we can see that, we in the Melchizedekian Order (in Yeshua's priesthood) have a similar kind of a thing to do. We do not have guns and knives or bombs, or anything like that. but still we have a message to deliver. It is a spiritual warfare.

Our forefathers made plenty of mistakes because they did not truly love Yahweh enough to bear fruit. So, can we read Scripture and understand? So that the few of us (the much less than one percent) can avoid making the same mistakes? And thus we and our children can enter the Promised Land? That is my point, that is what I am going for.

Forgive me if I am direct. But most of the Messianic world (people who call themselves Ephraimites, Messianic, whatever), the way they read the parasha is that they just kind of mimic the mistakes of our forefathers. Because as we spoke about before, the Levitical system was given to us in the first place because we could not just hear and obey His voice! Which is what He really wants! The Levitical system was given to us as a trainer to help point us in the right way. So that in case we ever decide to actually love Him with all of our heart, with all of our soul, and with all of our strength, we have a general idea what to do. But it is a *substitute* system.

It was never what He really wanted. And we have all these Messianic taking all this pride in parading their Torah scrolls around the room and kissing the Torah scrolls. And people sitting in a room and everyone taking their turn reading the Torah. And they think they have really done it. They think they are really out running Shaul, you know? So we keep playing these silly little games with our Eternal salvation and we keep putting the branch to Yahweh's nose.

Hear me brothers and sisters. When we say *Torah* obedience and we say I am *Torah* obedient, or I am *Torah* observant, but we are like observing the Torah like bird watchers in the field, right? Okay, no! He wants us to obey the Torah. And when we say we are keeping Torah and all we are really doing is resting and reading on Shabbat. We are doing the easy stuff! We are eating His food! We do not care, it is just Yeshua! But we are keeping Torah!

It is the same message Yahweh says again, and again, and again, and again. The Torah, the prophets, the Brit Chadasha, it is the whole same thing! How can we say that we are His disciples, how can we say that we are obeying Him, and how do we say we are keeping Torah, but then we do not do it?

In Acts chapter 21, Yaakov the Nasi (the president or the prince of the Beit Din Gadol) said to Shaul, "Do you see how many myriads of Jews there are and all are zealous for the Torah?"

Ma'asei (Acts) 21:20

20 And when they heard it, they glorified Yahweh. And they said to him, "You see, brother, how many myriads of Jews there are who have believed, and **they are all zealous for the law**; That is what it took to be a Nazarene in Yaakov's sight. To be zealous to help Yeshua get His kingdom! When we say, "Oh. I am keeping Torah" but we are not helping Yeshua get His kingdom after all Yeshua suffered for us and all the burdens He took upon Himself for us, and we do not think it is worth a spiritual transformation, can we see why Yahweh might take that as a little bit of an insult? Maybe a little bit of a poke in the eye? We all know brothers, sisters who say that we are keeping Torah because of Yeshua's sacrifice, and we accept that sacrifice and then we do not do it... oh, but we continue to pray to Yahweh, and we continue to ask for His favor, and we continue to "Dear Yahweh, this is what I want! Please deliver us from the snakes! Please deliver us from the enemy! Please deliver us from this... please give us a good life! Please give us this! Please give us that! "

We are not helping our Military Commander and King get what He wants. We are not helping Him get His objective. We are not helping Yeshua get His kingdom which is what He came to die for!

He came to die for a bride who loves Him so much that she wants Him to get His kingdom! And then we do not want to do it?

Those few of us who care, the few of us who are laying down our lives, how do we reach the masses of Ephraim when we already know from the prophecies that the vast bulk of them are not going to get it? Because they do not care! They have other priorities than Yeshua. Even though they are dead to the flesh, they have other priorities than Yeshua. Hmm.

The big question is, if we know what we are supposed to do and we know what the Torah is, but we are not doing it, we are not helping Yeshua get His kingdom, how do we expect to please Yeshua? When we are not helping Him to get what He wants?

It is like a kind of a madness! It is like biting the hand that feeds you and then expecting to get fed. It is like telling your commanding officer and chief, "Yeah, yeah. Sure. Yes, I am doing everything you said. Yes King! Yes General! Yes, Sir! I am doing everything you said! But I am not doing, I am doing half. I am doing easy stuff. That is everything, right? That is all, right?"

What happens in a military scenario? And yet this is how we treat the King of the Universe who created us! We need to take another breath? That is not trampling on His favor or grace?

Well brothers, here is the point. How many times can we say it? But Yahweh says it again and again. How can we expect His favor when we are not doing what He asks? Our Boss gives us a list of 600 things to do and we do not, we do half of them. How pleased is our Boss? And it like a kind of a madness on the one hand. We are just like making rude gestures to our Boss, to the King above all Kings, and then we expect to keep getting fed. It is like biting the hand that feeds you in a sense. Sooner or later, Yahweh is going to get tired of having His hand get bit.

And if that was not bad enough, it is so intense that you have to laugh, or you have to cry. But if you are going to laugh then you are sure looking for humor in some new places. Because this is us! This is our ancestors. What we read is what we get! And it is so bad, we even have some of us in Ephraim who claim Yeshua's blood mimicking the ways of the Babylonian rabbis! I get it. When we first leave the church system and we realize that "Surely, our forefathers have inherited only lies, worthlessness and unprofitable things", a lot of us can go through an angry phase where we realize we have been lied to by the church. And so it might make some sense to leave the church and go over and imitate the rabbis. But really, in a sense, it is like leaving the left ditch and then ending up in the right ditch! So, maybe you are in the right ditch. But it is not right to be driving in a ditch!

Yirmeyahu (Jeremiah) 16:19

19 O YAHWEH, my strength and my fortress, My refuge in the day of affliction, The Gentiles shall come to You from the ends of the earth and say, "Surely our fathers have inherited lies, Worthlessness and unprofitable things."

Where is our loyalty? Do we think of ourselves as Ephraimites or do we think of ourselves as Yeshua's disciples? Because those are two different groups. Not all Ephraimites are Yeshua's disciples and not all Yeshua's disciples are Ephraimites. We have some from Brother Judah also. The thing is, Yeshua came to overthrow the corrupt rabbinical order because it was corrupt. They were not doing the things the Torah says to do. They were making up their own rules, just like Ephraim does today. They are making changes to the Torah in *hashem's* name. But what is Ephraim doing? Ephraim is relaxing the Torah.

"Oh, we do not need to do this half. Because we have Yeshua, right? Because just like He ultimately provided for our forefathers in the wilderness and their children entered the land, He will do the same thing for us." What do you write? It is like, No, that is what we keep saying! It is a different deal in these End Times. and it is like 99-point whatever percent of the people are not listening and do not want to hear it. They do not want to get it. And these are the ones that call themselves Ephraimites. We are not even talking about the *church* yet. We will have to talk about the church some other time.

But again, it is looking for humor in new places or else you are back to weeping for our people. Because we just do not get it. Yeshua died to help us get it. It is like we do not care, we do not want to do that, that is too hard.

I have told this story before. But I have one brother who I explained the whole thing to. I explained all the benefits. His wife was jumping up and down in her chair in excitement. And he is like, *"Sounds like a lot of work."* No kidding, that is what it was like with our forefathers leaving Egypt. *"Sure we want to go to a land of milk and honey! Sure we want to be your set-apart bride! Oh, wait.* It is work? Oh, no, no, no. Let us go back to Egypt!"

Can we imagine Yahweh's frustration? "Oh, no! It is work! Oh, yeah. And You sent Your Son to die for us, but that is work."

The point is that Yeshua explicitly warned us to take heed and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and the Sadducees. That means to avoid all the doctrine of the Pharisees and the Sadducees. It means to avoid the false doctrine of the rabbis and the Karaites.

So, what do we in Ephraim do? We watch talk shows where the host has the Pharisees and the Sadducees on their show, and they even advertises their books for sale to help them financially. Because why? Because they are focused on being Ephraim and not on being Nazarene Israelites. Again, those are two different groups. Father willing, if we ever get time, we are going to do *Revelation and the End Times Part Two*. And we are going to talk about what happens to the Ephraimites who are disobedient to Yeshua's rules. And it is a lot like what happened to our forefathers in the wilderness. (For he who has ears let him hear.) Hopefully, Father willing, He will help us stay humble so we can realize we need to be not just hearers of the word but doers also.

Did Yeshua ever have a talk show where He hosted the Pharisees and the Sadducees on His talk show? Or did Shaul? Did Yeshua or Shaul ever tell the people to buy the Pharisees or Sadducees doctrinal works? It is unbelievable how little loyalty the majority of Ephraim shows. And yet they have their talk shows and their other Ministries.

They found a broader easier way, so they are going to follow their broad easier way. And they are going to do maybe half of what Yeshua says to do. And then it is like Scripture says. You can read all about it in the end of Hoshea.

Hoshea is a really good book for Ephraim. The thing is, we have to not just know it, we have to put ourselves in context in the passage. And that is when things really come to life. Because what Yahweh is talking about is the same thing the Spirit talks about in Proverbs. Backslidden people all day long. Are we going to obey? Are we going to respond? Are we going to choose Him? Are we going to choose life? Because times are going to get tough. Whether the Tribulation is coming or not, we are all going to stand in the Judgment. What the book of Hoshea is about (especially the last part) is that there are going to be a whole lot of Ephraimites in the same situation as was there in the wilderness. They are going to be calling out to Yahweh and Yahweh is not going to answer. Yahweh is not going to be there. Because He sent His Son to die for us. And then we are not there for Him, but we expect Him to be there for us. Is Ephraim a bad fiancé or what?

Yeshua never had anything good to say about the rabbinical order. Never! He warned us against the rabbis because it is a Pharisaic spirit. It is a different spirit. I was in Israel for about a year before it just hit me. It is like this is the same spirit that we see today. It is written in the pages of the first century because it is the same spirit! So why does most of Ephraim want to imitate those who are practicing the same false doctrine that our Messiah, King, Husband, and head warned us against?

These are the questions. We asked these year, after year, after year, after year. Okay, well. You know, make your choice. Make your bed. We are going to have to sleep in it. Can we imagine how many times Yahweh has thrown up His hands with Ephraim?

Yeshua's heart was to replace the Pharisees and the Sadducees with something clean. Yeshua treated the Pharisees and Sadducees like they were masqueraders and pretenders. He treated them like the liars that they are, which is what Yochanan Bet (2 John) 7 through 10 is all about!

Yochanan Bet (2 John) 1:7-10

7 For many deceivers have gone out into the world who do not confess Yeshua HaMashiach as coming in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antimashiach. 8 Look to yourselves, that we do not lose those things we worked for, but that we may receive a full reward.

9 Whoever transgresses and does not abide in the doctrine of Messiah does not have Elohim. He who abides in the doctrine of Messiah has both the Father and the Son.

10 If anyone comes to you and does not bring this doctrine, do not receive him into your house nor greet him;

Do we believe Scripture? And with Yochanan Bet, the Pharisees and Sadducees doctrine and behavior, is not that kind of like *sleeping with the enemy*? Is not that kind of like treason? Yochanan Bet verses 7 through 10 exists for a reason. But most of Ephraim, again, is not listening. Because they do not think they need to do that. Because they have a relationship with Yeshua! That is why they do not need to bear fruit! (Oy!)

Basically, we just have to focus on those of us in for discipleship. We just have to focus on the other disciples and call out to the rest of Ephraim. And just know that most of them are not going to respond. Like they say in Israel, *"What to do?"*

Okay. Reset. Take the good, avoid the bad. Move forward knowing that Elohim is going to bless His will. We just need to do His will. And that takes doing. So focusing on the less than one percent in this parasha, we are entering the book of the Bemidbar (Numbers). And what we should see is that we are entering a new phase of the operation, basically in nation-building.

Bemidbar means *in the things* or *in the wilderness*. But we call it Numbers (in English at least) because it starts out with Yahweh commanding Israel to take a census in order to number their armies. Now, it is easy to miss the significance of what is happening here. So can we see the nation-building aspect?

What we all need to see is that, again, Yahweh is building a nation. First, He sets us out of Egypt and gives us a new form of worship, or in technical terms, He gives us a new form of *cultic* worship. Do not let the name freak you out. Cultic used to be a good word. They have turned it into something bad. But any different religion, the Pharisees, the Sadducees, the Nazarenes, those were three different variations of a similar cultic worship. And back in the Torah, this new worship cult that Yahweh leads them to is because they are not ready for the Priesthood of the Firstborn at this stage. They are getting the Levitical Torah.

Yahweh is like, "Okay. You cannot handle this. You can do this. This is 'check the block'! Just check all the blocks and you should be good to go! Of course, that requires a spiritual transformation. But make sure you check all the blocks, okay?"

This new set-apart culture is what Yahweh wants. That is the Hebrew culture and the Israelite culture. It focuses around the central cult. The Levitical Order is for helping people to consolidate around a blood altar in the land of Israel.

The Melchizedekian Order is different, but still there is a Melchizedekian culture. And today, we have alleged Torah obedient Ephraimites. I will say the same thing over and over like Yahweh is saying the same thing over and over again all through the prophets, all through the Torah, and all through the Brit Chadasha. Today we have these Torah obedient Ephraimites. They do not tithe. They do not want to do anything. They do not want to volunteer time. They do not want to put their money where their mouth is. They do not want to put their time schedule where their mouth is. They do not put anything where their mouth is. And we read how the parasha goes.

But again, and again, and again, and again, and I do not know how to reach people with this, but it is just through prayer. Still people seem to think just like our ancestors thought. It is like we today seem to think that Yahweh is going to give us a pass for *partial* obedience of His Torah. When we ought to read in the Torah how that is precisely the kind of behavior that Yahweh punishes and promises to punish! It is the exact same kind of behavior that Yeshua says will be punished in the End Times. And we are coming into the End Times!

I just spend hours and days praying about this kind of thing. How do we reach our people? How do we help light a fire so they understand that we are playing games with our Eternal salvation? We need to stop! So I thought maybe this will help to mention this and see if people can wrap their minds around this.

Most of us just want to go back home to the land of Israel, right? I think that is where I was when I first started. It is kind of like we just have to go home. And once we get home then Yahweh will take care of everything! That sounds great but it does not really work. Because what that means is that most of us cannot think of anything farther than the ingathering. Most Christians are just waiting on the *rapture bus!* They are waiting for a *free ticket!* They are going to put their Ray-Bans on, fly back the land of Israel in the clouds, they can have a good old time! Whoo, whoo! Theme music playing!

This is not going to go that way! If you wonder how it actually goes, read the <u>Revelation</u> study. Because I had questions, and I wanted my questions answered. So I went through until my questions were answered. With an autistic fervor or zeal I suppose. With autistic people you have to have your questions answered or you are not happy.

But I think the thing is most of us just want to go home and then let Yahweh handle everything else, right? And that is what we think because that is what the church has always taught! Just pray and be good people. And you could keep most of His commandments if you want to. But you do not really *need to*. Because Yeshua did away with all the requirements and Yeshua did away with everything. So now we can be disobedient all day long! That is not what it says, obviously. But most of Ephraim is still there.

As we show in <u>Revelation and the End Times</u> and in <u>Revelation Simplified</u> on YouTube, Yahweh has a huge job for us to do when we get back to the land of Israel. We also talk about it in the <u>Torah Government</u> study. We are going to be handed Yeshua's Rod of iron to rule and reign in His stead as His body. And what that means is that we need to begin preparing now! Because why? Because we need to be ready! Read the <u>Revelation</u> study! We need to be ready to accept power and authority on day one of the ingathering!

How are we going to do that? Okay. Imagine this. Just put yourself in this place. Yeshua Himself is going to hand us His rod of iron which He Himself received from His Father. And then, it is our job to apply justice and to rule and reign as His body from day number one! So again, it is one of these situations where it is so bad that you have to laugh, or you have to cry. But again, you are looking for humor in all sorts of new places you have never considered before.

I do not know how much time (days, weeks) worth, I am just praying. *"Father, how do we reach Ephraim? How do we reach our people?"* I thought about it a lot. And I think that maybe, hopefully this will help. But when I first got called to the Hebrew Roots movement (or the Messianic movement or the Two-House movement, whatever you want to call it), to me it was just all about getting to go back home to the land of Israel. That is all I could focus on. I wanted to leave the Babylonian system, I wanted to leave Egypt behind, I want to go back home to the land of Israel. I could not think anything farther than that.

I knew the rapture bus is not coming. We are not going to go flying back to the land with Ray-Bans on. I knew we had to make our way home because that is what the prophecies say. But I did not understand that the rabbis already know who we are, and they have known who we are all along. and so now they are just trying to separate us out from Yeshua. And that is why they are working with the Ephraimites. Because they see an opportunity to separate so many of them from their faith so as to take their crowns (so to speak).

Anyway, when I finally began to study out Revelation and realized that it is not going to go the way I thought because that force is a different force. You have to reevaluate; you have to think of whatever you are going to do.

Well, what we are going to do what we need to do is to stop thinking of ourselves as Ephraimites and start thinking of ourselves as Nazarene Israelites. Because Jew, Ephraimite, Gentile, does not matter! If we are going to follow Yeshua, then we are grafting into Yeshua.

But Ephraimite? Where is our Salvation? Is our Salvation in Elohim or is our Salvation in our Ephraimite identity, so to speak?

The Ephraimite identity is great! We need it because if we do not know who we are then why do we know we should obey His instructions to us? But most of us cannot see any farther than the ingathering. We just want Yahweh to come pluck us (harpazo) out and take us home. And we know He will handle all the details, right? So that is okay... so we only have to do half the Torah. Because He is going to handle all the details, right? Ouch!

As we show in both <u>Revelation and the End Times</u> and in <u>Torah Government</u>, Yahweh has a huge job cut out for us to do when we get back home to the land. And we need to begin preparing to do this job now! And that is because we need to be ready to accept power and authority on day one of the ingathering. We explain all this in the <u>Revelation</u> study. Because Yeshua is going to hand us His Rod of iron which He Himself received from His Father. And then it is going to become our job to apply justice and rule and reign over the nations from day number one of the ingathering. And in fact, probably before that in the wilderness of the nations.

That is a big thing, and we need to begin getting ready now! Because even though Satan's going to be locked in the pit for a thousand years, His minions are still going to be running around loose trying to spring him from prison, trying to find ways to live according to the flesh and not according to the Spirit. So the enemy's forces are still going to be very much active during the millennium. As long as there are humans who have flesh the enemy is still going to be at work. And that is why we need to be ready to actively rule and reign over the goyim nations.

Can we understand why this little, tiny nation of Nazarene Israel is going to have to be so much better trained, so much better disciplined, and so much better organized than the surrounding nations of which it will be our job to control? And can we understand the Melchizedekian network in that? Just like the Chabad serves (as some people believe) as the action arm of the Illuminati, so in like fashion can we see ourselves as the action arm of Yahweh's form of government of Yeshua's kingdom?

One thing we need to see here is that not only did Yahweh use Moshe to draw our ancestors out of Egypt, but Yahweh also used Moshe to help us learn to organize. We are going to leave the Firstborn Priesthood apart for the moment. But the Levitical Order was given heads over ten houses, heads of fifty houses, heads of hundred houses, and heads of thousands of households. And we also see Yeshua using the same principle in the Renewed Covenant where He tells the disciples to have the people sit down in groups of 50.

Okay. So we still have organization. And notice Yitro said that the reason it was good for us to organize in that way is so that one, the leadership (meaning Moshe and his helpers) could endure, and also so that the whole nation could go back home to their place in shalom. And is not that what we want? To go back home to our place in shalom? And for those of us in leadership, do not we want to endure? This is why, for disciples, we are asking them to be disciplined. We are asking them that if you want to help build Yeshua's Kingdom and understand it for what it is, bring your *A game*. And then we all need to be willing to suffer discipline. Whatever the needs of the Spirit are, we let the Spirit direct. So those who are here to listen to the Spirit and to do Yeshua's will, we can work with those. But the rest, it is like there is nothing to work with.

So now, let us back up yet another step so that we can get an even bigger picture perspective. B'reisheet (Genesis) chapter 4 verse 9. Yahweh asks Qayin (Cain) where his brother is. And to this Qayin asked *"What, am I my brother's keeper? What, I am supposed to be looking out for him?"*

B'reisheet (Genesis) 4:9

9 Then Yahweh said to Qayin, "Where is Hevel your brother?" He said, "I do not know. *Am* I my brother's keeper?"

The answer to that is a big, red, flashing neon **YES!** Big red LED! Yahweh does expect us to watch out for our brothers, especially inside of Israel. We are supposed to care for all of humankind. That is a difference between us and the classic Sabbatean Frankist view. We are supposed to care for all of humankind, but especially those of the household of the faith.

In fact, this is one of the main principles. It is never explicitly said but it is one of the main precepts underlying the Torah. There is supposed to be a brotherhood between Israelites. There is supposed to be a real brotherhood between the heads of Israelite houses. And there is a real matter of duty and a real matter of responsibility. There is a code of honor and a code of ethics. And this brotherhood is critical! There are a lot of aspects of Torah life that do not work without this brotherhood. We will talk about that, Father willing, in some other place and time. But the thing about the brotherhood is that it requires us to think and care about more than just ourselves. And that is something that does not exist in Babylon. We are here in a collapsing world, and we need to think and care about one another. And there are rules for that. And along the way, we need to think about not only our own little community, but we need to think about our nation as a whole.

If we look anywhere in Scripture that is always what the leadership did. They preoccupied themselves with concerns of the nation as a whole. And that is why Yeshua, Moshe, Joshua, Shaul, any of the Apostles, they are laying down their lives in order to fulfill the will of Elohim. And we should be thankful that they have this code of duty. Because they are basically bending over backwards serving an ungrateful, backsliding nation as a whole. So that hoping against hope, long-term believing, someday our nation is going to be a unified, integrated whole again. We just have to do our parts right now. And that kind of sacrifice may be hard for a lot of people. But that is only because we need spiritual renewal.

I remember hearing in church one time. The pastor of a said Methodist Church was saying, *"Well, it is better to receive than to give! Any child knows that!"* No, it is better to give than to receive, Yeshua tells us. And intellectually we may know it is good to give. But are we giving? Are we helping our Husband?

What we all need to do is to sit down, count the cost, and become integrated. Because Yahweh is One. And the problem is, if we do not take the time to sit down and truly think through: *"Am I really doing what Scripture*"

says?" If we do not read the Beatitudes and say: "Am I doing that?", if we do not read verses and ask: "Am I doing that?" that is how we end up with half-baked Ephraimite theology. Yahweh says in Hosea that we are like a cake that is burned on one side and raw on the other.

Hoshea (Hosea) 7:8

8 "Ephraim has mixed himself among the peoples; Ephraim is a cake unturned.

If we take a step back can we see all the many different signs of nation building going on in Leviticus? So what is happening there in Numbers is that Yahweh is numbering the temporal (or the physical) army. But notice there is more than one army because Yahweh says not to number the Levites with the temporal army. And the reason why is because they are a spiritual army. You have the armies of the people (the temporal army) and then the priesthood is a different kind of army. And you do not really need to number it because it is pointless. Because the point is not numbers of your own physical strength, the point is Yahweh! Count to one and that is all you need to know about the numbers involved in the priesthood. But no matter how many he is, Yahweh is also one. And we can read all about that in our study on "Yeshua: Manifestation of Yahweh".

It has to be all one thing. We are one flesh with Him, it is one body, one bride, one Husband, one Head. And He is in connection with His Father. So an important study: "<u>Yeshua: Manifestation of Yahweh</u>".

Brothers and sisters, if we are going to use equal weights and measures, and if it is a good thing for the Levitical priesthood to be ordered, and if the Levitical priesthood is a spiritual army, then what about the Melchizedekian priesthood? Is that a spiritual army and also Yeshua's priesthood?

In the Levitical Order we have 12 tribes, the priesthood, and Moshe, who is effectively a judge serving in the kingship role for the nation at that time because he directs the temporal army. Now, in the era of kings, the leader of the temporal army would be an actual king. And in the coming millennial reign that we are going to see, it is going to be the Nasi of Ezekiel 44. The Nasi (the prince, or the president, so to speak) is a constitutional prince.

But in the dispersion, we do not have a separate office of the kingship per se. Rather, we have a combined Melchizedekian Order. King, priest, and prophet in the Melchizedekian Order, we have manifestations of all three because we do not have our own separate nation at this time. So we do not need a separate national government. When we relocate to the land that will all change. We talk about that in <u>Revelation and the End</u> <u>Times</u>. But right now what we have is the congregations with their elders and deacons. And then we also have the priesthood which connects everyone.

Now this brings us to our Haftarah prophetic portion and right now we are in Hoshea (Hosea) chapter 2. And Hoshea is a very good book for anyone in Ephraim anyone who is thinking about Ephraim. And because Yahweh tells us that He is not going to deliver the ones who are *hearers* only. He is only going to deliver the *doers*.

We explain the history of Hoshea and his wife Gomer (not Gomer Pyle) and also the prophetic names of all their children in the <u>Nazarene Israel</u> study. And I only recommend that study for people who want to survive

what is coming in the End Times. In context Yahweh is talking here about our times, right now, today. He is talking about the lead up to the Tribulation and the lead up to Armageddon here in chapter two. And just to summarize what He is saying, we are going to get our pathways closed up. As if suddenly the way that we are traveling on the Babylonian way becomes overgrown with thorns.

All the Patriots in the United States of America, they are waving their Trump flags and their Trump signs. And that way is going to become overgrown with thorns because we have sold ourselves into democracy and democracies are of the *Red Horse*. Esau hate the *White Horse*. So what is Yahweh going to do? He is going to hedge Ephraim in. This may be specifically to Ephraim in the United States but also to Ephraim everywhere.

He is going to hedge the great body of Ephraim in and basically leave them nowhere to turn to but Him. And sadly, at least judging from the Torah, this is what it seems to take for most of our people to respond. Is to have nowhere to turn but Him. We do not respond to Him in good times. We only respond to Him when we are in pain. So finally, He is going to have to break Babylon. You can read all about that in <u>Revelation and the End</u> <u>Times.</u> It is called <u>Revelation Simplified</u> on YouTube.

The point is that things are going to begin to get progressively harder, and harder, and harder for Ephraim. Not just those from the United States but also for those of us in other parts of this version. And we are going to have nowhere to turn but Yahweh our Elohim. We are going to have a choice. We are going to have to break down. We are going to have to cry out to Him for support. Because our lovers (the Lord God, Jehovah, Jesus, <u>see our study on the names</u>) they are not going to help her anymore.

Yahweh has been providing all those things all that time. Just like our forefathers were disobedient in the wilderness, our forefathers and our fathers are disobedient right now, today, in the church. Some are disobedient right now in the Messianic movement. In the Ephraimite movement. If you hear what I am saying! In the last part of Hoshea, Yahweh is saying that He is going to stop answering to those names. If you want to get help you are going to have to call Yahweh by <u>His</u> <u>name</u> from now on.

And Ephraim is like, "Oh, trial of trials! We have to obey the ten commandments! To get answers to prayer we are going to have to actually be doing something for Him! We are not going to get any answers!" Ephraim is crying: "Oh test of tests!"

What it means is that we cannot keep taking Yahweh for granted anymore! It means we cannot keep trampling on the grace or the favor or we are going to die! It is that simple.

It is like Proverbs 8. The Spirit tells us that She is calling out! She is crying out from the high mountains! From the head of the streets! She is trying to wake us all up! But if we do not listen to what she is saying, in time, calamity will overtake us, and she will laugh!

Mishle (Proverbs) 8:1-4

1 Does not wisdom cry out, And understanding lift up her voice?

2 She takes her stand on the top of the high hill, Beside the way, where the paths meet. 3 She cries out by the gates, at the entry of the city, At the entrance of the doors:

4 "To you, O men, I call, And my voice is to the sons of men.

So remember, Yahweh is One. Yahweh is integrated. He tells us in the last part of Hoshea that He is the one that does both good and evil.

Yeshua came to give us a mission. we talk about that in the <u>Nazarene Israel</u> study and also in all the rest of our studies. I recommend to anyone who loves Yeshua that we get going now. I recommend reading all of Hoshea with understanding. Because this the story for Ephraim. And the story in Hoshea is how Yahweh finally runs out of patience with our rebellion after 6,000 years. Or at least after 3,500 years in dispersion or after 2,000 years when we are supposed to have Yeshua's Spirit, He is tired of this. It is time for the Harvest. Are we wheat or are we chaff? Are we the good fruit or are we wood, hay, and stubble?

Basically, the message of Hoshea is that we need to begin obeying Him to save our lives. So, will we begin obeying Him to save our lives? Time will tell. Scripture says that we have a tiny minority of us that are going to make it home. It is going to be a terribly sad time coming up. We need to make sure we are on Yahweh's team. That is the message of Hoshea.

In the second half of Hoshea chapter 2, that is basically talking about Armageddon. And how the big masses of Ephraim are not going to wake up until after the big death coming in Armageddon. And finally, Ephraim will get it. Finally, Ephraim will understand. We explain all this in *Revelation and the End Times*. What do we need to be doing? We need to be taking part in this work so that when the truth finally catches up with Ephraim, when Babylon has fallen and Ephraim cannot ignore the truth anymore and the blinders come off, he is going to need direction. And that is our job to prepare for that right now.

Just like Joseph provided a way of escape for all of his brethren, so those of us who understand the message need to be getting involved right now. Just like in the parable of the minas (talents). Invest your minas with us now and work! You are going to get a great big return. But let us not be doing it for the return, let us not be doing things for the reward. That is the physical, that is not really saved if you are doing it for the reward. Let us do it because it is going to please our Husband so much! How much is He going to love a bride who loves Him enough to help Him sit on His throne?

We have one life to live for Him. And he who is faithful in little is ultimately trusted with much. So word to the wise is sufficient.

Briefly, in our Brit Chadasha portion in Luqa (Luke) chapter 17 and verse 5. The apostles asked Yeshua to increase their faith. Let us read Yeshua's response in verse 10.

Luqa (Luke) 17:10

10 'So likewise you, when you have done all those things which you are commanded, say, 'We are unprofitable servants. We have done what was our duty to do.' "

Yeshua says that when we have done all we have done, everything which we are told to do (in context that means immersing the whole nation of disciples in Yeshua's name worldwide, in every nation, every tribe, every tongue, teaching them to do all that is), then we should say that we are unprofitable servants. We have done only that which it is our duty to do.

Amein. Selah.

What does that mean for us today in real terms? It means the same thing as *"He must increase, therefore I must decrease."* That is the basic message that we get right there.

Yochanan (John) 3:30 30 He must increase, but I must decrease.

With that, what do we do brothers? Disciples, brothers, sisters? What do we do with all these Ephraimites? They are *Torah obedient*, they are *Torah observant*, but they do not want to donate time? They do not want to donate work? They do not think they need to obey? They do not think they need to help Yeshua get what He wants? And they can be chosen as His helper even though we did not help Him get what He wants? How does that work?

There are a lot of people who are just like our forefathers were. Trying to leave Egypt, but a lot of them still had one or maybe both feet in Egypt, in their hearts. And it is the same kind of thing for us. There are a lot of people who are coming out of the church. And some people are leaving a foot or two back there. Eight, nine, ten toes still in the church. There are a lot of people that would never say this. But by their actions these are those who say in their hearts, "Yeshua and His disciples already did everything back in the first century. So now we do not need to. We do not need to tithe. We do not need to do anything. Great Commission, Great Omission, same thing! Just rest and read. And just wait for Yeshua to come and drive the rapture bus and take us home. It will be great!"

Ultimately, we can maybe let a little bit of air out of our heads! And realize that this is precisely the same kind of fatal error that our forefathers always made when coming out of Mizraim (Egypt). And we are going to see this again in future portions. Problems in the wilderness of Paran. Problems in the land of Moab. We are going to read it every week.

Yahweh promised our forefathers a new and better life with Him. Of course, our forefathers said yes! I mean, who would not, right? We are slaves in Egypt! Sure we would like a nice life in the land of milk and honey! Sure! Sign me up! Right? Who would not? But they did not realize it was work. They did not realize that Yahweh was looking for a Proverbs 31 bride who works so He can sit in the gates and rule and reign.

He wants a Proverbs 31 helper who is faithful! He wants a helper who wants to help Him! That is the point of the whole exercise! This is a great, big bozo filter! He is trying to weed out everything except the wheat. He does not want the chaff. The wood, the hay, the stubble, anything that can burn up by fire is going to burn up.

So what does that say to us? Do we need to be as gold, silver, diamonds, precious stones?

Let us see. Ephraim is thinking. *"Hmm, you know, Yahweh wants to take a helper. Maybe I should make myself of some help to Him?"*

You know, that dawns on much less than one percent of our people. So the question and the big self-reflection that Yeshua wants from us here is whether we are going to say to ourselves, "Now wait a minute, Yeshua wants a helper. Am I helping Him? And am I like the Proverbs 31 woman? Am I doing all that He says? And am I doing it for a reward or am I doing it just out of love?"

Because we should not expect a reward. We are supposed to say, "Let your gifts and your money be for yourself. We are unprofitable servants. We have done only that which is our duty to do."

How many of us have bad attitude, brothers and sisters? In Ephraim, have we paid all three tithes? Have we offered Yeshua our help? Have we asked Yahweh if He would like our help? If He has something for us to do? And have we thought of this as our duty? Are we expecting something in return? Some kind of gift? Some kind of reward for doing our duty? What kind of bride does Yahweh want to take for His Son? Is it all about sitting back, being queen, and enjoying a life of luxury? That is Babylon. That is what we are supposed to be leaving.

And that is what we are saying. A lot of us still have one foot in Babylon. We do not see ourselves as servants, we see ourselves as the queen. Well, the queen needs to see herself as a servant or she is going to be unqueened before she is taken as queen.

The message, brothers and sisters, is do we expect a reward? Are we expecting something special for doing what is our duty? Mah Qara? What do you call that? Mah Qara?

The lesson basically is not to think more highly of ourselves as servants and slaves than what we ought. We need to let a little air out of our heads. We are overblown. We need to recognize that humility is fitting for servants and for soldiers. We need to endure hardship as good soldiers of Yeshua Messiah. Because the reward is to those who are seeking to serve selflessly.

Timotheus Bet (2 Timothy) 2:3

3 You therefore must endure hardship as a good soldier of Yeshua HaMashiach.

Yahweh promises to help us survive the Great Tribulation if we love Him and we love our brothers. And there are rules for that. And what it takes in sum is that we go to war with ourselves. We go to war with our own flesh. We humble ourselves to realize this is about spiritual transformation. This is not about resting and reading on Sabbath and feasts. This is about humbling ourselves to do everything that we can for Him. So that His reign might finally reach the ends of the Earth. So that we can see our Love and our Husband realize His dream, sitting on His throne, ruling and reigning over all the Earth.

Only it is not going to be Him here. As we explain in the <u>Revelation</u> study, Yeshua is going to be sitting on His throne in the heavens as our Head. And we will be His body, His hands, and His feet acting out His will here on Earth. So that the prayer might be fulfilled "Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on Earth as it is in heaven".

That is what we are going to need to do, brothers and sisters, for a thousand years. Is to serve Him in that way. And if that is not in our heart and all we want to do is go back home, rejoice, and make merry on the hills of Samaria, and rule and reign over the nations... okay. If service is not in our heart, then the fruit is not going to be there. We are not given to judge another man's heart. Only Yahweh only Elohim can do that. But we are told to judge the fruit. So brothers and sisters, can we inspect our own fruit? Because this is the whole point of the exercises. One gigantic bozo filter operation. And if we do not bear good fruit then the axe is going to be laid to the root of the trees. And Yahweh will not be mocked. As we sow into Yeshua's spiritual Kingdom and as we sow into Yeshua's kingship, so shall we reap.

Galatim (Galatians) 6:7

7 Do not be deceived, Elohim is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap.

The end of Luqa 17 is also about Armageddon. We explain that in the <u>*Revelation*</u> studies as well. But what we need to remember as Ephraimites, with all this history and all this emotional baggage, and however many toes we might have stuck left in the world or in Babylon, we need to remember what Yeshua tells us in Luqa chapter 17 and verse 33.

Whoever seeks to save his life in this world (in Babylon or in Egypt) will lose it. But whoever loses his life in Egypt and Babylon for Yeshua's sake will preserve it for everlasting life.

Luqa (Luke) 17:33

33 Whoever seeks to save his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life will preserve it.

But we have to do it all, brothers and sisters. Not just sit around like our forefathers, thinking we are doing all when really are not. May Elohim please help increase our faith so that we do not think more highly of ourselves than what we ought. May Yeshua come quickly.

Parasha Nasso

Numbers 4:21-7:89; Judges 13-15; John 11

Parasha Nasso reminds us that when we are reading and studying Scripture, we need to remember that the world hates the things of Yahweh. Whatever it is Yahweh likes, that is what the world is against.

But if we have sat down and counted the cost, then it does not really matter. Because if we know that He is in charge, and this is all one big test, to begin with. He wants to see, are we going to do things His way or are we going to do things our own way? And that is the test. It is really just that simple!

And in this parasha, we are going to talk about two concepts that have fallen by the wayside in modern Christian culture, so to speak.

We are going to talk first about the Brotherhood (or the patriarchy), and then second, we are going to talk about the Nazarite vow. We are going to see what this has to do with the organization of Israel as a community and as a family.

The Brotherhood (or the patriarchy) often gets a bad rap in modern society, and sometimes for good reason. Basically, our ancestors have been doing the Torah wrong and with the wrong heart ever since Yeshua gave us the Torah at Mount Sinai.

Now today, we in Ephraim like to think we are doing so much better than our ancestors ever were because we know what the Torah is. But in actual fact, our ancestors in Ephraim also knew what the Torah is, but just like us they were not actually keeping it correctly. That was the whole problem.

And since the Torah is effectively a codification of how we should relate with other people, especially Yahweh's people, if we are getting the Torah wrong, then is it possible that we might be getting some of our other relationships wrong as well?

Not only our relationship with Yahweh and with Yeshua but also with our spouses and our families, our bosses, our neighbors, these kinds of things. Because the Torah speaks about all of these things, and if we are not taking pains to do the Torah correctly, then how do we know we are doing it correctly?

Well, we do talk with sisters sometimes about their relationships. They come to us for counseling, and we hear some real horror stories about the patriarchy. And basically, it is males taking privilege without a valid reason to take privilege.

Sometimes they take preferences because they are stronger. They are using their strength against the weaker vessel. Instead of serving and preferring the weaker vessel so that our prayers may not be hindered, it is completely backwards.

Because effectively, in Yahweh's world, the strong exist to serve the weak, not the other way around. The world has things backwards; in Babylon, the elites serve themselves at the expense of everyone else. And in Yahweh's Kingdom, it is supposed to be the opposite of that.

We see a lot of problems with regard to men who do not know what their job is. And oftentimes, they are using Yahweh's name to further their own cause of selfishness, and it causes no end of problems.

You hear stories, you hear cases of spousal abuse, husbands treating their wives as second-class citizens, you hear about failed marriages. But the problem is that just because we humans choose to disobey Yahweh and just because we choose not to follow His instructions about how to get our relationships right. That does not make His institution of marriage invalid; it just means we did not do it right, right?

It is the same thing with the patriarchy or with the Brotherhood. And it is just because many people misuse it or get it wrong. But that does not make the institution of the patriarchy (or the Brotherhood) an incorrect one. It just means we need to learn how to do it right.

Now a lot of people, especially today, want to complain about patriarchs; they want to complain about the Brotherhood. They say, "well, the thing we do not like is that you are telling us the Bible suggests that there are gender roles that are basically fixed at birth because there are certain chromosomes that are assigned."

And what you are saying is that the Bible says there are also gender roles and certain rules that come along with those gender chromosomes and that those are assigned at birth. We say right; that is exactly what we are saying. Scripture says that is exactly the message of Yahweh.

But of course, the world does not agree, and they are becoming more and more and more numerous. And we also know that in these end times, many of the Messianics and the Ephraimites also will not agree. Because as we showed in our study on <u>"The Ahab and</u> <u>Jezebel Spirits"</u> in the <u>Nazarene Scripture Studies</u>, <u>Volume Five</u>, there are seven End-Time assemblies. And that one of those assemblies also tolerates the Jezebel spirit. We have to remember that this is inside the body of Messiah we are talking about.

Hitgalut (Revelation) 2:20

20 "Nevertheless I have a few things against you, because you allow that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess, to teach and seduce My servants to commit sexual immorality and eat things sacrificed to idols."

Inside the body of Messiah, approximately one out of every seven believers is going to disagree, probably vehemently, with what we have to say in the balance of this message. And we are okay with that.

But basically, knowing that we are heading into an argument, there are a lot of hot emails and unsubscribes. We need to be sure we give this the proper treatment.

Let us begin at the very beginning. Bereisheet (Genesis) 1:1.

In fact, even before, there is a theory out there that Satan was the first bride. If true, that might explain why Satan hates us so much. It also might explain why Satan has a breastplate.

According to the theory, Satan was the first bride, but she lost. She or he lost everything when she or he decided that she or he could consider himself or herself equal with Yahweh. Big No-No! That is why it is always such a big deal for us to maintain our own humility. To maintain our brokenness because humility and brokenness are things He does not despise.

It is also critical that we make sure that we do not consider ourselves being equal with Yahweh, right? Because if we consider ourselves equal with Yahweh, then we might choose to do things our own way, just like we did in the Garden of Eden, just like we did in the wilderness. Just like many of us do today. We decide, well, we do not need to obey Yahweh's commandments. It is enough to learn about them.

Well, the big problem here is that in Scripture the way Yahweh looks at things is this. Yeshua did not consider Himself equal with Elohim; Yeshua was Elohim. But even He did not consider it correct for Him to consider Himself being equal with Elohim. But rather, He humbled Himself unto the death, even the death of a cross (or stake, stauros, or whatever you want to call it), death on a tree.

Well, Satan did consider himself or herself worthy to be equal with Yahweh. Satan thought he or she would sit upon the sides of the north. Well, how many of us do that in practice? Of course, we are going to say, "*No, we do not, we do not do that kind of thing! We do not consider ourselves to be equal with Yahweh!*" But how many of us do that in practice?

Well, consider this, the point is that if we consider Yahweh to be our King. And we consider ourselves to be His servants and His subjects or let us just say we are on Yahweh's team. And we really want that retirement package...

Do not we need to remember that Yahweh is the one that makes the rules? And do not we need to remember that Yahweh's ways are higher than our ways, and Yahweh's thoughts are higher than our thoughts? And He has His own way of doing things?

Well, sometimes, do not we get a little confused, and maybe we forget that His ways are higher than our ways? We forget that His thoughts are higher than our thoughts?

So maybe we do not see the reason why He commands us to do things a certain way. And certain things are hard; certain things are difficult. *Really do we really need to do those things*? And this is a big problem and for good reason.

We are going to see this develop as we go through this parasha series. Because a big part of the anti-messiah agenda, and, not coincidentally, also the Bolshevist Communist Manifesto is precisely the destruction of the family and the patriarchal system. The linchpin of that, of course, is faith.

There is a good reason that the devil wants to destroy Elohim's set-apart family system. And that is because, as we all know, the family is the basic building block of Elohim's set apart civilization.

If you have families that operate according to Yahweh's set-apart rules, then, sooner or later, you are going to end up with Elohim's set-apart society. And it is going to work because there are certain societal supports that are built into the Torah that help families from falling away.

It helps families from falling backward; it helps keep society strong. And one of the reasons it is strong is precisely because of the patriarchy, and we will talk more about reasons why patriarchy builds strong societies later. But if you are one of the people who is gun shy because you were involved in a bad marriage or a bad patriarchal relationship, do not just live together in sin. Do things Elohim's way.

It is important! We need to realize that the way of Scripture is that if we rebel against Elohim, He is going to punish us, basically unto the death. But if we submit to Him and submit to His Spirit, He is going to take complete care of us. He is going to make special miracles happen for us, and He specializes in miracles.

Now, before we get to the Torah of the jealous husband, again, we need to get the proper perspective when you take things from the top.

Now, first, we have the Book of Genesis (or B'reisheet). Now B'reisheet is where we meet our ancestors Adam and Havvah (Eve). And we also meet our ancestors in the nation of Israel. Including the two houses and the specialty roles of Judah and Joseph.

Then in Shemote (or Exodus), Elohim brings our forefathers out of slavery in Egypt. And then He organizes us as a nation so that we can handle our own self-government.

So, we begin to be organized by groups of ten families, fifty families, hundred families, a thousand families, and then plus the twelve tribal leaders. Well, at that point, Yahweh also tried to give our forefathers the Priesthood of the Firstborn, or I suppose we could call them the Priesthood of the Firstfruits.

Only we were not ready for the Priesthood of the Firstfruits because we were not thinking like the first fruit Yeshua. We did not have His Spirit because in order to

make the priesthood of the firstborn run, what was the great commandment there? We were supposed to listen for Yahweh's voice, supposed to diligently do everything that He said. Including all of His written Commandments because those also are Yahweh's voice, just written down and codified.

We were supposed to listen diligently for His voice, just like Yeshua did. We are supposed to do everything Yahweh says to do, just like the Firstfruit Yeshua did.

Qorintim Aleph (1 Corinthians) 15:23 23 But each one in his own order: Mashiach the firstfruits, afterward those who are Mashiach's at His coming.

So, what we see in all this is that in all matters, both great and small, Yahweh is calling us into right relationship first with Him and then with those of us in the nation. These are the two great Commandments to love and serve Yahweh with everything we have and then to love our neighbors as we love ourselves.

But our forefathers just were not up for it. They could not hack it. Because in order to make the Priesthood of the Firstborn work, they would have to discipline themselves to hear His voice and do everything that He says.

We have to help Him get His kingdom. Nothing else will do. He is a war Elohim; He wants a kingdom for His son. Okay, and we turned away from Him in the garden. We rebelled against Him, and this is His loving attempt to win us back.

We do not know if there were loving attempts to win Satan back. At a certain point, Satan was cut off. If the theory is true, then now the opportunity falls to us. And how many of us are choosing to do everything that Yahweh says to do? And how many of us are esteeming ourselves worthy to decide we do not need to do all that in Yahweh's sight? That is the very same kind of rebellion that got Satan cast down. Word to the wise is sufficient.

So now, if we really think about it, our forefathers went astray in the garden because the snake lied. The snake said we could still receive Yahweh's blessings, and we could still be in His favor. We would not have to obey Him.

B'reisheet (Genesis) 3:4-5

4 Then the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die.

5 For Elohim knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like Elohim, knowing good and evil."

Well, we are stupid; we fell for it. And we have been paying ever since.

Do you think maybe after some six thousand years, we might finally understand that what Yahweh's been trying to tell us all along really counts, that it really matters? That we do need to listen diligently for His voice and be careful to do everything that He says, including all of his written Commandments.

You know we are created for a certain purpose; are we fulfilling that purpose? Or are we failing to fulfill that purpose?

It is like Yeshua says about salt. If we do a good job as salt, we are going to make the meal very tasty. But if we do not do a good job as salt, then it is to the lukewarm garbage pile we go. It is a pass-fail, it is a go-no-go situation. So, if we are not doing everything that He says to do, what are we doing, brothers, sisters?

You know, there are a lot of people in the world who just plain wish the gender roles would go away. And today, in these End Times, does not it seem like you have a lot of men who want to be women and a lot of women who want to be men? And they are teaching these things these days in the schools.

But these people who are wanting to be something other than the way Yahweh made them, is not that the same thing as to say that they are in rebellion against the way that Yahweh made them.

There are some in Christian denominations that embrace these kinds of things. But ours is not a Christian faith. Ours is an Israelite faith that looks to the old paths and asks for the ancient ways. Because we recognize the simple truth that even if the truth is difficult, it is much better in the end than a pleasant rebellion.

Coming back to the book of Shemote (or Exodus). Yahweh gave us first a means of self-governance. He gave us means of organizing ourselves. Then He gave us a priesthood. We could not handle the Firstfruit Priesthood; that is when He gave us the Levitical Order. So, we could not just paint; we had to paint by numbers. He had to put the little footsteps on the floor for us to follow.

We were not capable of hearing His voice and obeying it.

Well, then, in the book of Vayiqra or Leviticus, our forefathers spent a whole year basically making a

portable house of worship for Yahweh so He could dwell among us wherever we went. If you like, it was kind of a portable Garden of Eden that we made for Yahweh. We were not worthy to live in His Garden of Eden, so we had to make one for Him to dwell in.

So, we have to now court Him in with our sacrifices and offerings. In Vayiqra, our forefathers have been at that project for a whole year and now they are done. Now finally, in the Bemidar (or Numbers), we finally have the portable Tabernacle. We finally have the portable Garden of Eden, where Yahweh can dwell with us wherever we go.

Now, Yahweh of Armies takes a census of His physical armies, and now He also takes a census of His spiritual Army, meaning the Levitical priesthood. And then He is giving our ancestors instructions (or Torah) about how to move the portable Tabernacle. About how they should move as a community and as a nation.

We are going to see later Yahweh calls us into service as a nation, and there is a role in that for each and every one of us, even in the Melchizedekian Order. And we also see that Yahweh is giving us certain specifics before we head out.

We are going to take a look at those specific instructions. Now there are two specifics that we need to pay careful attention to in this parasha. The first one is what is called the Torah of the jealous husband, and right away, people get all upset.

And that is because they say, well, you know the rules for brothers in Scripture are different than the rules for sisters in Scripture? Yeah, and there is a whole lot of people in the world and a surprising number of believers in Messiah as well who would change that Torah, or at least they would not follow that Torah.

And there has been a lot of influence in the world, and you know the world tells us, *"No, no, no, no, no, no, no, no, you must use the same standards for men and for women because everything's got to be equal!"*

Well, by that, they mean that everything has got to be the same between men and women because they believe that men and women are fundamentally the same. And they see our belief system as a threat. What they mean is they feel that their job is to separate us from our beliefs that are based in Scripture.

Galatim (Galatians) 1:8

8 But even if we, or a messenger [angel] from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed.

And again, as we saw in our study on the "<u>Ahab and</u> <u>Jezebel Spirits</u>," approximately one out of seven within the body of Messiah is going to tolerate this kind of thinking. And just for tolerating this kind of thinking, Yahweh says He is going to slay those who believe this way or who tolerate this way with death.

Hitgalut (Revelation) 2:21-22

21 And I gave her time to repent of her sexual immorality, and she did not repent.

22 Indeed I will cast her into a sickbed, and those who commit adultery with her into great tribulation, unless they repent of their deeds.

Well, all those facts notwithstanding, a lot of people are very uneasy with the term *patriarch*. Perhaps that is because our ancestors abused Yahweh's system. But the thing is if we do it the right way, patriarchy is not about men taking undue privilege; in fact, it is quite the opposite.

In fact, the whole point of the Brotherhood is for the men to band together and provide a system of accountability that works for the whole community. And this system of accountability means that the men also are supposed to be subject to the same community discipline.

Somewhere out there, someone is saying, "Wait, wait, what, wait, whoa, patriarchy? What? Hebrew Brotherhood?" In our study on <u>Covenant Relationships</u> and the Covenant Relationships collection, we talk about the kinds of Covenant relationships that we are supposed to have. First, with Yahweh and also, in this collection, inside the nation of Israel.

And really, it is one of those things. It is kind of like starting the Hebrew year with the first of the firstfruits of barley. Scripture does not give us a *"Thus saith Yahweh"* for that anywhere. It never says *"Thus saith Yahweh, begin the year with the firstfruits of barley."*

But the thing is, in order to get all the other commandments to line up to where they can be fulfilled, it is the only way to solve the equation. You have to bring the first of the firstfruits of barley, or else you end up having to violate many other commandments. We talk about that in our studies on <u>The Torah Calendar</u>.

So it is the same kind of a thing. Scripture does not say anywhere that it is the job of the men to band together and to form sort of a walled-garden type of society where the women are able to raise the children in the ways according to Torah. But it could say that because that is effectively the point. If the men are to do what Yeshua tells us to do. If we are to do everything that Scripture says, then we will find ourselves effectively creating a walled garden of His kingdom or a walled garden sanctuary out in the midst of dispersion. Where all the families can learn to grow safely together, and all the families can learn to keep Yahweh's ways together.

That is a community activity, but it all starts with men. Because if the men do not do that job, that job is not going to get done. And then there will literally be the devil to pay. Because Yahweh does not like treason, He does not like traitors.

Devarim (Deuteronomy) 16:9 9 "Three times in the year all your males shall appear before Yahweh Elohim."

And unless and until we convert and start pulling our own weight on His team, He considers us to be treasoners. Because that is the choice, our forefathers made. We need to choose to be redeemed. So, think about it, pray about it. We need to choose to respond to His call.

But there used to be, in society, what is called the social contract or the societal contract. And the social contract effectively was that all of society (or all the men) were to band together like family, and again, to make a society.

To make a place where the women can raise the children according to Torah or in the way of Yahweh. That is why Yahweh tells us to establish judges and officers in all of our gates so that justice will be established under the Melchizedekian Order; that is the job of the elders.

But at the same time, the sisters have a job of raising the children in the way they should go so that when they are older, they will not depart from it.

Now it is not about one party dominating, exploiting, or using the other; that is not it. Now we can find that in the in the world. But what Yahweh has is that He has created a balanced system which serves the needs of the society, the family, and the individual. Now within that framework, all those needs can get met. So the society can carry on and survive.

There is a lot more we could say, but the man's job is not only to be a provider. A man's job is also to be the priest of his household, to make sure that everything in his house is in order, to lead by example, to set that example. And beyond that, his job is also as a member of the Brotherhood, to make sure that everyone else's house he knows is in order, and if not, to bring it to the attention of the council for his town.

Well, we are all about a spiritual war, and we do not use guns, knives, bombs, or anything like that. But there is nonetheless a battle, and it is very much like an officer leading his troops into battle; he has to do the job the right way. He has to lead by example, and set the example, and expect others to meet the same example he sets. If he does not do that, they are going to die unnecessarily.

And that is kind of how it is in the family, as well. The man effectively has to lead his house by example, set the example, and expect others to meet the example.

For the children really are not going to get the training that they need. And so, they are effectively not going to make it. Again people will tell us all about how unfair Yahweh's Torah is because, well, you know, the man can be jealous and suspicious of his wife, and so, into the Tabernacle they go, right?

And she has to take an oath, and if she has done something wrong, she dies and not in a fun way. Now some people will say well do not you see how unbalanced and how unfair that all is? Because look, you have different rules for the men and for the women.

What they do not understand is that men and women are different and that the rules for the patriarchal system are designed to create a productive whole from two complementary opposites, so to speak. Because at least according to Scripture, men and women clearly are not the same.

And we take a look at the animal kingdom; males and females are not the same. Males and females, they have different biological markers, and these biological markers many people believe are significant. At least according to Scripture; you cannot just change your mind about your DNA and change your gender to suit yourself that week.

Your DNA is your DNA, and that is it. And that is effectively what Yahweh is saying, male and female DNA effectively behaves differently. Males and females have different characteristics, so it is foolishness to think otherwise.

Now we have several studies in <u>The Covenant</u> <u>Relationships Collection</u> which deal effectively with these issues. How do we get a functioning societal system to where Yahweh's Torah is maintained, and everyone can get what they need? Perhaps not everyone gets what they want, but everyone can get what they need.

If you are an Israelite, if you are a worshiper of Yahweh, and you obey all the commandments, and hear His voice, there should be provision for you. There should be a place in society for you.

As being members of the Brotherhood, the men are effectively supposed to create what could be called a walled garden (or perhaps a petri dish) kind of environment. Where you have a safe space in the community for a sanctuary. And you have a safe community because it is a walled garden kind of a model.

And what that provides is a place for the women where they can raise the children up in Yahweh's kind of society. To learn just by being immersed in Yahweh's kind of society that is what the men are supposed to do. That is what patriarchy provides for.

We take a look at modern society and the evils and ills of modern society. And you say, well, who needs it if that is what it leads to this? We need to remember we are not doing patriarchy correctly right now, at least not in the dispersion.

The other thing is that a patriarchy when properly run provides a system of societal support for the women and children. For example, a woman, if there is a problem in her home, the woman should be able to go back to her father's house and get help from her father.

For example, we talk about how if a young man takes a virgin wife, but he does not love his wife, rather he hates her. So, what does he do? He falsely claims that she

was not a virgin. And then the girl what she is supposed to do? The wife is supposed to go back to her father's house.

And then, the father contacts the other men in the village or contacts the elders, and then they present the wedding night sheets as a proof their daughter was a virgin. And then, with that proof, the men are supposed to gather together and effectively enforce discipline, you might say. Taking whatever steps and measures are necessary to make sure that that kind of thing never happens again.

We can have that kind of a Brotherhood relationship in our assemblies but only if the men will support it.

Now, brothers, just to mention something, I have been in this movement since 1999, and I have seen a lot of things. And I have seen so many good possibilities of what we could do if only the men would support it.

I mean, I have seen all kinds of things; I have seen Messianic men take lovers and get them pregnant. Marry their lover, divorce the wife. Just walk out on their wives! And the Messianic men let this brother back in after about two, maybe three years of shunning him at the most.

Do we understand how shameful that is? For the men not to create the walled garden environment, basically allowing sin in the camp, leaven inside the lump. That is what happens in the Messianic world. And take a look at the Messianic movement, okay? They do not realize what a broad, easy road they are building. So, in the future, when Yahweh calls us all back home, Ezekiel 44-46 tells us that Israel will be led by a *constitutional prince* (in Hebrew, the Nasi).

Yehezqel (Ezekiel) 44:3

3 "As for the prince, because he is the prince, he may sit in it to eat bread before Yahweh; he shall enter by way of the vestibule of the gateway, and go out the same way."

And the constitutional kingship or constitutional princeship is a very different system than a democracy. And patriarchy, (or the Brotherhood) is not consistent with a democracy. It only works under kingship or princeship in our future case.

Because effectively, if you think about it, in democracy, everyone votes for what he wants, basically. Everyone votes for whatever seems good and right in his own eyes. And, of course, national security then goes into the trash.

But in a kingship, the king takes care for the national security, and everyone has to support their king in the correct order for the benefit of the whole nation. That is one of the benefits of patriarchy, and for his part, the king effectively has no choice but to teach Scripture because Scripture is his base of power.

And because Scripture tells us to obey the governments that are appointed over us in Romans, and because Scripture tells us to honor the king. Then basically, no matter how bad a king might be in one way or another, he is going to ensure that Scripture gets taught in his kingdom. Because that is his base of power, at least if he is wise, he is going to make sure Scripture is taught in his kingdom. Because that is the only reason his people do not overthrow him and institute a democracy instead is because of the requirements in Scripture. So, it is every bit in a king's best interest to make sure the Scriptures are taught in the schools. Scriptures are not taught in schools of democracy.

If we look around ourselves in society today, we take a look at the news; we see all kinds of evil things manifesting in society today that could never manifest under a spirit-led kingship. Because such abominations would correctly be seen as the threat to Yahweh's Kingdom and Yahweh's Order, and the King's power that they are. So, since the King would correctly identify these things as a threat, he would wipe them off the map effectively.

If you want to know more about the many benefits of the patriarchal system and of being a member of the Hebrew Brotherhood, I would encourage you to read the whole <u>Covenant Relationships Collection</u>. In that study, you can see situations where it falls to the men to establish safety and a livable space that has Elohim's order.

That does not happen without the participation of the patriarch. Because the patriarchy is not just men. The patriarchy is men maintaining Yahweh's order. There is way too much to cover here.

We can also take a look at passages such as Ephesians chapter 5, perhaps starting in verse 21, perhaps going through the rest of the chapter. Here is where Yahweh tells us the correct loving order between husbands and wives.

Ephesim (Ephesians) 5:21-23

21 Submitting to one another in the fear of Elohim.

22 Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Master.

23 For the husband is head of the wife, as also Mashiach is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body.

So, if we focus on the correct loving order, then we do not even need to get into the Torah of the jealous husband.

So, then the second main teaching point is found in the Bemidar (or Numbers) chapter six, where we have the Torah of the Nazarite. We have several studies on the website as to why we believe that in addition to being the Nazarene, Yeshua was also a Nazarite. Different roots, although there are plays on words involved.

Bemidbar (Numbers) 6:2

2 "Speak to the children of Israel, and say to them: 'When either a man or woman consecrates an offering to take the vow of a Nazirite, to separate himself to Yahweh.' "

The Nazarite vow is not very well understood by many people. You can see it basically reduced as a vow not to eat grapes, not to cut your hair, and not to come near a dead body.

Bemidbar (Numbers) 6:4-6

4 All the days of his separation he shall eat nothing that is produced by the grapevine, from seed to skin.

5 All the days of the vow of his separation no razor shall come upon his head; until the days are fulfilled for which he separated himself to Yahweh, he shall be set-apart. Then he shall let the locks of the hair of his head grow. 6 All the days that he separates himself to Yahweh he shall not go near a dead body.

But there are some interesting repercussions as we read through the vow. And in <u>Nazarene Scripture Studies</u>, <u>Volume Two</u>, we have a study called <u>"Yeshua, the Celibate Nazarite."</u> And it explains why we believe that Yeshua and also many of Israel's foremost prophets were also Nazarites.

For example, we give reasons why we believe Moshe, Eliyahu, Elisha, Yeshua, Shaul, and some of the apocryphal authors suggest that Yaakov (James) also was a Nazarite. But this is a very important vow, and I would recommend to everyone that you not take this vow, at least not for life, unless you hear from Elohim to take it for life.

Because perhaps it sounds romantic, especially to youngsters. People in their Peace Corps years, so to speak, sounds romantic and all that. But it is not an easy vow to fulfill, and I have seen people take it and then go back on it; that is not good. Do not do that.

It might seem easy to take the vow when you are young, but you do not really realize what you are getting yourself into. So, please be careful with taking the vow, at least in a lifetime sense. And you can read all about it in that study.

Qohelet (Ecclesiastes) 5:4-5

4 When you make a vow to Elohim, do not delay to pay it; For He has no pleasure in fools. Pay what you have vowed.

5 Better not to vow than to vow and not pay.

But some interesting things, we cannot verify the legend. But legend has it that the US Army once hired some Native American indigenous trackers to do man-tracking for them. But when they entered military service, they had to cut their hair, and at the same time, they lost their ability to track.

It is as if their hair provided them kind of a sixth sense, so to speak, or almost as if uncut hair serves as an antenna or antennae of sorts. Because it is interesting that if you cut or burn a cat's whiskers, the cat can literally die from a shock.

So, for something to think about. The Nazarite vow, in my understanding, is kind of a vow to work for Yahweh and really not to pay attention to what the world is thinking or doing. And just to be how Yahweh made you, not trying to please anyone. We are not trying to look anyway for any particular person; we are just trying to be how Yahweh made us. And it is nice, really.

So, just to illustrate with a personal example, I was led to take the Nazarite vow, I think, in 2001. I do not remember, just personally I noticed a huge difference in the way I felt with uncut hair, as opposed to back when I used to cut my hair, and it does bring a separation between you and the rest of society. And that separation is not small; it is difficult. I would not go back voluntarily.

But what we need to see here is just how much Elohim is in control of all things. Because we can take a look at one level, the vow is not to cut your hair, it is not to eat grapes or raisins, and not to go near a dead body.

But if someone dies suddenly beside you, then your vow becomes defiled. It is as if the Nazarite somehow is held accountable if someone dies suddenly beside him.

Bemidbar (Numbers) 6:9

9 And if anyone dies very suddenly beside him, and he defiles his consecrated head, then he shall shave his head on the day of his cleansing; on the seventh day he shall shave it.

Why is that? Well, here I would recommend another study called "<u>About Predestination</u>" (or about predetermination). And basically, in that study, Yahweh tells us that when we are with Him, He is with us. If we will draw close to Him, He will draw close to us.

So, you know, and Scripture says *"When a man's ways please Yahweh, He will make even his enemies be at peace with him"*, and that is without the Masonic Lodge.

But notice, just to mention, the Israelite faith is an Eastern Faith, just as the land of Israel lies in the Middle East and not in the West. In the Eastern religions, they do have this inherent concept, whether it is stated as such or not, that there is a reflection between what they call the inner world and the outer world.

I am not trying to preach pagan anything to anyone, but they have this concept that what is going on inside is reflected in what is going on outside, and vice versa.

And the thing is, it is never stated like that in Scripture, but that is effectively a scriptural concept. Because Yahweh tells us that when we are with Him, He will be with us. When our ways please Him, He will make everything go good around us.

But if someone dies beside us suddenly, then are our ways pleasing to Him? Well, I will leave you to ponder that thought. But as a Nazarite, I have had to think and pray about that provision a lot. And what it says to me is if a man's ways please Yahweh, that is what He says, He will make even his enemies be at peace with Him, and that is even without the Masonic Lodge.

But basically, all through Scripture, if we will obey Yahweh, if we will hear His voice, if we will do what He says to do, and keep all His written Commandments, we are just not going to believe how good things you are going to get! But if we do not, then we are not going to believe how bad things are going to get.

And to me, this is sort of, a bad feedback signal. So, you know, if we are getting bad feedback signals, then maybe we are doing something wrong. That, to me, is the Nazarite vow. It means we are to be in tune with His will. And we know it says that in the Torah, but effectively the Nazirite vow is about to really do what we are all supposed to be doing in the Torah. I will leave you with those thoughts as we head into the Tribulation.

May Yahweh please lead and guide each one of us not only to hear His voice and to know what His word says, but that we all might do it so that our ways might please Yahweh. And He will make even our enemies be at peace with us. In Yeshua's name.

Parasha Beha'alotcha

Numbers 8:1-12:15; Zechariah 2-4; Luke 17-18

The term "Beha'alotcha" is Hebrew for when you "step up."

But that is the problem because Parasha Beha'alotcha is when Yahweh called our forefathers to step up, but they did not.

Not if it took work and not if dedication or faith was required. And our forefather's lack of faith cost them everything, and it cost their children dearly.

So, join us for this Parasha as we learn from the mistakes of our forefathers so we can avoid receiving the same punishments.

To serve Yahweh, our Elohim, we need a good attitude; it is that attitude of gratitude that makes all the difference. But when we say we need a good attitude, what we are saying is we need a good spirit. Because that is what spirits are, in modern-day terms, is attitudes.

Romim (Romans) 12:11

11 not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving Yahweh;

And the reason Yahweh wants us to know what attitudes we have is because Yahweh wants us to see what we are made of. Tehillim (Psalm) 7:9

9 Oh let the wickedness of the wicked come to an end; but establish the just: for the righteous Elohim trieth the hearts and minds.

He wants us to see what we are made of. He already knows, but He wants us to know.

So, we can repent, and we can improve our character. And then, when we repent of the things that are unbecoming of Him then we can draw closer to him. When we take away the dross and become purer, now we can draw closer to Him.

Ma'asei (Acts) 3:19 19 Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of Yahweh.

But the problem is our forefathers did not like that.

Bemidbar (Numbers) 11:1

1 Now when the people complained, it displeased Yahweh: for Yahweh heard it; and His anger was aroused. So the fire of Yahweh burned among them, and consumed some in the outskirts of the camp.

Our forefathers wanted to serve Him, and they wanted to be set apart unto Him. But they also wanted to take part in the world, and that is effectively doublemindedness. That is hopping between two opinions.

Yaakov (James) 1:8 8 he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways. In <u>Nazarene Scripture Studies, Volume Six</u>, we have a study about <u>"Double-mindedness and Schizophrenia"</u>. Because that is basically what schizophrenia is, double-mindedness, in biblical terms.

And double-mindedness is when we want to be set apart to Yahweh, but we do not really want to leave the world. We do not really want to do the things of Yahweh; we just want to be set-apart.

Melachim Aleph (1 Kings) 18:21

21 And Elijah came to all the people, and said, "How long will you falter between two opinions? If Yahweh is Elohim, follow Him; but if Baal, follow him." But the people answered him not a word.

It is kind of like people who want to be weightlifters, but they do not want to lift any weights.

You know, our forefathers wanted to serve two masters; they wanted to serve the world, or basically Satan. But they also wanted to serve Yahweh and be set-apart at the same time.

Mattityahu (Matthew) 6:24

24 No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. Ye cannot serve Elohim and mammon.

That cannot work because James tells us that the things of Yahweh and the things of the world are diametrically opposed to one another.

Ya'akov (James) 4:4 4 Ye adulterers and adulteresses! know you not that the friendship of the world is enmity with Elohim? Whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of Elohim.

So basically, we have to choose between Elohim and the world. And the thing is, Yahweh is a military conqueror, and He sent His Son to conquer the Earth through love, patience, and commitment.

Shemote (Exodus) 15:3

3 Yahweh is a man of war; Yahweh is His name.

If we do not solidly choose Yahweh's camp and help Him build His Son's Kingdom with all that we have, then why should He be pleased with us?

Yochanan (John) 12:26

26 If any man serve Me, let him follow Me; and where I am, there My servant will be also. I anyone serves Me, him will my Father will honor.

In Parasha Beha'alotcha, our forefathers were supposed to have stepped up their games, and they were supposed to have stepped up their attitudes.

They were supposed to have cashed in their childish, selfish Egyptian "take care of me, serve me, do everything for me" attitudes.

Mattityahu (Matthew) 5:48 48 Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.

Cash that in for a responsible adult spiritual attitude, it takes responsibility for the relationship. And says "you know what, I am in a relationship; it matters to me."

Father, you matter to me. Your Son matters to me. You are my King, and You are my Father-in-law. You are the head of the house, so if something's important to You, it is important to me.

So, I am not just going to sit here and take everything from You. I am not going to let You do everything for me. So, What can I do to help You?

Ask not what your Elohim can do for you. Ask what you can do for your Elohim!

Shemuel Aleph (1 Samuel) 3:10 10 Now Yahweh came and stood and called as at other times, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel answered, "Speak, for Your servant hears."

So, what can I do to help My Husband? I am supposed to be a helpmeet, maybe I ought to help My Husband. What does He need help with?

Well, what does He say He needs help with? We have got Matthew 28 and the Great Commission, the five-fold ministry.

Mattityahu (Matthew) 28:19-20

19 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in My name,

20 teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and Io, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amein.

And this is what our forefathers were supposed to do also. They were supposed to seek after the things of Yahweh. Because if you truly love someone with all of your heart, with all of your soul, with all of your strength, should not we be doing something for Him? Devarim (Deuteronomy) 6:5

5 You shall love Yahweh your Elohim with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength.

But instead of looking up and seeking Yahweh's face, our forefathers ended up pining away for the things of the world and whining away for the things of Egypt.

Bemidbar (Numbers) 11:4

4 Now the mixed multitude who were among them yielded to intense craving; so the children of Israel also wept again and said: "Who will give us meat to eat?

Well, are we different? So here we are in Egypt. We are jailbroke; we are the bride; we are supposed to be setting ourselves apart as a bridal nation. Yahweh broken us from Satan's house in Egypt. And here we are whining and complaining.

"We do not have our first-world comforts!" and "Oh! Now we want to go back to Egypt; we want to go back to Satan's house." "Oh!"

Oh yeah, you know Yahweh mounts a rescue operation to come save us from slavery at the cost of His Son's life.

Yochanan (John) 3:16

16 For Elohim so loved the world that he gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

And here we are, we are missing our old lives in the world.

Ma'asei (Acts) 7:39 39 whom our fathers would not obey, but rejected. And in their hearts they turned back to Egypt,

We are missing our old lives in Satan's house. And we can't figure out why Yahweh is unhappy. Really?

So, this is our forefathers. Is this us as well?

"Oh! Scripture tells us to organize".

"Oh! Scripture tells us to tithe".

"Oh! the Scripture tells us to support our Husband's work."

And you know people do not say these things aloud. But when you take a look at what people actually do. It is like when the Scripture says these are those who say in their hearts; I do not need to give anything back to Yahweh. I am just going to sit here and receive. After all, it is better to receive than to give, right?

But when we are that way, like our forefathers were, do we realize that we are effectively telling Yahweh that we do not care about Him? We are effectively telling Yahweh, yeah, we know what You want. But we value the things of the world more than we value the things of You and Your Son. Do we ever stop and think about how that must make Yahweh feel?

Ephesim (Ephesians) 4:30

30 And do not grieve the Set-apart Spirit of Elohim, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Well? And if we do not stop to think about how Yahweh feels, then why do we want to be married to His Son?

So, catching up with the history. Our forefathers have now numbered their physical armies, and now they have also numbered their spiritual Army, which is the Levitical Order, at that point. And so now our forefathers head out to war, effectively. And start complaining right away.

Our forefathers' big complaint is they are missing the comforts of Egypt. They have got first-world complaints going on.

"Oh! The inconvenience."

"Oh! Let us elect a new leader and go back to Satan's house; Oh!"

Father forbid! Why do not we understand that when we do that, Elohim takes that as treason?

Bemidbar (Numbers) 11:1

1 And when the people complained, it displeased Yahweh; for Yahweh heard it, and His anger was aroused. So the fire of Yahweh burned among them, and consumed some in the outskirts of the camp.

You know, either we side solidly with Yahweh on His team, and we are either fighting His war. Or the way He looks at things; we are effectively traitors. We are effectively against Him, and that is not a good place to be.

Luqa (Luke) 11:23 23 He who is not with Me is against Me, and he who does not gather with Me scatters. In the history the Bemidar (Numbers) chapter 8, the Levites are now presented to Yahweh.

Bemidbar (Numbers) 8:6

6 Take the Levites from among the children of Israel and cleanse them ceremonially.

That means they are now His; they are now His servants; they are now His slaves. They no longer have rights to themselves as humans. That is what it is to be a servant; we no longer have rights to ourselves.

So that is why if anyone should join Yeshua's priesthood, we also need to think of ourselves as slaves. We no longer have rights to ourselves. We no longer have rights to our time.

Qorintim Aleph (1 Corinthians) 7:22

22 For he who is called in Yahweh while a slave is Yahweh's freedman. Likewise he who is called while free is Messiah's slave.

Now, we are to listen for the still, small voice speaking a word in our ears. Whether we go to the right hand or whether we go to the left. We are supposed to be obeying Yahweh's voice. That is what it is to be His servant.

Chapter nine is now the first month of the second year after Yahweh's called our forefathers out of Egypt.

Bemidbar (Numbers) 9:1-3

 Now Yahweh spoke to Moshe in the Wilderness of Sinai, in the first month of the second year after they had come out of the land of Egypt, saying:
2 "Let the children of Israel keep the Passover at its appointed time. 3 On the fourteenth day of this month, at twilight, you shall keep it at its appointed time. According to all its rites and ceremonies you shall keep it."

Yahweh gives us rules for the second Passover. We talk about the rules for the second Passover in <u>The Torah</u> <u>Calendar</u> study in the chapter on <u>"The Passover and Unleavened Bread."</u>

In verse 15, the calm of fire and cloud has always been there since our forefathers left Egypt. There was a call on the fire and cloud over the tabernacle by day, and then there was the appearance of fire by night.

Bemidbar (Numbers) 9:15-16

15 Now on the day that the tabernacle was raised up, the cloud covered the tabernacle, the tent of the Testimony; from evening until morning it was above the tabernacle like the appearance of fire. 16 So it was always: the cloud covered it by day, and the appearance of fire by night.

The thing is, whenever the cloud was taken up from above the tabernacle, after that, our forefathers would journey onward. And wherever the cloud went, that is where they would go. Wherever the cloud would settle, that is where our forefathers would pitch their tents. Can we understand the spiritual implications of this?

Bemidbar (Numbers) 9:17-18

17 Whenever the cloud was taken up from above the tabernacle, after that the children of Israel would journey; and in the place where the cloud settled, there the children of Israel would pitch their tents.

18 At the command of Yahweh the children of Israel would journey, and at the command of Yahweh

they would camp; as long as the cloud stayed above the tabernacle they remained encamped.

Verse 22., whether it was two days, a month, or a year. Wherever the column of fire and cloud went, that is where our forefathers went.

Bemidbar (Numbers) 9:22

22 Whether it was two days, a month, or a year that the cloud remained above the tabernacle, the children of Israel would remain encamped and not journey; but when it was taken up, they would journey.

And that is effectively the same thing we are supposed to do in our daily walks. We are supposed to submit to the Spirit in all things and let the Spirit lead us and guide us in all things.

And we are supposed to hear a word in our inner ear saying this is the way; walk in it whenever we turn to the right hand or whenever we turn to the left

Yeshayahu (Isaiah) 30:21

21 Your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, "This is the way, walk in it," Whenever you turn to the right hand Or whenever you turn to the left.

So, do we have that relationship with the Spirit? If we do not have that, we need to pray for that. We need to ask, seek, and knock until we get it. That is so important.

Luqa (Luke) 11:10

10 For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.

In chapter 10, we see the silver trumpets. When one of the silver trumpets is blown, the leaders are supposed to gather together at the Tabernacle.

Bemidbar (Numbers) 10:4

4 But if they blow only one, then the leaders, the heads of the divisions of Israel, shall gather to you.

When both of the trumpets are blown, all the congregation gathers at the tabernacle.

Bemidbar (Numbers) 10:3

3 When they blow both of them, all the congregation shall gather before you at the door of the tabernacle of meeting.

So, in other words, the message here is it was supposed to respond as a nation. There is an ordered, organized way for His people to be; it is not just a mass of individuals.

Verse 8, notice that this is an ordinance for us forever, throughout our generations.

Bemidbar (Numbers) 10:8

8 The sons of Aaron, the priests, shall blow the trumpets; and these shall be to you as an ordinance forever throughout your generations.

Now you can get around forever; you cannot get around throughout all our generations. What that means is that we are still supposed to be organizing as a nation to this day.

Now, if you are Messianic, if you are an independent, disorganized Ephraimite, or Messianic, what are you going to do if you do not believe in organization? How are you going to have all the leaders gathered together at the Tabernacle?

But Bemidar (Numbers) chapter ten and verse eleven. It came to pass on the twentieth day of the second month in the second year that the cloud was taken up from above the Tabernacle of testimony.

Then in verse 12, our forefathers set out from the wilderness of Sinai and ended up in the wilderness of Paran. And things go from bad to worse. So, now they set out for the first time according to the command of Yahweh by the hand of Moshe.

They are headed towards war. Now there are two key leaders that we need to know about here. For those who are new, we are going to refer you briefly to <u>The</u> <u>Nazarene Israel Study</u>. We also have some other videos on the mystery of the <u>Two Houses</u>.

But in verse 14, it tells us that the camp of the children of Judah was to set out first.

Bemidbar (Numbers) 10:14

14 The standard of the camp of the children of Judah set out first according to their armies; over their army was Nahshon the son of Amminadab.

So, we need to know here about the mystery of the two houses. And you can find out all about the mystery of the two houses in <u>The Nazarene Israel Study</u>; we also have some other videos on the <u>"Two Houses."</u>

What we need to know is that the tribe of Judah was the lead tribe of the Southern three tribes of what is called the House of Judah. The House of Judah was later called the southern Kingdom of Judah. A lot of Christians do not know this, but the nation of Israel split after the reigns of Kings David and Solomon. And now there became two kingdoms after that.

There is a lot we could say here, and we are going to refer you to <u>The Nazarene Israel Study</u>. You can read about the mystery of the <u>"Two Houses."</u>

But the descendants of the Jews of yesteryear are the Jews of today. Now someone will mention the Khazars. And that is all true, but it does not change the fact that Khazars also can graft into the nation of Israel. Ruth was a Moabitess.

You do not need Yeshua to graft into the nation of Israel. It did not change with Yeshua. That is not new with Yeshua, going back to Rahab. People have always been able to graft into the nation of Israel.

Galatim (Galatians) 3:29 29 And if you are Messiah's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

And then, in verse 22, we see the children of Ephraim set out according to their armies. Now Ephraim was seventh in the line of march.

Bemidbar (Numbers) 10:22

22 And the standard of the camp of the children of Ephraim set out according to their armies; over their army was Elishama the son of Ammihud.

And we will talk at some other time about what it means that Judah was first, and Ephraim was seventh.

But as we see in <u>The Nazarene Israel Study</u>, the tribe of Ephraim was the lead tribe of the ten Northern tribes. What is later called the Northern House of Israel. Also called the northern House of Ephraim. Later this is called the Northern Kingdom of Ephraim.

And the point is that Ephraim is the lead tribe of what were later became the lost ten tribes of the Northern house of Israel. And that is who Yeshua said that He came for on His first trip, now sometimes also called the House of Joseph.

Mattityahu (Matthew) 15:24

24 But He answered and said, "I was not sent except to the lost sheep of the house of Israel."

But you can read all about why that is in <u>*The Nazarene</u></u><u><i>Israel Study*</u>; we also have some other videos.</u>

But in the Bemidar (Numbers) chapter 11, we see things go from bad to worse. Our forefathers set out to war, some army. Now Bemidbr chapter 11, our forefathers began complaining.

Bemidbar	(Numbers)	11:5
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5 We remember the fish which we ate freely in Egypt, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic;

And it displeased Yahweh. Why? Because what are they doing? They are missing Egypt.

"Oh! What an inconvenience!

"Oh! We want to go back to Egypt now! Oh!"

Well, we also need to know about what is called the mixed multitude. Again, this is not taught much in Christendom. But back in Shemote (or Exodus) chapter 12 and verse 38.

Shemote (Exodus) 12:38 38 A mixed multitude went up with them also, and flocks and herds—a great deal of livestock.

About the time of the first Exodus, we saw that a mixed multitude went up with our forefathers also. And flocks and herds a great deal of livestock. And these are people with a partial commitment to the nation of Israel. They want to get something, but they do not necessarily want to give anything back. Sound familiar?

Now in verse 4, this same mixed multitude who came up out of Egypt with our forefathers yielded to their intense craving to eat meat.

Bemidbar (Numbers) 11:4

4 And the mixt multitude that was among them fell a lusting: and the children of Israel also wept again, and said, Who shall give us flesh to eat?

"Oh, give us fish and cucumbers!"

(Oh, it just sounds yummy!)

"Oh, give us onions, melons, leeks, and garlic!"

(Mmmm, what a great combination!)

Finally, Moshe had enough. Moshe cries out.

Bemidbar (Numbers) 11:11

11 So Moses said to Yahweh, "Why have You afflicted Your servant? And why have I not found favor in Your sight, that You have laid the burden of all these people on me?

And in compassion Yahweh says He is going to take some of the Spirit that is on Moshe; He is going to put it on seventy of the Elders of Israel.

Bemidbar (Numbers) 11:17

17 Then I will come down and talk with you there. I will take of the Spirit that is upon you and will put the same upon them; and they shall bear the burden of the people with you, that you may not bear it yourself alone.

And this is where we get the concept of the seventy members or seventy-plus members of the Beit Din Gadol, the council. The Babylonian parallel to that would be something like the U.N General Assembly or something that is not Yahweh-focused, not Yeshuafocused.

But notice what is happening here, okay? This is what we are talking about every week, our forefathers, instead of rejoicing that they are called to be Yahweh's bridal nation, to begin setting themselves apart for His son. What do they do? They begin complaining.

It is like, Oh! Okay, they want physical meat They have a craving. We talked about this before. They have a craving to eat physical meat instead of enjoying the good spiritual meat of being Yahweh's intended bride for His Son.

So, what happens? They get quail for a whole month.

Bemidbar (Numbers) 11:19-20

19 "You shall eat, not one day, nor two days, nor five days, nor ten days, nor twenty days,

20 but for a whole month, until it comes out of your nostrils and becomes loathsome to you, because you have despised Yahweh who is among you, and have wept before Him, saying, "Why did we ever come up out of Egypt?" "

They are without refrigeration. They are vomiting it up; they are spewing it out until the heaves come out of their nostrils. Or alternately, do not you just plain get sick of eating the same thing day after day after day? Quail's delicious; it is like pheasant, but if you eat the same thing for a whole month. Does it not make you want to heave? Give the technicolor rainbow?

Well, this is what Yahweh thinks about complaining. When we complain, we are missing something, some inconvenience. We do not want to tithe; we do not want to organize; we do not want to submit the congregational discipline, and we do not want to do the things it takes to be Yahweh's set-apart bridal nation. That is not a good place to be

And so now Yahweh takes Moshe and takes part of His Spirit and puts it on seventy of the Elders of Israel outside the camp, and they prophesy one time.

Bemidbar (Numbers) 11:25

25 Then Yahweh came down in the cloud, and spoke to him, and took of the Spirit that was upon him, and placed the same upon the seventy elders; and it happened, when the Spirit rested upon them, that they prophesied, although they never did so again. But Eldad and Medad are prophesying inside the camp. And Yeshua (or Yehoshua), the son of Nun, says, *"Stop them, Moshe!", "Stop them!"*

So, then Moshe says the same thing that Shaliach Shaul will say later in First Corinthians 14.

Bemidbar (Numbers) 11:29

29 Then Moshe said to him, "Are you zealous for my sake? Oh, that all Yahweh's people were prophets and that Yahweh would put His Spirit upon them!"

Is that we should all earnestly desire all of the spiritual gifts, but especially that we may all learn to prophesy.

Qorintim Aleph (1 Corinthians) 14:1

1 Pursue love, and desire spiritual gifts, but especially that you may prophesy.

Why? Well, it is because when we prophesy, we are doing what Yahweh has been asking us to do all along, which is to hear His voice and then to do everything He says.

But when we prophesy, we are hearing His voice, then we are speaking according to it, and that is extremely desirable. That is what prophesying is, to hear Yahweh's voice and then to speak according to it.

And you can learn about that in our video on <u>The Two</u> <u>Different Types of Prophecy</u>; it is in the video collection on <u>Spirituality and Heart Matters</u>. You can also read more details in our study in <u>Nazarene Scripture Studies</u>, <u>Volume One</u>, which is called about <u>"Speaking in</u> <u>Tongues."</u> And it also goes on to talk about how we can learn to prophesy. But before we move on to chapter 12, first let us take a look at Bemidar (Numbers) chapter 11, verse 34 where the name of the place where the people died is called Kibrot Hatta'avah because that is where they buried the people who yielded to their fleshly cravings to eat meat.

So, what does it mean that they died because they yielded to their cravings? What is the modern-day parallel? We can all pray about that.

Then in chapter 12, Miriam and Aharon spoke against Moshe because of the Kushite woman he had taken, or Moshe had taken a Kushite woman.

Now there are two main interpretations of this. One is that Kush is in modern-day Ethiopia, which means that Moshe took an Ethiopian wife. However, we know that Moshe's wife, Sephora was the daughter of Yitro, the priest of the Midian.

There is also a Kush (or Kushan, which could be an intensive of Kush) in the Midian.

It is also mentioned in Habaqquq 3 and verse 7.

Habqquq (Habakkuk) 3:7 7 I saw the tents of Cushan in affliction; The curtains of the land of Midian trembled.

Also, the people in that region of the Kushan region in the Midian are known to have a darker skin color than average.

Why? We do not know. But it makes sense that Moshe had taken a woman from Kush (or Kushan) in the Midian because that is where Sephora's father lived because he was the priest of the Midian.

So basically, Miriam and Aharon are committing what is called the Lashon HaRa, it is also translated as the bad tongue or the evil tongue. So basically, they are badmouthing Moshe. They are talking about him behind his back.

Now one of the things we cover in our study about <u>"Lashon HaRa: The Evil Tongue"</u> is that, yes, you can talk about real things.

There is a rabbinical doctrine; you are not allowed to say anything real if it is defamatory, meaning you are not allowed to speak the truth in love. Whereas we know we are commanded to speak the truth in love.

And if there is a problem with something, we are supposed to talk about it. We are supposed to speak the truth in love so as to put the evil outside the camp. Yeshua our Elohim also tells us that we are supposed to talk about it. But we are supposed to go directly to the person, first in private. That is discussed in Matthew chapter 18.

Mattityahu (Matthew) 18:15

15 "Moreover if your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he hears you, you have gained your brother.

And we talk about the Matthew chapter 18 process in our study <u>*Covenant Relationships*</u>.

Now, if you go to the Israelite privately to address a real concern and you approach them in love. And they do not want to listen to you. Yeshua tells us then we are supposed to take one or two more witnesses for a total of two or three.

Mattityahu (Matthew) 18:16

16 But if he will not hear, take with you one or two more, that 'BY THE MOUTH OF TWO OR THREE WITNESSES EVERY WORD MAY BE ESTABLISHED.'

Now, preferably we want to take Deacons or Elders in the congregation. Because then Yeshua tells us that if we talk to them privately, we have another witness or two with us. If they do not listen to us, then we are supposed to basically put them outside the congregation. We have no choice but to let them go.

Mattityahu (Matthew) 18:17

17 And if he refuses to hear them, tell it to the assembly. But if he refuses even to hear the assembly, let him be to you like a heathen and a tax collector.

But the point is it is an organized procedure. And it builds towards something. It builds a better nation. It helps us all to step up. You do not just talk trash about people behind their backs.

So, you can read all about that in a study on <u>"Lashon</u> <u>HaRa: The Evil Tongue</u>" and you can find it in our study on <u>Covenant Relationships</u>.

Now we come to our half to a prophetic portion, and the rabbis chose Zechariah Chapter 2 through part of verse 4 because the Torah portion talks about a menorah, and Zechariah also talks about a menorah.

Well, there is lots of good stuff in Zechariah. We talk about it extensively in our study on <u>Revelation and the</u> <u>End Times</u>, that is, <u>Revelation Simplified</u> on YouTube. So, we will talk about Zechariah much more in other locations.

But for this week, we are going to go straight to our Brit Chadasha or our renewed Covenant portion. Let us come to Luqa or Luke chapter 17 and verse 5, where the apostles ask Yeshua to increase their faith. One of my favorite passages in Scripture.

Luqa (Luke) 17:5-6

5 And the apostles said to the Master, "Increase our faith."

6 So the Master said, "If you have faith as a mustard seed, you can say to this mulberry tree, 'Be pulled up by the roots and be planted in the sea,' and it would obey you.

Now, most people make a disconnect after verse six because they read verse 5 and verse 6, and they stop. What they miss is Yeshua's explanation, which begins in verse 7. And that is why so many people seem not to understand this passage.

Now Yeshua asks do you want faith? Well, okay, which of us having a servant that plows or tends sheep or does anything for us, works in the field, works in the automotive shop. When our servant comes in from the field, my servant comes in from working; we say, "ah oh, you poor thing," saying, "all come in at once, oh, sit down to eat oh you poor thing, you have done your job."

Luqa (Luke) 17:7

7 And which of you, having a servant plowing or tending sheep, will say to him when he has come in from the field, 'Come at once and sit down to eat'? But is not that what we think?

In verse 8, Yeshua says, no! Rather his master is going to say to him, "well, first, you make me something to eat."

"And you stay girded up."

"And you are going to serve me, and then after I have eaten and drunk, now afterward, that is when you are going to eat."

Luqa (Luke) 17:8

8 But will he not rather say to him, 'Prepare something for my supper, and gird yourself and serve me till I have eaten and drunk, and afterward you will eat and drink'?

He says, "does the master thank the servant because he did his job?"

"Does the master thank the servant because he did those things that were commanded of him?" I think not.

Likewise, with us. You know we have done everything Scripture says to do when we have completed the whole Torah, we have done everything in the fivefold ministry; we should say we are unprofitable servants. We are doing only that which it is our duty to do.

But brothers, sisters, let us be honest. Do not we expect a reward? You know, like we did everything Scripture says to do, right?

"We paid our tithes."

"We helped the poor."

"We helped Yeshua grow the Kingdom that His father sent Him to grow."

We expect a reward for that?

Yeshua says no. He says after we have done everything that Yahweh says to do, that is what we should say, "we are unprofitable servants" because we have only done that which is our duty to do.

Luqa (Luke) 17:10 10 "So likewise you, when you have done all those things which you are commanded, say, 'We are unprofitable servants. We have done what was our duty to do.' "

But if the righteous person is barely saved, then what happens to the sinner? What happens to those that do not want to pay their tithes? They do not want to help the poor; they do not want to help Yeshua with the Great Commission.

Well, what we need to see here in this passage is how the apostles asked Yeshua to increase their faith, and Yeshua told them, "increase your humility." Because when we are not pretending anything before Elohim, we are just being real. We are not "putting on airs"; we are not pretending that well Yahweh is the King; these are His Commandments, but sin does not matter much.

So, when we are going to be humble enough to be real before Elohim, we are going to do everything that He says to do. And then we are going to humbly put forth our petition with joy and with thanksgiving. That is when He is going to answer our prayers. Because we do not have an entitlement complex, that is when He is going to answer our prayers. We show that attitude of gratitude. That we are going to do all the things for Him just because we love Him. We are not expecting a reward. That is when He is going to throw the mountain into the sea.

Mattityahu (Matthew) 11:29

29 Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

So, if we want more faith, we need to pray for more humility. And that is when we can realize that just because we are responding to His call, that does not make us anything special. That does not mean we deserve a reward; that just means we are finally doing what He designed us to do from the start.

Well, this realization is not flattering to our ego, but that is kind of the point. Because when we know our place and do our jobs, He takes care of the rest.

And that is how Yahweh wants us to step up today, by knowing our places.

Parasha Shelach

Numbers 13:1-15:41; Joshua 1-2; Matthew 10, Acts 13

In this Parasha, we are going to zoom WAY IN on this Hebrew word, "shelach", because it illustrates the right relationship we are to have with our Elohim.

Devarim (Deuteronomy) 10:12

12 "And now, Israel, what does Yahweh your Elohim require of you, but to fear Yahweh your Elohim, to walk in all His ways and to love Him, to serve Yahweh your Elohim with all your heart and with all your soul.

In other words, it illustrates the righteousness we are to have with our Elohim.

So, what is this Hebrew word shelach all about? And how does it relate to the shallach?

Romim (Romans) 1:1 1 Shaul, a bondservant of Yeshua, called to be an apostle, separated to the gospel of Elohim.

And why is it so vital that we understand and live the same societal structure that Yahweh uses Biblically if we are to please our Elohim?

Tehillim (Psalm) 147:11 11 Yahweh takes pleasure in those who fear Him, In those who hope in His mercy.

In other words, if we want to please Yahweh, do not we have to adopt His culture?

Join us for Parasha Shelach so we can find out why Yahweh's culture is so important for us and Ephraim to adopt today.

The Hebrew term "shelach" is Strong's Hebrew concordance number H7971, and it is a primitive root that means simply "to send away" or "to send out"!

And we saw in other places that the Hebrew term for an apostle is a shaliach or a sent one.

But here is the thing, if someone is sent, does not someone have to do the sending? And who is it that has to do the sending in order for someone to qualify as a shelach?

Well, for most of us growing up in a democracy, we have forgotten completely what the mindset of kingship is all about. We cannot relate to life under a kingship.

Because in democracy, if we get an idea and want to do something, we just do it. It is freedom, liberty completely.

But under a kingship, the king's ministers need to review everything to make sure it is not going to compromise national security, make sure it is not going to help our enemies, and make sure it is going to build the kingdom long-term.

So, that is why in the kingship, the king will send out his ministers to do his bidding and to carry out his work.

Devarim (Deuteronomy) 16:18

18 "You shall appoint judges and officers in all your gates, which Yahweh your Elohim gives you, according to your tribes, and they shall judge the people with just judgment.

Well, in a very real sense, after Mount Sinai, when we signed up and said our "I do's", we have become effectively His ministers.

Shemote (Exodus) 19:6

6 And you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a Set-apart nation.' These are the words which you shall speak to the children of Israel."

So, we are agents of His Kingdom, so to speak; if we are sent by Him and we are not self-elected, and if we stick to our roles.

Yochanan (John) 15:16

16 You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My Name He may give you.

Now we are going to see the problems of being selfelected a little later on in this parasha. Because if we decide to send ourselves, that is not the same thing as the King of the universe sending us. Just by way of information, for those of you ministers with your own independent ministries.

In Scripture, a shaliach (or a sent one) is a shaliach precisely because Yahweh sends him to do something special for Him; he has a commission, so to speak.

Shophetim (Judges) 6:14

14 Then Yahweh turned to him and said, "Go in this might of yours, and you shall save Israel from the hand of the Midianites. Have I not sent you?"

And again, later in this parasha, we are going to see that we do not get to send ourselves, that is called selfidolatry, and it carries a huge punishment.

Luqa (Luke) 14:11 11 For whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."

Next week we are going to see that it seems like no matter whom Elohim sends; it seems like our forefathers always reject them. At least, that is the pattern shown in Scripture.

Mattityahu (Matthew) 23:34

34 Therefore, indeed, I send you prophets, wise men, and scribes: some of them you will kill and crucify, and some of them you will scourge in your synagogues and persecute from city to city.

And to speak the truth in love, that is the same problem as most of us in Ephraim labor under as well, without even realizing it. People say well, how so?

Well, to briefly recap the big picture view, Yahweh originally created us humans to Shema (meaning to hear and obey His voice).

Devarim (Deuteronomy) 27:10

10 Therefore you shall obey the voice of Yahweh your Elohim, and observe His commandments and His statutes which I command you today."

And the very first thing He commanded us, was to tend and keep the garden. But there were several implicit assumptions. He expected us also to love our brothers, take care of our brothers, and serve as our brother's keepers. But we did not want to do that. Vayiqra (Leviticus) 19:18

18 You shall not take vengeance, nor bear any grudge against the children of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am Yahweh.

Instead, we chose the route of selfishness. We chose not to take care of the earth; we chose not to take care of our brothers. But we chose to trash our home and to get ahead of our brothers and to get a leg up on our brothers.

Well, this kind of selfish thinking is basically what has made it possible that we have the societal situation of today. Where men are effectively following the way of Babylon. Where the rich and powerful use their wealth and power for their own personal betterment, at the expense of everyone else. At the expense of all their brothers and sisters.

Yeshayahu (Isaiah) 10:1-2

1 "Woe to those who decree unrighteous decrees, who write misfortune, which they have prescribed 2 To rob the needy of justice, and to take what is right from the poor of My people, that widows may be their prey, and that they may rob the fatherless".

So, we are effectively staring that end game in the face right now. Every week, as we read the news, with the coming of the Sabbatean-Frankist globalist world order.

We know from our studies in <u>Revelation & the End Times</u> that they are not going to win it; they are going to lose. They do not know that; they are going to find out the hard way. Hitgalut (Revelation) 18:2

2 And he cried mightily with a loud voice, saying, "Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and has become a dwelling place of demons, a prison for every foul spirit, and a cage for every unclean and hated bird!

But we also know that the only way that we get to be kept from the hour of trial is by joining and participating in the Assembly of Philadelphia, (the assembly of true brotherly love).

Hitgalut (Revelation) 3:10

10 Because you have kept My command to persevere, I also will keep you from the hour of trial which shall come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell on the earth.

Well, there are rules for that. And what that means is that rather than trying to get ahead of our brothers at the expense of our brothers, at the expense of the planet, we need to serve our brothers.

Marqaus (Mark) 9:35

35 And He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "If anyone desires to be first, he shall be last of all and servant of all."

We need to take care of our home according to everything that Elohim's voice ever said for us to do. That is the only way to end up with peace on earth longterm.

Now the world's going to plunge itself into darkness before we realize that. Before Elohim saves us and shortens the days of tribulation. Mattityahu (Matthew) 24:7-8

7 For nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places. 8 All these are the beginning of sorrows.

But what we need to do on our end is that we need to organize according to His word so that we can help Him build His kingdom.

Ivrim (Hebrews) 12:28

28 Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us have grace, by which we may serve Elohim acceptably with reverence and fear.

We need to make ourselves available to be sent by Him, and there has never been a better time than right now.

Because effectively, we take a step back and we look at the big picture view. Basically, Yahweh sent His Son to take back a rebellious world through love.

Yochanan (John) 3:16

16 For Yahweh so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

But if we do not respond to the love of Elohim's Son 100 percent. And hear His word, read His word, and do the things He says to do, then what good are we to Him as sent ones? And what good are we to Him as a bride?

But it is tricky because Yahweh uses a different system than we use, and we need to understand it. For those of us who have grown up under voting and democracy, and elections. Yahweh uses a completely different system that operates on completely different assumptions.

Because democracy is rebellion, democracy is based on the premise that we are all sovereign.

Shophetim (Judges) 8:33

33 So it was, as soon as Gideon was dead, that the children of Israel again played the harlot with the Baals and made Baal-Berith their god.

And this is our power-sharing strategy; between us, we all agree to yield a portion of our sovereignty to a central red-horse government. As we explained in the study on <u>Revelation & the End Times</u> is effectively here to destroy us. Because the red horse is not our friend, only Yahweh, our Elohim is our friend.

So, in order to be in His protection, we have to adopt His culture. We have to adopt His commanded form of government. That is our job right now in Nazarene Israel.

Yochanan (John) 15:13-14

13 Greater love has no one than this than to lay down one's life for his friends.

14 You are My friends if you do whatever I command you.

The world operates on the assumption that the majority is usually right. And so that is how democracy operates; it is whatever the majority rule, whatever the mob wants, the mob gets. Because we think that whatever seems good and right in our own eyes is what we ought to vote for when Yahweh says that way leads only to death. Mishle (Proverbs) 14:12

12 There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death.

The assumption in Scripture is that the majority of the people are usually dead wrong because we are only human; we are people.

Shemote (Exodus) 23:2

2 You shall not follow a crowd to do evil; nor shall you testify in a dispute so as to turn aside after many to pervert justice.

And Yaakov also tells us that the things that we seek after, things of the world, those are opposed to the things of the flesh. Diametrically opposed; the two things are opposites.

Ya'akov (James) 4:4

4 Adulterers and adulteresses! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with Elohim? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of Elohim.

And the problem is that even if you tried to make democracy work the right way, most people get their passions and their emotions confused for Elohim's Spirit. They cannot tell the difference between their emotionality and what Elohim is saying through His Spirit.

Typically speaking, what happens for Elohim to bring order to His people, because He is an Elohim of order, what He does historically is that He sends either one man or a small group of men who know how to rule their own spirits and who also know how to submit to the Spirit of Elohim. They do not get caught up in emotionalism. B'reisheet (Genesis) 17:1

1 When Abram was ninety-nine years old, Yahweh appeared to Abram and said to him, "I am Almighty Elohim; walk before Me and be blameless.

They are able to hear Yahweh's voice and to speak and act according to it. And those are the people Yahweh our Elohim works through.

For example, Yahweh sent Moshe to draw our forefathers out of the land of Egypt and to bring us into covenant relationship with Him.

Now in this parasha, Moshe himself is told to send out spies to spy out the land of Israel. And all through Scripture, we see this kind of agency relationship. Where the king, or the leader, or in this case, Yahweh, sends out His agents to do His bidding.

Shemuel Bet (2 Samuel) 9:5

5 Then King David sent and brought him out of the house of Machir, the son of Ammiel, from Lo Debar.

And that is effectively what a shaliach (or an apostle) is, is Yahweh's agent called and sent out for a specific purpose or mission. That purpose or mission can be very broad, or can be very general, like the Great Commission, or it can be very specific.

But if the King is the one sending, it is always in line with building Elohim's true Kingdom. It is always in line with His original purpose, which is to cause a broken and fallen rebellious mankind to submit to His Son in love.

Kepha Aleph (1 Peter) 5:6

6 Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of Elohim, that He may exalt you in due time.

That is the ultimate goal here, so everything that is done must be in keeping with Elohim's ultimate goal.

In our Torah portion, beginning in the Bemidbar (Numbers) Chapter 13, Yahweh tells Moshe (Moses) to send out spies to spy out the land.

Bemidbar (Numbers) 13:1-2

1 And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying,

2 "Send men to spy out the land of Canaan, which I am giving to the children of Israel; from each tribe of their fathers, you shall send a man, every one a leader among them."

Kind of funny, the word in Hebrew is Strong's Hebrew H8446, *Toor*. So, when you go to the land of Israel, and you tell them what your purpose is, you say 'tourism'. They go, "aAha!; They are here to spy out the land; it is Ephraim!".

So, once again, what we are going to see is the Two Houses in action. We are going to see Judah send out Caleb, the son of Yephunneh. And we are going to see the tribe of Ephraim send out Hoshea the son of Nun.

Bemidbar (Numbers) 13:6,8

6 from the tribe of Judah, Caleb, the son of Yephunneh.

8 from the tribe of Ephraim, Hoshea, the son of Nun.

And then in verse 16, we are going to see how Moshe called Hoshea the son of Nun by a new name Yehoshua, or in English, we say Joshua.

Bemidbar (Numbers) 13:16

16 These are the names of the men whom Moses sent to spy out the land. And Moses called Hoshea the son of Nun, Joshua.

And if you would like to know how the name of Hoshea became Yehoshua and then later Yeshua, please check out the study on <u>"The Set-apart Names"</u> in <u>Nazarene</u> <u>Scripture Studies</u>, <u>Volume One</u>; we also have a video on the same subject.

But as we explain in the <u>Nazarene Israel Study</u>, Caleb and Joshua represent what are called <u>"The Two Houses</u> <u>of Israel"</u>. And you can read all about that and why that is so important in the <u>Nazarene Israel Study</u>.

So, what happens in the parasha? Well, verse 25 tells the end of forty days, the spies return back from spying out the land, from touring the land, being tourists.

Bemidbar (Numbers) 13:25 25 And they returned from spying out the land after forty days.

And of course, ten of the spies bring back a bad report, and they focus on all the negatives; they are very pessimistic.

Bemidbar (Numbers) 13:28

28 Nevertheless, the people who dwell in the land are strong; the cities are fortified and very large; moreover, we saw the descendants of Anak there.

Does it not seem like there is always a whiner around here somewhere? So, they had the wrong focus. They are focused on all the negatives; they are forgetting about Yahweh. But then, in verse 30, Caleb jumps up, and he quiets the people before Moshe. He says let us go up at once and occupy it because we are well able to overcome it. Because we have Yahweh on our side. We have nothing to fear if Yahweh is sending us; if our Elohim is sending us, we know He is the true Elohim, we can do it.

Bemidbar (Numbers) 13:30

30 Then Caleb quieted the people before Moshe and said, "Let us go up at once and take possession, for we are well able to overcome it."

But the ten spies said no, we cannot go up against the people even though Yahweh is on our side.

Bemidbar (Numbers) 13:31

31 But the men who had gone up with him said, "We are not able to go up against the people, for they are stronger than we."

Even though Yahweh just trashed Egypt and even though Yahweh just brought judgment on all the gods of Egypt. And even though Yahweh just parted the Reed sea for us. And even though we are receiving a miracle of manna daily. And even though we have the column of fire and cloud over the tabernacle both by day and by night. There are all kinds of things going on that we cannot explain by anything other than supernatural means. Mount Sinai is on smoke, Moshe is gone for forty days, all kinds of things, there are miracles going on that defy explanation.

And so, our forefathers cried out "no, we cannot go up because they are stronger than we are." What this is saying is there is no real faith in Yahweh. Just like Ephraim does not show real faith in Yahweh. That if we will do everything He says to do that He will take care of us. And if we do not do everything He says to do; we are not going to make it back home.

Chapter 14. Then all the congregation raises a loud cry, and our forefathers cried and wept all night.

In verse 4 we see our Babylonian tendencies. A red horse genetic tendencies at work because our forefathers wanted to elect or select or vote for their own leader and then go back to Egypt.

Bemidbar (Numbers) 14:4

4 So they said to one another, "Let us select a leader and return to Egypt."

So, what is the difference with that in democracy? And in a democracy, we think, what is wrong with that? It is the people exercising their right to choose. But the problem is under Kingship; we do not get a right to choose.

Devarim (Deuteronomy) 30:19

19 I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore, choose life, that both you and your descendants may live.

We have a right to choose who we are going to submit to as our King and whether or not we are going to be faithful. Meaning whether or not He is going to have to kill us all for treason in the tribulation. And that is basically all the choices we get. Mattityahu (Matthew) 25:41

41 "Then He will also say to those on the left hand, 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels:

But we should be ecstatic about it. We should be literally in ecstasy all the time that Yahweh has called us to suffer these things for Him. And to do His bidding and to be His servants.

Thessaloniquim Aleph (1 Thessalonians) 5:16-18

16 Rejoice always,

17 pray without ceasing,

18 in everything give thanks; for this is the will of Elohim in Yeshua for you.

We are supposed to give thanks for this, in all things and at all times. Because we are called to be His slaves. We are supposed to rejoice because He has the victory over our flesh. And because we have died the same death, the Yeshua has died. And we are raised in the same resurrection that Yeshua was raised in; now we are raised into His Spirit.

Romim (Romans) 6:4

4 Therefore, we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Messiah was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so, we also should walk in newness of life.

Yes, we are called to a role as a slave. But we are called in the role of a slave princess. What is wrong with being a slave princess to the King of the universe's Son?

Brothers and sisters, we just need to humble ourselves, to humbly accept the position. Do we understand what we are being given? It is like someone hands you a platter filled with gold, silver, diamonds, and gemstones, and we are like, "we do not want it; it is too much work, we have to go, we have inconveniences, we just do not like it."

You know, humility does not come easily to us, and neither does trust. We do not trust Yahweh, we do not submit to Yahweh, or we would do all the things that Elohim says.

Mattityahu (Matthew) 11:29 29 Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

So then, in verse 5, Moshe and Aharon fall on their faces because the people are rebelling against their King.

Bemidbar (Numbers) 14:5

5 Then Moses and Aaron fell on their faces before all the assembly of the congregation of the children of Israel.

They are rebelling against the one who shaliach them and who sent them.

So, then we see the leaders of the Two Houses, Joshua, the son of Nun, symbolic of the tribe of Ephraim. Caleb, the son of Yephunneh, symbolic of the house of Judah. They tore their clothes; they said no, the land is an exceedingly good land. If we respond in trust and Yahweh delights in us, He will bring us into the land He promised. Bemidbar (Numbers) 14:8

8 If Yahweh delights in us, then He will bring us into this land and give it to us, 'a land which flows with milk and honey.'

But do not rebel against Yahweh. Because that is what it was, it was a rebellion against the King who shaliach them.

And by the way, while we are here, we should mention that Joshua was second to jump up. He jumped up only after Caleb had already jumped up. That is why the land was promised to Caleb, and that is why Judah was brought back home to the land first.

We talk about how the End Times play out in our study on <u>Revelation & the End Times</u>.

Okay, in verse 11, Yahweh said to Moshe how long will these people despise Me? And how long will they not believe in me, despite all the many myriads and multitude of signs that I have done among them?

So far, our ancestors, we have seen Yahweh just trash Egypt, trashed their gods. Everything Yahweh has said has come to pass. But we still we do not believe Him. We are watching daily miracles of manna, daily miracles of the column and fire and cloud. We see His hand; we see our forefathers saw His protection.

Yeshayahu (Isaiah) 59:12

12 For our transgressions are multiplied before You, and our sins testify against us; for our transgressions are with us, and as for our iniquities, we know them. But we rebelled against our King; we rebelled against the One who sent us. Because we spent a whole year at the foot of Mount Sinai organizing and building the tabernacle, now here it is a year later, Yahweh is sending us as a bridal nation out on a mission for Him. But we do not want to do it. We only wanted a land of milk and honey if it is easy.

We do not want to tithe; we do not want to work; we do not want to volunteer; we do not want to do anything. It does not make Yahweh happy.

Verse 37. And all the men who brought up a bad report died by plague, because they had a focus on the negative. There is always somebody looking for some reason why we cannot do what Yahweh's word says to do today.

There is always some reason that we do not have to do it, or we cannot do it, or whatever. But they are looking for excuses. They are looking for reasons to get out of what Yahweh said to do instead of looking for ways to show Yahweh their love by doing what Yahweh hopes that we will do.

Yochanan (John) 14:15 15 "If you love Me, keep My commandments."

But that is what He is giving us. He is giving us an opportunity to excel. And how many of us, we know that we are called. We assume that we are chosen because we are called, even though we have not chosen to respond to His call.

Yeshayahu (Isaiah) 6:8 8 Also I heard the voice of Yahweh, saying: "Whom shall I send, and who will go for Us?" Caleb, the son of Yephunneh, and also Joshua, the son of Nun, remained alive through the whole time. Because they looked for the positive, they brought a good report; they diligently sought that which was good instead of focusing on that which was bad.

So again, they are the representatives of the <u>"The Two</u> <u>Houses of Israel"</u>, Ephraim and Judah. You can read all about that in the <u>Nazarene Israel Study</u>.

In verse 39, we have more drama trauma among our ancestors. Moshe told these words to the people, and our ancestors mourned greatly. So, then, what did we do?

Bemidbar (Numbers) 14:40

40 And they rose early in the morning and went up to the top of the mountain, saying, "Here we are, and we will go up to the place which Yahweh has promised, for we have sinned!"

Well, we got up early in the morning we went up to the heights of the hill country. We said, "here we are, choose us" now we will go up to the land which Yahweh has promised. We will go to the place which Yahweh has promised.

And what does Moshe say? He says what do you think you are doing? Yahweh did not send you to go anywhere. Your King did not shelach you. Okay, you are shaliachim yourselves. It does not work; you are going to die; they did not listen.

Bemidbar (Numbers) 14:41-42 41 And Moses said, "Now why do you transgress the command of Yahweh? For this will not succeed. 42 Do not go up, lest you be defeated by your enemies, for Yahweh is not among you.

So, of course, the Amalekites and the Canaanites who lived in that hill country came down, defeated them, and pursued them even to Hormah.

That is what happens when we decide to send ourselves. All those independent ministers who are not building Yeshua's unified Kingdom based on a single foundation of apostles and prophets. Based on the principle of the five-fold ministry. What are you doing?

In the End Time context, if you are building your own little ministry, you are building your own little ministry kingdom. What are you doing in an End-Time context? We do not get to send ourselves.

Before we go on to our Haftarah prophetic portion, first, let's take a look at something special here in Bemidbar (or Numbers) chapter 15, starting in verse 37.

Yahweh said to Moshe speak to the children of Israel and the people of Israel and tell them to make tassels (or tzitzit) on the corners of their garments throughout their generations; that means it applies to today. And put a cord of blue on the tassel of each corner. And it shall be a tassel for you to look at, to remember to do all the Commandments of Yahweh, to do them, not to follow after your own heart and your own eyes, after which you are inclined to.

Bemidbar (Numbers) 15:37-39 37 Again, Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, 38, "Speak to the children of Israel: Tell them to make tassels on the corners of their garments throughout their generations and to put a blue thread in the tassels of the corners.

39 And you shall have the tassel, that you may look upon it and remember all the commandments of Yahweh and do them, and that you may not follow the harlotry to which your own heart and your own eyes are inclined.

And the whole point here is that we are no longer to do what we want. Because we are His servants, we are His slaves, willingly. And that is what it is to be a slave; we no longer have rights to ourselves. We no longer have legal rights. We no longer have free will. Because we are not free, we are slaves.

So, we do not get to exercise our own free will. And that is what this little blue tassel is. Exactly a reminder of, is that we do not get to do our own will. We do not get to follow our own hearts, in our own eyes, and our own desires; we do not get to send ourselves.

Now in a democracy, we could just send ourselves wherever we want. There is no problem. We can start a ministry. You know we have a Bible and a camera; we can be a ministry.

We are not building Yeshua's unified Kingdom, so it does not really truly work for Yahweh's ultimate purposes. But we can do whatever we want because we are in a democracy. But not under Kingship because under Kingship, we are all just soldiers. We are part of our war Elohim's armies.

Timotheus Bet (2 Timothy) 2:3 3 You, therefore, must endure hardship as a good soldier of Yeshua the Messiah. And that is what this little blue tassel says, is that we are no longer the harlot after our own eyes and our own desires.

If you want to understand this in more detail in the <u>Torah</u> <u>Calendar Study</u>, near the end of the book, we have a chapter called <u>"About Service."</u> And the point of the chapter is the way Elohim looks at things.

Whatever we pay attention to, that is what we are serving. So that is what we consider worthy of our time; that is what we consider worthy of our attention. So that is effectively what we worship. And this gets very deep; it is a very simple principle.

But when we take into account, we take a look at where do we spend our time? Where do we spend our money? What do we pay attention to?

In the language of Scripture, what we pay attention to that is effectively what we worship.

Mattityahu (Matthew) 6:21 21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

If we are worshiping a cross, we may not realize that it is the sign of the demon Tammuz. So, if we are looking upon a cross and gazing upon a cross and trying to think of Yeshua or Jesus, as the case may be. That is idolatry that is not doing the things Elohim says to do; that is not keeping the second commandment.

Shemote (Exodus) 20:4

4 "You shall not make for yourself a carved image—any likeness of anything that is in heaven

above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.

So, if we do the things that Elohim says to do, then, and only then, in the language of the Bible, Yahweh considers that we consider Him worthy to tell us what to do.

Someone who is worthy to tell us what to do, we worthship Him because we consider Him worthy to give Him our attention. But if we do not do what Yahweh says to do. If we do not hear His voice, and we do not read His word and do everything He has commanded the way He tells us to do it. Then in Yahweh's thinking, we do not consider Him worthy to be our Elohim.

Shemuel Aleph (1 Samuel) 15:22

22 So Samuel said: "Has Yahweh as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of Yahweh? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, And to heed than the fat of rams.

So, no matter what we might think, no matter what we might say. He does not consider that we are worshiping Him because we do not consider Him worthy to be the one to establish everything we do as a unified nation worldwide.

And that is also effectively the case with the rabbinic tzitzit: they do not obey the Torah. They are obeying their own traditions and teachings. And that is because the rabbis tell us to color our tzitzit blue with the mucous gland of the *Murex Trunculus* sea snail.

There are all sorts of studies out there on the internet. If you kill a sea snail, a *Murex Trunculus*, at certain times of day, you can extract the dye from the gland. And it makes the dye from the mucous gland either purple or blue or sometimes even red. But you are coloring your tzitzit with sea snail snot. And not only that, it is an unclean animal.

In Vayiqra or Leviticus chapter 11 and verse 10, it tells us we are to abominate the carcass of anything that lives in the water, like a sea snail that does not have fins or scales. And your *Murex Trunculus* sea snail does not have fins or scales. Therefore, according to Yahweh, we are supposed to abominate the *Murex Trunculus* sea snail, not soak our tzitzit in its snot.

Vayiqra (Leviticus) 11:10

10 But all in the seas or in the rivers that do not have fins and scales, all that move in the water or any living thing which is in the water, they are an abomination to you.

Now we come to our Haftarah prophetic portion. We come to Joshua or Yehoshua chapter 2; we see the same thing, we see a shaliachim. We see Joshua sending spies on a mission.

Yehoshua (Joshua) 2:1

1 Now Joshua, the son of Nun, sent out two men from Acacia Grove to spy secretly, saying, "Go, view the land, especially Jericho." So, they went and came to the house of a harlot named Rahab and lodged there.

But what we need to notice here is the reason that anyone is ever sent; it is always to build Yahweh's Kingdom. It is always to further His greater overall purpose. Which is to bring the earth in subjection to His Son, and then Elohim shall be all in all. That is always why anyone is truly ever sent. It is to help further Yahweh's cause and build Yeshua's unified Kingdom in this age.

Notice the spies do not send themselves. They are sent by the one who is placed in authority so that it can be a unified operation. It can be one operation, one single body.

Qorintim Aleph (1 Corinthians) 12:12 12 For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Messiah.

Not a whole bunch of independent Messianics running around, a minister here, a minister there, here a minister, there a minister, everywhere a rabbi. They do not do that in Scripture.

Now let us go to our Brit Chadasha (or Renewed Covenant) portion, and we see Yeshua sending out His shaliachim (or His apostles). And it is literally the act of sending him out on a mission for Yeshua, which makes them shaliachim. There is no other qualification for a shaliachim (or apostle).

A lot of independent apostles, a lot of rogue apostles, and a lot of rogue ministers doing their own thing out there.

Mattityahu (Matthew) 10:5

5 These twelve Yeshua sent out and commanded them, saying: "Do not go into the way of the Gentiles, and do not enter a city of the Samaritans.

Let us take a look at where we are, friends, brothers, and sisters. We are in the End Times. If there was ever a

time to be doing Yeshua's program, this is the time. And He has a program. We talk about that in a study on *Torah Government* and also in *Acts 15 Order*.

But notice here, the way it goes, is your King or His delegate is the one to shelach you (or send) you. And now you are a shaliach because He is the one who sent you; the Spirit sends us; we will see in just a bit.

Mattityahu (Matthew) 10:16

16 "Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves. Therefore, be wise as serpents and harmless as doves.

There are also different kinds of shaliachim. First, we have the ecclesiastical (or ministerial) kinds of shaliach that everyone thinks about. Then you also have another kind of shelach, in ancient times, you also had messengers or runners who were also sent. Well that act of sending them out makes them a shelach, whether or not they are anointed to teach or whether they are simply a runner.

Now, if you want to know more, we have a study on that in <u>Nazarene Scripture Studies</u>, <u>Volume Three</u>, <u>"Junia:</u> <u>Woman Apostle or Courier?"</u> and this explains the different kinds of shaliachim or different kinds of sent ones.

But the point we need to get from all this is that Yahweh's service is not a democracy. It is a Kingship; it is effectively a benevolent dictatorship. The King shelachs His shaliachim to do His bidding, or He appoints someone to send someone else out.

But there is an order to it; there is a unified order to it. That is missing from the Messianic world. It is missing from what is called the Ephraimites movement, from independent Messianics. They do not understand that the message of this is a shaliach is just a soldier; that is all he is.

A shaliachs job is to listen to Yeshua's Spirit. And then diligently do what he is told, including everything that was ever said before by the Spirit.

Because we are accountable to everything in Scripture, not just parts of it. Not just a convenient, broad, easy walk parts. You know how we have to do it in faith what Elohim tells us to do, and then we have to trust that Elohim is going to deliver us.

Ivrim (Hebrews) 11:1

1 Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

That is what Scripture speaks of, so are we doing that? Or are we learning about what we should be doing? It is a question for each one of us to ask the Father Yahweh in prayer, to please show us the truth, show us whether or not we are in the faith.

So, now let's come to Acts chapter 13 or Ma'asei 13, and we are going to see all of these elements in play in just a few short verses here.

First, we had the assembly that was in Antioch, which is in modern-day Turkey. And there were certain prophets and teachers, one of them was Bar Naba (or Barnabas); we also had Shimon called Niger or Black (probably because he was of African or Hamite extraction), and we had some others. And as they were ministering to Yahweh and fasting, the Set-apart Spirit, which is the one that we need to listen to. It is the Set-apart Spirit that directs. And the Spirit said now separate or Set-apart unto me Bar Naba and Shaul for the work to which I have called them, it says.

And then having fasted and prayed, they laid hands on them and then sent them away. So it is that very act of being sent out on a mission, on their task, that is what makes a shaliach. Elohim sends you out; the Spirit sends you out.

You do not just decide, well, "I have got a Bible and a camera, and now I am in ministry." That is what is called sending yourself, and it does not end well.

And next week, we are going to see that almost no matter who our Elohim sent, our forefathers would always reject them. In favor of doing their own thing of harloting after their own desires and calling it the will of Elohim.

Marqaus (Mark) 12:5-7

5 And again he sent another, and him they killed; and many others, beating some and killing some. 6 Therefore still having one son, his beloved, he also sent him to them last, saying, 'They will respect my son.'

7 But those vinedressers said among themselves, 'This is the heir. Come, let us kill him, and the inheritance will be ours.'

So, brothers and sisters, those of us who are of the faith. You call yourself a Messianic, an independent, an Ephraimite, or whatever you call yourself. Are we all obeying Yeshua's word? Are we obeying Yahweh's word? Or are we doing our own thing? Are we simply learning about Yeshua and calling it the worship of Yeshua? We are not actually doing everything He says to do, but rather, we are making up our own version that seems more pleasing to us.

If we are willing to receive it, that is what the vast majority of Ephraimites and Messianics are doing is effectively rejecting what Yeshua says to do in favor of creating their own broader, easier road that does not look like the faith of the first century.

Please join us in praying for them. That they might wake up before it is too late, as we are entering into the End Times.

Parasha Korach

Numbers 16-18; 1 Samuel 11-12; John 19

In "Parasha Shelach", we saw that it is Elohim who chooses and then sends His servant leaders. It is not our choice whom He picks. It is pretty much a take it or leave it. Our choice is only whether we want to submit and sign up for His army or not.

But it is literally joining His army, it is not like joining the Army. It is joining His army! Because He calls us the Armies of the Living Elohim! And when we join His army, we take the position the Commander gives us. and we do not question it. We do not talk back; we do not rise up in rebellion against our Commander! Or we are put to death! Because that is how they do it in the army.

So if we fear the Commander and we realize that He is who He says He is, then do not we need to recognize those whom the Commander appoints or anoints to lead His army? And then support the team effort?

Because the Torah is a team sport and a team effort. It is not a spectator sport. You do not get to sit in the bleachers and just observe what is going on in the field. And that is the difference whether we are obeying the Torah or whether we are merely observing the Torah. Kind of like bird watchers observing birds in the field. Okay. It does not satisfy the requirement. If we know to do good and do not, to us it is sin. It does not work like that. If we know He is our Commander and we know what He commands us to do, we simply choose to obey or die, basically. And that is the choice that is coming up for each and every one of us in the Tribulation. Yahweh puts up with it for a time. Because it worked for His purposes. But we are rapidly approaching a time when it will no longer serve His purposes for us to know what He wants to do but to disobey Him.

Only, does not it seem like no matter what Yahweh tells us to do, our forefathers disobeyed Him? And does not it seem like no matter whom Yahweh our Elohim appointed or anointed, our forefathers rejected them? The Torah, at least from a certain standpoint, is pretty much a chronology of our forefathers' failures and rebellions. But because living beings reproduce after their own kinds, since our forefathers thought they were really doing great when they were not, is it possible that we could be the same way? Join us for this parasha and let us find out together.

If you are like me, you believed your school indoctrination. You grew up under democracy and you believed it was the best thing ever! It was like a twohooker. They really got me! They reeled me in, and especially if we have grown up under democracy thinking it is the greatest thing!

Then Parasha Korach should make us all question our own walks. Because Parasha Korach is basically where our ancestors first began to get into Babylonian, Red Horse democracy. You can read all about that in our study on <u>Revelation and the End Times</u>.

Well we come look at the Torah because it is a record of our forefathers' failures. And we do not want to make the same mistakes. Yet because as we mentioned in Genesis living beings reproduce after their own kinds, let us ask the question. Since our forefathers thought they were doing so stellar, since our forefathers thought they were really knocking it out when they were not, is there any possibility that we could be the same way? And not even realize it?

As we are going to see, this is an all-important question. And what we are going to see is the vast majority of our brothers and sisters in the Ephraimite movement and Judah who are attached to us in the dispersion, we are effectively the modern-day version of Korach's rebellion. And that is because we are not doing what Elohim says to do the way Elohim says to do it. We are not doing everything according to the pattern that was shown to us on the mountain. We are too busy focusing on serving Him the way we want to serve Him.

You know, when the customer walks in the restaurant the waiter says, "*I bet I know what he wants!*" And we run off to get it. We get him the wrong thing! What kind of service have we given him?

The problem is, most of us in Ephraim, we are too busy focusing on our will. How we are going to serve Elohim. This is what the northern kingdom always did. The northern kings would always come up with their own plans of how they were going to win the war, how they were going to serve Elohim. And then they asked Elohim to bless it!

And this is in marked contrast to the way they did things in the southern Kingdom of Judah. The southern Kingdom of Judah always prayed and sought Elohim's will first. That is why they are at least following a version of variation of the Torah. They are still wandering with Elohim, says Hosea. Well, the difference is they are at least trying to keep their understanding of the Torah. Whereas Ephraim, we feel we do not need to. We feel we can make up our own way to serve Him and it will be just as valid in His sight.

As we show in our studies on <u>Revelation and the End</u> <u>Times</u>, democracy is rebellion against Elohim. And that is because Elohim never commands democracy anywhere. Elohim never asks for us to take a vote and lead ourselves. Elohim always commands Torahobedient kingship, or judgeship, or apostleship. Because that is what He wants. Because it is the most efficient.

And then what He does, He holds His anointed leaders accountable to His instructions (or His Torah). That is the difference. In contrast, democracy is where we all think that we are kings!

Well, you know, maybe you have heard someone say we are all a *nation of kings and priests!* But we do not have His order. We are without His order. Perhaps you heard Ephraim say, well *a man is a king in his own house!*

Or perhaps you have met Ephraimites or maybe other Christians who are into the *sovereignty movement*. They consider that we are all sovereign. That is exactly the opposite of what Scripture says! Scripture tells us that we are all servants. We are slaves. But we do not like that!

And in Korach's rebellion and in democracy, we do not need to be slaves! Rather, we can exalt ourselves! we can consider ourselves to be equal with the King we can all be a nation of kings and priests of Elohim!

But without His order and without His instructions, we are not doing things according to the pattern that was shown to us on the mountain. We are not building a single ministry based on an *unified* Foundation of Apostles and Prophets. Organizing ourselves according to the Fivefold Ministry.

We do not want to do things Yeshua's way because that requires us to humble ourselves. That requires His will to win and our will not to win.

Do we see the problem? The northern kings always wanted to serve Elohim their way! They did not want to do things Yahweh's way. The southern kings did better. So, the problem is that we need to stop and take a look at our attitude. We need to stop and see why we are doing things.

Are we doing things in order to obey Him? Or are we not doing things in order to obey Him? Are we trying to gain His blessings by doing things our own way?

Well, basically, His instructions need to decrease so that our instructions might increase. Do you see the problem? Do you see what I am saying? And that is the case both under democracy and in Parasha Korach. Because what is valued most is the Red Horse will of the people.

So who was Korah? Leviticus (Vayiqra) chapter 16 tells us that Korach was a Levite. He was a Kohathite. They were responsible for transporting items inside the tabernacle and other duties.

But as we recall, back in Shemote (Exodus) chapter 32 our forefathers fell into the sin of the golden calf. And basically, that is where our forefathers decided the way they were going to serve Yahweh instead of following Yahweh's orders. And as a result, Yahweh decommissioned the Firstborn Priesthood and transferred the active anointing to the Levitical Priesthood. And then the active anointing was later transferred to the Melchizedekian Order after Yeshua was immersed and the Spirit lighted on Him.

But what we need to see here in Parasha Korach is that Korach already had a very good place assigned to him within Elohim's kingdom. He was already inside the priesthood! He just did not like the place Elohim gave him. He wanted a higher place! Even though he already had a very good place he wanted something Elohim did not want for himself.

And this is a Levite! This is someone who already has a place operating inside the tabernacle!

Okay, well, so what is the problem? The problem is that we are supposed to have a humble estimation of ourselves when we are called to a wedding feast. And that is what the Torah is. Our bridal contract. We are called to take the low place. We are called to be servants and then let Him lift us up into the bride hood position. Start out as servants and work our way up! If that is Elohim's will for us at all. Or just take the place He gives us and be happy, be thrilled that we have a part in eternal life!

But did Korach do that? No! He rose up instead with 250 chiefs of the congregation. Now, these were chosen men from the assembly. They are well-known men. If we look in the news today, you see the people on the news. These would be the kinds of people; they are well-known in the community. Or depending on your paradigm or what democracy you grew up under, it would be kind of like your congress or the parliament banding together with the synagogue or the church. Or the church council rising up to overthrow the constitutional kingship.

In other words, they are rising up to overthrow what Yahweh has established in favor of making up their own Babylonian, Red Horse order.

Well, most of us are already living under a Red Horse, Babylonian democracy. But do we get the idea Korach did not like Yahweh's order? Korach was not happy with what Elohim gave him. So what does he do? He rises up and rebels.

Verse 3 tell us that all the rebels of the congregation of Israel assembled themselves together against Moshe and against Aharon and against Yahweh. Frankly, because they are coming against His anointed servants.

And they said to him, "You have gone too far! You have taken too much on yourselves! The entire congregation is set apart! Every one of them! And you see yourself that Yahweh is among them! Because we have the calm of fire and cloud among us every day! We have got manna every day! Why is Yahweh giving these miracles unless He is among us!? So, if we have all these miracles, why then do you and Aharon exalt yourselves above the rest of the assembly of Yahweh? What? Just because Yahweh said so? Just because it is Yahweh's will? No, no, no. We need to do our will here."

Bemidbar (Numbers) 16:3

3 They gathered together against Moshe and Aharon, and said to them, "You take too much upon yourselves, for all the congregation is set apart, every one of them, and Yahweh is among them. Why then do you exalt yourselves above the assembly of Yahweh?"

It sometimes seems like our forefathers just could not wait to rebel! And sometimes does it not seem like our Ephraimite brothers and sisters cannot wait to do something other than what Yeshua commands us?

You know, conversations I have had with fellow Ephraimites through the years. You can talk all about it. You can show it to them in Scripture. You can point out the commands for organization right there in Scripture.

I mean, how are we going to fulfill Titus 1, verse 5 unless we have the separated priesthood that appoints congregational elders?

Titus 1:5 5 For this reason I left you in Crete, that you should set in order the things that are lacking, and appoint elders in every city as I commanded you—

We cannot! There is no way to fulfill that verse unless there is a separated priesthood that appoints congregational elders. So, what are we going to do with that? Do we like that? Or we do not like it?

No, no! Why? Why should we follow the commandments of Yahweh? Why should we follow the commandments of Elohim? Why should we do what Yeshua said to do? Just because He died so that we are now His slaves? Now that we are His servants? That is the only reason?

Brothers and sisters! If we fail to organize the way Scripture says, then are not we basically flunking Scripture by means of rebellion? Ephraimites, we do not want to organize. We can see Yeshua's command to organize ourselves by the way of the fivefold ministry. Right there in Ephesians 4! Ephesim (Ephesians) 4:11

11 And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers.

But we do not want to organize! No! Because there is discipline! There is tithing! We would have to work to help build Yeshua Kingdom just like our ancestors had to work to build Yahweh a kingdom! (Actually, it was Yeshua. Because Yeshua was the Messenger that was sent with us.)

You can point out to Ephraim. You can see right there! The commandment to unify on a *single* Foundation of Apostles and Prophets. But we do not want to do that. Because we do not want to humble ourselves. That takes humility! We have to find our place! We can make our contribution! You mean, we have to work for Elohim? We have to do something for Him? You mean, there is a spiritual war going on? There is a spiritual war effort? No, no! We do not want to do that! We are not up for that!

We came here to get blessings! We want to just receive the blessings! Just like our forefathers thought they were going to receive the blessings. We thought Yahweh was going to draw us out of Egypt, give us a wedding covenant, lead us right to the honeymoon, right to the promised land! No work involved! Do not have to do anything!

Verse 4. Moshe says that Yahweh is going to show who is His and who is not. He is going to show who is set apart and who is not. Amein.

Bemidbar (Numbers) 16:4-5 4 So when Moses heard it, he fell on his face; 5 and he spoke to Korach and all his company, saying, "Tomorrow morning Yahweh will show who is His and who is set apart, and will cause him to come near to Him. That one whom He chooses He will cause to come near to Him.

Moshe tells the sons of Levi that they are the ones who have gone too far! They are the ones who have taken too much on themselves. Because if you think about it, what was the Levitical Order before the Firstborn Priesthood defiled itself and ascended the golden calf? Nothing! And it was precisely because the Levites chose to side with Yahweh that Yahweh made them to become the new Levitical Priesthood. So, obedience leads to priesthood! Is that the lesson here?

But what happens now that the Levites no longer want to obey Yahweh? What happens that the Levites are no longer siding with Yahweh? They were the salt of the earth but now what?

Well, we signed up for Yahweh's Army. We enrolled. We set our ideas at the mountain. We signed up for Yahweh's program. Now we can pay the price.

And we see the exact same thing in our haftarah prophetic portion. It is the same situation all over again. Our forefathers did not like what Yahweh gave us. It is the same story. As they say in the land, it is the same woman just wearing a different dress.

So let us go to Shemuel Aleph (1 Samuel) chapter 12. Where Samuel said to our forefathers, "Indeed I have heeded your voice in all that you said to me. And I made a king over you, even though I knew it is not what is best for you, is not what Yahweh wanted you to do! Shemuel Aleph (1 Samuel) 12:1

1 Now Samuel said to all Israel: "Indeed I have heeded your voice in all that you said to me, and have made a king over you.

And then in verse 8, Shemuel reiterates the obvious. Because our forefathers are just not getting it. So Shemuel said to our forefathers that Yahweh is the one who sent Moshe and Aharon to bring our forefathers out of Egypt. And made them dwell in this land in peace.

Shemuel Aleph (1 Samuel) 12:8 8 When Jacob had gone into Egypt, and your fathers cried out to Yahweh, then Yahweh sent Moshe and Aaron, who brought your fathers out of

Egypt and made them dwell in this place.

But what always happens? What do we do? Yahweh makes things good for us and what we do? We forget all about Him! We do not want to serve Him anymore! Not really, not with all our whole heart. Not in truth. Oh, but we do not forget to ask Yahweh for what we want! Oh, no! We just forget to obey Him after He gives us what we want! And we do it time and time and time again.

Shophetim (Judges) 2:17

17 Yet they would not listen to their judges, but they played the harlot with other elohim, and bowed down to them. They turned quickly from the way in which their fathers walked, in obeying the commandments of Yahweh; they did not do so.

Sickening! How does Yahweh just not turn and walk off? It is because it is His nature. He has given His promise. even if we have not given ours, He is going to take the small portion (less than one percent of us) who are truly obeying Him. Then that is Who's going to survive the Tribulation.

But let us take a look at what our forefathers do. We think we do not have to obey Yahweh. We just call out to Him to save us when we are in trouble. So we cry out to Yahweh.

We say, "Oh, we have sinned! We have forsaken Yahweh our Elohim. And we have served the Lord and Easter." (Because that is what Baal and Ashtareth translate to. For more on that, please see our study on the "<u>Set Apart Names</u>" in <u>Nazarene Israel Scripture</u> <u>Studies, Volume One</u>.)

Our forefathers said, "Oh, no! Deliver us from the hand of our enemies! And then we will serve You for a little while. Until life gets too good and then we are going to forget You all over again!"

Yahweh forbid! Because He is out of time for that now! But when we reflect on how our forefathers behaved does anybody else get a picture? You know? You kind of close your eyes and pray about it, does anyone else get a picture of Lucy holding the football for Charlie Brown?

"Yahweh! come on Yahweh! You know, you want to kick the football, Yahweh! Come on! We know you do! Do not you? You know you want me to redeem myself and be loyal in face to you! As you are set apart! Proverbs 31 Bridal Nation, you know that. And we know you are a faithful, loving, merciful, and forgiving Elohim! And we know that in the past we have kind of played games and we have promised to be faithful and true. And then we fall away again. But we already know we can game it! Because that is Your nature! We know that you are full of steadfast, loyal, love! You are going to forgive! Because that is Your nature! So I am going to promise to hold this football for you while you kick it, Charlie Brown!"

Oh, but then what happens? Oh, He is faithful to deliver us. And then we are faithful to Him for a while. And then we go back to worshiping *The Lord, God, Jehovah,* and *Easter* all over again, right? Because that is the pattern we read over and over again all throughout the prophets. And if this was the neighborhood hoodlums, this was the kids, would you not kind of suspect them of gaming things just a little bit?

But let us be honest, brothers and sisters. Are not most of us in Ephraim outside of Nazarene Israel kind of gaming Yahweh? Or why does not He just tell us once? And we read it and do it?

Verse 11. Yahweh sent anointed shophetim (judges). First, He sent us Jerubbaal (or Gideon)- benevolent dictator. And then Bedan- benevolent dictator. And then Jephthah- benevolent dictator. And then Shemuel, that was a game changer! With these anointed judges, Yahweh our King delivered our forefathers out of the hand of our enemies on every side! Whenever there was a need! And our forefathers dwelt safely! As long as Yahweh was our King, He was there for us. He was responding to us. He took care of us when we had a need. He just wants us to come back to Him. And we knew that!

Oh, oh. But what happened? Oh, now here comes Nahash, king of the Ammonites! Oh, no, no! Now we do not trust Yahweh anymore. Oh, no. Why is that brothers and sisters? Is that because Nahash is stronger than Yahweh? Or why do we want a human king to deliver us if we had Yahweh to deliver us? Was something special about Nahash the Ammonite? Or why do we want some king other than Yahweh?

Well, Yahweh is going to use this. But why do we want to rise up and rebel against Yahweh's chosen leaders? Why do we want to rise up and rebel against Yahweh? Why do we want something other than what Yahweh has told us to do?

And is not it the same thing all over again in Yochanan (John) chapter 19? Even the Romans did not find fault with Yeshua! But our forefathers in Israel sure did!

In fact, the House of Israel, very much like our own house, answered Him saying, "We have a Torah. And according to our Babylonian misinterpretation of that Torah, He ought to die! Because He made Himself the son of Elohim!

Yochanan (John) 19:7

7 The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and according to our law He ought to die, because He made Himself the Son of Elohim."

When in fact, the Torah, and the prophets, and the Psalms all speak of a divine Messiah who was also the Son of Man.

For example, Yeshayahu (Isaiah) chapter 9 and verse 6 tells us that *"Unto us a child is born. Unto us a son is given."* What kind of son? It says the government shall be upon His shoulder. And that tells us He would be a King! Meaning He would be the Messiah. And His name shall be called *"Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty Elohim!"*

Yeshayahu (Isaiah) 9:6

6 For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty Elohim, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Okay rabbis! How many human children do you know called *Mighty Elohim*? He is also called *Everlasting Father*! Okay rabbis! How many human children do you know who are called *Everlasting Father*? So if we know how to read the prophecies of Yahweh instead of reading the Talmud of man, can we see that the Son was clearly supposed to be divine? That we have prophecies over divine Messiah? Of course, the rabbis explain all that away. But that is a separate matter.

Then in Tehillim (Psalms) chapter 2 and verse 7 it tells us that the Messiah declared the decree! Yahweh was His Father. and His Father said that the Messiah was His Son.

Tehillim (Psalms) 2:7

7 "I will declare the decree: Yahweh has said to Me, 'You are My Son, Today I have begotten You.

Now notice, the Messiah was also begotten. That means He is born of a human.

Strong's Hebrew Concordance H3205, "Yalad". It is a primitive root meaning to bear young. It is where we get the English word "lad".

H3205 "Yalad" יָלֵד A primitive root; to bear young; causatively to beget; medically to act as midwife; specifically, to show lineage: - bear, beget, birth ([day]), born, (make to) bring forth (children, young), bring up, calve, child, come, be delivered (of a child), time of delivery, gender, hatch, labour, (do the office of a) midwife, declare pedigrees, be the son of, (woman in, woman that) travail (-eth, -ing woman).

So get this. the divine Messiah was *laded.* He was born of a woman. You can read it right there in Hebrew if you want. It says the Messiah would be Yahweh's Son and that He would be born of a woman. Just like Yeshua claimed to be. So where is His sin?

Yirmeyahu (Jeremiah) chapter 23 starting in verse 5 says, "Behold, the days come, says Yahweh, when I will raise unto David a Righteous Branch. And a King shall reign and prosper and shall execute judgment and justice in all the earth. And then in His days Judah shall be saved and Israel shall dwell safely. [You have got two houses.] And this is the name whereby He shall be called, Yahweh our Righteousness."

Yirmeyahu (Jeremiah) 23:5-6

5 "Behold, the days are coming," says Yahweh, "That I will raise to David a Branch of righteousness; A King shall reign and prosper, and execute judgment and righteousness in the earth. 6 In His days Judah will be saved, And Israel will dwell safely; Now this is His name by which He will be called: YAHWEH OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.

So, we put it all together. We have a divine Messiah who is born (or laded) of a woman, and He is called Mighty Elohim and Everlasting Father. How many witnesses do we need here? He is called Yahweh our Righteousness! But He is also raised up unto David. Are we getting the picture? Now let us come to Mishle (Proverbs, or riddles) chapter 30 and verse 4.

Mishle (Proverbs) 30:4

4 Who has ascended into heaven, or descended? Who has gathered the wind in His fists? Who has bound the waters in a garment? Who has established all the ends of the earth? [Kind of reminds us of Job.] What is His name, and what is His Son's name, if you know?

Let us come to B'reisheet (Genesis) chapter 19 and verse 24. Karaites, explain this one! Rabbis, you too! It tells us that Yahweh on earth rained down fire from Yahweh out of the heavens. Okay. How many Yahwehs are in that passage? Rabbis, Karaites, if you know? Maybe a Father and Son? Maybe a Father and a manifested Son?

B'reisheet (Genesis) 19:24

24 Then Yahweh rained brimstone and fire on Sodom and Gomorrah, from Yahweh out of the heavens.

Let us come to Daniel chapter 7 starting in verse 13.

Daniel 7:13-14

13 I was watching in the night visions, And behold, One like **the Son of Man**, Coming with the clouds of heaven! He came to the **Ancient of Days** [that is Yahweh], And they brought Him near before Him. 14 Then to Him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, That all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion, Which shall not pass away, And His kingdom the one Which shall not be destroyed. Even though He is laded of a woman, His Dominion is an everlasting dominion which shall not pass away. And His kingdom shall not be destroyed. No matter whether we accept Him or not. And no matter whether or not we want to obey His fivefold ministry and unify on the Foundation of Apostles and Prophets.

So that is the moral to the story. We are not a voting majority. But rather, we signed up to be servants in His army. He is our King! So if we truly worship Him, why does not He just have to speak one time and we do it?

Parasha Chukat

Numbers 19:1-22:1, Judges 11, 1 Peter 4

In Parasha Chukat we are going to see Elohim's great love and continuing steadfast commitment to us. We are going to see that Elohim made this steadfast commitment with our ancestors some 3,500 years ago at the first Pesach. And He has remained committed to us ever since. After some 3,500 years of special treatment are we perhaps finally ready to commit back to Him?

The Hebrew term chukat is H2708. And it refers to ordinances or statutes. These are laws that basically do not go away.

H2708 chukat חָקַת Feminine of H2706, and meaning substantially the same: - appointed, custom, manner, ordinance, site, statue.

And in the Torah portion of Parasha Chukat we begin with the ordinances or the statutes (or we could say the torah) of the red heifer.

We covered the instructions and the statutes regarding the red heifer in the study on how ""Yeshua Cleanses an Unclean World" in <u>Nazarene Scripture Studies, Volume</u> <u>Four</u>. And in that study, we showed two special rituals that pertain to what might be called *ritual cleansing in a cleansed altar environment*. And the red heifer is the second of those two special rituals. And we hope you will enjoy that study. Perhaps it will give you some insight regarding what is the meaning of the various offerings and rituals that we go through in the temple. But then after the statutes of the red heifer we come to chapter 20. And we come to the waters of Meribah. We could hope for some improvement, but it is the same thing all over again. Every week it is the same thing.

And brothers, sisters! If everything is all right, why is it this way with us? You know, Yahweh committed to our ancestors, way, way back at the original marriage deal some 3,500 years ago. And He is still waiting for His war bride to make good on her pledge. To make good on her vow and her commitment to purify herself and to become His helper bride. To listen to His voice. To do everything that He says. Including all of His written commandments, because those are just things the Spirit said in the past.

But as we show in our study on the <u>Ancient Hebrew</u> <u>Marriage</u>, and we also talked about earlier in this parashah series, (just to recap briefly), the Pesach (or Passover) was an agreement to marry. And this agreement was between Elohim and us (our forefathers). In Hebrew culture an agreement to get married is first celebrated by a private shared meal. And that is basically what the Pesach is.

The public announcement and the betrothal then comes at Shavuot (or Pentecost). And in Hebraic culture once a wedding is announced, it is official! You are married! Even though the consummation and the wedding week normally may not come for another several months.

Now we cannot really do much (and this is sad), but we cannot do much for brother Judah. Because even though we know he is listening to our broadcast, he is just not getting it. He is not listening for understanding. He is listening to dispute, and for argumentation, and to undermine. So we are not going to get very far with him. So just talking between us Ephraimites, brothers and sisters, what is our problem? What is wrong with us? How can it be that Elohim gives us everything we have, gives us our breath, our heart beats, everything we have. How can it be that He made a marriage commitment to us some 3,500 years ago and He has been steadfast ever since. But we are not yet ready to make a commitment back to Him? How can that be?

We also saw earlier in this parasha series that Yeshua was the Malak (or the angel) that Yahweh sent with us, that Elohim told us we need to be careful and diligent to obey Him and to do the things that He said. We need to hear His voice and do everything that He instructs us, including the statutes and ordinances of the red heifer and all the rest of the Torah.

Shemote (Exodus) 23:20-21

20 "Behold, I send an Angel before you to keep you in the way and to bring you into the place which I have prepared.

21 "Beware of Him and obey His voice; do not provoke Him, for He will not pardon your transgressions; for My name is in Him."

H4397 mal'âk מַלָאָד to despatch as a deputy; a messenger; specifically of Elohim, that is, an angel (also a prophet, priest or teacher): - ambassador, angel, king, messenger.

So how can it be that Yeshua first gave us the Torah some 3,500 years ago, and then He died for our Torahbreaking some 2,000 years ago, and we are supposed to have His Spirit now for some two millennia. And yet do not we know, brothers and sisters in Ephraim who are not yet ready to make a commitment back to their Elohim? Brothers, sisters how can this be? Why is this? How can Elohim give everything to us and be full of steadfast, loyal love toward us? Kindness, mercy, forgiveness?

We need to talk about some very real things here. Because what we keep seeing is that our ancestors are basically related to us. Because we see that our ancestors have the exact same problems in the past as the majority of us in Ephraim are suffering from today. And that is that they are not looking to do Elohim's will. They are not looking to go out to war for Elohim.

Are not most of us looking for a broad, easy kind of a lazy-boy way straight to the Wedding Feast? Yeah, sure. We want to be married to the Son of the King of the Universe! Who would not? Oh, but not if there is any work required. Not if there is any steadfast commitment required.

You know, to make a marriage work, do not both parties have to be committed? Do not both parties have to give 100 percent? Even if the other party is not doing their part? So why is it that Elohim is the only one who has to be committed? Why is it that we are not required to be committed back?

Oh, oh! Is it because He has such steadfast, loyal love and He is an Elohim patient, and merciful, and kind, and forgiving that we believe we can abuse His faith? We believe we can abuse His trust? Is that why we do it? Because with most of us, are not we still sitting on our throne and letting Yeshua wash our feet? Are not we still calling the shots and expecting Elohim to run our errands for us? Instead of showing up for duty and becoming His errand voice? Well, we are told to love Yahweh our Elohim with all of our heart, with all of our soul, and with all of our strength. Are we doing that? If we are going to do that, are not we supposed to be most committed of all to our Elohim? Is not that where our loyalty and our allegiance should truly lie? But how many of us are truly loyal to Elohim like that?

Let me ask you a personal question. Are we more committed to Elohim than we are to our spouse? Or for how many of us is pleasing our spouse more important than pleasing Elohim? To be honest about these things, just looking from the way things went, does not it kind of seem like most of our forefathers thought they were just going to leave Egypt and just stroll to the Promised Land? Kind of like a waltzing, or a walk through the park? And everything was going to be the red-carpet treatment, little rose petals sprinkled out for us?

Or better yet, maybe we would be carried aloft! And whisked to our new house, as a bride is traditionally carried aloft during the day of the consummation and the start of the wedding feast. She is carried aloft from her biological father's house to her new husband's father's house! Would not that be so nice to be carried aloft? Just like people dream of flying back to the land in the rapture?

The only problem with that is that is not Elohim's plan. Elohim tells us He is a Man of War. He is a war Elohim!

Shemote (Exodus) 15:3 3 Yahweh is a man of war; Yahweh is His name.

And back in ancient times, when the commanding general went out on an extended war campaign, quite often times they would bring their wives and their families with them. Just to mention it, we saw the same kind of thing in the Crusades. The poor could not usually afford to bring their wives and families with them, but the kings and nobles often did. And they especially did if it was going to be an extended war campaign, kind of like the conquest of the land of Canaan. You know, that took a long time!

But here is the thing. Maybe our forefathers, maybe they did not know at the time of the first Pesach. Maybe they did not even know when they said their 'I dos' at Mount Sinai, either. Maybe they did not know they were getting married.

Maybe all they knew was that they were cutting a covenant with their Elohim. So that He would pass over them with the Death Angel. Maybe that is all they knew.

Maybe they did not know what they were getting into. Perhaps, maybe they did not know what the relationship would entail.

Is not that sometimes the same way with us, brothers and sisters? Maybe we do not know everything we are getting into at the time we first accept Yeshua? Like did anyone know they were signing up for marriage when they first got struck in the heart and said that John 3:16 sinners' prayer? Did you? I did not!

But the question is, brothers and sisters, now that we know these things, what do we do now? How many of us truly want to be pleasing to Him? How many of us truly want to help Him get the kingdom He so richly deserves? How many of us appreciate His steadfast, loyal love and commitment to us? And if we truly do appreciate these things then are we behaving as if we are already committed? How many of us commit to Elohim at least as much as we commit to our spouse? How many of us commit to Elohim more than we commit to our spouse? Like we are supposed to?

Because let us be frank. Elohim commits to us long before we ever even think to commit to Him. And that fact seems to be what trips a lot of people up. Because people tend to abuse His kindness, they take His kindness for blindness!

Maybe our forefathers thought they were ready for the honeymoon. Maybe they thought they were ready for the wedding feast. And what Elohim had in mind first was a war campaign? Maybe the bride was going to come along with Him on the war campaign and together they were going to conquer the Promised Land?

Maybe our forefathers were not thinking about a long war campaign. But it does not matter! We signed up as slaves. We do not make the decisions here. So can we imagine our ancestors' surprise when our forefathers came to the wilderness of Zin and there was not even any water for the congregation? Forget turning the water into wine, they just plain was not any water to begin with!

So then our ancestors in Ephraim prayed to Yahweh and trusted that He would provide for them. And they never complained about anything! That is just how much trust they had in Him!

Oh, wait! Sorry, oh! It says our forefathers quarreled with Moshe and said, "Oh, would that we had perished! Oh, when our brothers perished before Yahweh!" Bemidbar (Numbers) 20:3

3 And the people contended with Moshe and spoke, saying: "If only we had died when our brethren!"

(Really!? Really!?)

"Why have you brought the Assembly of Yahweh out into this horrible wilderness place? That we should die of thirst here, both we and our cattle!?"

Bemidbar (Numbers) 20:4

4 Why have you brought up the assembly of Yahweh into this wilderness, that we and our animals should die here?"

"Oh! And why have you made us come up out of Egypt to bring us to this evil, awful, horrible place!? This is no place for a bride! It is no place for grapes, or figs, or vines, or pomegranates! There is no fruit punch fountain!"

Bemidbar (Numbers) 20:5

5 "And why have you made us come up out of Egypt, to bring us to this evil place? It is not a place of grain or figs or vines or pomegranates; nor is there any water to drink."

"There is just no way we could just pray and then trust our all-powerful Father to provide for our needs! Even though we have seen miracle, after miracle, after miracle, after miracle!! Because there is no water to drink here at this exact moment!!"

"We were looking forward to the honeymoon! We were looking forward to the Wedding Feast! We were looking forward to being taken to the bridal suite! We did not think that our war Elohim Husband was going to take us out to take the land of milk and honey as part of His war campaign! No! We thought You were taking us straight to the land filled with tables full of milk and honey!"

"We did not think we had to do any work, we just thought that being this bride of the Son of the King of the universe meant we were just going to sit around doing our hair and nails and having a good old time (lah di dah!) watching TV shows. We had no idea you were calling us to a narrow and afflicted pathway! We had no idea we would have to do anything for You!!"

Is this not our forefathers? And if we think about it, is not this us? We also think we are getting everything correct.

Well, you know, as they say in the land of Israel, mah la'asot (what to do)? Knowing these things now how shall we live?

So, we found ourselves in a situation. We did not know what to do with it. We were not expecting it. But were we good sports about it? Because to be good sports about it and to be good slaves for our Husband and King does it really matter what we want? Does it really matter that we do not like the trial that is set before us? And maybe, just maybe, is this perhaps like it is with some of us in Ephraim today?

Yochanan (John) 3:30 30 He must increase, but I must decrease.

Maybe we just thought we were going to say the John 3:16 prayer and have lunch at our friend's houses on Shabbat, watch Saturday Night Live together. Oh, and now we are all disciples on our way to being the bride, right? We are going to get whisked back to the land of Israel in a cloud, right? Or we think we are already qualified as His bride before we have even lifted a finger to help Him! We think we are qualified to be His perfect set-apart helpmeet even though we are not helping Him actively?

Maybe we did not know when we said the John 3:16 prayer or when we repented. Maybe we did not know that Scripture calls for tithing and organization, congregational discipline. Surprise!!

But the question is now that we know, now what do we do with what we know? So now we can ask this question: "Mah la'asot?" Now what do we do if we truly want to be faithful and keep our commitment to our love? He is committed to us. He is steadfast to us. Are we committed to Him? Are we steadfast toward Him?

Perhaps an analogy might help. Well, the Father has plans to make us into set-apart wine and sometimes we end up getting poured out as a drink offering. Just as shaliach (apostle) Shaul was also poured out.

Qorintim Bet (2 Corinthians) 11:23

23 Are they ministers of Mashiach? I speak as a fool - I am more: in labors more abundant, in stripes above measure, in prisons more frequently, in deaths often.

The drink offering represents sacrifice. And that is a good thing! We want that level of sacrifice! Because Elohim loves it! That is what He is looking for is the kind of commitment and the kind of dedication that wants to make a sacrifice to Him, to become His set-apart helper bride! He is looking for us to pour ourselves out as a drink offering of wine! (Rather than whining about every little thing as we go through the wilderness.) Timotheus Bet (2 Timothy) 2:3-4

3 You therefore must endure hardship as a good soldier of Yeshua HaMashiach.

4 No one engaged in warfare entangles himself with the affairs of this life, that he may please Him who enlisted him as a soldier.

But if you think about it, how do you get wine? Well, first we have to crush the grapes. And we are the grapes. It does not feel good! Any more probably than it feels good to wander through the Midian the rest of our lives. No one likes to be crushed. But grapes have to be crushed if they are to give their blood that then gets turned into wine.

So, brothers, sisters, when we are crushed, what comes out? Is it blood of grapes making wine fit for a King? Or is it whining that we have to obey His Torah and put His will and His desires over our own? Well, we can almost hear the crying.

"Oh! We have to decrease so that He might increase!"

Yochanan (John) 3:30 30 He must increase, but I must decrease.

No kidding! Brothers, why were our ancestors whining when Yahweh crushed their hopes of a broad, easy road going straight to the Wedding Feast? And He decided to make them into new crushed wine instead? Maybe they were whining because they had a little false hopes and little false expectations? Maybe believing some of the devil's lies? Or did they perhaps think it was going to be much easier than it was? Just like many of us think that the narrow, inflicted path ought to be much broader and easier than it really is? Mattityahu (Matthew) 7:13-14

13 "Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it.

14 Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it."

Well, let us remember that these are our ancestors. And Genesis 1 tells us that living beings reproduce after their own kinds. Meaning sometimes the apple does not fall very far from the tree, if you know what I am saying.

But if our forefathers represented the unwillingness to live up to the wedding vows without whining then what about us? Are we willing to do everything in the Torah without whining, making a commitment?

Chapter 20 and starting at verse 7. "Then Yahweh spoke to Moshe saying, "take the rod; you and your brother Aharon and gather the congregation together. And then I want you to speak to the rock before their eyes and it will yield its water. Thus you shall bring the waters of the Spirit for the children of Israel out of the rock (symbolic of Yeshua) and give drink to all the congregation and their animals." So then Moshe took the rod from before Yahweh as He had commanded him."

Bemidbar (Numbers) 20:7-9

7 Then Yahweh spoke to Moshe, saying,

8 "Take the rod; you and your brother Aharon gather the congregation together. Speak to the rock before their eyes, and it will yield its water; thus you shall bring water for them out of the rock, and give drink to the congregation and their animals." 9 So Moshe took the rod from before Yahweh as He commanded him.

"But then Moshe and Aharon gathered the assembly together before the rock and Moshe said to them, "Here now you rebels! Must we bring water for you out of this rock?"

Then Moshe lifted his hand and struck the rock twice with his rod and water came out abundantly. And the congregation and their animals all drank.

But then Yahweh spoke to Moshe and Aharon saying, "Because you did not believe Me to obey Me, this did not set Me apart in the eyes of the children of Israel. Therefore, you shall not bring this assembly into the land which I have given to them."

Bemidbar (Numbers) 20:12

12 Then Yahweh spoke to Moshe and Aharon, "Because you did not believe Me, to hallow Me in the eyes of the children of Israel, therefore you shall not bring this assembly into the land which I have given them."

We could talk all day on this point. But the big problem here is that Yahweh told Moshe to speak to the Rock so that it might bring forth its waters. That way Yahweh would be set-apart for performing His miracle before the people took credit for bringing water out of the rock for themselves.

Well also, to use an analogy, if we can think of Moshe as being symbolic of the Torah at some point, then the point is that we can use the rod of Torah to strike the rock (meaning Yeshua) when we should be speaking to the Rock. We could also comment that brother Judah struck the Rock once already in the first century. And according to both pattern and prophecy, he is getting ready to strike the Rock's body a second time in these End Times.

That is another reason to form set-apart communities is that this kind of persecution is prophesied. And therefore it is coming. You can read all about that in the study on *Revelation and the End Times*, or *Revelation Simplified* on YouTube.

But then, after that, Edom (or Esau) refuse to let our forefathers pass through their borders. We will see this again in our Haftarah prophetic portion. But then the king of Arad who lived in the Negeb (or the south) heard that Israel was coming. So the king of Arad fought against our forefathers and took some of them captive.

Bemidbar (Numbers) 21:1

1 The king of Arad, the Canaanite, who dwelt in the South, heard that Israel was coming on the road to Atharim. Then he fought against Israel and took some of them prisoners.

And drum-roll please! Our forefathers actually asked Yahweh first! And then our forefathers vowed a vow that if Yahweh would deliver Arad into their hand, they would devote all of Arad's cities to destruction. (Probably including all of the goods.)

Bemidbar (Numbers) 21:2

2 So Israel made a vow to Yahweh, and said, "If you will indeed deliver this people into my hand, then I will utterly destroy their cities."

Now, earlier in this series in "<u>Parasha Tetzaveh</u>", we saw how Yahweh told our forefathers to wipe out the children of Amalek because they had ambushed Israel on the way. Only our forefathers saw the good livestock. It seemed good in their eyes to ask King Shaul if they could please keep all the livestock alive so they could use them to make free sacrifices for Yahweh.

And Shaul said yes in order to please the people, even though it was the opposite of what Yahweh said to do. So Shaul was pleasing the people, but he was not pleasing to Yahweh.

Shemuel Aleph (1 Samuel) 15:21

21 "But the people took of the plunder, sheep and oxen, the best of the things which should have been utterly destroyed, to sacrifice to Yahweh your Elohim in Gilgal."

How many of us in congregation leadership positions are doing things that are pleasing the people but we are not pleasing Yahweh our Elohim? How many husbands are pleasing their wives, but they are not pleasing Yahweh Elohim?

Well, here our forefathers actually did good. They vowed to devote to destruction all of Arad's cities, and probably all of the goods.

Bemidbar (Numbers) 21:2

2 So Israel made a vow to Yahweh, and said, "If You will indeed deliver this people into my hand, then I will utterly destroy their cities."

What that means is there was not any profit motive. There was not any incentive based on mammon. So because they asked first and because their motivation was clean, Elohim blessed their request. And in Parasha Balak we will see what happens when we do the opposite, when we do have a profit motive. And we will see it is not good.

So returning to the history. Now, great grandpa and grandma have to backtrack. Chapter 21 and verse 4 tells us that our ancestors had to journey from Mount Hor by way of the Yam Suph (or the Sea of Reeds). And you go all the way around the land of Eden. And the soul of our forefathers became very discouraged on the way.

Somebody ever have a family outing or a camping trip like this? You thought you had a plan to get to your destination. But the bridge is out, or the road is closed, or you cannot go through that border. So now you end up backtracking. And so what do the children say? "I am tired!" "Are we there yet?" "Are you lost?" "Who put you in charge of this outing, anyway?"

Verse 5. "The people spoke against Elohim and against Moshe saying, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? There is no food and there is no water. Nothing is fit for a queen. And our soul loathes this worthless miracle bread that Yahweh rains for us out of the heavens every single day!"

Bemidbar (Numbers) 21:5

5 And the people spoke against Elohim and against Moshe: "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and our soul loathes this worthless bread."

"We are tired of seeing miracles daily! We are tired of seeing the call of a fiery cloud! Where is the wedding buffet already? Is it going to be catered?" Can we imagine how much Elohim likes this? His war bride will not commit and she will not stop complaining!! He is committed to us. Have we committed to Him?

So Elohim sent fiery serpents among our people, and they bit our forefathers. And many of our ancestors died.

Bemidbar (Numbers) 21:6 6 So Yahweh sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people; and many of the people of Israel died.

So, one more for the history books. Our forefathers got rebuked and our forefathers repented. And repentance is good. But where is our constancy? Where is our steadfastness? Brothers and sisters, where is our commitment? And perhaps for some this might be how we treat our earthly leaders. Or perhaps our earthly husbands or our congregation leaders. If things do not go perfectly smooth does not the criticism start to come out?

Well, we do not like how the Creator is running the show so we become contentious? Maybe a little contentious? You know, brothers and sisters, how would we like to be married to us? I mean how do Yahweh's ears ever heal? And why do we always seem to forget all the good stuff that Yahweh has done for us all along? Why do we forget His character? Why do we always seem to forget all of His benefits even though we are told to remember all of His benefits?

We are talking about how Yahweh keeps His commitments to us. His faithfulness is great! No matter what we do He is going to do the right thing. In fact, after all of our complaining, and our whining, and our

rebellions, Yahweh still helped us defeat king Sihon of the Amorites.

And after that, He also helped us to defeat King Og of the Amorites. And then our forefathers set out and camped in the plains of Moab beyond the Yarden (Jordan) by Yeriycho (Jericho).

And in Parasha Barak we are going to see that Moab was in great dread of our forefathers because we were many! Because of Yahweh's great favor! Moab was overcome with fear of our fathers. We will talk about what happens in "Parasha Balak" where we see what happens when people mix business and ministry together. It is not good.

Now let us come to our Haftarah prophetic portion. So we come to Shophetim (or Judges) chapter 11. And here we read about Yiphthah (or Jephthah), the Gileadite. He is east of the Jordan. He was a mighty man of valor. The only problem is that he was the son of a whore (harlot).

Shophetim (Judges) 11:1

1 Now Jephthah the Gileadite was a mighty man of valor, but he was the son of a harlot; and Gilead begot Jephthah.

So when Gilead's wife bore sons, the legitimate sons drove Yiphthah out. Well, reversals do not always take so long in Scripture. By the time we hit verse 4 the people of Ammon were turning the world upside down. The people of Ammon made war against our forefathers in Israel just like we read about with Kings. But this time the Ammonites falsely claimed Israel had stolen their land. Shophetim (Judges) 11:4

4 It came to pass after a time that the people of Ammon made war against Israel.

Well, Yiphthah's answer is epic! Because he gets it! So basically he says to them, "You know what, you keep what your god Chemosh gave you. We are going to keep what our Yahweh Elohim gave us."

Shophetim (Judges) 11:24 24 Will you not possess whatever Chemosh your god gives you to possess? So whatever Yahweh our Elohim takes possession of before us, we will possess.

What a great answer! Because Yiphthah gets it! He understands it is our job to build Elohim's Kingdom. That is what He wants. He wants us to build a kingdom for Him. But how many of us know that? And yet still, we shy away from the work. Still, we withhold our sword from the battle.

What are we going to do in the future? Not only when we stand before the Great White Throne in the Judgment. But let us just take a closer example. What are we going to do when we get all back safely home in the land of Israel after Armageddon and after the ingathering? And our children ask us, "What did you do in the spiritual war, daddy?" What are we going to say? I am just going to have to say, "I did not do anything. I was a spiritual draftdodger. I withheld my sword from blood." How is that going to feel knowing we ignored our commitment to our Elohim? If we even, make it back to the land like that at all!

Let us close by seeing what the Renewed Covenant has to say about these things. Let us go first to Kepha Aleph

(or First Peter) and the stop briefly in chapter one and verse one. And here Kepha tells us he is writing his epistle to the pilgrims of the Assyrian dispersion.

Kepha Aleph (First Kepha) 1:1

1 Kepha, an apostle of Yeshua HaMashiach, To the pilgrims of the [Assyrian] Dispersion in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia.

As we explained in the <u>Nazarene Israel</u> study, that is us. That is the northern House of Ephraim, or the northern House of Israel. So what does Kepha say to us? Well, sometimes I kind of halfway wonder if Kepha maybe was reading this parasha when he wrote this epistle. Because everything in their lines up.

But verse 13 says, "Therefore gird up the loins of your mind, and be sober." Meaning be ready for battle! Because we are in a battle. We are trying to build our Elohim a kingdom. He says, "And rest your hope fully upon the favor that has been brought to you at the revelation of Yeshua Messiah."

Kepha Aleph (1 Peter) 1:13

13 Therefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and rest your hope fully upon the grace that is to be brought to you at the revelation of Yeshua HaMashiach.

If we are obedient children! Keeping our commitments. Doing everything the Torah says to do. Hearing His voice and obeying it. Not conforming ourselves to our former lusts and the desires of our heart as in our former days of ignorance. Kepha Aleph (1 Peter) 1:14

14 As obedient children, not conforming yourselves to the former lusts, as in your ignorance.

But as He who called us is set-apart, we also should be set-apart in all our conduct. Because it is written, be setapart, for I am set-apart.

Kepha Aleph (1 Peter) 1:15-16 15 But as He who called you is set-apart, you also be set-apart in all your conduct. 16 Because it is written, "Be set-apart, for I am setapart."

And is not that what our ancestors should have been doing in the wilderness? And is not that what we also should be doing right now is to making sure that we are set-apart as He is set-apart? By hearing His voice and obeying it?

Well, the whole book is fabulous. There is wonderful material in there. But right now let us jump to chapter 4 and verse 12 where Kepha could also be talking about what happened with our forefathers in the wilderness.

Kepha Aleph (1 Kepha) 4:12

12 Beloved, do not think it strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened to you.

It is not. It is normal. The reason these things are happening is because Elohim needs to test us. He needs to know if we are going to quit on Him or we are going to keep our marriage vows. Are we going to be faithful and keep our commitments with Him? He says, "And rejoice! To the extent that we partake of Messiah's sufferings! That when His glory is revealed we also may be glad with exceedingly great joy! Because to partake of Messiah's sufferings is to be good soldiers of Yeshua Messiah and to fight His battles for Him."

Kepha Aleph (1 Peter) 4:13

13 But rejoice to the extent that you partake of Mashiach's sufferings, that when His glory is revealed, you may also be glad with exceeding joy.

We are no longer sitting on the throne; He is the one sitting on the throne. And we are the armies out in the field. Is not that basically what our forefathers did not understand? Perhaps they were in such a hurry to get to the bridal buffet that they forgot all about serving their Husband? Taking care of the needs of their war Elohim Husband?

So the helpmeet did not help the Husband. Did not help Him build His kingdom. It is kind of a *Little Red Hen* scenario.

However much we help Yeshua build His unified, global kingdom for His Father, that is how much we are going to benefit when we go stand before the Great White Throne Judgment. Because Yeshua promises plainly to reward all those who have served Him both in Spirit and in truth. Meaning keeping all the Commandments we are told to keep.

Mattityahu (Matthew) 25:23

23 His Master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful Servant; you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your Master.'

And He promises to punish those who will not keep their commitments to Him.

Mattityahu (Matthew) 7:21

21 "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Master, Master,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven."

Which choice will we make?

Parasha Balak

Numbers 22:2-25:9, 2 Kings 5, Micah 5-6, Jude

In this week's Parasha, we are going to see what is called the error of Balaam. We are going to see just how prevalent this error was back in the days of our forefathers in the wilderness, how prevalent it was in the first century during the days of the great falling away, and we will also see how prevalent it is in the Ephraimite movement today. We are going to see how those who allow themselves to fall into this very simple error will probably not make it through the tribulation. All that is coming up.

In <u>Parasha Chukat</u>, we saw that even though our forefathers were grumblers, complainers, a bunch of whiners, Yahweh still helped them to conquer. Even though our forefathers were not faithful, He was still faithful.

Bemidbar (Numbers) 21:24

24 "Then Israel defeated him with the edge of the sword, and took possession of his land from the Arnon to the Jabbok, as far as the people of Ammon; for the border of the people of Ammon was fortified."

Well, so in Bemidbar or Numbers chapter 21, Yahweh helped our forefathers to destroy the king of Arad.

Then He helped our ancestors defeat Sihon, king of the Amorites. And then after that, He also helped us defeat king Og, also king of the Amorites.

Bemidbar (Numbers) 22:2-3

2 "Now Balak the son of Zippor saw all that Israel had done to the Amorites.

3 And Moab was exceedingly afraid of the people because they were many, and Moab was sick with dread because of the children of Israel."

Then in chapter 22, we see that the king of Moab, Balak (the annihilator), the son of Zippor, saw everything that our forefathers had done to the Amorites. And Moab was exceedingly afraid of our forefathers because they were many and Moab was sick with dread because of our ancestors.

So Moab said to the Elders of Midian: Now this company is going to lick up everything around us like an ox licks up the grass of the field. If you have ever seen cows, that is exactly what they do. They wrap their tongues around the grass, and they just lick it up and consume it.

Balaam בּלְעָם Probably from H1077 and H5971; not (of the) people, that is, foreigner; Bislama, a Mesopotamian prophet; also a place in Palestine: Balaam, Bileam.

So, King Balak sent Messengers to Balaam the son of Beor. Strong's tells us his name probably means something like "not one of the people". So then the Annihilator said to "not one of the people", *look a people*, *Israel, our forefathers, has come up from Egypt and see*, *they cover the face of the earth, and they are settling in next to me. Therefore, please come at once and curse this people for me because they are too much for me. Perhaps I should be able to defeat them and drive them out of the land for I know that he whom you bless is blessed and he whom you curse is cursed.* So from our point of view, Balaam is effectively an independent minister. He is not truly part of our organized Nation. He is not attempting to build first the kingdom of Elohim. He just uses the good spiritual gifts that Elohim gives him to make his own independent money. Does anyone know any independent ministers or ministries like that in the Ephraimite movement?

They are not trying to build upon a single foundation of Apostles and Prophets according to a five-fold Ministry protocol. They are just trying to make money for themselves. And then, yeah, I don't know how many of these guys I have talked with over the years, but they always say, what is wrong with that? The worker is worthy of his hire.

Brothers listen, wait 30 or 40 years and we are going to see what is wrong with that, but I would think if we value our lives, we are going to make changes first. Such that what we are preaching and teaching and walking and talking looks like the book of Acts and not like something else.

Bemidbar (Numbers) 22:7

7 "So the elders of Moab and the elders of Midian departed with the diviner's fee in their hand, and they came to Balaam and spoke to him the words of Balak."

Verse 7. So the elders of Moab and the elders of Median departed with the diviners' fee in their hands. That is the key point. People say I do not understand what this passage means. They have forgotten that the elders departed with the diviners' fee in their hand because they know they are going to pay, right? So they bring it right up front. And they came to Balaam and paid him the diviners' fee, up front, because that is how you do it, right? if you are a diviner, a fortune teller, or any kind of informationbased business or service, you have to ask for the fee up front because if you do the divination and he does not like what you said, why is he going to pay you? Even if he likes what you tell him why is he going to pay you? Because why buy the cow when the milk is free right? Okay, so you have to charge him the fee for divination up front and that is why they came with the fee for divination in their hand.

So they came to Balaam, paid him the fee, and told him what Annihilator, the king of Moab wanted. After they have already paid their fees, Balaam said lodge here tonight, Elohim is probably going to speak to me in a dream and I will bring back word to you but whatever Yahweh speaks, that is what I am going to say to you.

Because you already paid me the fee, I am just going to tell you whatever He says. It is a straight information deal. So the princes of Moab stayed with Balaam and Elohim came to Balaam and said, who are these men with you? Balaam then said to Elohim, Annihilator the king of Moab has sent to me saying, look, a people has come out of Egypt, and they cover the face of the Earth. Come now curse them for me perhaps I should be able to overpower them and drive them out.

Elohim said to "not one of the people", you shall not go with them, and you shall not curse the people for they are blessed.

Now, let us notice also what Elohim did not say here. Elohim did not say anything about the need to bring more money. Elohim did not say, *what? that is all they paid you? I am insulted. If they bring you more money* then you can go with them, but only if they bring you more money. He did not say that.

Bemidbar (Numbers) 22:13

13 "So Balaam rose in the morning and said to the princes of Balak, "Go back to your land, for Yahweh has refused to give me permission to go with you."

So the independent Minister rose in the morning and said to the princes of Balak, go back to your land for Yahweh has refused to give me permission to go with you.

Bemidbar (Numbers) 22:14

14 "And the princes of Moab rose and went to Balak, and said, "Balaam refuses to come with us.""

Okay, now so far so good, no sin no foul up to this point. It is a very simple transaction. They paid the fee for divination, Elohim said no, done deal, it is all done. But in verse 14, what happened? The princes of Moab rose and went back to the Annihilator and said, *you know even though he is not one of the organized nation, he refuses to come with us.* So what does the Annihilator do?

Bemidbar (Numbers) 22:15-16

15 "Then Balak again sent princes, more numerous and more honorable than they.

16 And they came to Balaam and said to him, "Thus says Balak the son of Zippor: 'Please let nothing hinder you from coming to me;"

Verse 15, he again sent princes more numerous and more honorable than before probably with more divination money in their hands. They came to Balaam with more fees for divination in their hands. More money. And they said to him, *thus says the Annihilator, please, let nothing hinder you from coming to me. I will certainly honor you greatly. I will give you whatever you want. I will do whatever you say to me but therefore please come and curse this people for me so that me and my people do not die.*

Balaam said, you do not understand how this works okay hold up. How this works is, okay, this is an information service. You give me the money up front then I consult Elohim and I tell you what he says okay? That is it. I am not a false prophet. I am not making things up. I am not saying anything Elohim does not say. You are paying me a fee, I am just telling you what Elohim says okay? That is all I am doing. I am passing information. You know any Messianic ministries like that?

Bemidbar (Numbers) 22:18

18 "Then Balaam answered and said to the servants of Balak, "Though Balak were to give me his house full of silver and gold, I could not go beyond the word of Yahweh my Elohim, to do less or more."

Verse 18. And even if king Annihilator were to give me his whole palace full of silver and gold, gemstones, precious pearls, stocks and bonds, 401K plans, cushy pillows, potato chips, whatever, I cannot go beyond the word of Yahweh my Elohim to do less or to do more.

And he probably believes what he is saying and at least in his own mind he probably believes he is being a faithful mercenary seer and a faithful prophet of Yahweh. He is just using the good gifts that Yahweh gave him to make his own money. What is wrong with that? Well, now we are going to see what is wrong with that. We are going to see he is going to make a big mistake. He is going to make the decision to let money play a part in his decision-making process and that is because Balaam is double-minded. That means he is making decisions based on more than just Elohim and His Word alone.

Now in this case, he is making decisions based on Elohim's Word and money. In other words, he is making decisions based on Elohim and Mammon. That is what is wrong with that, but he thinks he is cool. How many of us know of such Messianic ministers? They are just using the good spiritual gifts Elohim gave them to make money, but they think they are cool.

Bemidbar (Numbers) 22:19

19 "Now therefore, please, you also stay here tonight, that I may know what more Yahweh will say to me."

In verse 19 he says, well you know, if you put it that way, that is quite a diviners' fee you have brought there in your hand. Well now therefore please stay here tonight and let me ask Yahweh again because you are giving me a new diviners fee and that is what I do, I consult Yahweh. You are asking me again, so let me consult again you know, because that is a mighty fine diviners' fee brought there in your hand. You know, I mean Yahweh, he did not say anything about you needing to bring more money the last time I asked Him, but you know I make my living based on diviners' fees and I sure do not want to turn your fee away you know. So if you stay here again tonight and let me ask Him again. You know He already said not to go with you because He has already blessed the people but let me ask Him again. We will get a second opinion and maybe Yahweh changed His mind, what do you think?

Bemidbar (Numbers) 22:20

20 "And Yahweh came to Balaam at night and said to him, "If the men come to call you, rise and go with them; but only the word which I speak to you—that you shall do."

Verse 20. Elohim is thinking, hey you turkey, what, did I tell you that I would change my mind if the Annihilator sent more money? I did not say anything about more money uh, I do not know what I am going to do here but I can see this mercenary prophet, this for-profit prophet, this mercenary seer here, he is not thinking about Me. He is not thinking about what I want, you know nothing about the kingdom I am trying to establish here on the earth he is just using the good spiritual gifts I made him to make his own independent Minister money. All right so what am I going to do here? How are we going to deal with this man?

So Elohim comes to Balaam at night and He says to him, okay look, here is how it is. If the men have come to call you and you want to go, okay rise and go with them but if you go, only the Word that I say to you, that you shall speak. Nothing else. You are not going to seek what I want, you are not dedicated to Me, you are not trying to help My people Israel, sure, I am going to let you wear yourself out on this thing. I am going to use you for my purposes just like with king Nebuchadnezzar. It is going to end badly for you just like it ends badly for all the independent mercenary ministers. for all the independent for-profit prophets. Because Yeshua says, he who does not gather with me scatters abroad.

So what happens? Balaam makes his choice. He rises in the morning, saddles his donkey, and he went with the princes of Moab. He did not have to. Then Elohim's anger was aroused because Balaam chose to go. And a lot of people again, they find this passage very confusing. Sometimes people say I do not get it. Why does Elohim get angry? He said it was okay to go, what is the problem? Elohim told Balaam, if the men have come to call you, rise and go with them and that is what he did. So why is Elohim getting upset?

Let us think about it again from Elohim's point of view. It is not enough to use His gifts for our own purposes. He wants us to use our gifts for His purposes. Elohim wants us to be one of His people. And what is the alternative, not one of His people? Elohim wants us to want what He wants. That is what it means, when we love Yahweh our Elohim with all of our heart, with all of our soul, with all of our strength. It means if we love Him, we should want to know what He wants us to do.

That is not what Balaam is doing. That is not what most independent mercenary Ministries are doing. They are not building Yeshua's Kingdom. If we want something other than what Yahweh wants for us. He does not like it so much because He created us to serve Him. We are His slaves. We have a job to perform. The thing is, Yahweh is such a gentleman, He is never going to make us do His will but He is always going to note the difference whether or not we do His will. And if we choose that we want to be disobedient. He is going to turn us over to the desires of our heart. He is going to give us over unto our reprobate unclean desires. It is a simple relationship really, if we love Yahweh, and we ask Him and then we do what He says, do what He wants, everything is going to go very well for us. It is like Shema or bust.

But Balaam did not want that. Balaam wanted to be independent. He was not seeking what Elohim wanted. He was not trying to be part of Elohim's unified people. He did not love Elohim, that is the problem. Or if he did love Elohim, why did he not do what Elohim wanted? Nothing more nothing less, that is the real question. That is a question for us today.

We can see very easily Balaam was for hire. If there was more money in the offering, Balaam was going to ask Yahweh if he could take it. Balaam thought he was doing good. He probably thought he was receiving the blessings for being a faithful for-profit prophet and a faithful mercenary seer of Yahweh. Anyone know any Messianic ministries like this? Not seeking Elohim's heart? Not attempting to preach according to the book of Acts? Not helping people conform to Yeshua's example? Just teaching people to adore Yeshua and not pattern their worship after Yeshua, not seeking Elohim's heart and thinking they are doing good?

Well, then we have various sundry and silly episodes. If we had more time, we would talk about how Balaam basically tries to please Balak to justify his diviners' fee. The problem is that he is not trying to please Yahweh Elohim because he is not doing what Elohim said. Elohim already told him not to curse the people because Israel was blessed. It has nothing to do with money, but do we not have a lot of Messianic ministers, Ephramites, Orthodox rabbis saying a whole lot of things Elohim's Word never says? Why is that? Are we doing these things to please Elohim or are we doing these things to justify our salaries?

Well, double-mindedness is not just a problem in the Torah because we will see the same kind of doublemindedness in our Haftarah prophetic portion so let us come to Melachim bet or second Kings chapter five.

Melachim Bet (2 Kings) 5:1

1 "Now Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Syria, was a great and honorable man in the eyes of his master, because by him Yahweh had given victory to Syria. He was also a mighty man of valor, but a leper."

Here we meet Naaman the Aramian. He was a mighty man of valor working for the wrong team. He was on the Assyrian side of things, and he was a leper.

Tsaraat אָרַעָת Probably from H6879; A primitive root; to scourge, that is, (intransitively and figuratively) to be stricken with leprosy: - leper, leprous.

In Hebrew leprosy is called *Tsaraat* or *Tsaraas* if you have an Ashkenazi speech defect. That is Strong's Hebrew concordance H or OT 6879. In Scripture, *Tsaraat* refers to any kind of infection or skin problem that they do not really know what causes it. Sometimes there is a kind of an angry red infected hair situation or not but generally it is this some kind of angry red inflammation to leprosy.

Now the back story is that the Assyrians would go out on raids and attack our ancestors in the land. Now a young Israelite girl was carried off into Assyria and taken into slavery, in the service of Naaman the Aramian, the leprous warrior.

Now notice something special here, even though she is a slave, notice the Israelite girl still has the humility and the love for all people to tell her evil captor master how to get healed. Now let us remember that as the Sabbatean Frankist slowly bring the Great Tribulation down upon us. We as Israelites, we do not fight fire with fire.

Our duty is to love all people regardless of what they are doing to us. Think about the Beatitudes, if we love only those who love us, what reward do we have? Though even the Gentiles do the same. And this is where some of our brethren go off the rails as they forget to love all mankind. They think, oh no, we are just the genetic Jews so that is all. And no, it's not about that, it's not about our flesh, it's about our spirits.

We are called to love everyone even while they are still sinners, even while they are still sinning against us, we are still called to love them so we fight fire with the waters of the Spirit, at least wherever we can, trusting and praying that Elohim is going to make everything work out all right.

Fast forward, the Israelite girl tells Naman that if you will go see the prophet Elisha, he can be healed. So he does, he goes there to see Elisha and Elisha serves him without any thought of pay whatsoever. Nothing, no money is involved, and he says nonetheless, let Naman come to him only so that he will know that there is a prophet in Israel, meaning, that he will know that there is an Elohim in Israel and that is exactly what happens.

Elisha serves Naman without any thought of any pay, of any kind. What is he doing, he is heaping coals of fire on Naman's head. He is heaping coals of fire on someone who took an Israelite girl captive and is holding her as a slave. He tells Naman to wash seven times in the Jordan, and he does, and he is clean. He is amazed his skin is soft and supple like that of a child, and it worked.

Melachim Bet (2 Kings) 5:15

15 "And he returned to the man of Elohim, he and all his aides, and came and stood before him; and he said, "Indeed, now I know that there is no Elohim in all the earth, except in Israel; now therefore, please take a gift from your servant."

In verse 15 he says, indeed, now I know that there is no Elohim in all the earth except in Israel. So his strategy worked and Naman says, now therefore, please take a gift from your servant, please take a gift from my hand, I should give you something.

But Elisha refuses money, he refuses Naman's gifts even though Naman urges oppresses him offers repeatedly. What is the point? The point is Elisha is not even interested in something Yahweh did not give him. He is not interested in Mammon. He is not interested in taking anything Yahweh Elohim does not say to take.

Oh but what happens, his serving Gehazi sure is. So the leprosy clings to Gehazi because Ghazi was doubleminded. Because gehazi did not glorify Elohim. Ghazi did not say, you know what, look at this wonderful miracle that has been wrought. We have an Assyrian who is in service to the king of Assyria and now he knows there is no Elohim in all the earth except in Israel. What a wonderful moment and to mess with that, to mess with the glorification of Elohim, ouch that is doubleminded. Mikah (Micah) 1:1

1 "The word of Yahweh that came to Micah of Moresheth in the days of Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah, which he saw concerning Samaria and Jerusalem."

From here, let us go to the Book of Micah. Let us drop quickly to chapter one and verse one. We are going to see that Micah was a prophet to both the houses of Israel. Both to Samaria meaning Ephraim and also to Jerusalem meaning the southern Kingdom of Judah.

Let us jump to chapter six, and here we see Elohim pleading with Israel because he has a complaint. What is his complaint? His complaint basically is his people are double-minded, just like Balaam. I wish we had time to go through the whole book systematically but basically Elohim says His people are not doing things His way. Rather, they are doing things their own way, basically because there is more money in it for them. His people are double-minded.

Mikah (Micah) 6:5

5 "O My people, remember now What Balak king of Moab counseled, And what Balaam the son of Beor answered him, From Acacia Grove to Gilgal, That you may know the righteousness of the Yahweh."

Well what was it? What was it that Balak counseled and what was it that Balaam answered him? Balak's council paying a profit to pervert Yahweh's will, as if that was even possible. The problem is, Balaam went along with it just in case there might be something in it for him. Is that how Elohim wants a prophet to act? He is going to give a prophet good spiritual gifts and the prophet is going to act like that? You know, we could also remember how it was when Elohim first called us out of Egypt. How He gave us the first-born priesthood. In those early days, we did not have Commandments for animal sacrifices, we covered this earlier in the series. At that time, all Elohim wanted was that we would obey His voice and be diligent to do everything that He said, including all of His written Commandments, because those also are just things that the Spirit has said to do. We are responsible for all that.

It was only after the sin of the golden calf, when we failed, that is when Yahweh gave us the animal sacrificial system because we had already proven that we were too rebellious, and we do not care. We were just plain too stupid to hear and obey His voice and decide to be diligent about doing it.

We have talked about this all through the series. That is why Yahweh, brother Judah, that is why Yahweh gave us the animal sacrificial system in the first place, was as a trainer until we should learn how to discipline ourselves to do what He wanted in the first place, which is to hear His voice and do everything He says. That is what He has wanted all along. That is why He gave us the temple system, was as a step because what He really wants, He is really trying to restore, is that relationship that was lost and broken in the Garden of Eden, but we severed our trust with Him. We behaved incorrectly.

Now we have a situation where our Orthodox brethren are getting ready to put together a third temple dedicated to their anti-mashiach. We are going to see this happen. This will not be the millennial temple of Ezekiel chapters 44-46. It is a different temple than that. The next temple we are going to see is going to be the anti-yeshua or the anti-mashiach temple of second Thessalonians chapter 2.

Let us ask ourselves the question. Yahweh is speaking to both houses in Micah, what are we going to be teaching? What are our Orthodox brethren going to be teaching in that coming temple? Are they going to be teaching the whole world to hear and obey Yahweh's voice and to be diligent about doing everything that He said to do, including all of His written Commandments? Are they going to teach the world to submit to the Talmud because that is the commandments of men? Which one are they going to try? Are they going to try and teach people to bring an offering to them just like Balak promised honor Balaam, if he would corrupt Yahweh's word and teach something other than what Yahweh said to do?

Let us hear the word of Yahweh, verse 6. Yahweh says:

Mikah (Micah) 6:6

6 With what shall I come before Yahweh, And bow myself before the high Elohim? Shall I come before Him [to honor Him] with burnt offerings, with [the soft juicy flesh of] calves only a year old would?

Will Yahweh be pleased with thousands of rams with ten thousand rivers of oil?

Or hey, I know, if I transgress, yeah, I just bring in my firstborn son in an offering for my transgression, yeah I can give the fruit of my body for the sins of my soul because Yahweh does not want obedience to His voice, He just wants blood right? He just wants us to give the rabbis our tithes and gifts and offerings, right? Yahweh forbid brothers. Yahweh has always wanted us to hear and obey His voice including all His written commands. That is what He wants. He wants us to be a blessing like that to the whole world. Why are we setting up to do something other than that? Yahweh wants that we learn to pay attention, hear and obey His voice and pay attention to Him with each breath. With each to be thankful for each breath and to let His will guide our will so that we can be guided away from sin and into His righteousness by the gift of His Spirit.

He has shown us brothers, what is good. What does Yahweh our Elohim require of us but to do justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with our Elohim. Taking care to listen to what He says and to obey His voice in each moment. What does He want but for us to restore the original trust-obedience relationship that existed in the garden, that we severed by our disobedience because we did not want to hear and obey His voice, because we had other things that were more important to us. The lust of our eyes, the lusts of our flesh, and our pride. We saw the fruit. We thought it looked good. We thought it would taste good. We thought it would make us wise, boost our ego.

Well, sometime when Elohim gives us time, we hope to have time to talk about the sins of Omri. He was in the wicked system of Omri that still exists, has been adopted both in Judah and in Ephraim. We will talk about this some other time but briefly, our ancestor, our Ephraimite King Omri, came up with a totally different system to replace Yahweh's inheritance laws. These laws of Omri are the foundation of what today we call the fee assembly state system. The modern-day banking and the mortgage industry, they are all based on that. And Yahweh says, that is not right, that is not what I told you to do. Hear the rod because His punishment is coming, because He does not like us altering His words. He does not like us replacing His system with the system of our own.

Brothers, we have not made things any better, we have made things far worse. And why do we do this? Yahweh says because there is more money for us in this system. So once again we have exchanged the inheritance of Yahweh from man-made system because there is more money. Just like Balaam or going around thinking everything is just fine, even though we are using the good spiritual gifts He gives us to do something other than to establish His son's Kingdom and we think it is going to go well for us.

So now we come to our renewed Covenant portion so let us go to the book of Yehuda or Jude. We are going to see it is the same problem as in the wilderness, it just takes on a different aspect. Here we have Israelites and in this case, we have believers in Yeshua, we have Nazarene Jews, but they are wanting to worship Yeshua their own way. They do not want to do what Yeshua said to do, they want to worship Yeshua their own way and is not that just like our ancestors? The problem is, in the first century, our forefathers being disobedient looked like the great falling away and they did not recover. In fact, we are that recovery beginning now beginning in 1996.

As we explain in the <u>Nazarene Israel</u> study, outside the land of Israel, where the Torah was not understood, the torahless Christian variation of the faith, the broad easy road version of the Faith began to flourish and grew much more rapidly than the Torah obedient Nazarene Israelite Faith. So then three centuries later, the Roman variation of the Faith stamped out all the other variations of the faith including the original first century Israelite sect of the Nazarenes.

Yehudah (Jude) 3

3 "Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints."

Now here, Yehuda or Jude is warning everyone. In verse 3, there is a specific Faith that needs to be contended for and adhered to. There was a specific Israelite sect of the Nazarenes that the people needed to adhere to that doctrine. They needed to walk according to that *Halachah*.

But of course our ancestors said, we do not want to do it Elohim's way, we want to walk our own way. And we can just see the whole great falling away developing reading the Epistles and Jude was considered to be a uh. Well Yeshua's brothers, none of them believed in him while he was alive, but they saw him after he had been resurrected so Jude was one of the brothers who believed. It was believed he was a traveling Apostle or traveling missionary out in the dispersion, outside the land of Israel, where the Gentile nations held the Torah to be worthless, they held it in contempt.

So again we can see how the original first century Israelite sect of the Nazarenes would fall by the wayside as this eclipsed by the Christian torahless variations of the Faith. Jude is complaining about all these things, once again, just like our forefathers in the wilderness. We are seeking after the blessings rather than seeking the blessor. We are seeking the gifts rather than the giver. Well, as we explain in <u>Revelation and the End Times</u>, or <u>Revelation Simplified</u> on YouTube, now is the time for everyone in the body of Mashiach, both Judah and Ephraim, to begin coming together in the right order in these last days. The right order is known, we need to be ordering ourselves according to the commanded order so that we unify on a single foundation of Apostles and Prophets, according to the five-fold protocol.

This is especially important in that we are facing two very important, you might call, phase markers in the progression. We talk about this more in the Revelation study, Father willing, we will get the opportunity to do Revelation and the End Times, Part Two. The thing is, the Ephraimite movement (generally acknowledged) began around 1996-1998-2000. Now notice that is 2,000 years after Yeshua's birth in 4 BCE.

Hosea (Hosea) 6:2

2 "After two days He will revive us; On the third day He will raise us up, That we may live in His sight."

That is just as it says in Hosea, after two days He shall revive us and in the third day He shall raise us up so that we live before Him in His sight. Now, if two thousand years after Yeshua's birth was when we began to see the restoration of the House of Ephraim 1996-1998-2000, what do we expect to see 2,000 years from the start of Yeshua's ministry that is coming up in 2026?

There is another major time point 2,000 years after Yeshua's death, burial and resurrection. That is coming up around 2029 2030, depending on how you count. Now, that is also about the time they expect to bring agenda 2030 to full fruition and full power. That is a huge time of change. We believe it will also be a huge time of growth for the original Nazarene Faith because He says, after two days He shall revive us and the third day He shall lift us up so that we live before Him in His sight. We Believe it is going to be a huge time of growth at these time points and it makes sense because as our people begin to experience pain, finally we begin to listen. When things are going too good, we are not listening to Yahweh. It is only when things go badly when we get rebuked, that is when we finally start to wake up so let us get prayed up and let us get ready because Yahweh's true restoration is in process brothers and sisters.

There are some important things we need to be doing for Him right now to get ready for these important prophetic time points at 2026 and that 2030. Now we do not know the exact dates, we just know the sequences. You can read all about those sequences in <u>Revelation</u> <u>and the End Times</u>, or <u>Revelation Simplified</u>. Again, Father willing, please pray He will give us time to do Revelation and the end times part two even part three.

There are some really great stuff I would love to show you all but the very first things we need to do are the things Elohim commands us. Everyone wants all the revelations everyone wants all the knowledge of Prophecy. We all want the gifts but how many of us want to serve Him the way He wants to be served?

Regarding Balak and Balaam as we read this epistle from Jude, as you read it at home, read it from the eyes of the Nazarene Jew or the Nazarene Israelite who wrote it. He is telling us we need to contend earnestly for the original Faith. He is talking about a fight. What kind of a spiritual army are we for Him if we cannot even fight and contend for the original Faith? Then we read the list of complaints that Jews levels against our ancestors in these assemblies that are out in the dispersion as the great falling away begins and this is in the first century.

Yehudah (Jude) 8 8 "Likewise also these dreamers defile the flesh, reject authority, and speak evil of dignitaries."

Verse 8 he says there are dreamers in the body or maybe some sons of Joseph, there are dreamers in the body and they are dreaming that their salvation allows them to defile the flesh, to eat unclean meats, to do things the Torah says not to do, to do things that Torah says will defile us, so they ignore those kinds of things just like Christianity.

There are others they say that we should reject authority, we can even speak evil of dignitaries. Anyone know anyone in the Ephraimite movement like that? Then he tells us that the true role of the biblical prophet in the first century, it is already given way to the for-profit prophet. Now we have for-profit prophets with a profit motive inside the body of Meshiach. This is in the first century. Just like Balaam they are using the good spiritual gifts for their own benefit and their own gain rather than using the giftings to build the body of mashiach worldwide to bring things together in the right order. Anyone see just like our ancestors in the wilderness, they are seeking the gifts of Yahweh, not the Giver.

And today as we go through the Revelation study hopefully, we have more time to talk about this in the future, we have inside the body of Mashiach, we have Balaam, we have Ahab, we have Jezebel, we have the Nicolaitan spirit, we have the Laodicean spirit, we have all kinds of demons inside the body of Mashiach. We are not immune to discipline and punishment. Yehudah (Jude) 11

11 "Woe to them! For they have gone in the way of Cain, have run greedily in the error of Balaam for profit, and perished in the rebellion of Korah."

Verse 11 Yehuda says woe to them for they have gone in the way of Qayin (or Cain) and they have run greedily in the error of Balaam the for-profit Prophet. They have perished in Korah's rebellion because our forefathers were just plain rebellious, just like us.

Yehudah (Jude) 16

16 "These are grumblers, complainers, walking according to their own lusts; and they mouth great swelling words, flattering people to gain advantage."

Verse 16, he says that there are grumblers and complainers just like our forefathers in the wilderness and the reason we are complaining, he says, is we are not seeking what Elohim wants. Oh no, we are seeking our own desires. We want what we want and Yehudah calls this walking after our own lusts.

Yehudah (Jude) 24

24 "Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, And to present you faultless Before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy,"

Brothers, sisters, verse 24 tells us that if we will dedicate ourselves to His cause and repent and walk according to His Spirit, He is able to keep us from stumbling. He can present us faultless, spotless, without blemish before the presence of His glory at the day of the Judgment as we stand before that awesome great white throne. He can bring us faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding Joy. All we have to do is to make a commitment to want only what He wants. We have to make a commitment to renounce doublemindedness which is wanting what we want in addition to what He wants for us. It is the only way to please Him which is the only way to survive the Great Tribulation. Let us pray for it brothers and sisters.

Parasha Pinchas

Numbers 25:10-30:1, 1 Kings 18-19, Matthew 5

Just to recap, in last week's <u>"Parasha Balak"</u>, we saw how the king of Moab, Balak, tried to hire the independent prophet Balaam (son of Beor) to curse our forefathers in Israel. In fact, he brought divination fees both from his own people in Moab and also from the Midianites because the Midianites were also in dread of our forefathers in Israel.

Then we saw how king Balak and the *for-profit* prophet and independent minister Balaam (son of Beor) tried to curse our forefathers in Israel seven times. Seven times they prepared a full altar and a full sacrifice to Yahweh hoping to please Yahweh so he would give a curse upon Israel but each time it came out as a blessing instead. This is not a small theme.

What we are going to see also in next week's "Parasha Mattot/Massei", is that when Balaam was unable to curse our forefathers in Israel, he still tried to stay in Balak's favor. Probably Moab and Midian were big clients of his, big customers. He wanted that customer retention program so still he tried to earn his divination fee by counseling the Moabites and the Midianites to seduce our forefathers with the worship of their false god Baal of Peor.

Frankly, brothers, our forefathers let themselves fall into this sexual temptation. This is a problem for us because does Satan not have plans to seduce us sexually as well and to get us to fall into sexual sin? And since we are our forefathers' children, then are we not also vulnerable to the same kinds of sexual temptations? Let us take a moment in this parasha just to see what happened and what went wrong in the wilderness. Let us take a look at how Satan tempts us sexually so we can resist and even overcome his temptations both as individuals and as a restored Nation.

Okay, let us briefly recap the most important points to prepare ourselves so we can dive in deeper. Again, last week, in parasha Balak, king Balak paid the for-profit prophet Balaam to curse our forefathers in Israel. In fact, they wanted him to curse Israel so much, they brought tribute and honor payments both from Moab and also from Midian. Yahweh would not let the independent minister curse His people because Yahweh had already blessed His people, Israel.

But what we are talking about here is really, a big vulnerability for anyone still living in the body of flesh (that is us) because we are going to see again in next week's Parasha Mattot/Massei, we are going to see the independent minister Balaam counseling the king of Moab and counseling the Midianites to seduce our forefathers with the Midianite women. It happened even while our ancestors were still in Acacia Grove. Already they began to commit harlotry with the women of Moab.

Now this word harlotry has a dual connotation; it has two meanings. It refers to both physical harlotry and it also refers to spiritual harlotry, by turning to the worship of other gods, because idolatry is spiritual adultery. It is a violation against Yahweh. And let us notice how easily this whole thing happened. The Midianite women just invited our forefathers to take part in the sacrifices of their false gods. *Hmm, how lovely, what good neighbors, Hmm, yeah it is almost like having a one-world government and a one-world religion where everyone on your block has a different faith and it is all supposed to* *be okay.* Well, our forefathers fell into it. Our ancestors ate and bowed down to the false gods of Midian. And so our ancestors were joined to Baal of Peor (The lord of the gap).

Ba'al בַּעַל The same as H1167; Baal, a Phoenician deity: Baal, [plural] Baalim.

We could make a whole teaching series on this, but we look up this word Baal, we see it is Strong's Hebrew Concordance Old Testament or Hebrew 1168. What we see is that *Baal* is a Phoenician deity whose name means *owner* or *lord*. It is true that Yahweh does own His servants, but if we read this carefully and stop and consider what it is that we are reading, does it not also mean that the pagan Phoenicians were calling upon the name of the lord? Let us check it out.

Peor פְעוֹר From H6473; a gap; Peor, a mountain East of Jordan; also (for H1187) a deity worshipped there: Peor. See also H1047.

Peor is H6465 and it refers to a gap. So *Baal Peor* literally means the "lord of the gap" but we also know from our other studies that peor probably refers to the gap in the sense of the crotch (especially a woman's crotch).

So our forefathers were worshiping the fertility god or the fertility lord of a woman's crotch; not so good.

Now we look up the root word for *Peor* and see it is H6473. It is *Paar*, a primitive root, meaning to yawn in the sense of opening wide or making a gaping gap.

Pa'ar פָּעַר A primitive root; to yawn, that is, open wide (literally or figuratively): gape, open (wide).

It is this kind of fertility god worship that our ancestors are practicing at Acacia Grove. It sounds unimaginable to us today, but fertility god worship and fertility rights were very common in ancient Middle Eastern pagan mysticism, and they are still common today outside of what we call the Christian world. We saw similar things in Corinth where you had male and female cult prostitution. We talk about that in the <u>Nazarene Israel</u> study.

We also saw similar things with Diana of the Ephesians. She is also a female pagan fertility goddess. She had pagan fertility rights and rituals. But in context, Midian just invited our forefathers to come to the worship ceremonies for the fertility god of the gaping crotch. You can imagine what kinds of rights and rituals and things went on to go along with that. Probably, as they had in the ancient world, you had probably both male and female ritual cult prostitution going on, and our forefathers went for it. So brothers what does that sav about our predispositions and our vulnerabilities today? Brothers. Well if you want to know more about why the name lord means Baal and why it is wrong to call upon the name of the lord instead of calling upon the name of Yahweh, then I invite you please to check out our study on "The Set- apart Names". You can find it in Nazarene Scripture Studies Volume One.

If we think that there is no such thing as the influence of fertility cult prostitution and fertility cult worship that has been brought inside of the church, then just take a look at the worship of the lord on Easter sunrise. I see people going to hunt for the colored rabbit eggs because rabbits are also symbolic of fertility; they breed very quickly. Let us not forget the eggs, (on Easter sunrise services) they were dyed with human blood back in those days. People think there is nothing wrong with Sunday Christian worship or Easter sunrise service on Easter, except that we forget that Easter is the same thing as the goddess Ashtareth or Ishtar, Ashara, Easter; it is all the same thing. Ishtar's Easter was also a pagan fertility goddess but most of Ephraim says, no we do not need to watch out. These pagan elements creep into our worship based on sexual fertility rights. *But, we do not have a problem with that. There is no problem like that in Ephraim today, Norman.*

Bemidbar (Numbers) 25:4

4 "Then Yahweh said to Moses, "Take all the leaders of the people and hang the offenders before Yahweh, out in the sun, that the fierce anger of Yahweh may turn away from Israel."

Okay, well coming back to the history in Bemidbar (or Numbers), Yahweh commanded Moshe to take all the leaders of the people who had led the people into sin and hang them out in the sun before Yahweh. It might sound brutal, but stupid and rebellious action on our part can call for strong corrective measures on Elohim's part to save the majority of the flock. So, Moshe said to the judges of Israel, every one of you kill his men who were joined for the lord of the gap. But then what happened?

Even in our time of punishment, when Yahweh was in the midst of bringing a plague upon our people, to correct us, to bring us back in line, our ancestors' attitudes were so bad, that one of our ancestors came and presented a Midianite wife to his brethren in the sight of Moshe and in the sight of all the congregation of Israel, even as they were weeping at the door of the Tabernacle of Meeting because of the plague. I mean, can we imagine the cluelessness of our forefathers? Our people are in the midst of receiving punishment (a plague) for our lack of loyal love toward Yahweh and one of our forefathers has the gall to bring a Midianite woman into the camp.

"Hi, Shalom, meet my wife. She is a Midianite, and she worships the fertility god of the Midian (the lord of the gap) and I am taking her into my tent right now. Anyone have a problem with that? Anyone at all?"

Yeah! I have a problem with that. Let me tell you what the problem with that is and maybe this is something that we cannot really redress under democracy.

Bemidbar (Numbers) 25:2

2 "They invited the people to the sacrifices of their elohim, and the people ate and bowed down to their elohim."

When verse 2 says the Midianite women invited the people to the sacrifices of "the lord of the gaping crotch" and the people ate and bowed down to "the lord of the gaping crotch" and Israel was joined to "the lord of the gaping crotch". What exactly do we think was happening here? You know we have Israelite husbands and Midianite wives being joined together as one flesh? Any concerns about unequal yoking going on here?

Bemidbar (Numbers) 25:7

7 "Now when Phinehas the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron the priest, saw it, he rose from among the congregation and took a javelin in his hand;"

Verse 7. Now when Phinehas, the son of Eliezer, the son of Aaron the high priest saw what was happening, he rose from among the congregation, took a javelin in his hand and he went after the man of Israel into his tent, and he thrust the both of them through. Both the man of Israel and the Midianite woman through her body and so the plague was stopped from among the children of Israel.

Tehillim (Psalm) 106:29-30 29 "Thus they provoked Him to anger with their deeds, and the plague broke out among them. 30 Then Phinehas stood up and intervened, and the plague was stopped."

Tehillim or Psalms chapter 106 and verse 29 tells us that our ancestors provoked Yahweh to anger with their deeds to extend from their lack of loyal love, they did not love him in their hearts and so the plague broke out among them, but then Phinehas stood up and intervened or interceded, and the plague was stopped. That was accounted to him for *tsedaqah* (or righteousness) unto all generations forevermore.

Palal פָלַל A primitive root; to judge (officially or mentally); by extension to intercede, pray:- intreat, judge(-ment), (make) pray (-er, -ing), make supplication.

Now let us look at this word intervene. It is H6419, *Palal*, a primitive root. It means to judge either officially or mentally, but by extension, to take action (meaning to intercede or to pray).

We can talk about the intervention of Phinehas, we can also talk about the intercession of Phinehas, and we could also talk about the prayer of Phinehas. All three of these things are contained in the same Hebrew word Palal. What this shows us, is that there is much more to prayer and intercession than just words. Right action for Yahweh; helping to build the Kingdom can also count as intercessory prayer.

But brothers, we are coming into the End Times. Are there any lessons from the parashah that we can use to help ourselves and our families today in the face of all these temptations from Satan? Because is it not Satan that is constantly trying to get us to fall? Is it not Satan that is constantly trying to tempt us with something of the world to get us to take our attention off of Yeshua and to put it on the world or to put it on some kind of a problem?

Let us be real, in the flesh, what gets a guy's attention faster than fertility? Money, power, fertility. These are all temptations to get us to take our eyes off of Yeshua and to put them on something of the world. It is designed to get us to stop abiding constantly in the vine.

B'reisheet (Genesis) 4:7

7 "If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin lies at the door. And its desire is for you, but you should rule over it."

In B'reisheet or Genesis chapter 4 and verse 7 tells us that sin is always crouching or lurking by the door. We looked that word up in the Hebrew. It is like a hungry animal ready to leap. It is crouching by the door and its desire is for us. It wants to eat us. It wants to get us but we must rule over it.

As long as we are here (to me), that is the whole point of circumcision. Yes, there are hygiene benefits to circumcision. There is less cervical cancer, there is better gynecological health for the wives of the husbands who are circumcised, and the husbands themselves have better hygiene. But the real deal to me behind circumcision is, it is a sign. It is a vow that we are going to submit our flesh and our reproduction to Elohim. So, if it does not mean that and if we are not going to submit our reproductive systems to Elohim, then what is the point of making a symbolic cut? So we can make a boast in our flesh?

Circumcision is worthless without loving obedience to Elohim. In fact, maybe it is even worse than worthless because it makes us think that maybe we have done all we need to do. We are circumcised, we are resting on Sabbath and Feasts, maybe we are going over to someone's tent, and we are sharing a meal, or something like that. We believe that because we have done all those checklist kinds of things that we have done the whole of the Torah; that we have helped to fulfill the Great Commission. Is that not what Satan is trying to get us to believe?

I ask brothers because we have a lot of problems with this kind of thing in Ephraim. In general, Satan has been very busy trying to get Ephraim to sin and to fall from His favor. One of the things that Satan likes to do is he likes to generate a lot of confusion, typically through his servant Babylon or mystery Babylon. The term Babylon in Hebrew, being Babel, it refers to confusion.

Now in Scripture, things are very clear. The roles for men and women are clear but in society today, and especially coming into these End Times, we have a lot of people very confused about their gender roles. Why? Because they are raised in the Babylonian democracy. Babylon means confusion.

B'reisheet (Genesis) 5:2

2 "He created them male and female, and blessed them and called them mankind in the day they were created." Scripture tells us that men and women have different biology, they have different plumbing, and they have different functions so because of this, they have different but complementary roles. They are supposed to work together to help build Elohim's Kingdom, but that has been a problem because men, sadly, have not always done the best job of servant leading. They have not given an example of how to manifest Yeshua's Spirit in love. Because men have not always done the best, sometimes they have done things, very, very wrong, and this has given place to one of Satan's favorite tactics in trying to destroy the family.

Ephesim (Ephesians) 5:31

31 "For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh."

Scripture tells us that both men and women are equal in the sense that they are both fully worthy of his love. However, Yahweh has us playing different roles. He made the men as initiators and as warriors. He has made the women as responders and as nurturers. The husband is to lead his family through dedicated love and the wife is supposed to support him in that, so together, they can raise their children in the way they should go so that when they are older, they will not depart from it.

But He made men and women different, and men and women think differently. It has been remarked everywhere in secular society and now they are having to change everything to fit the End Time roles and the End Time definitions, but the way Yahweh made things, men and women are different and they think differently. It is kind of like, brothers think in blue, and sisters think in pink and that is okay, it is no problem. *Vive la différence, oui?*

But Satan tries to tell us that if we admit there is any physical differences in the biology between men and women and of course as a natural result there is going to be a difference in the value and the worth and the lovability between men and women. That is just simply not true. Where they went with this in the Bolshevist Revolution (in Russia), is that they tried to say that in any kind of a believing marriage, the husband is going to be the oppressor and his role is to mistreat and enslave his wife.

So for this, Marxist call marriage an evil institution and they try to outlaw it. The Marxist's goal is to break up any kind of a believing marriage in Yeshua and the purpose is allegedly "to free the wives from their oppression". This is a total red horse pattern, and you see a lot of Ahab and Jezebel couples fall right into this. About one out of seven is what we find in our study of the book of <u>Revelation and the End Times</u>. There are seven assemblies and one of them tolerates that woman, Jezebel.

Really, what they do in the red horse, it is all just one gigantic focus on the negative. Anything we do in life, we can either focus on the positive or we can focus on the negative. If we want, we could even focus on the negativity of our coming marriage to Yahweh. We could view that as a kind of slavery, right? We are His willing slaves. We are His willing servants, and He does make all the decisions and there is plenty to complain about, if we want, just ask our ancestors leaving Egypt. Right? We could focus on the negative if we want, but it is only going to lead to more negative. Or we can make the conscious choice as the leaders of our households to diligently seek that which is good and to focus 100 percent on the positive, 100 percent of the time.

Romim (Romans) 8:28

28 "And we know that all things work together for good to those who love Elohim, to those who are the called according to His purpose."

Remembering what Romans 8 and verse 28 says that all things work together for good for those who are called and chosen according to His purposes. This is the kind of thing Scripture counsels us to do. Proverbs tells us to diligently seek that which is good.

Philipim (Philippians) 4:8

8 "Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy meditate on these things."

Shaliach Shaul, the Apostle Paul, tells us to not to focus on the negative but rather to pay attention to that which is true, that which is noble, that which is lovely, that which is pure, and that which is of good report.

Not surprisingly, that is not what either the red horse communists or their black horse Sabbatean Frankist handlers do because it is the black horse Sabbatean Fankist Illuminati who is guiding the red horse Masonic Lodge in these End Times. They are the ones preparing this whole disaster that is getting ready to go down. However, if we read the Marxist dogma that came out of communist Russia during the early days of the Bolshevist Revolution, we can see that they attacked marriage savagely, especially a believing marriage. They attacked it as being a societal evil. Expect them to try the same thing coming up in these End Times with the imposition of a global New World Order. Because the New World Order will be communism, and in communism, if you destroy the family, the people are no longer reliant on the family. The people are now no longer reliant upon Elohim's basic building block for all of society; for all of civilization.

In other words, civilization falls because the people are no longer reliant on Elohim, and so now the state replaces the family as the new basic building block of society in the New World Order. This is what we expect to see coming up.

We live in a world where we are told by our Babylonian governments to trust total strangers to raise our children for us even though we know that the red horse Bolshevist state government hired them with the express philosophy of destroying our families and replacing them with the state-sponsored system.

I am not going to attack religious schooling. I believe there is a very good role for religious schooling and our Orthodox brethren have had private religious schooling in yeshivot for their own children for millennia now.

Our Orthodox brethren are some of the smartest people on the planet. There is nothing wrong with learning from experts, so we do not speak against yeshivot or against schooling in general. Back when I lived in the "Old City" in Jerusalem, I lived right across the alley way from one of these Orthodox children's religious schools on 10 Gal-Ed Street. I used to love listening to their songs. They would sing the songs each morning and I used to love that.

Ma'asei (Acts) 22:3

3 "I am indeed a Jew, born in Tarsus of Cilicia, but brought up in this city at the feet of Gamaliel, taught according to the strictness of our Fathers' law, and was zealous toward Elohim as you all are today."

We do not know exactly how it went for the Apostle Paul (Shaliach Shaul) but Shaliach Shaul was raised at the feet of Gamaliel, so he was probably also raised in some kind of a yeshiva or some kind of private religious schooling similar to the ones in the Old City today, because our Orthodox brethren are such highly traditional people.

What I am saying is this, our Orthodox brethren do not let state hire strangers to raise their children according to Bolshevist doctrine. Not even the Sabbatean Frankist Illuminati brethren allow the Bolshevist state to raise their children in that kind of public schooling.

When you realize that there is a dual level system going on here and that they are attempting to give us the same thing they gave to Russia during the Bolshevist Revolution, with the express purpose and intention of breaking up our families and luring us to break down Yahweh's standards, with the promise of the pleasures of the flesh. With the promise of sin.

These dangers become very real to us right now because the family is the basic building block of Elohim's civilization and because the family has already come under a tremendous amount of fire, and because we believe that as the End Times progress and the New World Order is upon us, that it is probably going to be getting a lot worse. We are going to do what we can the bolster and strengthen the basic building blocks of Yeshua's civilization and Kingdom.

We are going to be spending a lot more time focusing on family matters in future parashiot. The plan is that I will go back to doing the in-depth doctoral studies and our brother Ulices Rodriguez (Uli) will be taking over the parashiot in just a few weeks.

He will be talking about several things having to do with families. How husbands can lead their families in the way of Torah, how families can pull together to serve the congregation and how the congregation can help build Yeshua's true global Kingdom.

Again, I will be going back to the in-depth doctrinal studies, Father willing. No matter whether your family is already perfectly ordered and you want to know why everything is going so well or if you have problems in your family and would like to know how things are supposed to be ordered, how things are supposed to run, then I would encourage you to read our book study on <u>Covenant Relationships</u> and then also to stay tuned for Uli's teachings.

We have seen again and again in this parasha series that Yahweh says He is a man of war. He calls us as His armies, and He organizes us accordingly. In Yahweh's armies, the husbands are basically the officer corps, and the wives serve basically as the senior noncommissioned officers (senior sergeants). Together they have the mission of raising up their family in the way it should go so that when their children are older, they shall not depart from it.

All of this is to help build strong families and these are the basic building blocks of Yeshua's Kingdom, especially when they come together in right relationship in a congregation and then also taking their part in the global Kingdom.

All of it is deals with taking down rebellion. Mankind, we have been in rebellion since the garden of Eden and we have come up with all kinds of schemes and things to make it look like we are submitting to Elohim, but we are not really. That is what mystery Babylon is all about. Just because we are resting on Sabbath and Feasts, does not mean that we are doing our part to build up Yeshua's Kingdom. It happens at the individual level, the family level, and the congregational level because that is our job, it is to help Him build His true global Kingdom that will rule and reign during the millennium.

And the place to start brothers, is with us, then build up our households, then build up our communities. All of this requires submission to His Spirit and submitting to His Spirit, that is evidence that He has overcome the rebellion in us. Now we can sing the praises of our conqueror (Yeshua) because He has the victory over rebellion, even in us.

But what does that victory look like at the family level and at the congregational level? How do we walk that victory out as a people? Ulices is going to talk about all these matters in the parasha starting in just a few weeks.

One thing Yeshua's Kingdom does not look like, is our ancestors' sin at Baal-Peor.

If I could have a word with young men. This is a matter really for every man to take to heart but especially when you are in that time when you are going to be making one of the most important decisions in your life.

Do not make any date. do not go out anywhere with any sister who would not make a pleasing bride before Yahweh. Just do not do it, it is just not worth it. As a man, we need to discipline ourselves and we need to discipline our Spirits. There is duty involved here.

We have roles that pertain to the Brotherhood and when Ulysses gets here, he is going to talk a lot about how we can organize correctly inside of our families and inside the congregation. Also, how we can perhaps break out of wrong familiar patterns or what is called generational sins so that we, like our forefathers, do not find ourselves stuck with problem situations. We need to know how to break out of the wrong patterns and help build the right patterns for ourselves, our families, and our communities.

You know, a little bit of leaven, leavens the whole lump and there is nothing quite like the leaven of fertility. Because of this, when we find sin in ourselves, no matter whether it is sexual sin or temptation to sin. No matter what it is, we need to meet it with the same Spirit and the same attitude that Pinchas met it with. We need to basically go to war with ourselves, meaning go to war with our flesh.

Yeshua said it was not enough just not to do the sin. Not only should we not do the sin, we should not even be entertaining thoughts about the sin. Now, to have a wrong thought, that is not sinful as long as we bat it away right away but any length of time entertaining that sin, that is where sin enters in. Mattityahu (Matthew) 5:27 27 "You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not commit adultery.'"

In Mattityahu or Matthew Chapter 5 starting in verse 27, Yeshua tells us, "You have heard that it was said to those of old, you shall not commit adultery." It is the seventh commandment. How perfect of a commandment is that, the seventh? But Yeshua said that whoever even looks at a woman with lust for her, has already sinned and that pertains to everyone. Ephraimite, Jewish, Israelite, makes no difference. Even the Moabites.

If our right eye causes us to sin, then it is time to take drastic action. There are times to go to war with yourself, with your flesh. Yeshua says, if it is the only way to keep from sinning (there are lots of other ways), but if it is the only way that you are able to keep from sinning. The seventh commandment is so important that it is as if we should even pluck our right eye out and just throw it away, Father forbid, but it is better for us that one of our members perish than that our whole body be cast into hell.

In like manner, so with our right hand or any other part of our body that causes us to sin. If we truly cannot find any other way to stop sinning, we should cut it off and throw it away, Father forbid, because there are other ways to stop from sinning, but it is more profitable for us that one of our members should perish then that our whole body be cast into hell.

Brothers or the brothers among us who are trying to be disciples, we have a real duty to establish Yeshua's standards in His community worldwide. We need to be the ones to establish that framework for ourselves and our families and as the man, as the initiator, that begins with you. That begins with all of us as men. We all have duties to perform. We need to do those duties.

Elohim is counting on it, so we need to be the protective fence around the garden of our families and collectively, need to be the protective fence around our physical communities. We can keep the letter of the Torah but if we are not helping Yeshua to bring about his Kingdom on Earth, if we are not willing to be the men to order our families, and if we are not willing to be the men to order our communities and then make an Evangelical effort for Him in our communities, what are we doing?

So, if we are not doing Yeshua's will, we can be resting on Sabbath and Feasts and going to Jerusalem every year, whatever we want, but if we are not helping Yeshua get what He wants (which is what His Father sent Him to get) we are still sinning. We are still doubleminded. We are still halting between two opinions. We want to serve Yahweh, but we do not want to do the things it takes to serve Him.

Well, if Yahweh is Elohim, then do we not need to serve Him the way He wants to be served with all of our hearts, with all of our soul, and with all of our strength? Or we suppose He is just filling up parchment? It is each man's duty to take the responsibility upon himself to make sure that his family is being raised in the way of Yahweh. That is very clear in the Torah. Again, there is a certain sense of duty and honor and loyalty to Yahweh that come along with the package deal.

We are called as a nation. We will talk about that in Parasha Nitzavim. We are not called as individuals reading our Bibles at home. We are not called as individuals lurking out there on the internet, seeing how much we can get for nothing. There are a lot of people out there drinking from all the fountains. It is our job to do what Elohim wants us to do; It is a package deal. We sign up, we want the blessings, we need to pay the cost. We need to do the work. That is what we are here for; it is to be His servants. And if we are not going to do all that Elohim says to do with all the integrity we have, with all the duty and honor that we have, what do we think we are doing? Does anyone think Yahweh is fooled?

Bemidbar (Numbers) 27:22-23

22 "So Moses did as Yahweh commanded him. He took Joshua and set him before Eleazar the priest and before all the congregation.

23 And he laid his hands on him and inaugurated him, just as Yahweh commanded by the hand of Moses."

Well, in chapter 27, we see one of the people that entered into the promised land. Moshe laid his hands on Joshua because His Spirit was in him and animated him and moved him. It was not just that he had the Spirit and did not respond according to it. He had the Spirit, and he dedicated the rest of his life to the service of his Elohim.

Joshua was the one to lead the children of Israel into the promised land because he had Elohim's Spirit. He manifested Elohim's Spirit. He lived according to Elohim's Spirit.

Now, even so, we just need to point out that these men were not perfect. They were far from perfect. Moshe could not even talk hardly, he stuttered, he stammered. Joshua was not perfect, but as the old saying goes, Elohim does not call those who are already qualified, you do not see that in Scripture. Rather, He qualifies those whom He calls through the trials He brings us but to make it through those trials with a positive, can do, and joyful attitude, we need to take the attitude Shema or bust.

We need to diligently listen for the voice of Elohim and obey it just like He says. It is the very first commandment he gave us after bringing us out of Egypt, and If we will do that; if we will diligently listen for the voice of Elohim and do our best to obey it, He will transform us into the people He wants us to be. That is Yeshua's will for us. He wants us to remain in Him, His Father in Him and Him and us. We are now His hands and His feet. We are doing the will of Yeshua Elohim so are we going to do that brothers and sisters?

Parasha Mattot/Massei

Numbers 30:2-36:13, Jeremiah 2-3, Ephesians 5-6

"Parasha Mattot/Massei" has a very important message for everyone in Nazarene Israel (especially those in the dispersion) because it talks about how every one of us is responsible for each and every other Israelite and not just Nazarene Israelites and not just those who are already walking in repentance because Elohim has always wanted a world where we serve as our brothers' keepers.

Elohim expects us to behave this way inside the body because Elohim expects us to understand that we are all one big extended spiritual family because that is just exactly what we are. We are brothers from other mothers. Some of us may be white, some people are black, maybe brown, maybe olive, maybe green, maybe blue, maybe purple, whatever, it does not matter. We are all supposed to serve as our brother' keepers, even if we are not related to each other physically (more recently than Noah) but because we have the same Spirit and because we are trying to give Him the Kingdom that He wants.

If we are not able to apply that globally because (for example) our Orthodox brothers are not listening and our Christian brothers are not listening. At the very least, it is supposed to apply inside our nation of Nazarene Israel. It is supposed to apply inside Yeshua's body because we are all supposed to be one big extended family. We are all His body. It is a very simple, basic, but powerful message that we are all supposed to have learned all the way back in B'reisheet (Genesis) chapter 4. It is basic but it is essential. Even though this is a primary message, does it not seem like many of us in Ephraim have a hard time grasping this to the fullest extent of the concept and doing it (walking it out)? For example, some time ago, I was talking with some Ephraimites about this parasha and there was one Ephraimite sister that when we went through the whole message (that we are going to explain today) and we explained that even though Yahweh expects us to look out for each and every other Nazarene Israelite, she just could not seem to understand why it is our duty to look out for other Israelites, or even other Nazarene Israelites (she was Messianic).

Inside I am thinking, you have to be kidding me, right? because this is a basic, basic message of parasha. If we are not willing to receive the basic messages of parasha that go all the way back to Genesis chapter 4, what are we doing? So, let us dive into this parasha and let us see what our ancestors barely grasped and even then only after Moshe drilled it home. Then we are going to see what this basic message means for us in Nazarene Israel in the dispersion today.

Two weeks ago, we were in "Parasha Balak". There, we saw that the King of Moab, Balak, tried to hire the independent minister and for-profit prophet Balaam (the son of Beor) to curse Israel and Balaam tried to earn his diviners' fees well by cursing Israel, but he could not because Yahweh had already blessed our forefathers.

Then, last week in "<u>Parasha Pinchas</u>", we saw how it was that when Balaam could not curse our ancestors, he advised the Moabites and the Midianites to send the Midianite women to seduce our ancestors by inviting them to the worship of Baal or "the Lord" and this was Balaam's (son of Beor) council. Because when Israelite males are not dedicated to Yahweh, they can be successfully tempted with the lust of their eyes, with the lusts of their flesh, and with pride. And sexual sin with "the Lord" hits at least two of those three main points. In fact, it hits all three if we think about it because if we consider that we do not need to obey our Creator's instructions, are we not kind of elevating ourselves to His level? Is it not basically a failure to stay humble and remember our place?

Well, to catch up with the history, our forefathers just needed to pass through the territory of the Amorites on their way to the land of Israel but then the Amorites would not let them pass through. King Sihon and then King Og both came out against them, but even though our forefathers had not been faithful to Yahweh, Yahweh still delivered them into our hand. Okay, great, praise Yah! So then what happened?

Yahweh helped us to smash the Amorites but then with all that land, are we just going to walk away? Look at all this territory. Our forefathers in Reuben (who some researchers believe corresponds to modern-day France and perhaps, by extension, the French-speaking people) and the children of Gad (which some researchers believe corresponds to the Viking world, we will talk more about that later) saw that the land they just conquered was good for livestock and they had a lot of livestock.

So our ancestors are thinking, "Why do we want to cross the Jordan for? We have livestock and this is great livestock land right here so why do we not just ask Moshe if we can take our inheritance here on this side of the Jordan because this is great!" Bemidbar (Numbers) 32:5

5 "Therefore they said, "If we have found favor in your sight, let this land be given to your servants as a possession. Do not take us over the Jordan."

Verse 5. Therefore they said, "If we found favor in your sight, please let this land be given to your servants as a possession. You do not need to take us over the Jordan. In fact, we do not really want to go because this is what we want right here so could you please just give us our inheritance in this land right here?"

This is not what is said in Scripture, but we take a look at what Moshe responds to and what they, kind of reading between the lines and (with the spirit that they are speaking with is), are really saying is, "We know that Elohim has called us to establish a Kingdom for Him, but to us, the Kingdom really is living in nice houses and having a good inheritance."

That is our contribution to the Kingdom; it is enjoying His blessings so why do you all not just go on over there on the other side of the river; enjoy yourselves conquering the land and there will be more for you there, right? And do not forget to write and do not forget to let us know how it goes because we will be back here. You know where to find us, we will be here enjoying our inheritance so see you all. You all have a good time over there on the other side of the Jordan!

And I do not know because Scripture does not say this, but Moshe is an extremely humble guy and he puts up with insults to himself pretty well, but he does not always like it when people insult Yahweh or when they are going to disobey the instructions of the Spirit (kind of like an insult to Yahweh) and sometimes Moshe does not like that, so I just imagine that Moshe tries to speak to their hearts. He tries to speak to them in the language of trust. He is bringing them close, and he is saying; *"What are you doing?"*

"Okay whoa, whoa, whoa, whoa, whoa, whoa, whoa okay, hold it, wait, whoa, whoa, whoa, let me see if I have this right here, okay. So what you are telling me is; what you guys are asking, okay. You are asking that you can just stay here and be comfortable and you are going to let all the rest of your brothers go on to war, so they are going to fulfill Elohim's command? So you are not going to do your part? You are not going to go to war? No, not you, just them?

"What, what are you thinking? You know you have what you want so you do not care if Yahweh gets what He wants? Is that right? I mean, that is your extent of your dedication to Elohim is give me, give me, give me, give me my blessings and that is all? You are not going to go out to war for Him? Is that you? So as long as you get what you want, you do not really care about Elohim and you do not really care about your brethren? Is that it?

"I mean, did you even stop to think for two seconds about how Elohim is going to see this? You do not want to fulfill His command? You do not want to go out to war with the rest of your brethren, or did you stop for a moment to think about how this is going to discourage the hearts of your brothers?"

They are supposed to go conquer the land for Elohim so there can finally be a Kingdom for Elohim here on this earth. You know our ancestors fell away way back in the Garden and so there are all these other evil human kingdoms that have arisen. We had Babylon, we had the Edomites, we had Egypt, we had the Assyrians, we had the Moabites, but you are okay with that right, just as long as you get your inheritance here?

"Yahweh is calling us to build Him a Kingdom and you are not up for it? Because you are focused on what you want; you are focused on enjoying your blessings right here in this world rather than focusing on what Elohim wants, right? So you know if what we are saying is true, then you are not even really in this for Elohim are you? You are just in this for you, right? And you do not see anything wrong with that, right?

"Come on guys, that is what this means to you, brothers? That is what this means to you, to love Yahweh with all of your heart, with all of your soul, and with all of your strength? Are you just going to focus on enjoying His blessings and who cares what He wants? Am I getting this right? Come on, did we not learn anything these last 40 years walking around in circles because our forefathers were focused on themselves? Our forefathers only wanted what they wanted, so anytime we had to do something for Elohim there was complaining.

"Forgive me for saying, but you know, your daddy dropped dead in the wilderness because Yahweh could see that he was only focused on himself and still you did not learn anything? Still you did not learn what love for Yahweh Elohim is? Still you did not learn you have to show Elohim your sincerity through what you do for Him by laying down your life as a living sacrifice. We passed through the Reed (Red) Sea being immersed into Yeshua's death and we are rising up. You did not learn any of that? You did not catch any of this?" Bemidbar (Numbers) 32:14

14 "And look! You have risen in your fathers' place, a brood of sinful men, to increase still more the fierce anger of Yahweh against Israel."

Verse 14. He said, "Now look, you know your daddy has dropped dead and you have risen in your fathers' places, but you are not changed. You are not transformed. You have not laid down your life as a living sacrifice. You are still seeking the blessings for you. You are still a brood full of sinful men. You are not seeking Elohim's will. You are not seeking His direction. You are not seeking His will. You want what you want. What kind of a bride are you?

"You know Elohim wants a bride. You know, a bride is a helper, but you are just thinking about you? You are just thinking about how to enjoy your inheritance and your houses and raising your families. You are not thinking about the nation. You are not thinking about your husband at all, that is for sure. Why are we having this conversation? Why do I have to explain this to you? I thought you guys had what it takes to figure this out. I thought you had what it takes to love Yahweh your Elohim. If not, I guess maybe we have to spell things out long hand."

"If you turn away from following Him (just like what you are talking about) and just focusing on you and your house, your family, and your inheritance. You are going to enjoy His blessings and that is what building His Kingdom means to you? You know that is going to upset Him right? Because it is not His will. You are seeking to do your will just like our forefathers. If you do this thing, He is going to leave us to the natural consequences of our stupid and selfish choices again." "And in case you have not noticed, I [speaking of Moshe] am old now. I am getting ready to die. I am not going to be around to intercede for our people again."

I do not know because Scripture does not say this, but I guess the message must have gotten through (this is not just about *us* enjoying our inheritance, it is more about helping Yahweh *get His* inheritance) which if we think about it, is supposed to be an 'obedient us'.

So, are we helping Yahweh get an 'obedient, willing us' who loves Him with all of our heart, with everything we do, with every thought? It must have had an impact because they came near to Moshe and this very important word in Hebrew, *Vayigash,* which means to come near. We also saw this when Judah approached Joseph, he came near to him. It is talking about a certain intimacy. It is talking about the language of trust. We are talking about how can we establish the correct rapport between us?

"nâgash" ذِذِשׁ H5066; A primitive root; to be or come (causatively bring) near (for any purpose); euphemistically to lie with a woman; as an enemy, to attack; religiously to worship; causatively to present; figuratively to adduce an argument; by reversal, to stand back: - (make to) approach (nigh), bring (forth, hither, near), (cause to) come (higher, near, nigh), give place, go hard (up), (be, draw, go) near (nigh), offer, overtake, present, put, stand.

They came near and they said, "You know, you are right. You are absolutely right but we still like this land so can we do this? Let us build sheepfolds here for our livestock and we are going to renew these cities we have just burned. That is where our little ones are going to dwell but every one of the men who is aged 20 or older (between the age of 20 and 50). We are going to arm ourselves and we will go out to war with the rest of our brothers. We are going to remain at war with our brothers until we have brought them to their places also.

"Then, Elohim will have what He wants, and our brothers will also have what they want. So when everyone has what he wants, Yahweh first, (because that is why we are here right?) and then our brothers second, then we will come back to our inheritance. Is that fair? Does that work? Is that good?

"In the meantime, our little ones are going to dwell in the renovated fortified cities, and we will not even come back to our homes until every one of our brothers in Israel has received his inheritance [let us think about the Great Commission here]."

He said "Because you are right, Elohim called us to build Him a Kingdom on this earth for Him so we can shine His light like a city on a hill, so it is not about us, it is about Him."

Baruch HaShem Yahweh, I guess they got it! But sometimes, do you not kind of have to wonder when the rest of us are going to get it as well?

What I mean by that is, when are we also going to get the fact that Yeshua gave us a mission to accomplish for Him (really for His Father) and because of that, it is not about us living in paneled houses while Yahweh's house lies in ruins. It is not about us enjoying the blessings of Yahweh by living in the developed world, or living in the United States, or Europe, or the land of Israel, or some nice country because it is not about us. It is not about us receiving our inheritance. It is not about us receiving our blessings.

It is about us humbling ourselves to serve our Husband Yeshua and fulfilling the Great Commission that He gave us to do for Him. It is about living that kind of sacrificial lifestyle that leaves a better world for our children and our children's children.

Yeshua told us to go into all nations and immerse disciples in His name and to teach them or to train them to do everything that He said to do. As we explain (in context) in *Torah Government*, in *Acts 15 Order*, and in other places, what Yeshua wants is for us to build Him a global spiritual government which is His unified global ministry. That is what He says He wants and as we show in our studies on *Revelation & the End Times*, really it is the only logical, only intelligent choice. Europe is going to collapse because unified Europe is based on what is called the Coudenhove-Kalergi Plan (which is a very old plan) which calls for flooding Europe with Muslim migrants who will then start a civil war and the United States is going to first suffer a civil war and then it is going to get nuked.

So I suppose if we choose to put our families through all that by seeking the blessings of living in the developed world, it is our choice, but I do not think it is a choice that Elohim wants us to make and if you are living in the Zionist state of Israel, then you are going to have to leave anyways when the abomination that makes desolation is set up on the Temple mount.

Rather than focus on what we want and rather than focus on enjoying Elohim's blessings, (maybe living in a nice place, enjoying our houses, enjoying our inheritance) why not focus on what He wants? Why focus on ourselves? Why not focus on Him if we seek to be His faithful Proverbs 31 bride? And that is to say, why not just do what Yeshua says because Yahweh is going to bring us and relocate us back to the land of Israel after the Great Tribulation and Armageddon anyway, but in the short term the land of Israel is going to be cleansed of all its abominations.

We cover that in our study on <u>Revelation & the End</u> <u>Times</u>, but for right now, we can focus on the Two Houses, Judah, and Ephraim. But really our job is to focus on Yeshua. Our job is to focus on pleasing our Husband by learning what He wants and doing what He wants (by preparing ourselves, by refining ourselves spiritually, by obeying His Torah). So for right now our job is to build Him that Spiritual Kingdom that He wants. Our job is to build Him that city on a hill and not necessarily in the already developed world that is going to be nuked and destroyed. Can we see the parallels between the Torah portion and the Renewed Covenant?

Bemidbar (Numbers) 32:20-21

20 "Then Moses said to them: "If you do this thing, if you arm yourselves before Yahweh for the war, 21 and all your armed men cross over the Jordan before Yahweh until He has driven out His enemies from before Him,"

Verse 20. Moshe said to them, "Okay if you will do what you just said you will do, right, and all your adult males from 20 years of age to 50 years of age are going to arm themselves for war before Yahweh. And all your adult men of war are going to cross over the Jordan before Yahweh until He has driven His enemies out from before Him and the land is subdued before Yahweh. "Yeah, then afterwards, yes afterwards, if you help Yahweh get what He wants and then help all your brothers come to their places, afterwards you may return, and you will be blameless before Yahweh and before all your brothers in Israel because you helped Yahweh to get what He wanted, and you looked out for your brothers as well (You served as your brothers' keepers). And if that is the case, yes, this land that you want right here, this shall be your possession before Yahweh.

"But, uh brothers, if you do not do what you just said and you do not help Elohim get what He wants, then behold, you will have sinned against Yahweh, and you can be sure that your sin will find you out because Yahweh is in control of all things."

But brothers, the question is, how many of us are helping Yeshua to get His Kingdom? How many of us are helping Yeshua to get His unified, global ministry? How many of us are helping Him to sit on the throne that He sacrificed unto the death for and that He so richly deserves? How many of us are just simply enjoying our inheritance, enjoying the blessings of Yahweh, and enjoying living our lives in the world no matter whether we are in Europe, or the United States, or in Israel, or some other nice place (it does not even have to be in the developed world)?

How many of us are living our lives in the world instead of laying down our lives to serve Yeshua and to serve Yahweh? How many of us are spending the good spiritual gifts He gives us on ourselves without any real thought of giving anything substantial back to Him without any thought of laying down our lives in service, to Him, and that is to ask, how many of us are truly seeking to serve Him with all of our heart, with all of our soul, and with all of our strength? How many of us are just simply seeking to be served by Him?

You know, the way Yeshua is, He sets us on His throne, and He girds Himself with a towel and He washes our feet. He will do that, but then He waits patiently for our conscience to get us and to nag at us until we are finally convicted of our sin. We do not need to be receiving His blessings, we need to be the ones girding ourselves in a towel and washing His feet. That is what He died for. We are His servants. We were bought with a price.

You know, we say, "What a lofty admirable goal!" We say we want to be His helpmeet. We say we want to be the bride of the Son of the King of the universe but if a bride is described as a helper, are we helping Him to obtain the Kingdom His Father sent Him to get or are we not helping Him to get the Kingdom His Father sent Him to get?

And if we are not, then how are we any different than our ancestors in Reuben and Gad? What kind of a reward can we expect? Are we headed for everlasting life or are we headed for eternal punishment for being lukewarm and disobeying the voice of our Elohim?

Sisters, forgive me, I need to talk just to the brothers for a moment. Brothers, do we want to marry a selfish, lazy helpmeet of a bride who only focuses on what she wants? And, if we do not want to marry a selfish, lazy bride, then what about Elohim? A word to the wise is sufficient.

Supporting the Work

Nazarene Israel is reestablishing the original apostolic faith in the modern day. Yahweh tells His people to give, and He is faithful to bless those who cheerfully give to His Son's work (e.g., Exodus 25:2, Malachi 3:10, etc.).

Yeshua also tells us not to store up treasures for ourselves on earth, but to lay up treasures in heaven by being rich toward His work. He says that where we put our treasure, our heart will also be there (Matthew 6).

Shaul (Paul) also tells us that those who are taught should share with those who teach.

Galatim (Galatians) 6:6-9

6 Let him who is taught the word share in all good things with him who teaches.

7 Do not be deceived, Elohim is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap.

8 For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life.

9 And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.

If you believe these things, you can find ways to partner with us on the Nazarene Israel website: <u>nazareneisrael.org</u>

You can also donate through PayPal, to: <u>servants@nazareneisrael.org</u>

All monies will be carefully and prayerfully used to fulfill the Great Commission, and to restore the original first century faith to the land of Israel, and all around the world.

May Yahweh greatly bless you for being wise, and for helping us to establish His Son's kingdom.

Bemidbar 2022

If you are reading this, then you probably enjoy reading the Scriptures, right? And you probably know that the Old Testament (the Torah and the books of the prophets) is still an important part of Scripture, right?

But have you ever read the Tanakh (the Old Testament) and wondered, "What does this mean for me today?" "How do any of the things written in the Tanakh apply to us now?" "Did not the Torah become obsolete after the resurrection of Yeshua HaMashiach?"

Many Christians and Messianic today believe that the Torah is obsolete since Yeshua's resurrection. And that the Renewed Testament cancels out the Old Testament. But what does the New Testament (the Brit Chadasha) say about this? And what did Yeshua's own disciples teach after His resurrection?

Is it possible that Yahweh is never changing? And that the Tanakh, the Haftarah, and the Brit Chadasha are all united as one? And that Yahweh's will for man has not changed since the beginning of time?

Well, those are all good questions! Please read this Parasha series if you would like the answers!

For more information visit <u>nazareneisrael.org</u>

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