



Ekev

(because)

Devarim [Deuteronomy] 7:12-11:25

הברית החדשה

HaB'rit HaChadashah

(the new covenant)

Yochanan [John] 14:1-21

We have chosen this passage from the Brit, because Yeshua admonishes us to keep His commandments, much as Moshe admonishes us to keep the Torah commandments in this week's Parasha.

Rightly Placed Trust = Shalom

Yochanan [John] 14:1

"Let not your heart be troubled; depend upon the Elohim, depend also in Me."

Yeshua had just finished telling Kepha that he was going to deny Him three times before the cock crowed. Surely this was a very troubling revelation to Kepha. Yet, Yeshua then tells him (and the rest of them as well) that he should not be troubled. If he would just depend upon Elohim as well as Yeshua our Mashiach, then all would be well.

It is only through properly trusting in, and acting upon, that trust in Elohim and His Mashiach, that we can, and will, have shalom; i.e., our hearts will not be troubled. It is when we take our eyes off of our Master, that our shalom departs.

Ivrim [Hebrews] 12:2a

Fixing our eyes on Yeshua, the author and perfecter of faith

But what happens in us when we do not fix our eyes upon our Mashiach Yeshua? One thing that almost immediately happens when we begin looking around us at the world, circumstances, or the troubles we may be enduring at the moment, is the same thing that happened to Kepha when he got out of the boat to come to Yeshua on the water. As long as Kepha kept His eyes upon Yeshua, he did just fine walking on the water. However, as soon as he took his eyes off of Yeshua, he began to sink in the water.

Likewise, how often do we do this to ourselves, and allow the waves of this world to overcome us, because we are looking at those waves, rather than keeping our eyes upon Yeshua? If we want to have shalom in our lives, then it is really quite simple; we need to keep our eyes upon Yeshua. While in our flesh, we would like to say that this is easier said than done, this is not exactly quite true. Why? Where we look with our eyes is simply our own personal choice. No one forces us to look at our circumstances. No one forces us to take our eyes off of Yeshua. We choose to take our eyes off of Yeshua, and thus we lose our shalom. As soon as we realize what we have done and refocus upon Yeshua, then our shalom returns. Have our circumstances changed? NO! But our focus has. And that makes all the difference.

Let us train ourselves to walk this life with our eyes upon Yeshua!

Preparations

Yochanan [John] 14:2

“In My Father's house are many dwellings; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you.”

He is preparing a place for all those who come to the Father through Yeshua. All those who come to the Father are one even as Yeshua and the Father are one.

Yochanan [John] 17:22

“And the glory which You have given Me I have given to them; that they may be one, even as we are one;”

There are many members of His body, but there is only one body.

Romans 12:4-5

***4 For even as we have many members in one body, and all the members have not the same office:
5 so we, who are many, are one body in Mashiach, and severally members one of another.***

There is a teaching going out into His body today that is saying that there are many bodies, but as we can see from this Scripture, there is only one body. If a person is not a part of that one body (Israel), then he will not have eternal life. It is for this one body, that Mashiach is making preparations.

Where He will Be

Yochanan [John] 14:3

“And if I go and prepare a place for you, I come again, and will receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.”

It is often taught that Yeshua was speaking of heaven in this verse. However, that is not the case. Let us carefully examine this passage to see what Yeshua was actually saying to His talmidim.

Notice that He will receive His talmidim to Himself.

Notice that He states that where He is at presently, they will be there as well.

Notice that He does not state it will be in heaven.

Notice that when He said this to His talmidim, they were in Jerusalem.

Where will Yeshua be when He returns? He will be in Jerusalem. Where will He be when He receives us to Himself? He will be in Jerusalem.

Yeshua stated this in the present tense, speaking of a future event. He was presently in Jerusalem when He spoke to His followers. He was simply stating that where He was currently at, is where He would return to, and then receive His followers to Himself in the same location, as He was presently speaking to them.

Yeshua will not be in heaven when He receives us to Himself.

The Way

Yochanan [John] 14:4

“And where I go you know, and the way you know.”

Yeshua makes a statement that is sure to bring forth a question from His followers. He is setting the stage to be able to teach them an important truth about who He is.

Question From T’oma

Yochanan [John] 14:5

T’oma says to Him, “Adonenu, we do not know where You are going; how can we know the way?”

T'oma (Thomas) then asks the obvious question. T'oma tells Yeshua that they do not really know what He is talking about. They do not know where He is going; therefore, how can they know the way in which to follow after? But Yeshua is leading them into a very important revelation.

Only One Legitimate Path

Yochanan [John] 14:6

Yeshua says to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no man comes to the Father, but in Me."

Yeshua then teaches them three important truths that are all interrelated.

1. Yeshua is the way
2. Yeshua is the truth
3. Yeshua is the life

The Hebrew word for the "way" is דֶּרֶךְ – derek. The first place this word is used in Scripture, is informative to us in this study today.

B'reshit [Genesis] 3:24

So He drove out the man; and He placed at the east of the garden of Eden the Cherubim, and the flame of a sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life.

It is important to note, that not only does this verse mention something important about the way, but it is in conjunction with the tree of life. If we are careful to observe, Yeshua also said that He was the "life" as well as being the "way."

The Hebrew word for "the life" is הַחַיִּים – hachayyim. Then finally, the Hebrew word for the "truth" is אֱמֶת – 'emet. The first place that the word אֱמֶת is found, we also have the word דֶּרֶךְ in the same verse.

B'reshit [Genesis] 24:27

And he said, "Blessed be YHWH, the Elohim of my master Avraham, who has not forsaken His lovingkindness and His truth toward my master. As for me, YHWH has led me in the way to the house of my master's brethren."

What we are beginning to see with the close association of these words, דֶּרֶךְ, אֱמֶת, הַחַיִּים, is that in order to have one of them in the fullest possible measure, one must have all three. And in order to have all three of them, then one must have Mashiach Yeshua. If one does not have Mashiach Yeshua, then he cannot have any of them: the way, the truth, or the life.

Know Yeshua = Know YHWH

Yochanan [John] 14:7

“If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also; from henceforth you know Him, and have seen Him.”

Yeshua gives further revelation; thereby, setting up His followers for another question; hence, more revelation. Here in this verse, Yeshua is teaching them, that if they have known Him, then they also know the Father in heaven. Furthermore, if they have seen Him for who He actually is, then they have also seen the Father for who He actually is.

We will discuss this more in depth below.

Question From Philipos

Yochanan [John] 14:8

Philipos says to Him, “Adonenu, show us the Father, and it is sufficient for us.”

Philipos (Philip), not wanting to miss out on an opportunity to see the Father, asks Yeshua to show Him to them. He did not really understand what it was that Yeshua was saying at this point. Later he would understand, but not now.

Seeing Yeshua = Seeing YHWH

Yochanan [John] 14:9

Yeshua says to him, “Have I been so long time with you, and do you not know Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; how do you say, ‘Show us the Father?’”

What does Yeshua mean when He says, that if we have seen Him we have seen the Father in heaven?

Ivrim [Hebrews] 1:2-3

2 In these last days has spoken to us in the Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the world.

3 And He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature, and upholds all things by the word of His power. When He had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high.

Please note that this passage teaches us that Yeshua our Mashiach is the exact representation of YHWH Elohim, the Father. So when Yeshua says this to His talmidim, this is what He is referring to, that He is the exact representation of YHWH Elohim.

If we dip a cup into a stream and fill it with water, have we diminished the stream? Not really! Is the water in the cup exactly like the water in the stream? Yes! Is the water in the stream exactly like the water in the cup? Yes! So if we have seen the water in the cup, we have seen the water in the stream, only a confined portion of it.

Likewise, Yeshua took upon Himself human flesh, and the Living Water was poured into the person of Yeshua. The human body of Yeshua was the cup that held YHWH in the flesh.

Father Son Relationship

Yochanan [John] 14:10

“Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? The words that I say to you I speak not from Myself; but the Father abiding in Me does His works.”

It is quite easy for us to understand the father/son relationship as we all have fathers, and many of us have sons, and some of us are fathers. For myself, I not only am a son, but I am a father as well. When we come to understand this relationship, that a son can also be a father, it will help us in understanding the relationship between the Father and the Son.

When we come to understanding such passages as this, it is important that we keep in mind who Yeshua is.

Colossians 1:16

for in Him were all things created, in the heavens and upon the earth, things visible and things invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers; all things have been created through Him, and for him;

And;

Yochanan [John] 1:3

All things were made through Him; and without Him was not anything made that has been made.

As the Creator, this makes Him also the Giver of the Torah. The significance of this truth then, is even more significant when understanding what Yeshua is teaching His talmidim in this passage, as recorded by Yochanan. This is also why it is extremely important to understand the different manifestations of Elohim. He has revealed Himself in manifold ways to us. Each manifestation is not exactly the same as

another, but like the cup being dipped into the stream, the essence is the same, even though the cups may be different.

When the Son created all that we see, this was before He took upon Himself a body of flesh. So the manifestation of the Son as the Creator is not precisely the same as the Son in the flesh. The Son is the exact representation of the Father. They are, in fact, echad – אחד (one).

Trust Me

Yochanan [John] 14:11

“Trust Me that I am in the Father, and the Father in Me; or else trust Me for the very works' sake.”

Yeshua did the work of His Father. He did not do anything that was not in the Father's will.

Yochanan [John] 12:49

“For I spoke not from Myself; but the Father that sent Me, He has given Me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak.”

And;

Yochanan [John] 6:38

“For I am come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him that sent Me.”

Yeshua did not come to please Himself or to do His own will. He came to do His Father's will. In this we should be able to see that the works that Yeshua did are from His Father in heaven. Through this, we can know that the Father is in Him, and He is in the Father. As we spoke of earlier in the example of the water from the stream, remembering this will help us to understand what it was that Yeshua was teaching to His talmidim.

When we understand this witness, the witness of who He is and the works that He did, then we can know that He is altogether trustworthy. We can know that He will do as He said that He will do.

We Have Work To Do

Yochanan [John] 14:12

“Amein, amein, I say to you, he that believes on Me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go to the Father.”

Yeshua's ministry upon earth was only about three years. In that time, He did many great and marvelous works that brought glory and honor to His Father. He tells us here in this passage, that we are to do even greater works than He did. However, this is not greater works by nature, but greater works in number. For, there was only one of Him, while there are many of us who are His followers. And if each one of us does the same kinds of works as Yeshua, then it greatly increases His works that are done through us to the glory and honor of His Father in heaven.

When we see the truth of this passage, we see that we have a lot of work to get done. Yeshua our Mashiach did not give us salvation so that we could just simply sit around and bask in His glory, doing nothing to go out and find His lost sheep.

He has called us to do a job. That task is not yet complete. It is time that we get with the business of building His kingdom, and get out of our comfort zone, and do something to further His kingdom. He has equipped us with gifts and talents and abilities to build His kingdom. These things are not to be spent upon ourselves.

According To His Will

Yochanan [John] 14:13

"And whatsoever you shall ask in My name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son."

Just to clarify what Yeshua means here in this passage, let us examine another passage as well.

Yochanan Aleph [1st John] 5:14-15

14 And this is the boldness which we have toward Him, that, if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us;

15 and if we know that He hears us whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions which we have asked of Him.

It is time that we completely discard this "name-it/claim-it" theology which is a slap in the face to a Sovereign Elohim. He is the Elohim! We are to be doing His will. We are not to be doing our own thing or our own will. He is the Master. We are His servants.

Devarim [Deuteronomy] 12:8

"You shall not do after all the things that we do here this day, every man whatsoever is right in his own eyes;"

Notice that YHWH is telling us through Moshe that we are NOT to do whatever is right in our own eyes. If a person does whatever is right in his own eyes, it is considered to be sin by YHWH. When we ask

YHWH for something, don't you think that it would be wise for us to find out what His will is, before we ask? I do!

Ask in Yeshua's Name

Yochanan [John] 14:14

"If you shall ask anything in My name, that will I do."

One of the wisest things that His talmidim ever asked Him is found in the following verse.

Luqa [Luke] 11:1

And it came to pass, as He was praying in a certain place, that when He ceased, one of His talmidim said to Him, "Adonenu, teach us to pray, even as Yochanan also taught his disciples."

The first step in praying, is to ask YHWH what it is that we should pray for. We cannot afford just to assume that we know what to pray for. And when someone asks us to pray for them in some manner, we cannot just assume that the request that they have given to us, is what He wants us to pray for them in this matter. We should always ask YHWH what it is that He wants us to pray, before we pray.

Then, and only then, are we ready to come before Him and petition Him with a request. If we have not asked Him what we are to pray, then how are we going to know what His will is?

Obeying His Commandments

Yochanan [John] 14:15

"If you love Me, you will keep My commandments."

There are two conditions for receiving our requests from YHWH. They are:

1. It must be His will
2. We must be obeying His commandments

If these two things are not a reality in our lives, then we should not expect to receive anything from our heavenly Father.

Ya'aaqov [James] 1:7-8

7 For let not any man think that he shall receive anything of YHWH;

8 being a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

Here is the essence of double-mindedness. A person is double-minded when he says that he wants to do the will of YHWH our Elohim, but then prays a prayer that is self-centered, self-serving, and self-gratifying. A double-minded man should not expect to receive anything from YHWH!

A Comforter

Yochanan [John] 14:16

“And I will pray the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter, that He may be with you forever,”

There are many today, who teach that the Holy Spirit is a separate being from the Father or the Son. However, this is simply not what Scripture teaches us.

Philippians 1:19

For I know that this shall turn out to my salvation, through your supplication and the supply of the Spirit of Yeshua Mashiach,

And;

Romans 8:9

But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of Elohim dwells in you. But if any man has not the Spirit of Mashiach, he is none of His.

Notice that this Comforter, also known as the Holy Spirit or Set-apart Spirit, is called the Spirit of Yeshua Mashiach, the Spirit of Mashiach, and the Spirit of Elohim, in the two verses above. When we begin to see that it is the same Spirit that dwelt in Yeshua our Mashiach, that will come and dwell in us, then we can see that it is Mashiach in us, that is being manifested when we do His will and walk as He walked.

The Spirit of Truth

Yochanan [John] 14:17

“even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive; for it beholds Him not, neither knows Him; you know Him; for He abides with you, and shall be in you.”

If a person is a double-minded person, then he is not filled with His Spirit. If a person is attempting to walk the way of Bala'am, who was trying to serve YHWH and seeking after wealth as well, then he is in the world and will not have His Spirit in Him, for as Yeshua says above, the world cannot receive His Spirit.

Matithyah [Matthew] 6:24

“No man can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to one, and despise the other. You cannot serve Elohim and money.”

We cannot seek after the things of this world and expect to be blessed by our heavenly Father! He just cannot do it. Why? Please note what Yeshua teaches us in the passage from Yochanan. He says that those in the world “cannot” receive the Spirit of truth. Ever wonder why there is so much lying in the world? Well, now you know!

Notice also, that Yeshua tells His talmidim that this Spirit of truth is already with them. But, later He would be in them. When we come to Yeshua our Mashiach in true repentance and accept Him as our Savior, then His Spirit is with us. When we come to Him again and ask Him to fill us with His Spirit and empower us for service, then His Spirit is in us.

This is something that we each need to make sure that we have as a reality in our lives: that we are filled with His Spirit.

Tessaloniqim Bet [2nd Thessalonians] 2:10

and with all deceit of unrighteousness for them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved.

Do you love the truth? I mean really love the truth? So much so that when He (the Truth) reveals a new truth to you, that you submit to it and make it a part of your life? Or, do you reason it away, and justify why it is that you cannot do this in your life as He revealed it to you? Do you care more about what your friends or your family might think about you? Do you take a poll of those in your life to see if this is something that you can do, and still be friends with all of them? If you do these things, then you may not love the truth as much as you would like for yourself to believe. If this is the case, then please, fall on your face in repentance and seek Him with a whole heart before it is too late. Notice the verse that follows this one.

Tessaloniqim Bet [2nd Thessalonians] 2:11

And for this cause Elohim sends upon them a working of delusion, that they should believe the lie;

Do you want to be deceived by the anti-Messiah? If not, then you had better get your act together, and start walking in all the truth that He has given you.

The Spirit of Yeshua

Yochanan [John] 14:18

“I will not leave you desolate; I come to you.”

Once again, we see that it will be the Spirit of Yeshua our Mashiach who will come to us. This should be, and is, a very comforting truth!

Life

Yochanan [John] 14:19

“Yet a little while, and the world sees Me no more; but you see Me; because I live, you shall live also.”

It is by faith, that we see Mashiach Yeshua manifested in the lives of His people. He lives in us. He lives through us. And because we have made this choice, to die to self and live for Him, that we too, shall truly live.

Marqos [Mark] 8:35

“For whosoever would save his life shall lose it; and whosoever shall lose his life for My sake and the Besorah's shall save it.”

If a person simply lives his life for himself, then in the end he will have nothing. However, if we choose to lay down our lives for Him and live for Him, working to build His kingdom, then we shall truly find life. He will give us life eternal.

In That Day

Yochanan [John] 14:20

“In that day you shall know that I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you.”

In what day shall we know that Yeshua is in the Father and the Father is in Him? It is in the day that we lay down our own life and live only for Him.

Commandments and Love

Yochanan [John] 14:21

“He that has My commandments, and keeps them, he it is that loves Me; and he that loves Me shall be loved of My Father, and I will love him, and will manifest Myself to him.”

Do we really desire to see Yeshua in our lives? The only way that this is going to happen, is for us to obey His commandments. It is in obeying His commandments, that we show to Him that we truly love Him. To simply say we love Him is not enough; this is only lip service. If we are really serious about

loving YHWH with all our heart, mind, strength and being, then we need to get serious about obeying ALL of His commandments.

It is time that we step outside of the mold of this world, and stop trying to please those who walk according to the ways of this world. We need to do right in His eyes, and please Him in everything. Many who try to follow YHWH, do so with only a partial heart or mindset of: "I will follow YHWH this far, but no further." This is surely a mindset of death.

But you may say, "This is not speaking of me." Let us ask ourselves a couple of questions to see how much we are willing to obey Him. There are many people who are coming out of all sorts of mixed worship today. However, in this coming out, there are many who still think that some of the commandments are done away with by Yeshua. Or, they think that not all the commandments are valid today and should not be kept today. Such a mindset reveals that of only a partial heart, in following YHWH.

Let us determine, like Avraham, that regardless of what YHWH asks us to do, we will do it, regardless of the price we have to pay. Are you willing to go that far? I hope so.

ABBA YHWH, please fill us with Your Spirit that we may walk in the fullness of Your will for our lives; in the name of Yeshua our Mashiach. Amein.

Shabbat Shalom

Zerubbabel ben Emunah

zerubbabel@townsqsr.com

www.onetorahforall.org