

נִצְבִים

Nitzavim

(Standing)

D'varim [Deuteronomy] 29:10-30:20

וַיֵּלֶךְ

Vayyeilek

(And went)

D'varim 31:1-30

הַבְּרִית הַחֲדָשָׁה

HaB'rit HaChadashah

(the new covenant)

Yielding Control to YHWH

Romans 12:1-2

1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of YHWH, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to YHWH, which is your reasonable service.

2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of YHWH.

One of the most universally asked questions is: What is Elohim's will for my life? Or, what is the purpose of my life? This question can take on many forms, but it is still the same question. Many in our day spend fortunes going to this specialist or that advisor seeking to find answers to these questions that YHWH has placed within each one of us. Some even travel the world looking for the answer to these questions.

How would you answer this question for yourself?

How one will answer this question will greatly depend upon how much control he desires to have over his own life.

What will be examined in this article is the importance of being yielded to YHWH, if we truly are to be a part of His Kingdom and have eternal life. Being yielded to YHWH must be complete and unreserved, holding nothing back from Him. For if one holds something back from Him, anything at all, then it will be at that very point that one stumbles and falls into sin.

Yochanan [John] 16:7-11

7 "Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you.

8 And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:

9 of sin, because they do not believe in Me;

10 of righteousness, because I go to My Father and you see Me no more;

11 of judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged."

Have you felt the convicting power of the Holy Spirit? Of course you have, otherwise you most likely would not be reading this article. When you have felt it, what have you done? What decisions have you made? What it comes down to is this: have you yielded to Him in all that He has said to you? Or are you selective in what you yield to Him? Are you yielding to Him only in those things that are convenient? Do you have things in your life that are "off-limits" to YHWH?

If one truly desires to have the ministry of the Helper (Holy Spirit) as part of his everyday life, then he will have to submit to this convicting power of the Holy Spirit and be in agreement with YHWH that he is a sinner; that He is righteous; and that Satan is powerless (has been judged). Do you agree with these three things that Yeshua taught us? If so, then let us proceed on together.

Romans 10:14

How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher?

You say that you have yielded everything to YHWH, that you have yielded your life to Him. Are you so yielded that you are willing to be His witness? Sure, when it is convenient; but what about when it is not convenient? Sure with your words; but what about with your actions, like the way that you dress? What about wearing tzitzit so all can see them? What about wearing a covering on your head, a kippah for men or a head covering for women? You men, are you willing to wear a beard? Are you willing to listen for, hear and obey His Voice? Are you willing to obey Him in all things?

"But preacher, you do not understand my particular situation. If you did, you would understand why it is that I cannot do this particular commandment or that one at this time."

Are you willing to see that if you can come up with any reason (excuse) not to do a commandment, that it will not stand up to the scrutiny of Scripture? YHWH has already promised to give you the strength and power you need to keep His commandments if you will but yield to Him in this matter.

Ivrim [Hebrews] 10:15-16

15 But the Set-Apart Spirit also witnesses to us; for after He had said before,

16 "This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, says YHWH: I will put My commandments into their hearts, and in their minds I will write them,"

YHWH promises that He will write His Torah (commandments) upon our hearts and minds. The prerequisite of this happening is that we must belong to Him; we must be His people. This means that we belong to Him. If a person is still trying to run his own life, then does he truly belong to YHWH? It is doubtful. It is the very act of obedience which YHWH uses in our lives to write His Torah upon our minds and hearts. Each time we obey, it is written! The more one obeys, the more it is written upon our minds and hearts.

Which is more indicative of a person's heart: a person's words or a person's actions? Which would you believe in another person if that person's words did not match his actions? Are you willing to be honest with yourself to admit if your own words and actions do not match?

Yochanan [John] 16:13

"However, when He, the Spirit of Truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come."

You may be asking at this point: just what does this verse have to do with being yielded to YHWH? Do you think that it is possible for the Spirit of Truth to guide you properly if you are not yielded? Is it possible for two to be in the driver's seat? He will not argue or fight with you over who will control your life and direction. If you want control He will give it to you. If you want to know the Truth, then you must yield to Him in all things and He will teach you.

If you truly desire to know about the things to come (future), such as whether Yeshua is going to return at the beginning of the Millennium or at the end of the Millennium, then the Spirit of Truth will teach you this Truth, if you will yield to Him. But if you think you have to be in control and tell Him what it is you will believe and act upon, then He will remain silent and let you believe whatever you desire.

In these days of descending darkness, it is quickly becoming a matter of life and death for us. If a person will hear and obey His Voice, then that person will live. However, if a person cannot hear, is unwilling to hear or is unable to hear, then such a person has a very real problem that he had better overcome very quickly.

Yochanan Aleph [1st John] 2:26-27

26 These things I have written to you concerning those who try to deceive you.

27 But the anointing which you have received from Him abides in you, and you do not need that anyone teach you; but as the same anointing teaches you concerning all things, and is true, and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, you will abide in Him.

Are you completely yielded to Him? If you are, then you will not be deceived. It is at those points that you do get deceived, that you have not yielded to Him. Want the deception to go away? Then yield to Him. This cannot be stressed strongly enough. It is only at those points that one is not yielded to Him that the enemy is able to deceive him.

Yochanan [John] 14:26-27

“But the Helper, the Set-Apart Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.”

It is so very important that we learn to hear His Voice and that He is our teacher in all things. Yes, YHWH can and does use human men to teach us His ways. But we are not to listen to nor follow human men. Rather we are to walk together with one another, each person hearing and obeying His Voice so that the body of Mashiach will be complete. In order to be taught, a person must have a humble spirit. A person must be yielded to another in order for instruction to take place. If one is not yielded then he is not teachable.

Ma’aseh [Acts] 7:51-52

“You stiff-necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears! You always resist the Holy Spirit; as your fathers did, so do you.”

This is a sad indictment on those to whom this was spoken. I pray that this does not describe anyone who is reading this. If a person is not yielded, then the alternative is to be stiff-necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears. And if this is the case in a person’s life, then that person will be excluded from returning to His Land and being a part of His kingdom.

The choices before you are these: 1) to be yielded to YHWH’s Spirit; or 2) to be stiff-necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears. Each person must make this choice for himself. No one can make it for another.

Ivrim [Hebrews] 3:7-11

Therefore, as the Set-Apart Spirit says:

***“Today, if you will hear His voice,
8 Do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion,
In the day of trial in the wilderness,
9 Where your fathers tested Me, tried Me,
And saw My works forty years.
10 Therefore I was angry with that generation,
And said, ‘They always go astray in their heart,
And they have not known My ways.’
11 So I swore in My wrath,
‘They shall not enter My rest.’ ”***

I firmly believe that each person reading this article truly has a desire to enter YHWH’s rest. But in order for a person to enter into His rest, that person must hear and obey His Voice and not harden his heart against His Voice. One must be yielded to Him and to His Voice. That simply means that he obeys Him rather than his own selfish desires.

Ivrim [Hebrews] 3:12-15

12 Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living YHWH;

13 but exhort one another daily, while it is called "Today," lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.

14 For we have become partakers of Mashiach if we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast to the end,

15 while it is said:

***"Today, if you will hear His voice,
Do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion."***

Do you remember when you first believed in Yeshua Mashiach? Do you remember the confidence that you had in those days? We are commanded in this passage to help each other through exhortation, which is through urging, pressuring, insisting, and encouraging, and this on a daily basis to remain steadfast in the faith. The only way to remain in the true faith is to be yielded to YHWH and we are to do this on a continuing basis. Yielding one time is not enough. One must be yielded "today" as it says in this passage. Please note that it is always "today".

Ivrim [Hebrews] 4:11

Let us therefore be diligent to enter that rest, lest anyone fall according to the same example of disobedience.

When a person is being disobedient he is not being yielded to Him. We must all be careful to be watchful in order to be yielded to YHWH in order to enter His rest. There is no other way to enter into His rest, except by yielding to the leading of His Spirit in all things great and small.

Qorintyah Bet (2nd Corinthians) 6:1-2

We then, as workers together with Him also plead with you not to receive the grace of YHWH in vain.

2 For He says:

***"In an acceptable time I have heard you,
And in the day of salvation I have helped you."***

Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.

Many in Christianity today teach that once you are saved that is it; you can now go off and do as you please. Take careful note of the previous passage, for it says that "now is the day of salvation". Whatever happened in all the yesterdays gone by is of no consequence if you stop short and do not endure to the end. Basically the question is, "Are you yielded to YHWH right now?" Are you yielded to YHWH right now, this very instant that you are reading this? If not, I urge you therefore, to pause and yield to Him before reading any further.

Galatians 5:16-17

16 I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.

17 For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish.

Scripture teaches us that the spirit is willing but the flesh is weak. These two, the spirit and the flesh, are struggling against one another. Which is winning in you? Is it His Spirit? Or is it your flesh? Do you know how to put the advantage on the side of His Spirit? It is by yielding to YHWH and obeying His Voice. In this way we throw open the windows of heaven so that our heavenly Father may pour into our lives His blessings, strength and wisdom in order that we may be overcomers in Mashiach Yeshua in our everyday lives.

Colossians 3:1-3

1 If then you were raised with Mashiach, seek those things which are above, where Mashiach is, sitting at the right hand of YHWH.

2 Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth.

3 For you died, and your life is hidden with Mashiach in YHWH.

What do you seek after in your life? What is it that you spend more time thinking about than anything else? When you are at work and you have a break what is it that you talk about? Do you see possible moments such as these as opportunities to pray, to meditate or perhaps even to read Scripture?

Where is your focus? Is it on the things of this earth; i.e., worldly things like sports or entertainment? Or is your focus upon seeking after increasing His Kingdom in your own life and in the life of others?

Sh'muel Aleph [1 Samuel] 15:22-23

22 So Samuel said:

"Has YHWH as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices,

As in obeying the Voice of YHWH?

Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice,

And to heed than the fat of rams.

23 For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft,

And stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry.

Because you have rejected the word of YHWH,

He also has rejected you from being king."

There are many in the Messianic, Nazarene and Hebrew Roots movements that are very zealous for keeping Torah (or at least the parts they choose). Some are zealous for the Shabbat. Some are zealous for all the Mo'edim. Others are zealous for only those things outlined in Acts 15. The sad truth is that most are doing these things as a sacrifice, as a means to earn their salvation.

Yes, it is important that we keep all the commandments found in Scripture. However, as can be clearly seen in this passage, the most important thing in the life of a talmid (disciple) of Yeshua is to obey the Voice of YHWH. Anything less gets that person something less than the Kingdom.

Please note the use of the words “rebellion” and “stubbornness”. As you read this portion do you sense the Holy Spirit speaking to you? Are you one who resists keeping a new commandment?

Yochanan [John] 5:19

Then Yeshua answered and said to them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner.”

Notice that Yeshua Himself was completely yielded to the Father. As His talmid, you are called to be like Him. Are you willing to yield to YHWH in all things as our Master Yeshua yielded to His Father in heaven? Are you willing and ready to turn over the reins of your life to YHWH?

Can one be His talmid if he is not completely yielded?

What each one must do is to completely yield everything to Him as you understand it and as He reveals it. As He increases one’s understanding, he will need to yield in this area of new light. Be careful not to be stubborn or rebellious as He gives new light, but rather yield to Him.

ABBA YHWH, I pray that each of us will submit to YHWH in all things, and follow the example set before us in Yeshua our Mashiach as He yielded to YHWH, and gave up His life for a ransom for many; in the name of Mashiach Yeshua we pray. Amen.

Shabbat Shalom

Zerubbabel ben Emunah

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