

## FAMILY BREAKDOWN – THE REMEDY – WEEK TWENTY THREE.

*“One of the Torah-teachers came up and heard them engaged in this discussion. Seeing that Yeshua answered them well, he asked him, “Which is the most important mitzvah of them all?” Yeshua answered, ‘The most important is, Sh’ma Yisrael, ADONAI Eloheinu, ADONAI echad [Hear, O Isra’el, the Lord our God, the Lord is one], and you are to love ADONAI your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your understanding and with all your strength.’ The second is this: ‘You are to love your neighbour as yourself.’ There is no other mitzvah greater than these.” Mark 12:28-31 [CJB]*

Biblical Judaism is the answer to all our woes. In saying this I understand there are very few within the world population who would agree with such a statement. However this does not make the statement true or false. Weight of numbers in this instance has little or no bearing on what is true or false. In this case, the weight of numbers, simply show us where people are at in relationship to HaShem the Holy One of Israel. Societies that were built on a Judeo-Christian foundation are fast drifting away from that foundation. This is a case of their ears having tuned into a different sound. As I write this I know of no leader of a country in the “Western World” that is prepared to stand up for biblical foundations. Even if there was such a leader they would not be elected to power in today’s darkened world. Let us go through the ten words [Ten Commandments] and briefly view what is taking place in our so called Western world, countries that at one time had strong Judeo-Christian foundations.

*“I am HASHEM, your God, Who has taken you out of the land of Egypt, from the house of slavery. You shall not recognize the gods of others in My presence. You shall not make yourself a carved image or any likeness of that which is in the heavens above or the earth below or in the water beneath the earth. You shall not prostrate yourself to them or worship them, for I am HASHEM, your God – a jealous God, Who visits the sin of fathers upon children to the third and fourth generations, for My enemies; but Who acts with kindness for thousands [of generations] to those who love Me and observe My commandments.*

*You shall not take the Name of HASHEM, your God, in vain, for HASHEM will not absolve anyone who takes His Name in vain. Remember the Sabbath day to sanctify it. Six days you shall work and accomplish all your work; but the seventh day is Sabbath to HASHEM, your God, you shall not do any work – you, your son, your daughter, your slave, your maidservant, your animal, and your convert within your gates – for in six days HASHEM made the heavens and the earth, the sea and all that is in them, and He rested on the seventh day. Therefore, HASHEM blessed the Sabbath day and sanctified it.*

*Honor your father and your mother, so that your days will be lengthened upon the land that HASHEM, your God, gives you. You shall not kill; you shall not commit adultery; you shall not steal; you shall not bear false witness against your fellow. You not covet your fellow's house. You shall not covet your fellow's wife, his manservant, his maidservant, his ox, his donkey, nor anything that belongs to your fellow.” Exodus 20:1-14 [AST]*

Let us take a quick snap shot of how well the Western Countries are doing in following the Ten Commandments.

The first commandment is based on having faith in HaShem and that He is all powerful and certainly eternal. If we were to attend classes in our universities and schools we would find they strongly oppose this commandment. The second commandment focuses on idolatry. We are commanded not to worship, make, or believe in them in any manner. Once again with the introduction of so called multiculturalism we have a variety of gods, customs, worship, and behaviours that totally go against this commandment. The third commandment prohibits taking HaShem's name in vain. The name of the Holy One of Israel is desecrated on a daily basis as more and more people walk away from the foundations of the bible. The fourth commandment, to remember the Sabbath, is also desecrated with pleasure each and every week. The fifth commandment to honour parents is neglected in our societies. Respect for the elderly in general has disappeared and they are looked upon as being unnecessary baggage in our societies. The only people who welcome the elderly are those who build retirement and aged care facilities. That quickly changes if the elderly cannot fund the care. The sixth commandment dealing with the prohibition against murder is broken on an hourly basis in our societies. Murder is such a common occurrence it is no longer news worthy unless it is a massacre. The seventh commandment of prohibiting adultery is laughed at in our societies. In many cases it is encouraged as a form of therapy for an unhappy marriage. The eighth commandment against stealing is ignored. As long as you don't get caught, go for it, is almost the norm and if you do get caught blame it on someone else. The ninth commandment of not lying is completely ignored. Lying is now accepted at all levels of our society, especially amongst the so-called educated and elite. Sadly, examples are easy to find, our politicians spring to mind. The tenth commandment prohibiting coveting is not only ignored it is encouraged. Greed and "success" comparisons feed our sinful natures. We are constantly comparing ourselves with more "successful" people. We must have bigger homes, TV's, better cars, designer clothes, certain body images. The grass is always greener on the other side of the fence.

I don't believe I am exaggerating if I state that Western Societies no longer embrace or follow one of the Ten Commandments, and they wonder why everything is falling apart.

However, what about the Children of Israel? How are we doing? Are we doing any better than the nations? How do our actions line up against our words? How many of the ten words do we employ in our daily lives? Do we really show our faithfulness to Hashem through the application of the Ten Commandments?

Are we [the Children of Israel] providing a clear witness to this darkened world? Do our actions show that we truly have a concrete faith and belief that HaShem is all powerful and eternal? Certain individuals do, but as a people we falter on many fronts. There are numerous people and groups within both Houses that espouse to be faithful to the bible, but at the same time follow a “higher power” instead of HaShem the Holy One of Israel. Unfortunately we are guilty of idol worship. Not only do we worship self, but enter any Catholic church and you will be witness to many forms of idol worship. The days Christians worship on are heavily connected to idol worship. If we take away the emotion and analyse the many Christian institutions and compare their behaviour against the Torah we find them wanting in many areas associated with idolatry. Rabbinical Judaism is also guilty of forms of idolatry. At least 12 individuals over thousands of years have been named as HaMoshiach and worshipped by their various talmidim. Enter any Chabad house and you will find a picture of “The Rebbe”, Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson in a prominent place. Many within this sect believe The Rebbe to be HaMoshiach. We are probably all guilty of breaking the third commandment in one way or the other. Judaism tries very hard to keep and guard the Sabbath, thus keeping the fourth commandment, something the Christian church fails to do. I am sure we could all honour our parents a little more. We would hope murder is rarely found in the camp. Sadly we would have to admit that adultery is common in both Houses. Leaders in charge of the congregations are too often found guilty of stealing, lying and coveting what others have.

The truth of the matter is that as a nation and a people we fall well short in our application of the Ten Commandments. If both Houses fell in line with applying the instructions of HaShem into their daily lives, then we would find reconciliation. There is much both Houses need to work on and let us pray that we find the faithfulness and maturity to work on these areas.

Our actions must be actions that adhere to the Torah of HaShem. Our actions must mirror the actions of Yeshua, Who loved ‘His neighbour’ and the Father. We have a wonderful promise from Yeshua the Master. Please note the association between the promises of love and the keeping of the commandments.

*“If you love me, you will keep my commands; and I will ask the Father, and he will give you another comforting counsellor like me, the Spirit of Truth, to be with you forever. The world cannot receive him, because it neither sees nor knows him. You know him, because he is staying with you and will be united with you. I will not leave you orphans – I am*

*coming to you. In just a little while, the world will no longer see me; but you will see me. Because I live, you too will live. When that day comes, you will know that I am united with my Father, and you with me, and I with you. Whoever has my commands and keeps them is the one who loves me, and the one who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and reveal myself to him.”* Yochanan/John 14:15-21 [CJB]

Be encouraged friends, Hashem will bring us back to Him to live in the Promised Land under the Kingship of HaMoshiach Yeshua. Reconciliation will take place; it is only a matter of when.

Truly there is no God like our God, the God of Israel and no nation like the Nation whom He elected.

Blessings to all citizens of biblical Israel,

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