

FAMILY BREAKDOWN – THE REMEDY – WEEK TWENTY FOUR.

Albert Einstein said the definition of insanity was “doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results.” I think very few people would argue with this statement. As the House of Israel is far from united and has been for thousands of years, it is fair to say that perhaps we have been doing the same thing over and over again, hence no change. The question must be asked as to why both Houses have been doing the same thing over and over again? I believe the answer to that is because both Houses believe they are correct in their position and do not want to change. The House of Judah wants the House of Ephraim to change, and the House of Ephraim want the House of Judah to change. It is very typical of any family dispute. The usual mindset is that the other party or parties are to blame and they must change to bring about reconciliation. Let us be frank. If all of “Ephraim” were to convert to the House of “Judah” under the rules and regulations of the Rabbis thus renouncing Jesus as the Messiah, then Judah would be very happy and accommodating. On the other hand [as Tovia would say] if “Judah” were to convert to Christianity according to the rules and regulations of the Christian Pastors, Priests, elders etc, then “Ephraim” would be very happy and accommodating. Under the present conditions neither scenario is likely to take place. There are of course a few isolated cases where some from the House of Ephraim convert to Judaism and some from the House of Judah convert to Christianity. None the less we must ask the most important of questions. Would HaShem be happy if either scenario took place? We must ask and attempt to answer this question with clear minds devoid of prejudice. In pondering this question, I cannot help but to also ask: If HaShem would indeed be happy with one of the above scenarios taking place, why then hasn’t this happened? Why hasn’t all of Judah become Christians or why hasn’t all of Christianity converted to Judaism?

We may find a hint to the answers of these questions in what Peter wrote.

“Therefore, get your minds ready for work, keep yourselves under control, and fix your hopes fully on the gift you will receive when Yeshua the Messiah is revealed. As people who obey God, do not let yourselves be shaped by the evil desires you used to have when you were still ignorant. On the contrary, following the Holy One who called you, become holy yourselves in your entire way of life; since the Tanakh says, “You are to be Holy because I am Holy.” Also, if you are addressing as Father the one who judges impartially according to each person’s actions, you should live out your temporary stay on earth in fear. You should be aware that the ransom paid to free you from the worthless way of life which your fathers passed on to you did not consist of anything perishable like silver or gold; on the contrary, it was the costly bloody sacrificial death of the Messiah, as of a lamb without defect or spot. God knew him before the founding of the universe, but revealed him in the acharit-hayamim for your sakes.

Through him you trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory; so that your trust and hope are in God. Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth, so that you have a sincere love for your brothers, love each other deeply, with all your heart. You have been again not from some seed that will decay, but from one that cannot decay, through the living Word of God that lasts forever. For all humanity is like grass, all its glory is like a wildflower – the grass withers, and the flower falls off; but the Word of ADONAI lasts forever. Moreover, this Word is the Good News which has been proclaimed to you. 1Peter 1:13-25 [CJB]

There is a commandment in the above scriptures that should form the basis for all Children of Israel to adhere to. This is the commandment: *“You are to be holy because I am holy.”* When we read this instruction, do we actually understand what it is saying? Do we understand what it means to be holy? Do we grasp the reason behind the instruction to be holy? In an attempt to address these questions we may find the answer to the earlier question. Would HaShem be happy if all of Judah became Christians or if all Christians became “Jews” according to the rules and regulations of today’s Orthodox Rabbis?

Firstly, we must remind ourselves what this word **holy** means.

Holy/Qadosh - קדוש - Prepare for a task; dedicate all resources; sanctify; set apart; consecrated; holy.

Obviously the instruction to be holy is aimed at all the Children of Israel, that is Judah and Ephraim and all those who have chosen to join one of the two Houses. If both Houses followed this instruction as taught by Moshe and Yeshua, then we would indeed be seen as a united and cohesive nation. The only way we can be holy as HaShem is holy is to employ the torah/instructions of HaShem into our daily lives.

And this is the blessing that Moses, the man of God, bestowed upon the Children of Israel before his death. He said: HASHEM came from Sinai – having shone forth to them from Seir, having appeared from Mount Paran, and then approached with some of the holy myriads – from His right hand he presented the fiery Torah to them. Indeed, You loved the tribes greatly, all its holy ones were in Your hands; for they planted themselves at Your feet, bearing [the yoke] of Your utterances: “The Torah that Moses commanded us is the heritage of the Congregation of Jacob.” Deuteronomy 33:1-4 [AST]

Remember the Torah of Moses My servant, which I commanded him at Horeb for all Israel – [its] decrees and [its] statutes. Malachi 3:22
[AST] other bibles Malachi 4:4

HaShem will be “happy” with His Children when we all embrace and follow His instructions and only His instructions. Unfortunately both Houses [Judah and Ephraim] fall short in following the instructions of HaShem. Both Houses have added, taken away and changed the instructions of HaShem. This is a key reason that He would not be happy to see us all become Christians or followers of present day Rabbinic Judaism. We both must change our present positions in so many areas. Notice what Peter tells us before he quotes *“You are to be holy because I am holy”*. Peter tells us to set our minds on the things of HaShem, not on the passions that arise due to selfish desires. Peter tells us to put all our hopes in HaMoshiach Yeshua. We are to be obedient to the Torah and follow in the footsteps of Yeshua. If we would only do this we would then be a Holy People as HaShem is Holy. We would be the united nation we have been ordained to be. It is well past time we were honest with ourselves and more importantly honest with HaShem. Let each House examine its halachah against the instructions of HaShem as taught by Moshe. If both Houses do this with honesty as befits Children of the Almighty, then we may begin to rectify our faults. Instead of justifying our rebellious actions, we may begin to actually glorify HaShem through our obedience instead of desecrating His name through our disobedience. Until we are prepared to challenge our own positions before HaShem with honesty and humility we will continue to walk the same paths as we have walked these past few thousand years. We need to walk a different path if we expect a change in our nation. I am persuaded neither present day Christianity, or present day Rabbinical Judaism, will be the faith practiced in Israel when Moshiach reigns in Jerusalem as King. However I am convinced the Torah as taught by Moshe and Yeshua, will be practiced and installed as the constitution of Biblical Israel.

Pleased be assured the Children of Israel will be holy as HaShem is holy. The question is: When and how will this take place? HaShem will arrange the “when” and the “how” will come via all the Children obeying the instructions of HaShem. Both Houses have issues to face and work through. May we find ourselves on our knees petitioning HaShem to help and guide us into becoming the Children He would have us be. We pray that HaShem would mould and shape us according to His image, removing the dross and impurities we have picked up with our time in foreign lands. We pray that not only our flesh be circumcised but also our hearts. We must all undergo circumcision of heart, changing us from people who rebel against the instructions of HaShem into Children who embrace and follow His precious Torah. If we truly love HaShem then we will show our faithfulness by adhering to His precious Torah. For those who believe Yeshua to be HaMoshiach, I ask why do you not walk in His footsteps and keep the Torah He taught and kept. We Children of HaShem have been very successful in deceiving ourselves, but we will never deceive HaShem. It is time to be honest and weigh up our faith and faithfulness with equal weights and measures against

the Word of HaShem and His Word alone. Our very existence depends on this, and baruch HaShem, He has given us the perfect Word to follow so we can find our way home.

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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