

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

As we have pointed out throughout these teachings, the task of helping bring about reconciliation between all the Children of Israel is indeed a difficult task. At present we have the two main Houses/Kingdoms firmly entrenched in their own “area” unwilling to put in the necessary hard work to bring us together in becoming one united people living under the guiding hand of HaShem. Unfortunately this may not change until we are forced to change due to increased persecution from hasatan.

*“Before God and before Moshiach Yeshua who is to be judge of the living and the dead, I charge you, in the name of his appearing and of his kingdom: proclaim the message and, welcome or unwelcome insist on it. Refute falsehood, correct error, give encouragement – but do all with patience and with care to instruct. The time is sure to come when people will not accept sound teaching, but their ears will be itching for anything new and they will collect themselves a whole series of teachers according to their own tastes; and then they will shut their ears to the truth and will turn to myths. But you must keep steady all the time; put up with suffering; do the work of preaching the gospel; fulfil the service asked of you.” 2Timothy 4:1-5 [NJB]*

Most of us seem either incapable or unwilling to review our present understanding of biblical matters. With the knowledge that is available to the masses, I wonder why more people who believe they are “citizens of Israel” do not check their understanding of biblical matters with a mature and balanced frame of mind. One stumbling block is the pride of teachers and leaders who refuse to inspect their understanding of these biblical matters. Shepherds are supposed to be caring for their flocks, and the “sheep” should have confidence in their Shepherds. So it is reasonable to understand that the position of most people mirror their teachers. So teachers/leaders need to be willing to inspect their “theological” position before HaShem. There are leaders in the Christian community who will not question the teachings of Augustine, Polycarp, Jerome, Assisi, Calvin, Luther, Knox, Boehme, Edwards, Whitefield, Booth, Stott, Wesley brothers, Darby, Barnes and more recent teachers such as MacArthur, McDowell, Ankerberg, Sproul, Wright and the likes of Seymour, McPherson, Kuhlman, Hagin, Wimber, Hinn, Copeland, Swaggart, Hickey, White, Meyer and the list goes on. When the teachings of these teachers are aligned next to the Torah of Moshe, thus the instructions of HaShem, the Holy One of Israel, blessed be He, then they are found wanting in many areas. Granted it is not only Christianity that will not question their “fathers”, but so it is with Judaism. Many in Judaism will not question their sages such as Akiva, Hillel, Hillel 2, Nachman, Gershom, Maimonides, Rashi, Vilna Gaon, Akiva Eiger, Israel Ben Eliezer, Hirsch, Nachman of Breslov, Menachem Mendel Schneerson, Kook, Greenfeld, Sacks, and again the list goes on. However when the teachings of these

teachers from Judah are aligned with the Torah of Moshe, thus the instructions of HaShem, then they are found to be much closer to what HaShem has outlined for His people.

Let us ask ourselves a question. If any of the talmidim/disciples of Yeshua were suddenly dropped into our current places of worship, which “house” would they find most familiar to them? Surely it would be the House of Judah. If they walked into an Orthodox Synagogue it would be very close to “business as usual”. A few extra rules added, along with the usual arguments, discussions, fellowship, enjoyment, frustration, celebrations and worship would be taking place. However if they were to enter a Christian church or fellowship they would be hard pressed to find anything familiar. It would not be unreasonable to assume they would think they had walked into a place of foreign worship or a pagan house. Imagine, if you will, the discussions between the Talmidim as they sat up the back observing what was taking place after an invite to attend. They arrived, having never attended a Christian church before. The Talmidim would be expecting a people dedicated to the biblical faith of Israel, as these were the claims made by those who invited them. They arrived on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of December, a Sunday. As they were travelling to the church, they would have been engaged in discussions as to why they were attending on the first day of the week instead of the seventh. This would have been completely foreign to them. Then as they entered the church they would notice the person leading the gathering didn’t wear TziTzit. This was something else foreign and they would begin to feel uncomfortable. Then some music was played which was very unfamiliar, but they could put that down to a cultural difference. Then the week’s message from the pulpit began. The Talmidim settled in eager to hear what was said, even if the day was strange and unfamiliar, at least they would hear a familiar message regarding HaShem and His instructions – or so they thought. However they were confused and shocked as the Pastor/Priest/Elder began talking about a most special event on the calendar. This day was called Christmas. They asked someone in the audience what was the Hebrew name of this day, and no one could answer them. So they just listened and became more and more disappointed and angry. They heard that one called Jesus had been born on this day and he was the saviour of the world. Surely they had misheard such a statement from a people who claimed to be faithful to HaShem and Moshiach Yeshua. As the message went on they knew they had not misunderstood or misheard. The people were told to celebrate this day with enjoyment and passion. They were told that, after this Jesus had been born, the need to follow or embrace the Torah of Moshe was now obsolete and had been done away with. After some investigation, the Talmidim of Yeshua found out this day called Sunday, was the main day of worship instead of the biblical Sabbth. They found out no one kept the Moedim of HaShem, instead they kept the days of pagan gods. These Christians even had the audacity to claim that the days and instructions Judah kept were no longer to be kept; in fact they were to be rejected, along with Judah. These Christian people claimed that they were now the chosen people of HaShem. New rules and regulations were installed and the authority behind this change was Jesus.

As they attended the meal after, they noticed plates filled with bacon and prawns. Roast pork and apple sauce was the main meal. The Talmidim were absolutely shocked and dismayed, never had they witnessed such a desecration of HaShem's instructions. None the less before they left hoping never to return, they had to find out who this Jesus was that was spoken about. This one, who these Christians claimed, had the authority to change all of HaShem's instructions and encourage the worship of foreign gods. For the Talmidim, the biggest of shocks was about to come. These Christians claimed this one they called Jesus was in fact the Messiah, the anointed One, sent from HaShem, who the Talmidim knew as Yeshua. This could never be! They knew Yeshua personally, having met Him, having been taught by Him, having walked with Him. No way was this Jesus the Messiah of Israel. The teachings they had heard and the claims made were nothing short of blaspheme. Never would Yeshua HaMoshiach be guilty of teaching such doctrines. This was a sad day indeed for the Talmidim. They not only witnessed the distortion of their teachings, but worse still they witnessed the lies told in the name of HaShem and Moshiach Yeshua.

We all know Yeshua was "Jewish". He was raised in a Jewish home. He was circumcised on the eighth day, and attended the Synagogue with His parents and did so all His life. He followed and taught the Torah of Moshe. He argued over points of Torah with the Pharisees and Sadducees. He was for all intensive purposes an "Orthodox Jew". He was the perfect "Orthodox Jew"! Did not a Voice from heaven proclaim? *"This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."* Surely we can understand if the Holy One of Israel, blessed be He, is "well pleased" with Yeshua, then should we not strive to follow in His footsteps. Yeshua's footsteps are found imbedded in the path of Torah. Embrace and follow the Torah of Moshe and you will find yourselves walking in the footsteps of the Moshiach. Shouldn't all the Children of Israel strive to walk in step with HaMoshiach? The Talmidim certainly walked in the footsteps of the Moshiach – Hence why, if they walked into a Christian church they would not recognise the footprint of Yeshua HaMoshiach; if there at all, it is well hidden. Pondering the above we find something, if it weren't so serious, we could perhaps find it amusing.

The Christian Church, which loves Jesus and believes they are following Him, is in fact, not following Him at all. If one takes the time and effort to put the doctrine of Christian theology under the microscope of Torah and the teachings and life of Yeshua, it is very evident they do not align with the biblical Yeshua. On the other hand, present day main stream Judaism, which despises Yeshua, is actually very much in step with the Master. Rather ironic is it not?

What has brought about this confusion? It falls back onto the teachers of HaShem's precious Word. Both Houses continue walking in the footsteps of their "forefathers" worshipping them instead of HaShem. Both Houses will recoil at such a statement, and this is understandable, as both believe in their hearts [or the majority at least] that they truly worship HaShem. We know neither House will

consider their positions as questionable, but this is doing a great disservice to the Children of Israel. There is no biblical support for the Christian Church to worship on the first day instead of the seventh. There is no biblical support for Christmas, Easter, Halloween, etc etc. I realise I keep repeating this, but it must be done, until the message gets through. There is no reason that Judah or Judaism should not look at the biblical support for Yeshua to be HaMoshiach. Yet both Houses continue on in their present condition, a condition we know is not pleasing to HaShem, otherwise we would be fully reconciled and living as a united nation under the Kingship of HaMoshiach.

Let us not have ears that itch for our own “tastes”, but ears that want to be tuned to the Voice of HaShem. Paul/Shaul reminded Timothy of a fact we all should listen too. He said:

*“All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.” 2Timothy 3:16-17 [NASB]*

It is the Word of HaShem that gives us the necessary “tools” to become the Children of HaShem, and citizens of biblical Israel. When Sha’ul wrote to Timothy encouraging him to fulfil his calling, the only Scriptures available were those of the Tanakh. The focus was on the instructions of HaShem, that which is called the Torah of Moshe. The very same instructions that Yeshua and His Talmidim taught. Why do we [The Children of Israel] insist on having our ears tuned to voices other than the Voice of HaShem? Unless we readjust our dials and tune into the Voice of HaShem, we will continue in our present state, a state that is keeping us from living in the Promised Land.

Please remember, HaShem will not be mocked, and He will see His plans through to the end. These plans include the reconciliation between the “Two Houses” to become one House known as Israel/Yisrael, fulfilling our ordained obligations to the Holy One of Israel, blessed be He.

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,

Rabbi [Prof] Philip [Yochanan] Hammond. PhD.