

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

This week let us look at something the Master Yeshua, said to His Talmidim.

*“You are light for the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Likewise, when people light a lamp, they don’t cover it with a bowl but put it on a lampstand, so that it shines for everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before people, so that they may see the good things you do and praise your Father in heaven. Don’t think that I have come to abolish the Torah or the Prophets. I have come not to abolish but to complete. Yes, indeed! I tell you until heaven and earth pass away, not so much as a yud or a stroke will pass from the Torah – not until everything that must happen has happened. So whoever disobeys the least of these mitzvot and teaches others to do so will be called the least in the Kingdom of Heaven. For I tell you that unless your righteousness is far greater than that of the Torah-teachers and P’rushim, you will certainly not enter the Kingdom of Heaven!”* Matthew 5:14-20 [CJB]

Most in the Christian world [whom we see as making up a large part of Ephraim] conveniently skip over some very important messages found within the above words spoken by Yeshua. They will certainly use the first sentence, and apply it to the teachings of Christianity, and then insist that these teachings are biblical truth and must be taught to the House of Judah, and the world. However, we must ask who the Master Yeshua was actually talking to, and was He speaking about the tenets and “citizens” of Christianity? Was Yeshua saying Christians and Christianity is the light that must not be hidden? Was Yeshua speaking about today’s Christian theology as taught by the Christian teachers?

Yeshua was talking to His Talmidim who were known as Jews and who embraced the Torah of Moshe. Yeshua spent much of His time discussing and arguing points of Torah and Jewish Halakah with the Torah teachers of Israel. He had to defend false accusations about His breaking of the Torah. He may have broken some Rabbinical Halakah, but He was never guilty of breaking of destroying the Torah of Moshe. There was great confusion in the days of Yeshua in what was “Rabbinical law” and what was the Torah of Moshe. So it is today. Many do not see the differences between “Rabbinical law” and the Torah of Moshe. As said, Yeshua was accused of breaking the Torah and because of these accusations and confusion between Biblical Torah and Rabbinical Torah, it could easily be misunderstood that Yeshua was rejecting the Torah when He was arguing against some of the laws instituted by the Pharisees and Saducees. It is one reason Yeshua made sure His Talmidim fully understood that He DID NOT come to destroy the Torah. In fact He came to uphold it and demonstrate its correct usage and place in the Kingdom of Heaven. Yeshua went to great lengths to make sure the Talmidim understood what He was saying. He told them, not even the smallest, what may seem insignificant components of Torah were to be

rejected. All components of the Torah were to be taught, and if someone didn't follow His instructions regarding this matter then they would be considered of no significance themselves.

Israel as a nation was and is to be a light to the nations. This biblical fact is not disputed by either House. To become this light, we need to follow leaders chosen by HaShem to guide His nation. Unfortunately, as a people we have always found it difficult to follow such leaders. It is because we have the rebellious "nature" of Adam and Chava in us. Just as they ignored and rejected instruction from HaShem, it seems nothing has changed. As a nation we struggled to follow Moshe, we struggled to listen to the prophets, we have a history in joining the nations in idol worship, and we have a history of installing our own "torah" in place of the instructions/torah of HaShem, known as the Torah of Moshe.

We all know light repels darkness. Darkness cannot repel light, for darkness to exist light needs to be extinguished. As long as light shines, darkness will be held at bay. Israel needed and needs a continuous light to shine; a light that we can follow and one that will keep darkness away from entering our House.

*"Behold, My Servant, whom I uphold; My chosen one in whom My soul delights. I have put My Spirit upon Him; He will bring forth justice to the nations. He will not cry out or raise His voice, Nor make His voice heard in the street. A bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick He will not extinguish; he will faithfully bring forth justice. He will not be disheartened or crushed, until He has established justice in earth; and the coastlands will **wait expectantly for His law.** Thus says God, the LORD, Who created the heavens and stretched them out, Who spread out the earth and its offspring, Who gives breath to the people on it, and spirit to those who walk in it, I am the LORD, I have called you in righteousness, I will also hold you by the hand and watch over you, and I will appoint you as a covenant to the people, as a light to the nations, to open blind eyes, to bring prisoners from the dungeon, and those who dwell in darkness from prison. I am the LORD, that is My name; I will not give My glory to another, nor My praise to graven images. Isaiah 42:1-8 [NASB]*

Christian commentators believe this is speaking about the Messiah, whom they believe to be Jesus. This is to be expected, yet many Jewish commentators also believe this is speaking of HaMoshiach. Commentators such as Radak [Rabbi David Kimchi]; Malbim [Rabbi Meir Leibush ben Yehiel Michal]; Abarbanel [Isaac ben Judah Abravanel]; were sages who believed these passages to be speaking of HaMoshiach. Others such as Rashi [Rabbi Shlomo Yitzchaki] said it spoke of Israel; other Jewish commentators thought it may speak of the righteousness of Israel, King Cyrus or even Isaiah. I support the thoughts of Radak, Malbim and Abarbane. The commentary in the Stone Edition of the Tanach [Art Scroll Series] says it speaks of the Messiah and uses the Targum as a reference. I am

persuaded when context, pattern and historical events are taken into account then this certainly speaks of HaMoshiach.

It is HaMoshiach that provides the light for the Children of Israel to follow. It is the light of HaMoshiach that repels the darkness from entering our House. Yeshua Himself said that He was the light.

*“Yeshua spoke to them again: ‘I am the light of the world; whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.’”*  
John 8:12 [CJB]

*“.....Walk while you have the light, or the dark will overtake you; he who walks in the dark does not know where he is going. While you have the light, put your trust in the light, so that you may become people of light.” Yeshua said these things, then went off and kept himself hidden from them. Even though he had performed so many miracles in their presence, they still did not put their trust in him, in order that what Yesha’yahu the prophet had said might be fulfilled, **“Adonai, who has believed our report? To whom has the arm of Adonai been revealed?”** The reason they could not believe was – as Yesha’yahu said elsewhere – **“He has blinded their eyes and hardened their hearts, so that they do not see with their eyes, understand with their hearts, and do t’shuvah, so that I could heal them.”** Yesha’yahu said these things because he saw the Sh’khinah of Yeshua and spoke about him. Nevertheless, many of the leaders did trust in him; but because of the P’rushim they did not say openly, out of fear of being banned from the synagogue; for they loved praise from other people more than praise from God. Yeshua declared publicly, **“Those who put their trust in me are trusting not merely in me, but the One who sent me. Also those who see me see the One who sent me. I have come as a light into the world, so that everyone who trusts in me might not remain in the dark.”** John 12:35b-46 [CJB]*

How is it that Yeshua can be a light to the world? I suggest because the whole nation of Israel is to follow in the footsteps of HaMoshiach and adhere to His instructions, then we [the Children of Israel] become the people HaShem would have us be and thus we are then able to shine as a light on a hill repelling the darkness. In this way Yeshua becomes the Light of the world because Israel is reflecting His light, just as the moon reflects the light of the Sun. Just as the moon has no light without the Sun, Israel has no Light without Yeshua.

We are to wait expectantly for the Torah of HaMoshiach, just as Isaiah says we will do. This Torah is none other than the Torah of Moshe, lived and explained by Yeshua HaMoshiach. I am persuaded Yeshua knew that He would be worshipped to the point that the Torah would be forgotten and rejected. He would have known that at some point in history, His life and teachings would be

changed and distorted, just as the Torah of Moshe had been changed and distorted by the religious elite of His day. Thus, as said, He went to great lengths to tell His Talmidim that the Torah still stood as the path for them and all Israel to follow. The Torah is a path filled with light, plainly showing our way home to the Father's House.

*"For a commandment is a lamp and the Torah is light; and reproof discipline is the way to life, to guard you from an evil woman, from the smoothness of the foreign woman's tongue. Proverbs 6:22-23 [AST]*

*"Your word is a lamp for my feet and a light for my path." Psalms 119:105 [AST]*

Somehow we must muster the maturity and mind set to seek HaShem with earnest prayers, asking that He help us focus on His plans instead of our own. We are in desperate need of HaMoshiach to lead us into the light of the Holy One of Israel, blessed be He. Yeshua taught His Talmidim how to be a light to the nations, and He showed them how the final redemption was to take place. Yeshua impressed upon His Talmidim how vital it was and is to follow the instructions of HaShem, without the pollution of manmade instructions. Both Houses would be in a far healthier state if they were to actually follow Him out of the darkness into the light of HaShem's Holy instructions. We would be a united people awaiting our next redemption from Egypt. In the meantime, why don't we make use of the time we have and prepare for the coming of Moshiach ben David? Let us be about our Father's business.

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.