

FAMILY BREAKDOWN – THE REMEDY – WEEK TWENTY SEVEN.

I am convinced if there were no people on the earth, life would be much better. Yes I know what a stupid statement that is, but I am sure most of us have felt similar thoughts at times. We humans are so difficult to deal with.

It should not be the case with the Children of the Holy One of Israel, but it is. If not for the love, grace and mercy of HaShem we would have been an extinct nation long ago. We are in constant need of correction, and Godly instruction.

“Brethren, even if a man is caught in any trespass, you who are spiritual, restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness; each one looking to yourself, lest you too be tempted. Bear one another’s burdens, and thus fulfill the Torah of Moshiach. For if anyone thinks he is something when he is nothing, he deceives himself. But let each one examine his own work, and then he will have reason for boasting in regard for himself alone, and not in regard to another. For each one will bear his own load. And let the one who is taught the word share all good things with him who teaches. Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, this he will also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh shall from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit shall from the Spirit reap eternal life. And let us not lose heart in doing good, for in due time we shall reap if we do not grow weary. So then, while we have opportunity, let us do good to all men, and especially those who are of the household of the faith. See with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand. Those who desire to make a good showing in the flesh try to compel you to be circumcised, simply that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Moshiach. For those who are circumcised do not even keep the Torah themselves, but they desire to have you circumcised, that they may boast in your flesh. But may it never be that I should boast, except in the cross of our Lord Yeshua Moshiach, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither is circumcision anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. And those who walk by this rule, peace and mercy be upon them, and upon the Israel of God. From now on let no one cause trouble for me, for I bear on my body the brand-marks of Yeshua. The grace of our Lord Yeshua Moshiach be with your spirit, brethren. Amen. Galatians 6:1-18 [NASB]

The historical behaviour of those who make up the nation of Israel hasn’t changed. It will change, but when is a question only HaShem can fully answer. When we read the historical accounts of Israel’s behaviours and attitudes, we witness constant infighting amongst the people. It continues up to this day and I suspect it will continue for some time yet.

Imagine the difference within our people and nation if we were at peace with one another. We would be a strong healthy nation most likely residing within the biblical boundaries of the Promised Land. So do we have the tools to bring about a change in our attitudes and behaviors? Without a doubt the answer is yes. What then is holding us back and what are these tools at our disposal?

Moshe put it well when he said, we are a stiff necked people, and it is this stiff necked attitude that keeps us from becoming the people we should be. Let us imagine for a moment that we were no longer a stiff necked people. Instead, we were willing and able to listen and learn from the Master Himself. If this was the case what would we be learning and who would be learning from? We would be learning what the people of Israel were and are always meant to learn – the instructions of HaShem. Sha'ul made it very clear that in and of ourselves we are nothing. Unless we have the Life of HaShem within us, then we are really as “filthy rags”. This is something we all find confronting, because we all have an unhealthy dose of pride that can become a huge stumbling block in our relationship with HaShem. We are experts at justifying our lawless behavior. The Christian Church has built a whole new religion based on justifying their lawlessness or anti-torah behavior. Rabbinical Judaism [in its various forms] has been very successful at building religious strongholds on very questionable interpretations of the Torah of Moshe. The more liberal forms of Judaism embrace many of the behaviors that are forbidden in the Torah of Moshe. Most of liberal Judaism rejects the “concept” of HaMoshiach, thus rejecting the very foundation of the Torah.

We would be well advised to listen to Sha'ul and take time out to examine our own lives. We are responsible for our own conduct before HaShem, and that carries over to the conduct of each “House”. If we stepped back and took the time to inspect and evaluate our Houses under the scrutiny of Torah [Instructions of HaShem] then we would clearly see we are guilty of justifying conduct contrary to the Torah.

To help us re-adjust our lives and direction it is vital that we find instructors that are focused on imparting the written Torah of Moshe onto our children, congregations and communities. We must keep in mind that all instructors/teachers of Torah will make mistakes and they like all, are on a journey to perfection, yet to reach it. None the less we do need instruction and instructors if we are to become the Children our Father would have us become. We need instructors that are not influenced by politics, money or power. This has never been an easy task nor is it now. Many Christian instructors are coming to the realisation that the correct worship day is the Sabbath [Saturday] and not the first day or [Sunday]. However even though this is the case, very few, if any, are willing to upset the “status quo” and change their day of worship. So many more examples could be listed, but I would hope those who have been reading these articles will be able to list them by now. The proponents of Rabbinical Judaism are also guilty of the same conduct, perhaps the list is not as long but there is a

list. Sha'ul tells us that we reap what we sow and thus far as a nation we have reaped the fruits of disunity and rebellion. This proves we have been sowing the incorrect seed. If we expect or desire unity and faithfulness to HaShem, then we must change what we have been sowing. There is still a gulf between the two Houses and there is plenty of evidence showing that our faithfulness falls well short of where it should and could be. With this evidence before us would it not be wise to review who we receive instruction from?

In this review it is essential that we have our ears tuned to hear the Voice and call of our Father. This Voice is found in Yeshua HaMoshiach, the Torah and Torah instructors.

“Come! Let us prostrate ourselves and bow, let us kneel before HASHEM, our Maker. For He is our God and we can be the flock of His pastures, and the sheep in His charge – even today, if we but heed His call! Do not harden your heart as at Meribah, as on the day of Massah in the wilderness; when your ancestors tried Me; they tested Me; though they had seen My deed.” Psalm 95:6-9 [AST]

“Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him, and will dine with him, and he with Me. He who overcomes, I will grant to him to sit down with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne. He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the ekklesia.” Revelation 3:20-22 [NASB]

The Voice of Yeshua HaMoshiach proclaims the message of HaShem through Torah. Yeshua gives us the Torah as a tool for overcoming the corruptions found and employed in this fallen world. I use the word corruption, because as a nation we have corrupted the Voice and Word of HaShem. It is through our self centred interpretations of Torah that we have corrupted our Houses and allowed the disease of rebellion to enter. The main reason that this has happened is due to the corrupt teachings of our instructors. Yet the blame is not only to be laid at their feet, because the people themselves have preferred to have hired shepherds oversee their well-being. This results in the rejection of HaMoshiach and His Torah

“I am the good shepherd; the good shepherd lays down His life for the sheep. He who is an hireling, and not a shepherd, who is not the owner of the sheep, beholds the wolf coming, and leaves the sheep, and flees, and the wolf snatched them, and scatters them. He flees because he is a hireling and is not concerned about the sheep. I am the good shepherd; and I know My own, and My own know Me, even as the Father knows Me and I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep.” John 10:11-15 [NASB]

Please allow me to offer an explanation as to what leaving the sheep entails. As a farmer I know what I am about to share. Leaving the sheep, doesn't necessarily mean leaving the "premises". What it does mean is neglecting their health and wellbeing. You can still be on the premises and leave the sheep exposed to wolves and the like. The hireling is guilty of these malpractices. They will place their own position and importance above the sheep. They will be seen driving the latest vehicle, dressed in the best clothes, giving the appearance of success and status. Behind the scenes however it is a different picture. The sheep are suffering and their health is neglected. They are left in a condition that will result in pain and even death. These hirelings often do not own the sheep but are paid by wealthy land owners who know nothing of good animal husbandry. These hirelings are very effective at fooling those around them. The sheep of course know no better as they have never been under the protection and guidance of a true and trustworthy shepherd. A good shepherd must sacrifice much and their focus must be on the sheep at all times. A good shepherd administers the medication and nutrients that keep and improve the flock. If a sheep becomes sick they take the necessary actions to bring it back to good health. At times this can mean isolation from the rest of the flock. All is done for the wellbeing of the sheep, and no doubt the sheep would reject some of the measures that are taken if they could.

The same goes for the "sheep" of faith. The good shepherd will administer the necessary "ingredients" when required and will not shy away from the responsibilities this carries. What are the ingredients the flock of biblical faith require? It is none other than what HaShem has supplied; Yeshua HaMoshiach and the Torah of Moshe.

All instructors of biblical faith who claim to echo the Voice of HaShem must teach about HaMoshiach and the written Torah. Instructors must adhere to the script as outlined by HaShem Himself. A good shepherd is a good instructor and one can only be a good instructor and shepherd of the Children of Israel if that one follows and adheres to the Voice of HaShem. May HaShem deal with our stiff necks and guide us back to His Household, with continued grace and mercy.

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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