

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

Most people who have lived for a “number” of years have experienced a moment or even moments when they have almost given up, and in some cases given up. They have come to a point when they have thought enough is enough. They cannot keep going down the same path; it is just not worth the effort. These moments are often described as “coming to an end of one’s self”. These can be life changing moments with damaging consequences, but they can also result in a very healthy and positive change of direction, depending on the circumstances. Today I want to concentrate on the healthy positive results that can come from “giving in”.

We most likely have heard of the saying, “hitting your head against a brick wall”. This needs no explanation and one would be stupid to engage in such an action. However, it is fascinating how many people are constantly hitting their heads against brick walls. It is also fascinating to witness how often we can try and encourage people to change in a positive direction only to be rebuffed. This can result in the same response, where those trying to encourage, are hitting their heads against a stubborn brick wall. This reminds me of the many “discussions” Yeshua the Master had with the religious elite of His day. He constantly found Himself hitting His head against the brick wall of the establishment. Yeshua always had a biblical answer to their complaints and accusations, but they refused to listen and change. Yeshua argued with the religious scribes and Pharisees on a constant basis, just as these same arguments are taking place today within the Children of Israel. What is worth noting is that these arguments were conducted in a typical “Jewish” format, with insults and strong descriptive words in free use. Yeshua as a Jew was no different, He engaged in the cultural way of discussion, using what is termed as **Kal V’chomer**. This is a system of presentation whereby a strong point is made from another well understood point – going from light to heavy. For instance, if it is important to train for a 2 kilometre run, how much more important is it to train for a 20 kilometre run. This method was used by HaShem. When Miriam spoke against Moshe, she was afflicted with tzaraas. Moshe pleaded with HaShem to heal her. Look at the answer Moshe was given, as this is an example of **Kal V’Chomer**.

*“HASHEM said to Moses, ‘Were her father to spit in her face, would she not be humiliated for seven days? Let her be quarantined outside the camp for seven days, then she may be brought in.’” Numbers 12:15 [AST]*

Miriam was to be put “outside the family camp” for seven days after being disciplined by her father, how much more important that she be put outside the camp after being disciplined by HaShem. This is going from a “light” situation to a “heavy” situation.

Yeshua used this model of discussion many times. In the book of Matthew chapter 5 we witness many such occasions. Let us view one as an example.

*“For truly I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or stroke shall pass away from the Law, until all is accomplished.”* Matthew 5:18 [NASB]

We all know of the likelihood of heaven and earth passing away. Well if you think that is impossible, it is even more so regarding the likelihood of the Torah passing away. None the less people refuse to acknowledge this fact. If you ask the Christian audience if the Torah is still in existence for them to follow, they will be very quick to answer no. Yet if you asked them if heaven and earth are still in existence they will obviously answer yes, if you ask them if “all is accomplished”, they will answer no. Does not this mean that the Torah is still valid for all citizens of biblical Israel? Yet if you try and discuss this topic with most Christians you quickly find yourself hitting your head against a brick wall. You can use the method of **Kal V’Chomer** and still draw a blank. An example; you can say to a Christian, if you think keeping Christmas is important [a pagan festival] then how much more important is it to keep the moedim [the appointed times of HaShem] such as the Sabbath, Hag HaBikkurim, Shavuot, Yom Teruah, Yom HaKippurim, Sukkot, Shemini Atzeret. The response from the Christian world is one similar to that of the elitist Pharisee community that Yeshua encountered. They both put mans laws above the biblical Torah of HaShem.

I opened up this article saying we would look at the positive outcomes that can result from giving up. This is actually happening within the House of Ephraim and even the House of Judah. People who may be from the House of Ephraim and once counted themselves as dedicated Christians are facing the fact that the tenets of Christianity are not Biblical. They have given up defending that which cannot be biblically defended and accept the fact that the Children of Israel need to embrace the Torah and follow in the footsteps of HaMoshiach. Without fail, all who have done this have found themselves having a much closer relationship and walk with HaShem, they have experienced the feeling of “coming home”. They have experienced the beauty of keeping the Moedim of HaShem rather than the many pagan rituals and teachings of Christianity. Make no mistake Yeshua was and is calling His followers back to the Torah/Instructions of HaShem. You cannot know HaMoshiach Yeshua unless you engage in keeping biblical Torah. Granted there are many aspects of the Torah we cannot keep at present, however this should not stop us from trying to keep and follow those we can. Both Houses can keep the Sabbath. Both Houses can meet on the appointed times of HaShem. Both Houses can eat biblically “Kosher” food. Both Houses can wear Tzitzit. Both Houses can bring up their children in a Torah environment, and the list goes on. In fact, not only can both Houses embrace and keep aspects of Torah, but both House are obligated to do so.

*And He summoned the multitude with His disciples, and said to them, "If anyone wishes to come after Me, let deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life shall lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel shall save it. For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world, and forfeit his soul. For what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?"* Mark 8:34-37  
[NASB]

The House of Ephraim [Christians in the main] have thus far refused to embrace and keep the Torah. They are often heard quoting the above scripture in an attempt to have people follow their interpretation of HaMoshiach, the One they call Jesus. Whilst they should be commended on trying to have people leave lives of sin and change their ways, they leave out the plan HaShem has for His Children on how to achieve that. That plan is the Torah. What does losing one's life mean in the above context? It certainly doesn't mean committing suicide, and following in the footsteps of the fundamentalist Islamic world. It means leaving behind a life devoid of Torah, and embracing a life of Torah, the life Yeshua Himself lived. Surely if it is a life good enough for Yeshua to embrace and keep, it should be a life all of His followers embrace and keep. Please do not be deceived in thinking you can be a Child of HaShem and reject His Torah. If you believe you can reject the Torah and at the same time spread the "gospel" or good news of HaShem and Moshiach you are kidding yourself and hitting your head against a brick wall. Such a person needs to "give in" and change direction and receive the rewards HaShem has for His people. The Gospel, is the good news of the Torah. HaShem has put in place the perfect model of Good News, because it comes with both HaMoshiach and the Torah. Please understand you cannot biblically have One without the Other. It is vital we understand this because if we hope to be reconciled [as a nation] to HaShem then we must be found embracing and following HaMoshiach and the Torah.

We could be fast running out of time to change our ways. Just as the virgins without spare oil were found wanting when the bridegroom arrived, both Houses could be found wanting when HaMoshiach arrives. Yeshua described this scenario well.

*"Then the Kingdom of heaven will be comparable to ten virgins, who took their lamps, and went out to meet the bridegroom. And five of them were foolish, and five were prudent. For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, but the prudent took oil in flasks along with their lamps. Now while the bridegroom was delaying, they all got drowsy and began to sleep. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Behold, the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those virgins rose, and trimmed their lamps. And the foolish said to the prudent, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the prudent answered, saying, 'No, there will not be enough for us and*

*you too, go instead to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.’ And while they were going away to make the purchase, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the wedding feast; and the door was shut. And later the other virgins also came, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open up for us.’ But he answered and said, ‘Truly I say to you, I do not know you.’ Be on the alert then, for you do not know the day nor the hour.” Matthew 25:1-13 [NASB]*

When reading this parable from the Master, I suggest you think of the Torah when you see the word oil. It is the Torah that allows you to see and recognise HaMoshiach. If you don't have your flasks/lives filled with the Torah, constantly replenishing your supply, then not only will you be caught sleeping but you will not be allowed into the wedding feast. Consider another teaching Yeshua gave to those who were found rejecting the Torah.

*“And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; DEPART FROM ME, YOU WHO PRACTICE LAWLESSNESS.” Matthew 7:23*

Practicing lawlessness is rejecting the Torah – It is practicing Torahlessness. If you are one who rejects the Torah, is it not time you changed your ways and gave in, allowing the oil of biblical Torah to light your lamp, so you can clearly see HaMoshiach Yeshua. HaShem is waiting patiently for us to come to an end of ourselves. He requires us to take the nailed scarred Hand of Moshiach ben Dovid and His instructions/Torah and come home to Him.

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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