

Covenant Relationships

In the Body of Messiah

Rabbin Deborah Brandt M. Div.



Part I Relationships the Meaning of Life

As we go through this series we will try to cover areas in our lives that effect our relationships with others such as:

- Rejection
- Abuse
- Fear
- Bitter Roots
- Unforgiveness
- Pride
- Disrespect
- Lashon Hara – Evil Speaking

These all affect relationships in our lives if we do not allow God to bring healing to our lives and also if we continue to keep ourselves isolated and not allow ourselves to be part of a Community of believers.

The enemy, hasatan comes but to kill steal and destroy our relationship with God and with one another. However, Yeshua came that we might have life and that includes our relationship with God and with others more abundantly.

Joh 10:10 The thief comes only in order to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have *and enjoy life, and have it in abundance* [to the full, till it overflows].

Amp.

The Danger of Isolation

Example from animal kingdom. When a lion comes upon a heard of antelope (for example), he waits until one separates from the group so that he can than kill his prey because they are now vulnerable and as easy target.

1Pe 5:8 Stay alert! Watch out! Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, searching for someone to devour.

The enemy tries to separate believers from one another to deceive them. One of the ways he does this is to cause believers to become offended at leadership or others and they leave the community. They become bitter and easy prey to the enemy. There is safety in numbers and isolation is dangerous.

The internet is not a replacement for community.

Heb 10:25 not forsaking our meeting together [as believers for worship and instruction], as is the habit of some, but encouraging *one another*; and all the more [faithfully] as you see the day [of Christ's return] approaching. Amp

This includes Shabbat Services and all of the Holy Moadim.

He wants to devour our relationships, first with God then with others via:

- Misunderstandings &
- Becoming Offended
- Selfish motives

Relationships are fragile and effect every area of our lives:

- Home
- Husband and Wife
- Children
- Work
- Our Messianic Communities

Our relationships with others is only as good as our relationship with our Heavenly Father and our Messiah Yeshua and our willingness to walk according to His teachings and instructions i.e. Torah.

God's Community is to walk in love with one another and be a witness to the world that we belong to Yeshua.

Joh 13:34 "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, so also you must love one another.

Joh 13:35 By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another." TLV

To Walk in love is to walk in the highest spiritual realm there is- 1 Cor 13: 4-8

Love – Hebrew Ahavah **H157**

אהב / אהב

'âhav / 'âhêv

BDB Definition:

1) to love

1a) (Qal)

1a1) human love for another, includes family, and sexual

1a2) human appetite for objects such as food, drink, sleep, wisdom

1a3) human love for or to God

1a4) act of being a friend

1a4a) lover (participle)

1a4b) friend (participle)

1a5) God's love toward man

1a5a) to individual men

1a5b) to people Israel

1a5c) to righteousness

1b) (Niphal)

1b1) lovely (participle)

1b2) loveable (participle)

1c) (Piel)

1c1) friends

1c2) lovers (figuratively of adulterers)

2) to like

Part of Speech: verb

A Related Word by BDB/Strong's Number: a primitive root

Same Word by TWOT Number: 29

Love Greek - **G26**

ἀγάπη

agapē

Thayer Definition:

1) brotherly love, affection, good will, love, benevolence

2) love feasts

Part of Speech: noun feminine

A Related Word by Thayer's/Strong's Number: from G25

Citing in TDNT: 1:21, 5

Love is the foundation of Covenant Relationships:

1 Corinthians 13 Amplified Translation

1Co 13:1 If I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love [*for others growing out of God's love for me*], then I have become only a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal [*just an annoying distraction*].

1Co 13:2 And if I have *the gift of prophecy* [*and speak a new message from God to the people*], and understand all mysteries, and [*possess*] all knowledge; and if I have all [*sufficient*] faith so that I can remove mountains, but do not have love [*reaching out to others*], I am nothing.

1Co 13:3 If I give all my possessions to feed *the poor*, and if I surrender my body to be burned, but do not have love, it does me no good at all.

1Co 13:4 Love endures with patience *and* serenity, love is kind *and* thoughtful, and is not jealous *or* envious; love does not brag and is not proud *or* arrogant.

1Co 13:5 It is not rude; it is not self-seeking, it is not provoked [*nor overly sensitive and easily angered*]; it does not take into account a wrong *endured*.

1Co 13:6 It does not rejoice at injustice, but

rejoices with the truth [*when right and truth prevail*].

1Co 13:7 Love bears all things [*regardless of what comes*], believes all things [*looking for the best in each one*], hopes all things [*remaining steadfast during difficult times*], endures all things [*without weakening*].

1Co 13:8 Love never fails [*it never fades nor ends*]. But as for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for the gift of special knowledge, it will pass away.

1Co 13:9 For we know in part, and we prophesy in part [*for our knowledge is fragmentary and incomplete*].

1Co 13:10 But when that which is complete and perfect comes, that which is incomplete and partial will pass away.

1Co 13:11 When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became a man, I did away with childish things.

1Co 13:12 For now [*in this time of imperfection*] we see in a mirror dimly [*a blurred reflection, a riddle, an enigma*], but then [*when the time of perfection comes we will see reality*] face to face. Now I know in part [*just in fragments*], but then I will know fully, just as I have been fully known [*by God*].

1Co 13:13 And now there remain: faith [*abiding trust in God and His promises*], hope [*confident expectation of eternal salvation*], love [*unselfish love for others growing out of God's love for me*], these three [*the choicest graces*]; but the greatest of these is love. Amp

We are to walk in love “even as” He walked-Yeshua

Ephesians 5:1-2

Eph 5:1 Therefore be imitators of God, as dearly loved children;

Eph 5:2 and walk in love, just as Messiah also loved us and gave Himself up for us as an offering and sacrifice to God for a fragrant aroma.

“To Walk” Halacha – is our daily conduct

Where does the meaning of life come from?

For the believer in Yeshua, the meaning of our life stems from our relationship with G-d and Yeshua. We must remember as well that the relationship between G-d as a father and Yeshua as a son preceded our relationship with them. In a certain sense, the meaning of all of the existence of the universe stems from the preexistent relationship between G-d and Yeshua..

John 17:24 “For You love Me before the foundation of the world

The First Relationship was between God and Yeshua the Aleph and Tav.

You have loved them as You have loved me-
John 17:23

G-d not only loves Yeshua, but He loves each one of us as well. Gods love for us is manifested in Yeshua.

Joh 3:16 “For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.

John 17:22-24

Joh 17:22 The glory that You have given to Me I have given to them, that they may be one just as We are one—

Joh 17:23 I in them and You in Me—that they may be perfected in unity, so that the world may know that You sent Me and loved them as You loved Me.

Joh 17:24 “Father, I also want those You have given Me to be with Me where I am, so that they may see My glory—the glory You gave Me, for You loved Me before the foundation of the world. TLV

Yeshua prayed that the same relationship He had with the Father, that we would have the same relationship as well.

That they may be one just as We are one-John 17:22

A network of committed relationships exists among God, Yeshua and all of us as believers. This network of relationships is the goal to which all of our efforts and activities as believers should be directed

The Goal Is Fellowship

1 John 1:13-That which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His son Yeshua Ha Mashiach

Goal: That we might have fellowship.....

Yeshua said that it was by our love and commitment to relationships with one another that the world would know that we are believers in Him. Building relationships with one another is the most efficient and effective form of spreading the message of the gospel

Rooted And Grounded In Love

Ephesians 3:17

Have we left our first love?

Revelation 2:4

The believers at Ephesus were filled with every good form of achievement. They had labor, patience, endurance, maturity and steadiness. They were doing everything correctly. However, they had slipped off the base of their actions. The free acceptance and approval of God must remain our first love.

Acceptance

“A believer who stands up for the Word of God will be rejected by the world around him. If one is to be strong in God, he must have an equivalent strength of his own acceptance by God to resist the rejection of others. If one is caught in a trap of trying to win approval from others, he will soon find himself to be a ‘man-pleaser.

He will lose his footing for moral integrity and spiritual strength. On the other hand, it is often through a set of trusted intimate friends that God ministers healing from past rejection or insecurity. Our acceptance comes from God alone, but it is worked out through the process of developing trust with people. Covenant relationships remove the fears that hinder one’s spiritual growth.: Keith Intrater

The Outworking of God’s Love

1 John 4:20

1Jn 4:20 If anyone says, “I love God,” and hates his brother, he is a liar. For the one who does not love his brother, whom he has seen, cannot love God, whom he has not seen. TLV

If we have hate in our heart and refuse to forgive others, yet tell everyone that we love and serve God, the Word calls us a liar! There is no room for hate in the life of a believer. How do we define hate?

According to Webster’s 1825 Dictionary

HATE, v.t. [L. odi, for hodi.]

1. To dislike greatly; to have a great aversion to. It expresses less than abhor, detest, and abominate, unless pronounced with a peculiar emphasis.

HATE, n. Great dislike or aversion; hatred.

1 John 4:12

1Jn 4:12 No one has ever seen God. If we love one another, God abides in us and His love is made perfect in us.

Psalms 103:13

Psa 103:13 As a father has compassion on his children, so Adonai has compassion on those who fear Him.

We are to have compassion for one another just as the Father has had compassion on us.

Psalm 27:10

Psa 27:10 Though my father and my mother forsake me, Adonai will take me in.

Bringing Us Back Together

“Fear of rejection and insecurity are such prevalent problems because rejection is part of the overall separation of man from God. We were separated from God when Adam had to leave the garden of Eden. Mistrust entered the human race when Cain killed Abel. We were separated from one another in communication at the Tower of Babel. Rejection, separation and the breakdown of relationships is the overarching pattern of the fallen state of man. It is important to rebuild these areas in our walk as believers. God is the restorer of relationships not only with Him, but also with each other.” Keith Intrater

Being part of a Community of Believers helps us to:

- Learn how to walk in love with others
- Learn how to walk in love with people who are different than you
- Loving the unlovable
- Submitting to Authority
- Learning Faithfulness
- An Outlet to use your gifts
- Giving to others
- Unity
- Divine Order
- Grow Spiritually
- Acceptance of who you are as a person

We will be covering all of these things as well as we study what His word says about Covenant Relationships in The Body of Messiah.