

# WORDS OF WISDOM.

## Chapter Thirteen.

### From the Desk of Rabbi Yochanan Hammond

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After having written chapter twelve I could not help but ponder the issue of “warnings”. Warnings are meant to do two main things. Give information and bring attention to a situation. Weather warnings are given on a regular basis through various media streams. Many people and occupations rely on these warnings. Farmers, fishermen, tourism, and the like are constantly assessing the ‘warnings pages’. There is an old saying, “Sunset at night, shepherds delight, sunset in the morning, shepherds warning”. Warnings are put out for people to heed. As we know not all people heed these warnings and some are determined to go against them. This is the case with every bush fire season here in Australia. Lives perish because people fail to adhere to warnings.

So what about warnings given in the bible! Should not we Children of Israel pay close attention to warnings given by HaShem via His Torah, Moshiach and prophets? Israel has a history of ignoring warnings given to them by HaShem. Any casual reading of the bible will quickly affirm this. Did not the Master Himself point this out with the following words?

*“Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how many times I yearned to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her young under her wings, but you were unwilling! Behold, your house will be abandoned, desolate. I tell you, you will not see me again until you say, ‘Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.’”* Matthew 23:37-39 [NAB]

These words followed some rather strong warnings Yeshua gave concerning the “Religious elite” of the day. We are often quick to repeat the words, “woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, you hypocrites”, and point the finger at others. This no doubt has its place, especially against those that

are leading the children astray with the doctrines of men over and above the doctrines of HaShem. The sticking point is sorting out the one from the other! What are the doctrines of men? What are the doctrines of HaShem? I am going to suggest the One who knows the answer to such questions is HaShem. I am also going to suggest that Yeshua who walked, talked, and taught Torah knows the answer. Hence for us to have any hope in knowing, what are the doctrines of HaShem as against the doctrines of men, we need to follow in the footsteps of HaMoshiach Yeshua. This is vital if we are to pick up on the warnings given to us.

Within “all this”, we do have challenges that have created immense problems and confusion. How many times have we witnessed so called leaders giving “prophecies” about numerous issues that have failed to come true? These same “leaders” claim they have heard from HaShem and usually use sections of scripture to support their claims and prophecies. So when these “prophecies” fail to come true, does these make HaShem a liar? Absolutely not! They have failed to read the prophecies and warnings of HaShem correctly. They have put their own interpretation on the Word and come up with a false warning. Sadly there is a large component of self interest attached to these “prophecies” as it is big business in the world of faith. We are warned about the “prophecy industry”.

*“Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing, but underneath are ravenous wolves. By their fruits you will know them.”* Matthew 7:15-16 [NAB]

*“He answered, ‘See that you not be deceived, for many will come in my name, saying, ‘I am he,’ and ‘the time has come.’ Do not follow them.”* Luke 21:8 [NAB]

*“I came in the name of My Father, but you do not accept me; yet if another comes in his own name, you will accept him.”* John 5:43 [NAB]

Over the years we have had the unsavoury experience of witnessing the pollution of false prophets. I am persuaded that this will become even worse over the coming years and delusion of the saints will increase along with the many associated dangers.

Allow me to say that unless you have a good knowledge of Torah your chances of either staying deluded or becoming deluded are extremely high. Charlatans have literally made millions of dollars from deceiving the Children of Israel. Not only have they made countless money, but they have countless followers who refuse to see these prophets for whom they are – false deceivers. I understand this is a harsh statement, but none the less, we Children of Israel have a historical pattern for adhering to and following false prophets. This pattern must change if we are to hear from The Almighty One of Israel. We must have a Torah education if we are to understand what has been, what is, and what is coming. We must have a Torah education if we are to understand and know our Father, our Moshiach Yeshua and the Ruach of HaShem. We must have a Torah education if we are to guard ourselves from being deceived by Satan, false prophets and false doctrines.

The most important study you can undertake is the study of Torah. This will bring wisdom, understanding, hope, and prepare you and your family for what is on the horizon. If HaShem is in total control, and He is, then is it not wise to understand His outline for humanity and this world? He has been merciful enough to provide a “manual” for us to read and study. He has given us the perfect example of how to walk according to His instructions and guidelines in Yeshua HaMoshiach. We have all the “tools” at our disposal, the instruction manual on how to use them and the helping hand of the best teacher available. It is my hope that we once again witness HaShem raise up true prophets of wisdom to bring His Living Word to His people. These prophets will be known by the fruit they produce and it will be a fruit filled with the goodness of Torah as well as the love and helping Hand of Moshiach Yeshua.

May the grace, love and wisdom of HaShem and Yeshua HaMoshiach be with you!