

WORDS OF WISDOM.

Chapter Fifteen

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We would all prefer to live happy, healthy and productive lives. The challenge is deciding what constitutes a happy, healthy, productive life. The answer to this question would be very different amongst the world populace. The answers are tied to the various “world views”. The question then becomes which world view delivers the best outcomes. Again, we can ask, “What is considered a good outcome”? We can quickly find ourselves going round and round in circles.

In considering these issues let us narrow the field and ask, “Which world view delivers a happy, healthy, and productive life for the Children of Israel”? In answering this question, we are blessed, because we only have to look to our Father in heaven to receive the answers.

““And now, O sons, listen to me: blessed are those who keep my ways. ³³ Hear instruction and be wise, and do not neglect it. ³⁴ Blessed is the one who listens to me, watching daily at my gates, waiting beside my doors. ³⁵ For whoever finds me finds life and obtains favor from the LORD, ³⁶ but he who fails to find me injures himself; all who hate me love death.” Proverbs 8:32-36 [ESV]

Would it not be appropriate to equate being happy, healthy, and productive to finding life? In some form or another we are all trying to find life. The Children of Israel can find this life when we find HaShem. It is only when we seek and find HaShem that we are given the opportunity of receiving the gift of life.

When searching for treasure, [in this instance a happy, healthy, productive life] it is much easier to find if one is given a map with instructions. The Children of Israel have been given both the map and instructions to find the

treasure of life. The problem we have is we either reject them or we do not recognise them for what they are.

Yeshua the Master experienced a similar scenario as recorded in the following encounter.

⁹ Then the Samaritan woman tells Him, “How is it that You, a Jew, ask me, a Samaritan woman, for a drink?” (For Jewish people don’t deal with Samaritans.)

¹⁰ Yeshua replied to her, “If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who is saying to you, ‘Give Me a drink,’ you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water.”

¹¹ “Sir,” the woman tells Him, “You don’t have a bucket, and the well is deep. Then from where do You get this living water?

¹² You’re not greater than our father Jacob, are You? He gave us this well. He drank out of it himself, with his sons and his cattle.”

¹³ Yeshua replied to her, “Everyone who drinks from this water will get thirsty again. ¹⁴ But whoever drinks of the water that I will give him shall never be thirsty. The water that I give him will become a fountain of water within him, springing up to eternal life!” John 4:9-14 [TLV]

A map without instructions is limited just as instructions without a map has limitations. To reduce making mistakes in a treasure hunt it is far better to have both map and instructions. The Children of Israel have access to both. I suggest we view Yeshua as the “map” and the Torah as the “instructions”. Without both there is every likely hood you will become lost on your journey. We witness this in both Christianity and Rabbinical Judaism. Both have lost their way. In saying this we at JSI make no claim that we have it all correct, because I know we do not. We are all growing and learning. None the less this doesn’t change the fact that Rabbinical Judaism has rejected the map, deciding to rely on the instruction manual only. This has caused them to construct their own map that fails to lead all the Children of Israel to the Treasure. Christianity has rejected the instruction manual, deciding to rely on the map only. This has resulted in Christianity drawing up their own instruction manual, thereby failing to lead all the Children of Israel to the Treasure.

It is Yeshua that gives the water. Water from any other source will only leave people parched and thirsty. May I suggest that Rabbinical Judaism have accepted water from other sources? Because they have rejected the map that shows them the correct location of these living waters, they have been unable to detect their mistake. Christianity has accepted polluted water. They have failed to detect the pollution due to the fact they have thrown out the very instructions that would alert and educate them to detect this pollution.

We must admit that as a people, as a nation, we have failed and continue to fail to hear our Father in heaven. This has caused us to neglect the instructions of HaShem, and thereby we have not watched daily at His gates or waited patiently at His doorposts.

If we are to receive the wisdom of HaShem, we are required to be watchful, patient and knowledgeable of Torah and Yeshua as HaMoshiach. This will require many to discard present positions and view a different path forward. Some have found this difficult and we must not underestimate the issues associated with such changes. Compassion, Godly wisdom, and strength are important ingredients for our nation as we navigate our way back to the treasure found in our "family home". I end this chapter with the words of HaMoshiach Yeshua.

"Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the road is broad that leads to destruction, and those who enter through it are many. How narrow the gate and constricted the road that leads to life. And those who find it are few." Matthew 7:13-14 [NAB]

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