

WORDS OF WISDOM.

Chapter Twenty Seven.

From the Desk of Rabbi Yochanan Hammond

No matter whom we are or even where we are, we can face difficult times on occasions. No doubt there are great degrees of difference in those difficult times. None the less each person sees their own difficulties in their own "light".

Many people put the blame on HaShem or "God" during these times. The question asked down through the ages is; "If God is all powerful and all knowing, full of grace and mercy, how come so many people are starving and dying each and every day"? The Jewish way is always answer a question with a question. So, we ask, "Do you think it is God's fault that many are in such conditions?" This is a very interesting question, especially considering most who ask the first question, claim not to even believe in God. Well if there is no God, then He certainly cannot be held accountable, end of question and discussion. However, despite what the world would have us believe, HaShem, the Holy One of Israel does exist and He is all powerful, all knowing, and holds the whole world in His Hand. HaShem is indeed our only hope! May I suggest that you seek HaShem with all your heart, mind and soul, He will certainly answer a broken and contrite heart. Make no mistake HaShem is well aware of those who seek Him and those who scoff and reject Him. This will result in serious action being taken by Him.

"There is no God above us, is the fond thought of reckless hearts; warped natures everywhere and hateful lives! There is not an innocent one among them. HaShem looks down from heaven at the race of Adam, to find one soul that reflects, and makes God its aim; but no, all have missed the mark and rebelled against Him; an innocent one is nowhere to be found. What, can they learn nothing, all these traffickers in iniquity, who feed themselves fat on this people of mine, as if it were bread for their eating, and never invoke HaShem's name. What wonder if fear unmans them, when HaShem takes the part of the innocent? Easily you thought to outwit the friendless; see, HaShem is their refuge! Oh, that it

might dawn over Zion, Israel's deliverance! Day of gladness for Jacob, day of Israel's triumph, when HaShem restores the fortunes of His own people.” Psalm 13 [14]: 1-7 [K T]

There is fast approaching a time when HaShem will answer the question regarding His very existence, through the return of HaMoshiach Yeshua the Master. It shall be that **every knee shall bend before the Holy One of Israel.**

*“Therefore, God raised him to the highest place and gave him the name above every name; that in honor of the name given Yeshua, **every knee shall bow**, in heaven, on earth and under the earth, **and every tongue shall acknowledge** that Yeshua the Messiah is ADONAI to the glory of God the Father.” Php 2:9-11 [CJB]*

“Speak up, present your case, let them put their heads together! Who fortold this in the past, who revealed it long ago? Was is not I Yahweh? There is no other god except me, no saving God, no Saviour except me! Turn to me and you will be saved, all you ends of the earth, for I am God, and there is no other. By my own self I swear it; what comes from my mouth is saving justice, it is an irrevocable word: All shall bend the knee to me, by me every tongue shall swear, saying, ‘In Yahweh alone are saving justice and strength, until all those who used to rage at him come to him in shame. In Yahweh the whole race of Israel finds justice and glory.” Isaiah 45:21-25 [NJB]

I pray you didn't skip through the above scriptures because you are familiar with them. If you did, be encouraged to read them again slowly and with purpose, seeking a deeper understanding of HaShem, Yeshua HaMoshiach and the Torah. Allow the Ruach HaKodesh to gently point out the far-reaching message within.

Whether people believe or not believe “something” doesn't make that “something” true or false. Not so long ago many people believed the world to be flat. Smoking was promoted as being good for you. Millions of children believe in the tooth fairy and **Santa** Clause. People are fore ever believing lies and falsehoods! Unfortunately, there is one who is a specialist in presenting lies as truth – **Satan**. Even more depressing is that people actually choose to believe Satan over HaShem. Yeshua has this to say regarding this fact.

“You belong to your father, Satan, and you want to carry out your father’s desires. From the start he was a murderer, and he has never stood by the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he tells a lie, he is speaking in character; because he is a liar- indeed the inventor of the lie!” John 8:44

It is not HaShem that is the cause of poverty, starvation, war, corruption, greed, depression, abuse, murder, stealing, bullying, thuggery, injustice, rebellion, deceit, jealousies, etc., etc. These things come from Satan and they have infected the world, and this infection can only be removed by HaShem Himself.

Until He chooses the time to carry out this act, we Children of Israel MUST continue to shelter under the wings of our Moshiach. Not only does this entail having trust in Him, but it also requires a level of faithfulness to His Torah. Constant prayer, along with living a Torah based life style keeps us well protected from the lies of the enemy.

“We know that everyone who has God as his Father does not go on sinning; on the contrary, the Son born of God protects him and the Evil One does not touch him. We know that we are from God, and the whole world lies in the power of the Evil One. And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us discernment, so that we may know who is genuine; moreover, we are united with the One who is genuine, united with his Son Yeshua the Messiah. He is the genuine God and eternal life. Children, guard yourselves against false gods!” 1John 5:18-21
[CJB]

One of our greatest challenges, if not our major challenge, is to guard against the onslaught of “false gods”. It is when we are facing those difficult times that we are vulnerable. It is during these times that we are often focused on self, thereby we expose ourselves to the onslaught of false gods in an attempt to put “things” right. A reason we open ourselves up to the lies of false gods is because we are in a hurry to change the position we have found ourselves in. Never mind about the children of this world, the Children of Israel often reject the cleansing power of HaShem. We are subject to avoiding the Torah of HaShem because it challenges our very souls. It can be a long and arduous journey learning and embracing the Torah. Yet until we accept that we should be living a Torah based lifestyle,

we will struggle to change our circumstances and become prosperous in our spiritual walk with HaShem. Those of “the world” will find no rest for their souls and will continue to follow the false lights of false gods.

The world is continually looking for another god to fill a void. Is there any peace in the hearts of people who do not know HaShem? History proves there is not. The present proves there is not, and the future will prove there is not. Those of us who know HaShem, have faith in Him, and try to be faithful to Him, struggle to have peace. What hope do others have? Let us not underestimate the difficulty we have living in this “fallen” world. It is a difficult pilgrimage finding your way through the maze of life. To help guide us through this pilgrimage, with the promise of a blessed hope, we have the prayers of the Master -Yeshua HaMoshiach.

¹⁴ I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. ¹⁵ I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one. ¹⁶ They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. ¹⁷ Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. ¹⁸ As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. ¹⁹ And for their sake I consecrate myself, that they also may be sanctified in truth.

²⁰ “I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, ²¹ that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. ²² The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, ²³ I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me. ²⁴ Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory that you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world. ²⁵ O righteous Father, even though the world does not know you, I know you, and these know that you have sent me. ²⁶ I made known to them your name, and I will continue to make it known, that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them.” John 17:14-26 [ESV]

“During Yeshua’s life on earth, he offered up prayers and petitions, crying aloud and shedding tears, to the One who had

the power to deliver him from death; and he was heard because of his godliness.”

Yeshua was heard because of His righteousness. He was righteous because He followed Torah and was in constant prayer to the Father.

Do not waste the opportunity of having Yeshua plead your case before the Father. Follow in Yeshua's footsteps and employ prayer and Torah into your life. It is under these conditions [employing prayer and Torah] that the difficulties you face will be attended too by HaShem. All may not unfold as you would hope, but do not fall for the guile and deceit of the enemy if this happens. Satan is ever ready to take advantage of any situation, and any gap in your faith and faithfulness will be taken advantage of. The reason the world is in such bad shape is because of its rejection of HaShem. The only solution to this problem is embracing the beauty of all HaShem has on offer for His Children. Make sure you know what is on offer, both the good and the bad, then make a wise decision, as you are responsible for that or those decisions.

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