



Message 3-23-19
Tzav-Command
Leviticus 6:1-8:36
Jeremiah 7:21-8:3, 9:22-23
1 Thessalonians 1:8-10

Introduction

Ever since a great Rabbi of old gave an opinion about the Temple sacrifices, Jewish apologists have argued that the Temple ritual was superseded by the “service of the heart.”

According to this opinion, after the destruction of the Temple, the “external” service of sacrifice and incense was replaced by the more “spiritual” service of prayer and *teshuvah* (repentance). Sacrifices, after all, were bloody, primitive, and crude. This argument makes an implicit assumption that the opposite of sacrifice is spirituality, and that one must choose between *teshuvah* and ritual.

If we choose to separate *teshuvah* from the sacrifice, then we lose the understanding of how so much in the Torah and Tanach teach us about Messiah Yeshua. Formality, ritual, and tradition have their place in our lives by us understanding how it all enhances our relationship with our Messiah and His Father by the infilling of the *Ruach HaKodesh*-the Holy Spirit.

Leviticus 8:34-36

34 As has been done today, the LORD has commanded to be done to make atonement for you. ³⁵ At the entrance of the tent of meeting you shall remain day and night for seven days, performing what the LORD has charged, so that you do not die, for so I have been commanded." ³⁶ And Aaron and his sons did all the things that the LORD commanded by Moses. (ESV)

Aaron and his sons were to remain at the entrance of the tent of meeting for seven days so they could be set apart for the Lord’s work in the tent of meeting. If they did not remain there for seven days, they would die if they tried to go about the Lord’s work in the Tabernacle. Sadly, once they were consecrated to the Holy One of Israel, Nadab and Abihu disobeyed the instructions of the Lord and were killed by the Holy One. While we are called to be His people, we are not to overstep the bounds He sets upon our relationship with Him. We receive the gift of redemption by making *teshuvah* and receiving the gift of eternal life through the Messiah Yeshua, the Son of God. Yeshua is a picture of the High Priest and vice versa. The High Priest is our intermediary between the Father

and mankind. It is through our relationship with Yeshua that we can receive forgiveness for our sins. Yeshua brings us to the seventh day of being set apart for our Creator. We are never to take our relationship with God for granted, or we could wind up like Nadab and Abihu being cut off from the Almighty forever. Instead of eternal life, we could receive eternal damnation and wind up being cast into the outer darkness spoken of by Yeshua.

Matthew 8:12 but the sons of the kingdom will be **cast out into the outer darkness**; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth." (NAU)

Matthew 22:12 And he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding garment?' And he was speechless. ¹³ Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot and **cast him into the outer darkness**. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' ¹⁴ **For many are called, but few are chosen.**" (ESV)

Matthew 25:28 So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents. ²⁹ For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. ³⁰ And **cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness**. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' (ESV)

Many are called but few are chosen! These words come from Yeshua Himself. We are told this in three different places in the book of Matthew by Yeshua Himself. Those not chosen are cast into the outer darkness, where I assume, they are cut off from the Holy One forever with no hope of salvation. We are to be ready when we are called to the wedding of the Lamb. Aaron and his sons had to be prepared to be able to come into the tabernacle every day to serve the Lord and the people. They stood between God and the people of Israel as Yeshua stands by the right hand of His Father interceding on our behalf if we belong to Him. We must never take that relationship for granted or else we could wind up like Nadab and Abihu and all of those who are cut off from God because they did not walk in the covenant of the Lord, God Almighty!

Messiah has become our perfect sin offering, so the anger of His Father towards us has been quieted. The Almighty struggled with Israel during the forty years in the wilderness as they continually took their relationship with their Creator for granted. In the end, they may have been cast into the outer darkness never being able to enter the Promised Land to be with their Messiah and His Father forever. Israel stands as a beacon in the darkness, but lest we forget, we could become like them losing all hope because we forgot our first love – God.

Jeremiah 7:23-28

23 But this command I gave them: 'Obey my voice, and I will be your God, and you shall be my people. And walk in all the way that I command you, that it may be well with you.' ²⁴ But they did not obey or incline their ear but walked in their own counsels and the stubbornness of their evil hearts and went backward and not forward. ²⁵ From the day that your fathers came out of the land of Egypt to this day, I have persistently sent all my servants the prophets to them, day after day. ²⁶ Yet they did not listen to me or incline

their ear but stiffened their neck. They did worse than their fathers. ²⁷ "So you shall speak all these words to them, but they will not listen to you. You shall call to them, but they will not answer you. ²⁸ And you shall say to them, 'This is the nation that did not obey the voice of the LORD their God and did not accept discipline; truth has perished; it is cut off from their lips. (ESV)

Jeremiah is known as the "Weeping Prophet" because the people would not listen to the word he brought to them from God and went backwards instead of moving forward from the time they left Egypt until down to our day. We would rather walk in our own counsel and harden our hearts against the way of the Lord. Man has returned to the days of Tower of Babel trying to take the place of God who sits upon His throne in the heavenly realm. If only they had paid attention, they would have come to understand that God does not desire to sit in the heavens separated from His people. His desire is to be here with us as we sit at the feet of His Son and learn what being in covenant with God truly means.

Psalm 81:1 <To the Chief Musician. On an instrument of Gath. A Psalm of Asaph.> Sing aloud to God our strength; make a joyful shout to the God of Jacob. (NKJ)

Sin aloud to God our strength, make a joyful shout to the God of Jacob. Jacob struggled with God, overcame who he was, and went from being Jacob, the Deceiver, to being Israel, God Strives, because Jacob wrestled with God and the life he was being called to lead. Finally, he came to the point where he had to hang on to the Lord for his very life, if he wanted to survive what was coming his way. Jacob did not have an easy life, but he had the hand of the Lord upon him. He survived his Egypt and would not be cast into the outer darkness.

1 Thessalonians 1:8-10

10 for the Lord's message sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but everywhere your trust toward God became known. The result is that we don't need to say anything; ⁹ since they themselves keep telling us about the welcome we received from you and how you turned to God from idols, to serve the true God, the one who is alive, ¹⁰ and to wait for his Son Yeshua, whom he raised from the dead, to appear from heaven and rescue us from the impending fury of God's judgment. (CJB)

The message of redemption went everywhere the followers of Yeshua went. The only way this can happen is we must stand in the light so people can see we are living lights in the darkness showing others the way to Messiah Yeshua. As we walk with Him, others need to as well. We need to plant the seeds that will be watered, take root, grow, and be brought into the Kingdom of the Lord. We do not have the power to save anyone, only Yeshua does because His Father gave that to Him for being faithful to the end and not just dying for us because He took our sins upon Himself and added them to His suffering upon the tree where He gave up His life so we could be redeemed if we follow Him. Torah cuts two ways. It can show us our sins and bring us to Messiah, and it teaches us how to walk in the ways that are pleasing to our Creator after we give ourselves over to Yeshua and receive the gift of redemption. We have the power, with His help, to leave our own Egypt behind, but like the Israelites, it may take some wandering to bring us home.

Torah man says: "I intend to live forever. So far, so good."

Blessings in Messiah Yeshua,

Mordecai Silver

If you are not learning Torah, we invite you to attend Judaic Studies Institute, for Yeshua based Studies. Drop us a line at student.support@jsi-edu.org for more information. You can earn a certificate or diploma and take courses to help you grow in your understanding.



