

# GOOD NEWS ACCORDING TO Y'SHUA

ADDRESSED TO ANYONE WHO SEEKS TO UNDERSTAND GOD'S<sup>1</sup> TRUTH, THIS WORK IS ABOUT THE TEACHING OF THE CHRIST<sup>2</sup> FROM THE BIBLE'S "NEW TESTAMENT" BOOKS OF "MATTHEW", "MARK", "LUKE" AND "JOHN" (ABBREVIATED: MT, MK, LK, AND JN)—KNOWN AS THE FOUR GOSPEL BOOKS. WHAT'S WRITTEN HERE IS A RESPONSE TO MISREPRESENTATIONS OF THE CHRIST'S TEACHING.

THE WAY AND THE TRUTH<sup>3</sup> THAT Y'SHUA<sup>4</sup> TEACHES, IS NOT "THE WAY AND THE TRUTH" TAUGHT BY "CHRISTIAN" CHURCHES—TO WHICH APPLY Y'SHUA'S CRITICISMS OF INAPPROPRIATE TRADITIONALISM.

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PEOPLE TEND TO COMPROMISE THE TRUTH IN ORDER TO FIND FELLOWSHIP AND/OR LEADERSHIP. ABOUT FELLOWSHIP, Y'SHUA TEACHES THAT THE MOST MEANINGFUL RELATIONSHIPS ARE WITH THOSE:

"...WHO HEAR GOD'S WORD AND PUT IT INTO PRACTICE." LK 8:21NIV

AS FOR LEADERSHIP, Y'SHUA TOLD DISCIPLES PLAINLY,

"...ONE IS YOUR LEADER, THAT IS, CHRIST." MT 23:10NAS

Y'SHUA ACKNOWLEDGED PEOPLE'S ABILITY TO MAKE CORRECT INTERPRETATIONS WHEN THEY CHOOSE TO DO SO:

"AND WHEN THE SOUTH WIND BLOWS, YOU SAY, 'IT'S GOING TO BE HOT,' AND IT IS. HYPOCRITES! YOU KNOW HOW TO INTERPRET THE APPEARANCE OF THE EARTH AND THE SKY. HOW IS IT THAT YOU DON'T KNOW HOW TO INTERPRET THIS PRESENT TIME?  
"WHY DON'T YOU JUDGE FOR YOURSELVES WHAT IS RIGHT?" LK 12:55-57NIV

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THE CURRENT GLOBAL IMBALANCE, OF BOTH WEALTH AND THE CONSUMPTION OF RESOURCES, TESTIFIES TO HUMAN WILLFULNESS IN GENERAL, AND TO THE HYPOCRISY EXEMPLIFIED AND TAUGHT BY "CHRISTIAN" CHURCHES IN PARTICULAR<sup>5</sup>. INDEED, Y'SHUA SAID OF THE WORLD:

"...I TESTIFY OF IT, THAT ITS DEEDS ARE EVIL." JN 7:7NAS

HUMAN DESIRE IS NOT OBJECTIVE—AS IS DEMONSTRATED MORE CLEARLY IN RICHER COUNTRIES, BY WIDESPREAD SUBSTANCE ABUSE, OVEREATING, WORKAHOLISM, ACQUISITIVENESS AND OTHER COMPULSIVE ACTIVITIES.

"...WHOEVER IS DISHONEST WITH VERY LITTLE WILL ALSO BE DISHONEST WITH MUCH. SO IF YOU HAVE NOT BEEN TRUSTWORTHY IN HANDLING WORLDLY WEALTH, WHO WILL TRUST YOU WITH TRUE RICHES?" LK 16:10,11NIV

THE WORLD SHOWS THE DYNAMIC WE MUST ADDRESS IN OURSELVES. AND IF WE SEE OUR NEED OF GOD AND, THEREFORE, OF Y'SHUA'S ACTUAL TEACHING<sup>6</sup> AND EXAMPLE, WE NEED NOT BE ANXIOUS ABOUT THE WORLD'S OVERALL STATE, WHICH, AS INDIVIDUALS, WE CANNOT READILY CHANGE. RATHER, WHAT WE CAN CHANGE IS OUR PERSONAL ROLE IN THE WORLD, AS A RESULT OF OUR VIEW OF OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO GOD—AND, THEREFORE, TO HUMANITY.

Y'SHUA SAID OF THOSE THAT BELIEVE IN HIM:

"...THEY ARE NOT OF THE WORLD ANY MORE THAN I AM..." JN 17:14NIV

BECAUSE PEOPLE OF THE WORLD SEEK WHAT THEY DESIRE RATHER THAN WHAT IS GOOD FOR THE WHOLE, THEY ENLIST GOVERNMENT TO POLICE THE ENSUING CHAOS. AS DISCIPLES OF Y'SHUA, HOWEVER, IT IS NOT APPROPRIATE TO HAVE ALLEGIANCE TO POLITICS OR HAVE DEVOTION FOR ANYTHING THAT CAN DISTRACT US FROM SERVING ONLY GOD:

"...WORSHIP THE LORD YOUR GOD, AND SERVE HIM ONLY." MT 4:10; DEUTERONOMY 6:13NIV

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<sup>1</sup> "...YOU HAVE ONE FATHER, AND HE IS IN HEAVEN." MT 23:9NIV

MANKIND (HEBREW: ADAM) IS MADE ...IN THE IMAGE OF GOD.... GENESIS 1:27NIV/NAS. GOD OUR FATHER IS WITHOUT GENDER BIAS —AS WAS THE FIRST MAN (HEBREW: ADAM), UNTIL BOTH SEXES CAME INTO BEING (GENESIS 2:23, SEE ALSO GENESIS 5:2).

<sup>2</sup> BOTH, "CHRIST" (FROM GREEK), AND "MESSIAH" (FROM HEBREW), MEAN, ANOINTED.

<sup>3</sup> ..."I AM THE WAY AND THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE." JN 14:6NIV

<sup>4</sup> "Y'SHUA" (MEANING, GOD SAVES), IS PRONOUNCED yuhSHOOah. "JESUS" COMES FROM THE GREEK TRANSLATION OF THE ARAMAIC. THIS TREATISE IS WRITTEN IN CAPITALS, BECAUSE CONVENTIONAL USAGE OF UPPER AND LOWER CASE SUGGESTS REVERENCE INCONSISTENT WITH Y'SHUA'S TRUTH. ANCIENT HEBREW AND GREEK, FROM WHICH TODAY'S BIBLE DERIVES, CONTAIN NEITHER PUNCTUATION NOR LOWER CASE.

<sup>5</sup> Y'SHUA TEACHES: "...LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF." MK 12:31NIV

<sup>6</sup> "IT IS WRITTEN IN THE PROPHETS: 'THEY WILL ALL BE TAUGHT BY GOD.' EVERYONE WHO LISTENS TO THE FATHER AND LEARNS FROM HIM COMES TO ME." JN 6:45NIV

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Y'SHUA'S EXAMPLE ITSELF DIRECTS US AWAY FROM ATTEMPTING TO ORGANIZE PEACE BEYOND THE INTERPERSONAL<sup>7</sup>:

"DO YOU THINK I CAME TO BRING PEACE ON EARTH? NO, I TELL YOU, BUT DIVISION."  
LK 12:51NIV

ON ONE SIDE OF THAT *DIVISION* IS THE SELF-CENTERED MENTALITY OF AGGRESSION AND DEFENSE; ON THE OTHER SIDE IS THE ORIENTATION THAT DISALLOWS EVEN SELF-PROTECTION. Y'SHUA TEACHES:

"...DO GOOD TO THOSE WHO HATE YOU..." LK 6:27NIV/NAS

"IF YOU LOVE THOSE WHO LOVE YOU, WHAT CREDIT IS THAT TO YOU?" LK 6:32NAS

"...DO NOT RESIST AN EVIL PERSON." MT 5:39NIV

"I TELL YOU, MY FRIENDS<sup>8</sup>, DO NOT BE AFRAID OF THOSE WHO KILL THE BODY AND AFTER THAT CAN DO NO MORE." LK 12:4NIV

TO *TURN THE OTHER CHEEK*<sup>9</sup> AND *LOVE OUR ENEMY*<sup>10</sup> IS TO RESPOND WITHOUT AGGRESSION OR DEFENSE. WE CAN TRY TO UNDERSTAND HOW OUR ASSAILANT OR ACCUSER SEES THE SITUATION: PERHAPS THERE'S A MISUNDERSTANDING OR A HIDDEN FEAR. OBJECTIVE COMPASSION PROMOTES UNDERSTANDING, AND THEREFORE, RECONCILIATION.

"BE MERCIFUL, JUST AS YOUR FATHER IS MERCIFUL." LK 6:36NIV/NAS

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SEEKING TRUTH LEADS EACH OF US TO CONSIDER WHAT IS AND ISN'T WORTHWHILE<sup>11</sup>. MATERIAL SECURITY, FOR EXAMPLE, IS HIGHLY VALUED<sup>12</sup>, BUT THE TRUTH TEACHES:

"WHAT IS HIGHLY VALUED AMONG MEN IS DETESTABLE IN GOD'S SIGHT." LK 16:15NIV

THE RICH MAN IN THE PARABLE<sup>13</sup>, DIED AND WAS IN TORMENT IN HELL FOR DRESSING IN FINE CLOTHES AND LIVING IN LUXURY WHILE OTHERS STARVED.

"BUT WOE TO YOU WHO ARE RICH, FOR YOU ARE RECEIVING YOUR COMFORT IN FULL."  
LK 6:24NAS

MANY, OFTEN ATTRACTIVE, THINGS COME OUR WAY—OR COME BACK TO US—TO GIVE US CHOICE: OUR WILL RELATIVE TO GOD'S WILL.

"...CHILDREN, HOW HARD IT IS TO ENTER THE KINGDOM OF GOD! IT IS EASIER FOR A CAMEL TO GO THROUGH THE EYE OF A NEEDLE THAN FOR A RICH MAN TO ENTER THE KINGDOM OF GOD." MK 10:24,25NIV/NAS

CAN A WEALTHY PERSON JUSTIFY THEMSELVES BY BEING GENEROUS TO THE POOR?

"...I TELL YOU THE TRUTH, THIS POOR WIDOW HAS PUT MORE INTO THE TREASURY THAN ALL THE OTHERS. THEY ALL GAVE OUT OF THEIR WEALTH; BUT SHE, OUT OF HER POVERTY, PUT IN EVERYTHING—ALL SHE HAD TO LIVE ON." MK 12:43,44NIV

\* #3B \*

OUR SPIRITUAL WORK IS FULL-TIME:

"DO NOT WORK FOR FOOD WHICH PERISHES, BUT FOR THE FOOD WHICH ENDURES TO ETERNAL LIFE..." JN 6:27NAS

"LOOK AT THE BIRDS...THEY DO NOT SOW, NOR REAP....ARE YOU NOT WORTH MUCH MORE THAN THEY?....OBSERVE HOW THE LILIES OF THE FIELD GROW; THEY DO NOT TOIL....YOU OF LITTLE FAITH! DO NOT WORRY THEN, SAYING, 'WHAT WILL WE EAT?' OR 'WHAT WILL WE DRINK?' OR 'WHAT WILL WE WEAR FOR CLOTHING?' FOR THE [NATIONS]<sup>14</sup> EAGERLY SEEK ALL THESE THINGS; FOR YOUR HEAVENLY FATHER KNOWS THAT YOU NEED ALL THESE THINGS. BUT SEEK FIRST HIS KINGDOM AND HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS, AND ALL THESE THINGS WILL BE ADDED TO YOU." MT 6:26,28,30-33NAS

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<sup>7</sup> "BLESSED ARE THE PEACEMAKERS..." MT 5:9NIV/NAS

<sup>8</sup> "YOU ARE MY FRIENDS IF YOU DO WHAT I COMMAND." JN 15:14NIV

<sup>9</sup> MT 5:39

<sup>10</sup> MT 5:44

<sup>11</sup> "FOR EVERYONE WHO DOES WHAT IS WORTHLESS HATES THE LIGHT, AND WILL NOT COME TO THE LIGHT LEST THOSE DEEDS BE EXPOSED." JN 3:20TRANSLATED FROM THE GREEK—[WHAT IS] WORTHLESS, BEST TRANSLATES THAT PARTICULAR GREEK WORD. THE GREEK REFERRED TO IN THIS TREATISE CORRESPONDS WITH THAT OF "NESTLE-ALAND'S 26<sup>TH</sup> EDITION".

<sup>12</sup> SEE THE PARABLE OF THE RICH MAN'S BARN (LK 12:16-21).

<sup>13</sup> LK 16:19-31

<sup>14</sup> NAS "GENTILES" (NIV "PAGANS"). THE SAME GREEK WORD IS FOUND TRANSLATED AS "NATIONS" IN MT 24:14 #10A; AND (IN THE SINGULAR) IN JN 11:48,50, 51 & 52—REFERRING TO THE (JEWISH) NATION.

Y'SHUA INSTRUCTS US TO PRAY:

"GIVE US<sup>15</sup> TODAY OUR DAILY<sup>16</sup> BREAD." MT 6:11NIV

THE MEANING, HOWEVER, IS METAPHORICAL: OUR SEEKING IS TO BE FOR OUR SPIRITUAL, NOT PHYSICAL, SUSTENANCE. Y'SHUA ALSO SAID:

"BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO HUNGER AND THIRST FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS, FOR THEY SHALL BE SATISFIED." MT 5:6NAS

"...‘MAN DOES NOT LIVE ON BREAD ALONE, BUT ON EVERY WORD THAT COMES FROM THE MOUTH OF GOD.’" MT 4:4; DEUTERONOMY 8:3NIV

"I AM THE LIVING BREAD THAT CAME DOWN FROM HEAVEN. IF ANYONE EATS OF THIS BREAD, HE WILL LIVE FOREVER." JN 6:51NIV

TO EAT OF THIS BREAD, MEANS TO OBEY ALL Y'SHUA'S TEACHINGS.

"WHY SPEND MONEY ON WHAT IS NOT BREAD, AND YOUR LABOR ON WHAT DOES NOT SATISFY?NIV LISTEN CAREFULLY TO ME, AND EAT WHAT IS GOOD, AND DELIGHT YOURSELF IN ABUNDANCE."NAS ISAIAH 55:2

\* #3C \*

"...WHAT KING, WHEN HE SETS OUT TO MEET ANOTHER KING IN BATTLE, WILL NOT FIRST SIT DOWN AND CONSIDER WHETHER HE IS STRONG ENOUGH WITH TEN THOUSAND MEN TO ENCOUNTER THE ONE COMING AGAINST HIM WITH TWENTY THOUSAND? OR ELSE, WHILE THE OTHER IS STILL FAR AWAY, HE SENDS A DELEGATION AND ASKS FOR TERMS OF PEACE." LK 14:31,32NAS

WE ARE THE WEAKER KING WHO OWES THE STRONGER KING *ALL OUR POSSESSIONS* IN EXCHANGE FOR OUR LIVES. THE PASSAGE CONTINUES:

"SO THEN, NONE OF YOU CAN BE MY DISCIPLE WHO DOES NOT GIVE UP ALL HIS OWN POSSESSIONS." LK 14:33NAS

THE DISPOSAL OF OUR WORLDLY "SECURITY" ALLOWS US TO OBTAIN *TREASURE IN HEAVEN*. THAT OPPORTUNITY WILL REPEATEDLY ARISE AS ABUNDANCE COMES OUR WAY.

"SELL YOUR POSSESSIONS AND GIVE TO THE POOR. PROVIDE PURSES FOR YOURSELVES THAT WILL NOT WEAR OUT, A TREASURE IN HEAVEN THAT WILL NOT BE EXHAUSTED..." LK 12:33NIV

COULD JOINING ANY FORMALLY ORGANIZED COMMUNITY BE OBEYING Y'SHUA'S TEACHING? WOULDN'T OUR UNDERSTANDING BE HAMPERED BY DOCTRINE, OUR FAITH BE HINDERED BY MATERIAL "SECURITY"?

"HE WHO DOES NOT LOVE ME WILL NOT OBEY MY TEACHING. THESE WORDS YOU HEAR ARE NOT MY OWN; THEY BELONG TO THE FATHER WHO SENT ME." JN 14:24NIV

"NOT EVERYONE WHO SAYS TO ME, 'LORD, LORD,' WILL ENTER THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN, BUT ONLY HE WHO DOES THE WILL OF MY FATHER WHO IS IN HEAVEN." MT 7:21NIV

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"LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND AND WITH ALL YOUR STRENGTH.'...‘LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.’ THERE IS NO COMMANDMENT GREATER THAN THESE." MK 12:30,31; DEUTERONOMY 6:5 & LEVITICUS 19:18NIV

WE LOVE *THE LORD OUR GOD* NOT WITH LIP SERVICE OR SENTIMENTALITY (THE EXPRESSION OF EXCESSIVE EMOTION)—BUT BY OBEYING THE ONE HE SENT. Y'SHUA SAID:

..."IF ANYONE LOVES ME, HE WILL OBEY MY TEACHING." JN 14:23NIV

"NOW REMAIN IN MY LOVE. IF YOU OBEY MY COMMANDS, YOU WILL REMAIN IN MY LOVE, JUST AS I HAVE OBEYED MY FATHER'S COMMANDS AND REMAIN IN HIS LOVE." JN 15:9,10NIV

TEACHINGS FUNDAMENTAL TO Y'SHUA'S WAY ARE TO *GIVE IN SECRET*<sup>17</sup>, WHICH SUMMARIZES THE GREATEST COMMAND, AND TO *GIVE TO EVERYONE WHO ASKS YOU*<sup>18</sup>, WHICH SUMMARIZES THE SECOND. PRACTICING THESE COMMANDS CAN REVEAL THE MOTIVE FOR ONE'S GIVING.

<sup>15</sup> Y'SHUA WASN'T SUGGESTING THAT DISCIPLES PRAY COLLECTIVELY—HE WAS SIMPLY INSTRUCTING A NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS.

<sup>16</sup> THE MEANING OF THE GREEK IS UNCERTAIN, ANOTHER POSSIBLE RENDERING: "GIVE US TODAY OUR EVERLASTING BREAD." COMPARE: "HEAVEN AND EARTH WILL PASS AWAY, BUT MY WORDS WILL NEVER PASS AWAY." MT 24:35NIV

<sup>17</sup> SEE MT 6:3,4

<sup>18</sup> LK 6:30

PEOPLE OF THE WORLD VALUE GIVING UNASKED—SEEKING TO JUSTIFY THEMSELVES<sup>19</sup> TO HUMANITY. IN KEEPING WITH THIS DESIRE, THE WORLD, INCLUDING THE INSTITUTIONALIZED CHURCH, ALSO ENCOURAGES GIVING FROM ONE'S ABUNDANCE<sup>20</sup>. THE MOTIVES BEHIND WORLDLY GIVING ARE: TO EXPECT SOMETHING BACK FROM PEOPLE; TO BE THOUGHT OF AS CHARITABLE AND/OR GENEROUS; TO BE A GOOD EXAMPLE TO OTHERS<sup>21</sup>—ALL OF WHICH HAVE NO SPIRITUAL REWARD<sup>22</sup>. WE HUMANS ARE SUSCEPTIBLE TO THE INFLUENCE OF DISOBEDIENCE, WHICH INDUCES OVER-EMOTIONALISM<sup>23</sup>, PREOCCUPYING US FROM KNOWING HOW TO GIVE TO EVERYONE WHO ASKS.

WE ARE MADE IN GOD'S IMAGE<sup>24</sup>; BUT BECAUSE EVERYTHING IS HIS<sup>25</sup>—THE WORLDLY ATTEMPT TO IMITATE HIS<sup>26</sup> GIVING IS ARROGANT.

YET SHARING—IN Y'SHUA'S WAY—IMITATES GOD'S MERCY<sup>27</sup>.

#### \* #4B \*

TO LOVE CONSISTENTLY, IN Y'SHUA'S WAY, WE NEED TO KNOW WHAT'S TRULY IN OUR HEARTS<sup>28</sup>, WHICH IS INDICATED BY OUR REACTIONS.

“...I TELL YOU THAT ANYONE WHO IS ANGRY WITH HIS BROTHER WILL BE SUBJECT TO JUDGMENT.” MT 5:22NIV

“FOR FROM WITHIN, OUT OF MEN'S HEARTS, COME EVIL THOUGHTS[:]<sup>29</sup> SEXUAL IMMORALITY, THEFT, MURDER, ADULTERY, GREED, MALICE, DECEIT, LEWDNESS, ENVY, SLANDER, ARROGANCE AND FOLLY. ALL THESE EVILS COME FROM INSIDE AND MAKE A MAN 'UNCLEAN.’” MK 7:21-23NIV

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“A NEW COMMAND I GIVE YOU: LOVE ONE ANOTHER. AS I HAVE LOVED YOU, SO YOU MUST LOVE ONE ANOTHER.” JN 13:34NIV

Y'SHUA'S LOVE FOR HIS DISCIPLES WAS BASED ON OBEDIENCE, TO PLEASE GOD, NOT PEOPLE<sup>30</sup>. AS A RESULT, Y'SHUA EXPECTED NOTHING BACK FOR HIMSELF, FROM OTHER PEOPLE, AND SO HIS LOVE FOR HIS DISCIPLES HAD NO EMOTIONAL ATTACHMENT.<sup>31</sup>

Y'SHUA'S LOVE, SO DISTINCTIVE FROM MOST PEOPLE'S IDEA OF “LOVE”, WILL THUS BE RECOGNIZED—THOUGH NOT VALUED—BY THE WORLD:

“BY THIS ALL MEN WILL KNOW THAT YOU ARE MY DISCIPLES, IF YOU HAVE LOVE FOR ONE ANOTHER.” JN 13:35NAS

THEREFORE, IT IS THROUGH THEIR INDIVIDUAL PURSUITS OF PLEASING THE FATHER, THROUGH OBEDIENCE, THAT Y'SHUA'S DISCIPLES FIND WHAT Y'SHUA PRAYED FOR: UNITY, WITH GOD AND CHRIST—NOT, PRIMARILY WITH EACH OTHER.

“I DO NOT ASK ON BEHALF OF THESE<sup>32</sup> ALONE, BUT FOR THOSE ALSO WHO BELIEVE IN ME THROUGH THEIR WORD; THAT THEY MAY ALL<sup>33</sup> BE ONE; EVEN 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 SENT ME.” JN 17:20,21NAS

#### \* #4C \*

GOD HAD GIVEN CAIN A WARNING ABOUT HIS EXCESSIVE EMOTIONS, BEFORE THEY DROVE HIM TO ACT AGAINST HIS BROTHER ABEL.

...“WHY ARE YOU ANGRY? WHY IS YOUR FACE DOWNCAST? IF YOU DO WHAT IS RIGHT, WILL YOU NOT BE ACCEPTED? BUT IF YOU DO NOT DO WHAT IS RIGHT, SIN IS CROUCHING AT YOUR DOOR; IT DESIRES TO HAVE YOU, BUT YOU MUST MASTER IT.” GENESIS 4:6,7NIV

GOD REMINDED CAIN OF THE SOLUTION THAT IS OURS AS WELL: TO DO *WHAT IS RIGHT* (WELL NAS) IS TO PRE-EMPT THE EXCESSIVE EMOTIONS<sup>34</sup> THAT DRIVE US TO ERR—THROUGH FINDING MERCY AND BY ACTING JUSTLY<sup>35</sup>; FORGIVING OTHERS, INCLUDING THOSE THAT HAVE TAUGHT US WRONGLY; AND ASKING

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<sup>19</sup> SEE LK 16:15.

<sup>20</sup> SEE MK 12:43,44 #3A.

<sup>21</sup> ABOUT SUCH HUMAN ANTITHESIS, MOSES SAID: “...“WHY ARE YOU DISOBEYING THE LORD'S COMMAND? THIS WILL NOT SUCCEED!” NUMBERS 14:41NIV. SEE ALSO MT 6:1 #14B.

<sup>22</sup> SEE LK 6:32-34. Y'SHUA SAID ALSO: “I DO NOT GIVE TO YOU AS THE WORLD GIVES” JN 14:27NIV.

<sup>23</sup> SEE MK 3:27—*THE STRONG MAN* [OF OVER-EMOTIONALISM]—A POWERFUL TIE TO THIS WORLD'S VALUES. SEE ALSO FOOTNOTE 124.

<sup>24</sup> GENESIS 1:27

<sup>25</sup> “...ALL THIS ABUNDANCE THAT WE HAVE PROVIDED...IT IS FROM YOUR HAND, AND ALL IS YOURS.” 1 CHRONICLES 29:16NAS

<sup>26</sup> “AND IF YOU HAVE NOT BEEN TRUSTWORTHY WITH SOMEONE ELSE'S PROPERTY, WHO WILL GIVE YOU PROPERTY OF YOUR OWN?” LK 16:12NIV *PROPERTY OF OUR OWN* IS WHAT Y'SHUA'S TRUE DISCIPLES RECEIVE IN THE RESURRECTION.

<sup>27</sup> “BE MERCIFUL, JUST AS YOUR FATHER IS MERCIFUL.” LK 6:36NIV/NAS —ALSO IN #2.

<sup>28</sup> “THE GOOD MAN OUT OF THE GOOD TREASURE OF HIS HEART BRINGS FORTH WHAT IS GOOD; AND THE EVIL MAN OUT OF THE EVIL TREASURE BRINGS FORTH WHAT IS EVIL...” LK 6:45NAS

<sup>29</sup> THE NIV PUNCTUATION CHOICE HERE, IS A COMMA. ...“WHY DO YOU ENTERTAIN EVIL THOUGHTS IN YOUR HEARTS?” MT 9:4NIV. SEE ALSO ISAIAH 55:7a, ZECHARIAH 7:10b, & ISAIAH 26:3.

<sup>30</sup> JN 14:31

<sup>31</sup> SUCH WAS THE ORIENTATION BEHIND Y'SHUA'S INTERACTION IN JN 21:15-17, INFORMED BY JN 14:15.

<sup>32</sup> Y'SHUA'S ELEVEN REMAINING DISCIPLES.

<sup>33</sup> THE UNDERSCORING IS ADDED FOR EMPHASIS.

<sup>34</sup> SEE FOOTNOTE 23.

<sup>35</sup> ...WHAT DOES THE LORD [GOD] REQUIRE OF YOU? TO ACT JUSTLY AND TO LOVE MERCY AND TO WALK HUMBLY WITH YOUR GOD.” MICAH 6:8NIV

GOD FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF OUR OWN ERRORS.

“WHY DO YOU LOOK AT THE SPECK OF SAWDUST IN YOUR BROTHER’S EYE AND PAY NO ATTENTION TO THE PLANK<sup>36</sup> IN YOUR OWN EYE?” LK 6:41NIV

“...IF YOU HOLD ANYTHING AGAINST ANYONE, FORGIVE HIM, SO THAT YOUR FATHER IN HEAVEN MAY FORGIVE YOU YOUR SINS.” MK 11:25NIV

“BUT IF YOU DO NOT FORGIVE MEN THEIR SINS, YOUR FATHER WILL NOT FORGIVE YOUR SINS.”<sup>37</sup> MT 6:15NIV

“...HE WHO HAS BEEN FORGIVEN LITTLE LOVES LITTLE.” LK 7:47NIV

IT FOLLOWS THAT THE MORE FORGIVING WE ARE, THE MORE WE MAY BE FORGIVEN AND THE MORE WE LOVE<sup>38</sup>. BY LOOKING SPECIFICALLY AT OUR OWN ERRORS, IN RELATION TO Y’SHUA’S WAY, WE CAN DISCERN HOW TO ENCOURAGE SPIRITUAL GROWTH<sup>39</sup> —I.E., HOW TRULY TO LOVE.<sup>40</sup>

OUR DEBT TO GOD GREATLY EXCEEDS WHAT OTHERS CAN OWE US<sup>41</sup>. AFTER ALL, WE OWE EVERYTHING TO GOD<sup>42</sup>.

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“[THE CLERGY] WILL CONDEMN [THE SON OF MAN] TO DEATH AND WILL HAND HIM OVER TO THE [NATIONS<sup>43</sup>], WHO WILL MOCK HIM AND SPIT ON HIM, FLOG HIM AND KILL HIM. THREE DAYS LATER HE WILL RISE.” MK 10:33,34NIV

CHRIST ACCEPTED A DEATH<sup>44</sup> THAT PLACED HIM IN THE ROLE OF THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICIAL OFFERING<sup>45</sup>. OUT OF LOVE FOR HIS FRIENDS<sup>46</sup>, HE TOOK THE CONSEQUENCE FOR THEIR<sup>47</sup> UNINTENTIONAL ERRORS<sup>48</sup>. DISCIPLES MUST NONETHELESS SHOW THEMSELVES WORTHY OF HIS SACRIFICE, BY FORGIVING OTHERS THEIR ERRORS<sup>49</sup>, UNINTENTIONAL AND OTHERWISE<sup>50</sup>.

PRIOR TO CHRIST’S CRUCIFIXION, THE DUTY OF HEBREW PRIESTS WAS TO ADMINISTER SACRIFICES ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE—IN ORDER THAT THEY RECEIVE FORGIVENESS FOR THEIR ERRORS. AS Y’SHUA TEACHES THAT WE CAN RECEIVE GOD’S FORGIVENESS FOR INTENTIONAL ERRORS DIRECTLY, AND BECAUSE Y’SHUA WAS THE FINAL SACRIFICE, INSTITUTIONALIZED PRIESTHOOD HAS BECOME REDUNDANT<sup>51</sup>.

REGARDING DISCIPLES’ INTENTIONAL ERRORS, NOT ONLY IS IT CRUCIAL TO OVERCOME (MASTER) THE RESULTING DISORIENTATION, BUT DOING SO CAN OCCUR IN A SPECIFIC TIME PERIOD<sup>52</sup>. Y’SHUA DEMONSTRATED THAT TIME PERIOD, BY BEING IN THE GRAVE THREE DAYS AND NIGHTS<sup>53</sup>.

“FOR AS JONAH WAS THREE DAYS AND THREE NIGHTS IN THE BELLY OF A HUGE FISH, SO THE SON OF MAN WILL BE THREE DAYS AND THREE NIGHTS IN THE HEART OF THE EARTH.” MT 12:40NIV

BECAUSE Y’SHUA WAS INNOCENT OF INTENTIONAL SIN, HIS THREE DAYS (IN THE GRAVE) WERE WITHOUT SUFFERING. IN CONTRAST, JONAH’S THREE DAYS DID INCLUDE SUFFERING, AS THEY WERE THE RESULT OF HIS REBELLION AGAINST GOD<sup>54</sup>. MOREOVER, JONAH’S THREE DAYS INVITED INTROSPECTION—A MERCIFUL ALTERNATIVE TO THE DEATH JONAH HAD EXPECTED<sup>55</sup>.

<sup>36</sup> THE PLANK IS IGNORANCE OF ONE’S OWN HYPOCRISY. WITHOUT AWARENESS OF OUR INCONSISTENCIES, WE CANNOT POINT OUT ANOTHER’S WEAKNESS, WITH THE APPROPRIATE ATTITUDE OF COMPASSION.

<sup>37</sup> OF THIS FUNDAMENTAL, THE RESURRECTED CHRIST WAS REMINDING THE DISCIPLES WHEN HE SAID: “IF YOU FORGIVE ANYONE HIS SINS, THEY ARE FORGIVEN; IF YOU DO NOT FORGIVE THEM, THEY ARE NOT FORGIVEN” JN 20:23NIV. THIS PASSAGE IS, HOWEVER, A SNARE (SEE FOOTNOTE 153) TO THOSE WHO PRESUME TO SEE INTO THE HEARTS OF OTHERS. SEE ALSO, “Y’SHUA’S AUTHORITY TO JUDGE” #6.

<sup>38</sup> MK 12:30,31 #4A

<sup>39</sup> LK 10:42NAS: “...ONLY ONE THING IS NECESSARY” —THAT IS SPIRITUAL GROWTH.

<sup>40</sup> THE UPLIFTINGNESS—DESPITE THE PAIN—OF THE REPENTANCE/FORGIVENESS PROCESS, IS IMPLICIT IN MT 9:12,13NIV: “IT IS NOT THE HEALTHY WHO NEED A DOCTOR, BUT THE SICK....FOR I HAVE NOT COME TO CALL THE RIGHTEOUS, BUT SINNERS.”

<sup>41</sup> SEE THE PARABLE OF THE UNMERCIFUL SERVANT (MT 18:23-35).

<sup>42</sup> LK 14:33 #3C

<sup>43</sup> BOTH THE NIV AND THE NAS HAVE “GENTILES”, SEE FOOTNOTE 14.

<sup>44</sup> OVERCOMING HIS EMOTIONS (SEE MT 26:38,39) AND OBEDIENTLY ACCEPTING ABUSE, CHRIST EPITOMIZED THE WAY (JN 14:6, FOOTNOTE 3).

<sup>45</sup> SEE ISAIAH 53:10aNIV/NAS (THROUGH “...GUILT OFFERING...”).

<sup>46</sup> “GREATER LOVE HAS NO ONE THAN THIS, THAT HE LAY DOWN HIS LIFE FOR HIS FRIENDS. YOU ARE MY FRIENDS IF YOU DO WHAT I COMMAND.” JN 15:13,14NIV

<sup>47</sup> “...FOR THE TRANSGRESSION OF MY PEOPLE....” ISAIAH 53:8NIV/NAS—MY PEOPLE, MEANS, NOT ALL PEOPLE, BUT ONLY THOSE WHO CHOOSE TO OBEY GOD.

<sup>48</sup> “UNINTENTIONAL ERRORS”, MEANS: DISCIPLES’ ROLES IN THEIR OWN (OR OTHERS’) ERRORS, EITHER IN IGNORANCE, OR BECAUSE OF THE DISCIPLES’ FOLLOWING A GREATER TEACHING.

<sup>49</sup> DISCIPLES REMAIN LIABLE TO THE CONSEQUENCES OF THEIR ERRORS IF THEY DO NOT FORGIVE OTHERS (SEE MT 18:33-35).

<sup>50</sup> “FORGIVE US OUR DEBTS, AS WE ALSO HAVE FORGIVEN OUR DEBTORS.” MT 6:12NIV

<sup>51</sup> SEE MT 21:43.

<sup>52</sup> “AFTER TWO DAYS HE WILL REVIVE US; ON THE THIRD DAY HE WILL RESTORE US, THAT WE MAY LIVE IN HIS PRESENCE.” HOSEA 6:2NIV. “AFTER TWO [MORE] DAYS....” CAN MEAN THE SAME AS “...ON THE THIRD DAY [SINCE]...”—COMPARE NEXT FOOTNOTE.

<sup>53</sup> CHRIST RESURRECTED ON THE THIRD DAY AFTER BEING CRUCIFIED: “...IT IS THE THIRD DAY SINCE....” LK 24:21NIV/NAS

<sup>54</sup> SEE JONAH 1:3.

<sup>55</sup> JONAH 1:17-2:10

THE PROCESS OF “CONSCIOUS” REBELLION (INTENTIONAL SIN) AGAINST GOD, BEGINS WITH SEEKING WHAT ONE WANTS, WITHOUT DUE REGARD FOR WHAT HAS BEEN GIVEN (INCLUDING GOD’S DIRECTIVES) —INDICATING INGRATITUDE, AND REJECTION OF GOD. SUCH REBELLION CAUSES AN INDIVIDUAL TO BECOME PRESUMPTUOUS, SUBJECT TO OVER-EMOTIONALITY, AND RESISTANT TO THE TRUTH<sup>56</sup>.

WHEN THIS SEPARATION<sup>57</sup> (CAUSED BY CONSCIOUS REBELLION) OCCURS BETWEEN A PERSON AND GOD, THAT PERSON BECOMES VULNERABLE TO POSSESSION BY AN *EVIL*<sup>58</sup> *SPIRIT*. EFFORT IS THEN NECESSARY IN THAT INDIVIDUAL (UNTIL AT LEAST THE THIRD DAY AFTERWARDS), TO OVERCOME THE SEPARATION (AND ANY *EVIL SPIRIT*).

IF A PERSON ONGOINGLY FAILS<sup>59</sup> EVEN TO TRY TO IMPROVE HIS/HER SPIRITUAL STATE—AND THE *EVIL SPIRIT* LEAVES THAT (COMPLACENT OR APATHETIC) PERSON—S/HE COMES TO EXPERIENCE A *WORSE CONDITION*, WHICH Y’SHUA DESCRIBED:

“NOW WHEN AN EVIL SPIRIT GOES OUT OF A MAN, IT PASSES THROUGH WATERLESS PLACES SEEKING REST, AND DOES NOT FIND IT. THEN IT SAYS, ‘I WILL RETURN TO MY HOUSE FROM WHICH I CAME’; AND WHEN IT COMES, IT FINDS IT UNOCCUPIED, SWEEPED, AND PUT IN ORDER. THEN IT GOES AND TAKES ALONG WITH IT SEVEN OTHER SPIRITS MORE WICKED THAN ITSELF, AND THEY GO IN AND LIVE THERE; AND THE LAST STATE<sup>60</sup> OF THAT MAN BECOMES WORSE THAN THE FIRST.” MT 12:43-45NAS

FOR A DISCIPLE, AWARENESS OF THIS DYNAMIC PROMOTES SELF-VIGILANCE, AS WELL AS COMPASSION FOR MANY WHO, S/HE NOW SEES, DO NOT KNOW WHAT THEY ARE DOING<sup>61</sup>.

\* \* \* \* \*

EVEN THOUGH I WALK THROUGH THE VALLEY OF THE SHADOW OF DEATH, I WILL FEAR NO EVIL, FOR YOU ARE WITH ME; YOUR ROD AND YOUR STAFF, THEY COMFORT ME.  
PSALM 23:4NIV

THE ROD OF DISCIPLINE PROVIDES COMFORT—FOR THOSE THAT CHOOSE TO BE OBEDIENT TO THE SHEPHERD.

\* \* \* **# 6** \* \* \*

IN DAILY EXPERIENCE, WE NEED TO “JUDGE”, MEANING, ASSESS, YET HOW WE DO SO, DETERMINES HOW WE OURSELVES ARE JUDGED. Y’SHUA TELLS US:

“DO NOT JUDGE<sup>62</sup>, AND YOU WILL NOT BE JUDGED; AND DO NOT CONDEMN, AND YOU WILL NOT BE CONDEMNED; PARDON, AND YOU WILL BE PARDONED<sup>63</sup>.” LK 6:37NAS

“STOP JUDGING BY MERE APPEARANCES, AND MAKE A RIGHT JUDGMENT.” JN 7:24NIV

“YOU JUDGE BY HUMAN STANDARDS; I PASS JUDGMENT ON NO ONE.” JN 8:15NIV

Y’SHUA’S NOT PASSING JUDGMENT, MEANS, HE DID NOT CONDEMN<sup>64</sup> THE INDIVIDUAL.

“BUT EVEN IF I DO JUDGE, MY JUDGMENT IS TRUE; FOR I AM NOT ALONE IN IT, BUT I AND THE FATHER WHO SENT ME” JN 8:16NAS

“BY MYSELF<sup>65</sup> I CAN DO NOTHING; I JUDGE ONLY AS I HEAR, AND MY JUDGMENT IS JUST, FOR I SEEK NOT TO PLEASE MYSELF BUT HIM WHO SENT ME.” JN 5:30NIV

Y’SHUA’S DECISIONS WERE ALWAYS IN ACCORD WITH GOD’S STANDARDS<sup>66</sup>. HE TELLS US THAT HE DIDN’T COME HERE, SPEAK, JUDGE OR DO ANYTHING (EXCEPT LAY DOWN HIS LIFE) ON HIS OWN ACCORD<sup>67</sup>.

“...THE FATHER JUDGES NO ONE, BUT HAS ENTRUSTED ALL JUDGMENT TO THE SON....”  
JN 5:22NIV

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<sup>56</sup> ...“I AM THE WAY AND THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE.” JN 14:6NIV

<sup>57</sup> SEE ISAIAH CHAPTER 59, ESPECIALLY V.2: *BUT YOUR INIQUITIES HAVE MADE A SEPARATION BETWEEN YOU AND YOUR GOD, AND YOUR SINS HAVE HIDDEN HIS FACE FROM YOU SO THAT HE DOES NOT HEAR.* NAS

<sup>58</sup> THE WORD “EVIL”, TENDS TO BE SHUNNED BY PEOPLE TODAY BECAUSE IT PRESENTS THE URGENCY OF PEOPLE’S NEED FOR SPIRITUAL GROWTH—THEIR NEED TO SEEK AND ACT ON TRUTH, WHICH REQUIRES THEM TO CHANGE—AND PEOPLE GENERALLY SHUN THAT CHANGE.

<sup>59</sup> SEE THE PARABLE OF THE FIG TREE (LK 13:6-8) —IN WHICH Y’SHUA (THE CARETAKER) IS GIVING AN INDIVIDUAL (THE TREE) A MERCIFUL OPPORTUNITY TO FOLLOW THE TEACHINGS SO THAT S/HE MAY GAIN KNOWLEDGE (FRUIT).

<sup>60</sup> *THE LAST STATE* (RELATIVE TO THE FIRST), ISN’T NECESSARILY BEYOND REDEMPTION (SEE LK 8:27-36).

<sup>61</sup> FIGURATIVELY, THEY ARE SHEEP WITHOUT A SHEPHERD. SEE MT 9:36 & EZEKIEL 34:7-12.

<sup>62</sup> JUDGE—HERE MEANING AS MANKIND JUDGES—I.E., SUPERFICIALLY AND SUBJECTIVELY.

<sup>63</sup> THE GREEK TRANSLATES: “...RELEASE, AND YOU WILL BE RELEASED.”

<sup>64</sup> SEE JN 12:47,48 **#6B**.

<sup>65</sup> LITERALLY, *FROM MYSELF*:—ALSO IN JN 7:17, JN 8:28, JN 8:42, JN 10:18. JN 5:19 HAS, *FROM HIMSELF*.

<sup>66</sup> OR, GOD’S WORD—WHICH CHRIST SPOKE (JN 12:48 **#6B**)

<sup>67</sup> SEE JN 8:42 **#12**, JN 7:16 **#12** & “THE REASON MY FATHER LOVES ME IS THAT I LAY DOWN MY LIFE...NO ONE TAKES IT FROM ME, BUT I LAY IT DOWN OF MY OWN ACCORD.” JN 10:17,18NIV

ACCOMPANYING THIS *AUTHORITY TO JUDGE*<sup>68</sup>, Y'SHUA HAD THE ABILITY TO SEE INTO PEOPLE'S HEARTS/MINDS/SOULS—UNLIKE HIS DISCIPLES. THUS COULD HE ASCERTAIN THE REPENTANCE AND FORGIVINGNESS OF A PARTICULAR MAN, AND SO, ACCORDING TO GOD'S STANDARD<sup>69</sup>, TOLD THE MAN,

“...YOUR SINS ARE FORGIVEN.” MT 9:2NIV/NAS

ALL-SEEINGNESS ABOUT PEOPLE GAVE Y'SHUA LICENSE ALSO TO SAY, TO HIS PERSECUTORS,

“...I KNOW YOU, THAT YOU DO NOT HAVE THE LOVE OF GOD IN YOURSELVES.” JN 5:42NAS

\* #6B \*

AFTER Y'SHUA FORETOLD HIS CRUCIFIXION, A DISCIPLE SAID:

“NEVER, LORD!...THIS SHALL NEVER HAPPEN TO YOU!” MT 16:22NIV

—IN RESPONSE TO WHICH Y'SHUA MADE A PROFOUND JUDGMENT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOD'S STANDARDS:

...“GET BEHIND ME, SATAN! YOU ARE A STUMBLING BLOCK TO ME; YOU DO NOT HAVE IN MIND THE THINGS OF GOD, BUT THE THINGS OF MEN.” MT 16:23NIV

EVEN SO, Y'SHUA HADN'T CONDEMNED THIS WAYWARD DISCIPLE. Y'SHUA LATER SAID TO HIM:

“SIMON, SIMON, SATAN HAS ASKED TO SIFT YOU AS WHEAT. BUT I HAVE PRAYED FOR YOU, SIMON, THAT YOUR FAITH MAY NOT FAIL. AND WHEN YOU HAVE TURNED BACK<sup>70</sup>, STRENGTHEN YOUR BROTHERS.” LK 22:31,32NIV

Y'SHUA'S POSITION ON JUDGING THE WORLD WAS CONSISTENT WITH HIS POSITION ON JUDGING AN INDIVIDUAL. HE DIDN'T CONDEMN THE WORLD, YET HE DID TESTIFY IN REGARD TO ITS BEHAVIOR<sup>71</sup>.

...“FOR JUDGMENT I HAVE COME INTO THE WORLD...” JN 9:39NIV

“FOR GOD DID NOT SEND HIS SON INTO THE WORLD TO CONDEMN THE WORLD, BUT TO SAVE THE WORLD THROUGH HIM.” JN 3:17NIV

“AS FOR THE PERSON WHO HEARS MY WORDS BUT DOES NOT KEEP THEM, I DO NOT JUDGE HIM...THERE IS A JUDGE FOR THE ONE WHO REJECTS ME AND DOES NOT ACCEPT MY WORDS; THAT VERY WORD WHICH I SPOKE WILL CONDEMN HIM AT THE LAST DAY.” JN 12:47,48NIV

BECAUSE THE CHRIST'S ACTUAL TEACHING HAS BEEN REJECTED BY SECULAR AND RELIGIOUS LEADERS—POSITIONS HERE SYMBOLIZED BY, *THE RULER OF THIS WORLD*:

“NOW JUDGMENT IS UPON THIS WORLD; NOW THE RULER OF THIS WORLD WILL BE CAST OUT.” JN 12:31NAS

AGAIN,

“...THE RULER OF THIS WORLD HAS BEEN JUDGED.” JN 16:11NAS

\* \* \* \* \*

THE OLD TESTAMENT (OLD COVENANT) HAD PEOPLE OF ONE PARTICULAR NATION RESPONSIBLE FOR EACH OTHERS SINS (...PURGE THE EVIL FROM AMONG YOU. DEUTERONOMY 13:5, ETC.). THE NEW COVENANT<sup>72</sup> IS ABOUT PERSONAL SPIRITUAL GROWTH—WHICH DOES NOT INCLUDE HAVING AN UNDUE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THOSE WHO ARE NOT DIRECTLY AFFECTING THAT GROWTH.

...PETER...ASKED, “LORD, WHAT ABOUT HIM?”

JESUS ANSWERED, “IF I WANT HIM TO REMAIN ALIVE UNTIL I RETURN, WHAT IS THAT TO YOU? YOU MUST FOLLOW ME.” JN 21:22NIV

ON A DIFFERENT OCCASION, HE SAID TO OTHERS:

“WHY ARE YOU BOTHERING HER? SHE HAS DONE A BEAUTIFUL THING TO ME. THE POOR YOU WILL ALWAYS HAVE WITH YOU, AND YOU CAN HELP THEM ANY TIME YOU WANT. BUT YOU WILL NOT ALWAYS HAVE ME. SHE DID WHAT SHE COULD” MK 14:6-8NIV

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<sup>68</sup> “[THE FATHER] GAVE HIM AUTHORITY TO EXECUTE JUDGMENT, BECAUSE HE IS THE SON OF MAN.” JN 5:27NAS

<sup>69</sup> “FOR IF YOU FORGIVE OTHERS...YOUR HEAVENLY FATHER WILL ALSO FORGIVE YOU.” MT 6:14NAS

<sup>70</sup> THIS STATEMENT DOESN'T ENDORSE THE BOOKS “1 PETER” AND “2 PETER”.

THE BIBLE IS A COMPILATION OF WRITINGS WHICH INCLUDE BOTH TRUTH AND FALLACY. IN THE “NEW TESTAMENT”, SUBSEQUENT TO THE FOUR GOSPEL BOOKS, “ACTS” THROUGH “REVELATION” CONTAIN THE INTERPRETATION OF THE “CHRISTIAN” CHURCH, AND EMPHASIZE TEACHINGS OTHER THAN Y'SHUA'S. Y'SHUA URGES PERSONAL DISCERNMENT (LK 8:18 #7).

<sup>71</sup> “...I TESTIFY THAT WHAT IT DOES IS EVIL.” JN 7:7NIV

<sup>72</sup> Y'SHUA'S “DEATH” BROUGHT ABOUT THIS CHANGE. WE REMAIN, HOWEVER, CULPABLE OF COLLECTIVE SINS (SEE “UNINTENTIONAL SIN” #5), IF WE DO NOT ACKNOWLEDGE Y'SHUA BY ACTING ON WHAT WE HEAR FROM HIM. SEE JEREMIAH 31:30-34 FOR A REFERENCE TO THE ‘NEW COVENANT’.

\* \* \* # 7 \* \* \*

“...WHAT IS WHISPERED IN YOUR EAR, PROCLAIM FROM THE ROOFS.” MT 10:27NIV

GIVEN THE INTENDED OBSCURITY IN Y’SHUA’S MESSAGE, AS IN THE PARABLES THEMSELVES, ANY INTERPRETATION MUST BE CAUTIOUSLY ASSESSED BY Y’SHUA’S DISCIPLES:

...“THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE SECRETS OF THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN HAS BEEN GIVEN TO YOU, BUT NOT TO THEM.” MT 13:11NIV

“THIS IS WHY I SPEAK TO THEM IN PARABLES: THOUGH SEEING, THEY DO NOT SEE; THOUGH HEARING, THEY DO NOT HEAR OR UNDERSTAND.” MT 13:13NIV

“THE EYE IS THE LAMP OF THE BODY; SO THEN IF YOUR EYE IS [SINGLE<sup>73</sup>], YOUR WHOLE BODY WILL BE FULL OF LIGHT.” MT 6:22NAS

—EYE, MEANING, ORIENTATION; LIGHT, MEANING, KNOWLEDGE OF THE WAY, THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE<sup>74</sup>. MANY PEOPLE ASSUME THAT THEY, WITH EXPLANATIONS AND THE BENEFIT OF HINDSIGHT, HAVE THIS KNOWLEDGE. BUT IN FACT, NO ONE KNOWS UNLESS ACTIVELY ATTRACTED. Y’SHUA DID NOT INTEND TO BE OBSCURE TO FIRST-CENTURY JEWS ALONE:

“BUT TO THOSE ON THE OUTSIDE EVERYTHING IS SAID IN PARABLES....” MK 4:11NIV

“NO ONE CAN COME TO ME, UNLESS THE FATHER WHO SENT ME DRAWS HIM....” JN 6:44NAS

“...NO ONE CAN COME TO ME, UNLESS IT HAS BEEN GRANTED HIM FROM THE FATHER.” JN 6:65NAS

“...AND NO ONE KNOWS THE FATHER EXCEPT THE SON AND THOSE TO WHOM THE SON CHOOSES TO REVEAL HIM.” MT 11:27NIV

MOREOVER, SEEK AND YOU WILL FIND<sup>75</sup> IMPLIES PERSONAL EFFORT AND PERSEVERANCE—NOT RELIANCE ON OTHERS TO DO OUR SEEKING FOR US.

“THEREFORE CONSIDER CAREFULLY HOW YOU LISTEN.” LK 8:18NIV

FURTHER,

“FROM EVERYONE WHO HAS BEEN GIVEN MUCH, MUCH WILL BE REQUIRED; AND TO WHOM THEY ENTRUSTED MUCH, OF HIM THEY WILL ASK ALL THE MORE.” LK 12:48NAS

THUS WE’RE INFORMED THAT THE DUTY<sup>76</sup> OF THE TRUE DISCIPLE INCREASES. “THEY”, THE FATHER AND HIS SPIRIT OF TRUTH.

\* \* \* \* \*

...“I PRAISE YOU, FATHER, LORD OF HEAVEN AND EARTH, BECAUSE YOU HAVE HIDDEN THESE THINGS FROM THE WISE AND LEARNED, AND REVEALED THEM TO LITTLE CHILDREN. YES, FATHER, FOR THIS WAS YOUR GOOD PLEASURE.” MT 11:25,26NIV

\* \* \* # 8 \* \* \*

Y’SHUA SAID TO A SAMARITAN WOMAN:

...“BELIEVE ME, WOMAN, A TIME IS COMING WHEN YOU WILL WORSHIP THE FATHER NEITHER ON THIS MOUNTAIN NOR IN JERUSALEM....A TIME IS COMING AND HAS NOW COME WHEN THE TRUE WORSHIPERS WILL WORSHIP THE FATHER IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH, FOR THEY ARE THE KIND OF WORSHIPERS THE FATHER SEEKS.” JN 4:21,23NIV

BY ACKNOWLEDGING GOD IN ALL<sup>77</sup> OUR WAYS, WE WORSHIP HIM IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH. AND, AS WE ARE TAUGHT TO PRAY IN SECRET<sup>78</sup>, FROM WHERE CAME THE IDEA OF BUILDING CHURCHES IN WHICH TO WORSHIP? ARE NOT CHURCH BUILDINGS, LIKE OTHER WORLDLY TREASURES, SUBJECT TO DECAY AND THEFT?

“BUT STORE UP FOR YOURSELVES TREASURES IN HEAVEN, WHERE MOTH AND RUST DO NOT DESTROY, AND WHERE THIEVES DO NOT BREAK IN AND STEAL. FOR WHERE YOUR TREASURE IS, THERE YOUR HEART WILL BE ALSO.” MT 6:20,21NIV

<sup>73</sup> NAS HAS CLEAR. KING JAMES VERSION KJV HAS SINGLE—WE’VE JUST BEEN TAUGHT TO STORE OUR TREASURE IN ONE PLACE MT 6:19-21, AND WE’RE SUBSEQUENTLY TOLD WE CAN’T SERVE TWO MASTERS MT 6:24. ‘SINGLE’ MEANING, UNDIVIDED (VISION/FOCUS).

<sup>74</sup> ...“I AM THE WAY AND THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE.” JN 14:6NIV

<sup>75</sup> “ASK AND IT WILL BE GIVEN TO YOU; SEEK AND YOU WILL FIND; KNOCK AND THE DOOR WILL BE OPENED.” MT 7:7NIV

<sup>76</sup> “SO YOU ALSO, WHEN YOU HAVE DONE EVERYTHING YOU WERE TOLD TO DO, SHOULD SAY, ‘WE ARE UNWORTHY SERVANTS; WE HAVE ONLY DONE OUR DUTY’” LK 17:10NIV—UNWORTHY, THAT IS, OF RECEIVING EVERLASTING LIFE.

<sup>77</sup> “LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND AND WITH ALL YOUR STRENGTH.” MK 12:30NIV #4A

<sup>78</sup> “BUT WHEN YOU PRAY, GO INTO YOUR ROOM, CLOSE THE DOOR AND PRAY TO YOUR FATHER, WHO IS UNSEEN.” MT 6:6NIV

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“...ON THIS ROCK I WILL BUILD MY CHURCH, AND THE GATES OF HADES WILL NOT OVERCOME IT.” MT 16:18NIV

THIS WAS SAID TO THE DISCIPLE TO WHOM Y’SHUA HAD ALSO DECLARED, “YOU WILL BE CALLED [KEPHA<sup>79</sup>]”....(JN 1:42NIV). THE NAME “KEPHA” CAME FROM THE HEBREW/ARAMAIC WORD “KEPH”, MEANING, HOLLOW ROCK<sup>80</sup>.

INDEED, AFTER ESTABLISHING HIS CHURCH, Y’SHUA REBUKED “KEPHA”:

...“GET BEHIND ME, SATAN! YOU ARE A STUMBLING BLOCK TO ME; YOU DO NOT HAVE IN MIND THE THINGS OF GOD, BUT THE THINGS OF MEN.” MT 16:23NIV

THE FOUNDATION STONE BECAME—AND THE INSTITUTIONALIZED CHURCH CONTINUES TO BE—A STUMBLING BLOCK (OR, SNARE, SEE FOOTNOTE 153) TO THE CHRIST, NOT HAVING IN MIND THE THINGS OF GOD, BUT THE THINGS OF MEN.

HOWEVER, Y’SHUA SAID THAT *THE GATES OF HADES* (WHICH IS THE ENTRANCE TO DEATH), WILL NOT OVERCOME HIS TRUE CHURCH OF DISCIPLES: THOSE WHO WILL NEVER SEE DEATH<sup>81</sup>, BECAUSE THEY PRACTICE Y’SHUA’S TRUTH<sup>82</sup>—WHICH IS FOUND HIDDEN AMONGST WHAT IS DISTRIBUTED BY THE “CHURCH BUILT UPON HOLLOW ROCK”.

IN CONTRAST TO “HOLLOW ROCK”, IS *THE STONE* OF Y’SHUA’S TRUE TEACHING.

...“HAVE YOU NEVER READ IN THE SCRIPTURES: ‘THE STONE THE BUILDERS REJECTED HAS BECOME THE CAPSTONE; THE LORD [GOD] HAS DONE THIS, AND IT IS MARVELOUS IN OUR EYES.’” MT 21:42; PSALM 118:22,23NIV

*THE BUILDERS*, REFERS TO THE HEBREW CLERGY, YET THE STONE OF TRUTH HAS CONTINUED TO BE CONSIDERED UNWORTHY BUILDING MATERIAL, BY THE “CHRISTIAN” CLERGY.

\* \* \* # 9 \* \* \*

“...FATHER IN HEAVEN, HALLOWED BE YOUR NAME<sup>83</sup> ....”<sup>84</sup> MT 6:9NIV

\* \* \* \* \*

Y’SHUA SPECIFIED THE GATHERING IN WHICH HE HIMSELF PARTICIPATES:

“FOR WHERE TWO OR THREE COME TOGETHER IN MY NAME, THERE AM I WITH THEM.” MT 18:20NIV

IN MY NAME MEANS, IN Y’SHUA’S ORIENTATION, WHICH IS THE SAME AS THAT OF GOD<sup>85</sup>.

“FATHER....I HAVE REVEALED [YOUR NAME]<sup>86</sup> TO THOSE WHOM YOU GAVE ME OUT OF THE WORLD....AND THEY HAVE OBEYED YOUR WORD. NOW THEY KNOW THAT EVERYTHING YOU HAVE GIVEN ME COMES FROM YOU.” JN 17:1,6,7NIV

“HOLY FATHER, KEEP THEM IN YOUR NAME, THE NAME WHICH YOU HAVE GIVEN ME, THAT THEY MAY BE ONE EVEN AS WE ARE.” JN 17:11NAS

FOLLOWING A PARTICULAR TURNING POINT<sup>87</sup> WE, LIKE THE ELEVEN APOSTLES IN THE TIME AFTER Y’SHUA’S MINISTRY, COME TO KNOW THAT NAME—THE CUMULATIVE SPIRITUAL EFFECT<sup>88</sup> OF FOLLOWING Y’SHUA’S TEACHINGS, THEREBY GAINING HIS VALUES AND VIEWPOINT.

“UNTIL NOW YOU HAVE NOT ASKED FOR ANYTHING IN MY NAME.” JN 16:24NIV

—Y’SHUA SAID THIS TO THE ELEVEN APOSTLES JUST PRIOR TO HIS CRUCIFIXION. HE WAS EMPHASIZING THAT THEY HAD YET, FULLY, TO GRASP THIS NAME.

“IN THAT DAY....MY FATHER WILL GIVE YOU WHATEVER YOU ASK IN MY NAME....ASK AND YOU WILL RECEIVE, AND YOUR JOY WILL BE COMPLETE.” JN 16:23,24NIV

PRAYING FOR ALL DISCIPLES, Y’SHUA SAID:

<sup>79</sup> “CEPHAS”, “KEPHAS”, “PETER” AND “PETROS” ARE TRANSLATIONS OF “KEPHA”.

<sup>80</sup> INFORMATION FROM STRONG’S EXHAUSTIVE CONCORDANCE (STRONG’S) BY JAMES STRONG (NASHVILLE: CRUSADE BIBLE PUBLISHERS, N.D.)

<sup>81</sup> JN 8:51 #10C

<sup>82</sup> “...HE WHO PRACTICES THE TRUTH COMES TO THE LIGHT....” JN 3:21NAS.

<sup>83</sup> UNDERSCORING ON THIS PAGE IS ADDED FOR EMPHASIS.

<sup>84</sup> MT 6:9-13, THE “LORD’S PRAYER”, IS ABOUT GOD’S NAME, AND HOW TO MAKE IT OUR OWN.

<sup>85</sup> JN 5:43a #10C, & MT 28:19 #11

<sup>86</sup> THE WORDS FOR *YOUR NAME*, APPEAR IN THE GREEK (NIV FOOTNOTE).

<sup>87</sup> JN 14:20 #12

<sup>88</sup> THIS DYNAMIC IS DISCUSSED ALSO IN #12.

“RIGHTEOUS FATHER....I HAVE MADE [YOUR NAME]<sup>89</sup> KNOWN TO THEM, AND WILL CONTINUE TO MAKE [IT] KNOWN<sup>90</sup> IN ORDER THAT THE LOVE YOU HAVE FOR ME MAY BE IN THEM AND THAT I MYSELF MAY BE IN THEM.” JN 17:25,26NIV

SO IT FOLLOWS THAT:

“BLESSED ARE YOU WHEN MEN HATE YOU, WHEN THEY EXCLUDE YOU AND INSULT YOU AND REJECT YOUR NAME<sup>91</sup> AS EVIL, BECAUSE OF THE SON OF MAN.” LK 6:22NIV

“IF THEY PERSECUTED ME, THEY WILL PERSECUTE YOU ALSO. IF THEY OBEYED MY TEACHING, THEY WILL OBEY YOURS ALSO. THEY WILL TREAT YOU THIS WAY BECAUSE OF MY NAME, FOR THEY DO NOT KNOW THE ONE WHO SENT ME.” JN 15:20,21NIV

“IF THE HEAD OF THE HOUSE HAS BEEN CALLED BEELZEBUB, HOW MUCH MORE THE MEMBERS OF HIS HOUSEHOLD!” MT 10:25NIV

WHEN THEY DO:

“REJOICE IN THAT DAY AND LEAP FOR JOY, BECAUSE GREAT IS YOUR REWARD IN HEAVEN.” LK 6:23NIV

—  
“WOE TO YOU WHEN ALL MEN SPEAK WELL OF YOU, FOR THAT IS HOW THEIR FATHERS TREATED THE FALSE PROPHETS.” LK 6:26NIV

## \* \* \* # 10 \* \* \*

AS DISCIPLES OF Y'SHUA HAVE ONLY *ONE*<sup>92</sup> *LEADER*<sup>93</sup>, ANY TEACHING CONTRARY TO HIS DOES NOT LEAD TO ETERNAL LIFE<sup>94</sup>. BY CLAIMING TO PROMOTE THE CHRIST'S TEACHINGS, BUT ACTUALLY PROMOTING PRINCIPLES THAT CONTRADICT THOSE OF THE CHRIST, “CHRISTIAN” CHURCH LEADERS MISREPRESENT THE MESSAGE, ALTERING ITS SPIRIT—YET ACHIEVING SUPERFICIAL APPEAL. THIS DYNAMIC WAS FORESEEN AND INTENDED IN ORDER TO DISSEMINATE—QUIETLY, BUT EFFECTIVELY—THE TRUTH, WHICH IS UNPOPULAR:

“THERE IS NOTHING CONCEALED THAT WILL NOT BE DISCLOSED, OR HIDDEN THAT WILL NOT BE MADE KNOWN.” LK 12:2 & MT 10:26NIV

“AND THIS GOSPEL<sup>95</sup> OF THE KINGDOM WILL BE PREACHED IN THE WHOLE WORLD AS A TESTIMONY TO ALL NATIONS, AND THEN THE END WILL COME.” MT 24:14NIV

“...FOR WHOEVER IS NOT AGAINST US IS FOR US.” MK 9:40NIV

THOUGH, MORE SPECIFICALLY:

“HE WHO IS NOT WITH ME IS AGAINST ME, AND HE WHO DOES NOT GATHER WITH ME SCATTERS.” MT 12:30NIV

## \* #10B \*

“WATCH OUT FOR FALSE PROPHETS. THEY COME TO YOU IN SHEEP'S CLOTHING, BUT INWARDLY THEY ARE FEROCIOUS WOLVES.” MT 7:15NIV

“FOR FALSE CHRISTS AND FALSE PROPHETS WILL ARISE AND WILL SHOW ‘GREAT SIGNS’ AND ‘WONDERS’<sup>96</sup>, SO AS TO MISLEAD, IF POSSIBLE, EVEN THE ELECT.” MT 24:24NAS

ONE EXAMPLE OF A FALSE PROPHET IS SOMEONE WHO WITHOUT EVIDENCE<sup>97</sup>, TELLS OTHERS THAT THEY ARE “SAVED”<sup>98</sup>. IN CONTRAST, Y'SHUA TOLD “KEPHA” WHAT THE FOCUS SHOULD BE (WHEN “KEPHA” WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT THE FUTURE OF ANOTHER DISCIPLE):

“...WHAT IS THAT TO YOU? YOU FOLLOW ME.” JN 21:22NAS

—ILLUSTRATING ANOTHER DEVIATION IN "KEPHA'S" FOLLOWING (SEE MT 16:23, #8).

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<sup>89</sup> THE WORDS FOR *YOUR NAME*, APPEAR IN THE GREEK (NIV FOOTNOTE).

<sup>90</sup> SEE JN 17:20,21 #4B.

<sup>91</sup> THE UNDERSCORING ON THIS PAGE IS ADDED FOR EMPHASIS.

<sup>92</sup> ...“I AM THE WAY AND THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE. NO ONE COMES TO THE FATHER EXCEPT THROUGH ME.” JN 14:6NIV. AND: “I AM THE GATE; WHOEVER ENTERS THROUGH ME WILL BE SAVED.” JN 10:9NIV

<sup>93</sup> “...ONE IS YOUR LEADER, THAT IS, CHRIST.” MT 23:10NAS #1

<sup>94</sup> SEE MT 12:33 #14B.

<sup>95</sup> GREEK : GOOD NEWS. *GOSPEL*, IS FROM THE OLD ENGLISH WORD “GODSPEL” MEANING, GOOD NEWS.

<sup>96</sup> THE NAS DOES NOT INCLUDE THESE TWO SETS OF QUOTATION MARKS.

<sup>97</sup> SEE JN 10:37,38; JN 14:11,12a #14B. Y'SHUA ACKNOWLEDGES THE ROLE OF MIRACLES NOT ONLY IN ASSESSING THE AUTHORITY OF TEACHERS, BUT ALSO IN ASSESSING OUR OWN SPIRITUAL STATUS; SEE LK 10:20.

<sup>98</sup> REGARDING SUCH FALSE PROPHECY, GOD ADDRESSES THE INSTITUTIONALIZED CHURCH OF TODAY, AS WELL AS THE INSTITUTIONALIZED JUDAISM OF Y'SHUA'S TIME: “YOUR COVENANT WITH DEATH WILL BE CANCELED...” ISAIAH 28:18NAS.

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AN EXAMPLE OF TEACHING THAT CONTRADICTS Y'SHUA'S, IS THE ADVOCATING OF CHURCH HIERARCHY THROUGH TITLED ROLES, E.G., "OVERSEER" ("BISHOP", KJV) AND "DEACON", IN 1 TIMOTHY, CHAPTER 3. IN CONTRAST, Y'SHUA TEACHES:

"BUT DO NOT BE CALLED RABBI; FOR ONE IS YOUR TEACHER, AND YOU ARE ALL BROTHERS."  
MT 23:8NAS

RULERS AND GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS CLAIM TO SERVE THE PEOPLE; AS DO CHURCH "LEADERS".

..."THE KINGS OF THE [NATIONS] LORD IT OVER THEM; AND THOSE WHO EXERCISE AUTHORITY OVER THEM CALL THEMSELVES BENEFACTORS. BUT YOU ARE NOT TO BE LIKE THAT."  
LK 22:25,26NIV

THE BOOKS FOLLOWING THE FOUR GOSPEL BOOKS IN "THE NEW TESTAMENT" ACCOMMODATE SOCIAL CONDITIONING RATHER THAN THE TRUTH.

HUMAN PERSPECTIVE TO THE EXCLUSION OF GOD'S, IS TAUGHT<sup>99</sup> IN ACTS 20:35. NOT ACCURATELY REPRESENTING Y'SHUA'S ORIENTATION, ..."IT IS MORE BLESSED TO GIVE THAN TO RECEIVE", LACKS APPROPRIATE CONTEXT THAT HUMAN BEINGS CAN GIVE ONLY WHAT THEY THEMSELVES HAVE FIRST RECEIVED (BEEN BLESSED WITH) FROM GOD. THUS WHAT IS BEING ADVOCATED HERE IN "ACTS" IS *GIVING AS THE WORLD GIVES*<sup>100</sup> IN PLACE OF Y'SHUA'S WAY.

ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF TEACHING CONTRARY TO Y'SHUA'S IS ROMANS 13:1-7. IT TEACHES THAT EVERYONE MUST SUBMIT TO THE GOVERNING AUTHORITY "FOR HE IS GOD'S SERVANT TO DO YOU GOOD....THIS IS ALSO WHY YOU PAY TAXES, FOR THE AUTHORITIES ARE GOD'S SERVANTS...." NIV. HOWEVER, Y'SHUA INSTRUCTS US:

..."GIVE TO CAESAR WHAT IS CAESAR'S AND TO GOD WHAT IS GOD'S." MK 12:17NIV

—MEANING THAT, AS WE ARE TO SERVE GOD ONLY<sup>101</sup> AND CANNOT SERVE TWO MASTERS<sup>102</sup>, WE NEED PAY TO CAESAR ONLY IN ORDER NOT TO OFFEND<sup>103</sup>. IN REGARD TO JEWISH TAXATION OF THE TIME, Y'SHUA'S ATTITUDE WAS THE SAME:

"FROM WHOM DO THE KINGS OF THE EARTH COLLECT DUTY AND TAXES—FROM THEIR OWN SONS OR FROM OTHERS?"

"FROM OTHERS," ["KEPHA"] ANSWERED.

"THEN THE SONS ARE EXEMPT," [Y'SHUA] SAID TO HIM. "BUT SO THAT WE MAY NOT OFFEND THEM....GIVE IT TO THEM FOR MY TAX AND YOURS." MT 17:25-27NIV

\* #10C \*

Y'SHUA SAID TO HIS DISCIPLES:

"...THE HOLY SPIRIT...WILL TEACH YOU ALL THINGS AND WILL REMIND YOU OF EVERYTHING I HAVE SAID TO YOU." JN 14:26NIV

"...THE SPIRIT OF TRUTH...WILL GUIDE YOU INTO ALL TRUTH." JN 16:13NIV

THEREFORE, WITH Y'SHUA'S TEACHINGS IN MIND AND HEART, DISCIPLES ARE ABLE TO DISCERN DISPARATE TEACHINGS<sup>104</sup>.

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SPEAKING TO HIS PERSECUTORS, Y'SHUA SAID:

"I HAVE COME IN MY FATHER'S NAME, AND YOU DO NOT ACCEPT ME; BUT IF SOMEONE ELSE COMES IN HIS OWN NAME, YOU WILL ACCEPT HIM." JN 5:43NIV

ALL OF PAUL'S TEACHINGS<sup>105</sup> SHOULD HAVE AGREED WITH CHRIST'S TEACHING. WHEN THEY DID NOT, PAUL DID NOT TEACH IN Y'SHUA'S NAME<sup>106</sup>, BUT IN HIS OWN NAME<sup>107</sup>.

"HE WHO SPEAKS ON HIS OWN<sup>108</sup> DOES SO TO GAIN HONOR FOR HIMSELF...." JN 7:18NIV

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"MY FOOD...IS TO DO THE WILL OF HIM WHO SENT ME AND TO FINISH HIS WORK." JN 4:34NIV

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<sup>99</sup> THIS DYNAMIC OF PROJECTING THE VIEWPOINT OF PEOPLE, AS IF OF GOD, WAS SYMBOLICALLY PROPHESED BY Y'SHUA'S TURNING WATER INTO WINE (JN 2:2-9a).

<sup>100</sup> DISCUSSED IN #4

<sup>101</sup> MT 4:10 #2

<sup>102</sup> "NO ONE CAN SERVE TWO MASTERS. EITHER HE WILL HATE THE ONE AND LOVE THE OTHER, OR HE WILL BE DEVOTED TO THE ONE AND DESPISE THE OTHER. YOU CANNOT SERVE BOTH GOD AND MONEY." MT 6:24NIV

<sup>103</sup> "GIVE TO EVERYONE WHO ASKS YOU, AND IF ANYONE TAKES WHAT BELONGS TO YOU, DO NOT DEMAND IT BACK." LK 6:30NIV

<sup>104</sup> "...THEY WILL NEVER FOLLOW A STRANGER; IN FACT, THEY WILL RUN AWAY FROM HIM BECAUSE THEY DO NOT RECOGNIZE A STRANGER'S VOICE." JN 10:5NIV

<sup>105</sup> PAUL IS ACKNOWLEDGED AS WRITING MUCH OF WHAT COMES AFTER THE FOUR GOSPEL BOOKS IN THE "NEW TESTAMENT".

<sup>106</sup> OR, "IN Y'SHUA'S ORIENTATION", DISCUSSED IN #9.

<sup>107</sup> BY PAUL'S CLAIMING THAT THE NAME IN WHICH HE TAUGHT, WAS Y'SHUA'S, PAUL MISUSED THE NAME OF GOD. SEE EXODUS 20:7.

<sup>108</sup> "...THE SPIRIT OF TRUTH...WILL NOT SPEAK ON [ITS] OWN; [IT] WILL SPEAK ONLY WHAT [IT] HEARS...." JN 16:13NIV—IN THIS VERSE, MALE PRONOUNS HAVE BEEN REPLACED, AS THE GREEK PRONOUNS INTRODUCING THE SPIRIT OF TRUTH (JN 14:17) EMPHASIZE THE NEUTER GENDER.

Y'SHUA TEACHES THAT HIS OWN GOD-GIVEN TEACHING WAS COMPLETE AND SUFFICIENT.

“FATHER....I HAVE BROUGHT YOU GLORY ON EARTH BY COMPLETING THE WORK YOU GAVE ME TO DO.” JN 17:1,4NIV

“I TELL YOU THE TRUTH, IF ANYONE KEEPS MY WORD, HE WILL NEVER SEE DEATH.” JN 8:51NIV

\* #10D \*

“HOW CAN YOU SAY TO YOUR BROTHER, ‘BROTHER, LET ME TAKE THE SPECK OUT OF YOUR EYE,’ WHEN YOU YOURSELF FAIL TO SEE THE PLANK IN YOUR OWN EYE?” LK 6:42NIV

Y'SHUA REGARDED THE JEWISH RELIGIOUS LEADERS WHO WERE HIS CONTEMPORARIES AS UNSEEING AND HYPOCRITICAL:

“...THEY ARE BLIND GUIDES OF THE BLIND.” MT 15:14NAS

...“IF YOU WERE BLIND, YOU WOULD NOT BE GUILTY OF SIN; BUT NOW THAT YOU CLAIM YOU CAN SEE, YOUR GUILT REMAINS.” JN 9:41NIV

“YOU SHUT THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IN MEN'S FACES. YOU YOURSELVES DO NOT ENTER, NOR WILL YOU LET THOSE ENTER WHO ARE TRYING TO.” MT 23:13NIV

“YOU TRAVEL OVER LAND AND SEA TO WIN A SINGLE CONVERT, AND WHEN HE BECOMES ONE, YOU MAKE HIM TWICE AS MUCH A SON OF HELL AS YOU ARE.” MT 23:15NIV

“SUCH MEN WILL BE PUNISHED MOST SEVERELY.” LK 20:47NIV

Y'SHUA WARNED AGAINST THE SPREAD OF HYPOCRISY:

“BE ON YOUR GUARD AGAINST THE YEAST OF THE PHARISEES, WHICH IS HYPOCRISY.” LK 12:1NIV

ALSO RELEVANT TODAY:

...“YOU HAVE A FINE WAY OF SETTING ASIDE THE COMMANDS OF GOD IN ORDER TO OBSERVE YOUR OWN TRADITIONS!” MK 7:9NIV

MOST “CHRISTIAN” DENOMINATIONS OBSERVE THE SABBATH ON SUNDAY, THE FIRST DAY OF THE WEEK. IN CONTRAST, GOD'S COMMANDS<sup>109</sup> SPECIFIED THAT THE DAY TO KEEP HOLY WAS THE SEVENTH DAY, SATURDAY. Y'SHUA, HOWEVER, FULFILLED THE SPIRIT OF THE COMMANDS—AND SET OUR EXAMPLE—BY DOING GOD'S WORK ALWAYS<sup>110</sup>, THEREBY, KEEPING EVERY DAY HOLY<sup>111</sup>.

SEEKING POLITICAL LEADERSHIP WITH VALUES DEPARTING FROM GOD'S TEACHING (SEE #2), PROMOTES A POWER BEFORE (OR BESIDES) GOD, CONTRARY TO THE COMMANDS<sup>112</sup> OF GOD.

REVERENCE (INCLUDING EMOTIONAL ATTACHMENT) FOR ANYTHING THAT DOES NOT SUPPORT GOD'S “ORIENTATION” —THE NAME<sup>113</sup> THAT Y'SHUA MADE KNOWN TO HIS DISCIPLES—IS CONTRARY TO THE SPIRIT OF GOD'S COMMANDS<sup>114</sup>.

PRESSURES ARE STRONG TO PRESERVE THE WORLD'S VALUES AS THEY ARE, HENCE, MANY PEOPLE'S UNWILLINGNESS TO RECOGNIZE OR ADMIT THE WORLD'S HYPOCRISY—OR TO TOLERATE INDIVIDUALS WHO LIVE GOD'S ALTERNATIVE.

“...A TIME IS COMING WHEN ANYONE WHO KILLS YOU WILL THINK HE IS OFFERING A SERVICE TO GOD. THEY WILL DO SUCH THINGS BECAUSE THEY HAVE NOT KNOWN THE FATHER OR ME.” JN 16:2,3NIV

YET,

“DO NOT BE AFRAID OF THOSE WHO KILL THE BODY BUT CANNOT KILL THE SOUL. RATHER, BE AFRAID OF THE ONE WHO CAN DESTROY BOTH SOUL AND BODY IN HELL.” MT 10:28NIV

“MANY WILL SAY TO ME ON THAT DAY, ‘LORD, LORD, DID WE NOT PROPHECY IN YOUR NAME, AND IN YOUR NAME CAST OUT DEMONS, AND IN YOUR NAME PERFORM MANY MIRACLES?’ AND THEN I WILL DECLARE TO THEM, ‘I NEVER KNEW YOU; DEPART FROM ME, YOU WHO PRACTICE LAWLESSNESS.’” MT 7:22,23NAS

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<sup>109</sup> EXODUS 20:8-11

<sup>110</sup> WHEN CRITICIZED FOR WORKING/HEALING ON THE SABBATH, Y'SHUA RESPONDED: “MY FATHER IS WORKING UNTIL NOW, AND I MYSELF AM WORKING.” JN 5:17NAS; SEE ALSO MT 5:17.

<sup>111</sup> SEE ISAIAH 58:13,14.

<sup>112</sup> “YOU SHALL HAVE NO OTHER GODS BEFORE ME.” EXODUS 20:3NAS/NIV; SEE ALSO 1 SAMUEL 8:6-8.

<sup>113</sup> THE NAME IS DISCUSSED IN #9.

<sup>114</sup> EXODUS 20:4-6

Y'SHUA SAID TO THE CLERGY OF HIS TIME:

“...YOU HYPOCRITES! YOU CLEAN THE OUTSIDE...FIRST CLEAN THE INSIDE<sup>115</sup> ...AND THEN THE OUTSIDE ALSO WILL BE CLEAN.” MT 23:25,26NIV

Y'SHUA HIMSELF DID NOT BAPTIZE<sup>116</sup> WITH WATER<sup>117</sup>. HOWEVER, HE CAME TO JOHN THE BAPTIZER IN ORDER THAT IT BE KNOWN THAT Y'SHUA, TOO, REPENTED<sup>118</sup> OF (UNINTENTIONAL<sup>119</sup>) SINS<sup>120</sup>. BUT JOHN—DUE TO HIS MISAPPREHENSION ABOUT THE MESSIAH'S “PERFECTION” —TRIED TO DETER Y'SHUA, SAYING:

“I NEED TO BE BAPTIZED BY YOU, AND DO YOU COME TO ME?”  
[Y'SHUA] REPLIED, “LET IT BE SO NOW; IT IS PROPER FOR US TO DO THIS TO FULFILL ALL RIGHTEOUSNESS.” MT 3:14,15NIV

JOHN THE BAPTIZER SAID TO THE CROWD, ABOUT Y'SHUA:

“I BAPTIZE YOU WITH WATER FOR REPENTANCE. BUT AFTER ME WILL COME ONE WHO IS MORE POWERFUL THAN I...HE WILL BAPTIZE YOU WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT AND WITH FIRE.” MT 3:11NIV

OUR EXAMPLE TO FOLLOW SPECIFICALLY, IS NOT Y'SHUA'S WATER BAPTISM<sup>121</sup> BY JOHN, BUT RATHER, Y'SHUA'S BAPTISM WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT, MEANING, COMPLETE OBEDIENCE TO THE FATHER'S WILL<sup>122</sup>—WHICH, FOR THE CHRIST, INCLUDED SUFFERING UNTIL DEATH.

Y'SHUA HAD SAID, SOMETIME AFTER HIS OWN WATER BAPTISM:

“BUT I HAVE A BAPTISM TO UNDERGO, AND HOW DISTRESSED I AM UNTIL IT IS COMPLETED!” LK 12:50NIV

OUR BAPTISM WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT PROGRESSES FROM HEARING Y'SHUA'S GOSPEL<sup>123</sup> (AND, CONSEQUENTLY, CHOOSING TO DIE TO WORLDLY VALUES<sup>124</sup>), TO LOVING Y'SHUA TRULY BY BEING OBEDIENT TO ALL HIS TEACHINGS<sup>125</sup>.

“I HAVE COME TO BRING FIRE ON THE EARTH, AND HOW I WISH IT WERE ALREADY KINDLED!” LK 12:49NIV

Y'SHUA'S WAY<sup>126</sup> IN ITS ENTIRETY—REACHING ITS FULL DEMONSTRATION<sup>127</sup> ONLY WHEN Y'SHUA PHYSICALLY DIED—OVERCOMES EVIL. THE BAPTISM WITH FIRE IS THE FORCE KINDLED UPON HIS CRUCIFIXION, THAT CONSUMES<sup>128</sup> OPPONENTS OF Y'SHUA'S TRUTH—LEAVING THOSE WHO'VE FULLY FOLLOWED Y'SHUA'S TEACHING, UNSCATHED:

“HE WHO BELIEVES IN ME WILL LIVE, EVEN THOUGH HE DIES; AND WHOEVER LIVES AND BELIEVES IN ME WILL NEVER DIE.” JN 11:25,26NIV

AS DISCIPLES NOW, WE BAPTIZE OTHERS BY EXEMPLIFYING AND ADVOCATING OBEDIENCE: IMMERSION IN GOD'S NAME (OR, “ORIENTATION”, DISCUSSED IN #9).

“GO THEREFORE AND MAKE DISCIPLES OF ALL THE NATIONS, BAPTIZING THEM IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER AND THE SON AND THE HOLY SPIRIT,<sup>129</sup> TEACHING THEM TO OBSERVE ALL THAT I COMMANDED YOU....” MT 28:19,20NAS

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<sup>115</sup> SEE MK 7:21-23 #4B.

<sup>116</sup> “BAPTIZE” MEANS, WASH CEREMONIALLY (“...THEY OBSERVE MANY...TRADITIONS, SUCH AS THE [BAPTIZING=GREEK] OF CUPS, PITCHERS AND KETTLES”, MK 7:4NIV) AND, BY IMPLICATION, FIGURATIVELY, TO IMMERSE (SEE BAPTIZE, SECOND REFERENCE IN MT 3:11, ABOVE; SEE ALSO BAPTISM, LK 12:50 #11).

<sup>117</sup> ...ALTHOUGH IN FACT IT WAS NOT JESUS WHO BAPTIZED, BUT HIS DISCIPLES. JN 4:2NIV

<sup>118</sup> “...I LIVE IN A HIGH AND LOFTY PLACE, BUT ALSO WITH HIM WHO IS CONTRITE AND LOWLY IN SPIRIT, TO REVIVE THE SPIRIT OF THE LOWLY AND TO REVIVE THE HEART OF THE CONTRITE.” ISAIAH 57:15NIV.

<sup>119</sup> “UNINTENTIONAL ERRORS” —DISCUSSED IN #5

<sup>120</sup> ON A LATER OCCASION, Y'SHUA SAID: “WHY DO YOU CALL ME GOOD? NO ONE IS GOOD EXCEPT GOD ALONE.” MK 10:18NAS

<sup>121</sup> “...I TELL YOU THE TRUTH, NO ONE CAN ENTER THE KINGDOM OF GOD UNLESS HE IS BORN OF WATER AND THE SPIRIT. FLESH GIVES BIRTH TO FLESH, BUT THE SPIRIT GIVES BIRTH TO SPIRIT.” JN 3:5,6NIV—BORN OF WATER (V.5), REPRESENTS, FLESH GIVES BIRTH TO FLESH (V.6). “THE SPIRIT GIVES LIFE; THE FLESH COUNTS FOR NOTHING. THE WORDS I HAVE SPOKEN TO YOU ARE SPIRIT AND THEY ARE LIFE.” JN 6:63NIV

<sup>122</sup> “...I ALWAYS DO WHAT PLEASES HIM.” JN 8:29NIV

<sup>123</sup> MT 13:23a #14A

<sup>124</sup> “...NO ONE CAN SEE THE KINGDOM OF GOD UNLESS HE IS BORN AGAIN.” JN 3:3NIV —Y'SHUA TEACHES THAT HIS VALUES ARE INCOMPATIBLE WITH WORLDLY VALUES IN THE SAME PERSON (SEE THE PARABLE OF THE WINESKINS, LK 5:37-39. AND SEE LK 14:26).

<sup>125</sup> JN 14:23a #4A, & MT 28:20a, ABOVE

<sup>126</sup> “...I AM THE WAY AND THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE.” JN 14:6NIV

<sup>127</sup> JN 19:30

<sup>128</sup> SEE JN 12:48 #6B.

<sup>129</sup> BAPTIZING IS ITSELF, TEACHING (THEM TO OBEY). SOME BIBLES (INCLUDING THE NIV) ADD THE WORD “AND” AT THIS POINT (THOUGH IT'S NOT REPRESENTED IN THE GREEK).

AS A HUMAN EXAMPLE, Y'SHUA ENCOURAGES US TO OVERCOME THE WEAKNESSES THAT PEOPLE GENERALLY REGARD AS INTEGRAL TO OUR BEINGS. THEN Y'SHUA'S ALL-SEEINGNESS<sup>130</sup> MOTIVATES US TO ACCEPT<sup>131</sup> HIS TEACHINGS IN ORDER TO OVERCOME THOSE WEAKNESSES—TEACHINGS THAT MAY OTHERWISE SEEM “UNREALISTIC”, EVEN “OUTRAGEOUS”. THE CHRIST'S COMBINATION OF MORTALITY AND DIVINITY, EMPATHY AND AUTHORITY, WERE NECESSARY TO CONVEY THE ENTIRETY OF THE WAY<sup>132</sup>, INCLUDING THE OVERVIEW OF LIFE BEYOND THIS WORLD.

THE QUESTION OF WHETHER OR NOT Y'SHUA, DURING HIS MINISTRY, WAS GOD HIMSELF, COULD BE CRUCIAL TO OUR APPLICATION OF CHRIST'S TEACHINGS. IF Y'SHUA HAD BEEN GOD HIMSELF, Y'SHUA'S TEACHING ON FOLLOWING HIM, COULD POSSIBLY BE MEANT ONLY LOOSELY, FOR GOD IS HARDLY A PRACTICAL EXAMPLE FOR US TO IMITATE OVERALL<sup>133</sup>. BUT AS A MAN, Y'SHUA PRECISELY SET OUR EXAMPLE.

Y'SHUA WAS ONE WITH GOD<sup>134</sup>; WE DISCIPLES, TOO, CAN BE ONE WITH GOD<sup>135</sup>, BY SHARING HIS “ORIENTATION”<sup>136</sup>—WHICH WE COME TO SEE,<sup>137</sup> THROUGH BEING FULLY OBEDIENT TO CHRIST'S TEACHING.

“WHOEVER SERVES ME MUST FOLLOW ME; AND WHERE I AM, MY SERVANT ALSO WILL BE.”  
JN 12:26NIV

IN DIFFERENT WAYS, DURING HIS MINISTRY, Y'SHUA WAS REPEATEDLY SHOWN TO BE A DISTINCT ENTITY, WHILE SHARING GOD'S SPIRIT:

...“MY FATHER, IF IT IS POSSIBLE, MAY THIS CUP BE TAKEN FROM ME. YET NOT AS I WILL, BUT AS YOU WILL.” MT 26:39NIV

“NO ONE KNOWS ABOUT THAT DAY OR HOUR, NOT EVEN THE ANGELS IN HEAVEN, NOR THE SON, BUT ONLY THE FATHER.” MK 13:32NIV

...“MY TEACHING IS NOT MY OWN. IT COMES FROM HIM WHO SENT ME.” JN 7:16NIV

“...I CAME OUT FROM GOD AND ARRIVED HERE, NOR HAVE I COME FROM MYSELF, BUT HE SENT ME. JN 8:42—(FROM GREEK)<sup>138</sup> WHY DO YOU NOT UNDERSTAND WHAT I AM SAYING? IT IS BECAUSE YOU CANNOT HEAR MY WORD.” JN 8:43NAS

“...THE FATHER IS GREATER THAN I.” JN 14:28NIV/NAS

...“FATHER, I THANK YOU....” JN 11:41NIV

Y'SHUA, DESCRIBED IN ISAIAH 53:1 (JN 12:38) AS BEING GOD'S ARM, NOW EXISTS, SINCE HIS ASCENSION<sup>139</sup>, IN THE SAME STATE OF GLORY HE HAD IN “OLD TESTAMENT” TIMES—AND HAD BEFORE THE WORLD BEGAN<sup>140</sup>.

Y'SHUA BECAME A MAN, FOR THE PURPOSE OF TEACHING (AND BEING AN EXAMPLE TO) THOSE WHO WOULD BECOME HIS FRIENDS<sup>141</sup>. Y'SHUA WAS ONE WITH GOD, BEFORE<sup>142</sup> AND AFTER THAT MINISTRY, TO THE DEGREE THAT THE FATHER CHOSE NOT TO BE GREATER THAN HE (SEE JN 14:28, ABOVE).

ONLY WHEN Y'SHUA CHOOSES TO INFORM US, THROUGH THE HOLY SPIRIT, WILL WE COME TO KNOW<sup>143</sup> WHEN WE ARE, OVERALL, IN Y'SHUA'S NAME<sup>144</sup>. THEN WILL WE REALIZE WHAT IT IS TO BE ONE WITH Y'SHUA AND THE FATHER<sup>145</sup>.

“IN THAT DAY YOU WILL KNOW THAT I AM IN THE FATHER, AND YOU IN ME, AND I IN YOU. HE WHO HAS MY COMMANDMENTS AND KEEPS THEM IS THE ONE WHO LOVES ME; AND HE WHO LOVES ME WILL BE LOVED BY MY FATHER, AND I WILL LOVE HIM AND WILL DISCLOSE MYSELF TO HIM.” JN 14:20,21NAS

<sup>130</sup> DISCUSSED IN #6A

<sup>131</sup> SEE JN 4:29.

<sup>132</sup> ...“I AM THE WAY AND THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE. NO ONE COMES TO THE FATHER EXCEPT THROUGH ME.” JN 14:6NIV

<sup>133</sup> IN MT 5:48, THE WORD TRANSLATED AS, “PERFECT” (“OF FULL AGE” —STRONG'S) WOULD BETTER READ, “MATURE”.

<sup>134</sup> “I AND THE FATHER ARE ONE.” JN 10:30NIV/NAS

<sup>135</sup> SEE JN 17:22,23—THE FOLLOWING KJV EXTRACT (OF V.23) IS CLOSEST TO THE GREEK: “...THAT THEY MAY BE MADE PERFECT IN ONE...”; MEANING: “...THAT THEY, WHEN MATURED, MAY BECOME ONE [WITH THE FATHER]”. NOT—UNITY WITH EACH OTHER—AS COULD BE CONSTRUED FROM THE NIV/NAS TRANSLATIONS.

<sup>136</sup> “BE MERCIFUL, JUST AS YOUR FATHER IS MERCIFUL.” LK 6:36NIV/NAS

<sup>137</sup> JN 14:8-11; ALSO, “HE WHO SEES ME SEES THE ONE WHO SENT ME.” JN 12:45NAS

<sup>138</sup> DIRECTLY TRANSLATED.

<sup>139</sup> JN 6:62 & 17:13a

<sup>140</sup> “AND NOW, FATHER, GLORIFY ME IN YOUR PRESENCE WITH THE GLORY I HAD WITH YOU BEFORE THE WORLD BEGAN.” JN 17:5NIV

<sup>141</sup> “YOU ARE MY FRIENDS IF YOU DO WHAT I COMMAND YOU.” JN 15:14NAS

<sup>142</sup> ...“BEFORE ABRAHAM WAS BORN, 'I AM!'” JN 8:58NIV, SEE FOOTNOTE 159.

<sup>143</sup> MT 11:27 #7

<sup>144</sup> OR, “IN Y'SHUA'S ORIENTATION”, DISCUSSED IN #9

<sup>145</sup> “...WE WILL COME TO HIM AND MAKE OUR HOME WITH HIM.” JN 14:23NIV

BY SEEKING Y'SHUA'S TEACHINGS WE ASK<sup>146</sup> FOR, AND ARE GIVEN, LIVING WATER—SPIRITUAL NOURISHMENT—THE HOLY SPIRIT<sup>147</sup>. BUT IT IS ONLY THROUGH A HIGH DEGREE (RELATIVE TO OUR INDIVIDUAL SPIRITUAL POTENTIAL<sup>148</sup>) OF PRACTICING Y'SHUA'S TEACHINGS<sup>149</sup>, I.E., DRINKING THE WATER, THAT WE RETAIN THAT SPIRIT:

“...BUT WHOEVER DRINKS THE WATER I GIVE HIM WILL NEVER THIRST. INDEED, THE [LIVING] WATER I GIVE HIM WILL BECOME<sup>150</sup> IN HIM A SPRING OF WATER<sup>151</sup> WELLING UP TO ETERNAL LIFE.” JN 4:[10],14NIV

\* \* \* # 13 \* \* \*

“JUST AS MOSES LIFTED UP THE SNAKE IN THE DESERT, SO THE SON OF MAN MUST BE LIFTED UP, THAT EVERYONE WHO BELIEVES IN HIM MAY HAVE ETERNAL LIFE.” JN 3:14,15NIV

MAJOR CROSS-REFERENCE BIBLES CROSS-REFER THIS PASSAGE TO NUMBERS 21:8,9, ERRONEOUSLY IMPLYING THAT THE INCIDENT OF MOSES' PUTTING A BRONZE SNAKE UP ON A POLE SYMBOLIZES CHRIST'S DYING ON A CROSS<sup>152</sup>.

WHILE THE ISRAELITES WERE WANDERING IN THE DESERT, THEY AGAIN AND AGAIN COMPLAINED BITTERLY AGAINST GOD AND, CONSEQUENTLY, WERE SENT DEADLY POISONOUS SNAKES. AFTER THEY REPENTED, GOD INSTRUCTED MOSES TO SET UP THE BRONZE IMAGE SO THAT WHEN ANYONE BITTEN LOOKED UPON IT, S/HE WOULD RECOVER.

THAT SAME BRONZE IMAGE, MADE TO BE A VEHICLE THROUGH WHICH HEALING CAME, BECAME A SNARE<sup>153</sup> TO THE ISRAELITES, AND WAS LATER DESTROYED, AS THEY HAD BEEN BURNING INCENSE TO IT<sup>154</sup>.

THE BRONZE SNAKE INCIDENT IN “NUMBERS”, IS COMMONLY REGARDED IN THE INSTITUTIONALIZED CHURCH AS AN EXAMPLE OF APPROPRIATE BELIEF<sup>155</sup>. HOWEVER, IF THIS PASSAGE WERE THE ONE TO WHICH Y'SHUA HAD REFERRED, IN EFFECT HE WOULD HAVE BEEN PROMOTING BLIND FAITH: BELIEVE AS THEY BELIEVED WHEN THEY LOOKED AT THAT BRONZE SNAKE, FOR—WITHOUT FURTHER ACTION—THEY LOOKED, WERE HEALED AND PERSISTED IN THEIR IGNORANCE.

IN JOHN 3:14,15 (ABOVE), THE PASSAGE TO WHICH Y'SHUA REFERRED IS EXODUS 4:4 (BELOW). AT THE SITE OF THE BURNING BUSH, ON THE MOUNTAIN IN THE DESERT, GOD TOLD MOSES (GOD BEING, I AM WHO I AM<sup>156</sup>) TO THROW DOWN A STAFF—WHICH THEN BECAME A SNAKE, AND HE RAN FROM IT. GOD THEN SAID:

...“REACH OUT YOUR HAND AND TAKE IT BY THE TAIL.” EXODUS 4:4NIV

MOSES BELIEVED, RETURNED, AND WAS OBEDIENT IN PICKING UP THE SNAKE—OVERCOMING HIS FEAR. THE SNAKE TURNED BACK INTO A STAFF IN HIS HAND.

IF WE HAVE CHOSEN TO DO GOD'S WILL<sup>157</sup>—BY HAVING LIFTED UP Y'SHUA'S TEACHINGS—WE WILL KNOW THAT Y'SHUA'S WORDS COME FROM I AM WHO I AM<sup>158</sup>.

...“WHEN YOU LIFT UP THE SON OF MAN, THEN YOU WILL KNOW THAT I AM HE<sup>159</sup>,NAS AND THAT I DO NOTHING ON MY OWN<sup>160</sup> BUT SPEAK JUST WHAT THE FATHER HAS TAUGHT ME.”NIV  
JN 8:28

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<sup>146</sup> ...“IF YOU KNEW THE GIFT OF GOD, AND WHO IT IS WHO SAYS TO YOU, ‘GIVE ME A DRINK,’ YOU WOULD HAVE ASKED HIM, AND HE WOULD HAVE GIVEN YOU LIVING WATER.” JN 4:10NAS

<sup>147</sup> “IF YOU THEN, BEING EVIL, KNOW HOW TO GIVE GOOD GIFTS TO YOUR CHILDREN, HOW MUCH MORE WILL YOUR HEAVENLY FATHER GIVE THE HOLY SPIRIT TO THOSE WHO ASK HIM?” LK 11:13NAS

<sup>148</sup> SEE MT 25:15-17,20-23.

<sup>149</sup> —THUS LEARNING “...THE WAY AND THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE.” JN 14:6NIV

<sup>150</sup> THE UNDERSCORING IS ADDED FOR EMPHASIS.

<sup>151</sup> SEE ISAIAH 58:11.

<sup>152</sup> SOME VERSIONS OF THE BIBLE DISTORT Y'SHUA'S MESSAGE, BY ACTUALLY ADDING TO HIS WORDS (E.G. “BRONZE” SNAKE) IN JN 3:14 IN ORDER TO CONVEY THIS INTERPRETATION (SEE JEREMIAH 8:8).

<sup>153</sup> “MAY THE TABLE SET BEFORE THEM BECOME A SNARE; MAY IT BECOME RETRIBUTION AND THEIR FELLOWSHIP BECOME A TRAP” PSALM 69:22NIV

<sup>154</sup> APPROXIMATELY 700 YEARS AFTER MOSES: [HEZEKIAH] BROKE INTO PIECES THE BRONZE SNAKE MOSES HAD MADE, FOR UP TO THAT TIME THE ISRAELITES HAD BEEN BURNING INCENSE TO IT. 2 KINGS 18:4NIV

<sup>155</sup> “FOR MY FATHER'S WILL IS THAT EVERYONE WHO LOOKS TO THE SON AND BELIEVES IN HIM SHALL HAVE ETERNAL LIFE....” JN 6:40NIV. SEE ALSO FOOTNOTE 137.

<sup>156</sup> GOD SAID TO MOSES, “I AM WHO I AM. THIS IS WHAT YOU ARE TO SAY TO THE ISRAELITES: ‘I AM HAS SENT ME TO YOU.’” EXODUS 3:14NIV

<sup>157</sup> “IF ANYONE CHOOSES TO DO GOD'S WILL, HE WILL FIND OUT WHETHER MY TEACHING COMES FROM GOD OR WHETHER I SPEAK ON MY OWN.” JN 7:17NIV

<sup>158</sup> “...UNLESS YOU BELIEVE THAT I AM HE, YOU WILL DIE IN YOUR SINS.” JN 8:24NAS

<sup>159</sup> SOME BIBLE TRANSLATIONS HAVE SIMPLY ‘I AM’ AT THIS POINT, IMPLYING THAT Y'SHUA IS THE “I AM WHO I AM” OF EXODUS 3:14 (FOOTNOTE 156) AND IS, THEREFORE, GOD HIMSELF. HOWEVER, NOTE THAT THE MAN BORN BLIND ALSO SAYS SIMPLY “I AM” (SEE JN 9:9—THE GREEK IS IDENTICAL). AN APPROPRIATE ALTERNATIVE TRANSLATION IS, THEREFORE: ‘IT IS I’ OR ‘I AM HE’—AS HERE IN THE NAS PORTION OF THE QUOTE.

<sup>160</sup> THE GREEK LITERALLY TRANSLATES: ‘FROM MYSELF I DO NOTHING’. THE NAS RENDERING, ‘I DO NOTHING ON MY OWN INITIATIVE’—COULD SUGGEST THAT Y'SHUA DID NOT USE HIS INITIATIVE. YET, THE SUBSEQUENT VERSE WHICH SAYS: “THE ONE WHO SENT ME IS WITH ME; HE HAS NOT LEFT ME ALONE, FOR I ALWAYS DO WHAT PLEASURES HIM.” JN 8:29NIV; IMPLIES THAT Y'SHUA DID TAKE THE INITIATIVE TO ALWAYS REMAIN IN THE FATHER BY NOT PURSUING HIS OWN DESIRES—SEE MT 26:39, PREVIOUS PAGE.

V.34 ...“MY FOOD IS TO DO THE WILL OF HIM WHO SENT ME AND TO ACCOMPLISH HIS WORK.  
V.35 DO YOU NOT SAY, ‘THERE ARE YET FOUR MONTHS AND THEN<sup>161</sup> COMES THE HARVEST’?  
BEHOLD, I SAY TO YOU, LIFT UP YOUR EYES AND LOOK ON THE FIELDS, THAT THEY ARE  
WHITE FOR HARVEST.

<sup>162</sup> V.36 “ALREADY HE WHO REAPS IS RECEIVING WAGES AND IS GATHERING FRUIT FOR LIFE  
ETERNAL; SO THAT HE WHO SOWS AND HE WHO REAPS MAY REJOICE TOGETHER. V.37 FOR  
IN THIS CASE THE SAYING IS TRUE, ‘ONE SOWS AND ANOTHER REAPS.’ V.38 I SENT YOU TO  
REAP THAT FOR WHICH YOU HAVE NOT LABORED; OTHERS HAVE LABORED AND YOU HAVE  
ENTERED INTO THEIR LABOR.” JN 4:34-38NAS

IN VERSE 35, Y’SHUA REVEALS TO DISCIPLES THE ARRIVAL<sup>163</sup> OF THE HARVEST: *THE KINGDOM OF  
GOD*<sup>164</sup>—HIS LONG PROPHESED PURPOSE FOR MANKIND<sup>165</sup>. Y’SHUA AND HIS DISCIPLES CAN NOW *REJOICE  
TOGETHER*, TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FULFILLMENT OF THIS HARVEST. THE SAYING ‘*ONE SOWS AND  
ANOTHER REAPS*’, APPLIES NOT ONLY TO Y’SHUA AS SOWER, BUT ALSO TO DISCIPLES (INITIALLY, REAPERS)  
AS THEY SOW<sup>166</sup> WHAT’S BEEN SOWN IN THEM.

THIS DYNAMIC FULFILLS PROPHECY THAT SOWERS AND REAPERS WILL WORK MAXIMALLY<sup>167</sup>, TO  
BRING ABOUT ABUNDANCE.

AS DISCIPLES, *OUR FOOD* (JN 4:34, ABOVE) IS TO DO OUR FATHER’S WORK BY OBEYING Y’SHUA’S  
COMMANDS<sup>168</sup>.

“...WORK...FOR THE FOOD WHICH ENDURES TO ETERNAL LIFE...” JN 6:27NAS

OUR WAGES (JN 4:36, ABOVE) ARE PHYSICAL FOOD<sup>169</sup>, AND, PROPORTIONATE TO WHAT WE’VE LEFT:

“...A HUNDRED TIMES AS MUCH IN THIS PRESENT AGE (HOMES, BROTHERS, SISTERS,  
MOTHERS, CHILDREN AND FIELDS—AND WITH THEM, PERSECUTIONS)...” MK 10:30NIV

AS REAPERS (*LABORERS*, LK 10:2, THIS PAGE), WE BEGIN *GATHERING FRUIT FOR LIFE ETERNAL* (JN  
4:36, ABOVE), BY ENDEAVORING TO UNDERSTAND FULLY, CHRIST’S MESSAGE (TO BECOME, EVENTUALLY,  
ONE WITH CHRIST). IT’S BY SHARING<sup>170</sup> AS WE LEARN, THAT WE FIRST PARTICIPATE IN DISSEMINATING THE  
MESSAGE THAT WILL BRING ABOUT GOD’S INEVITABLE<sup>171</sup> HARVEST: PEOPLE WITH FAITH.

THE *LABOR* (JN 4:38, ABOVE) OF PREPARING THESE *FIELDS* (JN 4:35, ABOVE) OF FRUIT FOR  
POTENTIAL BELIEVERS, IS CREDITED TO “OLD TESTAMENT” PROPHETS. Y’SHUA SOWED THE INITIAL *SEED*<sup>172</sup>.

“...THE ONE ON WHOM SEED WAS SOWN ON THE GOOD SOIL, THIS IS THE MAN WHO HEARS  
THE WORD AND UNDERSTANDS IT; WHO INDEED BEARS FRUIT AND BRINGS FORTH, SOME A  
HUNDREDFOLD, SOME SIXTY, AND SOME THIRTY.” MT 13:23NAS

—*FRUIT*, (ALSO JN 4:36, ABOVE) IS INITIALLY FOR—AND THEN FROM—THOSE WHO HAVE COME TO  
UNDERSTAND Y’SHUA’S MESSAGE, COMMUNICATED TO THEM INITIALLY THROUGH OTHERS’ DOING—AND  
TEACHING—*EVERYTHING* THE TEACHER COMMANDED<sup>173</sup>.

...“THE HARVEST IS PLENTIFUL, BUT THE LABORERS ARE FEW<sup>174</sup>”, THEREFORE BESEECH THE  
LORD OF THE HARVEST TO SEND OUT LABORERS INTO HIS HARVEST.” LK 10:2NAS

THE *HARVEST*, WHICH IS *PLENTIFUL*, IS OF AVAILABLE KNOWLEDGE ITSELF, OF Y’SHUA’S MESSAGE (SEE  
*FRUIT*, JN 15:8 #14B). WE ASK THE FATHER TO SEND OUT FELLOW *LABORERS*—THOSE WILLING TO SEEK  
THIS KNOWLEDGE THROUGH OBEDIENCE—BECAUSE SUCH WILLINGNESS IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR US TO  
IMPART.

...“WITH PEOPLE THIS IS IMPOSSIBLE, BUT WITH GOD ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE.”  
MT 19:26NAS

<sup>161</sup> THE UNDERSCORING IS ADDED FOR EMPHASIS.

<sup>162</sup> THIS PARAGRAPH BREAK IS NOT IN THE NAS.

<sup>163</sup> “...A TIME...HAS NOW COME...” JN 4:23NIV #8; SEE ALSO ISAIAH 60:4.

<sup>164</sup> “...THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS IN YOUR MIDST.” LK 17:21NAS

<sup>165</sup> SEE ISAIAH 49:6; ISAIAH 9:2,3; AND “PEOPLE WILL COME FROM EAST AND WEST AND NORTH AND SOUTH, AND WILL TAKE THEIR  
PLACES AT THE FEAST IN THE KINGDOM OF GOD.” LK 13:29NIV.

<sup>166</sup> SEE JN 12:24-26: WE MUST CHOOSE TO DIE TO OUR WILL—CONSCIOUSLY TO *DENY OURSELVES* (LK 9:23)—IN ORDER TO BE WHERE  
Y’SHUA IS, SPIRITUALLY: THEN WE, TOO, CAN SOW FROM OUR CROP (SEE MT 13:23).

<sup>167</sup> SEE AMOS 9:13; “INDEED THERE ARE THOSE WHO ARE LAST WHO WILL BE FIRST, AND FIRST WHO WILL BE LAST.” LK 13:30NIV.

<sup>168</sup> “IF YOU OBEY MY COMMANDS, YOU WILL REMAIN IN MY LOVE...” JN 15:10NIV

<sup>169</sup> “STAY IN THAT HOUSE, EATING AND DRINKING WHAT THEY GIVE YOU; FOR THE LABORER IS WORTHY OF HIS WAGES...” LK 10:7NAS

<sup>170</sup> “BUT I TELL YOU THAT MEN WILL HAVE TO GIVE ACCOUNT ON THE DAY OF JUDGMENT FOR EVERY CARELESS WORD THEY HAVE  
SPOKEN.” MT 12:36NIV

<sup>171</sup> AS THE RAIN AND THE SNOW COME DOWN FROM HEAVEN, AND DO NOT RETURN TO IT WITHOUT WATERING THE EARTH AND MAKING  
IT BUD AND FLOURISH, SO THAT IT YIELDS SEED FOR THE SOWER AND BREAD FOR THE EATER, SO IS MY WORD THAT GOES OUT  
FROM MY MOUTH: IT WILL NOT RETURN TO ME EMPTY, BUT WILL ACCOMPLISH WHAT I DESIRE AND ACHIEVE THE PURPOSE FOR  
WHICH I SENT IT. ISAIAH 55:10,11NIV

<sup>172</sup> SEE MK 4:26; *THE MAN SCATTERING SEED* IS Y’SHUA.

<sup>173</sup> “...TEACHING THEM TO OBEY EVERYTHING I HAVE COMMANDED YOU.” MT 28:20NIV

<sup>174</sup> “FOR THE GATE IS SMALL AND THE WAY IS NARROW THAT LEADS TO LIFE, AND THERE ARE FEW WHO FIND IT.” MT 7:14NAS

\* #14B \*

THE GREATER OUR GOD-GIVEN POTENTIAL<sup>175</sup>, THE GREATER KNOWLEDGE WE STAND TO GAIN, AND THE GREATER OUR RESPONSIBILITY BECOMES<sup>176</sup>.

“MAKE A TREE GOOD AND ITS FRUIT WILL BE GOOD, OR MAKE A TREE BAD AND ITS FRUIT WILL BE BAD, FOR A TREE IS RECOGNIZED BY ITS FRUIT.” MT 12:33NIV

GOOD FRUIT IS THE KNOWLEDGE THAT COMES FROM PRACTICING THE ACTUAL TEACHINGS OF Y’SHUA.

“MY FATHER IS GLORIFIED BY THIS, THAT YOU BEAR MUCH FRUIT....” JN 15:8NAS

“...BEAR FRUIT—FRUIT THAT WILL LAST. THEN THE FATHER WILL GIVE YOU WHATEVER YOU ASK IN MY NAME<sup>177</sup>.” JN 15:16NIV

WHATEVER YOU ASK, MEANS:

“...YOU CAN SAY TO THIS MOUNTAIN, ‘MOVE FROM HERE TO THERE’ AND IT WILL MOVE.” MT 17:20NIV

SUCH MIRACLES CONFIRM ONENESS WITH THE FATHER:

“BELIEVE ME THAT I AM IN THE FATHER AND THE FATHER IS IN ME; OTHERWISE BELIEVE BECAUSE OF THE WORKS THEMSELVES. TRULY, TRULY, I SAY TO YOU, HE WHO BELIEVES IN ME, THE WORKS THAT I DO, HE WILL DO ALSO....” JN 14:11,12NAS

—  
“LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE BEFORE MEN...THAT THEY MAY SEE YOUR GOOD WORKS, AND GLORIFY YOUR FATHER WHO IS IN HEAVEN.” MT 5:16NAS

THESE GOOD WORKS ARE NOT ACTS OF RIGHTEOUSNESS:

“BEWARE OF PRACTICING YOUR RIGHTEOUSNESS BEFORE MEN TO BE NOTICED BY THEM; OTHERWISE YOU HAVE NO REWARD WITH YOUR FATHER WHO IS IN HEAVEN.” MT 6:1NAS

GOOD WORKS, THEREFORE, ARE MIRACLES—REQUIRING FAITH; HOWEVER,

“...WHEN THE SON OF MAN COMES, WILL HE FIND FAITH ON THE EARTH?” LK 18:8NIV/NAS

\* \* \* # 15 \* \* \*

“...THOSE WHO ARE CONSIDERED WORTHY OF TAKING PART IN THAT AGE AND IN THE RESURRECTION FROM THE DEAD WILL NEITHER MARRY NOR BE GIVEN IN MARRIAGE....” LK 20:35NIV

THUS Y’SHUA DISCOURAGED MARRIAGE.

...“NOT EVERYONE CAN ACCEPT THIS WORD, BUT ONLY THOSE TO WHOM IT HAS BEEN GIVEN. FOR SOME...HAVE RENOUNCED MARRIAGE BECAUSE OF THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN. THE ONE WHO CAN ACCEPT THIS SHOULD ACCEPT IT.” MT 19:11,12NIV

Y’SHUA REGARDED BOTH MARRIAGE AND ADULTERY AS SEXUAL UNIONS. HE WASN’T THINKING OF INSTITUTIONALIZED MARRIAGE<sup>178</sup> WHEN HE SPOKE TO THE SAMARITAN WOMAN:

“...YOU HAVE HAD FIVE HUSBANDS, AND THE MAN YOU NOW HAVE IS NOT YOUR HUSBAND....”  
“SIR,” THE WOMAN SAID, I CAN SEE THAT YOU ARE A PROPHET.”  
JN 4:18,19NIV; SEE ALSO JN 4:29.

—SHE WOULD NOT HAVE REGARDED SOMEONE KNOWING PUBLIC INFORMATION, A PROPHET.

DEFINING MARRIAGE, Y’SHUA SAID:

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“...AND THE TWO WILL BECOME ONE FLESH<sup>179</sup>....SO THEY ARE NO LONGER TWO, BUT ONE. THEREFORE WHAT GOD HAS JOINED TOGETHER, LET MAN NOT SEPARATE.” MT 19:5,6NIV

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<sup>175</sup> “TO ONE HE GAVE FIVE TALENTS, TO ANOTHER, TWO, AND TO ANOTHER, ONE, EACH ACCORDING TO HIS OWN ABILITY; AND HE WENT ON HIS JOURNEY....THE ONE WHO HAD RECEIVED THE FIVE TALENTS CAME UP AND BROUGHT FIVE MORE TALENTS, SAYING, ‘MASTER, YOU ENTRUSTED FIVE TALENTS TO ME. SEE, I HAVE GAINED FIVE MORE TALENTS.’ HIS MASTER SAID TO HIM, ‘WELL DONE, GOOD AND FAITHFUL SLAVE. YOU WERE FAITHFUL WITH A FEW THINGS, I WILL PUT YOU IN CHARGE OF MANY THINGS; ENTER INTO THE JOY OF YOUR MASTER.’...THE ONE WHO HAD RECEIVED THE TWO TALENTS CAME UP AND SAID, ‘MASTER, YOU ENTRUSTED TWO TALENTS TO ME. SEE, I HAVE GAINED TWO MORE TALENTS.’ HIS MASTER SAID TO HIM, ‘WELL DONE, GOOD AND FAITHFUL SLAVE. YOU WERE FAITHFUL WITH A FEW THINGS, I WILL PUT YOU IN CHARGE OF MANY THINGS; ENTER INTO THE JOY OF YOUR MASTER....’” MT 25:15,20-23NAS

<sup>176</sup> “FROM EVERYONE WHO HAS BEEN GIVEN MUCH, MUCH WILL BE REQUIRED....” LK 12:48NAS

<sup>177</sup> OR, “IN MY ORIENTATION”, DISCUSSED IN #9

<sup>178</sup> AS MANKIND THINKS.

<sup>179</sup> GENESIS 2:24

GOD, HOWEVER, SEPARATES A COUPLE (SEE LK 18:29, BELOW), WHEN ONE OF THE TWO, ACTS, OR BOTH OF THEM ATTEMPT TO ACT, ON ALL OF Y'SHUA'S TEACHING.

WE ARE TO PRAY:

“...YOUR WILL BE DONE ON EARTH AS IT IS IN HEAVEN.” MT 6:10NIV

NEITHER THOSE IN HEAVEN NOR DISCIPLES ON EARTH MARRY, BECAUSE THEY HAVE NO NEED TO REPRODUCE:

“...THEY CAN NO LONGER DIE; FOR THEY ARE LIKE ANGELS [GREEK=MESSENGRS]. THEY ARE GOD'S CHILDREN....” LK 20:36NIV

SO, AS Y'SHUA ADVISED US NOT TO MARRY, IF WE HAVE SEXUAL RELATIONS WE ARE FULFILLING OUR OWN WILL, NOT GOD'S.

“...MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO ENTER THROUGH THE NARROW DOOR, BECAUSE MANY, I TELL YOU, WILL TRY TO ENTER AND WILL NOT BE ABLE TO.” LK 13:24NIV

“I TELL YOU THE TRUTH, ANYONE WHO WILL NOT RECEIVE THE KINGDOM OF GOD LIKE A LITTLE CHILD WILL NEVER ENTER IT.” MK 10:15NIV

IN THE “OLD TESTAMENT”, AFTER THE FLOOD, NOAH WAS TOLD, ...“BE FRUITFUL AND INCREASE IN NUMBER AND FILL THE EARTH”<sup>180</sup>. HOWEVER, Y'SHUA TEACHES THAT THE FRUITFULNESS THAT IS WANTED NOW IS SPIRITUAL:

“...BEAR FRUIT—FRUIT THAT WILL LAST.” JN 15:16NIV (ALSO QUOTED IN #14B)

ABOUT GIVING BIRTH TO AND NURSING A CHILD OF GOD, Y'SHUA SAID:

“...BLESSED RATHER ARE THOSE WHO HEAR THE WORD OF GOD AND OBEY IT.” LK 11:28NIV

Y'SHUA TEACHES US HOW TO BECOME DISCIPLES OURSELVES—AND TOWARD THAT END, IF WE HAVE CHILDREN, THAT WE DO WELL ACTUALLY TO LEAVE THEM:

“...NO ONE WHO HAS LEFT HOME OR WIFE OR BROTHERS OR PARENTS OR CHILDREN FOR THE SAKE OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD WILL FAIL TO RECEIVE MANY TIMES AS MUCH IN THIS AGE AND, IN THE AGE TO COME, ETERNAL LIFE.” LK 18:29,30NIV

## \* \* \* # 16 \* \* \*

SEXUAL RELATIONS DO NOT PROMOTE SPIRITUAL LOVE, SINCE THE NATURE OF SEXUAL RELATIONS INCLUDES SELF-GRATIFICATION (AS COMPARED WITH GIVING WITHOUT EXPECTING ANYTHING IN RETURN<sup>181</sup>). EVEN LONGING TO HAVE SEX WITH SOMEONE, IMPAIRS OBJECTIVITY FOR TRUE COMPASSION.

THE COST OF FAILING TO MASTER *LUSTFUL* THOUGHTS EFFECTIVELY IS INDICATED WHEN WE ARE TOLD THAT WE WOULD DO BETTER TO *CUT OFF* PARTS OF OUR BODY RATHER THAN LET THEM *CAUSE US TO SIN*<sup>182</sup>. YET IF WE WERE SIMPLY TO REMOVE THEM, OR TO AVOID ALL OBJECTS OF DESIRE, WE WOULDN'T NECESSARILY BE HOLISTICALLY FOLLOWING Y'SHUA'S TEACHING. Y'SHUA DIDN'T WANT THAT HIS DISCIPLES BE TAKEN FROM WORLDLY CHALLENGES<sup>183</sup>, BUT THAT TRUE DISCIPLES DISCOVER THAT WORLDLY CHALLENGES ARE NOT BURDENSOME—THAT IS, WHEN Y'SHUA'S TEACHINGS ARE APPLIED CORRECTLY. Y'SHUA, THE TRUTH, *OVERCOMES*<sup>184</sup> WORLDLY CHALLENGES:

“TAKE MY YOKE UPON YOU AND LEARN FROM ME...AND YOU WILL FIND REST FOR YOUR SOULS. FOR MY YOKE IS EASY AND MY BURDEN IS LIGHT.” MT 11:29,30NIV

MANY CLERICS AND THEOLOGIAN<sup>185</sup>, HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO UNDERSTAND<sup>186</sup> JUST HOW, PRACTICALLY SPEAKING, PARTICULAR ASPECTS OF Y'SHUA'S COMMANDS COULD BE *EASY* AND/OR *LIGHT*. CONSIDER:

“YOU HAVE HEARD THAT IT WAS SAID, ‘DO NOT COMMIT ADULTERY.’ BUT I TELL YOU THAT ANYONE WHO LOOKS AT A WOMAN LUSTFULLY HAS ALREADY COMMITTED ADULTERY WITH HER IN HIS HEART.” MT 5:27,28NIV

YET,

“...I TELL YOU THE TRUTH, EVERYONE WHO SINS IS A SLAVE TO SIN.” JN 8:35NIV

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<sup>180</sup> GENESIS 9:1NIV

<sup>181</sup> “IF YOU LOVE THOSE WHO LOVE YOU...AND IF YOU DO GOOD TO THOSE WHO ARE GOOD TO YOU...AND IF YOU LEND TO THOSE FROM WHOM YOU EXPECT REPAYMENT, WHAT CREDIT IS THAT TO YOU?” LK 6:32-34NIV

<sup>182</sup> —APPROXIMATES NIV (OR: *MAKE US STUMBLE*—APPROXIMATES NAS) MT 5:29,30

<sup>183</sup> “I DO NOT ASK YOU [FATHER] TO TAKE THEM OUT OF THE WORLD....” JN 17:15NAS

<sup>184</sup> “IN THIS WORLD YOU WILL HAVE TROUBLE. BUT TAKE HEART! I HAVE OVERCOME THE WORLD.” JN 16:33NIV

<sup>185</sup> ...“WOE TO YOU [EXPERTS IN THE LAW -NIV]...FOR YOU WEIGH MEN DOWN WITH BURDENS HARD TO BEAR....” LK 11:46NAS. Y'SHUA'S TEACHING FULFILLS *THE LAW*—MT 5:17.

<sup>186</sup> “...BUT NOW THAT YOU CLAIM TO SEE, YOUR GUILT REMAINS.” JN 9:41NIV

PRACTICING, AS WE ARE ABLE<sup>187</sup>, Y'SHUA TEACHINGS, WE FIND THAT SELF-RELEASING WITHOUT LUSTFUL THOUGHT IS INDEED POSSIBLE, AND ACCESSES<sup>188</sup> A FREEDOM THAT'S BEEN, FOR MANY, LONG HIDDEN<sup>189</sup>: RELIEF FROM SEXUAL TENSION IS TO EXPERIENCE *MERCY* FOR ONESELF, RATHER THAN CARRYING *BURDENS HARD TO BEAR* (HAVING INAPPROPRIATE FEELINGS OF PAIN AND GUILT IS TO ENDURE A FORM OF *SACRIFICE*).

"IF YOU HAD KNOWN WHAT THESE WORDS MEAN, 'I DESIRE MERCY, NOT SACRIFICE,' YOU WOULD NOT HAVE CONDEMNED THE INNOCENT." MT 12:7NIV

"DO NOT JUDGE, AND YOU WILL NOT BE JUDGED; AND DO NOT CONDEMN, AND YOU WILL NOT BE CONDEMNED; [RELEASE<sup>190</sup>], AND YOU WILL BE [RELEASED]." LK 6:37NAS

"BLESSED ARE THE MERCIFUL, FOR THEY WILL BE SHOWN MERCY." MT 5:7NIV

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"WHAT COMES OUT OF A MAN IS WHAT MAKES HIM 'UNCLEAN.' FOR FROM WITHIN, OUT OF MEN'S HEARTS, COME EVIL THOUGHTS:<sup>191</sup> SEXUAL IMMORALITY, THEFT, MURDER, ADULTERY, GREED, MALICE, DECEIT, LEWDNESS, ENVY, SLANDER, ARROGANCE AND FOLLY. ALL THESE EVILS COME FROM INSIDE AND MAKE A MAN 'UNCLEAN.'"  
MK 7:20-23NIV

..."WHY DO YOU ENTERTAIN EVIL THOUGHTS IN YOUR HEARTS?" MT 9:4NIV

WE CAN AVOID ENTERTAINING LUSTFUL THOUGHTS BY REDUCING SEXUAL TENSION/DESIRE/HUNGER<sup>192</sup> USING MASTURBATION.

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Y'SHUA, ADDRESSING THE SPIRITUAL PRACTICES OF GIVING, FASTING AND PRAYER:

"AND YOUR FATHER, WHO SEES WHAT IS DONE IN SECRET, WILL REWARD YOU." MT 6:18NIV

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..."IF YOU CONTINUE IN MY WORD, THEN YOU ARE TRULY DISCIPLES OF MINE; AND YOU WILL KNOW THE TRUTH, AND THE TRUTH WILL MAKE YOU FREE." JN 8:31,32NAS

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HOW CAN A YOUNG MAN KEEP HIS WAY PURE? BY LIVING ACCORDING TO YOUR WORD.  
PSALM 119:9NIV

## \* \* \* # 17 \* \* \*

Y'SHUA ACKNOWLEDGED JOHN THE BAPTIZER, WHO'D BEEN PREPARING PEOPLE FOR Y'SHUA'S MINISTRY:

"FOR JOHN CAME TO YOU TO SHOW YOU THE WAY OF RIGHTEOUSNESS, AND YOU DID NOT BELIEVE HIM...." MT 21:32NIV

JOHN'S MESSAGE STILL IS NOT BELIEVED:

"WHAT SHOULD WE DO THEN?" THE CROWD ASKED.  
JOHN ANSWERED, "THE MAN WITH TWO TUNICS SHOULD SHARE WITH HIM WHO HAS NONE, AND THE ONE WHO HAS FOOD SHOULD DO THE SAME." LK 3:10,11NIV

—WHICH IS CONSISTENT WITH THE SPIRIT OF Y'SHUA'S TEACHING TO SELL ONE'S POSSESSIONS AND GIVE TO THE POOR<sup>193</sup>, REFLECTED ALSO IN ISAIAH:

"...IF YOU SPEND YOURSELF IN BEHALF OF THE HUNGRY AND SATISFY THE NEEDS OF THE OPPRESSED, THEN YOUR LIGHT WILL RISE IN THE DARKNESS, AND YOUR NIGHT WILL BECOME LIKE THE NOONDAY." ISAIAH 58:10NIV

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<sup>187</sup> "...EACH ACCORDING TO HIS ABILITY." MT 25:15NIV—FOR THE COMPLETE PASSAGE, SEE FOOTNOTE 175.

<sup>188</sup> "WOE TO YOU EXPERTS IN THE LAW, BECAUSE YOU HAVE TAKEN AWAY THE KEY TO KNOWLEDGE. YOU YOURSELVES HAVE NOT ENTERED [THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN—MT 23:13 #10D], AND YOU HAVE HINDERED THOSE WHO WERE ENTERING." LK 11:52NIV

<sup>189</sup> DICTIONARIES OFTEN ERRONEOUSLY INCLUDE "MASTURBATION" AS A DEFINITION OF "ONANISM" (THE STORY OF ONAN IS FOUND AT GENESIS 38:9,10). CONSEQUENTLY, MASTURBATION HAS BEEN THOUGHT OF AS DISPLEASING TO GOD.

<sup>190</sup> *RELEASING* OTHERS FROM *BURDENS HARD TO BEAR*, PLACED UPON THEM BY MANKIND (SEE FOOTNOTES 185 & 63).

<sup>191</sup> THE NIV PUNCTUATION CHOICE HERE, IS A COMMA.

<sup>192</sup> MOSES: "HE HUMBLED YOU, CAUSING YOU TO HUNGER AND THEN FEEDING YOU WITH MANNA, ("MANNA" MEANS LITERALLY, WHAT IS IT?) WHICH NEITHER YOU NOR YOUR FATHERS HAD KNOWN, TO TEACH YOU THAT MAN DOES NOT LIVE ON BREAD ALONE BUT ON EVERY WORD THAT COMES FROM THE MOUTH OF THE LORD [GOD]" DEUTERONOMY 8:3NIV.

<sup>193</sup> LK 12:33 #3C

IN REGARD TO SHARING SHELTER, Y'SHUA TEACHES IN A PARABLE:

“...WHEN DID WE SEE YOU A STRANGER AND INVITE YOU IN...?”

“THE KING WILL REPLY, ‘I TELL YOU THE TRUTH, WHATEVER YOU DID FOR ONE OF THE LEAST OF THESE BROTHERS OF MINE, YOU DID FOR ME.’” MT 25:38,40NIV

THIS IDEA OF SHARING MAY SEEM CONTRADICTIONARY TO SELLING OR GIVING AWAY ONE’S POSSESSIONS, FOR IF WE HAD SOLD OUR HOUSE, HOW COULD WE INVITE A STRANGER IN? NONETHELESS, WE NEED TO DO, AS WE CAN, *EVERYTHING* THAT Y'SHUA COMMANDED<sup>194</sup>, NOT EXCLUDE SOME TEACHINGS IN ANTICIPATION OF FULFILLING OTHERS.

—

...“YOU OF LITTLE FAITH, WHY ARE YOU TALKING AMONG YOURSELVES ABOUT HAVING NO BREAD? DO YOU STILL NOT UNDERSTAND? DON'T YOU REMEMBER THE FIVE LOAVES FOR THE FIVE THOUSAND...?” MT 16:8,9NIV

“...DO NOT SET YOUR HEART ON WHAT YOU WILL EAT OR DRINK; DO NOT WORRY ABOUT IT.” LK 12:29NIV

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Y'SHUA'S MESSAGE RADICALLY DIFFERS FROM CONVENTIONAL CONCEPTS OF THE SPIRITUAL AND PHYSICAL. Y'SHUA'S MESSAGE WILL SEEM FOREIGN TO MOST PEOPLE AS THEY CONTINUE UNABLE TO UNDERSTAND WHERE THE SPEAKER IS COMING FROM, CONCEPTUALLY:

“...YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHERE I COME FROM OR WHERE I AM GOING.” JN 8:14NIV

“THE WIND BLOWS WHEREVER IT PLEASES. YOU HEAR ITS SOUND, BUT YOU CANNOT TELL WHERE IT COMES FROM OR WHERE IT IS GOING. SO IT IS WITH EVERYONE BORN OF THE SPIRIT.” JN 3:8NIV

\* #17B \*

AS WE MUST NOT “TEST GOD”<sup>195</sup>, NEITHER SHOULD WE TEST HIS PATIENCE<sup>196</sup>. THROUGH HIS SON Y'SHUA, GOD, IN EFFECT, HAS SAID<sup>197</sup>: CHOOSE TO DO THESE THINGS—AND LIVE.

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TRULY FOLLOWING THE CHRIST'S INSTRUCTION AND EXAMPLE IS TO ACCESS THE INSIGHTS AND SPIRITUAL SKILLS THAT HELP US ATTAIN HIS AND THE FATHER'S ORIENTATION<sup>198</sup>. BELIEVING IN Y'SHUA, THEREFORE, REQUIRES OBEDIENCE<sup>199</sup>.

“WHY DO YOU CALL ME, ‘LORD, LORD,’ AND DO NOT DO WHAT I SAY? I WILL SHOW YOU WHAT HE IS LIKE WHO COMES TO ME AND HEARS MY WORDS AND PUTS THEM INTO PRACTICE. HE IS LIKE A MAN BUILDING A HOUSE, WHO DUG DOWN DEEP AND LAID THE FOUNDATION ON ROCK. WHEN A FLOOD CAME, THE TORRENT STRUCK THAT HOUSE BUT COULD NOT SHAKE IT, BECAUSE IT WAS WELL BUILT. BUT THE ONE WHO HEARS MY WORDS AND DOES NOT PUT THEM INTO PRACTICE IS LIKE A MAN WHO BUILT A HOUSE ON THE GROUND WITHOUT A FOUNDATION. THE MOMENT THE TORRENT STRUCK THAT HOUSE, IT COLLAPSED AND ITS DESTRUCTION WAS COMPLETE.” LK 6:46-49NIV

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“THIS IS THE JUDGMENT, THAT THE LIGHT HAS COME INTO THE WORLD, AND MEN LOVED THE DARKNESS RATHER THAN THE LIGHT, FOR THEIR DEEDS WERE EVIL.” JN 3:19NAS

WHO IS AMONG YOU THAT FEARS THE LORD, THAT OBEYS THE VOICE OF HIS SERVANT, THAT WALKS IN DARKNESS AND HAS NO LIGHT? LET HIM TRUST IN THE NAME OF THE LORD<sup>200</sup> AND RELY ON HIS GOD. ISAIAH 50:10NAS

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<sup>194</sup> MT 28:20a, END OF #11

<sup>195</sup> SEE MT 4:5-7. *PUTTING GOD TO THE TEST*, MEANS, INAPPROPRIATELY TRYING TO "PROVE" GOD'S EXISTENCE, OR INAPPROPRIATELY TRYING HIS MERCY.

<sup>196</sup> ISAIAH 7:10-13

<sup>197</sup> JN 12:49,50 & 8:47

<sup>198</sup> OR, *NAME*, DISCUSSED IN #9

<sup>199</sup> “...THAT EVERYONE WHO BELIEVES IN HIM MAY HAVE ETERNAL LIFE.” JN 3:15NIV

<sup>200</sup> LITERALLY: *YHWH*