

Transcript – As a Man Thinks So He Is

All righty. Shabbat shalom. Here we are again, another week. It goes quick, right? I started on a series of messages, like I said, at least three, possibly four. Last week it was called *Defiling the Sanctuary* [should be *Violating the Sanctuary*]. This week it's going to be called *As a Man Thinks So He is*. I'm going to continue on the same pattern that we were talking about. Because in our Torah study that we just finished from Isaiah 1, like we said, it's a very scary thing to see Yahweh in Isaiah 1 saying *I hate your Sabbaths and your Feast days. I hate the calling to meeting.*

And it's not because Yahweh hates the Sabbath. The Sabbath glorifies Him. It glorifies Yahshua, the Master of the Sabbath. The Feast days tell His plan of salvation. It's the fact that the people were not coming with the right attitude. So, we started last week, in the first message, getting more into physical thing when we're appearing before Yahweh. I'll read what I read last week in 1 Corinthians 6 and verse 19.

1 Corinthians 6:19-20 *Or do you not know that your body is a sanctuary of the Holy Spirit in you, which you have from Elohim, and you are not of yourselves? You were bought with a price; then glorify Elohim in your body, and in your spirit, which belong to Elohim.*

So last week we focused mainly getting started on the physical because, like we said, the physical comes before the spiritual, and physical things that we need to, you could say, clean up, maybe, if we want to get close to Yahweh. Because again, you have to start somewhere. But today, I'm going to talk more about the mind, the thought pattern ... We talked a little bit last week: thought becomes action, action becomes sin, sin becomes death ... and just staying on the same pattern of **us being the sanctuary of Yahweh**, and the sanctity, like I was saying, that we **need** when we come.

It doesn't matter if you build a building, like we have here. There's congregations in the States that have done the same. It's a wonderful blessing if you have it, many people don't. In the Bible we see many people were meeting in living rooms, but the fact that on that Shabbat that living room, that room, is being sanctified for Yahweh's presence. In 1st Peter 2:5, He says:

1 Peter 2:5 *You also as living stones are being built into a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to YAHWEH through Yahshua Messiah.*

And do we realize **we are living stones? We're pillars in that temple.** And literally ... We went over this last week, when Yahshua said in John 2 He will destroy this temple, this sanctuary, and rebuilding in three days. And they said it takes 46 years to build, how can You rebuild it in three days? But He was talking about the sanctuary of His body. We went over from Ephesians 5 that **we are members of that body**, and like we see right here, *Do you not know your body is a sanctuary of the Holy Spirit?*

So literally what happens is when we come together, each of us as pillars, we're building the sanctuary of Yahweh. And then, when we give our opening prayer, what are we calling? We're calling for the Shekinah glory to come down and Yahweh's presence. Where was the presence? In the Ark of the Covenant. **So, it's like that temple—that sanctuary—each time we come together as a body is being put together.**

And that's why we see in Scripture that the Holy Spirit is given in earnest; it's given in down payment. Nobody is 100% spirit right now, except Yahshua of course, but we hope that we will be born again. **The first time we were born of flesh; and now, we have that seed of the Spirit, and we're growing in it. But, when He returns, we'll shed these earthly bodies, and we will be born again and completely be spirit.**

But the blessing that we get ... because we don't get this the other six days of the week, and we do get this on Shabbat. We get it when we come together on New Moons, and we get it on Holy Days ... **that as each of us are only part spirit and part flesh, we get all of that Spirit to come together. And that's why we each have different gifts, and we bring all those gifts together.** And like I said, then we call the Ark of the Covenant, we call Yahweh's Shekinah to come down, and it comes and it rests upon us.

And we know that His Spirit is living in each of us, so there's a great accountability that comes when we do that. And that's why the Bible says, **if somebody is going to defile that, you're defiling Yahweh; you're defiling**

His Spirit, you're defiling the only thing that really is life. Because we know that the wood in this building, and the boards on the wall, and everything else, the tables, they're all going to go. They're not going to be here for eternity, but the Spirit that's in us will live for eternity. So that's why it says *we are living stones, being built into a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to YAHWEH through Yahshua Messiah.*

So, like I said, there's a starting point. You don't walk into that room with short pants on. You don't walk into that room immodestly dressed. You don't walk into that room ... There's an accountability to get into the room, first of all, physically. But then also there's a greater spiritual accountability, as we read in Isaiah 1. Because we can come in physically, now, with all the right look and all the right garb, but if our heart is not right before Yahweh, it's not going to be acceptable. He's going to say, I hate it!

And that's what Israel was doing. They were doing the sacrifices to the letter. They were bringing the ritualistic way, but there was no change of heart. They weren't seeing that this was an avenue to lead somewhere else. And the same way that Yahweh has given us a ritual ... Remember, I said last week, He told Moses ... He didn't just say go build the thing, and then because your heart is right, I'll come and dwell there. He said, no, **you build it exactly like I'm telling you because this is a pattern from the heavenly.** There has to be judicial order. There has to be physical structure. But then He says also if the spiritual isn't there, if your heart isn't right, then all it is is going from one religion to another religion.

So, let's go to Deuteronomy 10. Because, what does Yahweh require of us? What does He require of us when we come together? Because like I said, it is a blessing. And that's why when I see, like I said, many brethren don't have congregations. They don't have brethren near. I have people write me all the time, "I'll travel 500 miles if you have a congregation," because they want to be near other brethren. And then there's brethren that have people 10 minutes away, and they don't want to travel ... they don't want to travel.

And do we realize what we're losing when, as pillars of and lively stones of this temple, we don't come together, each with our gifts to build the house of Yahweh every Shabbat, and allow His Shekinah to come down on us? Deuteronomy 10 and verse 11.

Deuteronomy 10:11 *And YAHWEH said to me Rise up! Go before the people, causing them to set forward, that they may go in and possess the land which I swore to their fathers, to give them.*

Comment: Exactly what we're here now. We're here at the end. We're here where Judah has been restored back to the Land. Ephraim is getting ready to be restored. And Yahweh is saying, I have to prepare you guys. You have to get ready. Because when Judah came, it was the physical. The physical comes before the spiritual. But, when Ephraim comes, it will be the return of Messiah, and the spiritual will come. So, now there has to be a greater accountability to it. And what does He ask that we need to do to be part of this?

Deuteronomy 10:12-13 *And now ... verse 12 ... Israel, what has YAHWEH your Elohim asked of you, except to **fear YAHWEH your Elohim, to walk in all His ways, to love Him, and to serve YAHWEH your Elohim with all your heart, and with all your soul; to keep the commandments of YAHWEH, and His statutes** what I'm commanding you today, for your good ... We drop down to verse 16.*

Deuteronomy 10:16 *And you shall circumcise the foreskin of your heart, and you shall not harden your neck any more ... Drop down to verse 20.*

Deuteronomy 10:20-21 *You shall fear YAHWEH your Elohim; you shall serve Him; and **you shall cleave to Him; and you shall swear by His name** ... Many people will say His name isn't even important. Where is our holiness? Where is our sanctity? Where is our mindset? Verse 21 ... **He shall be your praise, and He shall be your Elohim, who has done for you these great and fearful things which your eyes have seen.***

He will be your praise. Do we love Yahweh? Are we seeking Him with all our heart, our mind, our soul, and our strength? Is He our praise? You know I always say this ... of course, everybody likes a pat on the back sometimes. It's nice when people tell you you're doing something good, but it's not necessary. **Because everything we do, we're doing for one reason: We're doing it to serve Yahweh. And He is our praise.** And that's the glory we get when we serve someone, whether you're helping a poor person in the street, or you're helping an orphan or a widow, or anywhere you're serving in the congregation.

The whole point is the praise we get, the goodness we feel is because we're glorifying Yahweh, not because people are patting us on the back saying how good you are. Because as you go through life, you realize the same person patting you today is putting a knife in your back tomorrow. And like Yahshua said when they came, and He said He knew the spirit that was in man. And if you live long enough, you will know the spirit that's in man; and it's an evil spirit. Our human nature is not a good spirit.

So, like I said, although it's fine, nothing wrong with it, I think we should as the people of Yahweh ... and I teach this in leadership ... we should enhance people that are helping, people that are part of a team. You don't want people to get discouraged. But at the same rate, for true people of Yahweh, it's not necessary. Because all we're trying to do ... **We want to serve Yahweh with our heart, our soul, our mind, and our strength because that is our praise. He is our praise.** And we know that Yahweh sees everything. Love Yahweh with your heart, your mind, your soul, and your strength. John 4 and verse 24 says:

John 4:24 *Elohim is spirit, and the ones worshiping Him must worship in spirit and truth.*

Because you always hear "He knows my heart." You'll meet people and you'll tell them Yahweh's real name, and they'll still, "God ... God ... God ... God ... God ... God ... God ... God ... God ... God." And then you'll say, "But His name isn't God; His name is Yahweh." "Well, He knows my heart." But that's the problem. Your *heart is deceitful above all things, and "incurable"* is in the original. Some say "desperately wicked". You could put it either way; they mean the same thing. Jeremiah 17:9. But, yes, He knows your heart; and He knows it is evil. He knows our human nature is evil to the core.

And in times past Yahweh winked at our ignorances, but now He calls His men everywhere to repent because Yahweh is Spirit; and those that worship Him must worship in spirit and truth. In olden days they didn't have Yahweh's Spirit the way we do today. We do see in the First Covenant, we see certain people that had the Spirit of Yahweh. David had the Spirit of Yahweh. Certain others of the prophets, Samuel had the Spirit of Yahweh. And we'll see at times the Spirit of Yahweh came **upon** someone like Samson. He didn't have the Spirit of Yahweh, but it came **upon him**, and then he did something.

But today we have literally the Spirit of Yahweh not just guiding us, we have it living in us. We are literal children. He has begot us; the same way a mother and a father come together and have a child. That Yahweh has begotten us through His Spirit, and we are literally embryos of Him for His Kingdom. So, there's a greater accountability, and that accountability is we have to worship Him in spirit and truth. We can't just bring falsehood and lies, because it's not acceptable to Them.

So if Yahweh is giving us everything we need to be holy, then why aren't we? Why aren't we? And I hate to have to say it, but I travel all over the world and, unfortunately, in the times we're living in people are not seeking holiness overall. And we know it. We just read it in Isaiah 1. It's always a remnant ... a remnant ... a remnant.

What is a remnant? We know it could be as little as two; Joshua and Caleb were only two people out of some hundreds of thousands, if not millions. I don't like that number. That really scares me. Like I said, in my works in math, odd law of odds and probability, I don't like 50%, but I'll take it because it's one out of two. I certainly don't like two people out of 2 million. My chances of that is really scary. But anyway you look at a remnant ... It can be up to 10% sometimes, a remnant ... it's not a lot ... it's not a lot.

And I'm going to talk some today ... A couple weeks I'm going to give another message that I gave several years back, and I'm going to update it ... It was called *God of This World* ... to really show where this world is going to. And just from maybe about seven or eight years ago, when I gave that message, I cannot believe how fast things are going in the wrong direction in the world. And it's really scary to see it. But He's called us out of that world.

And one of the reasons that we're not, even though He gives us everything to be holy, that were not being holy is we're not seeking Him in all things. We're not striving to love Him with all our heart, our mind, our soul, and our strength. And like I said last week, there's a spirit of compromise that's out there. When you look at Isaiah 1 when it was talking about the diluted wine. What does that mean? It's diluted. It means there's a compromise; that it took something that was pure, and it was mixed. And whenever you mix something pure with something that's not pure, now it's not that it's half pure, it's defiled. It's very simple.

Haggai. Remember Haggai? If you take holy porridge in your skirt and you touch the unclean, does it make the unclean clean? No. But if you take holy porridge in your skirt and you touch the unclean, does it defile the clean? Yes. So, you can take a \$300 20-year Brunello bottle of wine, and if you dilute it with water, it's not that now it's half good. You've just destroyed it. The same with oil. Take good, good olive oil and mix it, half with olive oil and half with water, and what are you left with? Nothing. You're left with nothing. **So, we don't want to dilute the Spirit of Yahweh by compromising with the world. Because all we do when we do that is defile ourself.**

Many of the brethren are compromising with the world; and **we will never get the mind of Messiah with one foot in and one foot out.** It's that simple. **The world affects the way you think and the decisions you make.** And that's really what I want to focus on today, what's in here [pointing to the mind] because *as a man thinks, so he is.* I'm going to mention that many times in the next hour or so. Proverbs 14:14 says:

Proverbs 14:14 *The backslider in heart shall be filled with his own ways, but a good man away from himself.*

It's a really, really neat proverb. *The backslider in heart shall be filled with his own ways, but a good man away from himself.* See, somebody who is striving to be filled with the Holy Spirit, to be the person Yahweh wants to be, they know their human nature is evil and they're trying to strive away from themselves. But, yet, the backslider in heart will be filled with his own ways.

The backslider makes excuses why everything he's doing is correct; it's always somebody else. It's my husband, my wife, my teacher, my friend, my neighbor, all the way up to Yahweh, the plumber, whoever is around at the time. The backslider's always making excuses because he's not changing; because he's comfortable with the world, he's comfortable with the way the world is, and he doesn't want to change.

And that's the scary part. I've said this many times, that **when you go too much into the world ... like you are what you eat ... you become it.** And then, all of a sudden, you're it. You become that way. **You become so defiled, that you're part of it; and then it doesn't affect you anymore.**

The parable of the sower and the seed. The seed that's on the stony ground: These people that they come and they hear, and they're excited and they can't get enough, and they're listening to the messages, but they don't separate from the world. So, what happens? It gets further and further away until they're right back there again. And then there's excuses why their Sunday church actually isn't so bad, why Christmas really ... oh, they know it's not good. Okay, they took the Christmas tree away, but they're going to do it this way. And that spirit of compromise brings torture.

And if you look, one of the highest rates of suicide in the world are people who come to the truth and leave it, believe it or not. Because once you come to the truth, where else do you go? It's all downhill from there; and really, more than downhill, it's a one-way ticket to the Lake of Fire. And people, really, that know the right way and don't follow through with it, they torture themselves. You wind up torturing yourself.

So, again, *the backslider in heart will be filled with his own ways, but a good man away from himself.* The person who's trying to follow holiness, he knows his ways are not right. He knows what his human nature is, and he's striving every day of his life to change.

And that's why I say, we talked about it last week, the clothes you wear, the friends you have, the programs you watch, the sites you click, the music you listen to, are they drawing you closer to Yahweh or to the world? Like I said, the backslider's going to make every excuse in the world why it's okay. But just ask that one simple question: Is this "whatever" drawing me closer to Yahweh or closer to the world? Because it's your choice. We all have free choice, but that choice will affect how your mind is going to think, and what you're going to do, and, ultimately, where you will be at the end of eternity.

Are you grieved by the wicked world of Satan, or are you entertained by it? Must separate to have any chance to make the Kingdom. So again, I always to a degree understood where it talked about in the end time separation from the world and the mark of the beast, but not really until we're hitting the times. And we haven't even hit the worst times yet.

But at least where we are now ... and you see that gulf, like in Luke 16, Lazarus and the rich man, you see that gulf getting bigger and bigger; and it might have went from a little pond into a river into a lake, and now it's into

an ocean. We can see why in the end time it's either total separation or lose out on the Kingdom. It can't be in-between. Because the world has changed that much, and it becomes that much wicked. Proverbs 23, verse 7. *As a man thinks so he is:*

Proverbs 23:7a *For as he thinks in his heart, so he is!*

So really, **your thoughts represent who you are, what you will do, and what you will become.** *As a man thinks, so he is.* Your thoughts represent who you are, and what you will do, and what you will become. **And that's why I believe meditation is such an important tool of Yahweh.** Because reading is great. We have to read the Word. Praying, you can't survive without prayer. You need contact with Yahweh. Of course, fasting. Fasting is a great tool that comes in. We'll talk a little more of that in a little bit.

But meditation; you need time to analyze it. You need time, quiet time, to let Yahweh share with you what it means. What good is all the information in the world if none of it is analyzed? You become just like a computer. You're just storing information, but you're not really applying it. **So, you need time ... you need time for Yahweh to be able to talk to you.**

And like we know with the prophet Eliyahu, when he ran away to Mount Horeb and came before Yahweh, which I believe Yahshua was there, and the first thing They said is what are you doing here? He's in the middle of his job that he abdicated. But then Yahweh said again, it's the second time, what are you doing here? And he didn't hear Yahweh in the wind; he didn't hear Him in the hurricane; he didn't hear Him in the fire; it was that small, still voice—meditation. There's time you need by yourself, going out and just hearing Yahweh on your own.

Are your thoughts on Yahweh's Kingdom continually, or on yourself and worldliness? And it's a tough world, no doubt about it. The daily cares of life, we're warned about it, what Yahshua says. And if they were a warning 2,000 years ago, how much more now? So, I think Yahweh understands that it's a more complicated world than probably ever before. But, still, we don't want to get our focus off it.

That's why *as a man thinks, so he is.* What are your thoughts? Is it on the Kingdom of Yahweh, or on yourself and worldliness? How much time do you pray every day? And what are you praying for? Are you praying about the Kingdom? Are you praying about stop suffering of the poor, and the widow, and the orphan?

We just read in Isaiah 1, one of the things that Yahweh says, **He's against the people because they're not caring for the poor.** Are we callous to it because we see it so much? We've for years, and years, and years, you see the people dying in Africa, and this and that. And has it become part of just normality to us?

So, what are our prayers for? About Yahweh's Kingdom? Stopping suffering of poor, widow, orphan? Are we praying for Yahweh's leaders and His work around the world; bringing the Good News to all those? Do we pray for those that we see killed in war? We have many wars going on today. Do we cry and sigh daily for Yahweh to bring His Kingdom now? How fed up are we with this world?

Literally, remember in Ezekiel the 9th chapter, the ones that are sighing and crying for the abominations that are done in the earth. Are we doing that, and praying for Yahweh to bring His Kingdom? Or are our prayers simply for ourselves; give me this, give me that? *As a man thinks, so he is.* And your prayers, when you're talking ... Like I said, the sanctuary of Yahweh, the holiness, the sanctity if we come together ... **you get on your hands and knees, you go in that prayer closet and you put your head down, and you're literally entering into heaven. The angels are opening up that gate, and you have access to the only true Elohim of the universe.**

And when you get that access, and it's like, "Alright Dad, one of your kids are here." "Oh, okay. Put everything down. You have this hurricane going on there, hold the hurricane off; you know this storm over here, hold it off here. Tell Fidodoc wait a few minutes. My son is here; My daughter's here. Bring them in." And you're before His throne. What do you say? "Give me this ... give me that ... I can't pay the rent ... I can't do this ... I'm sick ... I'm out this?" Or are your thoughts His thoughts? Are you praying, Father, bring your Kingdom? Like He says, *as it is in heaven, let it be on earth.*

Do we get into detail on that? Do we pray for each specific part of the world, all the different countries where His work are going? There's different things. There's a different problems in South America than there are in Africa,

different problems in Asia. Are we praying fervently for Yahweh's Kingdom? Or are our prayers all centered around ourself? *As a man thinks, so he is.* Of course, it's people not just men. Matthew 12 and verse 33 says:

Matthew 12:33 *Either make the tree good and its fruit good, or make the tree corrupt and its fruit corrupt; for the tree is known by its fruit.*

Comment: I love that scripture because it's pretty plain. Truth is truth, lies are lies, and Yahweh knows the top from the bottom.

Matthew 12:33-37 *Either make the tree good and its fruit good, or make the tree corrupt and its fruit corrupt; for the tree is known by its fruit. Generation of vipers! How can you, being evil, speak good things? **For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.** The good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good things. And the evil man out of the evil treasures brings forth evil things. But I say to you, that **every vain word, whatever men may speak, they will give an account of it on Judgment Day. For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned.***

As a man thinks, so he is. Your words are simply the outward manifestation of what's in your heart. That's the thing: Sometimes people have more patience than others, so they have all these evil thoughts, and they just don't say them. So, somebody can be sitting there with a smile on their face, but what's going on in here [pointing to the mind]? But after a while, *out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaks.* What are our thoughts ... what are our thoughts? What are our words? **Your words are simply the outward manifestation of what's in your heart.** Psalm 12. Great Psalm.

Psalm 12:1-2 *[A Psalm of David.] Help, O YAHWEH, for the righteous ceases to be; for the faithful fail from among the sons of men. They speak vanity, each man with his neighbor; with flattering lips and a double heart they speak.*

Comment: You see it today in the churches all over the world. Right? They come to church all gaudied up, wanting to look nicer than the other. And then they come with this false smile, and they say hello, and then the minute they leave they're backstabbing, talking against each other, gossip, vanity.

Psalm 12:2-4 *They speak vanity, each man with his neighbor; with flattering lips and a double heart they speak. YAHWEH shall cut off all with flattering lips and the tongue that speaks great things; who say, We shall be strong by our tongue; our lips are our own; who is master over us?*

Comment: You see it all the way today. "Hey, I'll never follow a man ... I'll never do this ... I'll never do that." The boaster is the proud. They're strong with their lips. Their lips are their own; who is going to lord over us?

Psalm 125 *For the pain of the poor, for the sighing of the needy, I will now rise up, says YAHWEH; I will set in safety; he who pants for it.*

Comment: Like I said, are we grieved? I thought this years ago ... because I've had a great life. I haven't had a life of poverty and poor and all that other stuff ... but years ago, when I realized what's really going on in the world, I said how on earth can I be happy for my life when so many millions of people are suffering and don't have basic food, water? So, my prayers just can't be "Thank you Yahweh for making my life good," when all these other people are suffering. And every time we see Yahweh intervening, who's He intervening for? The underdog. He's intervening for the poor, the widow, the orphan, the ones who can't contend for themselves.

Psalm 12:5-6 *For the pain of the poor, for the sighing of the needy, I will now rise up, says YAHWEH; I will set in safety; he pants for it. The Words of YAHWEH are pure Words, like silver refined in an earthen furnace, purified seven times.*

Comment: We just saw the example of the dross, the leftover, the nothing of the silver coming out that He's saying; but here—His Words—the Words of Yahweh are pure words, like silver refined in an earthen furnace, purified seven times. Are our words pure? Are everything we say with a pure heart?

Psalm 12:7-8 *You shall keep them, O YAHWEH; You shall preserve them from this generation forever. The wicked walk around on every side, when evil is exalted by the sons of men.*

Just like Ecclesiastes, *when sentence is not brought speedily against an evil act, it's in the hearts of the sons of men continually to do evil.* And that's what you have today. Evil goes rampant. If you try to do something righteous, you'll get hit for it. Like He says, ***the wicked walk around on every side, when evil is exalted by the sons of men.*** And the sons of men are exalting every kind of evil you can imagine; and that's why Yahweh says *come out of her My people.* Don't partake in it. Seek after true righteousness.

Do your words give life or destroy it? Like I said, we are the people of Yahweh. We have His Spirit. And I know one of the greatest joys I get in my life, I have the blessing that I get the opportunity to counsel with many people throughout the year all over world. Half the time when people come with problems, they're things I could have never imagined in a million years. And half the time I have no idea what to say. So, what do you do? You pray to the Holy Spirit, and you're asking Him put words in my mouth.

And there's no greater joy that when Yahweh's Spirit can let words come out of your mouth that give life to somebody; that somebody who's distraught, maybe they're sick, maybe someone died, maybe they lost a job, and they're really distraught, and something that Yahweh's Spirit speaks through your mouth can give comfort to somebody.

How much better is that than cutting down, than gossiping, than talking against? Because what are you doing then? Then you're becoming the servant of Satan, not the servant of Yahweh. *As a man thinks, so he is. Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.* Are our words giving life, or are they destroying life?

Yahweh is the ministry of reconciliation. We're here to bring life. ***Yahshua said, I didn't come to destroy, but to give life more abundantly. And that's what we want to do. We want to encourage. We want to exalt, because the Holy Spirit can work through you.*** And like I said in the beginning, why isn't it working through so many? Because of compromise; because people are not submitting to Yahweh.

Last week we got into the physical. Today we're getting into the mental. Next week we'll get into the spiritual. But you have to take it in steps. There's a judicial order to it. Everything has got to be in unison if we want Yahweh to enter into our life. And we want to make sure, like I said, that our mind ... *as a man thinks, so he is* ... that our thoughts are on Yahweh's purity.

Psalm 12:6 *The Words of Yahweh are pure, like silver refined in an earthen furnace, purified seven times.*

Philippians 3 ... Philippians 3. Remember, *out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.* Philippians 3:13 and 14.

Philippians 3:13-14 *Brothers, I do not count myself to have reached the goal, but one thing I do, forgetting the things behind, and stretching forward to those things before, I press toward the goal to receive the prize of victory of the highest calling of Elohim in Messiah Yahshua.*

Comment: *One thing I do, forgetting the things behind, and stretching forward to those things before.* See, we all came from somewhere. Even the Apostle Paul came from somewhere not a good place. **But that's not the point—where we came from; the point is where we're going to.** And like Scripture says, and we'll read it in a minute, we should not even speak about the evil things that these people do or the evil things that we did. And sometimes we're proud of it, "Oh, I used to do this before I was called, "I used to do this." And it should be a shame to us. We should be ashamed of the former person.

It doesn't mean if a situation comes up ... Sometimes we go through things as a non-believer, that when somebody is coming into the faith, we can share something with them. And that's why we go through horrors in life sometimes, because we can say to someone, "Look, I went through this," "Hey, I used to be like that. This is how I overcame;" not bragging about the sins we did, but showing maybe the avenue that Yahweh gave us to overcome. But we have to make sure we're doing this: *Forgetting the things behind, and stretching forward to those things before, pressing toward the goal to receive the prize of victory in the calling of Elohim in Messiah Yahshua.* Verse 15.

Philippians 3:15-17 *Then as many as are perfect, think about these things; and if you think anything differently, Elohim will also reveal this to you. Yet as to where we have arrived, walk by the same rule, being of the same mind. Be fellow-imitators of me, brothers, and consider those walking this way, even as you have us for a pattern.*

Comment: So, that's the thing; when new people come in ... I know when I was a new believer, I knew where I came from and I didn't want no part of it; and I wanted to look for people in the congregation that were leaders, that were more mature than me, that were living righteous, and I wanted to emulate them. Today it's the opposite.

I mean, you don't know how many times people will write me for the very first time and say, "I'm just coming to faith, but I'm going to tell you where you're wrong." They have the answers. It doesn't matter you're a minister for almost 20 years, you're 32 years in the walk, you've studied these things from people who studied, who studied, who studied, and you learned this. People—sometimes they're brand new, a couple of months in and, all of a sudden, they're going to tell you where you're wrong.

And that's part of the age we live in, the Laodicean era—ruled by the people; the internet era. Because people don't have to come to leaders anymore for doctrine. They can go on the internet and get it from whoever. But the thing you can't get from the internet is emulation. The internet can give you a paper; you have no idea who wrote the paper, or whatever. But the way that you look in the Bible, the way that it's always been from the beginning of time—whether it was Moses through Joshua, going to Yahshua through the 12, to John through Polycarp—it was mentoring. It was always mentoring.

And mentoring takes time. It means you spend time with somebody. You teach them. They see how you do things. So it's not just the words, it's the actions. It's how somebody's doing it. It's learning from life, the way we're supposed to, from our parents, from our grandparents; and we've lost that in the kind of world we're living in. We lost the emulation of that. But we want to make sure that we're following that. We want to make sure we're emulating people in the faith.

Philippians 3:18-19 *For many ... Verse 18 ... For many walk as enemies to the torture stake of Messiah, of whom I told you before, and now even weeping I say it, whose end is destruction, whose god is their belly, and who glory in their shame, the ones thinking on earthly things.*

And unfortunately, a lot of times when somebody will come up to me with a paper, or a doctrine, or whatever, before I even get into that paper or doctrine, I want to see who the person is; because if they have a bad spirit, if they're living unholy lives, if they're aggressive, if they're prideful, to be honest I don't even want to read it. Because Yahweh doesn't work in those kind of people.

And that's what He says here, *some people who are enemies for the torture stake of Messiah, whose end is destruction, whose god is their belly, who walk in their shame, the ones thinking on earthly things. As a man thinks, so he is.* Nothing wrong with good food, right? But, is that where our thoughts are day and night? Where is our thoughts? Is it on the Kingdom of Yahweh, or is on the things of the world? Mark 7 and verse 18.

Mark 7:18 *And He said to them, Are you also so undiscerning? Do you not perceive that all that enters from the outside into the man is not able to defile him?*

Comment: Could get you sick. If you ate, maybe, some chicken yesterday and it was a little uncooked, or maybe it fell on the dirt or whatever and you ate it, you could get sick possibly from it, or if it wasn't clean; but it's not going to spiritually defile you. It could physically hurt your stomach, but it's not going to spiritually defile you.

Mark 7:18b-23 *Do not perceive that all that enters outside into the man is not able to defile him? This is because it does not enter into the heart, but into the belly, and goes out into the waste-bowl, purging the food. And He said, **That passing out of the man, it is that thing that defiles the man. For from within, out of the heart of men, pass out evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders** ... Remember, hatred is murder ... *thefts, greedy desires, iniquities, deceit, lustful desires, a wicked eye, blasphemy, pride, recklessness. All these things pass out from within and defile the man.**

Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. As a man thinks, so he is. How important is it to get control of our mind? **And that's the point. If you're in the world, and you're being bombarded daily with all these things of the world, that's what's going to go into your mind, and that's what's going to come out of your mouth, and that's what your hands are going to do.**

And that's why sanctification ... Like we said, that, yes, we physically want to look the part, but we also want to mentally think the part. And we are a sanctuary of Yahweh's Spirit; that the Almighty Creator of the universe has

chosen **you**, out of maybe 5 million people, **to put His Spirit in you, and dwell among you, and walk among you. And He says, I AM set apart, holy, you be set apart and be holy.**

And it's scary to me; that's one of the reasons why, as a person, I never did drugs. I grew up in the age where just about every one of the friends of mine from school did some kind of drug, everything from marijuana to who knows what. I never did it, never tried it. Because I never wanted to be in a situation where I didn't have control over my mind. I didn't want to be in that situation. It's the same here, you're talking about spiritual heroin; you're talking about giving your mind over to the world where you will not have control over it anymore.

Yahweh isn't a light switch that you turn on and off. Holiness is something you strive for to be in a relationship with Him, you strive for. And once you have that relationship you protect it with every ounce of your being. Because once you give your mind willingly over to Satan, you'll never get it back. I'm telling you; I'm dealing now with a couple of people that are going through some problems with demons, some of it demon possession; and there's some people I know that have had these problems for almost 30 years, and some aren't really bad people, some are friends of mine.

But, how? How could you have the Spirit of Yahweh and be tortured by a demon for 30 years? To the point where sometimes they want to kill themselves, the demons are putting thoughts in their mind, and this and that. **It's because they haven't sanctified themselves. It is impossible if you are sanctifying yourself by the Spirit of Yahweh that a demon can bother you for 30 years. It is impossible!** What does it say? **Resist the devil, submit to Yahweh, and he will flee from you.**

And if you're going through problems like this for 10, 20, and 30 years, there's something wrong there. You aren't submitting to Yahweh, and you certainly aren't coming out of the world. You're giving that demon an in. And like I said, after a while that you invite a spirit over and over and over into your mind—it doesn't matter whether it's through a song, whether it's through a video, whether it's through anything—you keep inviting that demon in, there's a point where he will live there, he will dwell in you; and all of a sudden you don't care anymore.

I've had people that have left the faith that were very good friends of mine, that I couldn't believe after they left ... Couldn't believe their mouth; couldn't believe the things they said. They were totally violated and back to the world. And you just don't care anymore.

Jacob have I loved, Esau have I hated. Why? Because Esau defiled the Spirit of Yahweh. Esau defiled his birthright. Esau didn't care about the Spirit of Yahweh dwelling in him and being the firstborn. And what did he do it for? Just like we said here, with the belly, he did it for one morsel of food. He did it because he had no self-control. He did it because, "I'm hungry; and I don't care about nothing. Give it to me now." Going toward the flesh ... going toward the flesh.

Our human nature is evil. Yahweh gives us a new spirit, but we must renew our heart and our mind daily. It's not just a one-time thing. **We have to renew our heart and renew our mind daily.** Because *out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks, and a man thinks, so he is.* And unfortunately, I hate to have to say this but it's true, I'm 32 years in this walk, there's never a point in your life until you die or the change comes that you can say, "Okay, I have 100% the mind of Yahweh. I don't have to work on it anymore."

Doesn't work that way. It does get easier every day. It gets easier every day, you get more of the mind of Yahweh, but **you will always—as long as we're living in this world—you will have to fight the world. And Satan will never stop trying to get in; but that's why you put fences around your world, and then he can't bother you.** But when you're part of the world, when you're compromising, you're giving him an in. You're giving him an in into your life.

Isaiah 58. We went over this a little bit in the Torah study. We want to go over the rest of it. When we're talking about the sanctuary of Yahweh, we're talking about coming and setting ourselves before Him. I think it's a great chapter.

Isaiah 58:1-3a *Call out with the throat ... Almost like when you're saying it over and over, you're getting a sore throat. And that's what Yahweh's saying ... Call out with the throat! Do not spare. Lift up your voice like the ram's horn! And declare to My people their rebellion, and their sins to the house of Jacob. Yet they seek Me by day,*

and desire knowledge of My ways. As a nation that has done right, and not forsaking the judgment of their Elohim, they ask Me about judgments of righteousness; they desire to draw near to their Elohim. They say, Why have we fasted, and You did not see? Why have we afflicted our soul, and You did not acknowledge ...

Comment: And I think sometimes people have the wrong concept of fasting. It's like we want an answer, "Okay, let's all fast." You don't fast for answers. Yahweh isn't some kind of machine. It's not like, "I'm going to fast Yahweh. You know what? I went hungry for 24 hours, now give me my answer." It's not like that. **You fast for one reason: You fast because you're trying to draw closer to Yahweh.** And if you look in biblical times, the way you draw closer to Yahweh is through time. Like I said, getting your mind on His mind.

And in biblical times, food took a lot of time. They didn't have microwave dinners back in Israelite time. So you didn't go in the freezer, pull out a dinner, stick it in the microwave, and then you eat. It took hours; it took all day to make your bread, to make your lentils, to make your whatever.

So when you're fasting, it really doesn't have anything to do about food, necessarily, it has to do about time. It has to do that I'm not going to put this toward worldly things; I'm going to focus on Yahweh. That's why I say, there's people, you're going to fast and you're going to go to work. What's the purpose? You're simply going hungry.

Fasting is about time. It's about dedicating time to Yahweh to seek His will, to get closer to Him. And the time for fasting is dramatic times most of the time. It's when things are so far off we better fast because you want to get right on the right line. It's not to demand things of Yahweh. It's not to tell Him, "I'm fasting. Give me this."

And that's what's happening here. People were fasting with the wrong attitude. They were saying, "Ooh, look. I went hungry." Like the parable of the Pharisee and the tax collector, "I fast twice in the week." What did Yahweh say? No, you didn't fast. You went hungry twice in a week. That's all you did. You went hungry from food. Because it has to be in the heart. It has to be simply that you're trying to draw closer to Him because you want His mind to speak to you; and that is the purpose of the fast.

Isaiah 58:3b-5 *Behold, on the day of your fast you find pleasure; and you drive all your laborers hard ... What is the purpose? ... Look! You fast for strife, and for debate, and you strike with the fist of wickedness. Do not fast as today, to sound your voice in the high place ... It's not about demanding ... Is this the fast I will choose, a day for a man to afflict his soul ... Is it simply to go hungry? ... To bow his head like a bulrush, and he spreads sackcloth and ashes? Will you call to this as a fast and a day of delight to YAHWEH?*

Comment: That's what they were doing, putting on ashes on their face, looking sad, "Everybody, look. I'm fasting."

Isaiah 58:6-7 *Is this not the fast I have chosen: to open bands of wickedness, to undo thongs of the yoke, and to send out the oppressed ones free; even that you pull off every yoke? Is it not to break your bread to the hungry, that you should bring the wandering poor home? When will you see the naked and cover him, and you will not hide yourself from your flesh?*

Comment: Like we're saying, this is what Yahweh is looking for. **He's looking for us to care for the oppressed. And if we can't physically go out and find people like this, then we should be praying for these people during our fast.** That's what Yahweh is looking for.

Isaiah 58:8-9 *Then your light shall break as the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; and your righteousness shall go before you; the glory of YAHWEH will gather you ... Like I said, it's not in your belly; it's in your mind. And fasting is simply to get other things away so you could focus on your mind to Yahweh; that's what He's looking for ... Then you shall call, and YAHWEH will answer; and you shall cry, and He will say, Here I am. If you put the yoke away from you, the pointing of the finger, and the speaking of vanity; ... Like I said, gossip.*

Isaiah 58:10-11 *and if you let out your soul to the hungry, and satisfy the afflicted soul; then your light shall rise in the darkness, and your gloom shall be as the noonday. And YAHWEH will always guide you, and satisfy your soul in the places, and make strong your bones. And you shall be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water whose waters do not fail ... Verse 13.*

Isaiah 58:13 *If you turn your foot away because of the Sabbath, from doing what you please on My holy day, and call the Sabbath a delight, to the holiness of YAHWEH, glorified ... Like we said, the sanctuary of Yahweh. This is something that's set apart for Him ... and shall glorify Him, to the holiness of not doing your own ways, from finding your own pleasure or speaking your own words.*

Comment: I've literally had people say, "I don't see why I couldn't go to a ball game on the Sabbath. Yahweh wants me to enjoy myself." You're seeking your own pleasure; that's not Yahweh's pleasure, going out to do something like that on the Sabbath. *Not finding your own pleasure or speaking your own words.*

Do we realize when the sun sets, the same way that I'm trying to set to you, when you walk in that door on Shabbat, and we're coming as the sanctuary of Yahweh with His Spirit in us, and we're asking His presence, we're calling down the Shekinah and we're saying, "Yahweh speak through us. Give to us this day. Glorify us, so we can glorify you," it's the same way when the sun is setting?

The sun is setting, and Yahweh is saying, "You are My children. I am sanctifying you for these 24 hours. And you're not to seek your own pleasure; you're not to speak your own words." And our words on Shabbat should be different. I mean, our words should always be glorifying Yahweh, glorifying Yahshua, but more particularly on Shabbat. It's a commandment. It's a commandment that we need to be watching what we're saying, and we need to make sure that our words are His words.

Isaiah 58:14 *then you shall delight yourself in YAHWEH. And I will cause you to ride on the heights of the earth, and make you eat with the inheritance of your father Jacob. For the mouth of YAHWEH has spoken it.*

So, here is the eternal inheritance that we get from doing this, from sanctifying, from setting this day apart. So, you see, it's a package deal. Why is Yahweh saying over there, *I hate your Sabbaths*? Because the people are coming defiled. Diluted wine—one foot in, one foot out. They're coming before Him doing ritualistic things of animals and thinking this is pleasing to Him, but there's no change of heart ... **there's no change of heart.**

And now He's putting His Spirit in us, and He's saying you can change. I'm giving you what you need to change, but you need to make the choice ... **you need to make the choice.** You need to guard that Spirit that's in you because *as a man thinks, so he is, and out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.* Titus 1:15 and 16.

Titus 1:15-16 *Truly, all things are pure to the pure, but nothing is pure to those being defiled and faithless, but even their mind and their conscience has been defiled. They possess [should be profess] to know YAHWEH, but by their works they deny Him, and they are abominable and disobedient, condemning every kind of good work.*

And, unfortunately, there's people like this even in the body of Messiah; that no matter what is being done, they're going to find the negative part to it; no matter what somebody's done, they're going to say something negative, condemning ... condemning ... condemning in every avenue. And like He says, *to the pure all things are pure, but to the defiled and the disobedient nothing is pure ... nothing is pure.* Do we see the good in things, or do we only see the evil? And are we making the right perception? Psalm 18, verse 23 ... Psalm 18 and verse 23.

Psalm 18:23-27 *For I was upright with Him and kept myself from my iniquity. And YAHWEH has returned to me according to my righteousness, according to the cleanness of my hands before His eyes. With the merciful You reveal Yourself as merciful; with the upright man You reveal Yourself as upright; with the pure You reveal Yourself as pure; and with the crooked, You appear perverse; For You will save an afflicted people; but You will bring down haughty eyes.*

And like I said, the people that are self-serving, the people that are not sanctifying themselves before Yahweh, in the end of the day, even Yahweh is the evil one. False perception will bring false procedure ... **false perception will bring false procedure.**

We're not to judge by appearance but by righteous judgment. When we see something, do we find out if it's true or not before we start making assumptions? Because, like I said, *out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks; as a man thinks, so he is.* And if we're constantly thinking things that may not be true without all the evidence, then we're defiling the sanctuary of Yahweh. False perception will bring false procedure.

2nd Corinthians 4 and verse 8. Because, to the people of Yahweh, to the people that are really loving Yahweh with all their heart, their mind, their soul, and their strength, even the things we go through in this earth, even the trials we go through, they see a positive side to it. Because we know our life is not in the parameters of these four walls, or the few days we have in this life; that our life, there's a bigger picture to it; that we are a part, we're one link in a chain that started with Adam and will end with Yahshua's return. And we look at that, as being a part of that link that doesn't want to be an open link, but we want to be a link that holds it together.

And we want to make sure that this part of history ... the same way we read about Adam's part of history that wasn't a good day, and then we read about King Saul's part of history that wasn't a good day, but we also read about Abraham's part of history that was a good day. We read about Moses' part of history that was a good day, and King David. We want to be part of that. We want to be part of the good days of Yahweh. We want to be part of what is given to us, that we're holding it together and we're bringing it to the next one. We want to be something in history as it's being written.

Remember, there's a Book of Life, and it's opened up, and everything we're doing is being written every day as it's going along. And as that Book of Life is going to be read someday in the heavenly court, we want to pray that the things that are written about us are what? Like we always say when we start the school, our legacy; that it's something that will be remembered as righteous; that it's something that will be remembered as helping to bring the Kingdom of Yahweh about. Because if there's nothing good in that book written about you, what happens? You go to Lake of Fire. We want to make sure we're not an empty page written in the Book of Life. 2nd Corinthians 4 and verse 8.

2 Corinthians 4:8-12 *in every way being troubled, but not overwhelmed; being harassed on all sides, but not conquered; being persecuted, but not being forsaken; being thrown down, but not having been destroyed; for we always bear in our bodies about the death of our Master Yahshua, that also the life of Yahshua may be made manifest in our body ... He went through sufferings; we go through sufferings ... For we who live are always being delivered up to death on account of Yahshua, that also the life of Yahshua may be made manifest in our mortal flesh; so that death indeed is close to us, and life is near to us [should be you] ... Drop down to verse 16.*

2 Corinthians 4:16 *Because of this, we do not grow weary, but if indeed our outward man is being decayed, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day.*

Comment: So what may seem on the outside ... maybe there's trouble in the house, maybe there's stress with paying rent, maybe you just got fired, maybe you have a sickness, whatever it is ... that's the fleshly man. But the inward man, the spiritual man, is being renewed day by day. **And we can't let these physical trials that Yahweh allows us to go through for our purification destroy us.**

2 Corinthians 4:16-18 *Because of this, we do not grow weary, but if indeed our outward man is being decayed, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day. For while the troubles of the present time are little and light, a great and limitless glory for ever and ever is prepared for us. We do not rejoice in the things which are seen, but the things which are not seen; for the things being seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are everlasting.*

And that faith that He's giving us through His Spirit, we need to be sharing it with others. Our only hope is in the Kingdom. We don't trust in the wicked system of Satan. **We completely sanctify ourselves from the system of Babylon. We focus on Yahweh. We pray without ceasing. We renew the Holy Spirit daily through the reading of His Word, through meditation, through prayer, and through fasting.**

So, it's a daily grind. It's something we need to do every day of our life. Because has there ever been a day of your life you didn't have a thought? Did you ever wake up one day and your mind is just blank, and you can't even think, "Hey, my mind is blank" because you can't think, you just walk around in a cloud for a day? Of course not. You always have thoughts coming in, but *as a man thinks, so he is, and out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.* 1st Corinthians 15:33.

1 Corinthians 15:33 *Do not be led astray; bad communications ruin good habits.*

Everything around you is affecting you. And like we said, the music you listen to, the sites you're clicking on, the things you're watching, but more than anything the people you're with. Bad communication ruin good habits. **If**

our friends are in the world, then our friendship is with the world ... if our friends are in the world, then our friendship is with the world. It's that simple.

Doesn't mean we can't know people in the world, because that's our mission field. So, we're not running up to the hills, trying to be away; but our friendships, the people that we're close with, should not be unconverted, worldly people. Because if that's the case, if our friends are in the world, then our friendship is with the world; and it will take you away more than anything. The people you're with are the people you will become like. 1st Corinthians 10 and verse 12. Paul is very clear on this. He says:

1 Corinthians 10:12 *So that he that thinks he can stand, let him be careful that he not fall.*

Comment: You know how many people I've had through the years say, "Well I'm only doing this because I'm going to convert them"? I've had young people that said that. "Oh, I'm going back to my friends because I'm going to convert them." What happened? They leave the congregation a short time. Had people that are brand new, they won't leave their Sunday church because "I'm going to witness to them." After about three months they're back to the Sunday church.

He who thinks he stand, take heed lest he fall. Do we think we're stronger than the devil? Do we think that we're wiser than he is? I don't, because I know ... I know the evilness. I know the spirit that he is. And that's why we pray to Yahweh's Spirit, but we also don't tempt that Spirit by putting temptation before us.

1 Corinthians 10:13-17 *No temptation has taken you except what is human; but Elohim is faithful, who will not allow you to be tested above what you are able. But with the trial, He will also make the way out, so that you may be able to bear it ... You have to take that out, though ... On account of this, keep away from idolatry, my beloved. I speak as to prudent ones; you judge what I say. The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a partaking of the blood of Messiah? The bread which we break, is it not a partaking of the body of Messiah? For just as the loaf of the bread is one, for we are all one body, for we all partake of that one bread.*

Comment: There's a great accountability. If you look at every true believer compared to every person in the world, like I said, it might be one in 5 million, and the number just keeps getting less and less. There is a great accountability to being a true believer of Yahweh.

1 Corinthians 10:18-20 *Look at Israel whose observances is according to flesh; are not those eating the sacrifices partakers of the altar? What then do I say, that an idol is anything, or an idolatrous sacrifice is anything? No. But the things the pagans sacrifice, "They sacrifice to demons, and not to YAHWEH." And I do not want you to have fellowship with demons;*

Comment: Some of these people could be the nicest people in the world, but if they have freely chosen to go the way of Christianity, which is a pagan religion, and they don't want the truth, there comes a point you have to shake the dust off your feet and move on.

1 Corinthians 10:21-22 *you cannot drink the cup of our Master and a cup of demons; you cannot partake of the table of our Master, and a table of demons. Or do we provoke our Master to jealousy? Are we stronger than He is?*

I don't think so. So, we want to make sure ... *Bad communications ruin good habits* ... Like I said, the world is our mission field. Doesn't mean we don't associate with it. But the Bible talks about intimately associating with people, friendships; and the friendships should be with like-minded believers, or it will take you away. 1st Corinthians 5 and verse 11. He says:

1 Corinthians 5:11-13 *But now I wrote to you not to associate intimately; if anyone is called a brother and is either immoral, or a covetous one, or an idolater, or a reviler, or a drunkard, or an extortionist, with such a one do not even break bread. For what business is it to me to judge the ones outside the congregation? But you may make judgments on those inside the congregation. But YAHWEH will judge the ones outside. "And you shall put away yourself those wicked persons."*

So this is talking about inside, as well as outside. And I know I look at these scriptures, and I don't think that I'm too strong. I know my weaknesses, and that's why there's no greater joy I take than to be about people that are strong in Yahweh, people that are serious, because it's going to make me more serious. You don't want to be

with people that are going to pull you away and tear you down. If our friends are in the world, then our friendships are of the world. 1st Kings 18:21. You don't have to go there. I'll read it. It's talking with Eliyahu when he came before the people, when he fought the priests of Baal.

1 Kings 18:21 *And he said, Until when are you limping over two opinions? If YAHWEH is Elohim, follow Him; if Baal is elohim, follow him. But the people did not answer a word.*

When are you going to stop dividing over two opinions? And that's why I was saying last week, and I continue to say here, that **it is the spirit of compromise that is the greatest danger to believers today**. People **thinking** they're strong enough, **thinking** they're wise enough that they can compromise with the ways of Yahweh and it's not going to affect them. But like I said, in the end of the day, when you see unless Yahweh left a remnant we would be as Sodom and Gomorrah, we have to take these things serious.

Must stop dividing between two opinions; to Yahweh it's hypocrisy. And the Kingdom is coming. The Kingdom is closer, like it says, *much closer today than when we first started believing*. And I could tell you, we're not ready for it ... we're not ready for it. And that should be the thing to motivate us more than anything. Ephesians 5, verse 3.

Ephesians 5:3-4 *But let not fornication, and all uncleanness, or greediness, be named among you, as is fitting for saints; also cursing, and foolish talking, or witty insults (none of which are necessary), but rather the giving of thanks.*

Comment: Like I said, not only on Shabbat but all the time when we get together, we should be singing praises, glorifying Yahweh, uplifting each other, not making silly, witty insults, which many times the world does, *but rather the giving of thanks*.

Ephesians 5:5 *For you should know this, that anyone guilty of fornication, or an unclean person, or a **covetous one**, who is an idolater, has no inheritance in the kingdom of Messiah and Elohim.*

Comment: Somebody who has a covetous spirit is called an idolater. And we want to make sure ... Like I said, many of us here are from Babylon. And that can be a strength to have people with us, but it can also be a great weakness because we become comfortable with who we are, and we're all part of the same mold. And idolatry—covetousness, which is idolatry—is a big sin of Babylon. And we want to make sure that we're not bringing this sin into our life and we're overcoming it.

One of the ways I didn't even know what covetousness was until I started traveling to third world places, and then you start to see. And that's why I love in Richard Wurmbrand, that booklet he has on preparing the underground congregation, when he says he went into a supermarket, and he started going up and down the aisles, and he said, "Wow. This is really good, but I can do without that ... Wow, this would really taste good, but you know, I can do without that." And he said he went through that whole supermarket, knowing, that he didn't buy anything; that even though everything that was there would have been good, and maybe not wrong, he didn't need it ... **he didn't need it**.

And if we're constantly buying, and buying, and covetousness with things that we don't need, where's our mind? *As a man thinks, so he is*. We want our focus to be on Yahweh, on glorifying Him, on praising Him. Wherever your mind is, that's what we're going to become.

Ephesians 5:6-10 *Let no one deceive you ... Verse 6 ... with empty words, for through these things the wrath of YAHWEH comes on the sons of disobedience ... This is why Yahweh's wrath is coming; because of the way the world is ... Then do not become partakers with them; for you then were in darkness, but you are now in the light of the Master; walk as children of light. For the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness and righteousness and truth, and you must discern what is acceptable.*

Comment: **How can you discern if you have one foot in the world and one foot out? You discern by the Spirit of Yahweh. You discern by His Word. That's the way you discern. And that's why you have to come out of the world, so you know right from wrong. Or, what do you do? We'll be just like all those people out there. As you're telling them about the Torah, they have a reason why it's not important. Because**

their righteousness is not coming from the Word of Yahweh, it's coming from their mind and their heart, which is deceitful and incurable. As a man thinks, so he is.

Ephesians 5:11-12 *And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather condemn them. For it is shameful even to speak of the things being done by them in secret.*

Comment: We all know evolution has been being taught since the 1960s, even before that, but really big in the last 40-50 years. But evolution is still going. If you look at evolution, or **evil-ution** as I like to call it, what is it? It is the evolving of man. It is quote, end quote, "the new normal." **And that's why I say, the purpose of man is an extremely important topic because it shows that Yahweh has absolutes and that His righteousness is absolute and He doesn't change, that there's not an evolving of the new norm.**

What's the new norm that just came out the last few months? Homosexuality. "Get used to it." That's what they keep saying, "It's the new norm." And you know what? Churches now, pastors ... pastors in the last few months have said, "Even though I thought this was wrong in the past, I love my country, I have this ..." What? Where will we be 10, 20, 30 years from now? Where will we be? **We don't want to be part of the new norm.**

Ephesians 5:11-12 *Have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather condemn them. For it is shameful even to speak of the things being done by them in secret.*

Yahweh's Word doesn't change. Yahweh is not part of **evil-ution**. First they took prayer out of the schools, then woman's rights, abortion, co-habitation, homosexuality, new age. **This is all part of the new normal.** And what does it go by? Society. "We're going to do a poll. You know what? Fifty six percent of the people say homosexuality is okay. It's normal now." Huh? "Fifty six percent of the people say it's okay to live together without marriage. It's normal." "Well, I don't think..." "No, no, no. It's normal. They're saying it; the people are saying it." Laodicean—ruled by the people.

It's just like ancient Rome, the thumbs up or the thumbs down. "Homosexuality, up or down?" What is going on here? What is going on? And as we're living through this transformation that is absolutely wicked, and, literally, people are getting fooled by it because they have one foot in and one foot out. There's a reason why Yahweh says, *come out of them, My people, and don't partake with them.*

And now we're seeing, like I said, that gulf is getting wider and wider and wider, because it is so abominable ... it is so abominable what they're doing: killing—infanticide—innocent, unborn children. And they'll come in your face, and they'll beat you with a bat **because they want the right to choose**; and they are choosing. *I put before you life and death; choose life.* They aren't choosing life; the world has chosen death. And they're sticking their fists to Yahweh, and saying, "You know what? You don't exist," and "You think He exists? Take your Yahweh, get out of here!"

And they're becoming violent. I've seen it, even in the last few weeks. Big homosexual rally. One guy comes, just with a little sign over there, and they're coming in his face and shoving him, get him on the ground, kick him, punch him. Hey, what happened to tolerance, right? Isn't that one of the catch words, "tolerance"? **No tolerance for me if I don't accept it.** Now I'm a hate monger. Now I'm going against your human right. This is the new world. This is the new norm. I don't want any part of it. It's not Yahweh's norm, and it certainly isn't my norm.

I AM Yahweh, I change not. **And things that were abomination to Him in the Garden of Eden are abomination today, and we can't be part of the new norm. We can't. Because it is not Yahweh's norm.** And I'm telling you, if it wasn't so serious, if it wasn't so much life and death ... but this thing is going worldwide, and it's going fast, and it's really to the point that the people of Yahweh have to make this decision. Verse 13.

Ephesians 5:13-16 *But all things being condemned are exposed by the light and are clearly revealed, for everything having been revealed is light. Because of this, He says, Arise, sleeping ones and arise from the dead ones, and Messiah will give you light. Then watch how carefully you walk, not as unwise, but as wise ones, redeeming the time, because the days are evil.*

Comment: Time is short, and every day ... not just redeeming it in our life, but because there's people out there that are right on that fence; and **it's eternal life and eternal death, and Yahweh has given us opportunity to touch them. He's given us opportunity to put our hand out and pull them back.** And Praise Yahweh ... we

had our meeting yesterday ... in the last six months to a year, so many more hundreds and thousands of people are coming to the truth. They're hearing it. They want to know more. *Redeeming the time, because the days are evil.*

Ephesians 5:17-20 *For this reason, do not be foolish, but understanding what the will of Elohim is. And "do not be drunk with wine," which is debauchery, but be filled with His Spirit ... Renewing His Spirit every day ... speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and praising in your heart to YAHWEH, giving thanks at all times for all things to YAHWEH the Father in the name of our Master Yahshua Messiah.*

That's the people of Yahweh: Praising, and singing, and joyfully coming together. What are our thoughts? Because what our thoughts are is what we will do and who we are. Last scripture. 2nd Thessalonians 2 and verse 7 ... 2nd Thessalonians 2 and verse 7.

1 Thessalonians 1:7 *But we are humble in your midst, even ...* Oops, 2nd Thessalonians 2 and verse 7.

2 Thessalonians 2:7-10 *For the mystery of lawlessness is already working ... What an understatement ... until He who now is the obstacle, is taken out of the way. And then "the Lawless One" will be exposed, "whom our Master Yahshua will consume by the spirit of His mouth," and will destroy by the brightness of His coming. His coming is due to the working of Satan in all power and miraculous signs and lying wonders, and in all deceit of unrighteousness in those who will perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth in order for them to be saved.*

2 Thessalonians 2:11-14 *And because of this, YAHWEH will send to them a working of deception, for them to believe the lie, that those not believing in the truth, but who have delighted in unrighteousness all may be damned. But we ought to thank YAHWEH always concerning you, brothers, beloved by YAHWEH, because YAHWEH chose **you from the beginning to salvation in sanctification of the Spirit and through a true faith**, to which He called you through our preaching, to be the glory of our Master Yahshua Messiah.*

2 Thessalonians 2:15-17 *So, then, brothers, **stand firm and strongly hold the commandments you were taught**, whether by word or by our epistle. But may our Master Himself, Yahshua Messiah, and our Elohim and Father, the One having loved us and having given everlasting comfort and good hope by grace, encourage your hearts, **and may He establish you in every good word and work.***

May He establish you in every good word and work. As a man thinks, so he is, and out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. Time to choose. It's not just going to happen. Yahweh gives us free will. We have to every day choose to allow His Spirit to renew our mind, to choose to come out of the world and serve Yahweh. The physical look is the outward expression of your mind, and your words are the outward expression of your heart. We must strive every day to fight the flesh and let the Holy Spirit direct our lives.

Stop listening to the impulses of the flesh—with anger, jealousy, gossip, lust, and self-will—and submit to Yahweh in all things. We cannot compromise at all, as *a little leaven leavens the whole lump*. Next time we will discuss the Spirit, how to surrender to it and how to allow it to change us into the very nature of Yahweh. So, Yahweh bless. Until next time, Shabbat shalom.