Transcript – Elder Barnabas_Split Sermon_2026

Right. Chag Sameach. We are very glad today. I'm also very glad today to be before you and also before YAHWEH. It is a great pleasure to have such a session that really touches on each and every one of us. So because we all came here for the feast and also to have more teachings that will give us more spiritual growth. We thank YAHWEH for that.

And for today's lesson that … I wish that we all be together on this. It is about pride. It says, **"Surrender of Pride for Unity."** We are all servants of YAHWEH in one way or the other. And if there is anything that we need to remove from our life that we may be good servants of YAHWEH, we need to tell each other so that we may all come together in one accord, in one service to serve our Master YAHWEH.

So as I start, I am saying that we are all servants, and for that case, each and every one of us is submissive. So let us be ready to hear the word that is coming from YAHWEH. I'm just His servant. So let us not concentrate much on other things, but let us concentrate on His Word.

Right. So because I've said we are going to speak about the pride, which is an element that might look as very small but it brings a lot of problems in the midst of rather whole. So pride is one of the tools that Satan uses to derail and deny many from serving YAHWEH. Pride brings disunity, disharmony, disrespect, disloyalty, which are all the characteristic or the attributes of the Satan.

So in one way or the other, in your life, you have two masters that are there always. Either you are serving YAHWEH out of your actions, out of your thoughts, or you are serving the Satan without knowing it. So pride is one small item that might not look significant, but it is something also that if you have that pride, you may end up serving Satan without your knowledge. Therefore, our Messiah gave us an example. That's why Yahshua Messiah prayed for the apostles to be one in serving YAHWEH and all of us who will hear and come to faith. Let us turn to the book of *John 17, verse 20 to 21*.

John 17:20-21 *And I do not pray concerning these only, but also concerning those who will believe in Me through their word; that all may be echad, as You are in Me Father and I in You, that they also may be echad in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me.*

That was a sincere prayer from Yahshua Messiah to the apostles and even to us. Our unity is very key for us to serve YAHWEH. So some of the things that may hinder us from having that unity, we must desist from it. Pride is thinking of yourself alone. Pride is thinking of yourself. But we need not to think of yourself alone. You need to think of other brethren, your colleagues, other people that we are living together. You need to show that true kind of Messiah who is living in you. Let us then look at the book of *Philippians chapter 2, verse 3 and 4*.

Philippians 2:3-4 *Doing nothing according to strife or self-glory, but in humility, let each regard his neighbor as better than himself; let no one be mindful only of his own things, but let each one also be mindful of the things of his neighbor.*

Yeah, we need to be mindful of each other. And I really thank YAHWEH because of such meeting that we … I can really see that kind of love among us. There are so many things that we are sharing. That is the real picture that children of YAHWEH should always be having, not only during the feast … Not only during the Shabbats, but that must be our natural nature. And by doing that, you will be reflecting the Messiah who is living in you.

Beloved brethren, one of the greatest enemies of unity in the body of Messiah is pride. Pride makes us defend ourselves, insist on our own opinions, refuse correction, hold grudges, and sometimes look down upon others. But Messiah Yahshua showed us another way. The way of humility, love, forgiveness, and self-sacrifice. Yeah. So He set that example for us to follow. So if we are really eager to be in the next kingdom, we must follow the footsteps of Yahshua Messiah. Messiah is our example of humility. He is really our example. Therefore, let us do exactly that because He said, "Follow Me." So whatever He did, let us also do that.

In *Philippians chapter 2, verse 5 to 8*. It teaches us to have some mind that was in Messiah. Though He had great honor, He humbled Himself and become obedient. If Messiah humbled Himself for our salvation, how much more should we

humble ourselves for the sake of unity among brethren? Messiah really humbled Himself, and He gave us that as an example. Therefore, because Messiah is our teacher, we as His children should always emulate what He did, because that's the only way our salvation will be assured. And let's again look at it in John, *John 13 verse 14 to 15*. *John 13:14* says,

John 13:14-15 *If then I washed your feet, the Master and the Teacher, you also ought to wash the feet of one another. For I gave you an example, that as I did to you, you also should do.*

So He's our teacher. He gave us an example. So as good students of Messiah, what are we supposed to do? To do what He has told us to do. Pride also divides, but humility unites. The only day that we have divisions is when some of us have pride. But if you are humble … And I thank our senior elder who gave us a very good sermon about leadership. For you to be a good leader, you must have that humility. Humility brings that unity, but pride goes contrary to that. Let us see in the book of *Proverbs chapter 16, verse 18. Proverbs chapter 16, verse 18*. It says,

Proverbs 16:18 *Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.*

So before you fall down, this element of pride must come first. So we need to be humble. Let us always see what is inside us and ask ourselves, "Is there anything that hinders me from serving our Master faithfully? Could I be having that pride in me?" If we ask such a question more often, it will give us ... humble ourselves always, and we will achieve. If you always have that thing in our mind, the humbleness, and you always pray that, "Father, if there is anything that is wrong in me, if I am proud in one way or the other, Father, forgive me. That pride may vanish and never come back to me again."

Many disagreements among believers become serious because nobody wants to say, "I may be wrong. Please forgive me." If you have pride, you will not apologize. Even if you are wrong, you will not apologize because that pride will deter you from having that apology. So by you not having that apology, definitely disagreements will be there. And if you disagree … You start hating one another. So that small element may start developing in you and create another thing until everybody has or is going his own way. By doing that, we will all fail. But we don't want to fail. We need to have that unity. So let us always be keen on ourselves. Whatever we have in our hearts, let it be that that is pleasing unto YAHWEH.

The unity does not mean that everyone will have the same opinion about everything. Unity means that even when we disagree, we continue to love, to respect, to listen and to forgive one another. Yeah. And that's the essential love. Somebody may have a different opinion, and you have another one. Those different opinions but we will agree to disagree, but in love. We must surrender our personal will. That personal will also sometimes ... may also have that association with the pride. For us to grow closer to YAHWEH, we must surrender our ego.

Sometimes our greatest battle is not with another brother or sister. It is with our own pride. Yeah. Sometimes that pride ... Even maybe how you are walking can tell a lot about you. It is a kind of thing because the Bible tells us that we are the servants of YAHWEH, and whatever we do is being seen by so many witnesses who are surrounding us. So are we thus humble enough to win somebody even without having you preach to him or her? Let us try that and we'll see a lot of effect in that.

So we … Things that we must surrender. The desire always to be right. In your mind, you just not need to say that whatever you say is right, and somebody else's opinion is wrong. No, that's not the way. You must also have the room to listen and to assess their opinion.

Also, a desire to receive recognition. At times you feel that how come that I was before my brethren or other people, and in fact they didn't recognize me. So that urge of feeling that you need to be recognized wherever you are also may hinder you from serving YAHWEH. Because we have been even told in the Bible that if you go to any place, don't be among those who will be sitting in front. Then somebody says, "Oh, sorry, sorry. You are not supposed to sit here. Go behind." You will be ashamed. Go behind. But you'll be elevated if you are told, "Oh, sorry, my brother. Come, come.

You are not supposed to sit behind there. Come in front here." Wow. It will be an elevation, and you'll be happy. So let us have that humility always. Don't want to be seen and recognized. But be humble, and YAHWEH will uplift you.

We must also surrender anger and resentment. Though whenever you have anger, your decisions might not be right. If you are angry because of something, your decisions might not be right. But when you humble and you give yourself room to think first before you utter a word, good of you.

And willingness to forgive. Some other people, even if you have been wronged, some will say, "Oh, sorry. I am really very sorry for what I have done." But if you have pride inside you, you might not even accept that apology from anybody. So we must be willing to forgive. And not only to forgive, but even to forget.

If somebody may come tomorrow and tell you, "Oh, brother. This one also come to apologize to you." You need even to say, "In fact, I don't know whether I was wronged." That is now somebody you have really forgiven him or her. But if you may end up saying, "Yesterday you apologized to me, I forgave you. Today again you are doing me," you start counting. Then it shows that you did not do that. You did not accept that apology. So whenever you are given that room to somebody to apologize to you, accept and forget. And be happy with him or her. And that's now the servant of YAHWEH.

Also, the needs to control others. This aspect of you feel that you need to be the one who is calling the shot, who is controlling others. If somebody else tells you, "My brother, that's not the way to go. Let us do this." You say, "No, no. What are you telling me? I am the person here calling the shot." That kind of pride also will hinder you totally from being a servant of YAHWEH.

And for us, because we are here today, maybe to know that kind of element that might look so tiny. But Satan is using it to bring so many things which are not pleasing unto YAHWEH. So let us take good control of it, and YAHWEH will give us the strength to move forward. Let us look in the book of James, Jacob, 4 verse 6. James 4:6. James … Jacob, that is *Jacob, chapter 4 verse 6*.

Jacob 4:6 *But He gives greater grace. Because of this it says, "YAHWEH sets Himself against proud ones, but He gives grace to humble ones."*

Do you really desire that grace of YAHWEH? Then let that pride not be in you, and you will receive that grace that we really desire in all our life. And YAHWEH is so loving. That's why He always gives us all these teachings that we may be submissive and ready to change whatever is not right in our life.

Protect the unity of the body, of the body of Messiah. In your day-to-day life, do you feel you are working hard to make sure that the body of Messiah, you are trying to uphold? You are trying to make more strong? Do you feel whatever you are doing in your day-to-day life, do you feel that you are doing a service to Him? Those are some of the questions that we need always to ask ourself. *Ephesians chapter 4 verse 2 and 3. Ephesians 4. Chapter 2 and 3*.

Ephesians 4:2-3 *with all humility and meekness, with long-suffering, bearing with one another in love, being eager to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.*

So we need to have that humility and meekness. If you have the humility and meekness, the pride will not have room in us. Notice that the Scripture says, *bearing with one another in love.* We have weaknesses and differences, but love teaches us to bear with one another. So if we have that sincere love to one another, the pride will not come in between. Because always you'll be counting your brother, your sister better than you. And you'll be ready always to hear from him or her.

Whatever is good, you say, "Yeah, that is good. Let us keep up doing." Whatever is wrong, you may also correct him or her in a loving manner. That even the person who is being given such advice will say, "Yeah, you have really done good to correct me. I was wrong. I didn't know." So let us have that meekness and humbleness in us. Also, unity glorifies YAHWEH. Because we said pride brings disunity, but unity glorifies YAHWEH. So for us to have one unified body of

Messiah, a sincere love should be in us. The pride should not be in us. Let us look in the book of Psalms. *Psalms 133 verse 1*.

Psalms 133:1 *Behold! How good and how pleasant it is, for brethren living together, even in unity.*

It is pleasing to YAHWEH that all brethren live in unity. It pleases Him to see that unity. So always let us have such kind of unity. Not only even physically, but also spiritually. Sometimes whenever you are … Because we come from different continents, different countries, let us have such kind of unity that we may be praying for one another. That whenever you hear that maybe your brother is sick, you really feel it, and you go to your knees and pray for him or her. And that's now a unity that pleases our heavenly Father YAHWEH.

We need now to surrender the pride. Surrendering pride isn't becoming a doormat. Maybe at times you may feel that maybe if I surrender pride, somebody will be using me. No, no, that's not the case. Surrendering pride isn't becoming a doormat, but it is choosing YAHWEH's portion over your ego. It is having the following elements. Yeah, it is choosing Yahshua's portion over your ego. What are the elements that will really show that you have chosen Messiah's portion?

Be a good listener. Listening first. You always need to listen. Before you react, before you argue, before you give judgment, let us be a good listener.

Second is preferring others than yourself. Preferring others than yourself. Let us see in *Romans chapter 12 verse 9 and 10*. It says,

Romans 12:9-10 *Let not your love be deceitful, hate that which is evil, hold fast to that which is good, in brotherly love to one another, loving fervently, having gone before one another in honor;*

So loving fervently is something which is very good whenever we have. *Having gone before one another in honor.* You respect one another, you love one another, and we hold fast that which is good.

Another item is confessing. Whenever you have done anything wrong, you need to confess. We need to confess. That my brother, my sister, maybe I didn't mean to have all this, but it has happened. I am really sorry. You confess. The confession part of it will bring more healing to one another. Because if somebody really confesses that, "Yes, you are angry because of my action, of my language or my word. I am sorry." So if you confess, it cools down that temper that might have arose because of the said thing. So let us confess to one another, and YAHWEH will forgive us, and YAHWEH will strengthen us always.

That last … almost last time, celebrating others' achievement and success. If you see your brother, your sister has achieved something, you need to celebrate. You need to be happy. You need to enjoy his or her success. Don't say, "Ah, after all, I know that was not his or hers. Maybe it was assisted." No. In fact, no, no. For that brotherly love to be among us, let us always appreciate and be happy to your colleagues, to your brother, to your sister's success.

Letting go of being right or perfect. Sometimes you may think that you are perfect, you are right. But that kind of attitude in us will also derail us from the right path. For example, if you look in *Philippians chapter 3 verse 12*. Apostle Paul wrote it about his position. He said, 3:12 says,

Philippians 3:12-13 *Not that I already received or already have been perfected, but I press on, if I also may lay hold, inasmuch as I also was laid hold of by Messiah Yahshua. 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,*

That's Paul saying he's not yet perfect. What about us? Are we anywhere almost close to Paul? I think not. So if Paul, who wrote so many epistles to different congregations, what about us? We have written a lot, maybe, we are not even halfway. So we need not count ourselves to have attained. Let us have always that humility in us to pray to YAHWEH that, "Father, we are not yet perfect. We are not yet there. Give us more strength. Give us more energy that we may keep on serving You."

If there is anything that you did yesterday that was good, don't keep on being proud of that. Today also is another day that you need to do the same thing which is good, that pleases YAHWEH. So what Paul is saying that, "I am forgetting everything that is behind me." Because what you have done yesterday or the other year will not be what will give you the salvation. What will give you the salvation is what you are doing right now. Each and every second, each and every minute that you're given.

The action that Messiah will come and find you doing, that will give you either to be counted worthy or not worthy. So we need not to brag of what we did yesterday or the other day. If it was good, we praise YAHWEH. So let us keep on doing that good, that we may be counted worthy of the soon come the Kingdom of YAHWEH.

So lastly, having Messiah's mindset. We need to have that Messiah's mindset. *For thinking this within you which mind was also in Messiah* [Phil 2:5]. Yeah, having that mindset of Messiah is really key in all our endeavors. There are so many duties and skills and labor that we do at our various places, but that does not deny us having that mindset of Messiah. Whatever you do, do wholeheartedly as if you are doing to YAHWEH and not to man.

Let us surrender our pride and allow the character of Messiah to rule in us. So my last book is *Colossians 3:12-14. Colossians 3:12-14* calls us to put compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, patience, and forgiveness. That is 3:12-14 says,

Colossians 3:12-14 *Therefore, as the elect of YAHWEH, holy and beloved, put on bowels of mercy, kindness, humility, meekness, long-suffering, bearing with one another and forgiving yourselves, if anyone has a complaint against any; even as Messiah forgave you, so also you should forgive. And above all these, have love, which is the bond of perfection.*

I really love this passage, which says, *Therefore, as the elect of YAHWEH.* Can you count yourself one? Don't forget yourself. You are an elect of YAHWEH. And whatever you are going through, you are among those people He has chosen to do a service that pleases you and to win more souls to Him. So he says,

Colossians 3:12b *Holy and beloved, put on bowels of mercy, kindness, humility, and meekness.*

Yeah. That's very strong words that each and every one of us should possess for us to be good servants of YAHWEH. So my brethren, we have a duty. We are not there. We are not yet perfect. But if we keep on praying for one another, praying for ourselves, definitely we'll be among those who will be in the soon coming Kingdom of YAHWEH.

May YAHWEH help us to humble ourselves, forgive one another and work together as one body in Messiah Yahshua.

Chag Sameach.