

TRANSCRIPTION – Breaking All Strongholds

Go into the main message and Shabbat Shalom again. And the message today is a very interesting message that I want to give called *Breaking All Strongholds*. And it kind of goes in a little bit with the normalcy bias in the fact of, this world may be a lot of things, but one thing it is not, is normal. I mean we're almost six thousand years since Adam and Eve were created and here we are living the most un-normal life ever.

For five thousand nine hundred years it was a certain way of life and how people lived and they planted their things and had horse and buggy; and the last fifty to hundred years it just...it's un-normal for what the world has been. And the problem is most people don't know it; they don't realize it because it's all you know, right?

You're living in this world and what you go through becomes normal to you. And there are people that come from abusive relationships and there's somebody that may have been beaten as a child by their parents and they say, "oh, I hated that. I'll never do that again" and then they get older and they beat their children.

There's people that come from alcoholic parents and the alcohol destroyed their family; and then they get older and they become an alcoholic because it's a pattern and they don't know any different. And in the end time the whole world is under a curse and that's pretty much what I want to talk today about; blessings and cursings. Because the whole world is under a curse because of disobedience; but because it's so normal to us, I think a lot times we don't realize it.

So I want to give a lot of food for thought that we can all be looking in our lives and seeing maybe where there is something; because I'm going to get into how to change it; if there is something there. That's in our life or maybe even in the life of our parents, our grandparents, our great grandparents; according to Scripture. So let's start in Deuteronomy 28...you know when I go to Africa...and I've been to Africa eleven times...some of the countries I'm amazed...you won't believe how much witchcraft is there...and I mean *real* witchcraft. It's documented and it's true; there are women there that have calf feet. It's totally demonic; it's very demonic!

In America, we see things that are so demonic; like me and my wife...even if you're in a hotel like this...they could have the TV on and very, very bad music and bad video...we walk away right away; but most people don't realize there's...it's demonic influence that's there. And you don't want to let your mind be hearing all this demonic influence because it's going to affect you.

And I think in America that the people are so used to it as part of the culture that they don't even realize how dangerous it is...that has it here. But in the Bible, we're going to see it's very clear that there are blessings and there are cursings and that there's things that can bring cursings; not only in our life, but even in the life of us as believers, the life of our families. So let's start here in Deuteronomy 28, he says:

Deuteronomy 28:1-10 *And if you shall be careful you will listen to the voice of YAHWEH your Elohim, taking heed to do all the commandments which I command you to this day, YAHWEH your Elohim will give to you to be on high above all nations of the earth. And all these blessings will come on you and overtake you if you will listen to the voice of YAHWEH your Elohim. You'll be blessed in the city, and you'll be blessed in the field. The fruit of your body will be blessed, the fruit of your ground, and the fruit of your livestock, the offspring of your oxen, and the young ones of your flock. Your basket and your kneading-trough shall be blessed. You shall be blessed when you come in, you will be blessed when you go out. YAHWEH will cause your enemies that rise up against you to be stricken before your face. They shall come out against you one way, and flee before you seven ways. YAHWEH will command the blessing on you in your storehouses and all you set your hand to do. And He will bless you in the land which YAHWEH your Elohim is giving to you. YAHWEH will establish you a*

holy people to Himself, as He has sworn to you, if you will keep the commandments of YAHWEH your Elohim and walk in His ways. And all the people of the earth shall see that you are called by the name of YAHWEH, and they will be afraid of you.

Wow, now we're living in times where people are having a lot of problems and it's part of the end time we're living in, it's part of the culture; but when you look at this Scripture, how many of you will you say your enemies are actually afraid of you? Your enemies fear you, not because of you, but because they know you're a believer in Yahweh.

I'll tell you a quick story that just happened recently in the last year in our Congregation in Ethiopia. We have a Kibbutz, which is communal living there. We have five hundred brethren living in one Kibbutz and it's beautiful; it's working. If you listened to the news in the last month the United Nations have said, this year 2017, is going to be the worst year of famine since they were created; and there's eight countries that they're naming; Ethiopia was one of them.

They ran out of food, it started getting very severe and they knew where our Kibbutz was; that there was food. A band of thieves, whatever you want to call them, they grabbed machetes, they grabbed weapons and they started going out to where our people were and they were going to kill them and take their food. Somebody in the town called up the people there and said, "You better start praying. They're coming for you."

Those people never showed up; nobody ever seen them again, nobody ever heard from them again; they just disappeared off the face of the earth. About a week later, they sent more people to go out there. The people that went they said it was so dark and as they were going it got darker and darker; that they were scared to death, they could not see the hand in front of their face. They said they walked all night shaking and by the time the sun was coming up they were in the exact same spot where they left.

They tried one other thing; they went and they kidnapped the mother, who was also a believer of one of the believers there...and there's tribal wars going on...people are getting slaughtered...children are getting slaughtered there. And the believers figured that they killed this woman and they were writing to this gang and they said, "Look, all we want is her body back to give a proper funeral."

They don't know why, but all they know is the gang showed up with the mother; they were shaking like this, they gave the mother back alive and said, "Please, please we didn't harm her. Just pray to your Elohim not to harm us!" This is totally true; that when you're obedient and they see it; people will fear you. They'll fear us because of what we stand for. If we don't stand for anything, what are they fearing?

And if we fear our self, what do we stand for, right? Yahweh's Spirit is not the Spirit of fear, but it's the Spirit of love, discipline and a sound mind; that's His Spirit. And we have stories like this all over...all over the world we hear stories like this; of people being protected because they're convicted; because they can ask for that protection. And with new people that I counsel sometimes and I see they're having problems, right...and I try to get into it, "why might you be having problems?"

There's times where you go to someone's house that's brand new and you see voodoo pictures on the wall from Egypt and these other things that are simply not good. They're idols that need to be broken and every stronghold in our life needs to be broken. That's what I want to show you today that because of our culture there could be things in any of our life that we don't even realize could be taking a blessing away from us.

Now if we continue here, these are all the blessings...but let's look what He says about curses...start in verse 14...

Deuteronomy 28:14-20 *And you shall not turn away from all the Words which I am commanding you today, to the right or to the left, to go after other gods, to serve them. And it shall be, if you do not heed the voice of your Elohim, to take heed to do all the commandments and His statutes as I am commanding you today, even all these curses will come on you and overtake you: You'll be cursed in the city, you'll be cursed in the field. Your basket and your kneading-trough will be cursed. The fruit of your body will be cursed, the fruit of your land, the offspring of your oxen, the young ones of your sheep. You'll be cursed when you come in, you'll be cursed when you go out. YAHWEH will send cursing on you, trouble and rebuke in all that you set your hand, all which you do, until you are destroyed, or until you quickly perish, because of the badness of your doings by which you have forsaken Me...*

Deuteronomy 28:21-27 *YAHWEH will make the plague cling to you until He has consumed you from off the land where you are going, to possess it. YAHWEH shall strike you with lung disease with fever, with inflammation, with extreme burning, and with the sword, and with the blasting and mildew. And they shall pursue you until you perish. And your heavens over your head shall become copper, and the earth under you iron. YAHWEH will make the rain of your land be dust and ashes. It shall come down on you from the heavens until you are destroyed. YAHWEH will cause you to be stricken before your enemies. You shall go out one way against them, and shall flee seven ways before them. And you shall be a trembling to all the kingdoms of the earth. And your body shall be food to all the birds of the heavens, and to the beasts of the field; and there will be none to cause them to tremble. YAHWEH shall strike you with the ulcer of Egypt, with hemorrhoids, with the scab, with the itch, of which you cannot be healed...and look today, even in this country, look how many sexually transmitted diseases there are and look all the diseases that are coming up. All these things are not coming by accident, they're coming because of the disobedience of the people...*

Deuteronomy 28:28-34 *YAHWEH shall strike you with madness, and blindness, and astonishment of heart. And you shall grope at noonday as the blind grope in darkness. And you shall not prosper in your ways. And you shall be always oppressed and plundered in the days; and there will be no one there to save you. You shall betroth a wife, and another will lie with her...right? Divorce, we look... You shall build a house, and not live in it. You shall plant a vineyard, and shall not eat its fruit. Your ox shall be slaughtered before your eyes, but you will not eat of it. Your donkey will be violently taken from before you, and it will not be given back...even bankruptcies, right? People losing everything they worked for their whole life...Your sheep will be given to your enemies, and you shall have no deliverer. Your sons and your daughters will be given to other people; and your eyes shall look and fail for them all the day. And no power shall be in your hand. The fruit of your ground, and all your labor, shall be eaten up by a nation which you do not know. And you will always be oppressed and crushed. And you shall be maddened because of that which shall see with the sight of your eyes....if we drop down to verse 38...*

Deuteronomy 28:38- 48 *You shall carry much seed to the field, but you will gather in little; for the locusts will devour it. You'll plant vineyards, and shall labor, but you shall not gather, nor drink the wine; for the worm will devour it. You shall have olive trees in your labor, but you will not anoint with oil; and your olive shall fall off. You shall father sons and daughters, and they shall not be with you; for they will go into captivity. The locust will possess all your trees and the fruit of your ground. The alien in your midst will go above and, higher and higher; and you shall be, lower and lower and lower....right? In America we see that, the aliens and pagan over the land and the middle class people and not even cared for any more. The elderly are not cared for; the veterans aren't cared for...He shall lend to you, and you shall not lend to them. He shall be the head, and you shall be the tail. And all these curses will come on you and pursue you and overtake you, until you are destroyed; for you did not heed the voice of YAHWEH your Elohim, to keep His commandments and His statutes which He commanded you. And they shall be on you for a sign and a wonder, and on your seed forever, because you did not serve YAHWEH your Elohim with joyfulness and with gladness of heart for the*

abundance of all things, and you shall serve your enemies whom YAHWEH shall send on you, in hunger, and in thirst, and in nakedness, and lack of things. And He shall put an iron yoke on your neck until He has destroyed you.

So wow, **the same Creator who wrote these things to the children of Israel; is the same Creator that holds us to the same standard today. When we're obedient, we're blessed; and when we're disobedient, we are cursed.** And I'm going to show that comes individually, it comes through our families, it comes through our congregations and it comes even through our nations. Proverbs 26 in verse 2...Proverbs 26 in verse 2 says:

Proverbs 26:2 *As the wandering bird, as the swallow in its flying, so the causeless curse shall never come... As the wandering bird, as the swallow in its flying, so the causeless curse will never come.*

So you know if we're looking in our life and our life just seems to be one problem after another, one sickness after another, one financial problem after another...look what this says... *As the wandering bird, as the swallow in the flying, so the causeless curse shall never come.*

There's a cause to every effect, right? And when we're looking at things in our life...and again, time and chance happens to everybody...we don't want to think every time somethings going bad in our life, we're cursed; but if there's a pattern that something is just always going bad, something is just always being sick, something is always going a certain way...we have to start thinking, "is there something in my life-style that could be causing this?" Ecclesiastes 10 in verse 8, say something similar:

Ecclesiastes 10:8-9 He who digs a pit may fall into it; one breaking a wall, a snake may bite him. Whoever quarries stones may be hurt with them; he who splits trees may be endangered by them.

So sometimes, it could be like we've said...cause and effect...are we doing things that are causing this? I mean maybe if I'm continuously getting hurt...I shouldn't be doing bungee jumping as a living, right? There's cause and effect to everything; that we have to start thinking about some of these things. Exodus 34:6 and 7...because some of these curses could even be, like I said, generational curses; it could be family curses...

Exodus 34:6-7 *And YAHWEH passed by before his face and called out: YAHWEH! YAHWEH Elohim! Merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and great in goodness and truth, keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, and not leaving entirely unpunished, visiting the iniquity on fathers on sons, and on sons sons, to the third and fourth generation.*

So, and I'm going to show you today...I'm going to show you how every curse can be broken. It's just the fact we have to recognize it; you have to do something to break these curses. But sometimes, when you come in as a believer, there could be a generational curse that's from your ancestors. And if there is something that's there...and I'm going to show you Scriptures that **even we're told in the last generation to make prayers for the Israelites from thousands of years ago; that there could be curses or could be things they did that we don't want to walk in that same way; that we want to break these things.** Numbers 14 in verse 18:

Numbers 14:18 *YAHWEH is slow to anger, and of great mercy, bearing away iniquity and transgression; and by no means will He clear the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the sons, on the third and fourth generation.*

So there could be blessings, like we see with Jehu, right...was blessed to the fourth generation and there could be cursings to the fourth generation. So it's something that we have to examine our self and we have to see

where we stand. In Deuteronomy 23...this one's interesting because it goes all the way to the tenth generation...Deuteronomy 23 verse 2 and 3:

Deuteronomy 23:2-3 *An illegitimate child shall not enter into the congregation of YAHWEH, even to the tenth generation none of his shall enter into the assembly of YAHWEH. An Ammonite or a Moabite shall not enter into the congregation of YAHWEH; even to the tenth generation shall none of them enter into the assembly of YAHWEH, perpetually;*

So we see in this case, even up to ten generations, for most people...I'll bet you most people can't even go in their background ten generations. You may know your parents and you may know grandparents and maybe great grandparents, but it's very hard. Today they have different things you could look up on line, but in general, most people can't even go that way; and yet there could be a generational curse in your background, going up to ten generations here. Proverbs 30 in verse 10...and this is talking about our generation today...Proverbs 30 in verse 10, it says:

Proverbs 30:10 *Do not slander a servant to his master, that he not curse you, and you be found guilty. A generation curses its father, and does not bless its mother, a generation that is pure in its own eyes, and yet not washed from its own filth. There is a generation, Oh how lofty are its eyes! And its eyelids are lifted up, a generation whose teeth are like swords, and its jaw teeth like knives, to devour the poor from the earth, and the needy from among men.*

That's us today; we are that generation. So that's what I'm saying, there is a curse world-wide because of this; and that's why we're seeing some of these horrific things world-wide. Even the word *allah*, the god of Islam, the word *allah* means curse in Hebrew; that's what it means. There's a curse of Islam that's going throughout all the earth and radical Islam, let's say...not every Muslim.

But there are curses that the world has brought because they're denial...remember we are the first generation...there's been every generation before us that may have had false deities, right? And you look in the Bible and even these kings they believed in this false god here and this false god here. But we're the first generation that's denied any Creator whatsoever...the first generation that says, "No, we come from evolution. We just evolved. There's no Creator to nothing" and that's much worse than believing in maybe Buddha, a little fat guy with a belly...not so smart, but I certainly would think it's better for someone to believe in that than believe everything came from nothing; that we're just our own creator that comes from that.

So we are that generation; a generation that is rebellious, a generation that rejects Yahweh and a generation that has been cursed. And we need to...we need to break those curses...**we need to claim back the blessings that we're ready about that Yahweh has here in Scripture.** Generational curses they come in all forms; addictions, like: drugs, alcohol, even covetedness, sexual perverseness, divorce, physical abuse, depression, financial problems, sicknesses, cancer, anger, lack of self-discipline, spirit of lust, greed, envy; all these could be curses.

All these could be a curse in our life that doesn't have to be there; that's the thing of it...that **every single curse as we're going to see can be broken and Scripture tells us a mean to do this.** But I think sometimes we don't see it that way and I'm telling you, all of us have seen that...that you meet somebody that...like I said, there's always rich, there's always poor; but if you're seeing somebody that is **always** in financial problems...no matter what...even if they were given an inheritance of a hundred thousand dollars within a month the moneys all gone and they're back in debt again; it's a curse. There's something there that is not being used according to the biblical principal of finance.

Health...I had someone come up to me one time, they had cancer...it wasn't a believer, it was a family member of a believer...they wanted me to pray for them because they had cancer; and I said to the person, "Well if I pray for you for healing, will you stop smoking?" And they said, "No" and I said, "I'm sorry I can't for you then. Why would we blaspheme Yahweh's healing that I'm going to pray on you for this cancer; it's going to disappear tomorrow and you're going to go back to cigarettes."

So how can we ask Yahweh's blessing of health if we're not following the principals of health? How can we ask His blessings of finance if we're not following the principals of finance? **How can we ask His blessing in all these areas in our life if we're not following the things He tells us in life to receive them?** Jeremiah 50 in verse 35...Jeremiah 50 in verse 35...about end-time Babylon...he says:

Jeremiah 50:35-38 *A sword is on the Chaldeans, states YAHWEH, and on those living in Babylon, and on her rulers, and on her wise men. A sword is on the liars, and they shall become fools; a sword is on her mighty men, and they shall be broken. A sword is on his horses and his chariots, and all the mixed people in her midst....Babylon is a great melting pot...And they shall become as women. A sword is on her treasuries, and they shall be robbed. A drought is on her waters, and they shall be dried up. For it is the land of idols, and they boast themselves in idols.*

And that's why I said, there could be things just in our home that seem very, very innocent enough...a Egyptian statue...something that is idolatry; something that is really not good that needs to be broken that could be causing a problem in the home. And if you don't think that demons can dwell in things like that...I'm telling you I've had many experiences...I'm not proud of it...I hate dealing with demons...it's the last thing on earth I want to do...but I have cast out a lot of demons in my life; from people, from things and I've seen a lot of things.

There was one time where we keeping the Feast in New Mexico with some brethren there many years ago...Really, really nice Congregation that was down there and it was really strange...we got there the first day and everybody is sitting around and everybody's feeling like somethings wrong. People were feeling antsy; they're feeling angry. So we said, "Let's pray" and everybody prayed and as soon as the prayer was over, we looked over and there was this doll there that had an evil look to it. Everybody said, "It's the doll!"

We took that doll, we put it in a sack, we tied it up, took it two blocks in a dumpster and threw it in the garbage. You want to know what happened? We woke up the next morning at sunrise and there were crows, hundreds and hundreds of crows...like screaming, screaming, screaming...we opened the door to look at and there's the doll under the tree across the street, however it got there. But I prayed on that property and I prayed on the property and said, "Yahweh, we're keeping the Feast here, bless this property. Don't let any bad spirit come here, whatever it is; protect the property."

And that spirit could not come back to that property; and where'd it stay: across the street. And it happens, I mean it happens and we got to be aware of it; sometimes it's that simple. And you want to know something? It's good when it's that simple, right? When it's not in our character; that's the hard part! To get rid of a dumb idol is an easy thing to go break it.

It's where the character is that makes it harder to deal with. But **we want to make sure we don't have idols in our life. And an idol could be anything; your job could be an idol, a family member could be an idol, a car could be an idol.** You know and I joke because people will be over saying, "Ah, how did those ancient people bow down to some statue? It's so silly and it's like...stay away from my car. Move back from my car!" It's the same idolatry; it's a piece of metal. His metal is in the form of a car with wheels on it and the other metal was in the form of a dumb statue.

Yahweh says that in Isaiah...one of the funniest Scriptures where He's saying how stupid idolatry is because He says this person cuts a tree out of a wood and part of the tree they're using to make a fire and part of the tree they're using to make a dumb idol and don't they see how stupid this is? You know as they're making this fire and they're bowing down to that idol that's made from the same tree. But it's things we have to look at in our life. Deuteronomy 29 in verse 16...Deuteronomy 29 in verse 16...I'll read down to verse 29 to the end of the chapter...he says:

Deuteronomy 29:16-29 *For you know how we lived in the land of Egypt, and how we came through the nations through which you passed. And you have seen their detestable things, and their idols of wood and stone, silver and gold, which were among them; and there not be among them you man, or woman, or family, or tribe, whose heart turns away today from YAHWEH our Elohim, to go and serve the gods of these nations; lest there should be among you today a root that bears gall and wormwood; and it happens when he hears the words of this curse, that he should bless himself in his heart, saying, I have peace, even though I walk in the stubbornness of my own heart, to snatch away the drunken with the thirsty. YAHWEH will not be willing to forgive him, and then the anger of YAHWEH and His zeal shall smoke, and His zeal shall be against that man, and all the curses written in the book shall lie upon him. And YAHWEH shall blot out his name from under the heavens. And YAHWEH will set him apart to evil, out of all the tribes of Israel, according to all the curses of the covenant that are written in the book of the Torah; so that the generation to come, your sons who rise after you, and the foreigner who comes in from a different land, shall say when they see the plagues of that land, and the sicknesses which YAHWEH shall send into it, The whole land will be burned with brimstone and salt; it shall not be sown, nor shall it sprout; nor shall there be any herb in it. It shall be like the overthrow of Sodom and Gomorrah, Admah and Zeboim, which YAHWEH overthrew in His anger and His fury. And all the nations shall say, Why has YAHWEH done this to this land? For what is the heat of this great anger? Then they shall say, Because they have forsaken the covenant of YAHWEH, the Elohim of their fathers, which He made with them when He brought them out of the land of Egypt. For they went and served other gods, and worshiped them, elohim which they did not know, and who had not divided to them any portion. And the anger of YAHWEH was kindled against this land to bring on it all the curses that are written in this book. And YAHWEH rooted them out of their land in anger and wrath, and in great indignation, and cast them into another land, as to this day. The secret things belong to YAHWEH our Elohim; and the things revealed belong to us and to our sons forever, that we may do all the Words of this Torah.*

So very clearly...cause and effect...there's consequences for the decisions. Malachi 3 in verse 8...Malachi 3 in verse 8:

Malachi 3:8 *Will a man rob Elohim? Yet you have robbed Me. But you say, In what have we robbed You? In the tithe and the offering!*

So I tell people this in third world countries, some of these people are extremely poor. Some of them make less than five dollars a week; some of them only make a couple hundred dollars a year and sometimes they say, "You know we're too poor to tithe." And I say, "You're too poor, not to tithe." **Remember the earth is Yahwehs, the fullness thereof, the people and those who live in it, Psalm 24; everything belongs to Him.**

So anything...these clothes belong to Him, any pieces of paper in my pocket with dead dignitaries that we use for currency belong to Him...everything belongs to Him. So He makes it really simple, He says "I'll be your partner. When you go and earn something, I'll bless your efforts and you know what? Only ten percent comes to Me to care for the poor and the widow and My work and you can keep ninety percent." That's pretty good in my mind because it's all His anyway; and yet there's people that don't want to do it.

And I always say that...because I remember when Church of God broke apart that was one of the first things; people wanted to talk about against tithing and you're not supposed to tithe...and I always say to the person that tells me that, "So what do you do with that ten percent? Okay, you don't believe in tithing, what do you do with that ten percent? C'mon stop being hypocrites! If you don't want to give the ten percent, you're doing it because you're sticking in your pocket!" That's what the Jews do; they don't believe in tithing.

I talked to some of the Jews out there...and supposedly the Karaites...that they do everything according to the Bible; they don't tithe and I said, "Well, why don't you tithe?" "Oh there's no temple, we can't tithe. There's not a temple." So I said, "Well, why not take the ten percent and give it to the poor?" "No, that would be stealing." "Hmm, so what do you do with the money?" "Oh, I put it in my pocket." "So, it's not stealing and putting it in your pocket." "No because I didn't separate it for Yahweh. So as long as I didn't separate for Yahweh, it's not stealing."

I'll tell you something...when I joined the Church of God...for about a year and a half I studied, because I wasn't going to give my money somewhere I didn't believe; but I always separated it. My check came in; I separated it...that's Yahwehs. And then once I studied the Congregation and once I was convicted that yes this is a true part of the Congregation of Elohim, then I gave them all the tithe. But it's not mine...it's not mine. So whether I want to give it the poor; whatever else I'm going to do with it, I can't keep it because that what He's saying...if you keep it you're under a curse! You're putting yourself under a financial curse because it's not your money.

And people from Church of God, you know this because they didn't have the right tithing system. They had a three tier tithing system that you don't find in the Bible. But you want to know something? Every time I did it even though it wasn't biblical, I came out with more money at the end of that year than I ever had in my life. I can't explain it; all I knew, it wasn't because what they were saying was right. Because there's not a three tithe system; they're not like the government.

Yahweh doesn't say ten percent is thirty percent; ten percent is ten percent. You don't have to give thirty percent. But even though I did it in ignorance, I did it with the right attitude and He blessed me for it. And that's why I say we have to look at these things and we have to say, **is there something that's holding us back from a blessing. Because as a believer, we'll see there's a lot more blessings in the Bible than curses.**

And **it's very easy to change that curse into a blessing, but we have to do something.** There's something that we need to do. 1st Peter 3...1st Peter 3 and I want to change a little bit in the direction now because it really is a mindset. **You have to live in the mindset of obedience and the mindset of blessing;** it really is a mindset. 1st Peter 3 in verse 8, he says:

1st Peter 3:8-14 *And, finally, let all live in harmony, that you may be sympathetic with them who suffer, and affectionate one to another, and be merciful and kind. Not giving back evil for evil, or railing for railing; but, on the contrary, give blessing; knowing that you were called to this in order that you might inherit blessing. "For the one desiring to love life, and to see good days, let him restrain his tongue from evil, even his lips not to speak guile. Let him turn aside from evil, and let him do good. Let him seek peace, and pursue it; because the eyes of YAHWEH are on the righteous, and His ears are open to their prayer. But the face of YAHWEH is against any doing evil things." And who is the one who can harm you if you become zealous followers of that which is good? But if you truly suffer because of righteousness sake, you are blessed. "and be not afraid of those who terrify you, neither be disturbed.*

And just like Peter also said **it's much better to suffer for righteousness and suffer for doing something good than to suffer for doing something bad.** Because if you do something bad and you're reaping what

you sow, what benefit is that? You're just...but if you're doing the right thing and you're suffering, it's not because you're being punished it's because you're being purified and there's a blessing that comes in there for that. So really, when you think about it, **we need to live in this state of blessing. We need to live in a positive mindset of blessing because a lot of the blessing and of the cursing is actually in our attitude and in our words.** Matthew 12 in verse 34...Matthew 12 in verse 34, says:

Matthew 12:34-37 *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 the heart puts forth good things. And the evil man out of the evil treasure puts forth evil things. But I say to you, that every vain word, whatever men may speak, they shall give an account in Judgment Day. For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned.*

So our words do matter...our words are important. Like if you're talking to someone and they accidentally cough and say, "Oh that's great. Now I'm going to get sick!" You know what, you probably will...you probably will because you know when it comes to healing...the human body is amazing...it is absolutely amazing when you look at the body and the healing of your body.

And do you know that they said... like for somebody that has cancer...and they give you chemotherapy, there's something in the chemotherapy that goes...it injects in your body to kill that cancer...they say that if you went on a roller coaster and you enjoyed it, you would actually get more of that healing power than a dose of chemotherapy.

Your body automatically knows what you need; it knows what you need and it gives you that...your immune system. Now the problem is today all our soil is depleted, our food is depleted so we are working with two hands behind our back and that's why it's good to take supplements or herbs or whatever it is. But the point of it is, that the mental part of your health is fifty percent or more, maybe even seventy-five percent of your health; and that's why placebo works sometimes. They can give you nothing and somebody will get healed, why...because they believed in it.

And that's why if you're there and like I said, if somebody's sick and you say, "Oh great, now I'm going to get sick!" You're probably going to get sick because you're believing it; and that's why I say **the power of belief is so powerful in itself that we have to use it for good! We have to believe in the good things; not believe in the bad things.**

So we want to make sure the things that are coming out of our mouth are things that are going to bring blessing because we're accountable for every idle word. So what are the words that are coming out of our mouth? Are they words of praise? Are they words of glorifying Yahweh? When something happens are we looking and thinking, what can I learn from this?

We have at the Bible school...one of the first things we have the people do is, we write out our empowering beliefs and our dis-empowering beliefs. Because, face it, **your belief system is who you are.** And the problem is, **when we become believers we change our belief system**...okay we don't meet on Sunday anymore; we meet on Saturday, we don't eat this meat; we eat this meat...we change little things...I don't meet on that day, I meet on this day for Holy Days instead of Christmas; **but we're not changing our mental attitude.**

And there's things like...there's people that are afraid to fly. Is that an empowering belief or a dis-empowering belief? Very dis-empowering belief...it's a very dis-empowering belief because what does that mean? It means you're limited to everything; you're limited to where you can go, you're limited this and you're limited...probably never to come to Israel unless you're going to swim over the Atlantic Ocean.

But we have them...this is what we do...when **we look at those empowering beliefs and then we embrace the empowering beliefs and we look at the dis-empowering beliefs and we get rid of them.** And one of my most, if not the most empowering belief in my life is **Romans 8:28**, that all things work for the good.

So there's nothing that can happen in my life that I don't believe is for my good; which means when something happens, I'm analyzing it to say, okay is this something I need to change? Is there something here I'm doing wrong? But ultimately, I never look at it as a punishment because how can it be a punishment? When parents correct children, they're not punishing them; they're correcting them. They're doing it so they can learn; so they can do better the next time.

And that's the way I look at Yahweh; **that there's nothing that Yahweh would allow in my life that ultimately is not for my good.** So no matter what would happen in my life, I would never question Him because I know **anything** that is happening is for my good and if there's something bad coming out of it; then I need to change. There's something I'm missing or there's something I have to change in my life.

And that's why our mental attitude and our words...it's half the process. But if we want to grab that blessing back, we want to make sure we're doing this. How important is it is...go to Genesis 27...let's look at a quick situation with...remember Esau and Jacob, right...and a lot of people forget the point that Jacob was not the one who wanted to go out and make believe he was his brother and put hairy clothes on his arms; it was the mother. But look what she says here in Genesis 27 verse 11:

Genesis 27:11-13 *And Jacob says to his mother Rebekah, Behold, my brother Esau is a hairy man, and I'm a smooth man. Perhaps my father will feel me, and I shall be like a deceiver in his eyes, and I shall bring a curse on me, and not a blessing...* see, he was figuring this out. "This might not work out, I don't want a curse!" And look what Rebekah says... *And his mother said to him, Your curse be on me, my son; only listen to my voice and go, take for me.*

Your curse be on me, right? Wow! That's a serious thing for her to say and she's bringing a curse on herself. Let's look at another situation...go to Genesis 31...with Rachel, who does something similar...Rachel in Genesis 31 in verse 19...and this is where Jacob is kind of tired of Laban and having his wages changed over and over and over and he realizes, "if I tell him I'm leaving I might not get out of here." So he decides, get his family, let me get out of here in the night and just get away from this guy because he's not honest. So he doesn't know that his wife took the family idol of Laban, her father. So verse 19...

Genesis 31:19 *Laban went to shear his sheep. And Rachel stole the terafeen...* which is the family idol... from her father...so now Laban's going to come after them. Jacob doesn't know it, but this is what happens here...let's drop down to verse 27 and he says...

Genesis 31:27-32 *Why did you hide so as to flee, and have deceived me and have not told me. And I would have sent you away with rejoicing and with music, with tabret and harp...sure he would have...And you have not let me kiss my sons and my daughters. Now you have been foolish to do this. It is in the power of my hand to do you harm to you. But the Elohim of your fathers spoke to me last night, saying, Watch out for yourself that you do not speak with Jacob from good to evil. And now surely you have gone because you have longed after your father's house. Why have you stolen my gods? And Jacob answered and said to Laban, Because I was afraid. For I said, Lest by force you take your daughters from me. And whomever you find your gods, he shall not live before our brothers here. See for yourself what is with me, and take it to yourself. For Jacob did not know that Rachel had stolen them.*

Right and what happens...she didn't make it; she died on her way to Bethlehem. People forget that Jacob gave this and then she died after it...**by our words we're justified; by our words we're condemned.** Remember

Jephthah, the Great Warrior, who's going out and he said to Yahweh, "The first thing that comes out of the door when I come home will be sacrificed to you" and it happens to be his daughter. So **we need to be careful with our words, what we're saying and we need to make sure that our words are always words of positive; that we have a mental positive** because our words are a big...it's a big situation of what we're doing in our blessing or our cursing coming from there. 2nd Corinthians 10 in verse 3...so let's start looking now how to...how to eradicate it. How do solve this? How do we make sure that we don't have a curse in our life that we only bring blessing...2nd Corinthians 10 in verse 3 says:

2nd Corinthians 10:3-5 *For though we do live an earthly life, we do not serve...earthly things...worldly things; for the weapons of our warfare are not fleshly, but the power of YAHWEH to the demolition of strongholds, casting down imaginations and every false thing lifting itself up against the knowledge of Elohim, and bringing into captivity every thought into the obedience of Messiah,*

Wow, that's one of my favorite verses in Scripture because when you think about it, *bringing into every thought into the obedience of Messiah...right?* **Everything starts with thought, like we said, thought becomes action; action becomes sin; sin becomes death. Thought become righteousness; righteousness becomes righteous action; becomes eternal life.**

So **everything begins in the mind** and that's what Yahshua said, "*The law said you shall not murder; I say if you even got angry at your brother. The law says you shall not commit adultery; I say if you've ever thought lustful thoughts.*" So everything starts in the mind here and bringing that to the Mind of Messiah; but look what he says, *for the weapons of our warfare are not fleshly, but the power of Yahweh to the demolition of strongholds.*

What stronghold is in your life...what stronghold? Like I said, it could be...some people was freemasonry...they come from a background that their grandfather or great grandfather was a freemason. For some people, like I said, it could be alcoholic families, it could be divorce, it could be spirits of anger, spirits of greed, spirits of lust; it could be financials. There's something there with everybody and this is what he says, **through Yahshua every stronghold can be demolished...every stronghold could be broken.** Ephesians 6 in verse 10...Ephesians 6 in verse 10, he says:

Ephesians 6:10-18 *For the rest, my brothers, be made powerful in the Master and in the might of His strength. Put on all the armor of YAHWEH, for you to be able to stand against the strategies of the Devil, For our conflict is not with flesh and blood, but with principalities, and with those in authority, and with the possessors of this dark world, and with the evil spirits that are beneath heaven. Because of this, take up all of the armor of Elohim that you may be able to resist the evil one, and being prepared you shall prevail. Then stand firm, "having girded your loins about with truth" and having put "on the breastplate of righteousness," and defend your feet with the preparation of the good news of peace. Above all, taking up the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming darts of the evil one...so I'll continue here... And also, put on "the helmet of salvation," and take on the sword of the Spirit which is the Word of YAHWEH; through all prayer and petition, praying at all times in the Spirit, and watching to this same thing with all perseverance and petition concerning all the saints.*

So we see that...I tell this to my friends in Israel all the time...I've been blessed there, that even last year I was sent by the Foreign Ministry to United Nations in New York to represent Israel; I've been invited to the Knesset there at least twenty-five or thirty times and I tell them the problem with the Israeli Palestinian conflict is, you're taking a spiritual problem and you're trying to solve it in a physical way.

It's not a physical problem; a matter a fact about a year ago General el-Sisi from Egypt offered to give the Palestinians land on the Egyptian side that's double the size of Gaza and the whole world community would have given billions of dollars and they would have built them something like Dubai. Not only did they turn it down they said, "We will not even talk about it." So it's not about land; it's a spiritual problem. There's a spiritual problem there and they're trying to work out in a physical way.

And that's what happens in our life sometimes; that we're thinking that these things are physical problems and they're not. Like he says, **we're not fighting against flesh and blood; we're fighting against spirits and principalities, and things that we have to look at it that way. We have to look at this as spiritual problems and then realize there's only one way to break a curse.** Galatians 3 in verse 13...Galatians 3 in verse 13 says:

Galatians 3:13-14 *Messiah redeemed us from the curse of the Torah, having become a curse for us; for it has been written, "Cursed is everyone having been hung on a tree;" that the blessing of Abraham might come on the nations through Messiah Yahshua, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.*

Wow, so here we see, right? There's two points that I always tell Christian people to salvation...because with the false grace, everybody just thinks, "well, I accepted Jesus in my heart. My sins are forgiven, I don't need anything else" but I say, that's not justice; if you killed a child here, right...and you just say this prayer and you're forgiven; that doesn't bring the life back to the child. **The Torah is very clear; eye for eye, tooth for tooth, life for life; let the punishment fit the crime.**

So one thing you have is, forgiveness; yes, that's a start...that's important; but the second thing is, there has to be reconciliation. And that's why we have **Passover; is about forgiveness; Yom Kippur is about reconciliation;** the Day of Atonement...the Day of being *At-One* with Yahweh. And **you could be forgiven by Yahweh, but you will never be At-One with Him if you're not reconciled.**

And we even see it happens, right? You ever have a situation where there was someone you may know...it could be a family member or friend and you had a problem and you don't talk anymore. And you've really forgiven the person; you let it go and you've forgiven them, but you're not friends anymore; or a family member you don't talk to. There wasn't reconciliation so **according to get reconciliation, there has to have the penalty paid.**

And that's why when you look in the Torah...you steal a sheep...it's not enough to just say, "Forget about it." No, you have to pay back four sheep in that case. There has to be restitution and part of the problem, at least with Christianity why they're living under these curses...because I'll tell you, in the world many Christians...and particularly Pentecostals, the ones that into the demonic tongue; are the most depressed people.

They've done studies on it and the suicidal rate with Pentecostals is one of the highest in the whole world; because they're using something fake; they're thinking that this fake rattling of a demonic voice is bringing them closer to Yahweh and it's the opposite. There's nothing there that is helping them; it's the opposite. They're using witchcraft thinking it's going to bring them closer to Yahweh.

So we have to realize here that **forgiveness is the first part; but then there's got to be reconciliation...**there's got to be reconciliation that's involved. So it's the same with us, if you did something to somebody, right...sure you want them to forgive you, but then you have to retribute; **you have to make right what was wronged, if you could.** It's not always the case that you can, but there has to be there.

So that's why I say, **through Yahshua, every curse can be broken and the first thing is the forgiveness.** So we have three points to breaking a curse; repentance...repent, replace, restore...repent, replace, restore.

I'll go over all three of them...repent, replace, restore. So it all starts at the Crucifixion...it all starts with the blood of Messiah, but it doesn't end there.

And it doesn't end...we know that in our life that's not the end of it; that's the beginning of it. **There has to be a change in life.** Everything you read in the New Testament, there's nothing that would ever make you think that the commitment to Yahshua is simply saying a little prayer and that's the end of it...there's nothing else. No, **it is a change of life; it is becoming His bond servant. Your life has been bought and paid for! And it's becoming a new person in Him.**

And that's...somebody said to me, "well oh, you're saying we have to believe in the Torah. That degrades my grace" I said, "let me tell you something. I've studied for **years** the Crucifixion; I've studied how Yahshua was beaten; I've been in the very cell that He stood where He shed His blood. And for you to tell me that He did that so you can continue going out committing adultery. You are degrading my grace!"

He didn't die to save us *in* our sin; He came to die to save us *from* our sin. Because **the penalty of the Torah is not law-keeping; the penalty of the Torah is law-breaking!** And **it's law-breaking that's going to bring curses; NOT obedience!**

That's why I say look from Genesis to Revelation, **you will NEVER find ONCE that there is a penalty for being obedient! There are only penalties for breaking the Torah.** And this where Satan catches people because they do repent, they ask for forgiveness, but they never move on; there's never is a change of life. And **if there's not a change of life, you're going to continue in the same pattern you did before.** And then, you know what he says, Hebrews 10, *if you continue to sin after the full knowledge of the Truth, there's no more sacrifice concerning sin.*

It's almost like...like it says, we're putting Messiah back on that torture stake; a second time and a third time and a fourth time. So repent, replace, restore; first repent...Acts 2:37...and like I say, **you don't just repent for what you did; you repent for who you are. Our human nature is a fallen nature, it's an evil nature.**

Most of psychology will tell you that people are basically good people who do bad things; when the reality is the opposite that we're evil people that sometime might do a good thing; and usually when we do a good thing, it's usually for a reason. "You know I gave ten million dollars to this hospital so they can make it the Don Esposito wing...the Don Esposito wing of this"...people do it for that reason.

But we have to realize we do have a fallen nature and we need to repent. Because if we're going to put on the Mind of Messiah that means that **we have to die to that old self; we have to let our human nature die and we have to allow Him to build up Himself in us.**

And **that's the mystery of the Good News; Messiah in you, the Hope of Glory**...that when you're baptized, when you have laying on of hands...it's not a ceremony; you're not joining a church; it's not filling out a card. That literally, **the eternal Creator of the universe is putting His Spirit in you and living in you! But you still have free will; so you have to surrender to that Spirit that's in you and you have to die to your free will.** It's not an easy thing to do, but it is an easy concept of it and that is what repentance is. Acts 2:37:

Acts 2:37-39 *And hearing, they were touched in the heart...*this is the Shavuot sermon; the first one Peter gives when he's telling them Yahshuas the Messiah. It's not King David and they're pricked to the heart and they're saying, "what do we do?" *And hearing, they were touched in the heart and said to Simon Peter and the rest of the apostles, Men, our brothers, What shall we do? And Peter said to them, Repent and be baptized, each of you in the name of Yahshua YAHWEH for the forgiveness of sins, that you may receive the*

gift of the Spirit of Holiness. For the promise is to you and your children...and here's a blessing...and to all those afar off, as many as the Master our Elohim shall call.

So **there's got to be true repentance; it's not just something that you say**; it's not a little prayer you say at the end of a bar stool after the fourth beer; **it's a change of life...it's something that's got to be real. It's got to be a conviction and it's got to be real repentance.** Leviticus 26 in verse 39...because this is really interesting...this is for our time we're living now and look at what Yahweh says about the time we're living in now and about repentance...Leviticus 26 verse 39, He says:

Leviticus 26:39-45 *And those who are left of you, they shall melt away in their iniquity, in the lands of their enemies; and also in the iniquities of their fathers, they will dwindle away...so this is talking to the Israelites why they go into captivity for disobedience, but now He's talking how do get redeemed. How do they get back to the Promised Land? How do they get back into the graces of Yahweh. He says...**And if they shall confess their iniquity, and the iniquity of their fathers, in their trespass with which they have trespassed against Me; and, also, that they have walked contrary to Me, that I also have walked contrary to them, and I have brought them into the land of their enemies; if their uncircumcised hearts are then humbled, and they are pleased to pay for their iniquity; then I will remember My covenant with Jacob, and also My covenant with Isaac, and I will remember My covenant with Abraham, and I will remember the land. For the land shall be forsaken by them, and they shall satisfy for the Sabbaths, in the desolation without them. And they shall satisfy for their iniquity, because, even because, they have kicked against My judgments, and their soul has loathed My statutes. And yet for all that, when they are in the land of their enemies, I will not reject them, nor will I hate them, to consume them, to break My covenant with them; for I am YAHWEH their Elohim. Then I will remember for them the covenant of the first fathers, whom I brought forth out of the land of Egypt in the sight of the nations, that I might be their Elohim; I am YAHWEH.***

And I'll tell you something, I've studied congregational history for more than thirty years. My book is here, you're welcome take it. It's an amazing book on Yahshua's Congregation from 30AD all the way today...a lot of good Church of God history that's in there.

And one thing is...in all my studies...I was blessed I went to Italy; I went to where the Waldenses were; they allowed me to go in all their archives...I got stuff that probably a handful of people in the world would have, but I have never in all the history of the Congregation of the wilderness, I never read of them believing in the Ephraimites and about that.

That is something that only came up in the last generation. Matter a fact, even if you go to Church of God Seventh Day, under Elder Dugger, he never preached it. One of the things that separated Herbert Armstrong from the Church of God Seventh Day was the Holy Days because Dugger was only preaching three Holy Days, not seven; and it was the fact that he was teaching about the Ephraimites; us being Ephraimites was something that the Church of God Seventh Day didn't accept.

So why...why did the Father hide that for all those years? And now, we're only understanding we're Ephraimites; because if you don't understand that you're an Israelite, this Scripture really doesn't mean very much to you. But when you understand that you're great, great, great, great, great, great, great, great, great granddaddy twenty-seven times removed was either Dan or Naphtali or Simeon and that you would be living there today if it wasn't for their sin...you realize why **we have to repent for them beside us!**

If we want to go back there; if we want to be there and it doesn't have to be today, but Yahshua returns...He's returning not to Mount Rushmore; He's returning to the Mount of Olives; and that's where we'll be...all of us will be there! You're either there or you're not then **we need to repent for the sins of our fore-fathers that got**

us here. We need to repent; we need to look in the Bible and see the mistakes they made in the wilderness because we're going through a second wilderness now. And we need to restore those things; we need to break those patterns that they broke.

Because if you think about it, and probably most people here I would guess, has seen something like the *Ten Commandments* movie with Charlton Heston...amazing movie, I love the part when they're leaving the land...it's about a twenty-five minute scene and they really get in the detail with all the animals and pregnant women...it's an awesome scene when they're leaving Egypt and you really think about it...but **if you look in the Bible, to date by far, that is greatest miracle that Yahweh has ever done.**

That He, personally, had intervened to the greatest nation on earth at the time Pharaoh who was a young man, like twenty-six, who was amazingly had strength...there was a bow that took, they said like six men to do that Pharaoh could do himself and that Yahweh went in there with no weapons, no swords, no army and annihilated them.

And takes them; parts the Red Sea...did all of that so the greatest miracle in our time, in this time, to prove that He exists and only two went to the Promised Land; twenty and above. That's scary! Because like I said, I've always been a mathematician and I don't like those odds; two point six million leaving Egypt and two go into the Promised Land, twenty and above...I don't like those odds...they're not good odds.

So what I want to do is when **Corinthians 10** tells me, everything they went through was for our time...wow, I want to devour it...I want to know what it is! That's why I love the Dead Sea Scrolls because scrolls that were hidden, from the time the Romans came in and destroyed Israel, until the very night before Israel's being voted on to become a nation, they're found; there's got to be something in there for us! Those things got to be important because they were hidden for all that time and they are...there's a lot of neat things in there.

But it's the same thing, **we need to learn from these experiences and we need to make to sure we're not making the same mistakes.** And why...why were they cursed? Why didn't they enter the Promised Land? **Repent, replace, restore**...Jacob 4...Book of Jacob 4th chapter, verse 6...simple Scripture, but important:

Jacob 4:6-7 *But He gives greater grace. Because of this it says, "YAHWEH sets Himself against proud ones, but He gives grace to humble ones." Then submit to YAHWEH. Resist the Devil, and he will flee from you... submit to YAHWEH. Resist the Devil, and he will flee from you.*

Too many times we're putting that in the wrong way. We're trying to resist the Devil before we submit to Yahweh; we can't do it on our own.

That's why people say...if you look in the Bible and do a chronology of the Passover, it's extremely clear. The Passover begins the beginning of the 14th...they keep the Passover; midnight on the 14th because the 14th day is the Passover which means the Passover...the death angel *passed over* at midnight...so they're keeping the Passover beginning of the 14th; the angel passes over at midnight and the day light portion of the 14th, they're leaving. They're getting their things together and then when the 15th is beginning, they're leaving.

And people say, "Well, that doesn't make sense because we're eating unleavened bread the beginning of the 14th and then we're eating leaven during the Passover and then we don't eat leaven" ...it's like, but that's not the point of it. **The point of it is you cannot take the leaven out of your house until you take the Passover** and that's why it's that way.

We take the symbols early 14th and if you read the Scripture, it's not doing spring cleaning two weeks before that, **you take the leaven out after you take the symbols because you cannot take sin out of your life**

without having Messiah living in you; it's impossible...we just spin our wheels; and that's the same thing over here.

You cannot resist the Devil on your own; you have to submit to Yahweh first; and when you submit to Yahweh, now you have His blessing! Now, you have the fear that's on you because of that and then it becomes very simple because you're not doing it.

Just like when the Red Sea crossing was there...what did He say to the Israelites? **He said, "Stand back and see the salvation of Yahweh. These Israelites you see today, you will see them no more. You be still! And I will fight for you."** Too many times we're not being still; we're not allowing Him to do this. So repentance is really important; and faith comes with it of course.

Number two: Replace...replace. If you're going to break a stronghold...if you're going to break a curse in your life and get the blessing you have to replace the good for the bad. 1st Samuel 16:1...and this is after Saul was removed from being King and David was taken over and what happens? Samuel is mourning...rightly so...Saul's the first king and look what Yahweh says:

1st Samuel 16:1 *And YAHWEH says to Samuel...1st Samuel 16:1...Until when will you mourn for Saul, for I have rejected him from reigning over Israel? Fill your horn with oil and go. I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have seen a king for Me among his brothers.*

So again, you have to replace...there's a time to move on and if there's something that's in your life...you see even very simple things like people that are smokers and they have a problem quitting smoking and they start chewing gum to replace the smoking. We are creatures of habits; we are like Pavlov's dogs to a way; we are mentally that way and Yahweh made us that way, why?

Because under the right circumstances if you were brought up by believing parents and they taught you the Torah as you woke, as you are going on the way, as you're going to bed; when you get older you would never depart from it. Unfortunately, we're coming from a broken family; our fore-fathers weren't obedient. And now we're the generation that Yahweh is working with to bring us back there.

So if we're going to break those strongholds, you have to replace the bad with the good. People that are having health problems, like I said, how could someone pray over them and ask for healing for cancer if you're going go back to cigarettes? And it's the same thing, all these sicknesses today...particularly when you look at cancer and some of these things...most of them come from the things we're doing, the food we're eating, the life-styles that we have; not having proper sleep, refined sugars...all these things.

So how can we ask Yahweh for good health if we're not living by the health laws? It's very interesting because when you look in the Bible, and although the Torah is perfect; He says it...the Torah is holy, just and good; the Commandments are Yahweh's eternal character and they never change.

But when you look at a lot of the statutes and the judgments, a lot of them were things having to deal that time. I mean three times it says *not to boil a kid in its mother's milk* and the Jewish people you shouldn't eat hamburgers and all this other stuff, but it's really not saying that! It's pretty simple, well why would He say three times, *not to boil a kid in its mother's milk*? Well, number one, the principal...and like I said, learn Yahweh's principal; it never changes...that you wouldn't...the milk is supposed to give life to the kid, you wouldn't kill it by the thing that gives it life.

But why is He saying it? Because it's a Canaanite practice, they're coming in...they're going into a land where these Canaanites and they're sacrificing to goats and that's why He says, *don't cut the corners of your beard*

and have a devil-like goatee and look like a devil goat because there's all these devil goats there that are the priests. So you got to think about it, as they're going into the Land, He's telling them things that are practical to them so that they wouldn't fall to idolatry.

But if He was writing the Torah today, He probably would be adding in things like not eating refined sugar and these kind of things because they're things that are killing you; they're really not good. So again, the Kingdom of Yahweh is not meat and drink and I'm not trying to say to go back to the days like in the early Church of God days where they're coming with a white glove in your cabinet to see if you have white flour.

No, I'm saying personally, it's not for us to judge each other; it's for us to judge our self...that **if we want the principal of good health and we're going to ask for it then we need to live by the principals; it's that simple**...that's what we need to do.

So what do you do? You replace...it's very simple...replace fine sugar with pure honey; raw honey. It's always easy; there's always something good that Yahweh made that you can replace with it, but it is important because if you don't replace the bad habit with a good habit...you know what you're going to do? You're going to go back to the bad. Like he says, *like the dog back to his vomit*. You have to make sure...because this where the physical comes into place. 1st Corinthians 9:27 says:

1st Corinthians 9:27 *but I conquer and subdue my body, so that, by no chance, when I have preached to others, I myself become rejected.*

And although our fight is not against flesh and blood, right? The only flesh and blood our fight is against is us; we are flesh and blood and we do have to fight our self. And that's the flesh and blood you have to fight; that if you could conquer yourself; the rest is pretty easy because the Holy Spirit...you don't have to do anything. There's one Spirit and it's always going to work the same way, but we do have to surrender to it. So you have to conquer yourself and your flesh to be able to do that. Matthew 5 in verse 43...Matthew 5 in verse 43, He says:

Matthew 5:43-48 *You have heard that it was said, "You shall love your neighbor" and hate your enemy; but I say to you, Love your enemies; bless those cursing you, do well to those hating you; and pray for those who take you by force and persecute you, so that you may become sons of your Father in Heaven. Because He causes the sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the just and unjust. For if you love those loving you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax-collectors do the same? And if you only greet your brothers, what exceptional thing do you do? Do not the tax-collectors do so? Therefore, you become perfect or complete, even as your Father in Heaven is perfect.*

So that's the point of it is...is that **in our life we have to replace** because the Bible says in the end time there will not be natural affection and today, even with families, there's people that hate their families, people that don't talk...it is un-natural to love an enemy; it's not humanly natural. But **you can do it through the Spirit of Yahweh and that's what He says; we have to become like Him.**

You have to **replace bitterness with love**. There shouldn't be bitterness in our life, why? Because any root of bitterness will grow; it will grow and grow and grow and it will overtake your mind and that's what's going to not be able to break those strongholds.

So repent, replace and the last thing is restore. Restore, like I said, *eye for eye, tooth for tooth, life for life*; that forgiveness is one thing, but there's got to be restoration. So you want to **make sure you're praying to the Father to reclaim what was lost; ask Him for it**, pray back. Look at Joel 2...Joel 2...little Book, three chapters, but all about the times we're living in today...Joel 2 in verse 12, He says:

Joel 2:12-14 *Yet now even now turn to Me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with wailing, declares YAHWEH. Yea, tear your heart, and not your robes; turn to YAHWEH your Elohim. For He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and He pities concerning the evil. Who knows if He will turn and have pity and leave a blessing behind Him, a food offering and a drink offering for YAHWEH your Elohim?*

So right...that's what He says. If you repent, who knows? What do you got to lose, right? It's practical...but then let's drop down and look what happens when it's restored...verse 23:

Joel 2:23-27 *Then be glad, sons of Zion, and rejoice in YAHWEH your Elohim. For He has given to you the early rain according to righteousness, and He will cause the rain to come down on you, the early rain and the latter rain in the first month...We're living this second Shavuot is being poured out; the latter rain, it's coming, it's here. So we want to be asking Him for this...And the floors shall be filled with grain, and the wine vats shall overflow with wine and oil. And I will restore to you the years which the swarming locust have eaten, the locust larvae, and the stripping locust, the cutting locust, My great army which I sent among you. And you shall eat fully and be satisfied; and you shall praise the name of YAHWEH your Elohim, who has dealt wondrously with you. And My people shall not be ashamed forever. And you shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and I am YAHWEH your Elohim, and there is no other. And My people shall not be ashamed forever.*

So here it is, you got to ask Him for that; you got to **ask Him for the restoration...you got to ask Him to restore**. There was a man years back that I was praying for that had cancer and he had only about a week to live, from what he said that they told him...he had stomach cancer...and I was praying for him and all the brethren were there...I had my hands on his stomach and literally you could hear (*swishing, churning sound*) and literally, a new stomach came. He went back to the doctor; the doctor couldn't believe it that literally the cancer was gone and a new stomach was there; and that's Yahweh is.

He's a Redeemer, He's a Restorer; but you got to ask. Why don't we receive? Because you don't ask and when you ask you ask amiss. So when we're doing the things; **when we are really repenting and we're living the life-style to get those blessings, He wants us to ask for them. He wants us to give us these blessings** and we shouldn't be afraid to...we shouldn't be afraid to ask Him for these blessings. Luke 19...a few more Scriptures, we'll be done, not too long...Luke 19...and this is the story of Zaccheus...or like we say Zach-e-us!...we have these Bible tapes from the Hebraic Roots Bible and it's a computer voice and he calls it Zach-e-us, with a British accent!...

Luke 19:1-10 *And going in, He passed through Jericho. And, behold, a man called by the name of Zaccheus; and he was a chief tax collector, and he was rich. And he was seeking to see Yahshua, and who He was. And he was not able, because of the crowd, and he was little in stature. And running ahead, he went up onto a sycamore tree, so that he might see Him; for He was going to pass through that way...now it's really interesting, like I was telling you, when you come to Israel things come alive...we've been there...some of you might even have been with us...I don't remember Greg, if you've ever been there, but we went to this tree. There's a two thousand year old Sycamore tree, the only one, which is amazing because Sycamore trees don't usually get that gigantic, that is in Jericho. They have it all surrounded, but its amazing tree there. But like I said, why a Sycamore tree, right...could be anything. Because the Hebrew word for Sycamore is *Shikma*, and the word literally means redemption. And this is why I say the Bible is filled with this. There's a reason for every tree, there's a reason for every plant, **there's a reason for every word because He's showing what He's doing; that He's Elohim of Redemption here**. So He sees the Sycamore tree and verse 5...*And as He came to the place, looking up, Yahshua saw him, and said to him, Zaccheus, hurry, come down, for today I must stay in your house. And having hastened, he came down and welcomed Him, rejoicing. And having seen, all murmured, saying, He has gone in to stay with a sinful man. But standing, Zaccheus said to the Master,**

Behold, Master, half of my possessions I give to the poor. And if in anything I accused anyone falsely, I restore it fourfold.

And when you look in the Torah, even according to the Torah he only had to give half of what he wanted to; but **he was looking for the redemption; he was looking to get that blessing back that he lost in his life. So he was willing to give abundantly**, right?...*And Yahshua said to him, Today salvation has come to this house, for he is also a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek and to save one being lost.*

So again, sometimes with the whole around us people want to be negative; and they want to cut you down, they want to tell you can never do this, you'll never be healed, you'll never be this...don't listen to it. **Yahweh is Elohim of restoration and if we're doing our part; we have to be bold in faith asking Him to do His part and He will. We have to believe it...we have to trust in it.** 1st Chronicles 4, 9 and 10...very unique story here, interesting character called Jabez...1st Chronicles 4:9 and 10:

1st Chronicles 4:9-10 *And Jabez was more honorable than his brothers...his character kind of comes from nowhere...connected to the Rechabites...another interesting people...And his mother called his name Jabez, saying, Because I bore with sorrow. And Jabez called to the Elohim of Israel, saying, If indeed You would bless me, and make my border larger, and Your hand would be with me, and that You would keep me from evil so that it may not grieve me! And Elohim gave him what he asked.*

And it's like, wow...this guy is not even an Israelite...he's coming from the line of the Kenites and the Rechabites and he asked a pretty bold thing and what does the Father say, "I give it to you." We see the same with Moses, when Moses comes in and asks some things. So I mean, again, **if we're asking in the right motivation; if we're asking with the right attitude then we shouldn't be afraid to ask the Father for blessings like this to restore because it's not just for us.**

I'll take for instance something like divorce, we know we're looking at close to sixty percent divorce rate and maybe your parents were divorced and maybe their parents and maybe there's a lot of divorce in your family, but that doesn't mean nothing; that's yesterday. Today, if you claim that blessing back and you say, "You know what, it's not for my parents who are dead and my grandparents who are dead, this is for my children and their children and their children."

Then you can claim that back; you can claim back the marriage covenant. You can claim these things back, but we have to do it. **We have to make sure we're claiming it back, that we're praying; we're letting the blood of Messiah cover any generational curse that could have come there**, what we're doing.

Psalm 78...Psalm 78 in verse 3...like I said, sickness...and it doesn't matter if they tell you, well you know...genetically...your grandparents and your parents genetically had heart conditions...genetically had high cholesterol...what does that mean? That doesn't mean nothing; what means something is what blessing Yahweh wants to give you...what blessing Yahwehs there to restore to you.

And for the sake of your family you want to restore these blessing back because we see that one person, right? Look at the story with Achan, right, with Joshua...remember one person's sin caused all the camp to be cursed. And they found him and they stoned him, but the same way; one person's blessing can cause all the camp to be blessed. Psalm 78 in verse 3, he says:

Psalm 78:3-8 *those which we have heard and known, and our fathers have told us. We will not hide them from their sons; we declare to the coming generation the praises of YAHWEH; yea, His strength and His wonderful works that He has done. For He raised a Testimony in Jacob, and He set the Torah in Israel; which He commanded our fathers to make them known to their sons; so that a coming generation may know; sons shall*

be born; they shall rise up and tell their sons, so that they might set their hope in Elohim, and not forget the works of El, but keep His commandments. And they shall not be like their fathers, a stubborn and rebellious generation, a generation that prepared not its heart; yea, whose spirit was not faithful with El.

So here we are, like I said, it doesn't matter what our great, great, great grandparents did; it doesn't matter that we come from Israelite's stock who were kicked out of the Promised Land; this is the day of restoration. **This is the day of restoring and Yahweh is using us to do that. So we want to reclaim and we want to restore these blessings in our life for our family and for our children and for their children.**

Through Messiah all curses and strongholds are broken. We have to **claim this victory and verbally pronounce it. You have to verbally pronounce it; you have to say the prayer.** Pray to Yahshua, ask Him...ask Him to break any stronghold or curse in your life; ask Him through His Spirit to do that.

We have to seek every avenue in our life; our family, our family life, financial life, relationships; we have to make sure that no curse is in our life. Some have been under a curse for so long they're used to it and they just allow it to happen like abuse in many cases; they don't know anything else. We must break all curses as it may be idolatry. If there's a curse there; it could even be idolatry. And it may be holding back other blessings in our life.

Like I said, if the curse was divorce then we want to revise strong marriage. If the curse is health; then we want to reclaim a healthy life-style from Elohim's health principals instead of bad health decisions that cause it. Last Scripture is Deuteronomy 30 in verse 11...Deuteronomy 30 in verse 11, it says:

Deuteronomy 30:11-20 *For this command which I am commanding you today is not too wonderful for you, nor is it too far off. It is not in the heavens that you should say, Who will go up into the heavens for us, and bring it to us, and cause us to hear it, that we may do it? And it is not beyond the sea that you should say, Who will cross over for us to the region beyond the sea and take it for us, and cause us to hear it, that we may do it? For the Word is very near to you, in your mouth and in your heart, that you may do it. Behold, I have set before you today life and good and death and evil, in that I am commanding you today to love YAHWEH your Elohim, to walk in His ways, and to keep His commandments and His statutes, and His judgments, and that you live and multiply, and YAHWEH your Elohim will bless you in the land where you are going in, to possess it. But if you turn away your heart, and you do not listen, and are impelled to, even bow down to other gods, and serve them; I have declared to you today that you shall certainly perish. You shall not prolong your days in the land to which you are crossing the Jordan, to go in there to possess it. I call Heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, the blessing and the curse. Therefore, choose life, that you and your seed may live, to love YAHWEH your Elohim, to cause to listen to His voice, and to cleave to Him. For He is your life, and the length of your days so that you may live in the land which YAHWEH has sworn to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give it to you.*

So again, there's cause and effect in everything...like it said in the beginning in Proverbs 26, there's no causeless curse that comes. **Everything in our life, blessing or cursing, is coming by our actions, our words, our mental attitude**, but the great part is that...like Yahweh shows us in His Word...it can be broken. **It's not something that has to take months and years; it's an attitude.**

You can break any curse; you can start a new pattern, a good life style in anything that's happening and that will continue; not only for you, but for your families, your congregations. Because as we're living in a world that's under a curse...we see in the end time Yahweh's Congregation is not under a curse. So the people that do repent and do come to Him; repent, replace, restore...will get those blessings back.

Yahweh bless. Shabbat Shalom!

