

Study of Luke 13
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Luke 13:1-35

1 There were present at that season some that told Messiah of the Galilæans, whose blood, Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. 2 And Yeshua answered, and said unto them, Do you believe that these Galileans were sinners above all the Galileans, because they suffered such things?

What about you, when horrendous things have and or are happening to some people, do **YOU** believe, like a lot of Christians do, when people fall on bad times, that it is because they have sinned worst than other people around them? **IF** you do, then think about what Job went through, and then what Joseph went through for thirteen years, and ask yourself, were they punished because they were worse sinners than most people?

What did Messiah say?

*Verse 3 I tell you, Nay: **BUT**, except you repent, you shall all likewise perish.*

Now I don't know what you think about what Messiah has just said here, **BUT** I believe it is of monumental importance. First of all, we have to understand that Messiah **IS** the Words of the Living Torah of our heavenly Father, made flesh, and since He **IS** the Words of the Torah of YHVH made flesh, then we can be assured that He was teaching His disciples and all people that they are to believe, follow and obey **ALL** the Words of our heavenly Father's Torah of Life. Therefore, when Messiah says, except you **REPENT**, He means, except you **REPENT** of transgressing the Words of the Torah of YHVH, except you **REPENT** from your Sins, **YOU** shall perish just like these Galileans perished.

Then Messiah gives us yet another example of people perishing in Jerusalem, He says in *verse 4 Or those eighteen, upon whom the tower in Siloam fell, and slew them, do you think that they were worse sinners than all men that dwelt in Jerusalem?*

Again we all have to ask ourselves the same question. When bad things happen to people, do we automatically think that it is because they sinned more than other people in their area?

Again, Messiah makes it very clear in *verse 5*

*I tell you, Nay: but, except you **REPENT**, you shall all likewise **perish**.*

The same question has to be posed here, and that is unless we repent from what? Repent from

transgressing the Words of the Torah of our heavenly Father. **IF** what Messiah says **IS TRUE**, that unless **ALL** people repent of transgressing the Words of the Father's Torah of Life, they **WILL PERISH, THEN** what does mean for the people who have chosen to believe and follow the doctrines of men, the people that follow the doctrine of the man made religion of Judaism, where they believe and teach that the Words of the written Torah of YHVH, have somehow been changed and superseded by the man made oral torah of their Rabbis, or the people that follow the doctrine of Christianity and or Catholicism, that states that the Words of the Torah of YHVH have somehow been done away with in whole or in part, and that anyone who believes and keeps the Words of YHVH's Torah of Life **are in bondage?**

According to Messiah they **WILL PERISH!**

Verse 6 He spoke also this parable;

A certain man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came and sought fruit thereon, and found none. 7 Then said he unto the dresser of his vineyard, Behold, these three years I come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and find none: now, cut it down; why does it cumber (take up space) the ground? 8 And the dresser answering said unto him, Master, leave it alone this year also, till I shall dig about it, and dung it: 9 And IF it bear fruit, then that is good: and IF NOT, THEN after that, you shall cut it down.

Since this is a parable we have to ask ourselves:

Who does the certain man represent?

What or who does the fig tree represent?

What does the vineyard represent?

Who does the dresser represent?

What does the three years represent?

What is the fruit that the fig tree is suppose to produce represent?

What does it mean, when the dresser says, I shall dig round about it?

What does the dung represent?

What does it mean, when the vine dresser says, **IF** it does **NOT** produce fruit after that, then you shall cut it down?

The certain man represents our heavenly Father, the fig tree represents the people of Israel, the vineyard represents the Land of Israel, the vine dresser represents Messiah, the three years represents salvation, the fruit that the fig tree, the people of Israel are to produce, **IS** the fruit of of the Holy Spirit, which manifests itself as, obedience to the words of the Torah of our heavenly Father and produce, Love, Joy, Peace, Goodness Longsuffering, Gentleness, Belief (faith), Meekness, Temperance in a person's heart. When the dresser says he will dig round about the fig tree, he means that He will **tend to the tree**, (a metaphor for Messiah tending to the Lost Sheep of the Tribes of Israel) which means that he will give it His personal touch, and the dung represents the nourishment that Messiah will provide for the Tree, the people of Israel; **BUT IF** the fig tree, the people of Israel, do Not appreciate the time that the Vine Dresser, Messiah, the Living Torah made flesh, is spending with them to prepare them to receive the

Words of the Torah, the nourishment that they need for life, **THEN** the Vineyard owner (*our heavenly Father*) will come and cut that tree down.

Therefore the lesson that Messiah is teaching us in this parable, is, that He **IS** our intercessor and that He will take the time to teach us the Ways of the Vineyard owner, our heavenly Father, **BUT** if we do **NOT** accept or take in and internalize the nourishment that He gives us, **IF** we do not internalize the Words of our heavenly Father's Torah of Life, then our heavenly Father Himself will indeed cut us down, destroy us, send us to the second death.

Verse 10 And Messiah was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Shabbat. 11 And, behold, there was a woman who had a spirit of infirmity eighteen years, and was bowed together, and could not in any way lift herself up. 12 And when Yeshua saw her, He called her to Him, and said unto her, Woman, you are loosed from your infirmity.

I want you to notice that Messiah, did **NOT** say, that the woman was possessed by a demon or a devil, that needed to come out of her, He simply said, as He has done to so many others, you are loosed or cured from your infirmity, for that is what Messiah does for all people that come to Him to be healed.

*Verse 13 And He laid his hands on her (Please remember that Messiah **IS** the Words of the Living Torah of our heavenly Father made flesh, which means that what was laid upon this woman, **ARE** the Words of the Living Torah of our heavenly Father, and what happened when the Words of our heavenly Father's Torah of Life were placed upon her?) and **immediately** she was made straight*

(Yashar, יָשָׁר, means, straight, right, pleasing, upright, to be smooth, be straight, be right, made level, he straightened, and this word Yashar is part of the name of Yisrael, Yeshar and El and the word El is a short form of the title Elohim, therefore the word Yisrael or Yeshar El, means the straight and upright path of Elohim that will lead all who willingly and lovingly choose to follow it, onto everlasting life, in the kingdom of Elohim),

It is very important that we understand what has just happened here, for it says that **IMMEDIATELY** upon the Words of the Living Torah being placed upon this woman, she became Yeshar El, which means that she was put on the straight and upright path of Elohim, the Words of His Torah of Life, that **WILL** lead all people who willingly and lovingly choose to follow YHVH's path of Righteousness, onto everlasting life, in the kingdom of Elohim, which is a metaphor for salvation.

And what did she do when she stood upright?

She glorified Elohim.

That **IS**, the mandate for all the people that profess to be YHVH's Israel, we are to Glorify Elohim, and the only way to Glorify Elohim,, **IS** by willingly choosing to believe, follow and obey, **ALL** the Words of our heavenly Father's Torah of Life.

Next, as always, we are exposed to the Nay Sayers that come out to contradict the Words of the Living Torah made flesh, our Messiah, for the people of **ALL** man made religions **DO NOT** follow **NOR** obey the Words of the written Torah of YHVH, the very same Torah that YHVH gave to Moses at Mount Sinai, **BUT** instead, in the case of the people that we are talking about here, the people of Israel/Judah, the Jews, they were practicing the man made religion of Judaism, which means that they chose to believe, follow and obey the man made oral torah of their Rabbis, the man made doctrine that is based on the finite wisdom of man, the very same wisdom that YHVH calls foolishness, especially when you compare it to the infinite wisdom of Elohim.

And what does the ruler of the Synagogue say?

*Verse 14 And the ruler of the synagogue answered with **indignation**, because that Yeshua had healed on the Shabbat day, and the synagogue leader said unto the people,*

*There are six days in which men ought to work: in them therefore, come and be healed, and do **NOT** come on the Shabbat day to be healed.*

By saying these words, the synagogue leader is actually contradicting the Words of YHVH that Messiah, the Living Torah made flesh, spoke in *Mark 2:27 And Messiah said unto them, The Shabbat was **made for man**, and **not man for the Shabbat**: 28 Therefore the Son of man **IS Master also of the Shabbat**.*

Again I have to say that it is very important that we remember and understand that Messiah **IS** our Intercessor, Comforter, Advocate, Counsellor, Standby and or Strengthened; and therefore since He is the Master of the Shabbat, it means that as the Master, He can do what He wants on the Shabbat, including healing, for it is permitted to do **GOOD** on the Shabbat.

*Verse 15 Messiah then answered the synagogue leader, and said, **YOU** hypocrite, **DOES NOT EACH ONE OF YOU** on the Shabbat, loose his ox or his ass from the stall, and leads him away to watering?*

Messiah does **NOT** wait for an answer from this synagogue leader, because the answer is obvious, for that **IS** exactly what they all do, for they know that their animals need water to live, and they also know that **IF** their animals are not taken care of, they will not perform as they should, which means less work, less crops, less money. After telling the synagogue leader and those around him, the **TRUTH**, Messiah then says, therefore since you treat your animals with that kind of **CARE**: Ought not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom satan has bound, lo, these eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the Shabbat day?

*Verse 17 And when He had said these things, **ALL** His adversaries (the Pharisees, Sadducees and synagogue leaders) were **ashamed**: **BUT ALL** the people **rejoiced** for all the glorious things that were done by Him (on the Shabbat).*

The religious leaders were ashamed because they have been caught in their hypocrisy, **BUT** the people rejoiced, because they knew in their hearts, that what the Rabbis had said about **NOT** healing on the Shabbat was **WRONG**.

Verse 18 Then Messiah said: Unto what is the kingdom of Elohim like? And whereunto shall I resemble it?

Here Messiah poses a question to all the people that were present and asks them what the kingdom of Elohim is like. What would your answer be, **IF** Messiah asked you that question? How would you describe the kingdom of Elohim?

Messiah's uses two examples to describe what the kingdom of Elohim is like.

*Verse 19 It is like a grain of **mustard seed**, which a man took, and cast into his garden; and it grew, and waxed a **great tree**; and the fowls of the air lodged in the branches of it.*

Why would Messiah use a **mustard seed** for an example of what the kingdom of Elohim is like? And what do the **birds** that come and lodge in the branches of the mustard tree represent?

Mustard bushes reach an average mature height of between 6 and 20 feet with a 20-foot spread; although exceptional plants can reach 30 feet tall under ideal conditions. They have a spreading, multi stemmed growth habit with a drooping or weeping branch structure. The mustard seed is frequently referenced in world literature, including in religious texts, as a metaphor for something small or insignificant.

Messiah uses a mustard seed to describe the kingdom of Elohim, to show us how great the kingdom can become in ones life, **IF** that person will simply allow the Word of YHVH, His small seed, the smallest Jot or Tittle of His Word, to enter their lives. The birds represent the souls or the spirit of the people that have made the conscious decision to make the Mustard Tree, which is a metaphor for the Tree of Life, the Words of the Torah of YHVH, their permanent residence, their permanent resting place.

*Verse 20 And again He said, Whereunto shall I liken the kingdom of Elohim? 21 It is like leaven, which a woman took and hid in **three** measures of meal, till the whole was leavened.*

In this second example Messiah uses an item that is often a metaphor for sin, **BUT** in this case it is **NOT** a metaphor for sin, **IT IS** a metaphor for limitless growth, for **IF** you keep feeding the leaven the food that it needs to grow, it will continue to grow and never stop, just like there are no known limits to the size of the kingdom of Elohim nor the benefits that are found

therein. Furthermore the number **three** hints to the fact that the growth that a person experiences when they internalize the Words of the Father's Torah of Life, will lead them to the kingdom of Elohim, where they will be resurrected onto eternal life, and spend eternity with our heavenly Father and His Son, our Messiah and bridegroom.

Verse 22 And He went through the cities and villages, teaching, and journeying toward Jerusalem.

I know that I often sound like a broken record, but I have to ask, what did Messiah teach, as He went through these villages? Well, since He is the Words of the Living Torah made flesh, it is pretty safe to say, that He was teaching the Words of the Father's Torah of Life, since that is the task that the Father gave Him to do, and Messiah made it very clear in the book of John that He **ONLY** spoke the Words that our heavenly Father told Him to speak and that He was only **DID** what He saw the Father **DO**.

Verse 23 Then a person said unto Him, Master, are there few that will be saved?

What would be your answer to Messiah's question? Well, let's hear what Messiah's answer is.

And He said unto them: Strive to enter in at the strait gate:

Therefore, since Messiah said that we are to strive to enter at the **STRAIT GATE**, we have to ask ourselves, what **IS the STRAIT GATE? It is not the word straight Yashar, that was used for the woman who stood up straight in verse 13, it is the word**

(The word Strait is Strong's number G4728 στενός, stenos, probably from the base of G2476; it means, narrow, from obstacles standing close about, narrowness of space, a narrow space; in Hebrew it is צָרָר, Tzarar, means to bind, tie up, wrap, he constrained, restricted, to show hostility towards, vex, oppress, it is from the word Tzar, צָר, which, as an adjective, means, narrow, distress, anguish, it also means, enemy, foe, it also means, a rock, flint)

Therefore the Strait Gate is a **portal that is narrow**, that very few people will be able to fit through, **BECAUSE** it is a gate or a portal where **ONLY** the humble in heart can go through, a gate where there is **NO** room for pride, or relying on your own understanding, and therefore to be able, or allowed to enter at the **STRAIT NARROW GATE**, YHVH's Portal onto everlasting Life, **ALL** people **MUST** first, willingly surrender their will over to YHVH, and if and when they do that, **THEN** the Holy Spirit **WILL** guide these people, who have willingly chosen to surrender **ALL to our heavenly Father**, through the **STRAIT NARROW GATE**.

However, for the people who will **NOT** humble themselves, then this **STRAIT NARROW PORTAL**, will cause **anguish** and **distress** in their lives, because they cannot let go of their possessions, and in many cases, the **STRAIT NARROW PORTAL** itself, will seem to be an enemy that is trying to restrict them from doing what they want to do, which will be interpreted

as something or someone that is trying to oppress them, and something that will NOT allow them to fulfill the lusts of their flesh, and therefore that is **WHY**, there are **NOT** many that will enter in at the **STRAIT NARROW GATE**, YHVH's Portal onto everlasting Life.

Messiah says to this man that asked the question: *for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and **SHALL NOT BE ABLE**.*

Why will they **NOT BE ABLE TO ENTER**? It is because they cannot and will **NOT** surrender control of their lives over to YHVH, they are like Ananias and Sapphira (*Acts 5:1-11*), they do **NOT TRUST** YHVH, and therefore they cannot let go of everything they have, so they hang on to their baggage (*a metaphor for their old man*), and because they hang on to their baggage, (*their old man*) they cannot make it through the **STRAIT NARROW GATE**, and they do **NOT** seem to realize that **THAT**, their reluctance to surrender all to YHVH, their need to hang onto their earthly possessions, IS what is stopping them from making it through the narrow gate. We have to understand that everything of this world, and I mean everything, **MUST** be left behind, and please understand that this choice to leave everything behind, **IS** a metaphor for putting our full and complete **TRUST** in YHVH, as our Redeemer, Saviour, Provider and Protector.

*Verse 25 When once the master of the house is risen up, and has **shut to the door**, (on Judgement Day), and **YOU** stand without, and begin to knock at the door, saying, Master, Master, open unto us; and He shall answer and say unto you, I do **NOT** know you, or from whence (from what place, state, source or cause) you are coming from:*

So here we are told that there are many people that **WILL NOT BE ABLE to** enter at the **STRAIT NARROW GATE**, and as I explained above, the reason they cannot enter at the **narrow gate IS** because they have **NOT** been able to fully **TRUST** YHVH, and because they do **NOT TRUST** YHVH, they **CANNOT** and will **NOT** put **ALL** of their possessions, their ego, their families, their lives in His Hands, and when Judgement day comes, they will be on the wrong side of the **NARROW GATE**, which **IS** the **ONLY GATE** into the kingdom of Elohim.

What does Messiah say will happen to these people?

*Verse 26 Then shall you (those outside the gate) begin to say, We (the people of the man made religions of the world, and especially the man made religions of Judaism, Christianity and Catholicism, that profess to believe and obey the Elohim of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob) have eaten and drunk in **Your presence**, and You have taught in our streets.*

Then, sadly for these people Messiah says in *verse 27*

*But He shall say, I tell you, I do **NOT KNOW**, Yada you, I don't know where you are from, what you believe, where your source of information is from, therefore; **DEPART** from Me, **ALL YOU workers of iniquity**.*

This is exactly what Messiah said to people in *Matthew 7:21-23* *Not every one that says unto Me, Master, Master, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; BUT he that does the WILL of my Father who is in heaven. Many will say to Me in that day, Master, Master, have we not prophesied in Your Name? And in Your Name have rebuked devils? And in Your Name done many wonderful works? And then, I Messiah will profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from Me, ye that work Lawlessness, iniquity, you that constantly transgress the Words of My Father's Torah of Life.*

You don't have to search very far to see what the Will of our heavenly Father is, *Deuteronomy 10:12-13* *And now, Israel, what does YHVH your Elohim REQUIRE of you, BUT to fear YHVH your Elohim (the fear of YHVH IS the beginning of wisdom), to walk in ALL His Ways, and to love Him, and to serve YHVH your Elohim with ALL your heart and with ALL your soul, To keep the Commandments of YHVH, and His Statutes, contained in the Words of His Torah of Life, which I command you this day for your good?*

Messiah is speaking to **ALL** of the people that have, and continue to abhor the Words of the Father's Torah of life, the very same Words that YHVH gave to Moses at Mount Sinai, **THEN** He says: **DEPART** from Me, **ALL** you that have contended with the Words of My Father's of Life, depart from Me **ALL** you who chose to change the Father's Words to best suit what you believe, by formulating your own oral torah, which you tell people supersedes the Words of the written Torah of My Father, and depart from Me **ALL** of you that have chosen to abolish the Words of My Father's Torah in whole or in part, and then, to make things even worse, **YOU** hindered those that wanted to believe, follow and obey the Words of My Father's Torah of Life, by instructing them, that **IF** they did follow and obey the Words of My Father's Torah of Life, that they would be going into **BONDAGE** to the Law, **AND** be lost forever, when the **TRUTH IS**, that **IT IS BY OBEYING** the Words of My Father's Torah of Life, **THAT PEOPLE ARE SET FREE.**

What kind of place do you think it will be for the people that are left outside of the kingdom of Elohim?

Verse 28 There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when YOU, that are left outside of the kingdom, SHALL see Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, and all the prophets, in the kingdom of Elohim, and YOU yourselves thrust out.

Just try and picture that scene, because as a Torah obedient person, this **IS** your future, you **WILL**, one day, not only be able to speak with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and **ALL** the prophets, **BUT** you will be able to speak with our heavenly Father also, and furthermore, we can all rest assured that because of our surrendered obedience to the Words of our heavenly Father's Torah of Life, He will take delight in sitting with you and show you how much He loves you.

Verse 29 And they shall come from the east, and from the west, and from the north, and from the south, and shall sit down in the kingdom of Elohim. 30 And, behold, there are LAST which shall be FIRST, and there are FIRST which shall be LAST.

Therefore it is better to exalt YHVH than yourself, for it is only the ones with true servant's hearts, that will be **FIRST**.

*Verse 31 The same day there came certain of the Pharisees, saying unto Him, Get yourself out, and depart from here: for **Herod** will kill You.*

This Herod is **NOT** Herod the great, it is one of his descendants, it is Herod Antipas, and he ruled Galilee when Yeshua began His public ministry)

The fact that some of the Pharisees warned Messiah of what Herod intended to do, is very interesting to me, for it tells me, that even among the Pharisees there were some that believed in what Messiah was teaching and doing, and they did **NOT** want Him to be put to death. I find that fact very encouraging, because it tells me that even though many people are stuck, in many man made religions and their false doctrines, that in the final days, there will be many that will come out of all these man made religions, and their false teachings, just like a lot of the multitude joined themselves to Israel and came out of Egypt, when Moses and the Israelites left Egypt.

Verse 32 And Messiah said unto them, Go, and tell that fox, (Herod) Behold, I rebuke devils, and I do cures to day and to morrow, and the third day, I shall be perfected.

Messiah was telling these Pharisees to go to Herod and let him know what He is doing, which tells me that Messiah was **NOT** afraid of what Herod or anyone else for that matter could do to Him, for He had placed His complete **TRUST** in the Father, and Messiah **KNEW** that the Father would guide and protect Him, until it was time for Him to be sacrificed on the cross, He knew that the Father's plans and His timing, was the Reality that He Messiah lived by, and **NOT** what man had planned.

Verse 33 Nevertheless I must walk today, and tomorrow, and the day following: for it cannot be that a prophet perish out of Jerusalem.

Here Messiah is speaking of His three days in the Tomb, before He will be resurrected onto everlasting Life, and then He says something, that on the surface does **NOT** seem to be true, He says: it cannot be that a prophet perish in Jerusalem.

What does Messiah mean by these words, for He makes it very clear in *verse 34* that many prophets that were sent to Jerusalem, were killed

Verse 34 O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets, and stones them that are sent unto you;

I believe that Messiah is talking about the message that the prophet of YHVH brought to Jerusalem, **IS** what **CANNOT** be destroyed or killed, for it is the place that YHVH has chosen

to place His Name there forever, therefore the Word of YHVH will **ALWAYS** be in Jerusalem, even though most people cannot see it. People can reject the Word of YHVH, but the Word of YHVH will never Die, it has been resurrected, however those **WHO** Reject the Words of YHVH's Torah of life, **ARE** the ones that **WILL DIE, and be lost forever.** Amein

Next, in the balance of *verse 34*, Messiah weeps, and is in anguish for Jerusalem.

*How often would I have gathered your children together, as a hen does gather her brood under her wings, **BUT YOU** would **NOT!***

Here Messiah tells us that it is the people of Jerusalem that resisted the prophets, and Him, and since the prophets and Messiah came to teach the Words of our heavenly Father's Torah of Life, it means that the people of Jerusalem resisted and rejected the Words of the written Torah of Moses, and as you can see, **NOT** much has changed because the people of the so called houses of Elohim, throughout the world, including those in Jerusalem, **ARE** still rejecting the Words of the written Torah of Moses, in favour of their own man made doctrines. So what happens when a person, or a nation **REJECTS** the Words of our heavenly Father's Torah of Life?

*Verse 35 Behold, your house is left unto you **desolate**: **AND** verily I say unto you, You (Jerusalem, a metaphor for the people of Tzion) shall **NOT** see Me, **UNTIL** the time comes, when you shall **SAY**, Blessed is he that comes in the Name of YHVH.*

Messiah makes it very clear that without the Words of the Torah of our heavenly Father, residing in **OUR HOUSE**, our house (*our heart and spirit*) will be desolate. **BUT** our heavenly Father who loves all of His children, has once again given us an opportunity to repent, for Messiah concludes His talk by saying in *verse 35*, that **IF** we can learn to say in our hearts Blessed is He, the Living Torah made flesh, who comes in the Name of YHVH, and mean it, then He, then our Saviour and Redeemer will come and make His abode with us. Amein.

Studying and keeping Torah together as a community.

*Have a great Elohim blessed week and may YHVH bless your every thought,
and your every deed. Until we meet again. Amein*