

Study of Philippians 1

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Philippians 1:1-30

1 Paul and Timotheus, the servants of Yeshua Messiah, to all the saints in Messiah Yeshua which are at Philippi, with the bishops and deacons:

In this opening *verse*, Paul tells us that both he and Timotheus, are servants of Messiah. But before we can go any further, we have to ask ourselves, **WHAT** does it mean **TO BE A SERVANT OF MESSIAH?**

Well, let's begin with the word **SERVANT**.

It is Strong's number G1401 **δοῦλος**, *doûlos*, pronounced, *doo'-los*, it is form G1210, and it means, a slave, literal or figurative, involuntary or voluntary; frequently, therefore in a qualified sense of subjection or subserviency, bondman, servant.

In Hebrew it is the word, Eved, **עֶבֶד**, which means, to work, to serve, he worked, did, performed, made, **to work, serve, worship, he served, worshipped, obeyed, servant, slave, worshipper**, he imposed forced labour, he worked, laboured, tilled, cultivated, he served, he worshipped, was dressed, was tanned, said of hides, he cultivated, he dressed, he enslaved, was elaborated, adapted, it means, servant, slave, bondman, worshipper, it means, deed, service, work, action, he made, he did)

In the definition of the word servant we can see that it could be said that he is a worshipper and a servant to his master, and that he obeys his master, This quite clearly implies that a **SERVANT** serves and obeys whomever he is a **SERVANT TO**. What we have to understand is that, in his duties as a **SERVANT**, the **SERVANT DOES NOT DO HIS OWN WILL, BUT HE IS TASKED TO STRICTLY FOLLOW And OBEY THE WILL OF THE MASTER**, and the servant's personal feelings, likes or dislikes, **DO NOT** in any way, enter into the dispatching of his duties, therefore, when Paul says that both he and Timotheus, **ARE SERVANTS OF YESHUA THE MESSIAH, HE MEANS** that both of them willingly **OBEY** and **FOLLOW ALL** the Commandments of Messiah, exactly as Messiah did and taught them to do.

Now that we have established that both Paul & Timotheus **WERE OBEDIENT SERVANTS TO MESSIAH** and that they only carried out Messiah's instructions, exactly as He commanded them to do; and since Paul says, that like him, we too, **ARE** to be **servants** of Messiah, it seems to me, that it is equally as important that we understand who Messiah **IS**, and what Commandments He would have passed on to Paul and Timotheus for them to follow and obey.

To answer that question, let's begin with who Messiah **IS**. *John1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with Elohim, and the Word was Elohim. 1:14 And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we, beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father) full of GRACE, Chen, and TRUTH, Emet.*

Grace, is the Hebrew word, Chen: **חֵן**, and it means, favour, grace, gracious, graciously, charm, to show favour, and if we add the suffix letter Nun, we form the word Chanan, **חַנּוּן**, which

means, to show favour, be gracious, had pity, he longed for, craved for, he granted amnesty, pitied, he was favoured with, he sought or implored favour.

The word Truth, is the Hebrew word, Emet: אֱמֶת, means, stability, sureness, faithfulness, certainty, **TRUTH**, he verified, confirmed, authenticated, and this word, Emet, אֱמֶת, is spelled with the letter Aleph, א, the letter, Mem, מ and the letter Tav, ת. Pictographically, the letter Aleph represents an Ox, leader, it means, first, preeminence, the beginning, the ultimate authority and therefore, it represents our heavenly Father. The letter Mem, represents a few things, it represents, water, and it also represents a woman's womb, a place of safety, a place of growth, a place of incubation for a child, an idea, or a thought, it is representative of a place where a baby, or an idea or a thought is immersed in an amniotic protective life sustaining fluid, and since this protective fluid, is mostly water, it is also a shadow picture of the Father's Holy Spirit who births or brings into being **ALL** of the Father's thoughts. And finally we have the letter Tav which represents a sign, a covenant, and it also represents the manifestation of the thoughts and ideas of our heavenly Father, and in Paleo Hebrew the letters Tav looks like an ✕ or a Cross ✕, slightly tilted to one side, and therefore, it also represents, our Messiah, who was crucified and died on a cross for our Sins, our transgressions of the Words of our heavenly Father's Torah of Life. Furthermore, we can see that the first and last letters of this word, Emet, אֱמֶת are the letters Aleph and Tav, אַת, which are the first and last letters of the Hebrew Alphabet, and together **they represent Messiah**, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the end, the Alpha and the Omega. And, as I mentioned above, the letter Mem, which is in between these two other letters, the Aleph and the Tav, is often a shadow picture of a womb, therefore this Hebrew word Emet, אֱמֶת, that has been translated as the word **TRUE** or **TRUTH** in English, means that it is the Words of the Living Torah, our Messiah, being birthed within our hearts, and it **IS** the **ONE and ONLY TRUTH** that men and women **ARE** to rely on, **IF** they want to spend eternity in the kingdom of Elohim as the Bride of Messiah, *Psalm 119:160 Your Word IS TRUE from the beginning: and every one of Your righteous judgments endures for ever, Psalm 119:142 Your righteousness is an everlasting righteousness, and Your Torah IS the TRUTH)*

This verse along with many others, tell us, that Messiah, **IS** the only begotten Son of our heavenly Father, **WHO IS THE WORD OF OUR FATHER'S TORAH of LIFE MADE FLESH**, and that He **IS** filled with **TRUTH, EMET**. What **IS this TRUTH, this EMET, that messiah is aid to be filled with? It is stability, sureness, faithfulness, certainty**, that Scripture says, Messiah **IS FILLED WITH?**

Let us look to Scripture for the answer.

Psalm 119:142 Your righteousness is an everlasting righteousness and Your Torah (Law) is the TRUTH, EMET.

Psalm 119:151 You are near, O Yahweh; and all Your Commandments are TRUTH, EMET.

Psalm 119:160 Your Word is TRUE, EMET from the beginning: and every one of Your Righteous Judgments endures for ever.

*John 17:17 Sanctify them through Your **TRUTH**: (ἀλήθεια, alētheia, al-ay'-thi-a), Your Word is **TRUTH**. (Strong's number G225, ἀλήθεια, alētheia, al-ay'-thi-a, from G227; truth, true, truly, verity)*

*Ephesians 1:13 In whom you also trusted, after that you heard the word of **TRUTH**, (ἀλήθεια, alētheia, al-ay'-thi-a), the **GOSPEL** of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise,*

In these verses we see that, the **TRUTH, The Emet of our heavenly Father, IS HIS WORD, HIS COMMANDMENTS, HIS GOSPEL and HIS TORAH**, that Yahweh Himself gave to Mosheh at Mount Siynay, which means that they are **ALL ONE AND THE SAME ENTITY**, they are the **TRUTH OF ELOHIM**, and the **TRUTH OF ELOHIM** took on flesh and dwelt among us.

Now armed with this knowledge that Messiah **IS** indeed, the Words of the Living Torah of our heavenly Father **MADE FLESH**, we can see, that when Paul says that **BOTH** He and Timotheus are **SERVANTS** of Messiah, he means that they are servants of our heavenly Father's everlasting **TRUTH**, which in turn means, that they **ARE SERVANTS OF** the Words of our heavenly Father's inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, servants of and or to, the Words of our heavenly Father's Torah of Life.

Next, we have to understand who Paul was speaking to. Paul says, that he is speaking to **ALL** the **SAINTS** and the assembly leaders. That means that Paul is speaking to those who have been regenerated (born again) those who have willingly and lovingly chosen to accept the Living Word, the Living Torah of Elohim, **AS** their Master and Saviour, including the leaders of the Assembly of Elohim, or those of the family of Elohim.

I know that this is a lengthy introduction **BUT IT IS** of paramount importance that we **ALL** understand **WHO** is speaking, **WHAT THEIR PURPOSE** for speaking is, and **TO WHOM** they are speaking, **IF** we are to understand the message that Paul wants to communicate to us.

Verse 2 Grace be unto you, and peace, Shalom, from Elohim our Father, and from Adonai Yeshua Messiah.

In Paul's greeting, he is praying that the **PEACE, the Shalom** of Elohim and of Messiah, fall upon and or is experienced by, each and every believer. That my friends **IS** a very beautiful prayer, just imagine the joy that one has when the Grace and Peace of Elohim does indeed fall upon him or her, a peace, where it seems that everything **IS RIGHT** with the universe.

*Verse 3 I thank my Elohim upon every remembrance of **YOU**, 4 Always in every prayer of mine for you all, making request with joy, 5 For your **fellowship in the Gospel from the first day until now**;*

Here, we see that Paul rejoices, when he thinks of the saints at Philippi, and he lets them know that he prays for them constantly, and, he makes a request of our heavenly Father to have them continue their **fellowship** in the Gospel, which, as we discovered above, **IS**, Yahweh's eternal **TRUTH**, which is synonymous with the Words of our heavenly Father's Torah of Life, as they were when they first came to this understanding and willingly chose to believe, follow and obey the Words of the Father's inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, the Words of His Torah of Life.

As I read this *verse*, there is one word that stood out more than the others, a word that I believe we must focus on and understand to get the full meaning of what Paul is conveying to us here, and that word, **IS** the word, **FELLOWSHIP**, which is the Greek word Koinōnia, Strong's Number G2842, which means *association, community, communion, joint participation, intercourse* and the Hebrew word that **IT IS** translated from, **IS** the word, TeShumet, תְּשׁוּמֶת, which means *to put or to place* and it is from the root word, Shum, שׁוּם, which means: *to assess, value, evaluate, estimate, appraise, judge*.

Therefore to have **FELLOWSHIP IN THE GOSPEL** means *to evaluate it, appraise it, judge it* and **SEE THE VALUE EMBEDDED IN THE GOSPEL**, for as Paul tells us in *Ephesians 1:13* **In whom you also TRUSTED, after that you HEARD THE WORD OF TRUTH, the GOSPEL OF YOUR SALVATION.**

Paul, like Messiah and all the prophets before him, advise **ALL BELIEVERS** to evaluate Elohim's **TRUTH**, and when they come to the realization that **IT DOES INDEED STAND UP TO ANY AND ALL TESTS, THEN** that encourages them and us, to **BELIEVE IT** with every fibre of our beings, and **THAT IS** what Paul **IS** admonishing these Philippians **TO DO**.

We have to understand that Paul wants **ALL OF US, TO JUDGE THE FATHER'S TRUTH**, because Paul **KNOWS**, that **IF** and **WHEN** anyone does indeed do that, they will **ABSOLUTELY BE CONVINCED** as Paul is, that they will all turn to, or return to Elohim, with fully surrendered, loving contrite and obedient hearts, that are filled with a **WILLINGNESS TO LEARN, BELIEVE, FOLLOW, AND OBEY EVERY WORD, THAT PROCEEDS OUT OF THE MOUTH OF YAHWEH.**

Furthermore, the Scripture tells us that when we learn **TO BELIEVE THE FATHER'S TRUTH**, which **IS** the Words of His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, **SCRIPTURE MAKES IT VERY CLEAR, IT WILL SET US FREE.**

Verse 6 Being confident of this very thing, that He which has begun a GOOD WORK in you, WILL PERFORM IT until the day of Yeshua Messiah:

Here again we have to define some words so that we can fully understand Paul's message, therefore we have to ask, **WHAT Good Work** has Yahweh begun in us? Well, **IF** we do a study of the word **Work** or **Works** in Scripture, we are going to see that **IT REFERS TO THE DEEDS** that a person does on a daily basis, therefore, the **WORKS OF David ARE THE DEEDS OF David**, whether good or bad, they are the **DEEDS** of David, and he will either **BENEFIT FROM HIS DEEDS, HIS WORKS** or **BE CURSED BY THEM**, depending on how they stack up against **THE WORD** or **THE TRUTH** of Elohim.

Now at the beginning of this chapter, Paul told us that he and Timotheus are **SERVANTS** of Messiah, and, as we have come to understand, Messiah **IS THE LIVING WORD OF ELOHIM MADE FLESH, HE IS** the inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions of our heavenly Father **IN THE FLESH**. Therefore, as the Living Word of the Father, **IT IS SAFE TO SAY** that He came **TO DO THE WORKS OF THE FATHER**, and at the risk of sounding repetitive, **THE WORKS OF THE FATHER ARE ALL DONE BY** His Living Word, Messiah, *John 1:1-3* **In the beginning was**

the Word, and the Word was with Elohim, and the Word was Elohim. 2 The same was in the beginning with Elohim. 3 ALL THINGS WERE MADE BY HIM; and without Him WAS NOT ANY THING MADE THAT WAS MADE.

It is therefore safe to say that the **WORKS OF ELOHIM ARE His creation, BUT**, we have to understand that Creation came into being **BY THE WORDS SPOKEN DIRECTLY FROM THE MOUTH OF ELOHIM, THEREFORE IT CAN ALSO BE SAID THAT THE WORKS OF ELOHIM ARE HIS WORDS. NOW, IF THE WORKS OF ELOHIM ARE INDEED HIS WORDS** and Paul says that Elohim has begun a **GREAT WORK IN US**, then, what Work do you suppose that **IS, IF HIS WORK, IS HIS WORD?**

IT IS very clear to me and I hope that **IT IS** just as clear to you, that the **WORK THAT ELOHIM HAS BEGUN IN US, IS THAT HE PLACED HIS WORD**, His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, His Torah of Life on our hearts.

*Jeremiah 31:31 Behold, the days come, says Yahweh, that I will make a renewed Covenant with the house of Yisrael, and with the house of Judah: 32 Not according to the Covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which My Covenant **THEY BROKE**, although I was a husband unto them, says Yahweh: 33 **BUT THIS shall be the renewed Covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, says Yahweh, I WILL PUT THE WORDS OF MY TORAH (LAW) IN THEIR INWARD PARTS, AND WRITE IT IN THEIR HEARTS;** and I will be their Elohim, and they shall be My people.*

*Ezekiel 36:24 For I will take you from among the heathen, and gather you out of all countries, and will bring you into **Your own Land**. 25 Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and you **SHALL BE CLEAN: I WILL CLEANSE YOU** from **ALL** your filthiness, **and from all your idols**, 26 A new **HEART** also will I give you, and **A NEW SPIRIT WILL I put within you:** and **I WILL** take away the **STONY HEART** out of your flesh, and I will give you an **HEART** of flesh. 27 And **I WILL PUT MY SPIRIT WITHIN YOU, AND CAUSE YOU** to walk in My **STATUTES**, and you **SHALL KEEP MY JUDGMENTS (Torah), AND DO THEM.***

OK, I have shown you **ALL** of these Scriptures so that you will understand, that the **GOOD WORKS** that Elohim has begun in **YOU, IS THE WORDS OF HIS TORAH**, His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, His Directives for everlasting Life, which He says, He has written upon our **HEARTS**; and the only way to activate the Torah that Yahweh has written on our hearts and **ALL OF ITS BLESSINGS THAT COME ALONG WITH IT, IS THROUGH WILLINGLY AND LOVINGLY CHOOSING TO SURRENDER OUR HEARTS, MINDS, SOULS AND STRENGTH TO OUR HEAVENLY FATHER, AND THEN MAKE A COMMITMENT TO BELIEVE FOLLOW AND OBEY ALL THE WORDS OF OUR HEAVENLY FATHER'S TORAH.**

*Verse 7 Even as it meet (just, right) for me to think this of you all, **BECAUSE** I have you in my heart; inasmuch as both in my bonds, and in the **defence and confirmation** of the Gospel, you all are partakers of my grace.*

OK, what thoughts does Paul have toward these Philippians and what **IS** Paul telling us here, when he says, we are **ALL PARTAKERS OF HIS GRACE?** Paul believes that these Philippians have indeed totally surrendered their lives unto our heavenly Father and have willingly committed

themselves to lovingly **DO THE WORKS OF YAHWEH**, which **IS**, as we discussed above, believing, following, obeying the Words of our heavenly Father's inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, the Words of His Torah of Life.

When Paul says: we are partakers **OF HIS GRACE**, what does he mean? Paul understands that the lifestyle that he lived **prior to** Elohim extending His **GRACE** to Paul, **BY** actually taking him **OUT OF** the lifestyle that he was entrenched in, the lifestyle of blindly following **FALSE** man made doctrines, **FALSE** man made religious denominational teachings, the oral torah that actually **lead people away from** the pure, inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions of our heavenly Father, His **PURE** Torah of Life. Now, after what Paul experienced on the Road to Damascus, Paul has seen the **Light**, and now, by Yahweh's Grace, Paul was taught by the Holy Spirit the Ways and the Words of our heavenly Father, and because of what happened, Paul willingly and lovingly chose to surrender his heart to our heavenly Father, for, as I said above, he was now being taught by the Holy Spirit of our heavenly Father, **HOW** to actually **FOLLOW AND OBEY THE DOCTRINE OF MESSIAH**, which of course **IS THE IDENTICAL DOCTRINE, AS OUR HEAVENLY FATHER'S DOCTRINE**.

Therefore when Paul **SHARES** the Word of Elohim **WITH US**, **WHEN** we read and believe what Paul has written, we **ARE PARTAKING IN THE GRACE THAT ELOHIM EXTENDED TO PAUL**, and please understand that the word **GRACE IS** synonymous with the Word **TORAH, FOR THE TORAH IS ELOHIM'S GRACE EXTENDED TO ALL THE PEOPLES OF THE WORLD**.

Paul goes on to say that we are **all partakers of his GRACE IN THE DEFENCE AND CONFIRMATION OF THE GOSPEL**.

As I mentioned above, the **GOSPEL ACCORDING TO SCRIPTURE IS ELOHIM'S TRUTH** as well as being **Elohim's WORD, Elohim's COMMANDMENTS, Elohim's TORAH**, therefore Paul **IS TELLING US, THAT WE ARE PARTAKERS OF ELOHIM'S WONDROUS TRUTH, HIS TORAH OF LIFE**.

Verse 8 For Elohim IS MY RECORD, (my proof, my witness) how greatly I long after you all in the bowels (affection, tender mercy) of Yeshua Messiah. 9 And this I pray, that your love may abound yet more and more in KNOWLEDGE and in ALL JUDGMENT;

Paul says that he prays for these Philippian believers, but in essence, Paul is really praying for **ALL** believers, which includes **all of us present here today, plus all people that read the Scriptures, and who love Elohim**; Paul prays that **ALL OF US, MAY ABOUND** in **KNOWLEDGE** and in **ALL JUDGMENT**.

What does Paul mean when he says that he wants **ALL OF US TO ABOUND in KNOWLEDGE and in ALL JUDGEMENT?**

Well **THE ONLY WAY** to **Judge** something, **IS** to have something **TO MEASURE IT AGAINST**, a measuring point to start from, a benchmark **IF YOU WILL**, and that benchmark **IS, OF COURSE, THE TRUTH** of our heavenly Father, which we have learned is synonymous with **His Commandments, His Word, His Gospel, His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, His Torah of Life**.

In Scripture, in **Proverbs 2:6** we are told:

*6 For Yahweh gives wisdom: **OUT OF HIS MOUTH comes KNOWLEDGE** and understanding.*

What is it that comes out of Yahweh mouth? It is of course His Words, and His Words **ARE HIS TORAH OF LIFE**.

*Proverbs 9:10 The fear of Yahweh is the beginning of **WISDOM**: and **THE KNOWLEDGE** of Holiness **IS UNDERSTANDING**.*

בִּינָה	קְדוּשִׁים	וְדַעַת	יְהוָה	יִרְאַת	חָכְמָה	תְּחִלַּת
Binah	Qedoshiym	VeDa'at	YHVH	Yirat	Chakmah	Techilat
understanding	holiness	knowledge	Yahweh	fear	wisdom	in the beginning
comprehension		wisdom		reverence	prudent	inception
intelligence		sensible		Terror	skill	first place
						start

In the beginning was wisdom, perfection, prudence and judgement, and those who chose to revere, honour and therefore **obey** Yahweh, are filled with His Wisdom, knowledge and holiness, and they build their lives through choosing to understand, comprehend and obey the intelligent Words of our heavenly Father's Torah of Life, because, they have come to the realization that it is the only way that they **CAN** be Holy, as Yahweh Himself is Holy.

*Proverbs 15:2 The tongue of the wise uses **KNOWLEDGE** aright: **BUT** the mouth of fools pours out foolishness.*

*Proverbs 18:15 The heart of the prudent **GETS**, (קִנְיָה, Qeneh, creates, procures) **KNOWLEDGE**; and the ear of the wise seeks (בִּקְשׁ, Baqesh, search out, strive after, ask, beg, beseech, desire, inquire, procure, request, require) **KNOWLEDGE**.*

As you can see, the **KNOWLEDGE** that the Scriptures talk about **IS** the **WORD OF ELOHIM**, that when followed and obeyed, leads people to live Holy lives, as Yahweh **IS Holy, FOR IT IS THE WORD OF ELOHIM, THAT IS CALLED, KNOWLEDGE**, that proceeds forth **OUT OF THE MOUTH ELOHIM**; and **IT IS ONLY BY THE WORD OF ELOHIM that we are TO JUDGE ALL THINGS**.

At the beginning of this study we discussed the fact that the *Word of Yahweh* **IS** synonymous with **THE GOSPEL** of Yahweh, the **COMMANDMENTS** of Yahweh and the *inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions of our heavenly Father's TORAH OF LIFE*, therefore, the only conclusion that we can arrive at, based on Paul's **WORDS, IS THAT**, he is praying that **WE WILL ABOUND** in believing, following, obeying, keeping, and **DOING THE TORAH OF OUR HEAVENLY FATHER THAT YAHWEH GAVE TO MOSHEH at Mount Siynay**, for in doing so, **WE WILL BE ABLE JUDGE ALL THINGS RIGHTEOUSLY**.

*Micah 6:8 **HE HAS SHOWED YOU, O MAN**, what is **GOOD**; and what Yahweh **REQUIRES OF YOU, BUT TO DO JUSTLY**, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your Elohim?*

*Verse 10 That you may approve things that are **EXCELLENT**; that you may be **SINCERE** and without offence till the day of Messiah;*

In *verse 9* Paul prayed that our love may abound in **knowledge** and **judgement** and he wants us to abound in these attributes so that we may approve the things that are **excellent**, and that we can be **sincere** and **without offence** until Messiah returns.

In *Proverbs*, we are told **WHAT** the excellent things that Paul wants us to approve and do:

*Proverbs 8:1 Does **NOT WISDOM CRY**? And **understanding** put forth her Voice? 2 She stands in the top of high places, by the way in the places of the paths. 3 She **CRIES** at the gates, at the entry of the city, at the coming in at the doors. 4 Unto you, O men, I call; and My voice **IS TO the sons of man**. 5 O you simple, **UNDERSTAND WISDOM**: and, you fools, be you of an **UNDERSTANDING HEART**. 6 Hear; for I will speak of **EXCELLENT THINGS** (Dabar, Words); and **THE OPENING OF MY LIPS shall be RIGHT THINGS** (מיִשְׁרֵיִם, Meyshariym, plain, level, righteousness, honesty, to be straight) 7 For My mouth shall speak **TRUTH** (Torah); and wickedness (Torahlessness) **IS an abomination to My lips**. 8 **ALL the Words of My Mouth are in Righteousness**; there is nothing froward or perverse in them.*

As you can see, **THE EXCELLENT THINGS** that Paul wants us to approve and follow **IS THE WORDS OF OUR HEAVENLY FATHER, ALSO CALLED HIS EVERLASTING TRUTH**, His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, His Torah of Life, and when we willingly choose to follow our heavenly Father's eternal and everlasting **TRUTH**, Paul says: **IT WILL MAKE US SINCERE AND WITHOUT OFFENCE** until the return of Messiah. The implication **IS**, that **IF** we can learn to willingly and lovingly internalize, and then believe, follow and obey our heavenly Father's inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, the Words of His Torah of Life, **IT WILL MAKE US SINCERE** and furthermore, **WE WILL BE WITHOUT SINFUL THOUGHTS AND DEEDS** in our lives, **BECAUSE** we have willingly chosen to **sincerely follow the Path of Righteousness and Honesty** that our heavenly Father has sovereignly set before us, and **THAT RIGHTEOUS PATH, OF COURSE, IS** the Words of His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions. Furthermore, we have to understand that there **IS NO LIE IN YAHWEH'S TRUTH, THE FATHER'S TORAH OF LIFE, HIS DIRECTIVES FOR EVERLASTING LIFE**.

*Verse 11 Being filled with the fruits of **RIGHTEOUSNESS**, which are by Yeshua Messiah, unto the glory and praise of Elohim.*

Now according to *Deuteronomy 6:25* the fruits of **RIGHTEOUSNESS, IS OBEDIENCE TO** the Words of our heavenly Father's inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, and that obedience produces **love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no Law**, and when we produce this fruit, **IT** glorifies Elohim in the eyes of the world.

*Deuteronomy 6:24-25 And Yahweh Commanded us **TO DO ALL THESE STATUTES, TO FEAR Yahweh our Elohim, for our good always, that He might PRESERVE US ALIVE, as IT IS at this day. And IT SHALL BE OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS, IF WE OBSERVE TO DO ALL THESE COMMANDMENTS BEFORE YHVH OUR ELOHIM, AS HE HAS COMMANDED US.***

*Verse 12 But I would that you should understand, brethren, that the things which happened unto me have fallen out rather unto **THE FURTHERANCE OF THE GOSPEL**; 13 So that my bonds in Messiah are manifest in all the palace, and in all other places;*

Paul is telling us, that even in the adversity that he has suffered, and continues to suffer, the **GOSPEL OF MESSIAH, the TRUTH of Elohim**, His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, His Torah of Life, **IS MAGNIFIED**. In other words, **IT DOESN'T MATTER WHAT** the enemy throws at us, **IF WE ARE SURRENDERED TO OUR HEAVENLY FATHER, BECAUSE, HE**, our heavenly Father will turn all things **TO GOOD FOR THE FURTHERANCE OF THE GOSPEL, THE TRUTH**. What we have to understand therefore, **IS THAT YAHWEH LOVES US SO MUCH** that He will go to great lengths to ensure that **HIS GOSPEL, HIS TRUTH, IS HEARD BY EVERYONE, BECAUSE HE HAS SOVEREIGNLY EMBEDDED IT IN THE HEAVENS, IN HIS CREATION AND IN OUR HEARTS**.

Verse 14 And many of the brethren in Adonai, waxing confident by my bonds, are much more bold to speak the Word without fear.

I hope that you can truly see and understand in your heart and soul, that regardless of what Paul has gone through, **HE STILL CONTINUES TO PREACH THE TRUTH OF ELOHIM, HIS GOSPEL, THE WORDS OF HIS TORAH OF LIFE**, and therefore, that should encourage **ALL OF US, TO CARRY ON WITH BELIEVING, LIVING, PREACHING and DOING THE GOSPEL OF TRUTH, EVEN THOUGH WE WILL ENCOUNTER ADVERSITY ALSO**.

Verse 15 Some indeed preach Messiah even of envy and strife; and some also of good will: 16 The one preach Messiah of contention, not sincerely, supposing to add affliction to my bonds:

There were those that were jealous of Paul and his position, and believed that they should have the recognition and the glory more than Paul, for after all, Paul **was a prisoner of Rome**, so they taught the Gospel of Messiah while speaking out against Paul and his ways; **BUT PAUL WAS INDIFFERENT TO THEIR SLANDER**, and as long as they continued to preach Messiah and His Doctrine, which of course **IS THE VERY SAME DOCTRINE AS THE FATHER'S DOCTRINE, HIS INERRANT AND EVERLASTING TEACHING AND INSTRUCTIONS, PAUL WAS CONTENT**.

*Verse 17 But the other of love, knowing that I am set for **THE DEFENCE** of the Gospel. 18 What then? Notwithstanding, every way, whether **IN PRETENSE, OR IN TRUTH**, Messiah **IS** preached; and I therein **DO REJOICE, YEA, AND WILL REJOICE**.*

As you can see, Paul was **NOT** at all concerned about what some or even all people thought of him as long as they believed **THE GOSPEL, ELOHIM'S TRUTH**, and **TAUGHT IT TO OTHERS IN THE SAME WAY THAT MESSIAH HAD GIVEN IT TO HIM**.

*Verse 19 For I know that this **SHALL TURN TO MY SALVATION** through your prayer, and the supply of the Spirit of Yeshua Messiah, 20 According to my earnest expectation and my hope, that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but that with **all boldness**, as always, so now also Messiah shall be magnified in my body, whether it be by life, or by death.*

As you know, I believe and teach that salvation **IS** a lifetime journey and **NOT A SPECIFIC EVENT** that happens in one's life, as the Church fathers' have mistakenly taught for the better part of two thousand years. Here Paul **CONFIRMS THAT FACT** when he says that **HIS DEEDS, HIS ACTIONS AND THE PRAYERS OF THE SAINTS WILL TURN TO HIS SALVATION**, which of course means that **PAUL IS NOT SAVED YET, BUT** that he, Paul, believes with all of his heart, that **SALVATION IS** something that Yahweh has promised him and all people, for that matter, that **IF** and **WHEN** they willingly choose to surrender their wills to our heavenly Father, who promises those who do that, that He will fill each willing surrendered heart, with His Holy Spirit, **WHO IS TASKED WITH CAUSING** every willing surrendered obedient heart that **WILL ALLOW HIM, TO BELIEVE, FOLLOW, OBEY and WALK OUT** the Father's inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, the Words of His Torah of Life (*Ezekiel 36:26-27*). Therefore we can see by Paul's **OWN WORDS, THAT SALVATION IS NOT** something that Paul believes he already possesses, **BUT THAT IT IS** something that he will receive in the future **IF HE PERSEVERES**.

Philippians 3:10 That I Paul may know Messiah, and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being made conformable unto His death; 11 IF BY ANY MEANS I MIGHT ATTAIN unto the resurrection of the dead (Salvation). 12 NOT as though I had already ATTAINED (Salvation), either were already PERFECT: BUT I FOLLOW AFTER, IF THAT I MAY APPREHEND (Salvation), that for which also I am apprehended of Messiah Yeshua. 13 Brethren, I DO NOT COUNT MYSELF TO HAVE APPREHENDED (Salvation): BUT THIS ONE THING I DO, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, 14 I press TOWARD THE MARK for the PRIZE of the high calling of Elohim (which is eternal salvation) in Messiah Yeshua.

Verse 21 For to me to live is Messiah, and TO DIE IS GAIN.

I have thought of this *verse* often, and I have asked myself, can the words of this *verse* apply to me and my state of mind right **NOW**. All I can say **IS**, I am a work in progress and that the state of mind that Paul expresses here in this *verse* **IS THE STATE THAT I TRULY WANT TO ACHIEVE, BUT, IF I AM HONEST WITH MYSELF**, I don't think that I have fully risen to that level yet, **BUT** as I said, I am a work in progress. **WHAT ABOUT YOU, COULD YOU HONESTLY SAY, IF and WHEN** you were asked **THAT DYING RIGHT NOW, TODAY, AND GOING TO BE WITH MESSIAH IS GAIN?**

Verse 22 But IF I live in the flesh, this is the fruit of my labour, (My Work): yet what I shall choose I DON'T KNOW.

Paul is torn between remaining in this life and **helping others to come to know Yahweh, the Words of the Torah of Life made flesh, or DYING** and going to be with Messiah, the Living Word of our heavenly Father. *23 For I am in a strait between the two, having a desire to depart, and to be with Messiah; WHICH IS FAR BETTER: 24 Nevertheless to abide in the flesh IS MORE NEEDFUL FOR YOU.*

What Paul is saying **IS THAT IT IS BETTER FOR ALL** the Philippians and many others, including you and I, since we are benefiting from his Torah teachings, **IF** he stays behind and continues to teach and preach the Gospel of Messiah, the Father's Torah of Life as it was taught to him by the Holy Spirit.

*Verse 25 And having this confidence, I know that I shall **abide** and continue with you all for your furtherance and joy of **BELIEF** (faith); 26 That your rejoicing may be more abundant in Yeshua Messiah, the Living Torah, for me by my coming to you again.*

Paul is convinced that Elohim will keep him alive for the **FURTHERANCE OF THE GOSPEL MESSAGE** and the joy of **BELIEF** (faith) which means the overwhelming joy that is found in **TRULY BELIEVING AN DOING THE WORD OF TRUTH**, Elohim's inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions.

In verse 26 Paul **IS** saying that he will teach us **MORE** of Elohim's **TRUTH** and that **the Truth that he teaches us**, Elohim's **TRUTH, WILL SET US FREE, FREE FROM FEAR, FREE FROM DESPAIR, AND FREE FROM WORRY.**

*Verse 27 Only let your conversation be as it becomes the **GOSPEL OF MESSIAH**, the **TRUTH**: that whether I come and see you, or else be absent, **I MAY HEAR OF YOUR AFFAIRS, THAT YOU STAND FAST IN ONE SPIRIT**, with **ONE MIND** striving together for the **BELIEF** (faith) of the Gospel;*

The belief (faith, emunah) of the Gospel **MEANS BELIEVING the TRUTH**, the Word of Elohim, His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, His Torah of Life.

IF, like Scripture tells us, that **TRUTH DOES INDEED SET US FREE, THEN THERE IS NO NEED TO FEAR ANYTHING AT ALL**; verse 28 And **IN NOTHING** terrified by your adversaries: which **IS** to them an evident token of perdition, (ruin, loss) **BUT** to you (a token) of salvation, and that of Elohim.

The world sees **WHAT WE DO, WHEN WE WILLINGLY CHOOSE TO OBEY THE WORDS OF THE FATHER'S TORAH, AS FUTILE** and absolutely **USELESS**, for they wrongly believe that **it will lead to our ruin, BECAUSE**, they believe that obedience to the Word of Elohim, His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, His Torah of Life **IS A WASTE OF TIME, BUT**, we, as believers, **BELIEVE AND UNDERSTAND** that obedience to Elohim's inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, His Torah of Life **IS WHAT KEEPS US ALIVE AND THAT IT WILL EVENTUALLY LEAD US TO ETERNAL LIFE AS THE BRIDE OF MESSIAH IN THE KINGDOM OF ELOHIM.**

*Verse 29 For unto you **IT IS GIVEN** in the behalf of Messiah, **NOT ONLY TO BELIEVE ON HIM, BUT ALSO TO SUFFER FOR HIS SAKE**; 30 Having the same conflict which you saw in me, and now hear to be in me.*

Here Paul closes this chapter by telling us that we are very privileged, because, unto the contrite surrendered obedient loving heart **IT IS GIVEN in the behalf of Messiah, NOT ONLY TO BELIEVE on Him, BUT ALSO TO SUFFER FOR HIS SAKE.**

I know that the world does **NOT** consider **SUFFERING A PRIVILEGE, BUT WE ARE TO BELIEVE THAT SUFFERING FOR MESSIAH IS INDEED A PRIVILEGE OF THE HIGHEST DEGREE**, a privilege that will be rewarded with the highest possible eternal blessing, and that blessing my friends **IS** the promise of dwelling in the kingdom of Elohim forever and

becoming the Bride of Messiah, to rule and reign with Him for eternity. We need to learn, to believe and understand, that we are to measure everything in ***TERMS OF ETERNITY AND NOT JUST BY THE HERE AND NOW***. Amein.

Studying and keeping Torah together as a community.

Have a great Elohim blessed week and may Yahweh bless your every thought, and your every deed. Until we meet again, Shalom Alechem! Amein!