

Hanukkah

Day Two Readings

by

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As we begin day two of Hanukkah, we are offered a warning, a promise if you will, of what happens to those who choose to walk on their own paths, a path that is totally set apart from Elohim's Ways, set apart from the Words of His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, the Words of His Torah of Life. Yahweh/Messiah Himself, tells us, that apart from Him, who of course **IS** the Words of the Living Torah of our heavenly Father, made flesh, **WE CAN DO NOTHING**, therefore **IF** Messiah's statement **IS INDEED TRUE, THEN IT IS** pointless to try, and rely on your own understanding, and yet, the majority of the people of the world, do walk by their own understanding, and their own man made secular or religious doctrines.

As it was then, so it is today, for there is nothing new under the sun!

Isaiah 5:20 – 24

20 Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!

*21 Woe unto them that are **WISE in their own eyes**, and prudent in their own sight!*

22 Woe unto them that are mighty to drink wine, and men of strength to mingle strong drink:

*23 Who **justify the wicked** for reward, and **take away the righteousness of the righteous** from him!*

*24 Therefore as the fire devours the stubble, and the flame consumes the chaff, so their root **SHALL BE AS ROTTENNESS**, and **THEIR BLOSSOM SHALL GO UP AS DUST: WHY?***

BECAUSE THEY HAVE CAST AWAY THE WORDS OF THE TORAH of YAHWEH of hosts, and DESPISED the Word of the Holy One of Israel.

Have you ever come across a warning sign, and not paid much attention to it? Signs like, don't get too close to the edge, or beware of the guard dog, etc.

What **IF**, instead of the regular sign you might encounter, in the circumstances mentioned above, there was a sign that said, Woe onto you, who stand too close to the edge for

You **WILL** surely perish, or

You **WILL** fall to your death, or

Your flesh **WILL** be devoured by fire, or

Your bones **WILL** rot, or

The life that was once yours, **WILL** be as the dust of the earth and that dust **WILL** be scattered into nothingness.

Do you think, that **maybe**, that kind of sign would get your attention, and have you take it more seriously, than the first sign we talked about? Furthermore, what would you think of the person that put up that kind of sign? Would you think and believe, boy that guy is some kind of ogre, who doesn't want anybody to have **ANY** fun, or would you think that he is making the warning

on the sign, so ominous and frightening, in order that ***YOU WILL EXPERIENCE FEAR*** over the possible consequences, and through that fear, maybe ***CAUSE YOU TO OBEY THE SIGN, CAUSE YOU TO OBEY THE WARNING, and THEN, THROUGH YOUR OBEDIENCE TO THE SIGN, MAYBE SAVE YOUR LIFE.*** I have asked you those questions to lead you to this point. What is *your* mindset when ***YOU*** read the Word of Elohim?

We must realize that Yahweh loves us with an infinite never ending love, and that because of His Love, He gives us many, many warnings throughout the Scriptures, such as the warning that Yahweh has given us here in *Isaiah 5:20-24* about obeying the Words of His Torah of Life. The purpose or the reason that Yahweh uses such strong language in ***HIS WARNINGS, IS BECAUSE IT IS*** Yahweh's ***WISH THAT NOT EVEN ONE PERSON PERISHES.*** The warning states, *Woe unto you that ADD TO or TAKE ANYTHING AWAY from My Word, My Torah.* Yahweh ***IS*** very, very specific, when He says ***IF YOU add to or take ANYTHING away from the Words of My Torah of Life,*** it is the same as casting away My whole Torah, My inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, and when you do that, it means that you despise My Word, the Word of the Holy One of Yisrael, or else you would obey it as I have Commanded you to do.

We profess and broadcast from the pulpits of our churches and synagogues that we believe in the Elohim of Abraham, Yitzchaq and Ya'aqov, ***BUT DO WE TRULY BELIEVE HIM, BELIEVE WHAT HE SAYS, BELIEVE HIS WORDS, THE WORDS OF HIS TORAH OF LIFE?***

When I read *verses* like I have just read in *Isaiah 5:20–24*, I am convinced, that although many people say that they believe in Elohim, that the majority of people, ***DO NOT ACTUALLY BELIEVE*** Him, they do not believe His Words, the Words of His Torah of Life, the very same Torah that Yahweh gave to Mosheh at Mount Sinai; ***BECAUSE, IF THEY DID*** indeed ***BELIEVE*** Him, ***IF*** they actually ***BELIEVED*** His Words, they certainly ***WOULD HEED*** His warning and willingly ***KEEP*** the Words of His Torah, instead of tossing out the Words of the Holy One of Yisrael's, as yesterday's trash, saying that these Words are no longer valid, or in force for the people of Elohim today, ***because,*** in their minds, they believe that they have evolved beyond the Words of the Torah of Yahweh, and now, because of that kind of mindset, they believe that they are an evolved society, and that they therefore, no longer feel the need to believe, follow nor obey these so called ancient draconian Ways and Words of Yahweh's Torah of Life, because they believe and teach that they have something better, they, in their twisted demented minds, believe that their modern man made doctrines actually supersede the Word the written Torah of our heavenly Father.

According to Isaiah, we have counted the Torah of our heavenly Father ***NOT EVEN WORTHY*** of our attention, and much less worthy of our obedience. Isaiah ***IS*** very specific when he says that when we do that, it means that we ***DESPISE the Word of Yahweh, the Word of the Holy One of Yisrael.***

The leadership of Yahweh's people have taken the *verses* of *Isaiah 5:20–24* and re-written it in their minds, they have re-written it to something that is more palatable to them and their followers, something that might read like:

Let us be tolerant and understanding towards those that make mistakes and sometimes misspeak, when they call their man made traditions and or lifestyles **good**, regardless of how they are described in the Torah, for according to them, the Torah of our heavenly Father, and its antiquated ways, are no longer applicable to our advanced society of today.

Let us be accepting and understanding of murderers, pedophiles, rapists and thieves for they probably had a difficult childhood, and by accepting them as they are, we will be able to change them into useful members of our society

Let us be tolerant and accepting of other religions and cultures, for even though they may not have the same enlightenment as we have, and even though, we may think of their ways as darkness, we can be assured, that once we sit down and dialogue together with them, that we can find areas where we agree on, and we can arrive at a compromise for the good of our world community.

Let us be wise and prudent men, tolerant of other peoples way of life, and their lifestyle choices, for that is what will win them over to our side.

Let us pity the drunkard, for drunkenness is a sickness and he cannot help himself.

Let us honour, applaud and reward people like Dr. Morgentaler for his wonderful and tireless work which has contributed to the freedom of women by making abortion on demand every woman's right.

Let us ridicule and rid ourselves of those who walk in the antiquated Ways of the old books (*the Torah, the Hebraic Scriptures, the Old Testament*) that were written thousands of years ago and no longer apply in today's complex world. The people that follow the Torah, the Law, that antiquated draconian system, are self righteous and that attitude cannot be tolerated in our modern humanistic society.

Let us take the biblical principles and change them to better fit today's world, and Elohim will understand and applaud us for it.

The ways that I have mentioned above, my friends, are indeed the ways of the world, they are the doctrine of Bilam, or the doctrine of the Nicolaitanes and or the doctrine of Antiochus Epiphanies, all rolled into one, and called humanism. The majority of the so called Believers today, have swallowed those false doctrines, hook, line and sinker. And therefore their lives are self centred, rather than Elohim centred, as they should be. That is why our world is in the state that it is in today, and until we, mankind, as a homogeneous group, actually grasp and understand that **FACT**, the **FACT** that at some point in our collective past, we, the human race, took a wrong turn, and that we **MUST NOW** willingly take the necessary steps to change our situation and **TURN TO, OR RETURN** to the ancient Paths, return to our heavenly Father's Ways, return to the Words of His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, the Words of His Torah of Life, because, **IF WE DO NOT TURN, OR RETURN TO** the Father's predestined Paths of Righteousness, and obey the Words of His Torah of Life, we will be **WITHOUT** Righteousness, as defined in, *Deuteronomy 6:24-25*, where we are told that **OBEDIENCE** to the Words of our heavenly Father's Torah of Life **IS our**

RIGHTEOUSNESS, and unfortunately, **WE WILL CONTINUE** on this downward spiral until the whole world crashes and burns.

Our heavenly Father, sent Jonah to Nineveh to save the people of that city, and He has sent us our Jonah, which is *His written Word*, His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, His Torah of Life **MADE FLESH**, manifested as our Messiah, to warn us of the impending disaster that will come upon us, **IF WE DO NOT** return to, and willingly choose to believe, follow and obey the Words of His Torah of Life, with loving contrite obedient hearts. *Luke 11:29 And when the people were gathered thick together, He began to say, THIS IS AN EVIL GENERATION: they seek a sign; and THERE SHALL NO SIGN BE GIVEN IT, BUT the sign of Jonah the prophet.*

The first time that Jonah came to Nineveh the people of Nineveh chose to listen to Jonah's message and repented of the evil that they had done, **BUT** then, later, the people of Nineveh were destroyed **because** they slowly returned to their old ways, their old man made traditions, rather than continue in the Ways of Elohim, that saved them in the first place. I can tell you, that the people of the houses of Elohim today, along with **ALL** the people of the world, **ARE NOT FAR BEHIND THE PEOPLE OF NINEVEH** and the conditions that were prevalent back then, the conditions that lead them to their destruction, and all we have to do to prove that to ourselves, **IS LOOK AROUND US, AND SEE WHAT IS HAPPENING IN OUR WORLD TODAY**, where we have wars, rumours of wars, we have hurricanes that cause massive floods and destruction, we have earthquakes, fires, and much more, therefore, I believe that **LIKE NINEVEH**, impending destruction is at our doorsteps.

What can we do? The situation sounds hopeless. The answer **IS**, quite simple really, we **MUST** do what Yahweh has Commanded us **TO DO** from the very beginning of time, we must learn to live our lives in total preparedness for His return, we are to live our lives like the **FIVE wise virgins** who chose to live by the Words of Elohim's Torah of Life, and therefore we are to focus our attention on Yahweh/Messiah, the Words of the Living Torah of our heavenly Father's Torah of Life made flesh, and mimic His Torah obedient Life, as He taught us to do. We are **NOT** to follow the ways of the world, for Scripture makes it very clear that our salvation **IS** from Messiah, who **IS** the Words of the Living Torah of our heavenly Father made flesh. You can rest assured that **IT DOS NOT COME FROM KNOWING WHEN IT WILL HAPPEN AND TRYING TO AVOID IT ON OUR OWN, for IT IS ALL IN YAHWEH's CONTROL AND NOT OURS.**

I admonish all of us, to make every effort **NOT TO ALLOW ANY LEAVEN IN OUR LIVES.** The sure fire way to do that, **IS TO CHOOSE TO WALK IN TOTAL LOVING SURRENDERED OBEDIENCE TO ALL THE WORDS OF THE FATHER'S INERRANT AND EVERLASTING TEACHING AND INSTRUCTIONS, THE WORDS OF HIS TORAH OF LIFE, THEN** we will be like Mattathias, and our **ZEAL** for our heavenly Father's Word, will grow within us, because the spark that He has put within **US, WILL GROW INTO A BLAZING FLAME, CAPABLE OF DISPELLING ALL DARKNESS, NO MATTER WHERE WE GO.** It means that we will be the salt of the earth as Yeshua described His followers in *Matthew 5:13*.

Happy Hanukkah!!!

Additional recommended Readings:

These are all attributes that the believer and follower of Messiah and His surrendered Torah obedient Life will display for all the world to see.

Matthew 5: 13 – 16;

13 You are the salt of the earth: BUT IF the salt has lost its savour, wherewith shall it be salted? It is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men. 14 YOU are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, BUT on a candlestick; and it gives light unto all that are in the house. 16 Let YOUR light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, your Torah obedience and glorify your Father who is in heaven.

Where did Messiah get this idea of calling His followers the ***salt of the earth***, did He just pull it out of thin air, or ***IS IT*** to be found somewhere in the Words of our heavenly Father's Torah of Life? I can assure you, that Messiah, who ***IS*** the Words of the Living Torah made flesh, took His teachings out of the Torah of our heavenly Father, ***Leviticus 2:13 And every oblation of your meat offering shall you season with SALT; neither shall you suffer the SALT of the Covenant of your Elohim to be lacking from your meat offering: with all your offerings you shall offer SALT.***

Also found in ***Numbers 18:19 All the heave offerings of the holy things, which the children of Yisrael offer unto Yahweh, have I given you, and your sons and your daughters with you, Aaron, by a statute for ever: IT IS A COVENANT OF SALT FOR EVER before Yahweh unto you and to your seed with you.***

Why Salt? Well, Salt, both preserves and purifies, and Elohim wants all of our offerings that we put on His altar to come from a pure heart, hearts that have been willingly surrendered to Him, that is what the metaphor of ***you are the salt of the earth***, means, it means a purified and loving surrendered heart that is zealous to preserve the Words of our heavenly Father's Torah of Life.

Where did Messiah get the idea of believers being a ***LIGHT*** onto the world, ***Psalms 119:105 Your Word (Torah) is a Lamp unto my feet, and a Light unto my Path.***

Our heavenly Father's inerrant and everlasting Truth, the Words of His Torah, comes alive through the Scriptures, through His written Torah, and the Words of His Torah of Life, gives us enlightenment on our journey through ***LIFE***.

Proverbs 6:2

For the commandment is a LAMP; and the Torah, Law is LIGHT; and reproofs of instruction are the Way of life:

Yahweh's Word, the Father's Torah, which He has so graciously provided for us, ***IS*** a blueprint of how He wants us to behave, ***IT IS DESIGNED TO BE VERY BENEFICIAL TO ALL WHO WILLINGLY AND LOVINGLY, SURRENDER THEIR WILLS TO THE FATHER'S WILL, AND CHOOSE TO OBEY ALL OF HIS INERRANT AND EVERLASTING TEACHING AND INSTRUCTIONS, ALL THE WORDS OF HIS TORAH OF LIFE.***

*John 12: 32 – 36; And I, **IF** I be lifted up from the earth, **will draw all unto Me.** 33 This Messiah said, signifying what death He should die. 34 The people answered Him, We have heard out of the Torah (Law) that Messiah abides for ever: and how say You, The Son of man must be lifted up? Who is this Son of man? 35 Then Yeshua said unto them, Yet a little while is the **Light** with you. Walk while you have **the Light**, lest darkness come upon you: for he that walks in darkness **DOES NOT KNOW** where he goes. 36 **While you have LIGHT, believe in the LIGHT, that you may be the children of LIGHT.** These things spoke Yeshua, and departed, and did hide Himself from them.*

Messiah makes **two** very powerful statements in these verses. The first is, **IF I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw all unto me.** I know that in most, **if not all** of your bibles, that the word *men* has been inserted into the text, **but** it doesn't belong there, for Messiah **HAS** been lifted up and He has **NOT DRAWN ALL MEN UNTO HIMSELF**, what He has done however, is to draw onto Himself, all of *our sins, our transgression, our disobedience, our diseases, our punishment, etc.*, for **ALL** of it fell upon His shoulders, and He willingly accepted **ALL OF IT**, because of His great love for us. *Isaiah 53.*

The second point is that He says, **BELIEVE IN THE LIGHT** and we are told in *Proverbs 6:23 For the Commandment is a Lamp; and the Torah (Law) is LIGHT; and reproofs of instruction are the Way of life.*

When Messiah says, **BELIEVE IN THE LIGHT**, He means that He wants us to believe and keep the Words of our heavenly Father's inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, **THE WORDS OF THE FATHER'S TORAH OF LIFE.** It takes belief **AND** obedience to the Words of Yahweh's Torah of Life, to activate Yahweh's blessings and promises in one's life. To simply mouth the words, **IS NOT** sufficient, one **MUST** believe with their whole heart, that what the Father has said, **IS TRUE**, and **THEN, PUT IT INTO ACTION** in their lives, before the blessings and promises can be activated or come to pass in the believer's life. The Scriptures tell us in *John 8:32 we will know the Truth (Torah Psalm 119:142) and the Truth (the Torah) WILL SET US FREE.*

The Scriptures tell us what we can expect, **IF** and **WHEN** we willingly and lovingly choose to believe, follow, and obey Yahweh's inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions with our whole heart:

*Matthew 17:20 And Yeshua said unto them, **BECAUSE** of your **unbelief**: for verily I say unto you, **IF YOU BELIEVE AND HAVE FAITH as a grain of mustard seed**, you shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; **and NOTHING shall be impossible unto you.***

*Mark 5:36 As soon as Yeshua heard the word that was spoken, He said unto the ruler of the synagogue, Be not afraid, **ONLY BELIEVE.***

*Mark 9:23 Yeshua said unto him, **If you can BELIEVE, then ALL THINGS are possible to him that believes.***

*Mark 11:24 Therefore I say unto you, Whatsoever things you desire, when you pray, **BELIEVE that you receive them, and you shall have them.***

Our heavenly Father has given us the **TOOLS TO DO HIS WORK**, and **ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS BELIEVE HIM** with all of our hearts, believe that what He says, **IS TRUE**, pick up our cross, our tree, which I believe means uproot our old man made doctrines and start **believing** Yahweh's plan of redemption onto salvation, Yahweh's doctrine, the Words of His Torah of Life, His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, and follow Messiah on the path of Righteousness that our heavenly Father has set out for us.

Colossians 4:6

*Let your speech be always with **GRACE**, seasoned with **SALT**, that you may know how you ought to answer every man.*

Our Father's admonition to us in this season of Hanukkah **IS**, be like the Maccabees, be an uncompromising **LIGHT** onto the world, a **LIGHT** that shines forth the beauty of the Words of our heavenly Father's inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, His Torah of Life, **FOR ALL TO SEE, AND BE THE SALT**, the seasoning that will attract people to try out this wonderful bread of life, which is Yahweh's Living Torah made flesh, our Messiah. Amein

May you have a glorious and happy spiritual renewal this Hanukkah! Amein

Studying and keeping Torah together as a community.

Have a great Elohim blessed Hanukkah Day and May Yahweh bless your every thought, and every deed; Until we meet again, Shalom Alechem. Amein