

Hanukkah

Day Seven Readings

Study by Marc Gravelle

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We begin day seven's teaching with **Proverbs 4:18** where it says: *But the path of the **JUST** is as the shining **LIGHT**, that shines more and more unto the perfect day.*

What **IS** the path of the **JUST** according to Scripture? To answer that question we first have to find the Scriptural meaning of the word **JUST**.

What do the Scriptures say about the word **JUST, OR TZADIK**, צַדִּיק, in Hebrew. Well in **Genesis 6:9** it says, *these are the generations of Noah: Noah was a **JUST** man and perfect in his generations, and Noah walked with Elohim.*

In this verse in **Genesis** we learn that Noah was a **JUST** man, a **RIGHTEOUS** man and that He walked with Elohim.

In **Leviticus 19:36** it says: ***JUST** balances, **JUST** weights, a **JUST** ephah, and a **JUST** hin, shall you have: I am Yahweh your Elohim, which brought you out of the land of Egypt?*

Here we are Commanded by Elohim to have **JUST** weights and balances.

In **Deuteronomy 16:18** it says, *Judges and officers shall you make yourself in all your gates, which Yahweh your Elohim gives you, throughout your tribes: and they shall judge the people with **JUST JUDGMENT**.*

We are commanded to judge with **JUST JUDGEMENT**.

Further on in **Deuteronomy 16:20** we are told, *that which is altogether **JUST** shall you follow, **THAT YOU MAY LIVE**, and inherit the land which Yahweh your Elohim gives you.*

Now we have been told what being **JUST** means, **BUT** where does **JUSTICE OR JUST WAYS** come from?

We are told in **Deuteronomy 32:3** because I will publish the Name of Yahweh: ascribe you greatness unto our Elohim. 4 He is the Rock, His Work (the Words of His Torah) is perfect: for **ALL HIS WAYS** is judgment: an Elohim of **TRUTH** and without iniquity, **JUST and RIGHT is He**.

So here we can see that **JUSTICE AND JUST WAYS** are a product of our Elohim, our Father in heaven.

In **Nehemiah 9:33** it is confirmed again that Yahweh **IS JUST** and that justice **FLOWS FROM HIM**,
*Howbeit **You are JUST** in **ALL** that is brought upon us; for You have done right, but we have done wickedly.*

In **Proverbs 12:21** we are told why we too, should **SEEK** to live a **JUST LIFE**, *There shall NO EVIL HAPPEN TO THE JUST.*

I certainly don't want any evil to happen to me, therefore I willingly choose to follow the Words of the inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions of Yahweh, wherein **IS FOUND THE INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO BE JUST.**

In **Isaiah 26:7** we are told, *the way of the JUST is UPRIGHTNESS: You, Most Upright, do weigh the path of the JUST.*

Here we see that being **JUST IS** a Life path that a person chooses, and that it is YHVH that weighs the path of the just. It means that Yahweh puts the deeds of these just people on one side of the scale, and then He rewards them with more just acts, and justice throughout their lives, here on earth and throughout eternity.

In **Isaiah 45:21** Yahweh Himself speaks and declares that He is **JUST**, *Tell you, and bring them near; yea, let them take counsel together: who has declared this from ancient time? Who has told it from that time? Have not I Yahweh? And there is no Elohim else BESIDE ME; A JUST ELOHIM AND A SAVIOUR; there is NONE BESIDE ME.*

We are to understand from this *verse* that **SINCE YAHWEH IS JUST**, then everything that comes forth from YHVH **IS JUST ALSO**, and **IF** we want to be **JUST as Yahweh IS JUST, THEN WE MUST** become followers of Yahweh's **JUST** Ways and His **JUST** Word, we **MUST** learn to willingly and lovingly **FOLLOW** and **OBEY** the Words of Yahweh's inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, the Words of His Torah of Life, which in turn will make **US JUST**.

Hosea admonishes us in **Hosea 14:9**

Who is wise, and he shall understand these things? Prudent, and he shall know them? For THE WAYS OF YAHWEH (the Words of His Torah) are RIGHT, and the JUST SHALL WALK IN THEM: BUT the transgressors shall FALL therein.

A transgressor according to Scripture, **IS** someone that despises and chooses **NOT TO KEEP** the Words of Torah of Yahweh, and someone that transgresses the Torah, according to Scripture, **IS A SINNER**, for we are told in **1John 3:4** that Sin **IS** transgression of the Torah. Here in Hosea, we are told that the **JUST** walk in the Ways of YHVH, and the Ways of Yahweh my friends are the Words of His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, His directives for everlasting Life at His side, His Torah of Life.

In **Zechariah 9:9** we are told to *Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Tzion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, Your King comes unto you: He is JUST, AND HAVING SALVATION; lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass.*

This tells us that our **KING IS JUST** and our King **IS** Yahweh's inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, the Words of His Torah of Life made flesh, the very same Word that became flesh and dwelt among us, and was manifested as **our Messiah**, the **WORDS** of our heavenly Father in the flesh, and that **OUR SALVATION IS** with Him.

In Matthew we find out that even the heathen of the world believed that the Living Word of the Father was **JUST** when Pilate said in *Matthew 27:24* *I am innocent of the blood of this **JUST PERSON**.*

In *John 5:30* Messiah Himself, who **IS** the Word of the Father made flesh, says, *I can of My own self do nothing: as I hear, I judge: and My judgment is **JUST**;*

WHY?

BECAUSE I SO NOT SEEK MY OWN WILL, BUT THE WILL OF THE FATHER WHO HAS SENT ME.

Why is Messiah's judgement **JUST**? His judgement is **JUST**, because, He seeks the will of the Father, and the will of the Father is delineated in:

Deuteronomy 5:29 *O that there were such a heart in them, that they would fear Me, and Keep **ALL** My Commandments (My Torah) always, that it might be well with them, and with their children for ever!*

And in *Deuteronomy 10:12-13*

*And now, Yisrael, what does Yahweh your Elohim **REQUIRE** of you, but to fear Yahweh your Elohim, to walk in His Ways, and to love Him, and to serve Yahweh your Elohim with **ALL** your heart and with **ALL** your soul, To **KEEP** the Commandments, and His Statutes, **His Torah of Life**, which I command you this day for your good? Behold, the heaven and the heaven of heavens is Yahweh's, your Elohim, the earth also, with all that therein is.*

In *Acts 7:52* we see that all the prophets of Elohim knew the Living Word of the Father, and described Him as *the **JUST ONE**, Which of the prophets have **NOT** your fathers persecuted? And they have **slain them** which showed before of the coming of **the JUST ONE (Messiah, the Living Torah)**; of whom you have been now the betrayers and murderers:*

So how can we become **JUST** according to the Scriptures? *Romans 2:13* tells us how, *For not the hearers of the Words of the Torah (Law) **ARE JUST** before Elohim, **BUT THE DOERS OF THE WORDS OF THE TORAH (LAW) SHALL BE JUSTIFIED.***

And *Romans 7:12* Removes whatever doubts you may have when it says, *Wherefore the **TORAH (Law) is Holy**, and the **Commandment holy**, and **JUST**, and **GOOD**. (Tov, functioning in the manner that Yahweh created it to function)*

And finally, we have the word Tzadik, צַדִּיק, which is translated as, *righteous, just, just one, just ones, is righteous, more righteous, righteous one*, and the word **RIGHTEOUS** means Torah, *Deuteronomy 6:25* *And it shall be our **RIGHTEOUSNESS**, **IF** we observe to do **ALL** these Commandments before YHVH our Elohim, as He has Commanded us.*

I have shown you **ALL** these verses, so that you can see, understand and establish for yourself, that Yahweh's Word, His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, His Torah of Life, **IS INDEED** the source of **ALL JUST WAYS and JUSTICE**.

The prophets and the priest recognized it, our Messiah stated it, and our heavenly Father Himself says that He **IS JUST**, and **IF WE WANT TO BE JUST**, as **Yahweh IS JUST**, and as we are Commanded to be, **THEN** the only possible way of being **JUST** according to Scripture **IS** by surrendered loving obedience to the Words of our heavenly Father's inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, the Words of His Torah of Life and become **DOERS** of the Words of Torah of Moses, rather than just paying it lip service.

Psalm 97: 11 – 12

LIGHT is sown for the **righteous**, and **gladness** for the upright in heart. 12 **Rejoice in YAHWEH**, you **righteous**; and give thanks at the remembrance of His holiness.

Can you think of a more comforting statement? In this *verse* our Heavenly Father tells us that His **righteousness IS** sown **FOR OUR BENEFIT**, to bring **GLADNESS TO OUR HEARTS**. How do we then partake of **THIS GLADNESS, THIS REJOICING**?

The way to appropriate this gladness, this rejoicing, is so simple, that I am surprised that more people have not come to the realization of this **FACT**, for all we have to do to appropriate this gladness, **IS** partake of Yahweh's Light. When we come to the realization that our Messiah **IS** the Light of the world, and that He is the Words of the Living Torah of our heavenly Father made flesh, and as the Living Torah, He **IS** our Master and Saviour, and **IF** we willingly and lovingly accept Him as such, as the Words of Living Torah, and the Light of our world, and then willingly choose to begin to obey His Voice, His Words, His Commandments, for our Messiah said, **IF** you love Me **KEEP My Commandments**, in the same manner that I love My Father and **KEEP His Commandments**, for the Father and I are **ONE**, and **our Commandments are ONE and the same Commandments**. **IF YOU CAN** do the same, **IF** you can believe, follow, obey and **DO** the Father's Words, His Commandments, as I, your Messiah willingly and lovingly chose to Follow and Obey them, **THEN this joy, this rejoicing in YAHWEH, THIS HAPPINESS BELONGS TO YOU**.

Exodus 10:23

*They saw not one another, neither rose any from his place for **THREE DAYS**: but all the children of Yisrael had **LIGHT** in their dwellings.*

When Elohim brought darkness onto **ALL** of Egypt and the world, He spared His people, and we are told, that they alone had **LIGHT** in their homes. The number **three** used in this *verse* **IS** a teaching in and of itself, because the number **three** always indicates **resurrection**, coming from death to life, coming from darkness into the Light of Messiah, and that **IS** exactly what this *verse* **IS** conveying to us here, for being brought out of the darkness into His wonderful Light, **IS a metaphor** for being brought back to life. Today, the **LIGHT** that was given to Yisrael **IS** still available to all people; **and that Light IS** called, the Words of Yahweh's Torah of Life, which **IS** the Living Word of the Father made flesh, and the Word of the Father made flesh **IS** Messiah, who in turn **IS** the **LIGHT** of the world, the Living Word.

Isaiah 60: 1 – 5

*Arise, shine; for your **LIGHT** is come, and the glory of YAHWEH IS RISEN UPON YOU*. 2 *For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: **BUT YAHWEH SHALL***

ARISE UPON YOU, and His glory shall be seen upon YOU. 3 And the Gentiles shall come to YOUR LIGHT, and kings to the brightness of YOUR rising. 4 Lift up YOUR eyes round about, AND SEE: ALL they gather themselves together, they come to YOU: your sons shall come from far, and your daughters shall be nursed at your side. 5 Then YOU shall see, and flow together, and YOUR heart shall fear, and be enlarged; BECAUSE the abundance of the sea shall be converted unto YOU, the forces of the Gentiles shall come unto YOU.

Can **YOU** see, that as believers, we are Commanded **TO ARISE AND SHINE**? How and why are we to do that? We are to do it because our **LIGHT**, the glory of Yahweh, Messiah, **IS** risen upon and within us. The word arise, used here, at the beginning of *verse 60* is the Hebrew word Qum, קום, which has been translated as Anastasis in the Greek Scriptures, and from the Greek to the English Scriptures, it is translated as **resurrection**, therefore, Isaiah is telling us, **BE REGENERATED (BORN AGAIN) AND SHINE**, and the only way that we can **SHINE** once we are regenerated, (Born again) **IS** by willingly and lovingly choosing to Live a Torah obedient life, by becoming **DOERS** of the Word of Elohim, in the same manner that our Messiah did and taught us to do.

When we are indeed regenerated, (born again) by the Holy Spirit, Messiah our comforter, when we become a **NEW MAN** because we have willingly and lovingly chosen to surrender our hearts to Yahweh, therefore, the **LIGHT** that emanates from us, **IS** His **LIGHT** that indwells us, and the Light that indwells us, **IS** the Words of the Torah of Yahweh made flesh, our Messiah.

Now, stop and think for a moment, about what we have just read, and I am absolutely convinced that this will give you goosebumps. It says in this Scripture, that **YOU**, and that means **ALL OF YOU**, present here today, **YOU**, are to *arise* (be regenerated) **and SHINE**, because our **LIGHT**, our Messiah, the Living Word of Elohim, His Living Torah, **IS RISEN UPON AND WITHIN US**. This Scripture tells **US** that **IF** we are believers in Messiah, the Living Word of Elohim made flesh, that our Messiah, the Saviour of the world, the Living Torah, **IS IN US, ON US AND ALL OVER US**. It tells us, along with other Scriptures, **that we have the mind of Messiah**, it tells you that we have not been given the Spirit of fear, **BUT** that we have been given the Spirit of Power, a Spirit of Love and a sound Mind and that sound mind my friends, **IS** the Mind of Messiah.

Now I hope that that will encourage **YOU** to stand on the firm foundation of the Words of Yahweh's Torah of Life, and thereby reflect **the Light of the Torah made flesh**, or better **YET** become that **LIGHT** by internalizing the inerrant and everlasting words of the teaching and instructions of our heavenly Father, as Messiah **DID**, and because He willingly and lovingly did that, He became the Light of the world. This **IS** the season for the **FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS**, the season to **RE-DEDICATE OUR OWN PERSONAL TEMPLE** onto Yahweh, to have the Menorah, the picture of Messiah and his seven attributes found in *Isaiah 11: 1-2* **SHINE** brightly in our life and thereby, actually become a **LIGHT** unto the peoples of the nations of the world, as we are commanded to be.

ADDITIONAL READINGS:

Romans 6:1 – 8:2

*1 What shall we say then? Shall we continue in Sin, that grace may abound? 2 **Elohim forbid.** How shall we, that are **dead to Sin**, (dead to transgressing the Words of His Torah of Life) live any longer therein? 3 Do you **NOT** know, that so many of us as were baptized into Yeshua the Messiah **were baptized into His death?** 4 Therefore **we are buried with Him by baptism into death: SO THAT** like as Messiah was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so, **WE ALSO** should **WALK IN NEWNESS OF LIFE.** For **IF** we have been planted together in **the likeness of Messiah's death**, we shall **ALSO be in the likeness of His RESURRECTION:** 6 Knowing this, that **OUR OLD MAN is crucified with Him**, In order **that the body of Sin, the body of our transgressions of His Torah of Life, might be destroyed**, that henceforth we should **NOT** serve **SIN**, (that we should **NOT** transgress the Words of His Torah of Life; Therefore I ask you, according to verse 6, what is nailed to the cross? Is it the Words of the Torah of Yahweh, His eternal **TRUTH**, called the Law of Elohim, **OR, IS IT THE OLD MAN, OUR SINFUL MAN**, our own Sin and Sinful Nature that is **NAILED TO THE CROSS?***

It is, or should be very obvious to anyone reading these *verses*, that what is **NAILED TO THE CROSS IS OUR SINFUL WAYS**, our old self, our old man.) 7 **For he that is dead IS FREED FROM SIN.** 8 Now **IF** we are dead in Messiah, we **believe that we shall also LIVE with Him:** 9 Knowing that Messiah being raised from the dead **DIES NO MORE**; death has no more dominion over Him. 10 For in that He died, **He died unto Sin once: BUT in that He lives, He lives unto Elohim.** 11 Likewise **reckon YOU also, yourselves to be dead indeed unto Sin**, (**NOT** dead to the Torah) but alive unto Elohim through Yeshua the Messiah our Adonai, (who is the Living Word, the Living Torah of Elohim made flesh). 12 Let **NOT** therefore Sin, (transgressions of the Words of the Torah of Yahweh), reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in the **lusts** thereof. 13 Neither yield you your members as instruments of **unrighteousness unto Sin** (Torah transgressions): **BUT** yield yourselves unto Elohim, as those who are alive from the dead, **and your members as instruments of righteousness** (Torah obedience, Deut. 6:25) **unto Elohim** 14 For sin shall **NOT** have dominion over you: **for you are NOT under the Torah (Law), but under grace.**

When are we under grace according to these *verses*? Well according to the words of *verses 1 to 13*, **IT IS** plain to see that the context tells us, that we are under Yahweh's **GRACE** when:

- 1 – We willingly choose to turn from **SIN**, turn from transgressing the Words of Yahweh's Torah of Life, and
- 2 – Surrender our hearts to Elohim,
- 3 – Be baptized or immersed into Yeshua the Messiah who is the Words of the Living Torah made flesh,
- 4 – Be dead to self, **BUT** alive unto Elohim, through Yeshua the Messiah, who of course **IS** the Words of the Living Torah of the Father, His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions made flesh.

Therefore according to these *verses*, we are *Under Grace* when we lovingly surrender our heart to the Father and commit to believe, follow and **OBEY ALL** of His Words, **OBEY** the Words of His Torah, with a loving surrendered contrite obedient heart. **IT COULD NOT BE STATED ANY CLEARER.** Turn to Elohim and **OBEY ALL** the Words of His Torah of Life as Messiah did and taught us to do, and His **GRACE** which is synonymous with the Words of His Torah, **WILL FLOW**

ONTO YOU, IN YOU, AND THROUGH YOU. However **IF** you choose to disobey Him, and regularly transgress the Words of His Torah, then His **CURSES WILL FLOW UNTO YOU.**

*Verse 15 What then? Shall we **SIN**, shall we transgress the Words of His Torah of Life because we are **NOT** under the Torah, the Law, **BUT UNDER GRACE?***

Before we go any further we have to refer to *1John 3:4* which says, *Whosoever commits **SIN** transgresses also the Words of the Torah (Law): **for SIN IS the transgression of the Words of the Torah (Law);***

Therefore *shall we sin, shall we transgress the Torah, because we are **NOT** under the Torah, under the Law, **BUT UNDER GRACE? ELOHIM FORBID.** 16 Do you **NOT KNOW**, that **TO WHOM YOU yield yourselves servants to obey**, his servants you are to whom you obey; whether of **SIN**, or **transgressions of the Words of YHVH's Torah of Life** unto death, or of **OBEDIENCE unto righteousness?** (What is righteousness according to Scripture? Let us read *Deuteronomy 4:8* *And what nation is there so great, that has statutes and judgments so **RIGHTEOUS** as **ALL this Torah (Law)**, which I set before you this day?**

Here we are told that the Law (Torah) **IS RIGHTEOUS**)

Deuteronomy 6:25 *And it shall be our **RIGHTEOUSNESS**, IF we observe to do all these commandments before Yahweh our Elohim, as he has Commanded us.*

My friends, the Torah of our heavenly Father **IS RIGHTEOUSNESS, IT IS** His Grace manifested in our lives, when we willingly choose to obey it, and when we willingly choose to obey it, we then produce Yahweh's **RIGHTEOUSNESS.**

Verse 17 *But Elohim be thanked, that **YOU WERE** the servants of **SIN**, you **WERE** lawless, Torahless, **BUT NOW**, you have obeyed from the heart that form of **Doctrine** which was delivered you. (What doctrine was delivered to them? Was it not Messiah's **doctrine?** **IF** it was Messiah's **Doctrine** which Scripture tells us **IT IS**, then what **IS** Messiah's doctrine? Let us go to *John 7:16* and see. *Yeshua answered them, and said, My doctrine IS NOT MY OWN, BUT it is the Doctrine of the One that sent Me.**

Now we know, that it was our heavenly Father that sent Him and we are told in *Proverbs 4:2* and many other places in Scripture what the Doctrine of Elohim **IS: For I give you **GOOD DOCTRINE**, do **NOT** forsake **MY Torah, My LAW.**** That my friends, **IS** what Messiah **IS** telling all of us; obey the Father's Doctrine, the Words of His Torah. (Also read *John 4:34*)

Verse 18 *Being then made free from Sin, free from the behaviour of transgressing the Words of the Father's Torah of Life, you became the servants of **RIGHTEOUSNESS** (please understand that the only way that we can be free from **SIN**, **IS IF** we become servants of the Words of the Father's Torah of Life, and that can only happen, **IF we willingly and lovingly choose to KEEP and DO ALL** the Words of the Father's Torah, with surrendered contrite obedient hearts, and Scripture itself establishes for us that Torah **IS RIGHTEOUSNESS**) 19 I speak after the manner of men because of the **infirmity of your FLESH: for as you have yielded your members as servants to uncleanness***

and to iniquity unto iniquity (Torahlessness); even so NOW yield your members servants to RIGHTEOUSNESS (Torah obedience, YAHWEH's directives for everlasting Life) unto holiness).

Our heavenly Father has said, be you Holy as I am Holy, and when He said that, He gave us the Words of His Torah, His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions on how to be Holy as He is Holy, and furthermore He gave us His Holy Spirit who is tasked with **CAUSING** every surrendered contrite obedient heart that will allow Him, to walk out the Words of His Torah, (*Ezekiel 36:27*) 20 For **WHEN** you were the servants of Sin, when you constantly *transgressed our heavenly Father's Torah of Life on a daily basis, you were actually free from RIGHTEOUSNESS;*

We have established that the Words of Yahweh's Torah of Life **ARE RIGHTEOUSNESS**, therefore, **IF** that is the case, **THEN** those that profess that they have freed themselves from the Words of the Torah, or have chosen **to do away with** the Words of the Father's Torah, in their minds and in their hearts, according to Paul, **ARE SERVANTS OF SIN**, and furthermore, Paul tells us that they are also, **FREED themselves from doing acts of righteousness**. I hope that you can see that.

Paul goes on to say: 21 *What fruit had you then, in those things whereof you are NOW ASHAMED? For the end of those things IS death.* 22 *But NOW being made free from Sin,* (free from Torahlessness, the only way one can be made **FREE** from **SIN, IS** by willingly choosing to **KEEP and OBEY all** the Words of our heavenly Father's Torah of Life with a loving surrendered obedient heart, for **SIN IS** transgression of the Torah) *and become servants to Elohim, you have your fruit (the inerrant and everlasting Word of Yahweh, His Torah) unto holiness, and the end everlasting life.* 23 *For the wages of Sin is death; BUT the gift of Elohim is eternal life through Yeshua the Messiah our Adonai, the Living Torah made flesh.*

Romans 7:1 Do you NOT KNOW, brethren, (for I speak to them that KNOW the Torah (Law), how that the Torah (Law) has DOMINION over a man as long as he lives?

Let me ask you a question; **IS** everyone here in this room today, and those of you reading these words, **ARE** you alive? If you answered yes to that question, **THEN** according to Paul's words in *Romans 7:1*, the Torah does indeed have **DOMINION OVER YOU**. 2 *For the woman who has a husband is bound by the Law to her husband so long as he lives; but if the husband be dead, she is loosed from the LAW OF HER HUSBAND.* In these verses, Paul tells us that the woman **IS NOT** loosed from the Torah, **but she is loosed from the Law of her husband**.

3 *So then IF, while her husband lives, she be married to another man, she shall be called AN ADULTERESS: BUT IF her husband be dead, SHE IS FREE FROM THAT LAW, THE LAW OF MARRIAGE TO HER HUSBAND (NOT THE TORAH); so that she is no adulteress, though she marries another man.*

The woman in this case, is loosed from the **LAW OF MARRIAGE** to her husband, **BUT** she is not loosed from the Words of the Torah of our heavenly Father; for **IF** she marries another husband, she comes under the **VERY SAME LAW OF MARRIAGE** that she was under with her first husband until such a time as her new husband dies, where she will once again be loosed from the Law of Marriage, therefore, we are to understand that the Torah of Mosheh, **THE LAW HAS NOT PASSED AWAY, IT IS HER HUSBAND, HER OLD MAN** that died or passed away, which means

that **THE MARRIAGE CONTRACT, WHICH IS BASED ON THE LAW OF MARRIAGE, WAS ANNULLED, BUT the Torah of Mosheh, the Law WAS NOT, NOR CAN IT EVER BE ANNULLED, FOR ACCORDING TO YAHWEH, IT IS ETERNAL.**

In other words, she is loosed from the contract of marriage to her husband, because her husband **IS DEAD, BUT** the Torah, the Law that was given to Mosheh by Yahweh **IS** everlasting, and **IF** she gets married again to another man, she will again, **come under the very same Law of marriage**, that she was under when she married her first husband. This is a metaphor by which Paul is trying to show us a picture of **OUR OLD MAN** (*the one we were married to before we accepted Messiah, the Words of the Living Torah made flesh, as our Master and Saviour*) it is a picture of our old man our lustful desires, dying or being put to death, and us, being **REGENERATED**, called Born again by our Christian friends, and then, being betrothed to Messiah, as our bridegroom, our new husband. When we are betrothed to our resurrected Messiah, we then come under the very same **Law of marriage**, that **IS** in the Torah of Mosheh, **EXCEPT** that now, we are married to Messiah **FOREVER, BECAUSE** Messiah, our new husband **IS ETERNAL**, He **NEVER DIES**, therefore we are married to Him for eternity, or until we choose to end that relationship by going **a whoring after the gods of others**, which I am sure **IS NOT** something that any of us would want to do.

Verse 4 Wherefore, my brethren, you also are become dead to the Torah, the Law, by the body of Messiah; that you should be married to another,

So here, Paul is making the comparison that **IF** you have died with Messiah, that is, **IF** you have surrendered your life to the Words of the Living Word of Elohim, made flesh, and are now **DEAD TO SELF, which means that you have put your old man to death, THEN**, once your old self is **DEAD**, you can be regenerated or born again, which means that you can now be married to Messiah, instead of being married to your past sinful life (*your old man*) that you were wed to before you accepted Messiah the Living Torah as your Master and Saviour;

*Even to Him who is raised from the dead, (Messiah) that we should bring forth fruit unto Elohim. (the only way to bring forth fruit unto Elohim **IS TO ABIDE IN THE VINE**, and **THE VINE IS** Messiah, and Messiah **IS** the Words of the Torah of Elohim made flesh, and the Word of Elohim **IS** His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, His Torah of Life) 5 For when we were in the flesh, the motions of Sins, which were by the Torah (Law), did work in our members to **bring forth fruit UNTO DEATH**. 6 But **NOW** we are delivered from the penalty that is assessed by the Torah, the Law, for transgressing the Words of the Torah, that being dead wherein we were held; that we should serve in newness of spirit, and not in the oldness of the letter.*

When Paul says we are delivered from the Torah, the Law, he means that we are delivered from **the punishment** incurred for transgressing the Words of Torah, the Law, and that punishment according to Scripture **IS DEATH, BUT NOW**, that we have willingly **PUT OUR OLD MAN TO DEATH**, we are risen with Messiah, the Words of Living Torah made flesh, onto a new life, a sinless life, which means a Torah obedient Life, for we are told in *1John 3:4* that **SIN IS** transgression of the Torah.

What Paul is saying, is that once we willingly accept Messiah, the Words of Living Torah, as our master and saviour, and willingly choose to put our flesh to death, once we willingly mortify our flesh, we then walk in the Spirit, and the Torah (Law), which makes us realize that we were sinning,

and the punishment that is assessed for transgressing the Torah, which is **DEATH**, can no longer be applied to us **BECAUSE** we are now walking in **OBEDIENCE** to the Words of the Torah **BY and THROUGH** the Holy Spirit of Elohim, who was given to us for that very specific purpose (*Ezekiel 36:27*), in other words, we are willingly obeying the Words of the Torah from our heart, and **NOT** because someone is forcing us to do so.

However, as soon as we start walking in the flesh again, we come back under the Torah (Law), **BECAUSE, SIN IS** transgression of the Torah, and the reason that we come under the Torah, the reason why we are disciplined and punished for disobeying the Torah, **IS** so that we can **SEE** for ourselves, the error of our ways, and therefore hopefully **BE CONVICTED** to repent and return to the Ways of Yahweh, and start to walk in the Spirit of Yahweh **AGAIN**, for without belief, faith and or faithfulness to the Words of Elohim's Torah, **IT IS IMPOSSIBLE** to please Elohim. *Verse 7 What shall we say then? Is the Torah (Law) Sin? Elohim FORBID. Nay, I would NOT have known sin, EXCEPT BY the Torah (Law); for I had NOT known lust, except the Torah (Law) had said, you shall NOT covet. 8 But SIN (Torahlessness), taking occasion by the Commandment, wrought in me all manner of concupiscence. For outside of the Torah (Law) Sin was dead. 9 For I was alive apart from the Torah (Law) once: BUT when the Commandment came, SIN revived, and I died. 10 And the Commandment, or Torah (Law) which was ordained TO LIFE, I found to be unto death (for the wages of SIN is death, Romans 6:23). 11 For SIN, taking occasion by the Commandment, DECEIVED ME, and by it slew me. (It is NOT the Torah that deceived him and killed him, IT IS SIN) 12 Wherefore the Torah (Law) IS HOLY, and the Commandment HOLY, and they (the Torah, and the Commandments) are JUST, and GOOD. 13 Was then that which is GOOD (the Words of the Torah) made death unto me? ELOHIM FORBID.*

What is the **GOOD** that is spoken of here? The **GOOD** spoken of, **IS** the Words of the Torah of Yahweh, and furthermore it says that the Law, the Torah **IS HOLY**. Why, would something, that Paul, Messiah and the Scriptures tell us is **HOLY, GOOD and JUST** be abolished, especially since **Yahweh** gave it to us as an **EVERLASTING COVENANT**.

But Sin, that it might appear Sin, working DEATH in me by that which is GOOD (Torah); that Sin (Torahlessness) by the Commandment might become exceedingly sinful. 14 For we know that the Torah (Law) IS SPIRITUAL (that, my friends, means that the Law or the Torah IS indeed Spirit filled, which in turn means, IF you willingly and lovingly submit your will to the Words of the Torah of Elohim, that you too will be filled with the Holy Spirit of Elohim, BECAUSE OF your surrendered loving obedience to the Torah.): BUT I am carnal, sold under sin. 15 For that which I do, I allow not: for what I want to do (Torah), that I don't do; BUT what I hate (Sin, Torahlessness), that I do. 16 If then I do that which I don't want to do (IF I commit Sin, IF I act in a Torahless fashion), I consent unto the Torah (Law) that it is GOOD. 17 NOW THEN, IT IS NO MORE I that do it, BUT SIN that DWELLS IN ME. 18 For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh), dwells NO GOOD THING: for to WILL, is indeed present in me; BUT, to perform that which is GOOD (to perform and DO the Torah) I find NOT. 19 For the GOOD (the Torah) THAT I WOULD DO, I DO NOT DO: BUT THE EVIL (Sin, Torahlessness) which I DON'T want to do, that I do. 20 Now, IF I do WHAT I do NOT want to do (IF I commit Sin, IF I transgress the Torah), IT IS no more I that do it, BUT SIN Torah transgressions that dwells in me. 21 I find THEN a Law, that, when I would do GOOD (when I WANT to KEEP and DO the Torah), EVIL IS present with me. 22 For I PAUL DELIGHT IN THE TORAH (LAW) OF ELOHIM.

What is the Law of Elohim that Paul delights in? It is the Words of the Torah of Elohim, His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions. Paul is telling *ALL* that read this Scripture, that, he Paul, ***DELIGHTS in KEEPING AND DOING*** the Torah of the Father) *after the inward man: 23 But I see another Law in my members, warring against the Law of my mind* (that means that the law of Paul's members, is the law of his fleshly desires, his carnal law), ***IS*** warring against the Torah of Mosheh, given to Mosheh at Mount Sinai, which Paul has internalized and embedded in his heart), *and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin (the law of my fleshly desires) which is in my members. 24 O wretched man that I am! Who shall deliver me from the body of this DEATH? 25 I thank Elohim through Yeshua the Messiah our Master. So then with the mind, I MYSELF, SERVE THE TORAH (Law) of Elohim;* (Here Paul makes it ***VERY, VERY CLEAR*** that his desire, his heart felt desire, ***IS*** to ***OBEY*** and ***DO the Torah*** of the Father. (That fact cannot be argued unless you are prepared to call Paul a liar) ***BUT WITH THE FLESH, I SERVE THE LAW OF SIN.***

Romans 8:1

*There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Yeshua the Messiah, (This is speaking of those who willingly and lovingly walk in surrendered obedience the Torah of the Father, for Messiah ***IS*** that Living Torah) who walk ***NOT*** after the flesh, ***BUT AFTER THE SPIRIT.*** 2 For the Torah (Law) of the Spirit of life in Messiah Yeshua has made me ***FREE*** from the law of sin and death.*

So according to Paul, all people that willingly and lovingly ***OBEY AND DO*** the Torah ***HAVE BEEN MADE FREE*** from *the law of SIN AND DEATH.*

It is therefore quite evident by Paul's own words that we have ***NOT BEEN MADE FREE FROM THE WORDS OF THE TORAH of our heavenly Father***, because Scripture tells us that the Torah ***IS LIFE TO US***, and ***IF*** we are made free from what gives us life, ***WE DIE***. My friends ***IT IS OBEDIENCE TO THE TORAH of Mosheh***, which ***IS*** the Spirit of Life in Messiah Yeshua who is the Living Torah, and it is ***LOVING SURRENDERED OBEDIENCE*** to the Words of the Torah of our heavenly Father, ***THAT SETS US FREE.***

Nine times in Romans the phrase ***Elohim forbid*** is used, and every time, it is used in support of the Words of His Torah, His Living Word and His people Yisrael. Paul's letter to the Romans was written long after the death of Messiah, and Paul, in the book of Romans, tells us of His struggle with his his own carnal nature, his flesh, and the key point of all of the book of Romans, is that Paul says that he, in his heart and in his mind ***DELIGHTS in, and SERVES the Torah (Law) of Elohim***, he delights in the very same Torah (Law) that was given to Mosheh at Mount Sinai.

In Romans 8:1 – 2 Paul tells us ***WHAT*** Messiah has freed us from, and it ***IS NOT*** what we and our Christian brothers have been taught in the past by the church fathers. For they have taught and continue to teach, that we have been freed from the Words of the Torah (Law) of Elohim, and that the Father's Torah has somehow been done away with, and nailed to the cross, and they also teach the false doctrine that because Messiah ***KEPT*** the Torah, the Law perfectly, we no longer have to keep it.

However here in Romans, what Paul is telling us ***IS*** that *Messiah has freed us from SIN, freed us from THE LAW OF SIN AND DEATH* that Paul talks about, Messiah has ***NOT FREED US***

FROM THE OBEYING THE WORDS OF THE TORAH OF OUR HEAVENLY FATHER, for Messiah **IS** the Words of the Living Torah of our heavenly Father, and He desires to draw us near to **HIM, NOT BE FREE OF US**. I hope that you can see that Paul, and all of the disciples, and especially Messiah, **ALL KEPT** and **TAUGHT** all people, that were willing to listen to them and learn from them, that they **ARE** to believe, follow, obey and **KEEP ALL** the Words of the Torah of Mosheh. Therefore, let us resolve, here and now, at this, the Feast of Dedication to truly become a **LIGHT** unto the people of the nations, a Light unto the peoples of the world, by being obedient to all the Words of Elohim, His inerrant and everlasting Torah.

2Peter 1:3-7

*3 According as His divine power has given unto us **ALL things that pertain unto life and godliness**, through the knowledge of Him that has called us to glory and virtue: 4 **Whereby are given unto us exceeding GREAT AND PRECIOUS PROMISES**: that by these you might be partakers of the **DIVINE NATURE**, having escaped the **corruption** that is in the world through **lust**. 5 And beside this, giving **ALL diligence, add to your belief (faith, Pistis, Emunah), virtue**; and to **virtue knowledge**; 6 And to **knowledge self control**; and to **self control perseverance**; and to **patience godliness**; 7 And to **godliness brotherly kindness**; and to **brotherly kindness, Love**.*

These *verses* express **the heart** of the Hanukkah message. We are to re-dedicate our temples, our hearts to Yahweh and in doing so, we add to or magnify our belief, our faith, our faithfulness. What is **THE VERY FIRST THING** that we are admonished to **ADD** to our belief (faith), and why is the list in that order? The very first thing that we are told to add to our belief is **VIRTUE, WHY VIRTUE**, and what **IS VIRTUE**, according to Scripture? Virtue means *humbleness, integrity, honesty, morality, uprightness, being ethical, the developing of a servant's heart, a life that does not take offence, a heart that is Holy as Yahweh is Holy*, in other words, **VIRTUE IS** a surrendered obedient life to the Ways and the Words of our heavenly Father. After we have achieved this high goal, **THEN AND ONLY THEN, ARE WE TOLD TO ADD** knowledge to ourselves. If we were to add knowledge prior to adding **VIRTUE**, we are out of Elohim's perfect order, and the knowledge can, and mostly likely **WILL, PUFF US UP** and make us proud. If you want to order your life, by Elohim's perfect order, **THEN** apply the list of *2Peter 1: 3 – 7* in the proper order in your life, and you **WILL** lead a surrendered life, which I believe **IS THE MESSAGE OF HANUKKAH**.

These are the attributes that Peter tells us to add to our **BELIEF (faith), virtue, knowledge, self control, perseverance, godliness, brotherly kindness, and LOVE**. When anyone chooses to believe the message contained in the Words of the Living Torah, when we, by belief, choose to surrender our hearts to the Living Word of our heavenly Father, His Living Torah made flesh, our heavenly Father, then **fills us with His Holy Spirit**, who in turn is tasked with **CAUSING** every contrite, surrendered, willing heart, that allows Him, to walk out and obey all the Words of Elohim's Torah (*Ezekiel 36:27*) and when we do that, when we walk in obedience to the Words of our heavenly Father's Torah, that my friends, **BECOMES OUR VIRTUE**, and through the power of His Holy Spirit, He will teach us His Ways, thereby adding His knowledge to us, the knowledge that is contained in the words, of His Torah, the Words His inerrant and everlasting Teaching and Instructions, to our hearts. Then through our virtuous hearts, that is now filled with YHVH's knowledge, that He Himself has written on our hearts, we learn self control, we learn how to persevere, and how to live godly lives, we learn how to truly be kind and loving towards our brothers and sisters and to all of mankind, as Messiah taught us and Commanded us to do, when He said, *they*

will know you by your love. Amen

Galatians 5:16

*This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and you shall **NOT** fulfill the lust of the flesh.*

The only way **NOT TO SIN, NOT TO TRANSGRESS THE TORAH** according to Scripture, **IS** to walk in the Spirit, and how do we do that? How does a person walk in the Spirit? We walk in the Spirit when we willingly choose to surrender our wills, our whole lives, to our heavenly Father, **AND** then, willingly and lovingly choose to **KEEP and DO** all the Words of the Father's inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, the Words of His Torah (Law) of Life. You might ask, How can I be so sure, that **IF** I keep the Words of the Torah of Yahweh in my heart, that I will be walking in the Spirit? Paul has told us in *Romans 7:14* that the Torah (Law) **IS SPIRITUAL**; that therefore means that the Law, the Torah **IS** filled with the Spirit of Elohim, and **IF** you walk in total loving, surrendered obedience to the Words of the Torah of Elohim, you **ARE automatically walking** in the Spirit of Elohim. You might say, well I know some people that profess to **KEEP** the Torah (Law) and there **IS** no evidence of the fruit of the Spirit in their lives. While that may be true in some people's lives, we have to let Scripture answer Scripture. We have just read in *2 Peter* that we have to add **VIRTUE** to our belief, our faith, **BUT IF** a person has not taken the steps that Elohim has ordained, and tries to **KEEP** the Torah (Law) by their own knowledge, their own strength, they **WILL FAIL**. The inerrant and everlasting teachings and instructions of Elohim are to be adhered to, **BECAUSE OF OUR LOVE FOR HIM**, and **NOT** because one thinks that they will gain some benefit because of it. The key ingredient, to fulfilling any of Yahweh's Words, His Commandments, **IS LOVE**; without which, we are operating in and by our own strength and we are doomed to fail.

Hebrews 13: 20 – 21

*20 Now the Elohim of peace, that brought again from the dead our Yeshua Messiah, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the **Everlasting Covenant**, 21 Make you **perfect (mature) in every good work to do His will, working in you that which is well pleasing in His sight, through Yeshua the Messiah; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.***

How can we have confidence in the statement **Everlasting Covenant**, **IF** we believe that Elohim has **done away with ALL** the other **Covenants** except this so called **New Covenant**, which we are told we are now under? **DID NOT YAHWEH** also say of those other covenants that they too, were **Everlasting**? **IF**, as the Christian Church fathers affirm and teach, even to this day, that the so called **OLD Covenants** are over and done with, even though they too were supposed to be **Everlasting Covenants according to Elohim's inerrant and everlasting Word**, what kind of assurance can we have, that in another two or three hundred years, Yahweh won't change His mind again, and do away with the New and Everlasting Covenant and give us yet another Covenant that He thinks **IS NOW BETTER**.

I hope you can see **THE FLAWED LOGIC** of believing that **ANY** Covenant that our omniscient and omnipotent Elohim has said **IS EVERLASTING** can be anything **BUT EVERLASTING**. What Elohim has done, over the years, **IS** build one Covenant on top of the other and added some things in the Covenant to reflect **OUR failure to KEEP THEM**, and **NOT** His failure to **KEEP THEM**.

Thank Elohim that He does **NOT CHANGE** and that when He, as the One true and only Living Elohim, gives us something and says, that **IT IS FOREVER**, it means that it is **FOREVER**.

HANUKKAH IS THE PERFECT TIME TO RE-EVALUATE WHERE WE STAND WITH, and **IN**, the Word of Elohim, it is a perfect time **TO COMMIT OURSELVES TO BELIEVE HIM**, regardless of what the theologians of the world tell us. When Yahweh says **IT IS FOREVER**, no theologian can annul it, regardless of how many arguments he uses to support his **THEORY**. **FOREVER** to our Heavenly Father **IS FOREVER!** Let us resolve in our heart that Elohim has said it, We believe and that therefore settles it.

Titus 2: 11- 5

11 For the GRACE of Elohim that brings salvation HAS APPEARED TO ALL MEN, **12 Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;** **13 Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great Elohim and our Saviour Yeshua the Messiah;** **14 Who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from ALL LAWLESSNESS, TORAHLESSNESS (1John 3:4) and purify unto Himself a peculiar people, ZEALOUS OF GOOD WORKS** (zealous to believe, follow and obey the Words of the Torah, Acts 21:20). **15 These things speak, and exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no man despise you.**

What we and our Christian brothers have been taught by the church fathers, is that **GRACE** came into the world with the advent of Messiah's appearance here on earth and furthermore we have also been **wrongfully** taught that there **IS** little to no appearance of **GRACE**, the **Holy Spirit or Salvation** found anywhere in the Hebraic Scriptures, the part of Scripture that the church fathers have erroneously called the **Old Testament**. In reality, the Hebraic Scriptures **ARE** actually Yahweh's **EVERLASTING TRUTH**, which means, that what our Christian brothers have called the **OLD TESTAMENT, IS VERY RELEVANT FOR TODAY'S SOCIETY**, even though we live in a secular humanist society, that has somehow determined for itself, that they are going to live without the wonderful blessings that come from believing, following, obeying and **DOING** the Words of the Father's Torah, His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, because **THEY BELIEVE THAT THEY KNOW BETTER** than the infinite omnipotent and omniscient Creator of the universe, what is good for them.

But here in Titus we are told that the **GRACE OF ELOHIM, THE GRACE** that brings forth **SALVATION, HAS APPEARED TO ALL MEN**. Please explain to me therefore, **HOW** Paul can emphatically state and affirm here in *Titus 2* that the **GRACE** of Elohim has appeared **TO ALL MEN, IF**, like the church fathers teach that the *grace of Elohim ONLY SHOWED UP IN ACTS 2*. If Paul **IS** telling us the **TRUTH** that Yahweh's **GRACE** has indeed appeared to **ALL MEN, THEN** that **MUST MEAN** that our heavenly Father's **GRACE** had to be there from the very beginning of time, in the garden of Eden **OR ELSE IT COULD NOT HAVE APPEARED TO ALL MEN**, including Adam.

What we then have to understand in our finite minds, **IS** that we are to decide for ourselves, **IF** Paul's statement in Titus **IS FALSE**, or **COULD IT BE** that maybe **WE HAVE BEEN FED LIES, FALSEHOODS BY OUR FOREFATHERS AS IT SAYS IN Jeremiah 16:19** and that the Holy Spirit has indeed been with us from the very beginning of time?

In *verse 14* we are told that Messiah came to redeem us from all **LAWLESSNESS, FROM TORAHLESSNESS**. In *1John 3:4* it says **SIN is transgression of the Torah, the Law**, therefore this statement in Titus tells us that Messiah came to redeem us from our **TORAH TRANSGRESSING BEHAVIOUR**, our **LAWLESS MANNER**, to redeem us from our faulty choice of **NOT KEEPING nor OBEYING the Words of the Father's Torah (His Law)**. To make it as clear and plain as possible, Messiah came to earth as our heavenly Father's emissary, **TO TEACH ALL OF US, HOW TO KEEP THE WORDS of OUR HEAVENLY FATHER'S LIFE GIVING TORAH (LAW) IN THE PROPER MANNER**.

I hope that you can see and understand that, and accept it as Yahweh'd **TRUTH**, for it is a biblical tenet that is well embedded throughout the written Torah and the prophets.

In *verse 15* we are told that after **WE HAVE BEEN** redeemed (*verse 14*) that Elohim will purify us onto Himself **AS A PECULIAR PEOPLE THAT ARE ZEALOUS FOR HIS TORAH, HIS GOOD WORKS**. What are His good Works? His **GOOD WORKS ARE** Messiah who of course **IS**, the Words of the Living Torah made flesh, and His **GOOD WORKS** are the works of the Father.

This Hanukkah. let us determine for ourselves, that we, **AS** Bondservants of Messiah who is the Most High Elohim, **WILL** willingly and lovingly believe, follow, and obey **ALL** the Words of Elohim's Torah of life, and **NOT** the word of man. Let us commit our lives to believing His **INFINITE TRUTH**, the Words of His Torah, and **NOT** man's finite conflicting false doctrines and lies. And finally, let us commit ourselves, better yet, let us bind our souls to the commitment of surrendering more of our lives to Yahweh so that when we stand here together again next year, we can honestly say that we have moved even closer in our journey to becoming more like 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 Day and may Yahweh bless your every thought, and your every deed. Until we meet again; Shalom Alechem! Amein!