**Lesson No. 130 – The Simplicity That Is In CHRIST**

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February 6, 2020

In the prior study, The Power To Define, we read an interesting concept that to Christians is one of the basic ingredients necessary for all Christians to ensure that they know that their individual power to define has indeed endured. This concept was included in the following scripture.

* 2Co 11:3  But **I fear**, **lest by any means**, **as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty**, **so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ**.

This verse presents the subject of this Sabbath’s Lesson No. 130 – The Simplicity That Is In Christ. As we discussed in the previous lesson, the Apostle Paul spoke these words as a grim warning to Christians of his grave concern of how the serpent might beguile Christians’ minds from “the simplicity that is in CHRIST”, in like manner as he beguiled Eve. And we notice how that the Apostle warns that these beguiling attempts by the serpent can come “by any means”. The bottom line is that this is at the very core of whether Christians are maintaining their own control to define what ELOHIM has given them in order to “endure until the end”.

While this phrase is only found once in the WORD of ELOHIM, I believe each of us should agree that it was given in such a powerful manner that we must completely understand what is so simple about this CHRIST that Christians must guard against their minds being corrupted from it.

Now, a thought that touched me as I looked into this is that the Apostle considered the phrase “in CHRIST” to be simplicity to Christians. Think about that for a moment. To Christians, “in CHRIST” should be a simple matter. And yet, because of the magnitude of the many differences existing in the world of Christendom, we know that it is not so simple to Christians all over the world.

Well, I believe Christians need to understand why the Apostle Paul considered this to be so simple, or perhaps, why the Apostle is teaching Christians that whatever “in CHRIST” is, it **should be** simple to them.

As such, for the benefit of all, Christians should first totally understand and agree to who is CHRIST. So, let’s first take a humble step backwards and try and make that understanding simple, based on the WORD of ELOHIM.

* Joh 1:1  **In the beginning was the Word**, and **the Word was with God**, **and the Word was God**. Joh 1:2  **The same was in the beginning with God**.

All Christians recognize that these words are written by one of the apostles of CHRIST, John (Yochanan). Now here is a fact that must be acknowledged right up front. Either one accepts these words written by the Apostle Yochanan as truth, or, one is not a Christian. **Do you all agree with this statement?** He writes that the WORD “was in the beginning with God”. This informs us that in the beginning there was someone called the WORD and GOD, and, the WORD was also GOD. Now, this statement within itself might not be so simple to some. It denotes separate entities, and yet also, the same entity. Perhaps the first Book of the Bible, which I refer to as ELOHIM’s WORD, provides a better understanding.

* Gen 1:1  In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

Either one believes this statement as well, or if not, one is not a Christian. And here is the beginning of the simplicity of ELOHIM’s WORD that all Christians must recognize and walk in agreement. Another apostle wrote the following necessity for all Christians that should be simple.

* Heb 11:6  But without faith *it is* impossible to please *him:* for **he that cometh to God must believe that he is**, **and *that* he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him**.

The simplicity for Christians begins with this unwavering belief. GOD is, and, HE is a rewarder of those that diligently seek HIM. The Apostle says “diligently seek HIM”. This is of major importance for all Christians to understand “the simplicity that is in CHRIST”. This word diligently was translated from the Greek word “ekzeteo”, which means to search or seek out, investigate, or inquire. This is also why this same Apostle wrote the following to Christians:

* 1Th 5:21  Prove all things; hold fast that which is good.

These two scriptures are totally consistent for Christians. When any Christian comes to GOD, they should diligently seek HIM by proving all things for themselves. This should not be thought of as being something difficult to Christians.

Why is this so important to Christians? In the last lesson, we learned how that Satan wants to beguile all Christians to settle for walking in different paths and not accept the simplicity taught them by all of the apostles.

Now, the English word for God in Genesis 1:1 is translated from the Hebrew word ELOHIM, which means more than one DEITIES, or a family of omnipotent DEITIES. This is consistent wherever we read the word God in the Old Covenant of ELOHIM’s WORD. I will explain a little later why I maintain the use of this family name in speaking of GOD in the New Covenant.

Genesis 1:2 through Genesis 2:3 presents the details of the first seven days of the creation of the earth by ELOHIM. To my knowledge, no other religion taught in modernity describes this detail explanation for the earth in which we all reside. Christians should accept these details as truth.

On the 5th day of this creation week, this concept of the family of ELOHIM is presented to all Christians.

* Gen 1:26  And **God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness**: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. Gen 1:27  **So God created man in his *own* image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them**. Gen 1:28  And **God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it**: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.

On this day of creation week, the first family of mankind was created, male and female. Verse 26 teaches Christians that there was a conversation between two or more entities identified as ELOHIM, that agreed to “make man in” THEIR image. And yet, beginning with Genesis 2:4, we read of another absolute regarding the creation of the earth that all Christians should and must agree to, if they are diligently seeking ELOHIM.

* Gen 2:4  These *are* the generations of the heavens and of the earth when they were created, **in the day that the LORD God made the earth and the heavens**,

Starting with this scripture, the LORD God is identified throughout the Old Covenant of ELOHIM’s WORD as the member of the family of ELOHIM who actually made the earth and the heavens Christians are taught about in these first two chapters of the Book of Genesis. In modernity, it is a simple matter for Christians to use the technological advances available to them to search the Old Covenant and accept and agree that the LORD GOD is the primary member of the family of ELOHIM throughout the entire Old Covenant.

Now, we already know that the English word God is ELOHIM. Well, what about this word LORD, presented in all caps by the KJV?

According to what we have been provided, this word LORD represents the Hebrew tetragrammaton “YHWH”, which consistently has historically been pronounced as YAHWEH. There are those who pronounce this tetragrammaton as YAHAWAH, or perhaps by another name.

As we recall our discussion on “The Power To Define”, we must rise above our vain differences and not be offended by something that really is not spiritually different. The true quest for what ELOHIM’s WORD calls “the knowledge of the truth” requires Christians to discern what is false or true. Whether one says YAHWEH or YAHAWAH, while accepting the essence of this omnipotent BEING’s presentation in the WORD of ELOHIM, Christians must not allow this to become an opportunity for their minds to be corrupted from “the simplicity that is in CHRIST”.

So, as we now know of YAHWEH, HE is YAHWEH of the family of ELOHIM. And before we return to the Apostle Yochanan to learn more about the WORD, let’s read and discern something else Christians are taught in Genesis.

* Gen 2:21  And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof; Gen 2:22  And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man. Gen 2:23  And Adam said, This *is* now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man. Gen 2:24  **Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh**.

Most if not all Christians are familiar with these verses. The question for each Christian is the matter of discerning that with these verses, the foundation of what became the Children of Yisrael under the Old Covenant, and, the Household of Faith under the New Covenant, was established. Man and woman were commanded by YAHWEH of ELOHIM to become one flesh.

Remember this commanded oneness. We will look into this a little later. For now, with the knowledge of the fact that YAHWEH of ELOHIM made the earth and the heavens that all Christians should agree upon, let’s return to read more of what the Apostle Yochanan wrote about this as the New Covenant is taught to Christians.

* Joh 1:3  **All things were made by him**; and without him was not anything made that was made. Joh 1:4  In him was life; and the life was the light of men. Joh 1:5  And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.

Genesis 2:4 taught us that YAHWEH of ELOHIM “made the heavens and the earth”. The Apostle teaches us that **the WORD made all things**. Simply put, all Christians should then in simplicity accept that the WORD and YAHWEH (the LORD God) of ELOHIM must be the same omnipotent BEING, that is, if they are believe the Bible to be the WORD of ELOHIM. The Apostle further writes the following of the WORD.

* Joh 1:10  **He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not**. Joh 1:11  **He came unto his own, and his own received him not**. Joh 1:12  But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, *even* to them that believe on his name: Joh 1:13  Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. Joh 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 and truth.

Now Christians, let’s keep it simple. The first order of business is for us to believe in and accept what we are diligently reading. We now know that the WORD is YAHWEH of ELOHIM. So, YAHWEH of ELOHIM was now in the world that was made by HIM, and the world knew HIM not. It was YAHWEH of ELOHIM that came unto HIS own, who received HIM not. YAHWEH of ELOHIM was made flesh.

Here is this Apostle now informing us that YAHWEH of ELOHIM, the creator of the heavens and the earth, became flesh. An appropriate question as Christians come to ELOHIM should be, how is this so? Let’s understand this together.

YAHWEH, the WORD of ELOHIM, had one of HIS prophets write something most profound for Christians to understand about HIM and HIS desires.

* Amo 3:1  Hear this word that the LORD hath spoken against you, O children of Israel, against the whole family which I brought up from the land of Egypt, saying, Amo 3:2  **You only have I known of all the families of the earth**: therefore I will punish you for all your iniquities. Amo 3:3  **Can two walk together, except they be agreed**? Amo 3:4  Will a lion roar in the forest, when he hath no prey? will a young lion cry out of his den, if he have taken nothing? Amo 3:5  Can a bird fall in a snare upon the earth, where no gin *is* for him? shall *one* take up a snare from the earth, and have taken nothing at all? Amo 3:6  **Shall a trumpet be blown in the city, and the people not be afraid? shall there be evil in a city, and the LORD hath not done *it?*** Amo 3:7  **Surely the Lord GOD will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets**.

What should all Christians glean from these scriptures? Well, knowing what we have learned thus far, the WORD of ELOHIM, is telling the Children of Yisrael (COY), that HE brought them “up from the land of Egypt”. The WORD also informs the COY that they only have HE “known of all the families of the earth”.

Earlier, ELOHIM’s WORD taught Christians that man and woman were to cleave together and become one flesh. There are two presentations of how man and woman will walk during their sojourn on the earth; flesh and spiritual.

Man and woman were to walk in a spirit of oneness, first in the flesh, and secondly, in their obedience to the WORD of ELOHIM, YAHWEH. The commanded oneness of the man and the woman was to be a type of YAHWEH’s desired oneness between HE and the COY, and, the oneness we will soon learn of between the WORD and HIS followers.

Accepting the simplicity of what we are reading in verse 3 and 4, can Christians walk together except they be agreed? ELOHIM’s WORD will provide Christians the answer to this as we continue to read.

The WORD of ELOHIM then teaches Christians important aspects of how HE accomplishes HIS desires. HE causes the trumpet to be blown as a warning. HE causes evil (the Hebrew word ra, primarily translated evil 442 times and wickedness 59 times) in a city. This can also mean calamity, distress and adversity. And then, of major concern to Christians, it is the WORD that says plainly that HE does nothing without revealing HIS secrets unto HIS servants the prophets. These important facts about the WORD, who is YAHWEH of ELOHIM, should be known and in complete agreement by all Christians as they come to ELOHIM. This is “the simplicity that is in CHRIST” that will help Christians understanding of ELOHIM’s WORD as they continue to “prove all things”.

* Joh 1:15  **John bare witness of him, and cried, saying, This was he of whom I spake, He that cometh after me is preferred before me: for he was before me**. Joh 1:16  And of his fulness have all we received, and grace for grace. Joh 1:17  **For the law was given by Moses, *but* grace and truth came by Jesus Christ**. Joh 1:18  **No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared *him****.*

Now the Apostle informs us more about the WORD. The Apostle Yochanan now testifies of Yochanan the Baptist, who bare record of YAHWEH of ELOHIM coming unto HIS own. Through the Prophet Amos the WORD taught Christians that the COY were HIS own.

The Apostle Yochanan now teaches Christians that Moses (the first prophet) gave the law. However, grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.

Now we have another name, Jesus Christ, in the Hebrew, YESHUA the CHRIST, the ANNOINTED or MESSIAH. This was the name given to YESHUA’s mother Mary by the angel Gabriel. I know that Christians are supposed to know this, however for the sake of simplicity and oneness, let’s go and read this.

* Luk 1:28  And **the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, *thou that art* highly favoured, the Lord *is* with thee: blessed *art* thou among women**.  Luk 1:30  And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God. Luk 1:31  And, **behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS**.

So, we see how this newborn child got HIS name.

* Luk 1:32  **He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David**: Luk 1:33  And **he shall reign over the house of Jacob forever**; and **of his kingdom there shall be no end**.

This child named YESHUA is to be great, called the SON of the HIGHEST, given the throne of HIS father in the flesh by lineage, David, and, shall reign over the house of Jacob (Yacob) forever; and, “of HIS Kingdom that there shall be no end”. This is what ELOHIM’s WORD teaches all Christians about this child YESHUA. Now, Christians should know that David was the second king over the Nation of Yisrael, also called the COY. It is on David’s throne that YESHUA shall be given by ELOHIM to reign over a Kingdom, the House of Yacob, that shall never end. Remember, the WORD of ELOHIM taught Christians that HE would reveal HIS secrets to HIS prophets.

* 2Sa 7:16  And **thine house and thy kingdom shall be established for ever before thee**: **thy throne shall be established forever**. 2Sa 7:17  According to all these words, and **according to all this vision, so did Nathan speak unto David**.

This was prophesied to David by the Prophet Nathan. However, Christians should also know that David was both a king, and also a prophet. And as a prophet, he wrote the following:

* Psa 132:10  For thy servant David's sake turn not away the face of thine anointed. Psa 132:11  The LORD hath sworn *in* truth unto David; he will not turn from it; **Of the fruit of thy body will I set upon thy throne**. Psa 132:12  **If thy children will keep my covenant and my testimony that I shall teach them, their children shall also sit upon thy throne for evermore**. Psa 132:13  For **the LORD hath chosen Zion**; **he hath desired *it* for his habitation**. Psa 132:14  This *is* my rest for ever: **here will I dwell; for I have desired it**.

Here is a key to what we have been reading. Verse 11 teaches Christians that the WORD swore to David that “of the fruit of” David’s body, that HE HIMSELF, YAHWEH of ELOHIM, “will set upon” David’s throne. This was an unconditional prophesy, as we have already read from the Apostle Yochanan. Conditionally, David was told that **if his children**, the COY **kept the WORD of ELOHIM’s covenant**, **and HIS testimony**, HE shall teach them, “**their children shall also sit upon” David’s throne “for evermore**”. Importantly to this lesson, the WORD, YAHWEH, is going to set on David’s throne.

David also prophesied another key component of ELOHIM’s WORD, the testimony, which all Christians should know has given to them as the New Covenant, or Testament. And, HE, the WORD, has chosen Zion for HIS habitation and will dwell there according to HIS desire.

The angel told Mary that her son YESHUA is going to sit upon David’s throne. The Prophet King David also wrote this.

* Psa 40:6  Sacrifice and offering thou didst not desire; mine ears hast thou opened: burnt offering and sin offering hast thou not required. Psa 40:7  **Then said I, Lo, I come: in the volume of the book *it is* written of me**, Psa 40:8  **I delight to do thy will, O my God: yea, thy law *is* within my heart**.

Most might read these words and might believe that David is writing of himself, and this is in part true. However, this also represents the duality in the WORD of ELOHIM, that all Christians must recognize together if they are to accomplish what YAHWEH of ELOHIM desires of them. This duality was taught to Christians in the testimony.

In total agreement, Christians should know that YESHUA, when HE began HIS ministry at about the age of 30 (Luke 3:23), chose 12 disciples to be HIS. HE later would chose a 13th disciple, Paul. The 12 and Paul, would later be named apostles of YESHUA and become HIS instruments to teach HIS grace and truth. There should be no disagreement of this by Christians. These would teach Christians how to understand the things the prophets wrote, things which the prophets themselves were not given the spiritual understanding of. The Apostle Paul wrote and taught Christians an understanding of the Prophet King David’s words.

* Heb 10:4  For *it is* not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins.

Later in his writings to Christians in Galatia (3:24), the Apostle taught that the sacrifice of these bulls and goats were simply like a schoolmaster unto, or until, CHRIST.

Here, he continues to teach and clarify the truth.

* Heb 10:5  Wherefore when he cometh into the world, he saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, but a body hast thou prepared me:

Remember, the Apostle Yochanan taught us that YAHWEH of ELOHIM was in the world and became flesh. YAHWEH told David that HE HIMSELF would set upon David’s throne. Well, how would HE do this? Now, one of YESHUA’s apostles is led to teach Christians that when YAHWEH came into the world, HE prepared a body for HIMSELF, YESHUA. This is how HE became flesh. All Christians should be of one accord on what we have read thus far. **Do we all agree?**

The Apostle now provides Christians the duality of David’s prophecy.

* Heb 10:6  In burnt offerings and *sacrifices* for sin thou hast had no pleasure. Heb 10:7  Then said I, Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will, O God. Heb 10:8  Above when he said, Sacrifice and offering and burnt offerings and *offering* for sin thou wouldest not, neither hadst pleasure *therein;* which are offered by the law; Heb 10:9  Then said he, **Lo, I come to do thy will, O God. He taketh away the first, that he may establish the second**.

As the Apostle recounts David’s prophecy, he also provides Christians the true understanding of ELOHIM’s thoughts. Verse 9 testifies of a change that many Christians seem to fail to accept. The original prophecy read as follows:

* Psa 40:8  **I delight to do thy will, O my God: yea, thy law *is* within my heart**

However, the testimony is that when YAHWEH of ELOHIM came into the world in the flesh to do the will of ELOHIM, HE will took away the first covenant to establish the second covenant. This is a major element of what “in CHRIST” is all about.

So, where are we? YAHWEH of ELOHIM is presented as the member of the family of ELOHIM who made the earth and the heavens. As Christians read through the words of what is known as the Old Covenant, or Testament, it was YAHWEH of ELOHIM who developed a people for HIMSELF known as the COY, beginning with Abraham, Isaac and Yacob (whom ELOHIM’s WORD classifies as the fathers of Yisrael in Deuteronomy 9:5, the ONLY family that YAHWEH of ELOHIM, the WORD, knew of all the families of the earth.

YAHWEH later came into the world (i.e., to the earth) as the WORD, under a new name, YESHUA, as the CHRIST, to sit on the throne of David, to take away one covenant to establish another covenant.

As we also have read, there was another concept of key importance that we must understand. The body that was prepared for YAHWEH to become flesh, was told to the woman chosen to birth this body, HE would be the SON of the HIGHEST. The Apostle Yochanan taught Christians that the WORD became “the only begotten of the FATHER”, ELOHIM.

Let me provide a point of clarity I have chosen for these lessons I have been so blessed to teach. We now know that the family of ELOHIM is two or more entities. YAHWEH, the WORD, now known as YESHUA was one of those omnipotent entities of the family of ELOHIM. We are now reading that HE came into the world in the flesh and became the only begotten of the FATHER. Through study, I and hopefully each of you, have learned of only one other member of this omnipotent family, who is now presented as the FATHER. As both YAHWEH and this FATHER were both members of the family of ELOHIM, now that only the FATHER was left at this time as a member of the family in heaven, I continue to use the family name ELOHIM as we read of the FATHER in New Covenant scripture.

Now, there is something else about this name YESHUA that we have been taught that all Christians should accept and understand.

* Joh 5:43  **I am come in my Father's name**, and ye receive me not: if another shall come in his own name, him ye will receive.
* Joh 10:25  Jesus answered them, I told you, and ye believed not: **the works that I do in my Father's name**, they bear witness of me.

Twice, YESHUA teaches Christians that HE came in HIS FATHER’s name. Obviously, this was the name given to HIS earthly mother Mary for HIM. As such, Christians should know that the name of YESHUA was and is the FATHER’s name. What does this teach us? Doesn’t it teach Christians that in the beginning, YESHUA and YAHWEH were the family of ELOHIM? They taught the following through the Prophet King David.

* Psa 55:12  For *it was* not an enemy *that* reproached me; then I could have borne *it:* neither *was it* he that hated me *that* did magnify *himself* against me; then I would have hid myself from him: Psa 55:13  But *it was* thou, a man mine equal, my guide, and mine acquaintance. Psa 55:14  **We took sweet counsel together, *and* walked unto the house of God in company**.

Throughout ELOHIM’s WORD, it is evident that from the beginning of what we read in the Book of Genesis, ELOHIM had established a plan for the newly created earth and mankind. Together, they took sweet counsel as THEY “walked unto the House of ELOHIM in company”. YESHUA, now the begotten SON of ELOHIM, twice spoke of HIMSELF and YESHUA the FATHER in this manner.

* Joh 10:29  My Father, which gave *them* me, is greater than all; and no *man* is able to pluck *them* out of my Father's hand. Joh 10:30  **I and *my* Father are one**.
* Joh 17:22  And **the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one**:

These scriptures teach Christians YESHUA and HIS FATHER were and are as one, of one mind. Verse 22 also refers to YESHUA’s disciples, whom HE prays to the FATHER that they also may be one, as HE and the FATHER were one. We will read of another group of whom YESHUA also desires to become one. The WORD of ELOHIM came to ensure that THEIR plan of counsel would be accomplished, without error.

Earlier in Yochanan 1:18 we read how that no man had seen ELOHIM at any time. Christians should now know that this is talking only of the FATHER. YESHUA would later confirm this to be true.

* Joh 5:37  And the Father himself, which hath sent me, hath borne witness of me. **Ye have neither heard his voice at any time, nor seen his shape**.
* Joh 6:46  **Not that any man hath seen the Father**, save he which is of God, he hath seen the Father.

This is YAHWEH of ELOHIM HIMSELF, teaching a valuable lesson that all Christians should know and accept. HE alone has mankind had a relationship with. HE created them, and gave to them what the family of ELOHIM purposed to give them. Notice this scripture.

* Exo 24:9  Then went up Moses, and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel: Exo 24:10  And **they saw the God of Israel**: and *there was* under his feet as it were a paved work of a sapphire stone, and as it were the body of heaven in *his* clearness. Exo 24:11  And upon the nobles of the children of Israel he laid not his hand: also they saw God, and did eat and drink.

These scriptures are an example of many others where the COY saw and spoke to their ELOHIM. When YAHWEH of ELOHIM came in the flesh as the WORD, YESHUA, HE taught Christians that man has never seen or spoke to YESHUA, FATHER ELOHIM.

What must Christians agree to? Mankind has only dealt with YESHUA, the WORD of ELOHIM, throughout the history of the world. This is “the simplicity that is in CHRIST”.

Obviously, there is more in the WORD of ELOHIM on the identity of CHRIST. However, if what we have read thus far is not convincing, I’m not so sure the other scriptures would convince one. For those who are in agreement on who CHRIST is, what does it now mean to be “in CHRIST”?

Now perhaps I am simpleminded, but I believe that if Christians accept and agree to the identity of CHRIST, that YAHWEH of ELOHIM and the WORD of ELOHIM are one and the same, Christians should question why are there so many differences amongst them? Perhaps we will learn later.

There are a few other basics that Christians must also accept and agree to.

* Isa 8:16  Bind up the testimony, seal the law among my disciples.

Through diligent study, Christians should agree that this is the only instance of the word disciples in the Old Covenant. This is a prophecy. These are the WORD’s disciples, later called apostles. The WORD says they together are to “bind up the testimony and seal the law”.

* Isa 8:17  And I will wait upon the LORD, that hideth his face from the house of Jacob, and I will look for him. Isa 8:18  Behold, I and the children whom the LORD hath given me *are* for signs and for wonders in Israel from the LORD of hosts, which dwelleth in mount Zion. Isa 8:19  And when they shall say unto you, Seek unto them that have familiar spirits, and unto wizards that peep, and that mutter: should not a people seek unto their God? for the living to the dead?

The Prophet Isaiah now speaks of his own thoughts, it would appear, acknowledging that he and the COY were for signs and for wonders from the WORD.

He knows his people sought wisdom from the wrong sources. He asks, shouldn’t they have sought their ELOHIM, the WORD.

* Isa 8:20  To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, *it is* because *there is* no light in them.

And then, Christians are given the formula upon which to build upon their faith in ELOHIM’s WORD. Their only light will be if they immerse themselves into both the law and the testimony. And they must immerse themselves with the mutual understanding that it is YAHWEH of ELOHIM’s disciples who will, and in fact already have, bound the testimony and sealed the law. As such, Christians are to rely upon these disciples to provide them ELOHIM’s desires of what they are to glean from the law and the testimony as they walk in the better promises of the New Covenant.

When YAHWEH of ELOHIM came into the world as YESHUA the CHRIST, HE chose HIS disciples and said the following to them.

* Mat 13:10  And the disciples came, and said unto him, Why speakest thou unto them in parables? Mat 13:11  He answered and said unto them, **Because it is given unto you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it is not given**.

By HIS own mouth, **YAHWEH of ELOHIM ONLY gave to HIS disciples**, those same disciples that the Prophet Isaiah wrote about, **“to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven”**.

* Mat 13:16  But blessed *are* your eyes, for they see: and your ears, for they hear. Mat 13:17  For verily I say unto you, That many prophets and righteous *men* have desired to see *those things* which ye see, and have not seen *them;* and to hear *those things* which ye hear, and have not heard *them.*

The mysteries of the Kingdom of Heaven had not been given to anyone prior to this time, not even to the prophets. The prophets revealed the foundations of ELOHIM’s thoughts, HIS plan. These disciples were given the revelations of what the prophets were given, along with the further required testimony needed under the better covenant which YESHUA came to establish. As YESHUA began to teach them about the Kingdom of Heaven, HE made some things pretty simple for Christians to accept and agree on.

* Joh 6:60  Many therefore of his disciples, when they had heard *this,* said, This is an hard saying; who can hear it? Joh 6:61  When Jesus knew in himself that his disciples murmured at it, he said unto them, Doth this offend you? Joh 6:62  *What* and if ye shall see the Son of man ascend up where he was before?

When YAHWEH of ELOHIM came unto HIS own, the COY, many initially followed HIM as disciples. But many were unable to accept HIS words to them. This is what this lesson is all about as we seek to understand “the simplicity that is in CHRIST”. Thus, HE taught one of the most important lessons Christians must master in ELOHIM’s WORD.

* Joh 6:63  **It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, *they* are spirit, and *they* are life**.

YAHWEH of ELOHIM’s words are spirit and they are life.

* Joh 17:5  And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was. Joh 17:6  **I have manifested thy name unto the men which thou gavest me out of the world: thine they were, and thou gavest them me; and they have kept thy word**. Joh 17:7  **Now they have known that all things whatsoever thou hast given me are of thee**.
* Joh 17:8  **For I have given unto them the words which thou gavest me; and they have received *them****,* and have known surely that I came out from thee, and they have believed that thou didst send me. Joh 17:9  **I pray for them: I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me**; for they are thine.

This is YAHWEH of ELOHIM’s prayer to FATHER ELOHIM as HE is preparing to conclude HIS first mission in the world. HIS words of spirit and life are the words given HIM by FATHER ELOHIM. HE manifested the FATHER’s name unto the men the FATHER had given HIM.

Who were these men? Whoever these were, HE made known to them all that FATHER ELOHIM had given HIM by giving to them the FATHER’s words. HIS words of spirit and life were from FATHER ELOHIM. And as verses 8 and 9 testify, because of their receipt and belief in HIS words, these disciples now belong to the FATHER.

This is “the simplicity that is in CHRIST”. This is the potential that is there for every Christian, if they maintain this simplicity.

We also read that these to whom HE had manifested the FATHER’s name and given the FATHER’s words, were the only ones HE initially prayed for.

* Joh 6:64  But there are some of you that believe not. For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were that believed not, and who should betray him. Joh 6:65  And he said, Therefore said I unto you, that no man can come unto me, except it were given unto him of my Father. Joh 6:66 **From that *time* many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him**. Joh 6:67 **Then said Jesus unto the twelve, Will ye also go away**? Joh 6:68 Then Simon Peter answered him, Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life.

The many disciples could not walk with YESHUA because of unbelief. YESHUA then taught Christians another valuable lesson.

No man can come to HIM, except it is given to him or her of HIS FATHER. And as is apparent at that time, only the 12 had come unto HIM by believing in HIS words. A little earlier YEHSUA had expound on this saying to HIS disciples.

* Joh 6:44  **No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him**: and **I will raise him up at the last day**.

This is how it was first given to mankind to come unto CHRIST. Put another way, this was the first step towards Christians beginning a walk “in CHRIST”. The FATHER drew one to CHRIST. The 12 disciples were drawn to CHRIST in their spirits by the FATHER. YESHUA also taught Christians the next step towards being “in Christ”.

And for those Christians that came to CHRIST in this simplicity, and endured until the end, HE will raise them up at the last day. Wow, we must file this thought for future discussion, “at the last day”. I.e., there is to be a last day. When is this day?

* Mat 9:12  But when Jesus heard *that,* he said unto them, They that be whole need not a physician, but they that are sick. Mat 9:13  But go ye and learn what *that* meaneth, I will have mercy, and not sacrifice: for **I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance**.

The FATHER draws. YAHWEH of ELOHIM came to call sinners to repentance. Remember, HE gave HIS disciples all that the FATHER gave to HIM.

* Act 2:38  Then Peter said unto them, **Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost**. Act 2:39  For **the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, *even* as many as the Lord our God shall call**.
* Act 2:40  And with many other words did he testify and exhort, saying, Save yourselves from this untoward generation.

Verse 39 teaches Christians that it is the LORD our ELOHIM who shall call. Based on what we have learned so far, who is the LORD our ELOHIM? Can we agree that the Apostle is talking about YAHWEH of ELOHIM, the WORD of ELOHIM, that calls all Christians? Yet, the Apostle also writes the following about the Christian calling.

* Rom 8:28  And **we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to *his* purpose**. Rom 8:29  For **whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate *to be* conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren**. Rom 8:30  Moreover **whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified**: and **whom he justified, them he also glorified**.

In these scriptures it is plain that the FATHER did foreknow, predestinate to the image of HIS SON, call, justify and glorify them that love HIM. So, at the time of Apostles writings, the FATHER also calls Christians. Christians should not be confused by these two sets of scripture.

Remember, YESHUA HIMSELF made it plain that the FATHER must first draw Christians to HIM. However, this was before HIS death and resurrection. Notice HIS following words.

* Joh 12:31  Now is the judgment of this world: now shall the prince of this world be cast out. Joh 12:32  And **I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all *men* unto me**.

I believe this might be a new lesson for me. When YESHUA was in the flesh, one could ONLY come to HIM if drawn by the FATHER. At that time, as YESHUA walked in the flesh, the FATHER was the only member of the family of ELOHIM.

Once YAHWEH of ELOHIM, YESHUA the CHRIST, was resurrected up from the earth, HE now both draws and calls all unto HIMSELF, in oneness with FATHER ELOHIM. HE is now existing in HIS former glory as a member of ELOHIM. Christians, remember that the family of ELOHIM exists as one, in perfect union. THEY desire those drawn (the Hebrew wore helkua meaning to drag towards) and called (the Hebrew word kletos meaning invited) to also be in union with the WORD of ELOHIM. How do Christians know this?

Earlier we read YESHUA’s prayer about those disciples given HIM by HIS FATHER. HE further prayed the following about these.

* Joh 17:17  **Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth**. Joh 17:18  As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world. Joh 17:19  And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth.

And as HE prayed for these disciples, HE also prayed for others.

* Joh 17:20  **Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word**; Joh 17:21  That they all may be one; as thou, Father, *art* in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.

Now, HE prays also for those who shall believe on HIM through the words of these disciples, whom Christians know eventually became the apostles of YESHUA CHRIST, those same disciples who bound the testimony and sealed the law. HIS prayer for all Christians is that they may be one, as HE is in the FATHER and the FATHER in HIM; as HE and HIS disciples became one through their acceptance of ELOHIM’s words. Let’s remember, this desire of oneness was started in the Garden of Eden with the man and the woman commanded to become one flesh.

In modernity, man and woman have begun to walk in separate paths.

Today it is perfectly okay for the man and the woman to be of one flesh, and yet be of different spiritual mindsets. YAHWEH came to clarify ELOHIM’s meaning of oneness to Christians.

Isn’t this the protocol that should be at the essence of all Christians that are “in CHRIST”? Christians are “in CHRIST” because they have first believed the words of YAHWEH of ELOHIM, the WORD, as well as the disciples of YESHUA, who both believed in and taught only HIS words. Christians must accept that these words are spirit and they are life.

Furthermore, YESHUA taught Christians the following words we also read in the last lesson.

* Joh 14:15  **If ye love me, keep my commandments**. Joh 14:16  And **I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever**; Joh 14:17  *Even* the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.

We have read these scriptures a lot lately. YESHUA offered HIS disciples, and those who would believe in HIM by their words, a spiritual condition not offered to the COY under the Old Covenant. By loving HIM and keeping HIS commandments, HE will pray the FATHER gives them another Comforter, the Spirit of Truth.

* Joh 14:21  **He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me**: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him.

Knowing that YESHUA and YAHWEH are one and the same, Christians know that HIS commandments began in the Garden of Eden when HE commanded the man to not eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

Christians should know that HIS commandments were further amplified and codified through the Prophet Moses to HIS people, the COY. Now, HE is further amplifying what Christians must understand about HIS commandments.

HE continues to assert that it is the one that has HIS commandments and keeps them that loves HIM. Can all that call themselves Christian affirm that they do this? They should be able to. This is “the simplicity that is in CHRIST”.

The Apostle Yudas, not Iscariot, ask a good question about this manifestation for all Christians.

* Joh 14:22  Judas saith unto him, not Iscariot, Lord, **how is it that thou wilt manifest thyself unto us, and not unto the world**? Joh 14:23  **Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words**: **and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him**.

YESHUA breaks it down. **To love HIM is to keep HIS words**. Then, HE and the FATHER will come and abode with you. But HE obviously knew a little more clarity was needed.

* Joh 14:24  **He that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings: and the word which ye hear is not mine**, but the Father's which sent me. Joh 14:25  **These things have I spoken unto you, being *yet* present with you**.

**HIS words and sayings to HIS disciples are HIS commandments**. But to the Christian, these words must be clear, for remember, the foundation upon which the Household of Faith was built was both the apostles and the prophets. The prophets gave Christians the law, originally to the COY. The apostles were taught face to face by YAHWEH of ELOHIM HIMSELF.

As such, HE taught them which laws given to the COY must continue to be kept, and, any new commandment ELOHIM established to be kept under the new and better New Covenant.

* Joh 14:26  But **the Comforter, *which is* the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you**.

The Comforter is given to those who choose to obey YESHUA’s words and sayings, to teach them all things, and, to bring to their remembrance all things that YESHUA gave to HIS disciples.

It’s really simple, if Christians are diligent to the WORD of ELOHIM. We learned recently how that YESHUA came to clarify the WORD of ELOHIM.

* Heb 12:22  But **ye are come unto mount Sion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels**, Heb 12:23  To the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect, Heb 12:24  **And to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant**, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than *that of* Abel.

We learned that the word mediator in the 24th verse is “mesites”, which means to restore, reconcile, to settle or resolve differences, to make consistent, and to cause to submit to or accept. This was YESHUA’s commission in mediating the New Covenant by reconciling the Old with ELOHIM’s updates to create the New.

After the death and resurrection of YESHUA, HIS disciples kept the Feast of Weeks (called Pentecost in modernity) as evidenced in the second chapter of the Book of Acts.

There, the Apostle Peter (whom HE had given the keys to the Kingdom) sealed the New Covenant protocol. Repent and be baptized so that one might receive the gift of the Holy Spirit, the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth.

Christians must now recognize that repentance includes understanding YESHUA’s commandments first given to Adam in the Garden, and the warning the Apostle gave them of how Satan seeks to beguile them.

There is the evidence in the 5th chapter of 1 Corinthians that the Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread must continue to be were kept, albeit with entirely upgraded spiritually-based precepts and protocols. These disciples, now apostles, taught all Christians why the protocols for the Passover were changed from the blood of a lamb and the physical circumcision, replaced by the blood of YAHWEH of ELOHIM (Acts 15th chapter and Galatians 5th chapter) with unleavened bread and wine, and by the acts of baptism and foot washing. Either one accepts that all of YESHUA’s sayings and words, and the words of HIS disciples, are to be kept, or, one truly cannot be “in CHRIST”.

There is obvious evidence throughout the New Covenant that the seventh day Sabbath was maintained. There is evidence that the atonement was maintained, yet with this newfound clarity.

* Rom 5:8  But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Rom 5:9  Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him. Rom 5:10  For if, when we were enemies, **we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son**, much more, being reconciled, **we shall be saved by his life**. Rom 5:11  And not only *so,* but **we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement**.

Christians should know that it is only by the death and resurrection of YESHUA that they can receive the atonement from ELOHIM.

In fact, the Biblical evidence is conclusive that all of the appointed times given to the COY by the Prophet Moses were to continue to be kept under the New Covenant. Albeit, under the New Covenant these are now kept with upgraded spiritual understandings and protocols entirely related to the Kingdom of Heaven; which is what YAHWEH of ELOHIM came to the earth to amplify.

* Mat 4:17  From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, **Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand**.

 Finally, YAHWEH of ELOHIM told Christians the following:

* Mat 18:3  And said, Verily I say unto you, **Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven**. Mat 18:4  **Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven**.

What then is the “simplicity that is in CHRIST? It begins with CHRIST. Who is CHRIST? Who was CHRIST before HIS first advent to the earth? Who are HIS servants? What has CHRIST HIMSELF told those who would be “in CHRIST”, both as the WORD of ELOHIM, and as YAHWEH of ELOHIM?

The simplicity that is in CHRIST is CHRIST HIMSELF. For every belief in modernity that claims to be Christian, the question is simple. Did YAHWEH of ELOHIM, the WORD of ELOHIM, the prophets of YAHWEH, and/or the disciples of the WORD of ELOHIM teach it? It is as simple as that. Many will choose what they will, and believe what they will.

CHRIST said, convert and become as little children. CHRIST said humble yourselves as little children. CHRIST said the failure to do this will disqualify one from entering the Kingdom of Heaven. And finally, CHRIST said in Mathew 4:4 Christians must “not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of ELOHIM”.

The simplicity that is in CHRIST is for every Christian to learn, focus on, believe in, have faith in, and to live by every word that has proceeded from the mouth of ELOHIM”.

True Christians must accept all of the words given them by the WORD and YAHWEH of ELOHIM. Through conversion by repentance and baptism unto CHRIST, continued study, humility towards becoming as children, Christians are assured that ELOHIM will send them HIS Spirit of Truth. And here is the conclusion.

The Spirit of Truth will only lead Christians to become one, as both YESHUA and FATHER ELOHIM are one.

* 2Co 5:15  And *that* he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again. 2Co 5:16  Wherefore henceforth know we no man after the flesh: yea, though we have known Christ after the flesh, yet now henceforth know we *him* no more. 2Co 5:17  Therefore if any man *be* in Christ, *he is* a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. 2Co 5:18  And **all things *are* of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation**; 2Co 5:19  To wit, that **God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them**; and **hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation**. 2Co 5:20  Now then **we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech *you* by us**: **we pray *you* in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God**. 2Co 5:21  For **he hath made him *to be* sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him**.

If we understand these words, we should of necessity understand the simplicity that is in CHRIST. Christians have been given a ministry of reconciliation Think about these powerful words. Meditate on them.

So, Brothers and Sisters, let’s keep it simple and yet no longer walk as if stupid, but as children, loving one another, accepting one another, submitting to one another, agreeing with one another in humility, serving one another for the endurance of the faithful towards each of our entrances into the Kingdom of Heaven.

As YESHUA told HIS disciples and subsequently all Christians, their capacity is to know all things HE has told them, either by HIS own words as YAHWEH and YESHUA the CHRIST, or by the words of HIS disciples. The simplicity simply lies in the acceptance of the total WORD of ELOHIM, and allowing HIS Spirit to discern for Christians the truth by which they must walk in modernity. All else is of another Christ.

Christians have been warned by YAHWEH HIMSELF, HIS prophets, and now, HIS disciples. Let’s heed the warnings and walk together “in CHRIST”.

Shalom!!