

## **Lesson No. 138 – Why We Are Called**

(Prepared By Donald Crosswell – 4/3/2020)

This lesson is presented on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of ELOHIM's new year, where in three nights, the Household of Faith will come before ELOHIM to honor YAHSHUA's Passover, under circumstances that this generation has never before faced.

Today, we live in an age some describe as “modernity”, in what is truly unprecedented times for us all, and continues to evolve in an untoward manner right before our eyes. In fact, throughout the history of mankind living on this earth, it appears overwhelmingly, that the earthly powers have conspired to lead mankind away from the ELOHIM of Yisrael. Each generation of mankind has had kingdoms that have achieved what the world has labeled as material greatness. Many of these kingdoms are not as widely documented and discussed because they are not taught in our schools and universities, while others are considered far greater because they are taught and discussed in our schools and universities. However, no matter their size or the age in which they existed, they established their own customs and worshipped their own gods, many of wood and stone.

It is no different today. All the nations of this age of modernity, whether small or great, have their own customs and worship their own gods, even the superpower nations such as the U.S., Canada, England, Russia, China, Germany, France, etc. None of these nations truly bow to the ELOHIM of Yisrael.

However, there is something today that has the appearance of being different. In this age of modernity, there is a spiritual phenomenon that exists in many nations, both small and great, that appears to be more universal. This phenomenon is called Christianity. Now, if I were a casual observer of this phenomenon in this age of modernity, I would be quite confused, as many in fact are.

Why, because there is no universal oneness in the teachings and doctrines which claim to be of the so-called Christian faith. This is really amazing because even though the teachings and doctrine are vastly different, they all make the claim to be teaching from the same source, the Book known as the Bible. What we know is that this Book is primarily about one nation, Yisrael, and its evolution from a national form of salvation, to an individualistic spiritual form of salvation offered to others from all of the nations of the world. This evolution falls under a major category identified to us as the New Covenant, or Testament.

Let's revisit what this Book teaches us about the first New Covenant converts, which is still relevant in this age of modernity.

- Act 2:36 Therefore **let all the house of Israel know assuredly**, that **God hath made that same Jesus**, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ. Act 2:37 **Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do?** 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.

This, Brothers and Sisters, is Christianity 101. Would the Apostle Peter's words be any different to us today about this generation of modernity? I believe it would be even louder.

- Act 2:41 **Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.** Act 2:42 And **they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.**

So, we learn that individuals must repent and be baptized in YAHSHUA's name and receive the gift of the Holy Spirit, understanding that this same opportunity is to be offered to others "that are afar off". And here we are told that these first Yisraelite converts continued in the doctrine and fellowship of the Apostles of YAHSHUA. These words should shout to the true believer that something new and wonderful has been implemented. This is the message that is sorely needed in this time of modernity. And then notice this next statement about this Christianity that the Apostles of YAHSHUA implemented.

- Act 2:44 And all that believed were together, and had all things common;

The original Christians that believed, "were together", and "had all things common". I wonder, based on the events of today, and others we have experienced in recent modernity, how do these words, or better yet, how should these words be looked upon by those who believe themselves to be following in the footsteps of these original Christians?

- Act 2:45 And sold their possessions and goods, and parted them to all *men*, as every man had need. Act 2:46 And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart,

And, it was implemented without interpretations and vain disputes and differences, but in a spirit of "one for all, and all for one".

We have attempted to look into this sourcebook to try and straightly focus on its teachings without focusing on the right or the left, except for to further understand what not to do. We have tried to focus on what this Book has made rather plain, if, we allow it to speak for itself.

While I say that the Book has made it plain, that does not mean that it is so easy for anyone to follow and understand.

If that were so, we surely would not have all of the different doctrines that exist under the umbrella of modernity's Christianity. The question we must answer without any doubt, is whether or not this was not the intended purpose of the author of the Book. We have previously noted that the author of the Book has guided one of those chosen to write a part of the Book to say the following.

- 1Ti 2:3 **For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour**; 1Ti 2:4 **Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.** 1Ti 2:5 **For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus**; 1Ti 2:6 **Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time.**

These scriptures could easily be thought of as the conclusion for the purpose of ELOHIM's creation. ELOHIM's WORD, as given through HIS Apostle Paul, should establish a universal understanding, if these scriptures were accepted as they were written. First, the purpose of the ELOHIM of the Bible is to "have all men to be saved, and to come to the knowledge of the truth". And second, the ELOHIM of the Bible has established the sole criteria for HIS purpose to be YAHSHUA, who is YAHWEH of ELOHIM come in the flesh in HIS FATHER's name; who "gave HIMSELF a ransom for all".

We have previously concentrated on who was or were not called to understand this. In other lessons we have discussed patriots such as Job, Noah, Abram and Jacob (Yacob), and how they met their calling. We have also discussed such powerful persons as Solomon, who may have turned to the left or the right and not maintained the proper focus. So, for tonight, as we prepare for YAHSHUA's Passover while facing this worldly trial, it felt appropriate to once again discuss Lesson No. 138 – Why We Are Called.

To begin, the Apostle Paul provided the called-out ones of Colossians an overview of what should be the mindsets of their calling.

- Col 3:12 **Put on** therefore, **as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering;** Col 3:13 **Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye.**

This is totally consistent with the words HAMASHIAC told HIS disciples they must do in order to enter into the Kingdom of Heaven; “convert, and become as little children”.

- Col 3:14 And **above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness.** Col 3:15 And **let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.**

We are called in one body, not these separate teachings applicable to the various so-called churches. These guidelines were provided to assist ELOHIM’s Household of Faith to achieve the essence of this “one body”.

- Col 3:16 **Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.** Col 3:17 **And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.**

The Household of Faith was richly told by the Apostle that these are not simply guidelines, but the purposes for why they are called. He also wrote the following as further guidance to the “called”.

- Rom 12:4 For as **we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office:** Rom 12:5 **So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another.**

- Rom 12:6 Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith; Rom 12:7 Or ministry, *let us wait on our ministering*: or **he that teacheth**, on teaching; Rom 12:8 Or **he that exhorteth**, on exhortation: **he that giveth**, *let him do it* **with simplicity**; **he that ruleth**, **with diligence**; **he that sheweth mercy**, **with cheerfulness**.

The Apostle here provides a sampling of the gifts ELOHIM has graced to those whom HE has called. Now, some of us may be thinking; where are we in this walk? What is my gift? How do I know? Well, my answer to each of you is, I don't know. What I do know is that within the structure of our understanding of what is our gift, is our continuous need to strengthen our faith and belief in the process itself.

Remember, “many are called, but few are chosen”. We know that we must first be drawn, then called (invited), and then chosen/elected. Each of us must boldly recognize within ourselves that we have been called. If we can make this conclusion, we must next grow in our understanding of what we have been drawn to. For me, my first thoughts were to verify the sign, the sign of Jonas. Think about all those who assert that they are Christians in this age of modernity. What are they being drawn to?

Understanding this is the key to understanding why we are called. What is generally called Christianity in this age of modernity can be easily proven to have been a drawing to a variety of false christs, which we know YAHSHUA HIMSELF warned HIS disciples about in the 24<sup>th</sup> chapter of Mathew. The Apostle Peter said to those first converts, and is saying to us today in this age; “save yourselves from this untoward generation”.

In order for the “called-out ones” of today to do this, and to further understand our calling, ELOHIM has provided witnesses to HIS drawing and HIS calling.

As we study and accept these witnesses, our walk should become a little clearer. Let's first revisit what ELOHIM has provided to us about a few of them.

- Heb 11:1 Now **faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.** Heb 11:2 For by it the elders obtained a good report. Heb 11:3 **Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.**

I once spoke about how someone challenged me on social media to give up my Biblical beliefs and accept a belief in evolution. He went into an exhaustive dialog that included the history of the theory of evolution to state his case. Praise be to ELOHIM that I was prepared to counter his arguments by simply using my sword to counter all that he had to say. I was able to do this because of my believe and faith that my sword is the most accurate historical document in existence. It has encouraged me to study factual history rather than theories. In the end, I ask simple questions that he could not answer, causing him to respond in silliness.

At that point I also remembered what my sword also has instructed me when it says, "do not cast your pearls before swine". In his silliness he became as swine to me. Yet not to be disrespectful, before I departed, I challenged him to study what he was attacking before drawing ridiculous conclusions.

Being prepared is a part of each of our callings and standing on our faith. Being challenged is vital to each calling. And to accept our challenges, we must be consistent in our preparation. This is one reason to write things down as we encounter them. One of the first purposes for your calling, is to properly prepare for whatever it appears you have been drawn to. As we are drawn to YAHSHUA, the question for each of us is how can we better serve YAHSHUA, and not man. Let's divert for a moment and look at something vital to this discussion.

- Heb 12:6 For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth. Heb 12:7 If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not?

In this day of modernity, this is important for us to remember. “Called-out ones” will from time to time be chastened by YAHSHUA so that we can learn how to endure. And then we read this.

- Heb 12:8 But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons.

My basic thought to all of you as to why we are called is this; so that you can learn how to become sons and daughters of ELOHIM, while helping others of like minds to endure and become saints. And in order for you and I to become sons and daughters, we must first be chastened.

Yet, what does that mean? Generally speaking, when we here about being chastened, don't we think of being punished? Well, the Greek word for chasteneth is “paideuo”, which means to train, educate and discipline. It includes correction. We need to let this sink in. We are chastened for the purpose of training us, educating us, and discipling us. The challenges are for correction and education and establishing the faith from above, and not from beneath.

- Heb 11:4 By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaketh.

Abel apparently died as a young man, particularly when considered in light of the ages that men lived in the age immediately following his death. Yet, he was called to teach us that when we make a presentation before ELOHIM, we must present our best. While his life was short, he accomplished his calling.



- Heb 11:5 **By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God.**

In this thing called Christianity, this has become one of the more divisive scriptures. It shouldn't be. We should not be in disagreement about what happened to Enoch. He was "translated", the Greek word "metatithemi", which means to transfer, exchange, change sides or location.

There are Biblical examples of this.

- Act 7:15 So Jacob went down into Egypt, and died, he, and our fathers, Act 7:16 And **were carried over into Sychem, and laid in the sepulchre that Abraham bought for a sum of money of the sons of Emmor the father of Sychem.**

In verse 16 the Greek word for "was carried over" is "metatithemi". We see Yacob was translated; he was simply carried from one place to another.

- Gal 1:6 I marvel that ye are so soon **removed** from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel:

Here the Greek word for removed is also "metatithemi". Their minds were translated, i.e., changed or removed from ELOHIM. Let's look at a final use of this word in scripture.

- Jud 1:4 For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, **turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness**, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ.

Here in Jude we see the word "turning". Yes, it is the word "metatithemi". One can easily see that this is saying that these "ungodly men" were turning and changing the grace of our ELOHIM into lasciviousness.

So, for each of our information, it should be easy to understand that Enoch was taken away or removed from his prior environment so that he would not see the same death as the wicked men all around him, which by implication is the second death.

Providing us with this information is a part of my calling that I am still growing and understanding. I provide this information for all of us to grow in our callings, to stand, and be prepared.

- 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.**

Understanding why we are called obviously begins with this belief. HE HIMSELF said, “I Am that I Am”. HE is, and if we diligently believe that HE is, HE is faithful to reward us. Look at this word “diligently seek”. It is the Greek word “ekzeteo”, which means to search out, to investigate, to carefully seek out. Doesn’t this show the consistency of ELOHIM’s WORD given to the Apostle Paul for our edification and chastening.

- 2Ti 2:14 Of these things put *them* in remembrance, charging *them* before the Lord that they **strive not about words to no profit, but to the subverting of the hearers.** 2Ti 2:15 **Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.** 2Ti 2:16 But **shun profane and vain babblings: for they will increase unto more ungodliness.**

This is how we ensure our calling. We study by diligently seeking; by searching out, by investigating, by carefully seeking out. It should be expected that some of us might take a leadership role in this. But, make no doubt about this. It is every called-out person’s responsibility to do as Peter was selected by ELOHIM to instruct us.

- 2Pe 1:10 Wherefore the rather, **brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall:**

You do this by keeping our teachers in check. By asking the tough questions, fact checking, and recognizing that anyone who is above your questions, is truly not worthy to be your teacher.

- Heb 11:7 **By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.**

Noah was called to begin a lineage of mankind that at least after the flood would begin as just, perfect and would walk with ELOHIM. He accepted his calling and was drawn to YAHWEH. He performed his calling and was chosen with the faithful.

- Heb 11:8 **By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went.** Heb 11:9 **By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise:** Heb 11:10 For **he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God.**
- Heb 11:17 **By faith Abraham, when he was tried, offered up Isaac: and he that had received the promises offered up his only begotten son,** Heb 11:18 Of whom it was said, That in Isaac shall thy seed be called: Heb 11:19 **Accounting that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead;** from whence also he received him in a figure.

How powerful was this? We know about Abraham's story of faith.

A part of his calling was to leave the land of his family to go to an unknown land where he would be commanded to offer his son in the faith that ELOHIM was able to raise his son from the dead. Our calling may at times lead us to unknown places. Yet, like Abraham and others, **we must rely on ELOHIM's WORD at all times**, knowing that HE will direct our paths. Abraham's weakness that he had to overcome was the fear of men. As he was drawn, he was tested. He overcame and became the father of the faithful.

- Heb 11:20 **By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau concerning things to come.** Heb 11:21 **By faith Jacob, when he was a dying, blessed both the sons of Joseph; and worshipped, leaning upon the top of his staff.**
- Heb 11:23 **By faith Moses, when he was born, was hid three months of his parents, because they saw *he was a proper child*; and they were not afraid of the king's commandment.**

This was the faith of Moses' parents.

- Heb 11:24 **By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter;** Heb 11:25 **Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season;** Heb 11:26 **Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt:** for he had respect unto the recompence of the reward. Heb 11:27 **By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured, as seeing him who is invisible.** Heb 11:28 **Through faith he kept the passover, and the sprinkling of blood, lest he that destroyed the firstborn should touch them.**

This is important to the “called-out ones” of this year in modernity because of the threats that tempt to thwart our keeping the Passover as YAHSHUA has commanded us, particularly the foot washing phase of the New Covenant commandment.

- Heb 11:29 By faith they passed through the Red sea as by dry land: which the Egyptians assaying to do were drowned. Heb 11:30 By faith the walls of Jericho fell down, after they were compassed about seven days. Heb 11:31 By faith the harlot Rahab perished not with them that believed not, when she had received the spies with peace.

ELOHIM has caused all of these examples to be documented in HIS WORD to show all that are called the witnesses of HIS process. Rehab was a Canaanite harlot, and thus a non-Israelite, when she was drawn. She accepted her drawing at great risk to her and her family as she was called-out to action to help ELOHIM's chosen people. In so doing, we now know that she is amongst the chosen, the elect and chosen of YAHSHUA.

- Heb 11:32 And what shall I more say? for the time would fail me to tell of Gedeon, and of Barak, and of Samson, and of Jephthae; of David also, and Samuel, and of the prophets: Heb 11:33 Who through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, Heb 11:34 Quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, waxed valiant in fight, turned to flight the armies of the aliens. Heb 11:35 Women received their dead raised to life again: and others were tortured, not accepting deliverance; that they might obtain a better resurrection: Heb 11:36 And others had trial of *cruel* mockings and scourgings, yea, moreover of bonds and imprisonment: Heb 11:37 They were stoned, they were sawn asunder, were tempted, were slain with the sword: they wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins; being destitute, afflicted, tormented; Heb 11:38 (Of whom the world was not worthy:) they wandered in deserts, and *in* mountains, and *in* dens and caves of the earth. Heb 11:39 And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise: Heb 11:40 God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect.

I believe we all know by now that we are not reading the stories of these witnesses to scare anyone. Our only fear should be that of reverence for ELOHIM. Yet, as we strive to better understand our calling, either we believe in ELOHIM's WORD or we don't. Why am I saying this?

- Mat 24:36 But of that day and hour knoweth no *man*, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only. Mat 24:37 But as the days of Noe *were*, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. Mat 24:38 For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, Mat 24:39 And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. Mat 24:40 Then shall two be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left. Mat 24:41 Two *women shall be* grinding at the mill; the one shall be taken, and the other left. Mat 24:42 **Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come.** Mat 24:43 But **know this**, that **if the goodman of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up.**

In accepting our calling, we must accept that beyond a shadow of doubt what ELOHIM, through YAHSHUA, has already told us. We must believe that HE calls the end from the beginning and as such, stay on our guards as one body of believers. This is why we are to study, and watch the events of this world. What then is our purpose?

- Rom 8:24 For **we are saved by hope: but hope that is seen is not hope:** for **what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for?** Rom 8:25 **But if we hope for that we see not, then do we with patience wait for it.** Rom 8:26 Likewise **the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities:** for **we know not what we should pray for as we ought:** but **the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.**

We don't always immediately recognize the true nature of our individual callings. What is important is that we recognize that we have been drawn, and, better yet, that we are being called-out to YAHWEH of ELOHIM. Believe it or not, this is where many who have been called have been led astray. Too many have begun to accept what was interpreted to them rather than what was actually written. They failed to rely on the Spirit of Truth.

In our calling we must be patient and wait on the answers we seek. Many use verse 26 to justify speaking in languages that are unrecognizable to the hearers. They fail to read that the spirit is making intercession for us or perhaps for someone else. This is why it is in groanings that cannot be uttered. It's not important for others to hear. It is important to the FATHER to hear in a language HE recognizes. Paul makes it clearer.

- Rom 8:27 And **he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God.** 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.**

Another step is knowing that our calling is according to HIS purpose. Sometimes, callings seem farfetched and unusual to our human intellects.

- Mat 22:1 And Jesus answered and spake unto them again by parables, and said, Mat 22:2 The kingdom of heaven is like unto a certain king, which made a marriage for his son, Mat 22:3 And sent forth his servants to call them that were bidden to the wedding: and they would not come. Mat 22:4 Again, he sent forth other servants, saying, Tell them which are bidden, Behold, I have prepared my dinner: my oxen and *my fatlings are* killed, and all things *are* ready: come unto the marriage. Mat 22:5 But they made light of *it*, and went their ways, one to his farm, another to his merchandise: Mat 22:6 And the remnant took his servants, and entreated *them* spitefully, and slew *them*.

- Mat 22:7 But when the king heard *thereof*, he was wroth: and he sent forth his armies, and destroyed those murderers, and burned up their city.

The purpose of ELOHIM's calling and purposes come in various ways. Here, in HIS anger with Yerushalem and its inhabitants for how they treated HIS prophets, YAHWEH called out HIS armies to destroy the city and its inhabitants. These were the armies of Babylon. They were called and chosen for this purpose.

As I consider the politics of the world of modernity, the toughest thing to get so-called Christians to understand is that what they see as evil and racist in the governments of this world is simply ELOHIM directing these governments to do HIS good will. We read this recently.

- Rom 13:1 **Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers.** For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God.

We remember that the NASB read as follows:

- Rom 13:1 (NASB) **Every person is to be in subjection to the governing authorities.** For there is no authority except from God, and those which exist are established by God.

As members of the Household of Faith, we are to subject ourselves to civil authority. As such we must also recognize that oftentimes, governments are carrying out their callings before ELOHIM. And these things we must reconcile through prayer and fasting in faith.

For the called-out ones, our focus and purposes should be clear.

- 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.

Remember what YAHSHUA began to instruct us at the beginning of HIS ministry.

- Mat 5:13 Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men. Mat 5:14 Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. Mat 5:15 Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Mat 5:16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

We know that based on our study of these words that the “called-out ones” are first and foremost the preservers of ELOHIM’s WORD, the salt. This WORD creates a light within us that must shine. And, as such, we must accept YAHSHUA’s instructions given us through HIS apostles as HIS words.

- 1Ti 2:1 I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; 1Ti 2:2 For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.

First, those called to follow YAHSHUA are to make “supplications, prayers, intercessions, *and* giving of thanks” “for ALL men”. This means we DO pray for sinners. We DO pray for the weak. We Do pray for the strong. We Do pray for those who we may not know that they have been deceived. There should be NO differences in the followers of the ELOHIM of this Book called the Bible.

However, as we grow in our calling and obedience to YAHSHUA's instructions, we have to learn how to "let your light shine before men"; in a spirit of humility, and not of vain pride. YAHSHUA gave the guidance.

- Mat 6:1 **Take heed that ye do not your alms before men, to be seen of them: otherwise ye have no reward of your Father which is in heaven.** Mat 6:2 Therefore **when thou doest *thine* alms, do not sound a trumpet before thee, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory of men.** Verily I say unto you, **They have their reward.** Mat 6:3 But when thou doest alms, let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth: Mat 6:4 That thine alms may be in secret: and thy Father which seeth in secret himself shall reward thee openly.

We are to let our lights shine. Yet, it is improper to brag about our light. It will be seen by whom it is meant to be seen. More importantly, if shown as instructed, ELOHIM sees it and causes it to shine brighter, as HE chastens us.

Remember, I said earlier we must have total faith in ELOHIM's WORD. YAHSHUA gave us the hint to why each of us is called.

- Mat 25:14 *For the kingdom of heaven is as a man travelling into a far country, who called his own servants, and delivered unto them his goods.* Mat 25:15 And unto one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one; to every man according to his several ability; and straightway took his journey.

We have all read the parable of the talents or had it read to us. There are several individual aspects of this parable that teachers may tend to focus on. For now, my focus in this lesson for each of us is in verse 15. First of all, who is this traveling man? Whoever it is, HE gave varying amounts of talents to HIS servants along HIS travels.

- Mat 25:19 After a long time the lord of those servants cometh, and reckoneth with them.

After a while this traveling man returned to reckon with His servants.

- Mat 25:20 And so he that had received five talents came and brought other five talents, saying, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me five talents: behold, I have gained beside them five talents more. Mat 25:21 His lord said unto him, Well done, *thou* good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord. Mat 25:22 He also that had received two talents came and said, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me two talents: behold, I have gained two other talents beside them. Mat 25:23 His lord said unto him, Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.

We begin to see a pattern here, don't we?

- Mat 25:24 Then he which had received the one talent came and said, Lord, I knew thee that thou art an hard man, reaping where thou hast not sown, and gathering where thou hast not strawed: Mat 25:25 And I was afraid, and went and hid thy talent in the earth: lo, *there* thou hast *that is* thine. Mat 25:26 His lord answered and said unto him, *Thou* wicked and slothful servant, thou knewest that I reap where I sowed not, and gather where I have not strawed:

In verse 15 the traveling man had given to each of HIS servants “according to their “several ability”, the Greek word “idious” which means one’s “own ability”. The word talents throughout Mathew 25 is the Greek word “talanton”, which means that which is weighed or a sum of money weighing a talent and varying in different states. So, based on whatever HIS servants were good at, and how good they were at it, they were given a certain amount of talents. We know that this is a spiritual metaphor.

- Mat 25:27 Thou oughtest therefore to have put my money to the exchangers, and *then* at my coming I should have received mine own with usury. Mat 25:28 Take therefore the talent from him, and give *it* unto him which hath ten talents. Mat 25:29 For unto every one that hath shall be given, and he shall have abundance: but from him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath. Mat 25:30 And cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Earlier we learned that the basic purpose of our calling is to be sons and daughters of ELOHIM. This parable is ELOHIM's further clarity to each of us as to why each of us individually are called. It is based on our individual abilities. Let's continue with the explanation.

- Mat 25:31 **When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory:** Mat 25:32 And **before him shall be gathered all nations:** and **he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats:**

Now we are clear that YAHSHUA is this traveling man who gave out the talents to HIS servants.

- Mat 25:33 And **he shall set the sheep on his right hand,** but **the goats on the left.** Mat 25:34 Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: Mat 25:35 For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in:

Whatever our abilities, it is expected that we use them to bless others for a purpose. This is why we are called and in whatever way we are called. The talents we are given are described in another parable.

- Mat 13:19 **When any one heareth the word of the kingdom, and understandeth it not, then cometh the wicked one, and catcheth away that which was sown in his heart.** This is he which received seed by the way side. Mat 13:20 But he that received the seed into stony places, the same is he that heareth the word, and anon with joy receiveth it; Mat 13:21 Yet hath he not root in himself, but dureth for a while: for when tribulation or persecution ariseth because of the word, by and by he is offended. Mat 13:22 He also that received seed among the thorns is he that heareth the word; and the care of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, choke the word, and he becometh unfruitful. Mat 13:23 **But he that received seed into the good ground is he that heareth the word, and understandeth it; which also beareth fruit, and bringeth forth, some an hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.**

It is a measure of the word of the Kingdom that YAHSHUA gives to each of HIS servants. You have been given talents, the word of the Kingdom, based on your individual abilities for the purpose of growing fruit for the Kingdom. This fruit begins with the basic talent, the word of the Kingdom; the WORD of ELOHIM.

Our light is based on whatever our individual abilities are to shine these talents in the lives of others who are in need. This is how we bear more fruit. This is how we gain more talents.

Why were we called? Well, ask ourselves this question. What are we good at? Once we answer this question, study to understand how we can best use what we are good at to bear fruit for the Kingdom.

Now, unfortunately in this age of modernity, ELOHIM's WORD is not always accepted as it is given. For instance, the Apostles' teachings, particularly Paul's, have been accepted only in part, and that part depends on whom we are listening to.

Some are leading many towards the false christ YAHSHUA warned us about in Mathew 24. Others have not yet reconciled what “to the law and the testimony” truly means. As such, the Apostles’ teachings are only accepted based on the individual limitations we place upon ourselves.

- Rom 11:25 For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that **blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in.**

This has always been the case with Yisrael. It never has grown into the ultimate purpose for why it was called. And as such, it has been blinded in part. But, what does that mean?

- 1Co 13:9 For **we know in part,** and **we prophesy in part.** 1Co 13:10 But **when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away.**

The so often misunderstood Apostle Paul, proclaims that the called-out ones know and prophesy in part because that is the only part they have been given by ELOHIM’s WORD.

- 1Co 13:11 When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things. 1Co 13:12 For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known.

When we accepted our calling, we acted like foolish children before we matured in the part we have been given. Verse 12 is important to understand. When we are face to face with the traveling man, YAHSHUA, “that which is perfect” in verse 10, the part that we don’t have now, we will be given.

That which we now have will no longer be necessary for us.

We now have that part that is called the Bible. Either we accept it in its whole or we run a risk. The Apostle Paul instructed us to “put on the whole armor” of ELOHIM. Our calling is to take our gifts, our abilities, and allow ELOHIM’s words to use and guide us.

- Eph 4:1 I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye **walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called,**

Whatever our abilities, let us walk in them, grow in them, according to the talents we have been given.

- Eph 4:2 **With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love;** Eph 4:3 **Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.** Eph 4:4 *There is one body,* and **one Spirit,** even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; Eph 4:5 **One Lord, one faith, one baptism,** Eph 4:6 **One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.** Eph 4:7 But **unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ.**

We have but one hope in our calling. We must learn how to be in unity in our calling according to the measure of what we have been given.

- Eph 4:11 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; Eph 4:12 For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Eph 4:13 Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: Eph 4:14 That we *henceforth* be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, *and* cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; Eph 4:15 But **speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:**

- Eph 4:16 **From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.**

This, my Brothers and Sisters, is why we are called. We speak the truth in love, remembering that the truth is the WORD of ELOHIM, not our personal interpretations of ELOHIM's WORD. And let us not forget the most important aspect of our calling.

- Exo 25:1 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

So, we see that this is YAHWEH, who later came as YAHSHUA, speaking to Moses.

- Exo 28:1 And take thou unto thee Aaron thy brother, and his sons with him, from among the children of Israel, that he may minister unto me in the priest's office, *even* Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, Eleazar and Ithamar, Aaron's sons. Exo 28:2 And **thou shalt make holy garments for Aaron thy brother for glory and for beauty.** Exo 28:3 And thou shalt speak unto all *that are* wise hearted, **whom I have filled with the spirit of wisdom,** that they may make Aaron's garments to consecrate him, that he may minister unto me in the priest's office.

These men were given a spirit of tailoring by YAHWEH to bear fruit to HIS church in the wilderness.

- Exo 28:4 And **these are the garments which they shall make; a breastplate, and an ephod, and a robe, and a broidered coat, a mitre, and a girdle: and they shall make holy garments for Aaron thy brother, and his sons, that he may minister unto me in the priest's office.** Exo 28:5 And they shall take gold, and blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine linen.



- Exo 28:6 And they shall make the ephod *of gold, of blue, and of purple, of scarlet, and fine twined linen, with cunning work.*
- Exo 31:1 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, Exo 31:2 See, I have called by name Bezaleel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah: Exo 31:3 And **I have filled him with the spirit of God, in wisdom, and in understanding, and in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship,** Exo 31:4 **To devise cunning works, to work in gold, and in silver, and in brass,** Exo 31:5 And in cutting of stones, to set *them*, and in carving of timber, to work in all manner of workmanship.

Here YAHWEH gave Bezaleel the ability to carve gold, silver, brass, stones and timber.

- Exo 31:6 And I, behold, I have given with him Aholiab, the son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan: and **in the hearts of all that are wise hearted I have put wisdom, that they may make all that I have commanded thee;**
- 1Ki 4:29 And God gave Solomon wisdom and understanding exceeding much, and largeness of heart, even as the sand that *is* on the sea shore. Ki 4:30 And Solomon's wisdom excelled the wisdom of all the children of the east country, and all the wisdom of Egypt.

ELOHIM gives those HE chooses various talents. It is important that we ensure our talents and how ELOHIM purposes for us to display and use them to complete HIS commandments. Let's briefly look at this aspect in a very popular story during the Babylonian capture of Judah.

- Dan 1:5 And the king appointed them a daily provision of the king's meat, and of the wine which he drank: so nourishing them three years, that at the end thereof they might stand before the king.

- Dan 1:6 Now among these were of the children of Judah, Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah: Dan 1:7 Unto whom the prince of the eunuchs gave names: for he gave unto Daniel *the name* of Belteshazzar; and to Hananiah, of Shadrach; and to Mishael, of Meshach; and to Azariah, of Abednego. Dan 1:8 But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's meat, nor with the wine which he drank: therefore he requested of the prince of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself.
- Dan 1:15 And at the end of ten days their countenances appeared fairer and fatter in flesh than all the children which did eat the portion of the king's meat.
- Dan 1:17 As for these four children, **God gave them knowledge and skill in all learning and wisdom:** and **Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams.**

Whatever your abilities, just like Noah the carpenter; just like Rahab; just like Jacob; just like David, the warrior of YAHWEH; just like Joshua was full of the spirit of wisdom and courage; just like Jephthah and his daughter Mizpah, who was full of the spirit of faithfulness to the vow made unto YAHWEH; and every other testimony ELOHIM's WORD has provided to us, we have been given a spirit of ability and are expected to use our abilities, given to us by ELOHIM, to the measure we have been given by ELOHIM.

- Eph 2:10 For **we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.**

We were called to be ourselves, and to then allow ourselves to be drawn to ONE who would clean whoever we are up, based on the richness of the grace measured to us. If we, as your Brothers and Sisters, see each other's light shining with the measure of grace YAHSHUA has given to us, it rubs off on those of us who are humble enough, and yet confident enough, to receive it.

Let our smiles in YAHSHUA become infectious. Let our growth in ELOHIM's WORD be humble, that others will be blessed by it to be encouraged to grow more themselves.

And finally, let's repeat what should be a favorite Biblical verse in our walk.

- Gal 6:10 **As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.**

We will be given many opportunities, and in so being, we are to do good unto all, but yet, we are to do good especially unto those of the Household of Faith, for the purpose of the development of one body and walking in the purpose for why we all are called.

As we once again prepare to appear before our CREATOR at the appointed times of the new year, I pray we are continually growing our abilities into the unity in which we have been challenged by ELOHIM to become; one with each other, one for each other, and, and finally and ultimately more important, our oneness with ELOHIM.

Shalom!