

## **Lesson No. 152 – Faith, The Hope And Expectations Of A Nation**

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As we look around us in this world of modernity, the concept of faith probably means different things to different people. Take the officer that just killed the Black man running away from his arrest. What or who did the Black man or the officer have faith in? Do you think their faith was consistent? What about the current president of the US? What does he have faith in? What about Europeans and Blacks in the US? What about the other cultures in the US? Is their faith consistent with one another? Perhaps now is a good time to explore this vital subject.

A quick internet search of the definition of faith finds the following results:

1. complete trust or confidence in someone or something. "this restores one's faith in politicians"
2. strong belief in God or in the doctrines of a religion, based on spiritual apprehension rather than proof.

The first definition above is interesting because just like food recipes and food labels, the first ingredient is often the foremost important ingredient included. Here, the first thought as it relates to faith is “the complete trust in someone or something”. And the example given relates to politicians. Is there a politician that any of you have “complete trust or confidence in”? If so, so to is your faith. I have heard many believers in the current president express complete trust in him.

How telling is this in 2020 as the world has been rocked by this coronavirus, and here in America, racial injustice. All this in a year in which the US will vote on who the next president will be, who will command its military and set the national political tone for this nation for the next four years.

In fact, this first definition is even more telling because from 2008 and 2016, the president of the US was also a Black politician. And today, there are more wealthy descendants of the pan-African slave trade than ever before. Here is a quote about one of these.

“In June of this year (2019), [Tyler Perry](#) brought the house down at the BET Awards. During his acceptance speech for the Ultimate Icon honor, Perry issued a powerful call to action on the necessity for African American proprietorship as a path to wealth-building and influence. It’s an idea that has been a critical motivator for Perry since his days on the so-called Chitlin Circuit, a historical network of venues that provided black entertainers safe spaces to perform. Now, Perry controls rights to all of his film and TV work, and the 50-year-old multihyphenate is set to become the outright owner of one of the largest studio lots in America — the first African American to ever do so.”

On the surface, one could have the complete trust that with these two accomplishments, having the first Black president of the most powerful nation in the world, and, having a Black man build and own one of the largest movie studios in America, the descendants of the pan-African slave trade have arrived as equal citizens in America with a bright future for its future neighborhoods.

And yet, if you really think about it, these two definitions are even more telling as we look at the world all around us. The two major news subjects of this year, the coronavirus and racial injustice tell an even louder story, because the people that are the most negatively affected by both happen to be the descendants of the pan-African slave trade, Black Americans. The statistics of the coronavirus prove that Black Americans not only represent an inequitably larger share of those infected by the coronavirus of 2020, but they continue to be the recipients of inequitable treatment by the various city and local police departments throughout the nation.

My wife has been listening to a book written by Michelle Alexander, called *The New Jim Crow*, published in 2010. This book discusses how Black Americans have been systematically disenfranchised by plea bargains for any imaginable crimes those in power can think of.

As a result of these plea bargains, those Black Americans thus impacted have for the most part been subtracted from the opportunity to express their “complete trust and confidence” in the political systems operating in the US. What the book does not provide is a viable solution to this problem. The effects of issues highlighted by this book continue to exist in 2020, a year when marijuana, for which possession caused many to plea bargain, has been legalized. I mention this because so many of these plea bargainers were arrested on marijuana possession charges.

At the same time, there are potential conflicts between China and India, and North and South Korea; not to mention a host of other hot spots. Russia continues to sow discord between the eastern and western powers. Complete trust in the reported news is now at an all-time low.

Tonight, we are discussing Lesson No. 152 – Faith, The Hope And Expectations Of A Nation. I found it interesting that the first definition included the phrase “complete trust or confidence in”, while the second definition simply reads “strong belief in God”, etc. How telling is this?

You may recall how earlier this year we discussed Lesson No. 129, The Power To Define. Is it just me, or do we all see a major problem being perpetrated by those who define how our lives should be led by complete trust or confidence in systems or people others advertise? One’s faith should have “complete trust or confidence” in politicians. However, we must maintain only a “strong belief in God or in the doctrines of religion”.

Complete versus strong, which is more pervasive? If I have complete trust in politicians, and then a strong belief in some spiritual belief, which of these do I actually place my true faith in?

Well, the KJV version of the Book we on this study have come to accept as the complete WORD of ELOHIM, offers an entirely different definition, which is the most often quoted translation of faith.

- Heb 11:1 Now faith is **the substance** of things hoped for, **the evidence** of things not seen.

So here we read of faith as the substance of what we hope for, and, the evidence of what we do not see. However, I want us to look at two other translations, which may provide an even deeper understanding of what I believe is expected of those we have continued to study about called the Household of Faith.

- Heb 11:1 Now faith is **the assurance** of *things* hoped for, **the conviction** of things not seen. (NASB)
- Heb 11:1 Trusting is **being confident of** what we hope for, **convinced about** things we do not see. (CJB)

Each of these translations present two definitions for the Household of Faith to follow about our hope in the things not seen. We read of faith as the “substance”, versus “the assurance” and “being confident”, of one’s hope. We then read of faith as “the evidence”, versus “the conviction” and being “convinced about”, things not seen. What do you think? First, should faith be based on substance, assurance and/or confidence? And, should faith also be the evidence, conviction and/or convincing of things not seen?

Tonight’s lesson will analyze this. ELOHIM’s WORD provides the following guidance to the Household of Faith about political systems.

- Col 1:2 **To the saints and faithful brethren in HAMSASHIAC** which are at Colosse: Grace *be* unto you, and peace, from ELOHIM our Father and YAHWEH YAHSHUA HAMSASHIAC.

The WORD of ELOHIM teaches us that the Apostle Paul wrote this epistle “to the saints and faithful brethren in HAMASHIAC” in Colossae.

This description is one of the WORD of ELOHIM's definitions of the Household of Faith; saints who are faithful in HAMASHIAC.

- Col 1:12 **Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light:** Col 1:13 Who hath **delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son:** Col 1:14 **In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:**

Now, according to the society we exist in, we are to have “complete trust or confidence” in our politicians. And yet we are to only have a “strong belief in God”. We have read the fact that the Household of Faith was founded on the foundation of the apostles and the prophets with YAHSHUA HAMASHIAC as the chief corner, a lot. And guess what, we will not cease to continually remind ourselves that this was and is the protocol for the Household of Faith, proclaimed to us by one of YAHSHUA HAMASHIAC's apostles. Sadly, there are many of modernity's Christians, and even many within the Household of Faith, who either do not accept this protocol, or, simply do not understand its importance to ELOHIM's WORD.

Here, one of those apostles proclaims that the Household of Faith gives thanks ONLY unto the FATHER for making us “partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light”. Do we have the evidence, or, the “assurance” and “conviction” of this “inheritance of the saints”? This my Brothers and Sisters is where we must do what YAHSHUA's apostle said we must do, study. However, our study must be with a purpose towards coming to the knowledge of the truth. YAHSHUA tried to teach this to the leadership of the Children of Yisrael (COY).

- Mat 16:1 The Pharisees also with the Sadducees came, and tempting desired him that he would shew them a sign from heaven.

- Mat 16:2 He answered and said unto them, When it is evening, ye say, *It will be* fair weather: for the sky is red. Mat 16:3 And in the morning, *It will be* foul weather today: for the sky is red and lowring. O ye hypocrites, **ye can discern the face of the sky; but can ye not discern the signs of the times?** Mat 16:4 A wicked and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given unto it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas. And he left them, and departed.

As YAHSHUA dwelt with HIS heritage, the remnant of the COY of that time, HE questioned the discerning ability of their leadership, the spiritual politicians of the people. And this is of the utmost applicability to the hope and expectations of today's descendants of the pan-African slave trade, because we continue to fail to discern the signs of the times.

Do we have the evidence that YAHSHUA's sign was fulfilled? Well, according to the politicians and the overwhelming majority of the so-called Jews and Christians of modernity, the answer is NO! And the world all about us questions the actual words by which the Household of Faith must rely upon, if it's trust in what it believes to be ELOHIM's WORD is maintained. None of us were around 2,000 years ago to witness YAHSHUA fulfilling the "sign of Yonas". We have no tangible evidence of this event. What we do have and must continually endure in, is our complete assurance and conviction in the fact that YAHSHUA HAMASHIAC did in fact fulfill this "sign", just as HE promised, and just as HIS apostles and prophets have written of to the Household of Faith.

So, YAHSHUA has injected a major protocol for us to utilize as we "study to show ourselves approved unto ELOHIM", and walk in ELOHIM's WORD. Our discernment must never waiver in our search for the knowledge of the truth. Our only evidence exists in the assurance and conviction in ELOHIM's WORD as our guidance for the walk that we have each been drawn to, invited to, and eventually have been chosen for. But, should we also rely upon our politicians as well?

As members of the Household of Faith, we believe that we have been translated out of darkness into the Kingdom of YAHSHUA HAMASHIAC. And because of it, we believe and are assured and convicted that in HIM, “we have redemption through his blood, *even* the forgiveness of sins”. You see, we have been told already what being redeemed means by ELOHIM. It is our forgiveness, obtained only through acceptance in YAHSHUA’s blood.

- Col 1:15 Who is the image of the invisible ELOHIM, the firstborn of every creature: Col 1:16 For **by him were all things created**, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, **whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers**: all things were created by him, and for him: Col 1:17 And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.

And because of our assurance and conviction, we believe that YAHSHUA created the thrones, principalities and powers that are in the earth. These include the political elements that we have been told to have “complete trust and confidence in” as our faith. ELOHIM’s WORD provides some guidance in this.

- Eph 6:10 Finally, my brethren, be strong in YAHWEH, and in the power of his might. Eph 6:11 **Put on the whole armour of ELOHIM, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil**. Eph 6:12 For **we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places**.

The Household of Faith must never allow themselves to be confused about where its faith must be placed. We put on the whole armor of ELOHIM. But, it is not flesh and blood politicians that we wrestle against.

- Eph 3:9 And to make all *men* see what *is* the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in ELOHIM, who created all things by YAHSHUA HAMSASHIAC: Eph 3:10 **To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly *places* might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of ELOHIM,** Eph 3:11 **According to the eternal purpose which he purposed in HAMSASHIAC YAHSHUA our Lord:** Eph 3:12 **In whom we have boldness and access with confidence by the faith of him.**

The apostles of HAMASHIAC were given a commission to guide the Household of Faith towards having a “boldness and access with confidence by the faith of HIM”, YAHSHUA HAMASHIAC. We are instructed that HE created the thrones, or dominions, or principalities, and powers. Is HE no longer creating, now that we live in modernity?

The apostles are teaching us that these political systems are not, and should not be the object of our focus. They were created for a purpose. Our focus must be discerned to understand the heavenly powers that were also created by HIM to guide these earthly powers. To that end, we have been provided our guidance.

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

As hard as some might think, we are to subject ourselves “unto the higher powers”. Why? Our sole objective must be on ELOHIM, who ordained such powers. Understanding this will allow the Household of Faith to endure until the end in the midst of epidemics and other brutalities in life.

I want us to consider for a moment why these instructions were given.



It should be obvious to us that whomever these powers may be, they are not the Household of Faith, nor, are they the descendants of YAHWEH's vineyard (the COY) and/or the pan-African slave trade. Why do I know this? The Household of Faith, the saints, are being instructed to be subject to these higher powers. We also have the evidence that the COY were scattered throughout the nations by YAHWEH and exist as a lower power in these nations. We also know and have the evidence that the descendants of the pan-African slave trade have never existed as a higher power. And finally, we know that the Household of Faith is not being instructed to be subject to itself.

These guidelines are provided to ensure a safe passage to not only those drawn, called and chosen by YAHSHUA of ELOHIM, the FATHER, and YAHWEH of ELOHIM, who came in the name of the FATHER, YAHSHUA, but also secondarily, the descendants of the COY and/or of the pan-African slave trade. Note how the Apostle continues this guidance.

- Rom 13:2 **Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of ELOHIM: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation.** Rom 13:3 For **rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil.** Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? **do that which is good,** and thou shalt have praise of the same:

Our commission is to do that which is good, in all circumstances of life. And through our doing good, we are able to convict these powers. Remember we have been given examples of this form of subjection by the Prophets Yeremiah and Daniel during the Babylonian captivity. And yet, their complete trust and confidence was only in YAHWEH, and not their captive politicians or authorities. We also remember others whose examples we have been given.

The Apostle continues.

- Rom 13:4 For **he is the minister of ELOHIM to thee for good.** But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of ELOHIM, a revenger to *execute* wrath upon him that doeth evil.

We are to discern that the rulers are there for good, even though individually some of them may be evil. Through subjection, patience and complete trust in YAHSHUA, we are able to overcome those of the evil persuasion.

We are not therefore to put our faith in them, but to subject ourselves to their authority for our higher purpose. And so, when we are accosted, by the police, we subject ourselves to them because the standard for which they were created is for our good. We therefore defeat the evil intents through our good, as defined to us by ELOHIM THEMSELVES, both YAHSHUA and YAHWEH.

- Rom 13:5 Wherefore *ye* must needs be subject, not only for wrath, but also for conscience sake. Rom 13:6 For for this cause pay *ye* tribute also: for they are ELOHIM's ministers, attending continually upon this very thing. Rom 13:7 **Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honour to whom honour.**

We render unto them their dues, tribute, custom, fear, and honor, as is applicable. Our discernment in this must be clearly understood. And yet, how we conduct ourselves with them, as well as other members of the Household of Faith must be equally discerned.

- Jas 4:5 Do ye think that the scripture saith in vain, **The spirit that dwelleth in us lusteth to envy?** Jas 4:6 But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, **ELOHIM resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.**

The one thing that the Household of Faith must completely establish in our minds for sound discernment is the need to eliminate vain pride from our minds for our hope and expectations to be realized. Many descendants of the pan-African slave trade have suffered and perished because of it. Even within the Household of Faith there is this vanity.

One of my Brothers in the faith recently stated that Moses and the prophets were thieves and robbers after reading the following.

- Joh 10:8 All that ever came before me are thieves and robbers: but the sheep did not hear them.

Rightfully, there was resistance to the reference to Moses and the prophets as thieves and robbers. Some sought to agree with him. I finally ask this question. Whose voice did Moses and the prophets hear and follow? One learned Brother answered quite quickly, God. I ask him to be more specific. He would not. Others did not answer. My assumption was that each of these Brethren knew that YAHWEH was in the fact the only member of the family of ELOHIM that dealt with Moses and the prophets. This was important to this discussion. Each of them, I assumed, knew that YAHSHUA was YAHWEH. Each of them did know that YAHWEH, as we have again read this evening, created all things. So, the knowledgeable answer should have been that Moses and the prophets heard and followed specifically HAMASHIAC, the spokesperson for the family of ELOHIM. As such, Moses and the prophets could never be confused as thieves and robbers, because they humbled themselves to YAHWEH and all that HE taught them. Now, others who falsely propped Moses above YAHSHUA could be spoken as a thieves and robbers, but not Moses, and not the prophets.

Why then would such a knowledgeable Brother not simply cooperate with known truth by helping to share this vital truth to the brethren to clarify the futility of the point being made about Moses and the prophets?

This appeared to be an example of the vanity that exists amongst members of the Household of Faith, even though it is in our commission to strive for agreement towards becoming as one. Shouldn't this be the hope and expectations of ourselves? The Apostle Yacob continues.

- Jas 4:7 **Submit yourselves therefore to ELOHIM. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.**

Is this an oxymoron as we were also told to also to be subject to the rulers? Not at all. Both words, subject and submit, were translated from the Greek word "hypotassō", which has a meaning of "to subordinate; reflexively, to obey: be under obedience (obedient), put under, subdue unto, be (put) in subjection (to, under), submit self unto". If we submit to the rulers through our doing good, as was written, we are in essence submitting ourselves before ELOHIM. Remember, we wrestle with the spiritual powers led by Satan. Who or what we are to resist is the devil, Satan, the dragon, the serpent and the tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. Our mindsets, even as we submit to the powers, should always be focused on our ultimate commitment to ELOHIM. How do we do this?

- Jas 4:8 **Draw nigh to ELOHIM, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded.** Jas 4:9 **Be afflicted, and mourn, and weep: let your laughter be turned to mourning, and your joy to heaviness.** Jas 4:10 **Humble yourselves in the sight of YAHWEH, and he shall lift you up.**

Once we of the Household of Faith eliminate the vanity that is within each of us by resisting Satan, allowing ourselves to draw nigh to ELOHIM by accepting the invitation given us, and humbling ourselves in the sight of YAHSHUA, HE shall lift us up. Through what should be our spiritual discernment, we do not draw near to the powers of politics. Sure, we vote our consciences.

And yet, we should not be deceived, the world's systems must never be our hope. Never should our faith be placed in mankind's systems. We subject ourselves to them when they are in authority. However we always remember and place our true faith in the fact that we have been called and chosen for something far greater.

- Joh 17:14 I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. Joh 17:15 I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil.

We are in the world, but we are no longer “of the world”. Embrace this.

And notice this important fact. We must humble ourselves in YAHSHUA's sight. HE must see it in action. Our actions begin within the Household of Faith. It extends to those that are without. We have been told why and how this works.

- Col 2:13 And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, **having forgiven you all trespasses**; Col 2:14 Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross; Col 2:15 **And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.**
- 1Pe 3:22 **Who is gone into heaven, and is on the right hand of ELOHIM; angels and authorities and powers being made subject unto him.**

These are powerful verses that attest to the faith that the Household of Faith is to be convicted on.

Our forgiveness, the removal and redemption of our trespasses, i.e. our sins, comes only by way of YAHSHUA's circumcision. The Apostle Paul refers to it as the Circumcision of HAMASHIAC. Through it, HE triumphed over the principalities and powers. And as such, the angels, authorities and powers are now subject unto HIM, whether they know it or not. We know that the angels know it.

And here again is where modernity seeks to confuse the nation. The nation, modernity's COY, are taught by the scholars to have complete faith in politicians, and strong belief in their spiritual values, whatever they may be. The political leaders of the world seek to draw us into a vain faith in them. The Household of Faith is to subject themselves to these rulers, but never to have complete trust and conviction in them.

Notice how the same instructions the apostles gave to the Household of Faith was also given to the Kingdom of Yehudah by the prophets of YAHWEH.

- Jer 42:5 Then they said to Jeremiah, YAHWEH be a true and faithful witness between us, if we do not even according to all things for the which YAHWEH thy ELOHIM shall send thee to us. Jer 42:6 Whether *it be* good, or whether *it be* evil, we will obey the voice of YAHWEH our ELOHIM, to whom we send thee; that it may be well with us, when we obey the voice of YAHWEH our ELOHIM. Jer 42:7 And it came to pass after ten days, that the word of YAHWEH came unto Jeremiah. Jer 42:8 Then called he Johanan the son of Kareah, and all the captains of the forces which *were* with him, and all the people from the least even to the greatest, Jer 42:9 And said unto them, Thus saith YAHWEH, the ELOHIM of Israel, unto whom ye sent me to present your supplication before him; Jer 42:10 **If ye will still abide in this land, then will I build you**, and not pull *you* down, and I will plant you, and not pluck *you* up: for I repent me of the evil that I have done unto you.

- Jer 42:11 **Be not afraid of the king of Babylon, of whom ye are afraid; be not afraid of him, saith YAHWEH: for I am with you to save you, and to deliver you from his hand.** Jer 42:12 **And I will shew mercies unto you, that he may have mercy upon you, and cause you to return to your own land.**

These COY were told by YAHWEH to dwell in the land of Babylon without fear. They were told to have complete faith that YAHWEH would be with them to save and deliver them. But they must first abide in Babylon. Doesn't this inherently also teach that these COY, out of the Kingdom of Yehudah, were to subject themselves to the rule of Babylon, while yet maintaining their absolute faith in YAHWEH? If so, nothing has changed in modernity.

Now notice also that there is always a penalty to the COY for not accepting what is already foreordained by YAHWEH.

- Jer 42:13 But **if ye say, We will not dwell in this land, neither obey the voice of YAHWEH your ELOHIM,** Jer 42:14 **Saying, No; but we will go into the land of Egypt, where we shall see no war, nor hear the sound of the trumpet, nor have hunger of bread; and there will we dwell:** Jer 42:15 **And now therefore hear the word of YAHWEH, ye remnant of Judah; Thus saith YAHWEH of hosts, the ELOHIM of Israel;** If ye wholly set your faces to enter into Egypt, and go to sojourn there; Jer 42:16 **Then it shall come to pass, that the sword, which ye feared, shall overtake you there in the land of Egypt, and the famine, whereof ye were afraid, shall follow close after you there in Egypt; and there ye shall die.** Jer 42:17 **So shall it be with all the men that set their faces to go into Egypt to sojourn there; they shall die by the sword, by the famine, and by the pestilence: and none of them shall remain or escape from the evil that I will bring upon them.**

- Jer 42:18 For **thus saith YAHWEH of hosts, the ELOHIM of Israel; As mine anger and my fury hath been poured forth upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem; so shall my fury be poured forth upon you, when ye shall enter into Egypt: and ye shall be an execration, and an astonishment, and a curse, and a reproach; and ye shall see this place no more.**

Obviously, there was a strong contingent of this remnant that were advocating dwelling in Egypt rather than where YAHWEH had already ordained for them to dwell; Babylon. Now I find this interesting because today in modernity, there exists a very strong contingent of the descendants of the pan-African slave trade that is advocating for fellow descendants to believe in and accept the greatness in, as well as the various gods of, ancient Egypt. Does this in any way sound familiar to the voices that existed in ancient Yisrael; specifically, the remnant of Yehudah?

Today, the descendants of the pan-African slave trade exist in a dilemma. These prophecies simply echo the duality that exists in the WORD of ELOHIM. Famine can be physical, spiritual, or both. They do not know that their existence in the nations in which they are scattered is an example of this, fulfilling an interesting prophecy.

- Deu 28:68 And **YAHWEH shall bring thee into Egypt again with ships**, by the way whereof I spake unto thee, Thou shalt see it no more again: and **there ye shall be sold unto your enemies for bondmen and bondwomen, and no man shall buy you.**

When the men of Yehudah desired to go to Egypt rather than to Babylon, little did they know that YAHWEH was prepared to grant them their wish. Only, it would be as slaves. When it says that “no man shall buy”, it is simply saying they would not be released from their servitude as bondmen and women.



While we celebrate the material gains of some, we can never forget that when these successful persons forget their place, their subjection becomes a rather harsh reality.

As we read earlier, the definitions about faith to be read from the scholars is skewed towards the secular world rather than the spiritual world. While the Household of Faith is encouraged to subject themselves to the authorities where they dwell, there is absolutely no question that ELOHIM's WORD commands where their absolute faith must reside.

- Col 1:18 And **he is the head of the body, the church**: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all *things* he might have the preeminence. Col 1:19 For it pleased *the Father* that in him should all fulness dwell; Col 1:20 And, **having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven.**

This requires some Biblical clarity, when it says “by HIM to reconcile all things unto HIMSELF”.

- Eph 2:16 And that **he might reconcile both unto ELOHIM** in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby: Eph 2:17 And came and preached peace to you which were afar off, and to them that were nigh. Eph 2:18 For **through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father.**

Through study, we discern that YAHSHUA, by HIS death on the cross, has reconciled us to the FATHER. And through YAHSHUA HAMASHIAC, this reconciliation grants us access to the FATHER by one Spirit, the Spirit of Truth.

So now, as we read these words, it pleased the FATHER that in YAHSHUA should all fulness dwell, so that through the blood of HIS cross YAHSHUA has reconciled “all things to” the FATHER HIMSELF”, “whether things in earth or things in heaven”. Thus, true believers must know that it is the FATHER who is in control of all things, in earth or in heaven, through YAHSHUA HAMASHIAC. Is that so difficult to understand. The COY have obviously not grasp this in ELOHIM’s WORD. And as such, their faith has been misguided and misplaced. The Apostle Paul tries to clarify our faith priorities as members of the Household of Faith.

- Col 1:21 And **you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled**

And remember that the apostle is writing this to “to the saints and faithful brethren in HAMSASHIAC” in Colossae. I.e., he is also writing this as well to the saints and faithful brethren in HAMASHIAC in modernity, wherever they reside.

- Col 1:22 In the body of his flesh through death, **to present you holy and unblameable and unproveable in his sight**; Col 1:23 **If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard, and which was preached to every creature which is under heaven**; whereof I Paul am made a minister;

Through the death of HIS fleshly body, we are now reconciled (i.e., atoned), so that HE can present us “holy and unblameable and unproveable in HIS sight” at the appointed time. That is, if we “continue in the faith grounded and settled”. In whose sight? We just read earlier how that we must humble ourselves “in HIS sight”; YAHSHUA’s sight.

And so, as we, the descendants of the pan-African slave trade dwell in this foreign land, if we think we have received a drawing to YAHSHUA from FATHER ELOHIM, and YAHSHUA has called and chosen us, our direction should be clear.

We should be assured and confident in what we hope for, and convicted and convinced of what we do not yet see, based ONLY on ELOHIM's WORD, of this calling. This is the faith that those who came before us, beginning with Abel, Enoch, Noah and Abraham, exhibited in the sight of ELOHIM. It was well with them, even though Abel was slain by his brother Cain. He did not see it, but through his faith, he shall see it.

As for the nation of those descendants of the pan-African slave trade that for whatever reason have not been drawn to YAHSHUA by ELOHIM, and called and chosen by YAHSHUA, they have a problem. When I first came to Chicago in the late 70's, my older brother told me that if ever I am stopped by the police for any reason, make sure I respond "yes sir" with respect, to any inquiry they may have. This was over 40 years ago. Some of you were not even born at that time. Has anything changed in this country to warrant a different response to authority by these descendants?

What we see happening today by the descendants of the pan-African slave trade is a heavy reliance on their physical salvation by the politics that exist. They want physical freedoms, and this is understandable. However, remember, the Household of Faith is to submit, but not have complete trust in these systems, because we know that our physical salvation also is reliant on our spiritual salvation. Notice Nehemiah's prayer when Yehudah was taken into captivity.

- Neh 1:3 And they said unto me, **The remnant that are left of the captivity there in the province are in great affliction and reproach**: the wall of Jerusalem also *is* broken down, and the gates thereof are burned with fire.

Whether those of the descendants of the pan-African slave trade are able to see the relevance of these words or not, they exist in a state of affliction and reproach, even in modernity. The leaders, whether they be politicians or spiritual leaders, for the most part teach that there is no relevance.

- Neh 1:4 And it came to pass, **when I heard these words**, that **I sat down and wept**, and mourned *certain* days, and fasted, and prayed before the ELOHIM of heaven,

How do each of you feel inside as you observe the worldly events of modernity? Do you weep and mourn? Do you fast and pray? How do you feel when you talk to your family members or friends who do not have the same calling, or perhaps it is obvious that for now, they have not accepted their calling? Nehemiah prayed the following:

- Neh 1:5 And said, I beseech thee, O YAHWEH ELOHIM of heaven, the great and terrible ELOHIM, **that keepeth covenant and mercy for them that love him and observe his commandments:**

This is important to understand. HE keeps “covenant and mercy for them that love HIM and observe his commandments”. We cannot be blind in both our observations, nor in our discussions, in humility.

- Neh 1:6 Let thine ear now be attentive, and thine eyes open, that thou mayest hear the prayer of thy servant, which I pray before thee now, day and night, for the children of Israel thy servants, **and confess the sins of the children of Israel, which we have sinned against thee: both I and my father's house have sinned.**

Nehemiah knew that he and his people lived corruptly in the sight of YAHWEH. Is it any different for the descendants of the pan-African slave trade in modernity? The question is one of acceptance of the facts.

Did you notice here how that Nehemiah became an intercessor for his people while confessing his own sins. Is this perhaps a great lesson unto us in modernity towards how we can bear even greater fruit for the Kingdom of ELOHIM?

No matter what the material gains may be, truth be told, we all live with some measure of painful circumstance that can be directly traced to our ancestry that suggests that they and we have done something wrong before ELOHIM.

- Neh 1:7 We have dealt very corruptly against thee, and have not kept the commandments, nor the statutes, nor the judgments, which thou commandedst thy servant Moses.

Nehemiah was simply laying it on the line.

- Neh 1:8 Remember, I beseech thee, the word that thou commandedst thy servant Moses, saying, *If* ye transgress, I will scatter you abroad among the nations:

Wow! Even in modernity, this scattering of the COY among the nations is the single most hidden message in ELOHIM's WORD in both the Household of Faith as well as within the communities of the descendants of the pan-African slave trade. And now Nehemiah gives us the example of the only way that deliverance can come to this scattered people.

- Neh 1:9 **But if ye turn unto me, and keep my commandments, and do them; though there were of you cast out unto the uttermost part of the heaven, yet will I gather them from thence, and will bring them unto the place that I have chosen to set my name there.**

His prayer then turns towards those who repented.

And we know that the WORD of ELOHIM is presented to us in metaphorical terms.

- 1Jn 3:1 Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of ELOHIM: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not. 1Jn 3:2 **Beloved, now are we the sons of ELOHIM, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.**

Spiritually, we have now been gathered to be called the sons and daughters of ELOHIM. Yet, we do not yet see what we shall be. We must believe that we are now spiritually-minded in that place that HE has chosen to set HIS name there. This is our faith. We must be assured and confident of this hope, while being convicted and convinced of what we shall be, if we are to endure unto the end. Nehemiah understood this as his prayer continued.

- Neh 1:10 Now these *are* thy servants and thy people, whom thou hast redeemed by thy great power, and by thy strong hand. Neh 1:11 **O Lord, I beseech thee, let now thine ear be attentive to the prayer of thy servant, and to the prayer of thy servants, who desire to fear thy name: and prosper,** I pray thee, thy servant this day, and **grant him mercy in the sight of this man.** For I was the king's cupbearer.

He prayed for the mercy of the repentant “in the sight of this man”. Who was this “man”? Based on the context, this “man” was the collective authority in Babylon, beginning with the king. Shouldn’t this be our prayer even today in modernity?

Again, if we are assured and confident in what we hope for, and convicted and convinced of what we do not yet see, we know that our people are living blindly to ELOHIM's WORD. How many times do we need to read where YAHSHUA used the word few as HE spoke to HIS disciples about who would truly accept HIS words about the Kingdom of ELOHIM, before we truly get what is happening right before our eyes?

- Mat 7:13 Enter ye in at the strait gate: for **wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat:** Mat 7:14 Because **strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.**

This the first instance. Only a few shall find the straight and narrow way that leads to life. And let us not forget, life in this context refers specifically to the life of the saints YAHSHUA will raise at the "last trumpet".

- Mat 9:37 Then saith he unto his disciples, The harvest truly *is* plenteous, **but the labourers are few;** Mat 9:38 Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest.

This is the second instance. What do these words say to us today in modernity? Are there many laborers for the truth of the Kingdom of ELOHIM? In the disciples' day there were but few. HE told them to pray for FATHER ELOHIM to send forth more laborers into HIS harvest. We don't know who is drawn, or called, or even chosen. I recently learned of a group I once fellowshiped with that are now Seventh-Day Adventists who no longer observe ELOHIM's appointed times. I once thought these to be of the chosen. Now the question is, were they, and, are they?

Let's read another instance.

- Mat 20:16 So the last shall be first, and the first last: for many be called, but few chosen.

This is the third instance.

- Mat 22:14 For **many are called**, but **few are chosen**.

Obviously, this was of some importance as HE repeats the third instance, as a fourth instance. We now know that it is YAHSHUA who calls those whom ELOHIM has drawn to HIM. How many of those called rejected their calling? Well, let's again remember how HE provided the answer to this question.

- Mat 13:18 Hear ye therefore the parable of the sower. 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.

This about sums it up, doesn't it? The descendants of the pan-African slave trade exist as a nation, whether they or anyone else chooses to see it. The vast majority of us have heard some of the WORD of ELOHIM with joy. The problem was and is that as these heard it, they allowed it to be defined to them by others, like those who define faith on the internet.

YAHSHUA said that the wicked one came and "catcheth away that which was sown in his heart". Most of these do not even know that Satan has snatched the seed from them. Remember, the seed is ELOHIM's WORD. Each of these received the WORD, in some form. The Apostle Paul said the Gospel "was preached to every creature which is under heaven".

- 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.

What could represent these forms of tribulation and persecution because of the WORD of ELOHIM? Perhaps it is rebuke by fellow brethren in the faith, or family members, or friends and associates. If these things offend us, it is because there is no root in us.

- 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.

And here we read what may be the one example we see the most. This example ties us right back to modernity's scholar's definition of faith. The care of this world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the WORD of ELOHIM. They blind us to believing in vain faith in material gain being from ELOHIM, not knowing that the very foundation of these things are built to take our hearts from ELOHIM.

- 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.

And then HE teaches what HE must see in those who truly believe in HIM. They hear ELOHIM's WORD, understand it, and bear fruit in it, and only it. There is no in between with ELOHIM. This, the nation that exists of the descendants of the pan-African slave trade has not grasp. Based on what we see and hear from the various leaders, young or old, is a desired faith in the powers that the COY and the Household of Faith were commanded to subject themselves to.

And yet, we have read how that both the COY and the Household of Faith were commanded and expected to turn themselves to YAHWEH of ELOHIM, who later became YAHSHUA HAMASHIAC, in the form of a total subjection, their physical and spiritual walks in HIS and HIS FATHER's sight.

The hope and expectations of these descendants is being loudly echoed throughout the land in the form of a physical salvation. What these descendants have yet to see is that one without the other is unattainable as a nation as a whole. The hope and the expectations must first be based on our spiritual faith.

- Luk 13:22 And he went through the cities and villages, teaching, and journeying toward Jerusalem. Luk 13:23 Then said one unto him, Lord, are there few that be saved? And he said unto them, Luk 13:24 Strive to enter in at the strait gate: for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able. Luk 13:25 When once the master of the house is risen up, and hath shut to the door, and ye begin to stand without, and to knock at the door, saying, Lord, Lord, open unto us; and he shall answer and say unto you, I know you not whence ye are:

We must begin to discern the times that others do not have the ability to discern. The FATHER is in complete control, even when evil exists all about us.

- Luk 13:26 Then shall ye begin to say, We have eaten and drunk in thy presence, and thou hast taught in our streets. Luk 13:27 But he shall say, I tell you, I know you not whence ye are; depart from me, all ye workers of iniquity.

Rejection of the calling of ELOHIM the FAMILY has serious consequences.

Our prayer must be that those who have been drawn and called will be come to their senses so that they may escape the wrath of ELOHIM that is now upon this world.

- Luk 13:28 There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when ye shall see Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, and all the prophets, in the kingdom of ELOHIM, and you *yourselves* thrust out. Luk 13:29 And they shall come from the east, and *from* the west, and from the north, and *from* the south, and shall sit down in the kingdom of ELOHIM. Luk 13:30 And, behold, there are last which shall be first, and there are first which shall be last.

Our faith in ELOHIM's WORD knows that this is reality. This is future. And yet, metaphorically, this is now in modernity. As we bear fruit in this world of modernity, we must realize that there can be no middle ground. We read the following recently.

- Rev 3:14 And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God; Rev 3:15 **I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot.** Rev 3:16 So then **because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth.**

And this is the problem that is prevalent amongst the descendants of the pan-African slave trade; lukewarmness. We have become pretenders of righteousness. We have allowed far too many people, from both within our community and without our community, to define to us a form of lukewarm righteousness.

- Rev 3:17 Because **thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked:**

These descendants do not believe they need ELOHIM's WORD as it has been written. They are rich in materiality, and do not know that they are "wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked". The Household of Faith must understand this, mourn for this, pray for this and develop an intercessory mindset for this. Why?

- 1Ti 2:1 I exhort therefore, that, first of all, **supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men;**

It does not teach us to ignore the ignorance in the world and amongst our peoples. We are to pray for all as intercessors, and give thanks where thanks is due; to ELOHIM.

- 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.

We not only subject ourselves to them, but we pray and intercede for those in authority, including the police whose charge is to protect us. This includes perhaps the most corrupt and stupid leader the US has ever known.

- 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.**

This is why. ELOHIM desires that all be saved and come unto the knowledge of the truth. False leaders are there to strengthen us and give opportunity for us to walk in our faith in the sight of ELOHIM. Why should we hate them? We cry for them and we pray for their deliverance.

- 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.**

Even though on the surface we don't see the desired changes, we are confident and convicted in what will be testified in due time.

- Rev 3:18 **I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment,** that thou mayest be clothed, and *that* the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see. Rev 3:19 **As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent.** Rev 3:20 Behold, **I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.** Rev 3:21 **To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne.** Rev 3:22 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

The seed is there to be heard by this nation. Not all have the faith to recognize the knock at their door. And this is particularly true of the leaders of this nation, descendant from the pan-African slave trade that in this day of modernity suffers beyond measure in ways that it doesn't fully comprehend. Sadly, the faith and hopes of this nation has been shaken and highjacked by leadership that is silent of the true seed, ELOHIM's WORD. Instead, a new leadership has developed that teaches an alternative form of righteousness, based on the desires and expectations of some who reject the WORD of ELOHIM.

The Apostle said that the Gospel has been preached to all. Many do not recognize that it began at our creation as man and woman. ELOHIM commanded THEIR prize creation to do the following:

- 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.

The Gospel teaches us of the final marriage between YAHWEH of ELOHIM and HIS saints, as metaphorically pictured by the marriage of man and woman; not man and man, nor, woman and woman. Our faith in ELOHIM is being questioned by new norms, that are simply old norms of the other nations that the COY were commanded to not follow.

The words of Revelation 3:18-21 testify of the knowledge of the truth we have received, if we are being led by the Spirit of Truth. Let us continue to have ears that hear only ELOHIM's WORD. This is what the Spirit teaches us. Let us remember that that while we may see some worldly concession, we must not be deceived. The world operates in a physical vacuum. It concedes only based on its protection in this physical vacuum.

Let us walk by our true faith, and not by what we see. Our hope cannot waiver in what we cannot see, and yet we have an absolute assurance and conviction in what we shall be, and what we invite all others to join.

Shalom!