

Lesson No. 146 – Am I A Little Child

Hosted by Donald Crosswell
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So often when we write or teach a lesson, our thoughts are impacted by the experiences that we have faced during our physical paths to wherever we are headed. I am no different than any other teacher. I am a human being. And I am trying to understand the essence of those experiences for the purpose of reaching our fullest potential.

However, this means different things to different people. For me, at some point in my life, a challenge was issued to me by some unseen force to prove which of the many spiritual sources that I was experiencing was worthy of my acceptance. Ultimately, I studied a challenge that the primary focus of the book known to the world as the Bible issued to a group of leaders of the nation we refer to as the Children of Yisrael (COY). Here was that challenge.

- Mat 12:38 Then certain of the scribes and of the Pharisees answered, saying, Master, we would see a sign from thee. Mat 12:39 But he answered and said unto them, An evil and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and **there shall no sign be given to it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas**: Mat 12:40 For **as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth**. Mat 12:41 The men of Nineveh shall rise in judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: because they repented at the preaching of Jonas; and, behold, **a greater than Jonas is here**. Mat 12:42 The queen of the south shall rise up in the judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: for she came from the uttermost parts of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and, behold, **a greater than Solomon is here**.

Here we have some of the leaders of the COY, the scribes and the Pharisees, asking YAHSHUA for a sign. Based on my understanding, the scribes were the keepers of records. However, the Pharisees sat in the seat of Moses as the spiritual leaders of the COY. YAHSHUA's response is representative of many of HIS words that those whom I have met since the time of my challenge that call themselves Christians, seem to totally undermine. This is why I felt that this Lesson No. 146 – Am I A Little Child, was worthy of our discussion as we are about three weeks from ELOHIM's next appointed time, the Feast of Weeks.

When I first saw this challenge, I saw it as the one challenge I had been presented with in those days that just might resolve my internal spiritual search. I reckoned that, based on YAHSHUA's words, if this source book, the Bible, could not clearly show that HE was three days and three nights in the heart of the earth, as Yonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly, this source book known as the Bible was a fake.

In verses 41 and 42 HE told these leaders that something greater was standing in their presence than Yonas or Solomon. Imagine what the Pharisees had to think when HE uttered these words. Whatever they were, the gauntlet had been laid down.

Now, take a step back and let's reason together for a moment. Did YAHSHUA say these words for the scribes and Pharisees to accept at the moment HE said them, or were they for something and someone else? Remember, at that time HE was still alive. So how could the scribes and the Pharisees prove HIS words to be true? Later in ELOHIM's WORD we see this dialogue.

- Joh 8:52 Then said the Jews unto him, Now we know that thou hast a devil. Abraham is dead, and the prophets; and thou sayest, If a man keep my saying, he shall never taste of death.

- Joh 8:53 Art thou greater than our father Abraham, which is dead? and the prophets are dead: whom makest thou thyself?

Here we see some Yehudans declaring to YAHSHUA that HE had a devil, and that Abraham was their father. Let's be clear on who was having this dialogue with HIM.

- Joh 8:1 YAHSHUA went unto the mount of Olives. Joh 8:2 And early in the morning he came again into the temple, and all the people came unto him; and he sat down, and taught them. Joh 8:3 And **the scribes and Pharisees** brought unto him a woman taken in adultery; and when they had set her in the midst,

If we follow this dialogue, we will see how that it was primarily those same scribes and Pharisees engaging and challenging YAHSHUA. However, we know that HIS disciples were also listening. Did the scribes and Pharisees believe HIS words about the sign of Yonas? Probably not. And yet, HIS disciples obviously did. These Yehudans claimed Abraham as their father. So, why did the actions of the disciples show that they accepted YAHSHUA's words, even though they too could not prove them at that time, and the scribes and pharisees, who claimed to be the children of Abraham, did not?

Later, the Apostle Paul would write this to the "called-out ones" in Rome.

- Rom 4:3 For what saith the scripture? **Abraham believed ELOHIM, and it was counted unto him for righteousness.** Rom 4:4 Now to him that worketh is the reward not reckoned of grace, but of debt.
- Rom 4:11 And he received the sign of circumcision, a seal of the righteousness of the faith which *he had yet* being uncircumcised: that **he might be the father of all them that believe**, though they be not circumcised; that righteousness might be imputed unto them also:

- Rom 4:12 And the father of circumcision to them who are not of the circumcision only, but who also walk in the steps of that faith of our father Abraham, which *he had* being *yet* uncircumcised.

As the Apostle speaks about Abraham's calling and the physical circumcision, more importantly he wrote of the fact that Abraham did what he was instructed to do, because he believed, which was a sign of his righteousness in faith.

To the leaders of the COY, he was their father because of the physical seed passed down through his son Isaac and grandson Yacob, later called Yisrael. But to those "called-out" to YAHSHUA, he is the father of the faithful.

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

This is what Abraham is called the father of; those that have accepted this definition of faith and belief it to be a guide in their spiritual lives. The leaders in Yisrael did not have this form of belief, called faith.

For me, I took the challenge, not knowing where it would lead me. I simply knew that if this book known as the Bible was the true WORD of ELOHIM, the clear answer had to be within its words. And what I have learned is that the leadership of most Christian congregations have accepted the interpretations of those who, in its essence, have portrayed this challenge as false. How? These teach that based on the following scriptures, YAHSHUA was only talking about a part of three days.

- Joh 2:19 **YAHSHUA answered and said unto them, Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.** Joh 2:20 Then said the Jews, Forty and six years was this temple in building, and wilt thou rear it up in three days?

This has allowed them to teach the false narrative of good Friday to Easter Sunday. So, all of modernity's scholars that have perpetuated this teaching are unaware that this verse is an idiom and not the sign. The sign was Yonas. And, when the detail of an idiom is provided, the idiom no longer applies. Our lesson tonight is not to prove them wrong, but to challenge each of us on whether or not we are walking as little children in our spiritual walks.

Abraham walked by faith. The disciples walked by faith. They believed YAHSHUA, when he challenged the faith of the COY's leadership. What I myself found, with no other source document, was that YAHSHUA was indeed in the belly of the earth for three days and three nights. ELOHIM's WORD clearly revealed this to me, and to others who have accepted this challenge. As such, the Bible became more than just a spiritual document to me and others. It became a document to be believed in.

However, once anyone accepts YAHSHUA's challenge, other challenges develop. And what I have learned is that these challenges are not only constant, but they also grow in statute. As such, the challenges become more challenging.

We read in Mathew 12:39 that the sign of Yonas was the only sign that YAHSHUA would give to those scribes and Pharisees. What about each of us as we have now embarked on our spiritual journeys? Have we maintained the faith in YAHSHUA's words, even though the challenges continue to grow all around us? How would each of us answer the question, am I a little child? And why is this so important? Well, we know that YAHSHUA said this.

- Mat 18:2 And YAHSHUA called a little child unto him, and set him in the midst of them, Mat 18:3 And said, Verily I say unto you, **Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.**

Luke recorded it as follows.

- Luk 18:17 Verily I say unto you, **Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of ELOHIM as a little child shall in no wise enter therein.**

The fact is that by the mouth of the very ONE who is the central focus of the entire Bible, if we do not become as little children we will not enter into the Kingdom of ELOHIM. If we do not receive the Kingdom of ELOHIM as a little child, we shall not enter into it. This is Bible 1,000. Why did I say Bible 1,000? It is because once we have taken that vital step backwards to allow ELOHIM's Spirit of Truth to guide us to understand the most important Biblical challenge issued by YAHSHUA about HIS sign, there are so many other stages of lessons we must encounter, discern and establish as truth, that makes Bible 101 seem like an eternity ago.

Remember how that I have multiple times referenced those important words a European elder once said to me, as he said: "never forget the trunk". "The trunk is HAMASAHIC". I am beginning to believe that we at times may begin to lose our focus on this most important Biblical fact. YAHSHUA once said this to the Pharisees.

- Luk 17:20 And when he was demanded of the Pharisees, when the kingdom of ELOHIM should come, he answered them and said, The kingdom of ELOHIM cometh not with observation: Luk 17:21 Neither shall they say, Lo here! or, lo there! for, behold, **the kingdom of ELOHIM is within you.**

Now we know that most of modernity's Christians have been taught that this is what YAHSHUA was saying in verse 21; and many of the leaders of these congregations have made the phrase "kingdom is within you" a doctrine. However, the NASB reads this way.

- Luk 17:21 nor will they say, 'Look, here *it is!*' or, 'There *it is!*' For behold, **the kingdom of ELOHIM is in your midst.**"

Some might say that this is an interpretation issue, and they are correct. If we accept the context of the KJV we should see that the NASB's interpretation is correct. Notice the following verses of the KJV text.

- Luk 17:22 And he said unto the disciples, The **days will come, when ye shall desire to see one of the days of the Son of man, and ye shall not see it.** Luk 17:23 And they shall say to you, See here; or, see there: go not after *them*, nor follow *them*. Luk 17:24 For as the lightning, that lighteneth out of the one *part* under heaven, shineth unto the other *part* under heaven; so shall also the Son of man be in his day.

It should be obvious that YAHSHUA was informing these Pharisees in verse 21 that the Kingdom of ELOHIM was standing before them in their midst because HE continued to tell them how that the days would come when they would desire to see HIM, and they would not. This too is a lesson for each of us.

You see, the only way for anyone to truly accept that YAHSHUA is the Kingdom of ELOHIM, is to also accept that HE was in the belly of the earth for three days and three nights. If we accept anything else, we have accepted a false HAMASHIAC. And in order for us to have accepted HIS only sign, we had to step backwards to empty out old false doctrines most of us had received, in order to be led by the Spirit of Truth given us by ELOHIM. The question is, are we maintaining, and have we maintained a willingness to continually be led by the Spirit of Truth? I learned something interesting recently.

My recent presentation on the Day of Atonement was compared to another presentation, which was principally on the second goat of the Day of Atonement ritual commanded to the COY. The leaders of the primary presentation group accepted the other presentation as a better presentation. I read the scriptures of the other presentation and scratched my head because the scriptural references just did not add up to what was said.

You see, we have heard other leaders of this group refer to the Day of Atonement as a representation of the putting away of Satan. You are probably asking yourselves, why am I continuing to speak on this.

Well, this teaching has apparently become very widespread to many of my Brothers and Sisters. If one believes that the second goat is Satan, why isn't this date spoken of as representing YAHSHUA dying for our sins and Satan being put away for the purpose of removing our sins? There were two goats in the Day of Atonement ceremony. What should our focus be on when we observe this precious appointed time? Isn't it YAHSHUA??

What I have since learned is that the true source of this belief in Satan's role in the Day of Atonement is not from what we know as the Bible. It is primarily from the Book of Enoch. What has happened is that the writings of the Bible have been reinterpreted, primarily by those who claim to be Jews living in Yerushalaim, in order for them to fit it into the narrative of the Book of Enoch. I learned this as I listened in on this group last Sabbath, and, based on the words spoken to the group by the author of the other presentation.

Knowing these facts leaves me with the title question, just as it did when I proved by the WORD of ELOHIM, and I mean by the WORD of ELOHIM ONLY, that YAHSHUA HAMASHIAC died, was buried, and was resurrected three days and three nights later. This became the standard of faith by which I committed my belief on. I needed NO OTHER reference book but the WORD of ELOHIM. Now, I have learned that Brethren whom I love dearly are maintaining a doctrine, not based on what I have trusted in to be the WORD of ELOHIM, but based on excerpts from another source, which some believe should be a part of the Bible.

As such, the question becomes, if I accepted this, would I be walking as a child, as YAHSHUA has required of me? How do I answer this question?

Well, what I know to be ELOHIM's WORD has established that there are two primary groups of man called-out by ELOHIM as dispensaries of HIS WORD. We know that the Apostle Paul identified them as follows.

- Eph 2:19 Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of ELOHIM; Eph 2:20 And are **built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets**, YAHSHUA HAMASHIAC himself being the chief corner stone;

You might ask of me, wow, will you ever stop repeating yourself? The answer is NO! This is how I know I can remain being a little child by constantly reminding myself of what got me to this point of understanding in ELOHIM's WORD in the first place.

ELOHIM sent HIS prophets to the only people HE ever knew.

- Amo 3:1 Hear this word that YAHWEH hath spoken against you, O children of Israel, against the whole family which I brought up from the land of Egypt, saying, Amo 3:2 **You only have I known of all the families of the earth: therefore I will punish you for all your iniquities.** Amo 3:3 **Can two walk together, except they be agreed?**

Obviously, YAHWEH was concerned that the COY needed to be reminded of just how HE viewed them in this world that HE HIMSELF created. And when HE asked the question, can two walk together except they be agreed, HE was concerned that they were not walking together with HIM in obedience to the laws, statutes and judgements HE had given them through their first prophet, Moses. So, HE had to inform and possibly remind them of what makes the relationship between them work.

- Amo 3:7 Surely YAHWEH ELOHIM will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets.

It appeared rather obvious that YAHWEH provided an important protocol that would allow the only family HE had known to walk in complete agreement with HIM by revealing HIS secret unto HIS servants the prophets of the COY.

Now, some might reason that Enoch was also a prophet. And yet, can a reasonably led child of the MOST HIGH not accept that YAHWEH is strictly referring to the prophets of the COY in these words? As such, if I trust in the Apostle Paul's writings as the WORD of ELOHIM, I remain a child of the MOST HIGH by also accepting the words of the Prophet Amos. Why, because they are consistent. This is how I can know that I am a little child.

We have often read the following words as well.

- Mat 13:11 **He answered and said unto them, Because it is given unto you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it is not given.**

As we again read these words, we must see them in the context of our own personal relationship with YAHSHUA. Before HE came in the flesh HE was YAHWEH. HE revealed secrets to the prophets so that HIS people, the COY, would walk together with both HE and HIS prophets. I read the following scriptures a lot as well.

- Joh 17:9 I pray for them: I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me; for they are thine.
- Joh 17:20 Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word;

We remember that the Apostle has wrote to us that the Household of Faith, representative of a group of mankind called-out of this world to a status of heirs of salvation, has a foundation of both the apostles and the prophets.

Well, these are words from the mouth of YAHSHUA HIMSELF of the spiritual importance assigned to those who became HIS apostles. HIS expectation was that all that would come to believe on HIM would do so through their word.

If I don't follow the rules that YAHWEH established through HIS prophets, and then HE further established through HIS apostles, when HE came in the name of HIS FATHER as YAHSHUA, how then can I truly remain as a little child, and more importantly, maintain my eligibility to enter into the Kingdom of ELOHIM?

We read this recently as well about the Apostle Paul's calling.

- Act 9:15 But YAHWEH said unto him, Go thy way: for **he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel:**

I have heard some so-called Hebrew Yisraelites teach that the Apostle Paul's writings were meant only for Gentiles, when they are confronted on the physical circumcision issue. Well, this was the Apostle Paul's commission given him by the mouth of YAHSHUA HIMSELF. Brothers and Sisters, based on my reading of the WORD of ELOHIM, it is by the writings of these prophets and apostles that we have been chosen to be heirs of salvation. The CHIEF CORNERSTONE of the writings of these prophets and apostles is one person, YAHWEH, who came unto us as YAHSHUA HAMASHIAC.

When my Brethren criticized my reliance on the Apostle Paul as the primary New Covenant teacher on the Day of Atonement, were they walking as little children?

Did they understand that the lesson they had received and were lauding, had as its foundation writings not found in the WORD of ELOHIM? Or, are we now accepting these other books as the WORD of ELOHIM? Because what we have as the WORD of ELOHIM is simple and straight forward.

To remain as a little child, I must rely upon what I have received from ONLY YAHWEH's prophets to the COY and YAHSHUA's disciples, who became HIS apostles. My only focus should be whether or not I am remaining focused on what these have and continue to teach me.

The one Apostle we know that YAHSHUA gave to him the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven, also gave us much on how to remain as little children. In fact, let's first reread this commission once again.

- Mat 16:19 And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

I felt that we needed to reread this again because so often when this scripture is used in discussion, it is spoken as if Peter was given "the keys **to** the Kingdom", rather than "the keys **of** the Kingdom". We must be careful to understand that **ONLY YAHSHUA HAMASHIAC is the key to the Kingdom of Heaven.** The Apostle Peter was commissioned to be the chief leader of those chosen to teach the Household of Faith how it must walk, in order to receive the grace brought into the world by YAHSHUA. The keys of anything is the understanding of the requirement to enter in. Keys to, are the actual instrument that opens the door. Notice again the Apostles keys of the Kingdom of Heaven.

- 1Pe 2:1 Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speakings, 1Pe 2:2 **As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:**

- 1Pe 2:3 **If so be ye have tasted that YAHWEH is gracious.**

Have we tasted that YAHSHUA is gracious? Are we remaining as newborn babes in HAMASHIAC is the question of the day? If so, we must continually “desire the sincere milk of the WORD”. And what is the WORD that we must desire? Each of us must answer this for ourselves. All I know is that throughout what has been given to me, there is this overwhelming tone of walking together in agreement. Anything that presents a narrative other than what the apostles of HAMASHIAC and the prophets of the COY have written is irrelevant to me, as a child of ELOHIM. The Apostle continues to teach us.

- 1Pe 2:4 To whom coming, *as unto* a living stone, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of ELOHIM, *and* precious, 1Pe 2:5 **Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to ELOHIM by YAHSHUA HAMASHIAC.**

This is the commission of everyone who has accepted and entered into the New Covenant with YAHSHUA. We are to be as lively stones, built up as a spiritual house, a holy (separate) priesthood, for the sole purpose of offering up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to FATHER ELOHIM by YAHSHUA HAMASHIAC. Am I, and are we, fulfilling our base commission? And before we continue, I want us to be sure to whom this epistle is directed to.

- 1Pe 1:1 Peter, an apostle of YAHSHUA HAMASHIAC, **to the strangers** scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, 1Pe 1:2 **Elect according to the foreknowledge of ELOHIM the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of YAHSHUA HAMASHIAC:** Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied.

Let’s try and settle the issue of who this was written to.

The Greek word for stranger in verse 1 is “parepidemos”, which can mean an alien, pilgrim, or stranger. This word appears three times in scripture. The Apostle Peter uses this word here and in chapter 2:11. However, it is the Apostle Paul that gives us a greater understanding of its intent.

- Heb 11:13 These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of *them*, and embraced *them*, and **confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.**

The word pilgrims here, is the same word “parepidemos”. By context, this includes all who walk in faith in YAHSHUA on the earth. They, we, are all pilgrims on the earth, if we walk in faith in YAHSHUA HAMASHIAC.

Both the Apostle Paul and the Apostle Peter simply addressed groups of these pilgrims in HAMASHIAC, that resided in specific places. You and I are pilgrims on the earth, existing in our respective locations, if we are “Elect according to the foreknowledge of ELOHIM the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of YAHSHUA HAMASHIAC”.

- 1Pe 2:6 Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, **I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded.** 1Pe 2:7 **Unto you therefore which believe *he is precious*: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner,** 1Pe 2:8 **And a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence,** *even to them* which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed.

And this too is where we must become discerners of the spiritual food we are fed based on the sources of this food. YAHSHUA is a stumbling block and a rock of offence to anyone who stumbles at the WORD of ELOHIM. Let’s look at the consistency of the apostles and the prophets.

- Isa 8:13 Sanctify YAHWEH of hosts himself; and *let him be* your fear, and *let him be* your dread. Isa 8:14 And **he shall be for a sanctuary; but for a stone of stumbling and for a rock of offence to both the houses of Israel**, for a gin and for a snare to the inhabitants of Jerusalem.

YAHWEH’s desire to HIS people was to be their sanctuary. HE was also “for a stone of stumbling and for a rock of offence to both the houses of Israel”. You see, this works in two different ways.

- Isa 8:15 And many among them shall stumble, and fall, and be broken, and be snared, and be taken.

Here appears to be one of the great hidden spiritual gems of modernity. Our callings are meant for us to “stumble, and fall, and be broken, and be snared, and be taken”. YAHSHUA said that new wine cannot be put in old wine bottles. We must maintain a newness of spirituality in order to continue to grow.

This was the opportunity for the COY, which was offered on primarily a physical basis as a nation. And yet, as have read in the Book of Hebrews, there were individuals within the COY who allowed themselves to “stumble, and fall, and be broken, and be snared, and be taken” unto YAHWEH. Now let’s read something else we have previously studied in the context of what we read by the Apostle Peter. How does this process work?

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

Now, we have studied this before, but I want us to fully understand what is being said here. We have taught that this is a reference to the disciples of YAHSHUA. But yet there is another possibility.

- Isa 50:3 I clothe the heavens with blackness, and I make sackcloth their covering. Isa 50:4 **YAHWEH ELOHIM hath given me the tongue of the learned, that I should know how to speak a word in season to him that is weary**: he wakeneth morning by morning, he wakeneth mine ear to hear as the learned.

The word learned here is the same Hebrew word “limmud” translated disciples in Isaiah 8:16. However, I encourage each of you to read through the 49th, 50th and 51st chapters of Isaiah. And you will understand that this is a prophecy of YAHWEH prophesying about HIS own future as YAHSHUA. YAHSHUA was metaphorically a disciple, a learned ONE, of YAHWEH. The Prophet uses this same word in one other context.

- Isa 54:13 And all thy children *shall be* taught of YAHWEH; and great *shall be* the peace of thy children. Isa 54:14 In righteousness shalt thou be established: thou shalt be far from oppression; for thou shalt not fear: and from terror; for it shall not come near thee. Isa 54:15 Behold, they shall surely gather together, *but* not by me: whosoever shall gather together against thee shall fall for thy sake.

The word taught in verse 13 is also “limmud”, the learned and disciples. This is speaking of the COY in prophesy when they shall be returned to their land to a covenant of peace, which is why Satan must be put away.

- Isa 54:16 Behold, I have created the smith that bloweth the coals in the fire, and that bringeth forth an instrument for his work; and **I have created the waster to destroy**.

This is interesting that YAHWEH inserted this about the waster that destroys here. What we must understand is that the waster was created to destroy wickedness. Because look at the next verse.

- Isa 54:17 **No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of YAHWEH, and their righteousness is of me, saith YAHWEH.**

Brothers and Sisters, if we walk as the little children YAHSHUA desires of us, this is for each of us. But, let's return to Isaiah 8:16 to get some understanding. YAHSHUA is metaphorically a disciple of YAHWEH. The COY shall be disciples of YAHWEH, when they are returned unto HIM during HIS 1,000-year reign on the earth.

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

So, who are these disciples? This is not YAHSHUA. This is not the COY. It can't be the prophets, because they didn't have the testimony. Let's keep reading.

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

The Prophet then speaks of himself, how he will wait upon YAHWEH; both he and the other prophets that were given as signs and wonders in Yisrael. And then he teaches that when the COY and even us are admonished to seek others with familiar spirits and other falsehoods, we should seek ELOHIM.

And how do we do this?

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

This is what keeps us as little children, the law and the testimony. The disciples of YAHSHUA HAMASHIAC are the only disciples of man given both the law and the testimony. The Apostle Peter was given the “keys of the Kingdom”. Thus, it should be obvious to us that it is these disciples, the apostles of YAHSHUA, who would and have bound the testimony and sealed the law. And it is the one given the keys of the Kingdom that told us the following.

- 1Pe 2:9 But **ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:**

Now, we know that this is all of us. It is women and men, who are aliens, strangers, and pilgrims wherever we are based, who have been chosen by ELOHIM to be “a chosen generation in what ever era we have been born. We have been chosen as a “royal priesthood and a peculiar people. Who around us understands us? Our parents? Our wives? Our husbands? Our families? Our friends? That is, if we continue to walk “as newborn babes”, and desiring “the sincere milk of the word”. The Apostle continues to perform his commission as one of the learned of YAHSHUA. Let’s read something else, again.

- 1Pe 5:6 **Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of ELOHIM, that he may exalt you in due time:** 1Pe 5:7 **Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.**

Now believe it or not, this may be one of the most difficult attributes to maintain for each of us. We read this verse often. But do we truly enact it into our walk? I will be the first to say that I struggle with this. I struggled with it during my presentation on the Day of Atonement.

And the reason was because those in leadership, or that desire to be in leadership, do not realize how often we fight against new knowledge. For those who know me, they have witnessed that I welcome new knowledge. This doesn't make me anything but someone who is truly fascinated at how much is in the WORD of ELOHIM, that I have only scratched the surface. When I am in the midst of others who seemingly fight against this, I struggle in my own humility.

It takes another of these disciples, given the commission to "bind the testimony" and "seal the law", to show us who we truly are, if, we continue to walk "as newborn babes", desiring "the sincere milk of the word". If we are continually humbling ourselves before ELOHIM, as HE has commanded us, this is what we have become.

- 1Co 1:25 Because **the foolishness of ELOHIM is wiser than men; and the weakness of ELOHIM is stronger than men.** 1Co 1:26 For ye see your calling, brethren, **how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called:** 1Co 1:27 But **ELOHIM hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise;** and **ELOHIM hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty;** 1Co 1:28 And **base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath ELOHIM chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are:**

This is where our faith is tested. Can we remain foolish, even in the midst of being called foolish, stupid, or even ignorant? This is our challenge in whatever manner it has been presented unto us. I., e., can we remain as little children in the face of the fire that seeks to consume us daily?

- 1Co 1:29 That no flesh should glory in his presence. 1Co 1:30 But of him are ye in HAMASHIAC YAHSHUA, who of ELOHIM is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption:

- 1Co 1:31 That, according as it is written, He that glorieth, let him glory in YAHWEH.

Can we trust in our eyes, the hearing of the WORD of ELOHIM, to know that we are giving ELOHIM all glory, even when we are told we speak our own words?

Notice the words of verse 30 carefully. YAHSHUA HAMASHIAC was “made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption”. HE did it all, for us. What then is our responsibility?

- 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 there at: Mat 7:14 Because strait *is* the gate, and narrow *is* the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.

The word strait in verses 13 and 14 are from the Greek word “stenos”, which actually means narrow. So, the gate we must enter through is a narrow gate. In verse 14, the word narrow is from the Greek word “thlobo”, which means affliction or trouble.

- 2Co 1:6 And **whether we be afflicted**, *it is* for your consolation and salvation, which is effectual in the enduring of the same sufferings which we also suffer: or whether we be comforted, *it is* for your consolation and salvation.

The word afflicted here is also “thlobo”. So, it is probably saying to us that “narrow is the gate, and afflicting and troublesome is the way, which leadeth unto life”. Now, it is not for any one of us to judge others on whether or not they are sincere in HAMASHIAC. However, it is for us to know that “few there be that find” this way that leads to life, which is through a gate that is narrow, and whatever that way is, it is full of affliction and troublesome.

As I study the WORD of ELOHIM, what I personally have read is consistency, particularly once I realized that the prophets and the apostles had different commissions, that were quite similar. One wrote YAHWEH's words, primarily to the COY. The other wrote YAHSHUA's words to the Household of Faith, that includes not only the COY, but also to the nations. They both had as a primary purpose to lead others back to ELOHIM. However, here is the separator.

- 1Co 10:1 Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that **all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea;** 1Co 10:2 **And were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea;** 1Co 10:3 **And did all eat the same spiritual meat;** 1Co 10:4 **And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was HAMASHIAC.** 1Co 10:5 **But with many of them ELOHIM was not well pleased: for they were overthrown in the wilderness.** 1Co 10:6 Now **these things were our examples, to the intent we should not lust after evil things, as they also lusted.** 1Co 10:7 Neither be ye idolaters, as *were* some of them; as it is written, The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play. 1Co 10:8 Neither let us commit fornication, as some of them committed, and fell in one day three and twenty thousand. 1Co 10:9 Neither let us tempt HAMASHIAC, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed of serpents. 1Co 10:10 Neither murmur ye, as some of them also murmured, and were destroyed of the destroyer. 1Co 10:11 Now **all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition,** upon whom the ends of the world are come. 1Co 10:12 Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.

This was ELOHIM's plan. We are the beneficiaries of those who went before us. They were examples to us of things we ought not to do. Let's read something that I added at the last minute so that we are totally understanding what ELOHIM's WORD teaches us about being a little child.

- 1Co 13:9 For we know in part, and we prophesy in part.

In my experience, I typically hear these words used by Hebrew Yisraelites with whom I may have questioned their doctrine with scripture. Thus, the response, we all know in part. I may have a part. You may have a part. Now, while it may be true that each of us may have learned something that the other may not have yet learned, simply to use this scripture as an excuse to not receive new knowledge from ELOHIM's WORD constitutes a gross misinterpretation and use of this scripture. Why? Notice the next verse.

- 1Co 13:10 But **when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away.**

We have only been given up to now is the part that we should know, if we are studying as we have been required. This part is what is known in modernity as the Bible, ELOHIM's WORD. So, there is something yet to come that will be perfect, and then that which we now have in part shall be done away. What is needed to pare with this part we won't see until the return of YAHSHUA. It is in this context that we read the following.

- 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.**

As I was finalizing this lesson and reading these scriptures once again, I noticed that verse 11 sort of stands out because the preceding verses 9 and 10 speak to the part we have that is not yet perfect. Notice the verse that follows, verse 12.

- 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.

Now, even though the Apostle is a man and no longer thinks as a child, we only see through a glass and know in part. But when we come face to face with YAHSHUA, we shall know what obviously we do not have now. It appears that verse 11 presents duality and is a metaphor, because he says when he became a man, he put away childish things, even though we have only been given the part. The duality is that as we perfect out walk in the part he is describing throughout this chapter, we become men and women. And yet, because we have only been given the part, and must put all our care on ELOHIM to survive this untoward world, we remain spiritually little children. We won't spiritually become men and women until the perfect has come.

This is why the Apostle said in chapter 10, verse 12, to beware if we think we are standing, lest we fall. This is why YAHSHUA commanded that we become as little children. We haven't received the perfection we all seek. This is why the Apostle Peter admonished us to put all our cares on HIM.

Brothers and Sisters, this is only obtained and remains if we put all our cares on HIM. I have read the following a lot lately, and will continue to do so until all we are fellowshiping with are led by the Spirit of Truth to accept as the living proof of just who YAHSHUA HAMASHIAC truly is.

- Rom 5:8 But **ELOHIM commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, HAMASHIAC died for us.** Rom 5:9 Much more then, being **now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.**

We are now justified by YAHSHUA's blood. But we are not yet saved.

- Rom 5:10 For if, **when we were enemies, we were reconciled to ELOHIM by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.**

While we were sinners, we were enemies of ELOHIM.

When YAHSHUA died for us, HE reconciled us. HE atoned for us by HIS death. But we shall be saved by HIS life.

- Rom 5:11 And not only *so*, but we also joy in ELOHIM through our Lord YAHSHUA HAMASHIAC, by whom we have now received the atonement.

And it is only by YAHSHUA HAMASHIAC by whom we have now received the atonement. Halleluyah!! We have received the atonement, but we are not yet saved. If we are little children, we have the following.

- 1Pe 1:3 Blessed *be* the ELOHIM and Father of our Lord YAHSHUA HAMASHIAC, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of YAHSHUA HAMASHIAC from the dead,

The Apostle Paul taught us that we have the atonement, yet we are not yet saved. The Apostle Peter teaches us why we continue to celebrate in our atonement. We are begotten again if we continue to live in this blessing, this lively hope that we have, which we have only by the resurrection of YAHSHUA HAMASHIAC from the dead. What else are we begotten to?

- 1Pe 1:4 To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you,

We are begotten to this incorruptible inheritance, that is undefiled and stands the test of time, which is reserved for you and I, if, we are little children in YAHSHUA.

- 1Pe 1:5 Who are kept by the power of ELOHIM through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

And through ELOHIM's power, we are kept through our faith unto salvation ready to be received in the last time; the final Yubilee, to occur on the last Day of Atonement, when the last trumpet shall blow, and we shall be freed of these physical tabernacles to see YAHSHUA as HE truly is.

- 1Pe 1:6 Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations:

And if we are little children, we rejoice even in the heaviness of our hearts because of the manifold temptations we must endure.

- 1Pe 1:7 That **the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth**, though it be tried with fire, **might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of YAHSHUA HAMASHIAC**:

Is this worthy of being a little child?

- 1Pe 1:8 **Whom having not seen, ye love**; in whom, though now ye see *him* not, **yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory**: 1Pe 1:9 Receiving the end of your faith, *even* the salvation of *your* souls.

I was prepared to include more. But I don't believe we can read anything any clearer than what the one Apostle, who was given the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven, has written to us.

If we were unsure of whether we are little children, the Apostle Peter has given us ample reason for why we should step back and reassess ourselves, to make sure that we are maintaining this status. We know that we can stand only by the power of ELOHIM. And YAHSHUA HAMASHIAC gave us the source of ELOHIM's power that we must humble ourselves to and remain as little children.

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

This is the part that we have been given. We see the power that is in YAHSHUA's words. Brothers and Sisters, if you received and have maintained your faith in these words, given to each of us by YAHSHUA HAMSHIAC HIMSELF, you are a little child. Allow no one to take away your crown, the end of your faith, the salvation of your soul.

Shalom!!