

Lesson No. 161 – What Is My Conviction?

Hosted by Donald Crosswell

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For the Household of Faith, this lesson is presented right at three weeks from the Memorial of the Blowing of Trumpets; four and a half weeks from The Day of Atonement; and right at five weeks from the beginning of the Feast of Tabernacles. There should be excitement in the hearts of every member of the Household of Faith. Why?

We have thus far endured the long hot summer of distractions and the deceit that is everywhere we turn our heads. And hopefully, we are in the mental preparation mode for our appearance before ELOHIM at the appointed times. This is why it is important that we do what the Apostle given the keys of the Kingdom admonished us to do.

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

The Apostle Peter listed eight attributes for us to give diligence to in order to make our calling and election sure. And I want to correct myself so that there is no confusion amongst us. In the last lesson I listed these as diligence, faith, virtue, knowledge, temperance, godliness, brotherly kindness, and charity. While I know this is repetitive, I also know that it is very important that we reread these from the beginning and get it right.

- 2Pe 1:1 **Simon Peter, a servant and an apostle of YAHSHUA HAMASHIAC, to them that have obtained like precious faith with us** through the righteousness of ELOHIM and our Saviour YAHSHUA HAMASHIAC:

The first thing we notice is that Peter identifies himself as a servant and Apostle of YAHSHUA HAMASHIAC. There are many in modernity calling themselves apostles. And it appears that these use this platform to interpret scripture according to their own thoughts, as though they speak for ELOHIM. The real question is who are these modern-day apostles serving. If the Household of Faith is to ever attain the oneness that YAHSHUA HIMSELF inspired us to be, our first step towards this oneness is to accept and to believe that only those disciples given to HIM by FATHER ELOHIM and later chosen by HIM are the apostles of YAHSHUA. Later, YAHSHUA would call one other, Paul. And if anyone questions this lone addition, it was this Apostle we are now reading who set the story straight.

- 2Pe 3:14 Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless.

The Apostle Peter constantly asserts that we must be diligent, so that we may be found of HIM (YAHSHUA) in peace, without spot, and blameless.

- 2Pe 3:15 And account *that* the longsuffering of our Lord *is* salvation; **even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you;** 2Pe 3:16 **As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction.**

And then he establishes Paul as “our beloved brother”. Is it too difficult for our minds to rationalize that the “our” here are the other disciples chosen by YAHSHUA? Is it too difficult for our minds to recognize that the Apostle Peter is asserting to this certain group of people that Paul is one of them, accounting the longsuffering of YAHSHUA as salvation, according to the wisdom given unto him and written to this group?

And here is a powerful lesson as well. Scholars like to break down the specific group that the Apostles appear to be writing to. Notice how the Apostle Peter establishes that the Apostle Paul's epistles were written to this group that the Apostle Peter is now writing to. These are not necessarily the Romans, the Corinthians, the Ephesians, etc. I.e., the Apostle Paul wrote to the entire group of those who have obtained like precious faith as all of the apostles. And then the Apostle Peter issues a stark warning to all those who wrest his words unto their own destruction.

- 2Pe 3:17 Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know *these things* before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own steadfastness.

As we read these words, isn't this a very strong indictment, by the one Apostle YAHSHUA HIMSELF gave the keys of the Kingdom, against anyone who teaches others that the Apostle Paul wrote and taught in error?

This is why in this Lesson No. 161, we are asking the question, What Is My Conviction? Am I being convicted by the teachings of those that disagree with the words of the Apostle Paul? Am I being convicted by others who claim to be apostles in modernity? Am I convicted by so-called Biblical scholars, who do not fit the Biblical description of a saint of YAHSHUA?

- Rev 14:12 Here is the patience of the saints: here *are* **they that keep the commandments of ELOHIM, and the faith of YAHSHUA.**

And as we read these words written by the Apostle Yochanon, the Household of Faith must first accept that these words came to him by way of a very special protocol, established by ELOHIM.

- Rev 1:1 The Revelation of YAHSHUA HAMASHIAC, which ELOHIM gave unto him, to shew unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass; and he sent and signified *it* by his angel unto his servant John:

The Apostle Peter wrote to those of like faith. He identified himself as a servant of YAHSHUA. The Apostle Yochanon wrote that the words he wrote here, which establish the definition of a saint, came from FATHER ELOHIM, who gave it to YAHSHUA HAMASHIAC, to show it to HIS servants. YAHSHUA then sent and signified these words from FATHER ELOHIM by HIS angel unto Yochanon.

So, if a so-called scholar does not, or did not walk in obedience to the commandments of ELOHIM and the faith of YAHSHUA, by what conviction are they being led by? And, why would anyone in the Household of Faith have faith in their interpretations of ELOHIM's WORD?

And we read another thought here that we need to understand as we are walking in our convictions. ELOHIM's saint definition read "and the faith of YAHSHUA". Notice it did not say the faith in YAHSHUA, which we all know is an absolute requirement of any level of faith we must maintain. But here we read of the "faith of YAHSHUA", that also identifies ELOHIM's definition of YAHSHUA's saints. What is this telling us?

Well, I am not a scholar, and there may be other scriptures to explain this. However, to me, I believe these two sets of scriptures explain "the faith of YAHSHUA".

- Php 2:5 Let this mind be in you, which was also in HAMASHIAC YAHSHUA:

Think about it. If we are trying to walk in the faith of YAHSHUA, we have to know what the mindset of YAHSHUA was when HE manifested HIMSELF to us in the flesh.

- Php 2:6 Who, being in the form of ELOHIM, thought it not robbery to be equal with ELOHIM: Php 2:7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:

- Php 2:8 And **being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.** Php 2:9 Wherefore ELOHIM also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: Php 2:10 That at the name of YAHSHUA every knee should bow, of *things* in heaven, and *things* in earth, and *things* under the earth;

When the family of ELOHIM developed THEIR grand plan of salvation, YAHWEH accepted HIS role in this plan in total agreement and harmony with HE who would become HIS spiritual FATHER. This is “the faith of YAHSHUA”, to humble HIMSELF to the cross and become obedient unto death, knowing that the following would result from HIS humility and faith in HIS FATHER.

- Php 2:11 And *that* every tongue should confess that YAHSHUA HAMASHIAC is Lord, to the glory of ELOHIM the Father.

And then we read this culmination of this faith.

- Joh 17:3 And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true ELOHIM, and YAHSHUA HAMASHIAC, whom thou hast sent. Joh 17:4 I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do. Joh 17:5 And **now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was.**

YAHSHUA had the faith in the plan unto death in the flesh, believing in HIS FATHER that HE would be returned to HIS former glory as YAHWEH, as HE was before the world was. This is “the faith of YAHSHUA”.

The faith of the saints must walk in absolute belief in this that the FATHER gave unto YAHSHUA, who sent it to HIS servant Yochanon by HIS angel.

This is the conviction by which each member of the Household of Faith should be marching towards the final appointed times of this year. And as we read earlier, the Apostle Peter was writing to those of like faith as he and the rest of the apostles.

This makes faith the key attribute that we must have in common. Which is why we each must make our calling and election sure, so that we are all walking in the same faith. This is a faith through the righteousness of ELOHIM and our Saviour YAHSHUA HAMASHIAC.

- 2Pe 1:2 Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of ELOHIM, and of YAHSHUA our Lord,

He then offers that grace and peace be multiplied unto these of like faith through the knowledge of ELOHIM and YAHSHUA our Lord. Our grace and peace must be based upon this knowledge. Now we come to something quite profound to us all.

- 2Pe 1:3 **According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:**

YAHSHUA, through HIS divine power has given us what; **“all things that are unto life and godliness”**, “through the knowledge of HIM that hath called us to glory and virtue”. Brothers and Sisters, are we seeing what we just read? Through YAHSHUA HAMASHIAC, we have received “all things” “unto life and godliness”, which is translated from the Greek word “eusebeia”, which is our reverence, piety and respect towards ELOHIM. We now know that if YAHSHUA has given this to us, it came from ELOHIM the FATHER by way of the protocols already established.

- 2Pe 1:4 Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

And by this calling is “given unto us exceeding great and precious promises”. Why? That we “might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust”.

Remember “the faith of YAHSHUA”, which was to return to HIS former glory? This must be our faith, that we can be “partakers of the divine nature”. These are the exceeding great and precious promises, if we are willing to escape the corruption that is through lust. What lust? The apostles were commissioned to teach us all that is required of us.

- 1Jn 2:15 **Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world.** If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 1Jn 2:16 **For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.** 1Jn 2:17 And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of ELOHIM abideth forever.

And this is the lust of the world that we should know presents itself each and every day in the most subtle ways ever created. And finally.

- 2Pe 1:5 And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; 2Pe 1:6 And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; 2Pe 1:7 And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity.

Last week, I listed diligence as the first attribute, and then left off patience. In fact, diligence isn't one of the eight attributes, faith is, and so is patience. Diligence is our careful and persistent work or effort towards obtaining and growing these attributes. It is then that the Apostle wrote what we read earlier.

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

The essence of this is that we must give diligence to ensure that we are developing these eight attributes, all of which make our calling and election sure. And, all of these are necessary for each of us to walk in the faith of YAHSHUA, knowing that we are walking in the proper conviction.

As we are discussing what is our conviction, we note that there appears to be two primary definitions of the word conviction.

1. A formal declaration that someone is guilty of a criminal offense by the verdict of a jury or the decision of a judge in a court of law, and,
2. A firmly held belief or opinion.

Well, obviously this first definition to the members of the Household of Faith teaches us that ELOHIM is our final judge in the court of spiritual conviction. And the second definition sums up the eight attributes that make our “calling and election” sure. These should be the only basis of our beliefs and/or opinions of ELOHIM, through YAHSHUA. And this is what we want to look into in this lesson.

We recently studied an important lesson about the trees we are eating from. We know that there are various types of trees, both physical and spiritual, that impact our physical and spiritual lives. In fact, it is from these trees that our spiritual convictions are determined. Notice the one instance of the word convicted in the New Covenant.

- Joh 8:9 **And they which heard *it*, being convicted by *their own* conscience, went out one by one, beginning at the eldest, *even unto the last: and YAHSHUA was left alone, and the woman standing in the midst.***

This is one of the most quoted stories in ELOHIM’s WORD. These were convicted by conscience, and then left YAHSHUA and a woman in a room alone.

This word convicted is translated from the Greek word “elegcho”, and carries several thoughts; such as, to confute, tell a fault, rebuke, reprove, and to convict. Why were they convicted?

- 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, Joh 8:4 They say unto him, Master, this woman was taken in adultery, in the very act.

The fact that these scribes and Pharisees called YAHSHUA master was quite interesting, as they were constantly tempting HIM. And, from reading the story, we don't see the other guilty party to this sin; the man. This may suggest that this was a set-up to entrap YAHSHUA. So why did they bring this woman before HIM?

- Joh 8:5 Now Moses in the law commanded us, that such should be stoned: but what sayest thou?

Hebrews that do not fully accept the fulness of YAHSHUA are persistent in comparing HIM and HIS teachings to that of Moses. This appears to be their conviction. This is more subtle than we realize, even in modernity.

One pastor teaches that when Moses stopped writing, there was nothing else to write. Well, what about the testimony? Did Moses write it? Many in modernity believe that the so-called Jews of modernity sit in Moses seat, and have the authority to change ELOHIM's WORD. Thus, we have what are called the “postponement rules”, which change the dating of the appointed times in certain years. In fact, these postponement rules may be in play this year, and most of the Brethren belonging to these European-led groups are totally unaware of this.

Because these Europeans believe that these so-called Jews are the true Jews, they believe also that these have the authority to “change” the rules of engagement. Imbedded in this belief is the belief that one cannot cook on the Sabbath.

This is also evidenced by the acceptance of the Dead Sea Scrolls and the Book of Enoch, which many are beginning to be convicted that these are necessary to understand ELOHIM’s WORD, even though the Book of Enoch disputes much of what is written in ELOHIM’s WORD.

The Household of Faith should absolutely know and be convicted of the fact that YAHSHUA, before HE came in the flesh, was YAHWEH ELOHIM. I talked to another pastor who told me he knew this, but did not want to teach this to his congregation just yet. I wonder when will he be convicted that they are worthy of this vital Biblical knowledge.

Here, if these Hebrews were commanded by Moses to stone her, why not just go on, obey Moses, and stone the woman?

- Joh 8:6 **This they said, tempting him, that they might have to accuse him.** But YAHSHUA stooped down, and with *his* finger wrote on the ground, *as though he heard them not.* 8:7 So when they continued asking him, he lifted up himself, and said unto them, He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her. Joh 8:8 And again he stooped down, and wrote on the ground.

Many in the Household of Faith are relying on what are called Biblical scholars to interpret ELOHIM’s WORD for them. These scholars happen to be the pastors for many. In the past I have learned how that many teach that YAHSHUA wrote on the ground, “he that is without sin among you, let him cast the first stone at her”. Did ELOHIM’s WORD say that this is what HE wrote on the ground? Absolutely not. And yet, many Christians have probably been taught this.

I searched through each of the Apostles' writings and found no mention of this. So how did this teaching evolve into the conviction of so many, even those of the Household of Faith?

As we continue to read this story, YAHSHUA has a lesson for each of us.

- Joh 8:10 When YAHSHUA had lifted up himself, and saw none but the woman, **he said unto her, Woman, where are those thine accusers? hath no man condemned thee?** Joh 8:11 **She said, No man, Lord.** And **YAHSHUA said unto her, Neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more.**

How powerful is this as we approach the final appointed times of the year. Through YAHSHUA's words, these men who sat in Moses' seat were convicted by their own consciences and had to simply leave the room. This woman was given an opportunity by HE whom we know to be YAHWEH ELOHIM, that those scribes and Pharisees were unwilling to give her. We receive this opportunity each of ELOHIM's appointed times. HE didn't condemn her, but HE commanded her; "go, and sin no more".

As we approach these final appointed times, it is important that we understand that this is what we are admonished to do, and should also be convicted to do as well. And as we are, we must make sure of what are our spiritual convictions.

- Joh 8:12 Then **spake YAHSHUA again unto them,** saying, **I am the light of the world:** he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life. Joh 8:13 The Pharisees therefore said unto him, Thou bearest record of thyself; thy record is not true. Joh 8:14 YAHSHUA answered and said unto them, Though I bear record of myself, *yet* my record is true: for I know whence I came, and whither I go; but ye cannot tell whence I come, and whither I go. Joh 8:15 Ye judge after the flesh; I judge no man.

- Joh 8:16 And yet if I judge, my judgment is true: for I am not alone, but I and the Father that sent me. Joh 8:17 It is also written in your law, that the testimony of two men is true.

Now, here is something that we need to study to show ourselves approved unto ELOHIM. Because there are many Hebrew Yisraelites that are convicted that YAHSHUA's teachings to HIS disciples to wash each other's feet at Passover is not required because it lacks the testimony of two men to be true. Is that what YAHSHUA is saying here?

- Deu 19:15 One witness shall not rise up against a man for any iniquity, or for any sin, in any sin that he sinneth: **at the mouth of two witnesses, or at the mouth of three witnesses, shall the matter be established.**

This is what was written in the Law of Moses. Nothing here should convict anyone of the Household of Faith that this is a standard on anything that comes from the mouth of YAHSHUA. Mankind has been in the business of allowing the wrong trees to convict it of error from the very beginning of its creation by YAHWEH. Sadly, the scribes and Pharisees obviously had no clue that they were actually speaking to YAHWEH. At least I hope for their sakes they did not know.

- Joh 8:18 I am one that bear witness of myself, and the Father that sent me beareth witness of me. Joh 8:19 Then said they unto him, Where is thy Father? YAHSHUA answered, Ye neither know me, nor my Father: if ye had known me, ye should have known my Father also. Joh 8:20 These words spake YAHSHUA in the treasury, as he taught in the temple: and no man laid hands on him; for his hour was not yet come. Joh 8:21 Then said YAHSHUA again unto them, I go my way, and ye shall seek me, and shall die in your sins: whither I go, ye cannot come. Joh 8:22 Then said the Jews, Will he kill himself? because he saith, Whither I go, ye cannot come.

- Joh 8:23 And he said unto them, Ye are from beneath; I am from above: **ye are of this world; I am not of this world.** Joh 8:24 I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: **for if ye believe not that I am** *he*, **ye shall die in your sins.**

Now we learn another valuable lesson about our convictions. As YAHSHUA continued to engage these Hebrew spiritual leaders that continually tempted HIM, HE made something quite plain that we of the Household of Faith should be totally convicted on. First, a version lesson. The KJV includes the word “he” in verse 24 in italics, meaning the translators added the word. Remove this word and YAHSHUA says “for if ye believe not that I AM, ye shall die in your sins”. This will further manifest itself as we continue this dialogue.

Understand the importance of what we are reading. These Hebrews of old and in modernity are telling YAHSHUA, I AM, that HIS words are only true if they have two or more witnesses. Is it any wonder that their convictions are blinding them? Are these being led by the Spirit of Truth?

- Joh 8:25 Then said they unto him, Who art thou? And YAHSHUA saith unto them, Even *the same* that I said unto you from the beginning. Joh 8:26 I have many things to say and to judge of you: but he that sent me is true; and I speak to the world those things which I have heard of him. Joh 8:27 They understood not that he spake to them of the Father. Joh 8:28 Then said YAHSHUA unto them, **When ye have lifted up the Son of man, then shall ye know that I am** *he*, and *that* I do nothing of myself; but as my Father hath taught me, I speak these things.

We see the same thing here in verse 28. HE actually said that “When ye have lifted up the Son of man, then shall ye know that I AM”.

I have recently taken issue with some of the Brethren who are so convicted by “scholars” and the so-called Jews of modernity.

These inserts were added to ELOHIM's WORD by these scholars. And even though at times the inserts may work, not always. And here is where we each must make our own calling and election sure. Ofttimes, we simply need to continue to read the discourse for spiritual clarity, as we shall see soon.

- Joh 8:29 And he that sent me is with me: the Father hath not left me alone; for I do always those things that please him. Joh 8:30 As he spake these words, many believed on him. Joh 8:31 **Then said YAHSHUA to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed;** Joh 8:32 **And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.**

Wait a minute, according to these Hebrews, we only need to continue in YAHSHUA WORD, if we have two or more witnesses. First, once again we read of “the faith of YAHSHUA”. HE said: “the Father hath not left me alone”. This was HIS faith in the flesh. Later, HE would tell HIS disciples the following:

- Joh 14:18 I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you.

The quest for the Household of Faith is to recognize the duality of these words, as YAHSHUA spoke to them about “another comforter”, “the Spirit of Truth” from the FATHER. YAHSHUA did in fact come to them after HIS resurrection from the dead. HE shall once again come to them after their resurrection from the dead. And yet, through the Spirit of Truth, HE never leaves us if we are convicted of HIS words.

- Joh 14:15 **If ye love me, keep my commandments.** Joh 14:16 And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever;

Keep HIS commandments and receive another comforter, who shall abide with us forever.

Returning to chapter 8, HE said to the believers, “continue in MY word” and you “are” HIS “disciples indeed”. And if we continue in HIS WORD, we shall know the truth, and the truth shall make us free”. So, whose word are we convicted of?

- Joh 8:33 They answered him, We be Abraham's seed, and were never in bondage to any man: how sayest thou, Ye shall be made free? Joh 8:34 YAHSHUA answered them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, **Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin.** Joh 8:35 And the servant abideth not in the house for ever: *but* the Son abideth ever. Joh 8:36 **If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.**

For the Household of Faith Brothers and Sisters, it is just this simple, that is, if it is our desire and conviction to be spiritually free.

- Joh 8:37 I know that ye are Abraham's seed; but ye seek to kill me, because my word hath no place in you. Joh 8:38 I speak that which I have seen with my Father: and ye do that which ye have seen with your father. Joh 8:39 They answered and said unto him, Abraham is our father. YAHSHUA saith unto them, if ye were Abraham's children, ye would do the works of Abraham. Joh 8:40 But now ye seek to kill me, a man that hath told you the truth, which I have heard of ELOHIM: this did not Abraham. Joh 8:41 Ye do the deeds of your father. Then said they to him, We be not born of fornication; we have one Father, *even* ELOHIM. Joh 8:42 YAHSHUA said unto them, If ELOHIM were your Father, ye would love me: for I proceeded forth and came from ELOHIM; neither came I of myself, but he sent me. Joh 8:43 Why do ye not understand my speech? *even* because ye cannot hear my word.

Now, YAHSHUA is about to lay something serious on their minds.

They had the choice to either humble themselves and be convicted by HIS words, or continue in the conviction of who they have allowed to become their father. We typically read the following verse without seeing the entire context. And the entire context is all about conviction.

- Joh 8:44 Ye are of *your* father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it. Joh 8:45 And because I tell *you* the truth, ye believe me not.

Once any of us allow a lie to become a part of our conviction, we have eliminated space for truth. We then exist in part truths and part lies. We become lukewarm. YAHSHUA warned the church not to be lukewarm in Revelations 3:15-16.

- Joh 8:46 Which of you convinceth me of sin? And if I say the truth, why do ye not believe me?

YAHSHUA now asks an interesting question. Which of them convinceth HIM of sin? This word convinceth is the same Greek word “elegcho”, translated convicted earlier. So, who is convicting HIM of sin? Remember, all this started with the adulterous woman.

- Joh 8:47 He that is of ELOHIM heareth ELOHIM's words: ye therefore hear *them* not, because ye are not of ELOHIM.

And believe it or not, this has become a major problem in the Household of Faith in modernity because many have and continue to be convicted/convinced by sources outside of ELOHIM's WORD, and teaching others the same.

In the Household of Faith this is evidenced by the acceptance of those living in the land of Yisrael as Yehudans, even though ELOHIM's WORD has spoken by the mouth of YAHWEH's prophets that it is impossible for the Children of Yisrael (COY) to return from their being scattered throughout the nations before the return of YAHWEH to claim HIS throne, and HIS saints.

And yet, many in the Household of Faith, who are descendants of the trans-African slave trade, are convicted of these false inhabitants' identity, and thus, their interpretations relative to ELOHIM's WORD.

- Joh 8:48 Then answered the Jews, and said unto him, Say we not well that thou art a Samaritan, and hast a devil? Joh 8:49 YAHSHUA answered, I have not a devil; but I honour my Father, and ye do dishonour me. Joh 8:50 And I seek not mine own glory: there is one that seeketh and judgeth. Joh 8:51 **Verily, verily, I say unto you, If a man keep my saying, he shall never see death.**

Did YAHSHUA just say that "if a man keep MY saying", on the testimony of two or more witnesses, "he shall never see death"? NO! If we keep HIS sayings, period, convict ourselves of HIS sayings, only, we shall not see death, spiritual death.

- 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?

With the adulterous woman, these Yehudans had tempted HIM with Moses. Now, they are tempting HIM with Abraham, which allows HIM to make it plain to all who are led by the Spirit of Truth.

- Joh 8:54 YAHSHUA answered, If I honour myself, my honour is nothing: it is my Father that honoureth me; of whom ye say, that he is your ELOHIM: Joh 8:55 Yet ye have not known him; but I know him: and if I should say, I know him not, I shall be a liar like unto you: but I know him, and keep his saying.

The COY, as a nation, never knew the FATHER. Why? Because HE never presented HIMSELF to them. Only YAHWEH ELOHIM, who would come unto HIS own as YAHSHUA, dealt with this nation, and mankind as a whole. HE was the ELOHIM of Yisrael.

- Joh 8:56 **Your father Abraham rejoiced to see my day: and he saw it, and was glad.** Joh 8:57 **Then said the Jews unto him, Thou art not yet fifty years old,** and hast thou seen Abraham? Joh 8:58 **YAHSHUA said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I am.**

With this, YAHSHUA asserts the ultimate truth of ELOHIM's WORD. HE is I AM! HE is YAHWEH ELOHIM. And this is why I stated that the inserts of the word "he" earlier was unnecessary and misleading. This entire discourse between YAHSHUA and these Yehudans is all about HIS teaching HIS believers of HIM being I AM, YAHWEH ELOHIM. This is something the COY never grasped about the family of ELOHIM, even though they knew that ELOHIM said "let US make man in OUR image". None of the prophets made this plain to them.

However, it has been made plain to you and I. The only question is whether or not we are convicted in HIM, in HIS WORD, and in HIS sayings.

Why would a pastor of the Household of Faith not want to teach his congregation of this most vital truth in ELOHIM's WORD? What was or is his conviction? More importantly, what are the convictions this pastor, who refused to teach his congregation the true identity of YAHSHUA, desires for his congregation?

Later, YAHSHUA wrote of another important conviction as HE prepared to become our PASSOVER.

- Joh 16:4 But these things have I told you, that when the time shall come, ye may remember that I told you of them. And these things I said not unto you at the beginning, because I was with you. Joh 16:5 But now I go my way to him that sent me; and none of you asketh me, Whither goest thou? Joh 16:6 But because I have said these things unto you, sorrow hath filled your heart. Joh 16:7 **Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you.** Joh 16:8 And **when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:**

Guess what? This word reprove is the same Greek word “elegcho”, which we now know is the same as conviction.

Now, for all of my Brethren who have been convicted that the comforter, the Holy Spirit, cannot be an angel, and is YAHSHUA HIMSELF; note these words carefully. YAHSHUA said that if HE did not go away, the Comforter will not come unto us. If HE departs, HE will send him unto us. And then, when the Comforter comes, he will reprove/convict the world of sin, righteousness and judgement. And then note these next words from the mouth of YAHSHUA.

- Joh 16:9 Of sin, because they believe not on me; Joh 16:10 Of righteousness, because I go to my Father, and ye see me no more; Joh 16:11 Of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged.

This is what the Spirit of Truth does.

- Joh 16:12 I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now.

- Joh 16:13 Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come. Joh 16:14 He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you.

As we read these words, how could any member of the Household of Faith not accept that the Spirit of Truth is a separate spiritual entity from ELOHIM whom YAHSHUA shall send unto those that are HIS servants? And in particular, verse 13 says plainly; “for he shall not speak of himself”. Is that not plain enough for my Brethren to see? Who and what has convicted them otherwise?

This Spirit shall guide us into all truth. Remember how we read earlier the Apostle Peter writing to us that YAHSHUA, “according as his divine power hath given unto us all things that *pertain* unto life and godliness”. This is how HE has given to us these “all things”. This is why HE kept saying, obey HIS words. Obey HIS sayings. Obey His commandments.

This Spirit of Truth shall only speak what he hears. He shows us things to come. He glorifies YAHSHUA, because he receives of YAHSHUA. This is what we were told in Revelations 1:1. But somehow this has been clouded to many of the Household of Faith. Remember, once we receive and accept a lie, it takes up space that should be reserved for truth.

The Apostle Paul spoke the following words to Timothy.

- 2Ti 4:1 I charge *thee* therefore before ELOHIM, and the Lord YAHSHUA HAMASHIAC, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom; 2Ti 4:2 Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.

As we read these words, let us remember how that the Apostle Peter taught us that the Apostle Paul's writings are to us all (the entire Household of Faith). If we are speaking ELOHIM's WORD in truth, we are preaching to someone else, even someone else we are simply in agreement with. The reprove is that same Greek word for convict. We all have this as our commission, simply on different scales. You are allowing me to teach you every Sabbath evening these past few years. This has become my scale. And yet, it is your responsibility to reprove/convict me if you find me in error. We are to exhort one another. But how? It must be with "all longsuffering and doctrine". What doctrine? The words of YAHSHUA.

- 2Ti 4:3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;

And this is quite prevalent in modernity. I remember the brother who listened to another teacher that said that the Egyptians were so perfect, they lived for 9,000 years with no need for a jail. He invited me to debate his teacher. I simply replied that this teacher was a fraud. Check out this next verse.

- 2Ti 4:4 And they shall turn away *their* ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.

This was story about Egypt is simply a fable. But yet, saying that once Moses stopped writing there was nothing else to write was a fable. Saying that something YAHSHUA said HIS disciples were to do to one another needed two or more witnesses is a fable. Saying that the Yehudans are back in the land in modernity is a fable. Saying the Holy Spirit is simply YAHSHUA HIMSELF is a fable. Saying that Satan plays a part in the atonement of the saints of YAHSHUA is a fable. Those who have accepted and are convicted of these things have allowed themselves to have itching ears, and are turning from easily proven truths in ELOHIM's WORD.

This is the standard we must be mindful of as we consider our own convictions. What reproves us? What convinces us? What rebukes us? What is it that ultimately convicts us? Should it not be ELOHIM's WORD alone?

- Isa 2:2 And it shall come to pass in the last days, *that* the mountain of YAHWEH'S house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it.

Now, this prophecy must be read and understood for its duality, because it says “in the last days” is when this shall occur. Later, we read the following:

- Isa 2:10 Enter into the rock, and hide thee in the dust, for fear of YAHWEH, and for the glory of his majesty. Isa 2:11 The lofty looks of man shall be humbled, and the haughtiness of men shall be bowed down, and **YAHWEH alone shall be exalted in that day**. Isa 2:12 For the day of YAHWEH of hosts *shall be* upon every *one that is* proud and lofty, and upon every *one that is* lifted up; and he shall be brought low:

Verse 11 now says that “YAHWEH alone shall be exalted **in that day**”. So, we have two phrases; “in the last days”, and “in that day”. We read a similar verse later in ELOHIM's WORD.

- Rev 6:14 And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places. Rev 6:15 And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains; Rev 6:16 **And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb**: Rev 6:17 **For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?**

I make the assumption that all of the Household of Faith knows that the LAMB in verse 16 is none other than YAHSHUA HAMASHIAC. I assume that all of the Household of Faith knows that these verses are referring to the time, a “great day”, when YAHSHUA HAMASHIAC shall return to take down all other authorities to rule this earth for 1,000 years with HIS saints, a time equivalent to one day unto ELOHIM.

As such, all of the Household of Faith should also know that this is the same time that the Prophet Isaiah wrote about in Isaiah 2:10-11, called “in that day”.

However, the Prophet wrote that “in the last days”, “the mountain of YAHWEH'S house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it”. Here is where the Household of Faith must cleanse itself of vain convictions, so that there is room for “all truth”. Metaphorically, the fulfillment of this prophecy began when YAHSHUA HAMASHIAC entered into Yerushalaim on the donkey and the foal of an ass.

Of course, the understanding of this all depends on our undeterred faith and belief that YAHSHUA and YAHWEH are in fact the same member of the family of ELOHIM. In fact, if the Household of Faith has this same understanding, as it should, Isaiah has presented just one of the many, many instances of the truth of the identity of YAHWEH/YAHSHUA. Notice what the Prophet wrote shall occur “in the last days”.

- Isa 2:3 And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of YAHWEH, to the house of the ELOHIM of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of YAHWEH from Jerusalem. Isa 2:4 And **he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people:** and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

- Isa 2:5 O house of Jacob, come ye, and let us walk in the light of YAHWEH.

When most of read these verses, we immediately think of the time when YAHSHUA shall reign on the earth for 1,000 years. And, this is in fact true. And yet, it reads “in the last days”.

Beginning with YAHSHUA’s entrance into Yerushalaim and subsequent resurrection and the choosing of HIS apostles, people from many nations have begun to obey the commandments of ELOHIM and keep “the faith of YAHSHUA”. These are being taught HIS ways and walk in HIS paths. Many people have begun to read the law and the WORD of ELOHIM from the Yerushalaim that exists above the heavens, only to manifest itself “after the 1,000 years have ended.

If our conviction is from the ELOHIM of Yisrael, metaphorically, we go up to the house of ELOHIM each weekly Sabbath. We do it each appointed time of ELOHIM. And as we do these things in accordance with ELOHIM’s commandments, we are walking in HIS paths each and every day.

The duality is that when YAHSHUA/YAHWEH returns, HE shall rule from the earthly Yerushalaim, where the following shall happen.

- Zec 8:20 Thus saith YAHWEH of hosts; *It shall yet come to pass*, that there shall come people, and the inhabitants of many cities: Zec 8:21 And the inhabitants of one *city* shall go to another, saying, Let us go speedily to pray before YAHWEH, and to seek YAHWEH of hosts: I will go also. Zec 8:22 Yea, many people and strong nations shall come to seek YAHWEH of hosts in Jerusalem, and to pray before YAHWEH. Zec 8:23 Thus saith YAHWEH of hosts; In those days *it shall come to pass*, that ten men shall take hold out of all languages of the nations, even shall take hold of the skirt of him that is a Jew, saying, We will go with you: for we have heard *that* ELOHIM *is* with you.

- Zec 14:16 And it shall come to pass, *that* every one that is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall even go up from year to year to worship the King, YAHWEH of hosts, and to keep the feast of tabernacles. Zec 14:17 And it shall be, *that* whoso will not come up of *all* the families of the earth unto Jerusalem to worship the King, YAHWEH of hosts, even upon them shall be no rain.

This is the physical phase of this duality, as those still in flesh and blood tabernacles shall be required to do these things “in that day”, when YAHWEH/YAHSHUA shall reign on this earth. However, for those being drawn, called and chosen unto YAHSHUA today, we are now “in the last days”, not to be confused with “in that day”, which shall be the last day of these last days.

And looking back to Isaiah 2:4, YAHWEH shall rebuke many people. The word rebuke in verse 4 is the Hebrew word “yakack”, which also means to convict, convince, rebuke. This is what YAHWEH will do “in the last days”. And yet, this is what YAHSHUA is doing right now “in the last days”, if we believe in HIS words.

Do we have the space in our minds and hearts to allow HIS words to be our sole spiritual guide in these last days?

- Mat 18:3 And said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven. Mat 18:4 Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven. Mat 18:5 And whoso shall receive one such little child in my name receiveth me.

To allow ourselves to spiritually grasp what HE is commanding us here also demands that we be convicted by HIS words. We must do this, if we are to enter into the Kingdom of Heaven. There is no other alternative.

We must be convicted as little children so that our conversion unto YAHSHUA is true. And as little children, we can discern the following.

- Heb 12:5 And ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaketh unto you as unto children, My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him: Heb 12:6 For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth. Heb 12:7 If ye endure chastening, ELOHIM dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not? Heb 12:8 But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons.

As we close this lesson, it is vital that we each, as members of the Household of Faith accept this lesson by the Apostle Paul. We don't know how ELOHIM may chastise us from time to time. But rest assure yourselves that it shall happen. And oftentimes, another Brother or Sister has been led by the Spirit of Truth to correct us, to reprove us, to convict us. And as such, our constant prayer must be for spiritual discernment and humility.

And finally, how do we know we are being chastised of ELOHIM? We must remember this from this lesson, above all other things. We have been given all that we need according as his divine power hath given unto us all things that *pertain* unto life and godliness”.

Brothers and Sisters, remember this about your conviction.

- 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.

The word rebuke in verse 19 is “elegcho”.

YAHSHUA rebukes and convicts those whom HE loves. These HE chastens. HE has many methods of doing this. One is to see how we allow ourselves to be convicted of the truths of HIS appointed times. And how are we convicted of these truths?

YAHSHUA said that this about the Spirit of Truth.

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

It is our ability to convert to YAHSHUA as little children that will strengthen each of us in how to make our calling and election sure. It is the Spirit of Truth that ELOHIM has promised and provided to us to convict us of those eight attributes that are present for each of us so that we shall not fall.

So, let each of us be diligent towards our faith, virtue, knowledge, temperance, godliness, brotherly kindness, and charity. If we do this, our conviction has been placed in the right place, YAHSHUA HAMASHIAC, the ELOHIM of Yisrael.

Shalom!!!