

בְּשַׁלַּח

B'shalach

(send away)

Shemot [Exodus] 13:17-17:16

הַבְּרִית הַחֲדָשָׁה

HaB'rit HaChadashah

(the new covenant)

Yochanan [John] 6:25-35

Work for Enduring Food!

Yochanan (John) 6:25-26

25 And when they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you come here?"

26 Yeshua answered them and said, "Amein, amein, I say to you, you seek Me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate of the loaves, and were filled."

It is very much human nature to seek more physical blessings from the same hand which has blessed us in the past. Such was the case here. Yeshua had fed the five thousand and those who had eaten of this bread wanted to be blessed with some more of the same. After all, how sweet is the bread that comes to us without labor.

Mishle (Proverbs) 20:17

***Bread obtained by falsehood is sweet to a man,
But afterward his mouth will be filled with gravel.***

We are to work for what we eat. As Scripture teaches us, if a man does not work, then neither let him eat. These people had received a legitimate blessing from Mashiach, but they were not satisfied with that blessing; they wanted more. They wanted to be able to eat every day without labor. But, Yeshua

knew their hearts and he was about to reveal what was there for all to see, and it was not nearly so pleasant as the façade that they had erected to hide their true selves.

Yochanan (John) 6:27

“Work not for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures to eternal life, which the Son of man shall give to you; for on Him Elohim the Father has set His seal.”

Now here is something that Yeshua taught us that is frequently overlooked. He actually taught us to work for the food that endures to eternal life. But what does it mean to work for this food. Furthermore, what is this work that gives us food to eternal life?

One of the blessings of this record is that those with whom Yeshua was talking asked Him the same question that concerns us today as well. Yeshua answered them quite clearly.

Yochanan (John) 6:28-29

28 They said therefore to Him, “What must we do, that we may work the works of the Elohim?”

29 Yeshua answered and said to them, “This is the work of the Elohim, that you believe on Him whom He has sent.”

Yeshua taught us that the work of Elohim was that we believe on Him. But just exactly what does this mean to believe on Yeshua? First, let us begin to increase our understanding by examining what this word is from the Hebrew. In the Peshitta we find that the word is שֶׁתִּאֱמִינּוּ – “shetta’aminu”, which is in the hiphil imperfect 2nd person masculine plural conjugation, with the particle relative שׁ. This שׁ is often seen at the beginning of a word in Hebrew and is an abbreviated form of the word אֲשֶׁר – “asher”, which is a pronoun meaning “who, whom, which, he, that”. The root word here is אָמַן – “aman” which means “to support; to be firm; to depend upon; or to rely upon”. Since this is in the hiphil stem this means that it is in the causative action of this word, thus we have “one who causes another to depend upon” or “one who causes another to rely upon”. The presence of the ך indicates that this is a command.

So, for us to put all this information together we would have the understanding, that the work of Elohim is to obey His command to depend upon, to rely upon, to support and to be firm in, who YHWH has sent to us, namely, the person of Yeshua our Mashiach. Please note that the words “support”, “firm”, “depend” and “rely” are all verbs or action words. This indicates to us that this is something that we do. So a mere belief or mental assent is just simply not going to get us to where we need to be.

Ya’aqov (James) 2:19

You believe that the Elohim is one; you do well; the demons also believe, and shudder.

Simple mental assent is just not enough. Simply knowing who YHWH is and who Yeshua is, is just not enough. We must do the work of believing! This work consists of relying upon Mashiach Yeshua for our every need. This work consists of depending upon Mashiach Yeshua in every situation in we find

ourselves. This work of supporting Mashiach Yeshua is to be involved in the same work He was involved in doing: the will of His heavenly Father. This work of being firm in our faith in Mashiach Yeshua is to be immovable and steadfast in our walk.

Qorintyah Aleph (1st Corinthians) 15:58

Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of YHWH, forasmuch as you know that your labor is not vain in YHWH.

Let us always be found doing the work of YHWH which brings to us the Bread that endures!

Yochanan (John) 6:30-31

30 They said therefore to Him, "What do you do then for a sign, that we may see, and believe you? What work you?"

31 Our fathers ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, 'He gave them bread out of heaven to eat.'"

The answer that Yeshua gave to those who were asking this question as to what the work of YHWH was, did not like His answer too much, for they sought to wiggle out of doing that work by asking for and seeking after a sign. In particular they were after one thing and one thing only: free food!

Yochanan (John) 6:32-33

32 Yeshua therefore said to them, "Amein, amein, I say to you, it was not Moshe that gave you the bread out of heaven; but My Father gives you the true bread out of heaven.

33 For the bread of the Elohim is that which comes down out of heaven, and gives life to the world."

Yeshua attempts to correct the thinking of those to whom He was speaking, and of all those since, who will have ears to hear. The manna which Israel ate in the wilderness for forty years was not the true bread of heaven. Rather the true bread from heaven comes directly from YHWH, but not through Moshe. The true bread of heaven is Yeshua Himself.

Yochanan (John) 6:48

"I am the bread of life."

Yeshua clearly states to them that He is the Bread that they should be seeking, rather than seeking the bread that, once having eaten it, one hungers for again in a short time.

Yochanan (John) 6:34

They said therefore to Him, "Adonenu, evermore give us this bread."

But they just do not seem to be getting it. He is speaking eternal truth to them, but they are listening with their growling stomachs. They do not hear with spiritual ears, but rather with their hunger pangs, which ever pushes them to pursue the things of the flesh rather than the things of the Spirit.

Yochanan (John) 6:35

Yeshua said to them, "I am the bread of life; he that comes to Me shall not hunger, and he that believes on Me shall never thirst."

When a person comes to Yeshua as the Bread of Life and receives this from Him, then their hunger and thirst goes away. But it is not the hunger and thirst of the physical stomach of which He speaks here. Rather it is the hunger and thirst which YHWH created in each and every person that drives them to seek something that often goes unidentified. Why? Simply because often one is unwilling to humble himself to seek only that which is fully capable of filling that spiritual hunger and spiritual thirst in the depths of one's being: Mashiach Yeshua.

When we come to Him and He fills us with Himself, then that searching and seeking for that which we know not what, is finally found and our search is over. We have found that which we have sought for, all the while not knowing for what we sought. But once having found Him, we know without any doubts that this is the only thing that could fill that void in us.

Then, once having found the Bread of Life, let us work for Him doing the will of His and our heavenly Father!

ABBA YHWH, please empower us to do the work of Elohim that we might have the bread that endures; in the name of Yeshua our Mashiach. Amein.

Shabbat Shalom

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