



Bo

(go)

Shemot [Exodus] 10:1-13:16



Haftarah Bo

Yirmeyah [Jeremiah] 46:13-28

Do Not Be Dismayed

Yirmeyah (Jeremiah) 46:27-28

27 "But do not fear, Ya'aqov my servant, neither be dismayed, Israel; for, behold, I will save you from afar, and your seed from the land of their captivity; and Ya'aqov shall return, and shall be quiet and at ease, and none shall make him afraid.

28 Do not fear, Ya'aqov my servant," says YHWH; "for I am with you; for I will make a full end of all the nations where I have driven you; but I will not make a full end of you, but I will correct you in measure, and will in no wise leave you unpunished."

In the fast paced world in which we live today when everything around us is changing at a rate in which it is difficult to keep abreast of these changes, knowledge is increasing at an exponential rate. For example, in the area of computers, if one buys a computer at a store, by the time he gets it home and turned on it is out of date; i.e., there are newer and better computers already available. This is only in one area, and there are many other areas in which advances are happening at an equally rapid rate. In 2008 the totality of knowledge doubled three times. There are many such areas and it is nigh unto impossible for the average person to keep up with the rapidity of change and the nearly infinite amount of advances in our world today.

Matithyah (Matthew) 24:6-8

6 “And you shall hear of wars and rumors of wars; see that you be not troubled; for these things must come to pass; but the end is not yet.

7 For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; and there shall be famines and earthquakes in various places.

8 But all these things are just the beginning of travail.”

Then there are the many places in our world today in which there are wars, conflicts and police actions taking place in order to supposedly bring peace to that particular region or to introduce to them a better form of government. The conflicts in the Mid-east are particularly troubling to those who believe in Messiah. However, even with all the turmoil in our world today, and all that is changing, there is no need for the talmid of Yeshua to be troubled or to live in fear of these things.

Yochanan (John) 14:1

“Let not your heart be troubled; believe in Elohim, believe also in Me.”

Yeshua echoes this same message a few verses later.

Yochanan (John) 14:27

“Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you; not as the world gives, I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be fearful.”

It is His peace or shalom that He gives to us that enables us to live a life that is free of internal conflict. Even if one’s particular circumstances are such that he is embroiled in conflict of any kind, a person can still have a deep abiding shalom (peace) deep within his own heart and life because of the presence of Mashiach Yeshua in him via the Holy Spirit.

Romans 8:31

What then shall we say to these things? If Elohim is for us, who is against us?

In answer to Shaul’s question as to who can be against us, the answer is: no one of any consequence! We know how the story ends; we have already read the end of the book. We know that Yeshua our Mashiach has already won the victory. We can and will continue to share in that victory as long as we humble ourselves before YHWH and make Him our Elohim.

But it is this very point that marks one of the great distinctions between those who dwell in Babylon and are part of the Babylonian system, and those who dwell in Israel and are part of His kingdom. Those in Babylon are full of pride and seek to be proud of all sorts of things, particularly themselves. However, those who are part of His kingdom know and understand that without YHWH we are nothing and have nothing to boast about, except perhaps in YHWH Himself. As Shaul says of boasting concerning oneself, all such boasting is evil.

Ya'aqov (James) 4:16

But as it is, you boast in your arrogance; all such boasting is evil.

Brothers and sisters in Mashiach, there is no place in His kingdom for pride. We are to humble ourselves before Him in all things and at all times. It is when a person becomes puffed up and begins to utter great things that cannot be supported by His word that we step into sin. Let us guard our tongues carefully and fearfully, in the fear of YHWH our Elohim, knowing that each one of us will have to answer for that which comes out of our mouths.

Matithyah (Matthew) 12:36-37

36 "And I say to you, that every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the Day of Judgment.

37 For by your words you shall be justified, and by your words you shall be condemned."

Let us recall the words of Pharaoh as recorded in this week's Parasha.

Shemot (Exodus) 10:28

And Pharaoh said to him, "Get away from me! Take heed to yourself, do not see my face any more; for in the day you see my face you shall die."

It was Pharaoh's own words that brought the last plague of the death of the firstborn upon all the people of Egypt. It is by our own words that oftentimes we are brought to despair and discouragement. Let us be careful to speak those things that are uplifting and for the edification of all, including ourselves. For, when we speak things that are not edifying and uplifting to ourselves or to those around us, then we are setting the stage to receive condemnation upon ourselves, and that, heaps upon heaps.

Ephesians 5:18-19

18 And do not get drunk with wine, for this is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit;

19 speaking one to another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your heart to YHWH.

YHWH is looking for those whose hearts are fully towards Him in all things, including having a heart that is for His people as well; not according to man who judges according to his own ideals as to who is a part of His people, but rather who YHWH declares to be so because of their actions according to Torah. We can be encouraged for YHWH knows each one who is a part of His kingdom. He knows those whom He has set apart to be gathered together in these latter days. He knows those who have a heart to receive His correction and those who will not receive His correction.

It is in these days that He has begun the process of winnowing His people to see those who will remain true to Him and those who are only giving lip service to the idea of serving Him. What we must also realize is that as YHWH says in the verse from this haftarah portion, he will in no way leave unpunished

those who have broken His Torah. We need to understand that as we return to His Torah, yes, He will bless us, and do so abundantly. However, He will also punish us for our previous rebellion. This punishment will most often take the form of consequences of our previous sinful lives. While the Blood of Mashiach Yeshua has the power to forgive our sins and to cleanse us of all unrighteousness, the one thing that it does not do is to remove the consequences of those wrong choices. We may still have to deal with those things that our choices set in motion in our lives. When we face up to this with the infilling presence of His Spirit, then we can get through those consequences without fear and without dismay. But it will only be by the infilling presence of His Spirit that we can and will be able to accomplish this.

We are commanded to be filled with His Spirit. The apostles taught this and Yeshua Himself also taught that we need to be and must be filled with His Spirit. Only in this way can we not fear what is happening in this world and not be dismayed at the great turmoil happening all around us every day.

Let us not focus upon all the fear that is in our world today. Let us not buy into all the fear-mongering that so many so-called watchmen and preachers and prophets are trying to sell us these days. There is no reason for us to be full of fear and to be dismayed in our hearts and minds. YHWH has given us a Spirit of love, not a spirit of fear.

Romans 8:15

For you received not the spirit of bondage again to fear; but you received the spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.

Since we have humbled ourselves before YHWH and have asked Him to forgive us of our sins through Mashiach Yeshua, we have nothing to fear.

Yochanan Aleph (1st John) 4:18

There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear has punishment; and he that fears is not made perfect in love.

ABBA YHWH, we ask that You would bring this perfect love to completion in each one of us that we may walk in the fullness of that love rather than walking in fear; in the name of Yeshua our Mashiach. Amein.

Shabbat Shalom

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