

Zahakiel: Let's get started. Pastor, please offer an opening prayer.

Pastor Chick: Dear Father. Bless our convocation with Your Presence for the sake of Yahshua's name, Amen.

Peter: Amen

Barb: Amen

Zahakiel: Amen.

Naraiel: Amen.

Adriel: Amen

Elyna: Amen

Gadriel: Amen, Amen

Zahakiel: Happy Sabbath to everyone. This week, our study is entitled "The Other Six Days."

Last Sabbath, I presented a fairly simple study, entitled "Needs." Although I did not state things in just this way, one of the main ideas was that, since we are creations of Yahweh, designed for His purposes, we are invited to partake of His divine nature. In becoming "one" with Him, in a very real sense we share His power, which is why the Son said, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father." (John 14:12)

Just as we share in the power of Yah, both for good works and for principles of righteousness, so we share in His limitations. Consider this, which is written of the Father: "Ah, Adonai Yahweh! Behold, Thou hast made the Heaven and the earth by Thy great power and stretched out arm, and there is nothing too hard for thee." (Jer. 32:17)

Then we read of ourselves in a verse often repeated, but seldom truly understood for its greatness: "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." (Phil 4:13)

And in another place, "Verily I say unto you, if ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, 'Remove hence to yonder place,' and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you." (Mat 17:20)

What a connection we see here, and in earlier studies we have read that Yah will not give His glory to another, and yet through Yahshua we share in His glory. The Gospel is more, far more, than merely the changing of a human being's behavior. Yes, we cease from sin, and it is easy to see this as the "goal." In fact, I myself have described the condition of Victory over sin as the "result" of accepting the Gospel. This is not, by any means, incorrect, but it is a rather focused view – designed to emphasize correct doctrine.

Looking at it from a universal perspective, the result of the Gospel is unity – it is union with the Father and Son, so that a life of joy, and holiness, naturally results. In such a life, of course, no sin can exist, and therefore righteousness by faith is the visible manifestation. It is the outward display of the converted heart, and for that heart we read that nothing is impossible. Through our unity with the Almighty we can do all things, and we have all and only the limits that He has... which is to say, nothing (no limits) at all.

The main thrust of last week's study is that we need nothing if we have Yahweh. Even those things that Bible tells us we "need" because of our physical nature, even these things mankind can do – and has done – without in the presence of Yahweh. We have seen those standing before the Throne going without water, food, clothing, and even a natural supply of air. Yahshua (in His now-permanent human body), Enoch and Elijah were "taken up" beyond the atmosphere, preserved by the Source of Life Himself, and had no need, therefore, of even the basic "needs." This week, I would like to continue speaking about that same principle, because it is such an important one, and it has so many facets.

As I explained above, we see how this understanding – that we have no needs apart from Yahweh – underlies the victory doctrine, and also the concept of unity. We could say that we "need" repentance, faith and baptism, and that we "need" membership within the Church in order to be sanctified for salvation, but ultimately these are all the things that we obtain from Yahweh because we are with Him. In other words, we might look at faith, sanctification, and so on, as Yah's gift of Himself to us. The need identified is still our need for Him, and we have all these things, without any missing, but as a consequence of the resulting unity.

Just as the Law is a transcript of His character in our morality, so baptism and Church membership, these physical ordinances, are a representation of His character in our actions. If we do not have these, we reveal that we do not have that connection with our Father that would make it impossible for us to be without them.

If we have seen Yahshua we have seen the Father. They are One. Similarly, if we have seen the Father, we will have His Law in our hearts and His covenant around our lives. They are all one in Him. We are told this; it is written, "And there are three that bear witness in earth, the Spirit, and the water, and the blood; and these three agree in one." (1 John 5:8)

The Spirit guides our thoughts and feelings, bringing us into harmony with the Law. The water (which represents baptism) indicates our actions, including our religious observances. The blood speaks of sacrifice and covenant...the binding together of Yah's people. If any of these are missing, then we have a counterfeit faith, and do not have a clear view of the Savior and He who sent Him.

Let's look at this in a very practical way. One of the things that people often say they need is "more time." Now it may be that they have taken on many responsibilities, or they are attempting to do more than their talents and skills would naturally suit them to do, but for one who is in Christ, one who is experiencing spiritual rest, situations like this would be only the result of temporary circumstances, and like all obstacles are overcome. If one has a habit of taking on too much, the Spirit will lead one, through the process of sanctification, to repent of this tendency, to confess it and put it away.

For those things that the Father inspires us to do, we will always have sufficient resources and time. Even if it seems that there is no possible way to accomplish what He desires of us, the very instruction, "Go forth and do it" contains the power to do it. After all, Yah has not asked any of us to literally walk on water yet...but if He does, in the words will be the power to do exactly that.

A while ago, actually, quite a while ago, I wrote an article called "Ten Perfect Promises." It explains that, although the 10 Commandments are written as instructions, in Christ they become promises. This is true spiritually, but it is also true literally. If we put the words "in Christ" before any of the articles of the Decalogue, their wording makes them into prophecies, into predictions and promises about our behavior.

In Christ, thou shalt not kill.

In Christ, thou shalt not steal.

In Christ, thou shalt not covet anything that is thy neighbor's.

It is obvious how this works. In Christ, with a renewed heart and spirit, there is nothing in us that could be enticed to violate the Law. This is the reason why conversion and victory over sin cannot be separated one from another. One does not become converted and continue in sin, because then it would mean that one is not "in Christ;" a contradiction.

Now, of the ten, the only two that don't seem to follow this pattern perfectly are the 4th and 5th Commandments. Perhaps you have noticed this before, but all of the others begin with "Thou shalt" or "Thou shalt not." They are, if not the actual first words, at least found where the part that relates to our behavior begins.

For example, the first reads, "I am Yahweh thy Almighty, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. Thou shalt have no other gods before me." (Exo 20:2, 3)

The part that is the actual commandment, the part that tells us what to do, starts with "Thou shalt." As I have said, of the ten, the only two exceptions for this are the fourth and

the fifth. The fifth commandment reads, "Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which Yahweh thy God giveth thee." (Exo 20:12)

It's a clear instruction, so it still works: In Yahshua, [implied, you will] honor your father and mother..."

The Sabbath commandment, as some have pointed out previously, actually contains two related but distinct instructions as identified by the "thou shalt" pattern. We find them here: "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy." This sets up the instruction, just as the statement "I am Yahweh thy Almighty, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage," sets up the first commandment.

Here is the first instruction that relates to behavior: "Six days shalt thou labour and do all thy work, but the seventh day is the Sabbath of Yahweh thy God."

Here is the second: "In it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates, for in six days Yahweh made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day; wherefore, Yahweh blessed the Sabbath day, and hallowed it." (Exo 20:8-11)

Now, here is how it relates to needs. If we apply the "in Christ" technique, the second part would probably be met with agreement from most Sabbath keepers. If I say to them, "On the Sabbath, in Yahshua thou shalt not do any work," then it is a relatively easy thing to understand. Because we are "in" Yahshua, because we are in unity with the Lord of the Sabbath, our Spirit-led conscience and Bible-based character will guide us away from any secular or laborious work. Because we have the Spirit of Yah, we will rest in the blessing of the Seventh day just as He does, and as He intended from the beginning - as long as we have read the Word, and as long as we understand that this is His will for us.

But what about the first part? Does it work equally well? Suppose we were to read it as, "In Yahshua, six days shalt thou labor and do all thy work." We might ask a Christian, one who claims to believe the Bible, a very simple question: Is this true? Now, because they claim to be Bible-believers, at least those who do not see the Old Testament as no longer valid, they would have to say, "Yes, it's true." But do they maintain a testimony that this is true, or do they say, every now and then, "I need more time?"

Perhaps it is a simple matter of education. Perhaps they need to learn, as maybe some of us are learning now, that such a statement, "I need more time" actually reveals a disbelief of the promise built into the fourth commandment. In Yahshua, you WILL accomplish all

your labor in six days. All that you have to do, all that is set before you, if you are in Christ indeed, you will accomplish that work.

What needs do we have? What do we lack? Remember, the only thing we need, and need (without exaggeration) more than food, water, clothing, and air, is Yahweh. If we have the Father and Son, we have literally everything we need, and this includes sufficient time and resources to perfectly obey every "jot and tittle" of the Law.

In the speaking of the words, Yah gives us the power to accomplish His will. Remember that. So then, if Yah says to us, "Six days shalt thou labor, and do all thy work," and if we understand this through the viewpoint of Yahshua, so that "In Christ" we accomplish the commandment of the Father, then this tells me two things: First, that saying we "need" more time to accomplish our work denies the promise of Yahweh. Second, that we can have very blessed and joyful Sabbaths indeed. If we obey the commandment, all of it, then by the evening of Friday, we will have completed all we need to complete, and the mind can turn to sacred matters fully, secure that everything that should have been accomplished before sunset has.

Now, again, faith does not deny reality. If we find that the mind is tempted to other matters on the Sabbath, and if we find specifically that we aren't meeting our commitments from week to week, then we ought not excuse this. We ought, rather to seek healing. In such a case, there is a defect of character keeping us from the blessing of the Sabbath, from the blessing of rest, and therefore – by definition – that defect of character is keeping us from Yahshua. It is keeping us from being "in Yahshua" through whom perfect obedience is always the result.

We know how to deal with that. Repentance, resolutely turning away from the sin, after confessing it and receiving forgiveness – this brings the healing. Trusting in the promises of Yahweh, including that He gives us all we need to perfectly accomplish His commandments – this brings healing.

After this study, none here are ignorant of the importance of this matter; therefore, now is the time, if we recognize any defect, and more generally, the tendency to express "needs" that are not actually true, to recognize the behavior as unrighteousness, and to cast it away from us in the power of the Father and Son.

Never again shall this open door to temptation trouble the people of Yah, that there should be any expression of dissatisfaction in what He has given us, therefore, if any have heard the voice of the Father calling to them in this simple study, let them take it to the Throne, and dispose of what is revealed...and let us move another step closer to the Heavenly Kingdom, rejoicing that In Christ, it is true, we can do all things.

Are there any comments or questions about tonight's study?

Adriel: Amen

Elyna: C

Zahakiel: Go ahead.

Elyna: I believe that this is a timely study for me to analyze myself and see whether I am taking on too much. Having a large family, always seems to me that I never have enough time. I know the difference, because I was single before and I never had a need for more time. Now it is for me to find a balance in Yahshua to prioritize and perhaps delegate more. Any further thoughts on that?

Zahakiel: Well, I would say that there are things you could gain from carefully reviewing this study and last week's...since it still sounds like you are saying you have a need for more time... which of course, entirely misses the point.

Elyna: I know no one else is in the exact same shoes I am wearing, however, you may understand. End

Zahakiel: Sorry, I thought you had ended on the question...

Elyna: Ok

Zahakiel: But certainly...we will all have different levels of responsibility. You do have a large family, and that can be demanding on the time you DO have... but the Sabbath blessing is equal for all of us, and you can rest in the promise that I shared with you tonight.

Elyna: C

Zahakiel: Go ahead.

Elyna: As you said to review these studies, that is exactly the idea that came to me and since I learn best with songs, I thought, "I could review both studies and put the main concepts into songs." Well if it is easy to do, and not taking time that I do not have, I will certainly review them. Thanks. 😊 End.

Zahakiel: That sounds like an interesting project. Any others?

Elyna: 😊

Zahakiel: All right, if not then I will ask Bro. Luke to close our meeting with a prayer.

Lucan: Dear heavenly Father. We thank you for continuing to provide for all of our needs. We know that with every challenge, you have given us the strength to meet it and more than overcome. As we enter into the Sabbath hours, we thank you for the blessing of your rest. In Yahshua's name we pray, amen.

Zahakiel: Amen.

Peter: Amen

Adriel: Amen

Gadriel: Amen, Amen

Naraiel: Amen

Elyna: Amen

Kim: Amen

Barb: Amen

Pastor Chick: Amen

Peter_Jr_18: Amen.

Gloria: Amen.