

## One Nation Has One Culture

A nation is coming forth and will be born. There is a lot involved in being a nation. A nation has one culture. They don't have several different cultures in the one nation. Those who come to the United States should be all one culture, if the United States is going to continue to be the United States. If everyone has their own culture, then it will become like a third-world country. But I don't think this age will last that long. One nation has one culture. When you have many different cultures, it is no longer a nation.

We are forming a nation through the Word of our Father, our Master, and the apostles, as it was written down and preserved for us. We are developing. We have certain traditions. Paul passed on certain traditions. We are learning to have our own culture that is not so much like the world's culture. We have our own traditions from the Holy Spirit that are forming us into a nation.

That is why we keep our pants legs so they don't drape way down over our shoes or under our heels. That's a worldly fad. We should roll them up if they're too long. And we wear a belt to keep our pants from falling down. Somehow people in the world think it looks good to have their pants hanging down low. But it's absolutely absurd. I don't know what evil spirit teaches them that it looks good. That is something we could allow into the Community if we don't adhere to the traditions.

So we wear our pants and shirt sleeves down to a certain length. It's our tradition. But if someone came to the minchah with his shorts up to his thighs, what would happen? Babylon, confusion, chaos.

We don't wear earrings. We have people who wore earrings when they were baptized, but they took them off and threw them in the ocean. If they won't do that, we don't baptize them. Getting rid of the earrings doesn't save them, but they can't come in with that tradition. If someone were to start wearing earrings he or she would be going

against the traditions. Then someone else would come and say, “He’s wearing an earring, so why can’t I?” Pretty soon people would be thinking we can wear short shorts and tank tops to the minchah. The traditions are common sense according to the culture that our Father is developing into a nation. If we see someone in our midst who is keeping the traditions of the world and they won’t put them aside, then we can’t even speak to them or have anything to do with them because they’re destroyers. They are coming in with another spirit and they’re actually destroyers. They are destroying our culture. Then everyone will be doing what is right in their own eyes.

### **Wedding Rings are a Worldly Tradition**

We don’t have wedding rings anymore. No one wears wedding rings in the whole Twelve Tribes. Not one person in the Body of Messiah wears a wedding ring. If they do wear wedding rings, then they are not in the Body of Messiah. It’s a worldly tradition. It came in from the world. Our vow is with our heart — our love expressed. We don’t have to prove our love by putting on a wedding ring. How many people wear wedding rings in the world, but are going out and having affairs and breaking their covenant? It doesn’t mean a thing.

Wedding rings are a worldly tradition. We want to have our own traditions from the Holy Spirit. We want to have our own manners and customs. I don’t think they’re weird. They are what our Father thinks. If you think we look weird, then you don’t like what our Father likes.

*Therefore, brethren, stand fast and hold the traditions, which you were taught, whether by word or our epistle. (2 Ths 2:15)*

The Old Testament doesn’t tell you to wear a wedding ring, or a ring in your nose. You might see something there about bond-slaves wearing a ring in their nose, but we don’t do that. We’re in the New Covenant.

If you see someone not keeping the traditions, don’t have anything to do with him. What if we don’t do this? If one person is allowed to do something and then others

come in and we try to explain our traditions to them, they will say, "But, I saw someone doing it." If that happens it's all over. Then we're nothing but Christians wearing anything we want to. We have to give those things up to be in the Body.

If you see someone not walking in the traditions, of course you will go to him and try to help him, but if he continues on in that way, have nothing more to do with him.

*But we command you, brethren, in the name of our Sovereign Yahshua ha Meshiyach, that you withdraw from every brother who walks disorderly and not according to the traditions which he received from us. (2 Ths 3:6)*

He is commanding the *brothers* here, not the people who are going against the traditions. He is commanding us to not have anything to do with them. But before that, we should go to them and help them see it, not lambasting them, but explaining to them about our traditions.

*And if anyone does not obey our word in this epistle, note that person and do not keep company with him, that he may be ashamed. Yet do not count him as an enemy, but admonish him as a brother. (2 Ths 3:14-15)*

But if people are allowed to go on in the Body in that way it means there aren't any shepherds or elders in that community. It means the shepherds are disqualified, because the shepherds are supposed to see these things.

*Reject a divisive man after the first and second admonition, knowing that such a person is warped and sinning, being self-condemned. (Tit 3:10-11)*

This is a command to us. And if we don't do it then we're rebellious. We're just as bad as the person causing division, because we allow it to come in and so we're the destroyers. Are we going to do that, without lambasting them?

What if we don't wear our hair properly? What if we started shaving our heads bald? Or if we allowed our men's hair to grow to our waist? It's a shame. We keep our hair trimmed.

*We discussed a situation in which a man came into the Community without his wife, who was refusing to follow him. For several months he made every effort to try to win his wife's trust to follow him. During this time his shepherds felt it would be better for him not to remove his wedding ring for the sake of not causing his wife to*

*stumble. She never came and eventually the brother felt like he could no longer wear the ring as his wife was clearly not going to follow him.*

*Yônêq confirmed that this was wisdom from our Father for this situation. Normally when a husband and wife come into the Body together, they would take off their wedding rings, as it is not part of the culture and tradition of the new nation they are being immersed into. It should be explained to them in the many other words they hear before they are immersed (Acts 2:40).*

ha-êmeq — There was a time years ago in Island Pond when the chain saw shop was in debt and we said, “Silver and gold have we none.” Then we realized we had wedding rings on. Then we took them all off and sold them and paid our bill.

We also took all of our guns and got rid of them. Someone had a pistol and we threw it into the pond. Later on when the Raid happened, they couldn't find one weapon. They were startled. Our Father protected us that way. They could have really accused us of having an arsenal.

Let's continue to be led by the Holy Spirit and grow up into the Head.