

Temperament (Letter to Barak)

Dear Guy,

I love you and appreciate you and your wife, Naomi, and your children. You are a blessed man of Yahweh. Continue in the word of our Savior when He said what He did in Mt 6:6. Be His spokesman to the church concerning the words He spoke from the Mount (Mt 5-7). For Yahweh's will for you must not be made subject to your own temperament.

Our temperament doesn't necessarily mean that "this is the way YHWH made me." We have been conditioned by fallen human nature. Our tastes, inclinations, and preferences have been developed many times from wrong stimuli and influences. What has been put into us all our lives has been outside of being in the Messiah, YHWH's Anointed, and under His anointing. Paul says about this as recorded in 2 Cor 5:17. When we see "our make-up" it is sometimes all too easy to surrender to the path of least resistance and so we put it off as the "leading of the Spirit." Personal bias will not suffice for the Holy Spirit once we see the light of Yah and come into that light. A timid brother is "guided" to take a back seat, a forward brother is "guided" to take a front seat. Each claims it is the Spirit's leading. Or was his temperament standing in as *the false god of natural tendency*, the easiest route? What YHWH says is this: "Have no other Gods before me," "Worship YHWH alone," and "Set your temperament or your temperamental self aside." "What you are is what you think you are." We should be so in love with the Sovereign and filled with Him that the ones who are my best friends cannot foresee on the grounds of my temperament alone how YHWH will lead and use me in the Body of Messiah. Do not slant the will of YHWH in the direction of your own natural inclination. The Sovereign set His will aside for the Father's will — how much more should we. But He left that *place* and did not hesitate in picking up his cross (Phil 2:5-8).

"You are what you think you are" means that we can never rise above the negative thoughts we take in and receive as our own. We are put to the wrong plough and beaten into the thoughts we entertain until we are just what we think or just as our thoughts about ourselves make us. We all have *got to come* to the table and put our fist down and say by our Savior's grace, "I am a new creation" (2 Cor 5:17). I am no longer the same; the old man has died; I am in the new man, the new creation — my *will*, my *cells* must then follow suit. Our inclinations are *rectified*, but we must come to that *point*. A "good temperament" in a child is one where he is sometimes dormant, does not talk or throw temper tantrums, but sometimes it can be detrimental to his development. There is no "good temperament." All our temperaments are different, but the Sovereign's will must be done through our make-up whether *good* or *bad* or *passive*. I am happy to hear of your progress in the Sovereign and your wife and your children. I am happy and fortunate to have been able to be a part of your life in Messiah.

Help your brothers who are inclined to take a role that YHWH may not be giving them — it's right that our attitude should be to forever take a minor role in the church, but it is wrong to waste our substance we have in us because of some ungodly pattern of thoughts we have submitted to. But what we have, and what we really are, we will then be able to *lavish* on Him.

Help your brothers who fit into this category and you will be doing a good thing. But first go into that most secret room and pray for them.

The Sovereign be with you and your very inward being, as well as, your wife and children.