

The Nations, Part 2 *Youth Teaching*

Discretion: prudence or knowledge and prudence that discerns that which enables a person to judge critically what is correct and proper, united with caution, directed by circumspection and primarily guarding one's own conduct. What did we say was the first thing we have to do? We were talking about how we were going to judge the nations, but before we could judge the nations we must learn to judge ourselves, right? So discretion is something that you need to pray for, because discretion is what causes you to judge yourself. It helps you to be cautious and not impulsive (Pr 3:21).

1 Tim 4:16 — Was he saying to be introspective? Get into your faults? No. Have discretion. Pay attention to yourself, watch where you are at. Gen 9 — How is it that we can say that this is the natural law given to the nations, given to Noah? Why do we say that it is the law to the nations? Verses 8-12,16,18-19 all the nations of the earth came forth from these three. So the law God gave to Noah was the law to the nations. Therefore the nations must live by this. It is really wonderful that we have Gen 9 because we can learn certain things in here that help us to see what our Father's heart is toward the nation, what He expects of them.

Gen 9:5 — God gave a law to the nations, and He gave a law to Israel. In verses 1-3 he told Noah basically the same thing he told Adam and Eve, but he went further with Noah, He establishes a law with Noah. This is a law that governs all nations. He didn't establish this law with Adam and Eve, but He did with Noah.

Tal: What about in verse 3 where it talks about "any moving thing shall be food for you"?

Good question. How would you interpret it? Learn here how you can get led astray by another spirit and how not to. What did we learn a few weeks ago about learning? There are certain things you don't know and there are certain things you do know. How do you go beyond what you do know? How do you learn beyond what you do know? You don't go past the revelation that has been given to you. Don't go off on a tangent based on nothing. You have to base everything you read, everything you see, and everything you hear based upon what you know. That is how you come to understand. What do we know fundamentally about God and fundamentally about man in regard to things that you eat? Is there anything fundamental that we know? Universal. What is a universal, fundamental thing that we know about God, people and food? He created some things as food and some things not as food. Now, God loved Noah, didn't he? Somewhere in the Scriptures it says that God hardened Pharaoh's heart. God is cruel, isn't he? Poor Pharaoh. What about him? God hardened his heart. He's going to the lake of fire because God hardened his heart! That's not fair! Is it? What does this mean? How are you going to understand this?

John Mark: What about where it says "lest they hear and turn and repent and I forgive them." Why wouldn't it be God's heart, I don't understand that.

Okay, so you know that is obviously not the way to look at it. Are we operating on any true knowledge? Do you have any revelation of God in your heart? Okay. We have one wonderful thing that people outside the New Covenant don't have, except that people outside the New Covenant do have an instinctive knowledge of God. But we have an even greater advantage because of John 14:21. What does disclose mean? Reveal. What does He will reveal Himself to you mean? He will show you who He is. So we have a great advantage than anyone else. He is revealing Himself to us and we are coming to know Him. How do we get to know Him? How do we get to know anybody? If you get to know somebody you can predict your relationship with them. So the more we get to know our Father will we be more comfortable or less comfortable? Talking about knowing Him. Your relationship grows closer based upon what you know! Our God is perfect. He has never and will never fail us. We just have to get to know Him. If we get to know Him, then we have a basis to understand the things that are in the Bible. When I say that you can't learn something that you don't know except based upon something that you do know, I'm talking about true knowledge, not just something that is in your brain, but something that you know, something that's been revealed to you. Say for instance in the Scripture that says God hardened Pharaoh's heart. People take verses like that and make a whole doctrine around it. Predestination in this case. It says that it doesn't make any difference who you are, what you do, either God's going to save you or He isn't, so you might as well do what you want to and God is going to reach down and get you one day if you belong to Him and if you don't you can forget it because He's already rejected you before you ever started. Which in your

natural mind you could think that way about Pharaoh, couldn't you? So I had a guy one day tell me that verse and I said "that's not true". He said it says it in the Bible, and I said that's not what it means. And he said how do you know that, and I said, "Because I know my God and he is not that way." I could interpret the Scriptures based upon what I knew about Him. So we have to interpret everything we read in the Bible based upon what's been revealed to us, because you can't know anything unless you first have revelation of Yahshua. That has to happen first. That's the beginning. There is no true knowledge, wisdom, understanding, nothing until a person has that revelation in their heart. Once He has been revealed to you then you have a foundation in your heart to start understanding things based on how you know Him.

So based on what you know about God, do you think He is over here telling Noah one thing and over there telling Moses something else? Everything has to be interpreted by the spirit and what has been revealed to you. Remember this: you will never come to any knowledge except what's been revealed to you.

Leshem: I was thinking about how its been revealed to us what is clean and what is unclean, so when he said that everything that's alive you shall eat, then we know in our conscience that even though its alive that means what is clean.

That's totally right. Now probably if you got down to what it means that is probably what it would say. But the Bible has been translated by men who have an errant spirit. So you have to interpret what it says by what you know.

Genesis 9:4-6. So what was the law He gave Noah here? Don't take the life of another. Because if you do, your life will be required. That's the law He gave to Noah. Does that law stand until today? Yes. It also applies to animals. If you kill an animal unnecessarily, you will have to account for that. Why do you need to know this? We have to know how, have to learn how to judge the nations. So we are starting to learn how to judge the nations. We're learning the law that God gave to Noah that applies to the nations. So we have a beginning of an understanding of how to judge the nations. So one thing that the nations can't do: they can't eat blood. If someone eats blood, they won't go to the nations. The reason why people don't know this is because the truth is being suppressed in their consciences.

Acts 15 — Jewish brothers went to gentile churches telling them they had to obey the law of Moses. So they had a council to discuss this. Verses 25-29 is the result. So let it be know that God made it known through Noah that the law to the nations was that they should not uselessly slaughter animals, and that if you take the life of a man, your life will be required of you. The reason we need to know this is because right now in the nations there are people... We have to know who are good rulers in the nations, because we are for good government. We pray that our Father will establish his servants in government. So we have to know what a good government is. In the last election in the United States the two guys that were running against each other — one of them was really strongly saying, "I believe in capital punishment." The other came out against it. Now who was God for? He was for the one who was for capital punishment. But if we didn't know this law to the nations we might not know that because we're so messed up. Our standard is God's word. Its going to be like this until the end of the age. We are going to have to judge people who are running for office. We will have to have discernment. The reason why god established this among the nations is because man is created in the image of God. So if you disrespect the life of man to the point of killing a man on purpose, you are taking away the life of one who was created in the image of God, so you deserve to die for it. That is what makes it right, justice.

We are coming to understand governments and the nations and we are learning to pray for the nations and we are going to learn to have confidence to judge the nations. We are going to know how to judge the nations, how to talk to people in the nations and we will know how to be a light to the nations. That is ultimately what we are doing, isn't it, that the 12 tribes of Israel would be raised up in order to be a light to the nations so Salvation can reach the ends of the earth. So we have to be 12 tribes, and we have to learn to be a light to the nations. Since we are becoming a tribe, we can start to understand what it means to be a light to the nations. That's not the end either, is it? That's not the ultimate goal is it? We're to be a light to the nations so that Salvation can go to the ends of the earth.

Part Two

Leshem is going to read something and we are going to discuss it. This has to do with what we were talking about the other day.

The law of Noah is the law to the nations which they will be judged by. They are born with this law in their conscience.

Whoever takes the life of a man, by man his life will be taken. This is capital punishment.

It is important for us to know the law to the nations so that we can know what good government is. If a man is not for capital punishment we know he is leaning towards the lawless way. And most of the time, the man who is leaning towards this way is very persuasive. Like Michael Dukakis. A lot of things he said were very persuasive and his convictions may have seemed very right. But if we don't know the law to the nations, we could agree with men like him and our Father's will could not be accomplished. By our oneness and unity and through us knowing the law our Father gave to the nations, we can lift up holy hands without wrath and dissension and cause our Father's hand to move. By doing this, we will bless the nations. Because we know the law to the nations, and we knew that George Bush was for capital punishment which is part of the law to the nations, we were able to lift up holy hands and ask our Father for George Bush to be elected. Through this the nations will be blessed because George Bush will rule America by the law of Noah which was given to the nations, which is the law every man is born with in his conscience. Through our lifting up holy hands without wrath or dissension, the twelve tribes will be established on the earth and we will become a light to the nations which will cause salvation to reach the ends of the earth. But if we don't know the law of Noah, then we won't know how to properly judge the nations and therefore we will not know how to pray for them that they could be blessed through salvation. The kingdom won't be able to come to earth.

The kingdom has to come to our own hearts first before it can come to the nations, to the earth. If the kingdom isn't in our own hearts, we won't love as we should, there will be wrath and dissension in our midst and we won't be able to pray with holy hands which would allow our Father's hand to move. And we won't be able to be a light to the nations. Matthew 1:17; Romans 9:29 — there are only 13 generations written from the deportation to Messiah. The 14th isn't written down. Messiah's seed is the 14th generation. Galatians 3:16. We are Messiah's seed. We are the 14th generation if we obey His commands. Messiah is Abraham's seed, we are Messiah's seed. If we have Abraham's heart we have Messiah's heart so therefore we are from the seed of Abraham. If our Father had not left a righteous seed, we would have become as Sodom and Gomorrah. We would have been destroyed. The earth and everything in it. This is why the earth was destroyed by the flood. There was no law to the nations before the flood and men had no restraint in their conscience. If that law was not given to the nations, it would be that way today. We would have been wiped out a long time ago. Men would have murdered us already because of our belief.

We have much reason to live today. By us loving each other and allowing YHWH's kingdom to come to our hearts, by us ruling over our own life first and living in the order of YHWH and functioning this way, by us knowing His laws to us and the nations, we will be able to pray with holy hands and allow our Father's hand to move. We will become a light to the nations, salt to the earth because they will see our life and be convicted of sin and repent. Salvation will reach the ends of the earth through our examples. And through us allowing His kingdom to come in our hearts and through us ruling our own life, we will be able to rule and judge the nations and the kingdom of Yahshua will come to all the earth.

At the table the other morning I went a little farther than we went the other day in our discussion about Noah and what I emphasized was Genesis 6:11. That is the main thing. Verses 12-13. So before the flood the earth was filled with violence and corruption. This violence came about when Cain slew Abel. That was the first act of violence on the earth. From that time on men's actions were filled with corruption and violence. To the point that there was no restraint upon that violence, none whatsoever, so therefore it came to the point where our God could no longer tolerate the situation and decided to destroy the earth. Get rid of the violence, and he was able to save Noah because Noah was a righteous man. He saved Noah's seed in a sense. Then after the flood that is the reason Genesis 9:5-6 was a law God gave to Noah because laws — what do laws mean anyway? They put restraint on your conscience. Limits, right? If you function within those limits, then you are fine and there is order. If you don't, then there is no order, a breakdown of order. So wherever you

find nations and governments you will find law and order. Have you ever heard that? That is what the police do. They keep law and order. They make sure that people obey the law and that there is order. The purpose of that restraint is to ensure that as the three sons, Shem, Cham and Yapheth had children and as the earth began to be repopulated that there would be the restraint of this law to come against the violence that was before the flood that came about through the act of Cain. So that law brought restraint to the nations as the earth began to be repopulated. So we can see the spirit of what happened here in Genesis 9 we can say that that law was a law to the nations because it was from Noah's seed that the nations were formed. That is where the nations came from. All the nations of the earth came from the three races of man that were in Noah's sons. As they repopulated the earth, God made sure that that was a law to them, to restrain the nations, keep law and order, so that as the earth was repopulated the people of the earth could live in peace. They didn't have to worry about some outlaw coming into their house, robbing them of all their money and killing them. I guess this is the type of thing that was going on the earth before the flood, since it said the earth was full of violence. No regard for their fellow man. The heart of Cain. No sense of responsibility. So at least that law brought about a restraint of the violence that robbed people of their peace. So the whole reason why that God even established government in the nations was so that that government would make laws that would enable people to live in peace. That is what they are for, so that the people can live in peace. So you can see that if we didn't have nations that had government like that, then it would be impossible for the 12 tribes to be raised up. Can you imagine us trying to exist here if there was no law restraining evil men? What would have happened in the first week on Cape Island if there had been no law? If you don't have laws then they resort to mob rule? What is mob rule? A mob is a group of people impassioned by their own prejudice, whatever they think, and so they are a law unto themselves and whatever they want to do, they do. So at different times in history like in the early 20th century in the southern U.S. against black people. Lynchings were common. That is the fruit of mob rule. So our Father hates that. He doesn't want men to live without restraint. So the nations have laws. It is real important we understand that concept, why we need laws. We should understand it to an even greater degree because we live in the New Covenant and His laws are written in our hearts and in our minds. The way that we know that we are loving our brothers is because we are obeying His law which is written upon our hearts. 1 John 5. We need to see how it relates to the nations also because if the nations don't live under the laws to the nations, then we have no protection. Do we live at peace here? The 12 tribes can only be raised up where they have laws that protect individual rights and freedoms, freedoms of conscience.

God gave this initial law to Noah, but now over time the laws in the nations increased because there were greater needs, more people. Initially God gave Noah this one thing: don't kill. If you kill your blood is going to be required of you. But as more people came on the earth and more situations came up, they expanded that law so that now today there are many laws and we have got to understand that governments that have a constitution, which is the highest law of the land, above any other law, that which forms the essence of the country, have a restraint upon them so that we can live. Now look at 2 Thessalonians 2:5-7. You can see that there is a restraint in the nations, right? But there is going to come a day when that restraint is going to be lifted and men are going to go back to acting like they did in Noah's day before the flood. Is that pattern already begun? that is the flow of things in the nations, isn't it? Violence is filling society all over the earth today. Becoming like mob rule, where there is no restraint. People will cast off laws, redefine them in a way that they don't mean anything. Courts water down laws where they don't say anything and people can do anything they want to do. Giving rights to homosexuals, for instance.

Luke: But how are we going to exist?

That is a good question. How are we going to exist? Look at Matthew 24:37. (Matthew 24, Luke 21 and Mark 13 talk about the last days) What was it like in the days of Noah? No restraint before the flood. Not talking about after the flood, verse 39. We know that the nations are going to go back to the time where there is no restraint as in the days of Noah. So how are we going to exist? We must pray that our Father will establish men in government that will uphold their constitution, and this will allow men of conscience to live by their conscience. This is what will slow down that flow back to the days of Noah long enough for the 12 tribes to

be raised up. If we will be obedient to pray without wrath or dissension in our midst, that is how our God will allay or ward off the destruction that came to the earth like in the days of Noah. It will give us enough time. We live in such an evil day. I hope that you will come to realize what an evil day we live in. People have to compromise their conscience all the time just to make it, to be accepted because of the social pressure, economic pressure, and all these pressures that come upon them to make them compromise. That is the evil day that we live in. Everything is working to break down law and order. The spirit of the age is working to break down law and order, to create disrespect in people's hearts, and give them the sense that they can do anything they want to, any time they want to, with anybody they want to or against anybody they want to. Unless our Father intervenes and raises up men in government that are true servants, then the 12 tribes can't be established.

Therefore, how important is it that you live in a way every single day that allows you to keep a good conscience and not be divided from your brothers and sisters? What happens if we start lifting up our hands to pray and there is wrath and dissension in our midst? Anger, bitterness, something against our brother? What happens? Our Father's hands can't move. He won't be able to establish governments where we can exist. 1 John 5:13-15. Is important for us to know that he hears us? Why? What determines whether or not you are sure that He hears you when you pray? We have to get to know Him, don't we? How do we get to know Him? The best way to get to know Him is to communicate with Him. Look at 1 John 3:21-22. Somebody who is young and naive doesn't realize the consequences of their actions. So we have to grow up and become mature, don't we? That's what spiritual people are. If we're gaining in the spirit, that means that we are gaining in responsibility and accountability. There is an account that we will have to render for our actions. Won't we all have to stand before the judgment seat of the Anointed One and give an account of our deeds done in the body. So if you live your life frivolously, you will give an account of how you live your life. Everyone will have to give an account. Some people never grow up and become mature like it says in Ephesians 4:11-13. We as a people must become mature, growing up into the head. Submitting to one another. As a result of becoming mature what does it say we are to be? Verse 14. We are no longer to be children. Not child-like, but mature. Verse 15-18 We have to realize our responsibility in how we live our lives.

You, especially as you are in your youth, need to be developing your relationship with your Father in heaven, going out and talking to Him, understanding that you don't have to have one thought about being religious. You just need to go out there and talk to Him about whatever is on your heart. If you will do that, you will find yourself drawing near to Him and will find Him drawing near to you and then you will ask Him for things and you are going to know that He hears you. More and more to the point that you will be convinced that you are going to find Him. He is going to hear you and He will answer you and that will cause you to want to obey Him more and more, because you see the effects.