

Storytelling Class 1

The things I want to speak to you about this morning are things that have been misunderstood in the Bible for at least 1900 years, because the way the Bible is written, it assumes that you already know what it is talking about regarding the second death, the book of life, etc. But for 1900 years that knowledge has been lost. The apostles back then would go from village to village, house to house and teach about these things verbally and then they would write a letter about what they had already spoken about. Everybody already knew what they were talking about in the letters. They did not explain it all over again in the letter. But this understanding is lost. Christianity does not have it.

Be careful how you hear. You have to pay attention. The only thing you have is attention and you have to pay it. The Bible talks about two kinds of people: ones who hear and ones who do not hear. If you do not hear, negative things are spoken about you in the Bible. It is a difference between being chosen and not chosen because God has given people ears to hear who have been chosen.

Elect — do you know what elect means? When you have many people and you choose one of them. That is what *the elect* means — it is when our Father chooses you.

When is our Master going to return? Before the tribulation or after?

There will never be a time on the earth like the tribulation. It will be horrible — a horror is going to come upon people in the last days (Mt 24:21).

Mt 24:20 — Do you know what flight that is? It is a flight where all of us and all your children will flee to the wilderness. Our Master said to pray that it will not be on the Sabbath or in the winter. It will be very uncomfortable if we have to flee in the winter. Probably He wants it to be in the late summer or fall so that we have time to make shelters before the winter comes. We have to pray that it will be a favorable time. Why not on the Sabbath? Because He wants us to rest on the Sabbath, not make houses, etc.

When we flee there will be a great distress. We will flee right in the middle of that distress. It will be unequalled from the beginning of the world till now. Tribulation — terrible times; being afflicted and suffering; experiencing awful anguish and distress. Dan 12:1-2; Mt 24:22 — If those days were not cut short, no life would have been saved, but for the sake of the elect, they shall be cut short. During that time, a great deception will arise to mislead people and deceive even the elect if it were possible. But it is not possible for the elect, chosen, to be deceived if they listen. Our Master said, “See I’ve told you ahead of time. Everybody will say, “Yahshua is here, in this room; He is there in the desert.” But do not believe it. Because Yahshua is not going to come back until He comes back for us. And it will be so noticeable from one end of the sky to the other. It will be so obvious (verse 23-27).

People will be afraid, scared, they will gnaw their tongues (verse 29) because they were against the edah and they know in their consciences it was wrong. In verse 30, clouds are symbolic for angels, great hosts of angels.

Verse 31 — “And He will send forth His angels with a great trumpet and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of the sky to the other.”

When will that time be, before or after the tribulation?

Nehemiah: After the tribulation.

How do you know?

Benjamin: Because it says it in verse 29-31.

Our guests Kay and David say that He is coming *before* the tribulation. They say this because they have been trained to think that, and then they might make up something that maybe some Jews will be preserved (the elect), but if you go into the Bible, it says in many places that we are the elect, the chosen ones.

The next thing I want to talk about is in Rev 20:6. “Blessed and holy is the one who has a part in the first resurrection; over these the second death has no power.” In Rev 2:8, He is talking to the church at Smyrna. They were the true church even though they were waning, fading out, lukewarm about their belief. “He who overcomes shall not be hurt by the second death” (verse 11). This is talking about the second death for believers. How do you know it is talking about the second death for believers?

Elisheva: Because it says those who hear the Spirit.

Now look at Rev 20:14-15. That is the second death that is the lake of fire.

We cannot get Rev 2:11 and Rev 20:6 mixed up with Rev 20:14-15. A lot of people do. But it is not the same second death.

In Rev 3:4-5, He is talking to the church in Sardis. They will not enter the kingdom, they will enter the second death (for believers). “He who overcomes, I will not erase his name from the book of life.”

Look at Rev 20:15. If anyone’s name was not found written in this book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

If as a believer, a person’s name is taken out of the book of life, if he does not overcome, he will go to the second death. But if he overcomes, he will not be hurt by it at all.

OK, so what if you do not understand? What happens? What is sown in your heart will be taken away. If you do not understand, ask. When I was in school, I did not ask because I didn’t want anyone to know I was not understanding. I was proud. But God opposes the proud. He gives grace to the humble.

So, do not get the book of life in Rev 3:5 confused with Rev 20:15. They are separated by 1000 years. The edah is judged 1000 years before the nations are judged.

Now the second death in Rev 20:15 is not the same second death as in 20:6. Look at the progression in Rev 20:6. Those whose names stay in the book of life and are not erased are going to reign with Messiah for 1000 years. In verse 7, after the 1000 years, the devil was released from prison. How is he put in prison? By our unity. That chain that bound him is our unity — the unity of the twelve tribes.

In verse 12 a book of life is mentioned. Is that the same book of life as Rev 3:5? One book (Rev 3:5) is the book your name must be in to reign with Messiah for 1000 years. The one in Rev 20:12,15 is the one that the people of the nations have to be in to not go to the lake of fire. They are two different books of life.

The second death in Rev 2:11 is the second death for believers. Believers like you have to go to judgment at the end of this age (2 Cor 5:10). The nations go after the millennium. So every believer has to be recompensed — paid back for what they have done in the Body — good or bad. What if they find you have done bad things and have not been forgiven because you have not really confessed it. You kept it secret and never really told your father. If at the judgment He finds that you have done evil and have not really confessed it and been forgiven for it, your name will be taken out. If you have done evil and have not really confessed it, you will go to the judgment with a stain on your garment. Then you will go to the second death. For us, the second death ends after 1000 years. But for unbelievers, the second death is the lake of fire (Rev 14:9-11; 19:2-3; 20:10,14,15; 21:8; 22:15; Mt 25:41-46).

Right now all the people in the nations who have died are in “hell” (in the first death). Millions and millions and millions of people are in “hell,” in a place of torment, and when the 1000 years are over they will be raised up (Heb 9:27).

At the end of this age, if we have died, we will come out of our graves to be judged at the judgment seat of Messiah (2 Cor 5:10; 1 Cor 3:12-15; 4:5; 1 Jn 2:28; 4:17; 1 Ths 5:23).

There is one book that our name is permanently in and will not be erased if we have been baptized into Messiah (Gal 3:27; 1 Cor 12:13; Mk 16:16; Rom 6:3-4). If we have trusted Yahshua and died with Him in baptism and were sealed with the Holy Spirit, then our name is in the Lamb’s Book of Life (Rev 13:8; 21:27). All who do not come out of the false church will go to the second death which is the lake of fire (Rev 18:2-5; 19:2-3).

ha-emeq: Where are we going to be judged?

On the earth, in Jerusalem.

ha-emeq: Everyone in the Body and the first community?

Yes, all in Jerusalem.

But if a person has an inconsistent life, if he does not love Yahshua and overcome, if he is not bearing fruit of the Holy Spirit, then there is death waiting for him (Jn 8:51; 1 Cor 16:22).

Like Nathaniel — if his brothers wanted to borrow his tools, he complained against them. He loved his tools more than his brothers. He might have been a tare. The more he was in the Body, and knew the word, the more black seeds he produced. So we will have to see (1 Jn 3:17).

ha-emeq: *[told the children to write, for an assignment, what spoke to them.]* There are going to be outstanding things, what really stood out to you and was really clear. Write about that. So just write a little bit about what you heard. There were two things he was really trying to get across: the difference between the two books of life and the difference between the two second deaths.

From November 16, 1989:

[Today the children read the papers they wrote about yesterday's teaching, and ha-emeq spoke to them further.]

Lk 16:19 — Yahshua told this about the rich man and Lazarus in the form of a story. So Yahshua made up a story. There might have been a man named Lazarus and a rich man, but he might have just made them up.

Everyone understands this story.

When Yoneq was 6 years old, his parents heard there was a revival, which is when a church in Christianity is kind of dead and a new preacher comes around and wakes people up for a short time. So they went and sat in the front row. And the preacher told this story about the rich man and Lazarus. He really made it vivid and clear, describing how awful death was going to be. How parched his tongue was. You could feel how awful it was. Then he said that anybody who does not want to go to hell should come down here and pray. Yoneq was so effected by the story that he went. The story really showed how much you would not want to be there.

The story in Lk 16 is a good story to demonstrate something. He understood the difference between the bosom of Abraham and the other kind of death. In verse 26, no one ever knew what it was like, but Yahshua gave us a real clear picture. He told this story. It was the best way to communicate it to someone. Something really complicated could become very simple if we make up a story about it. Then we can either do a little skit about it or read it in an interesting way.

Since we understand the difference between the first and second death for believers and unbelievers, you are going to have a chance to make up a story to communicate what you know. Make up people and names for them — even names that might have a meaning. It does not have to be very long. Look, this one is only from verse 20 to 30. But it told an important thing. It can have just two characters if you want. You could do a story about believers and something that happened in their life and the judgment and the next age, or write about unbelievers. You cannot use the bosom of Abraham anymore because there is no more bosom of Abraham.

If the story is really good, enough to make it clear, we can use it for the Body. So, you have an understanding that is really clear and now you can make a story that makes it really clear — because it is so mixed up.

You know some things that would make a person worthy of the first and second death. You could take all the fog away by making it a story. Then we will see the real purpose of stories: Making something simple out of something complicated.

Does anyone have a story they gained?

Nehemiah: *[told a story about three turtles who were talking loud and someone came and said you better be quiet, there is a lion over there and if he hears you he'll come and eat you. But the three turtles didn't listen and the lion came and ate them.]*

ha-emeq: Who told you that story?

Nehemiah: I made it up.

ha-emeq: Who did you tell it to?

Nehemiah: Shebuel, because he was talking and talking.

ha-emeq: So you made it up? Right on the spot?

Nehemiah: Yes.

ha-emeq: That is wonderful. You were able to tell Shebuel something by making up a story. Did he stop talking?

Nehemiah: No, but then Haggai came and disciplined him.

ha-emeq: The lion came!

The only purpose of having stories is to be able to pass on something — to teach something.