

Authority 6

Yoneq asked the fathers here in the tribe in Sus, how they knew whether their hearts were turned toward their children.

How do you know whether your heart is turned toward your child? If you are reaching his heart. If you are not reaching his heart as Pr 20:30 says, that means that your heart has not yet been turned toward your child. Pr 20:30 says that discipline, blows, wounds, would cleanse away evil, and the discipline of the rod purges the innermost being. Your child's heart will not be able to be turned to your heart unless you first turn your heart to him. Then the child responds by turning his heart back to the father's. If you are not reaching his heart with the rod, his heart is not able to turn toward you. It is impossible for his heart to turn toward you if there is evil in it. You have to release his heart to turn to you (with the rod), otherwise it is bound by the enemy. That is why the father's heart must first be turned to his son in order to discipline him to cleanse the evil away so that the child's heart can turn to his. If his heart is not turned toward yours by youth, you know that you have committed a deadly sin, a sin that will lead you to death. You have spared the rod (Pr 13:24).

A father who does not reach the child's heart with the rod has not turned his heart toward him because you cannot reach his heart with the rod unless you love him — unless your heart is turned toward him. Your heart has to be turned totally toward your son, concentrating all your attention on him in love. If your heart cannot turn toward your child, you actually hate him. In Hebrew there is no middle ground between love and hate. If you withdraw your love, it is hate. The highest form of hate is to ignore someone. No child's heart can turn to a father who hates him. This is a principle that cannot be defied, just like gravity cannot be defied. If you love your child your heart will be turned toward him.

Do not expect him to go in the way he should go when he is an adult if you are not training him up in that way (Gen 18:19).

What is Sparing the Rod?

Now you have a standard by which to tell whether you are sparing the rod or not: Pr 20:30. Sparing the rod is stopping short of using the rod to the decree of removing the evil from the heart of the child.

The command in Rom 13:1 is talking about all governing authorities in every facet of the edah and outside the edah. In everything we do there are authorities we need to look to, submit to, recognize, for there is no authority except from God. The command then is that every person be subject to the authority that God has set up. If we are submitted to Messiah then we must also be subject to all authority everywhere because He has all authority in heaven and earth. He has *all* authority (Mt 28:18), so if you are subject to Messiah, then you are subject to all authority wherever authority is. Even the possibility of the state or nation persecuting the edah did not discourage Paul's conviction that all authority, even civil authority, is ordained and established by God. But when civil rulers overstep or go beyond their proper function, we are always to be loyal to God's word rather than man. We are always to be loyal to God's authority. If civil authorities go beyond the word of God, then you are subject to the higher authority. This is going to be the basis by which we judge.

Submission is absolute, but obedience is relative. For instance, when an adult youth who is in the world wants to come to Messiah and his parents say no, he should obey Messiah. But he should do it with a submissive attitude. Acts 4:19 — The civil authorities commanded them not to speak in Yahshua's name. But they could not stop because the Holy Spirit compelled them. There was a river of life coming forth from the source within them. They could not help it. Even though they were put in jail, there was a compelling force in them, but they were as submissive as they could be... That is what we tell youths who want to come. They respected the civil authorities saying, "Judge for yourselves whether we are doing wrong or right, but we cannot help but speak (Acts 5:28); we must obey God rather than man."

Man in Acts 5:28 refers to earthly authority according to the government that God had established in Gen 9:6, when He set up human government on the earth by giving man the governing authority to punish evil. That statute was given to Noah. Noah began the nations. All three races of man and all

the nations branched off from him. God established human government, governing authority to judge man. So if you disobey human authority you are not obedient to God and you cannot inherit the nations. If you do harm to your fellow man then you are not recognizing that he was made in the image of God. If you do not instinctively know this in your heart, your heart is corrupt to the point that you cannot go to the nations.

But a higher authority than man is God. Everyone is accountable to the government that God instituted, but if we are asked to do something against His word, then we must go to a higher authority. If your father tells you to do something wrong against the word of God, then you must revert to a higher authority. We must obey God rather than *man* (civil authority).

Rulers benefit society in which we live and move and have our being, as Paul said in Acts 17:26-28 (For “in Him” [in His authority] which surrounds us everywhere). We live in a society where there is authority, where God prevails. God set the boundaries of nations; He even set appointed times for certain countries when, because they had become evil, He would institute other nations to destroy them as a discipline. In verse 27, Paul meant that Yahshua had commissioned man to go into every nation under the sun where there is protection for those who groped for Him, to make disciples of them. With this purpose in mind, God made, for example, every inch of the line through the Pyrenees between France and Spain. His authority surrounds us. We do not have any problem looking for authority.

When we see authority everywhere we see it with our eyes or sense it with our senses. Verse 28, Paul quotes the Cretan poet, 600 BC, supporting Rom 1:18-24. Their own poets knew that there was a supreme being. Anyone who suppresses that knowing suppresses his only avenue to the nations and is going to the second death.

Rom 13:1-4 — Rulers exist for the benefit of the society or edah to protect the people by maintaining order (in the edah) or law and order (in the world). We obey them for the sake of our Master. 1 Pet 2:13 — Peter told them to submit themselves for the Messiah’s sake to every human institution. We will always submit to the civil authorities until the last trace of good government is eliminated, at which time we will go to the wilderness. We will not go off and live in the Pyrenees until then or we would be being rebellious. For in the previous verse, Peter had just told them to “keep their behavior excellent *among* the Gentiles,” among whom we will always live so that we can be a witness to them. They will commend those who do right. Indirectly, when one disobeys a human ruler (governor, husband, father, elder, “every authority instituted among men”), he disobeys God who ordained the system of human government. Verse 13 and 17 mention a king. When Peter wrote this, Nero was in power. Nero was a godless brutal ruler. He ruled for only a short time, from 54 to 68 AD, because God takes those who misuse authority out of authority. In spite of Nero’s behavior, Peter said that they should submit to and honor the king!

However, obedience to the king must never violate the word of God. (That is why there were so many martyrs then.) By the apostles’ example, we learn in Acts 4:19 and 5:29 where indirect authority ends and direct authority begins.

When we flee for the wilderness, Dan 7:25 will already be being fulfilled. He is going to change the laws to try to keep us from keeping the feast days. He will speak against the Most High and oppress the saints. Lawlessness will have been set on its irreversible course. The day will come when we have to flee because they will force obedience upon us, even to take the Mark of the Beast. They will cut off our supplies, etc., but we must try to be prepared to live totally alternatively by that time so we can survive 3½ years before we flee.

1 Pet 2:15 — By doing good as verse 13 and 14 says, by doing right we will silence the ignorant talk of foolish men. Because as verse 12 says, there will be people who *observe* our behavior during this time and because of what they see, they will choose to help us. They will flee to the wilderness with us and will reestablish the nations and will be able to glorify God on the day he comes. These people will be so happy that they were able to help us. They are already ordained for the nations.

In verse 12, *see* is to observe — not a glance, but a careful watching. This *see* is the same as in Mt 5:16 where it says to let your light shine before men that they may see your good works. That is how they are going to glorify your Father in heaven. It has always been a bewildering, perplexing verse in the Bible. The nations will be able to glorify the Father because, as a result of seeing our respectful

behavior, they chose to help us and were blessed with being in the nations, able to glorify God (Mt 25:34). Those in the nations who can see us will be judged by how they help Abraham's offspring (Gen 12:2). Their evaluation is not a snap judgment. They evaluate, consider, and then offer to help.

1 Pet 2:17 — We must show proper respect for everyone, not only the king. Our Master said in Mt 5:46-48 to speak to outsiders, be kind to them, greet them. If we do not speak to them, the opposite judgment of Jn 8:51 will fall on us because this is His word. If we obey everything He says, however, we will not see death.

1 Pet 2:16 — "Live as free men." This does not authorize us, give us freedom, to live in rebellion against constituted authority in the nations. Our Master told the disciples to pay tax to keep the Gentiles from stumbling.

We are free men; He commands us to *submit* to God and to earthly authority. If we still have something in our hearts against authority, still have a hard time with authority, then we still have a hard time with God. In Titus 3:1-3, "rulers and authorities" refers to all *levels* of human government.

Eph 3:10 and 6:12 speaks of heavenly authorities. The authority in the air, the heaven, sky, air, is Satan. Our battle is not flesh and blood, neither against one another, nor against earthly rulers and authorities, but angelic rulers in the heavenly places. And so you can see in Eph 3:11 and 1:10 what the edah's eternal purpose is, which will come about because Messiah was raised from the dead and seated in the heavenly places (verse 20-22). He *is* in the heavenly places, but He is *above* all earthly rulers and *all demonic rulers*. He has greater authority (verse 21) and has put all things in subjection under His feet (verse 22). The headship of Messiah over the church is the preparation for His ultimate goal, the objective, that His kingship will extend over all things, the whole universe.

In Messiah in Eph 1:10 means *us*. Now through the united twelve tribes of Israel, the edah (Eph 3:10), the wisdom of God, which in ages past was hidden but is now being made known — the restoration of Israel (verse 6). For as the lost, rebellious Israelites were driven and scattered, now all mankind, those who are far off, will be brought near, welcomed into this eternal family of Israel (Eph 2:13).

Havah: I want to share how thankful I am for the teachings. I see how at times when I would say to the judge, "You can't do that because it is against our Father's word," we wouldn't get anywhere. But as soon as we would just submit ourselves, it would free our Father's hand to work. But I see too how our Father covers our sins as we learn to walk in His way. Despite the things that are still in us, He is patient with us and works things out.

Ben Naby: we are being saved. We all thought wrong. I knew nothing about authority. I'm thankful our Father is revealing His purpose and ways and is leading us and guiding us to all truth.

Jehu: Our Father gives us wisdom. In the world you have either rebels or evangelical church-goers who conform totally. Our Father gives us wisdom. He wants us to submit to the government but when the government goes too far and wants us to disobey Him, then we obey Him.

N'su: There is no disputing against the Word of God. You cannot dispute against the truth no matter how high the authority can be; there is no way to take away from His word. It is the rock; it's clear; it's the plumb-line. I'm thankful we have the word.

Meshullam: Those people in the nations are going to see us and see our behavior and through our behavior they are going to know that they would help us and they will inherit the nations because they helped us.

Even the people who cannot observe us because they are outside our tribal area, the Male Child will go out to them preaching the eternal gospel to them. Even the ones who cannot observe us, they will have a chance to escape because of the Male Child who is telling them to fear God and honor Him.

Yoceph: I was thinking how wonderful the principle of authority is. Our Father *is* authority and has established every authority. He even establishes governments. He was the one who established all the nations, people, boundaries because he wanted that there would be authority — order on the earth. At the same time, there is a principle of rebellion at work that wants to do away with authority and capital punishment. The draft and child abuse laws expose the evil that is at work that wants to destroy the authority our Father established in every realm, taking away their God-given authority. When actually it was meant that authority would be supported all the way down. By us learning about

authority it is going to restore everything because we as parents are going to understand the authority that has been delegated to us to raise our children. It is going to bring a generation into obedience. Children are going to obey their parents, parents are going to obey the authority of the government in the Edah, the edah is going to obey the authority of Yahshua, Yahshua obeys our Father. And seeing obedience to authority in us is going to bring honor to our Father. Obedience is from your will. Through seeing our obedience people are going to acknowledge his authority. Our Father's authority is going to be acknowledged in every realm: in children, parents, government, in the edah.

Ephraim: The way we can recognize whether we spare the rod or not is if the heart of the child is turned to the Father's heart — if we reach the child. Lately I sense that I reached their heart, but it is not often. It is easy to discipline and still spare the rod. You can see whether his heart is not turned to yours.

ha-Emeq: The evil one has worked so hard to get the society to where it is today. The people who go to the nations will have known about authority. But I was raised so disrespectful to authority. The evil one has gone a long way. I've never met anyone good enough to go to the nations. Maybe 100 years ago people would have known instinctively that the death penalty was good and would have stood for what is right. Probably none of us in all of the communities would have been the kind of people who would have gone to the nations. The enemy has gone through so much to get the society to a place where this teaching about authority sounds like a foreign language...

And the verse does not just say, "Honor the king." It says, *'Honor everyone and honor the king.'* We are not going to just honor kings, but everyone. Everyone deserves honor because they are created in the image of God. We honor the postman, the policeman, the garbage man, everyone, *and* we honor the king. I want that part of me to be restored where I will respect and honor people because I know that society I was raised in did not put it in me.

Jehu: It is fashionable today to give honor to handicapped people, but not to policemen. But we learn to honor all.

Lebanah: It means also, don't speak bad about anybody.

We must come back to God, to authority. We have to be totally one with authority. There cannot be any separation between us and authority so we can be God's people who bring about the end.

Yochanan: Even if the authority is wrong to the point they are coming against us and we have to take a stand, we are learning tonight that we will still be respectful. When the police barge in here, something rises up in you to tell them they have no right to talk to us that way. We don't have to do what they say because we know that they are going beyond their authority and have no right to do it, that what they are doing is against the law, but we can still be submissive in the way we tell them.

The day will come when we will be persecuted for righteousness sake (Mt 5:12). Blessed are you when you are persecuted for righteousness sake because great is your reward in heaven. When they come and kill us we can rejoice. Be sure that when you are persecuted for righteousness sake, you rejoice because Jn 8:51 says that if you do not obey His word you will see death. It will be the last commandment we will keep. We are to be so overwhelmingly glad that we would leap in the sky. No longer will we be persecuted for unrighteousness sake, for reviling authority.

Yoneq asked Labeshu, our wonderful brother who left Germany in his early 20's and lived in a teepee in the Pyrenees with his (now) wife and family for 8 or 9 years, what he has learned from these teachings.

Labeshu responded that what he saw was the powerful salvation of our Master, what it means to be covered by Messiah, because authority, for me... I did not like authority in the world. But now I see it is really important. Our Father knew just what we needed.

We thanked our King, our Master Yahshua whom we serve and honor.