

Desire

A desire is a wish or longing for something. Anyone who wishes or desires to keep his life will lose it — anyone who has an appetite for the world (Mt 16:25; Jms 4:4). What is your desire? Is it to sleep as long as you want? To eat whatever you please, etc.? Mk 8:35 states two pure desires we MUST have: to live for His sake and the gospel's sake. The world is not worth wanting. It is never our spirit that desires the world, only our flesh. What if we only live our lives for the gospel's sake, but not for Yahshua's (or vice-versa)? Then we will lose our lives.

Are things of the world desirable? Are they worth seeking after at the expense of losing your own life? The world is not worth wanting. It is always the flesh that desires the world. Our spirit desires communion. True desire is based on real need. Real need must be judged. To have only pure desire would cut off the flesh and the world. Would this lead us to asceticism, like monks would live in a cave or monastery, sleeping on a bed of nails? This is not *pure* desire?

Mk 9:49 speaks of the purifying fire of self-denial, of being salted with purifying fire caused by our self-denial. If you deny yourself, you will be purified from excessive need and desire. This is denial of the things we don't need. (If we don't deny ourselves, we won't be at peace with one another; Mk 9:50.)

To desire is a God-given thing. Our Father has desires, true, good desires. We are responsible for the things we desire. We must make certain choices as to what we seek after. We choose which way we want to go every morning. Desire can be either good or evil. A bad attitude is a choice we make. We are given the ability to choose how we want to be. Our Father did not want robots; He wanted human hearts that would respond to Him.

Just as our children can make a choice to respond and obey us over a bad attitude, we learn to make choices also. We have more power over our children than the evil one if we train them the way they should go (Pr 22:6).

The scriptures speak of the desires of Yahweh. He has a desire for those who would worship Him in spirit and in truth (Jn 4:23). Lk 9:23 — We must take up our cross daily. This is whom God seeks after. Gal 5:24 are those who have done this who make this choice and willfully crucify their flesh daily. They are the ones who worship in the spirit. Those who belong to Him have crucified their flesh and will continue to do so (Rom 8:9). This will help to differentiate between what is and what isn't true self-denial. The Puritans are wrong and so are the Pentecostals, etc.

The world needs to see a standard raised up to see what our Master longs for — a true light. There is always extra baggage that keeps us from entering the narrow gate. (Christianity paints a false light of *unity with diversity*.)

Eph 2:3 tells us of what we used to be, indulging in the desires of the flesh. Eph 4:22-24 speaks of the new man, created to be like God. Therefore we will have god-like desires. If we are obedient to the Spirit of truth we will be the light of the world. We will veer off course by feeding ourselves in excess of our need.

The Ability to Evaluate

Everyone to a certain measure has been given the ability to evaluate. This is a God-given ability. It enables us to see what has the most value. We can all make choices every day, evaluating what is good or bad. We choose to place value on things every day. Some have a greater ability to discern what is of most value. Each person has his capacity: some have the capacity to learn quickly; others are slower in intelligence. So we all need one another greatly. But we can all evaluate. We can all make choices.

Adam and Eve made a choice. They evaluated wrongly. Sometimes we have evil craving desires (for food, sexual desires, etc.). If we deny these desires we will be purified. An evil craving or desire is a dominating wish or desire — a coveting desire — to greedily want something you don't need. (Like approval for our clothing: one of our children said, "Oh, do you like my dress?" A brother told her, "No, I like you, you are much more important than your clothes." Different religious people used to desire clothing so that everyone would be dressed alike — to combat coveting. But if we dress so as to not make a show, we don't have to do that.) We don't need to want what does not belong to us.

The scriptures speak of good desires. Gen 3:16 — A wife's desire is for her husband. This is a pure desire. It keeps everything in proper order. Pr 11:23 — the desire of the righteous is *only good*. If we confess and turn

from our evil desires, they won't overtake us. If not, they will follow us to the judgment. Pr 13:12 — *Hop e deferred makes the heart sick, but a desire fulfilled is a tree of life.* Fools detest turning away from evil, but the desires of the righteous will end up in good.

Desire

Desire is the motivation of our life. We can make right and proper choices. God wants us to desire what He desires. He can't have anything unless we take on His desire. He wants His image to fill the universe. It is up to our choices. We will be judged accordingly. Those who are devoted to be near to Him daily pray what He taught us to pray (Mt 6). Our Father needs us to have His desires. If we seek after Him we can do it. We've been given the capacity to desire what He desires. He can only have what His people desire. He does not have robots. He wants those who by desire of heart love and trust Him.

Desires are not in and of themselves wrong. We have to make choices. A stoic or a Buddhist gets good feelings from suffering, thereby achieving a state where they desire nothing. Will they be the light of the world? They don't desire what He desires. This is against the word of God. We must desire what He desires.

Desire is a morally neutral term, neither good nor bad. Desire has nothing to do with condemnation (Gal 5:24). Those who belong to Messiah have crucified the *flesh* with its passions and desires, but our spirit desires what He desires. We crucify the flesh, not our spirit. Only when desire goes beyond limits and supersedes what is lawful and godly, is it condemned. Then it is to be crucified. We must be admonished, disciplined, etc., in our desires so that we could be the light of the world.

Ex 20:17 — You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, animals, house, anything that belongs to your neighbor.

Eph 5:3 — Among you there should not even be a HINT of sexual immorality, of anything impure or of greed. It is not fitting for God's people. We must know our children and not allow distance between us. Then we will not have underground problems with our children. Things have gone on right under our noses with our children.

Think of all the hundreds of children who are going to come in after us (Eph 5:5), *Be sure of this, no immoral, impure, greedy person, who is an idolater (having desires beyond what the spirit desires) will enter the Kingdom of God.*

Gal 5:16-18 — Live by the spirit and you won't gratify the desires of the flesh (sinful nature). The sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit and vice-versa. Then we do not do what we want. But if we are led by the Spirit, we are not under the law. The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity, idolatry, witchcraft, discord, factions, jealousy, outbursts of anger. Denominations are of the flesh. All these will not inherit the Kingdom of God.

The fruit of the Spirit is self-control. If we do something obviously in the flesh (like over-eat) it is only putting on a show to love our brothers and sisters. If you lack one fruit of the Spirit, you lack them all. If we lack in self-control, we lack in love, joy, peace, kindness and patience.

Being under the law produces these fleshly desires (1 Jn 3:6). We don't sin when we abide in Messiah. We sin only when we drift away. If we are led by the Spirit we are not under the law. The law produces evil actions stemming from evil desires. Whoever lives like this (Gal 5:16-18) won't enter the Kingdom of God. God will raise up a standard in the last days to convict the world. The light of the world will be so bright it will convict the whole world.

Rom 8:1-4 — There is no condemnation because we are led by the Spirit (Rom 6). The wages of sin is death for us. This was written to believers, not unbelievers. This message saves us from death, if we hear it. He doesn't want us to die for five minutes or experience *any* separation from Him. Death is separation.

Pr 11:23 — The desire of the righteous is only good. Someday there will be hundreds of thousands who desire only good. They will put all of our Master's enemies under His feet (1 Jn 3:6). We do not have to sin. If we abide in Him we do not sin (1 Jn 2:1). He appeared to take away sin. He writes these things to us that we may not sin. It is up to us to choose. It is our own choice to separate ourselves. Jer 30:21 — Who is one who will devote himself to be near Me?

Our capacity to desire can be misdirected. It can be motivated by selfish desire, ungodly choices, by covetousness, taking excess pleasure in food, clothing, sex, etc. This understanding is foundational. We must

be built upon it. Eve was enticed. Satan as well as the flesh entices. Jms 1:14-15 — Each one is tempted by his own evil desire. He is dragged away (from abiding) and enticed by his own lust. To entice is like a baiting a hook.

Our Father does not tempt anyone. Desire has got to be conceived in a person. It is a process, something you give yourself to. You think about it; it is deliberate, premeditated sin. When the desire (sin) is fully grown, it gives birth (just like a baby) to death. There is mercy for the ignorant, but we are those who are coming to a full knowledge of the truth. About some things we have already come to this knowledge (Heb 10:26-28). Heb 6:4-6 speaks of deliberate, continual sinning. Putting Messiah to shame again is sinning a sin unto death. You are forever cut away. No way to be reconnected until after Messiah rules on earth for a thousand years. (When someone falls away we try to reconnect him immediately or it will be too late. All of us have come to the full knowledge of the truth about many things. Like Ornan disconnected himself from the body by connecting himself to women in the world.)

Jms 1:21 — Get rid of all filth that leads to moral decay. If we humbly receive the word implanted in us we will be saved from death. If we choose wrong desires, sin gives birth to death. Do not just listen to the word and deceive yourself, but do what it says. We look into the mirror to see what is wrong with us, not to see how beautiful we are. If we see something hanging out our nose and don't clean it, we will shame our Master's name. We take care of what is wrong; we don't walk away. This is what happens when we look at our Master's word and don't consider what it exposes, we shame our Master and ourselves.

[Break]

Rom 6:19 is talking to the Romans about being set free from sin and becoming slaves to God. The wages of sin is death. The gift of God is age-lasting life. Sometimes *eternal life* is mistranslated in the scriptures; it should say *age-lasting life*. We must see these things to rule in the kingdom. Rom 8:9-12; 6:1-23 — If we are baptized, we are covenanted with Him. We died to sin, how can we live in it any longer? The requirements of a disciple are all too clear.

The Second Covenant

The fallen human nature of man is driven by sinful passions, desires that express man's sinful nature. For the most part, mankind is bent on that. Some stay close to Gen 3:16, not practicing abominations, thereby avoiding the second death. Few listen to the second covenant Eph 2:3. Spirits entice others to lead them to death. The more the evil one can drag away, the more hardship it puts upon others to make up for their lacks (in society and in the community). There is continually a barrage of spirits that want to lead us to death. They are sentenced already and they want to take us there.

Lost humanity is bent on following the fallen flesh and its cravings and desires. The influence of the evil one is limited by the keeping of the second covenant in Gen 3:16. The further man gets away from the second covenant the more he comes under the sway of the evil prince of this world. If the evil one's influence is limited in the world, how much more in the Edah. After man fell from the first covenant, He gave man the second covenant.

Romans 1 and 2

Rom 1:18-20 — The wrath of God is revealed from heaven by those who suppress the truth because of wickedness. Man is without excuse, because (Ps 19:1) God preaches through His creation all day long. Disobedient to parents — when this commandment is broken all havoc breaks loose on the face of the earth

When children rebel against parental authority, it opens the door to come against all constituted authority. Honoring those who are over you, those who are honorable (especially parents) releases a special hormone from your brain, permeating your body, that gives long life. If you don't do this that hormone dries up and your bones dry up. The disobedient don't live long. The life span of a homosexual is about 40 years. This is not because of AIDS. They die of a bad conscience.

Rom 1:30 — God haters, disobedient to parents (2 Tim 3:2). We are living in the age of the disobedient, the ungrateful, the unholy, the arrogant, etc. This is especially true of 2 Pet 2:10 — those who follow the corrupt desires of their sinful nature and despise authority.

Gen 3:16-19 speaks of a man who will rule over his wife (not common-law). It speaks of a women who

will have pain in childbirth and whose desire is for her husband, and of a man who will work by the sweat of his brow. The nations are in the realm of protection from all manner of evil overtaking them if they obey this covenant (Gen 3:14-15). Those who receive Yahshua are under the greater protection of Messiah's Body. People who are righteous in the world abide by the second covenant God gave man (not the righteousness of Messiah). Gentiles need to see this covenant so they will see they have broken this covenant and are worthy of death. This leads them to see their need for Yahshua.

Mt 25:37 — Those who never heard the gospel, but helped Israel even until the end, will inherit the nations. These are the righteous who say, "When did we do these things?" They are awarded the nations. On His right will be those who minister to the 144,000. They will be preaching the eternal gospel, "fear God and don't take the mark of the beast," the eternal gospel of living by your conscience.

Angels will lead these people and they will help the saints. Like Lot who was not a part of Abraham but he was still righteous, he will enter the nations (2 Pet 2:7-10). The essence of their human nature was eaten away by the evil desires of these men who had been turned over to a depraved mind (Rom 1). Lot did not approve of those who practice these things. Anyone worthy of the nations will be grieved over these things. Rom 2:8 — God will give to each according to what he has done. Rom 2:14-16 refers to the judgment of the nations (Rev 20:11-15). They are righteous, but they don't have the righteousness of Messiah. Most people know they aren't even righteous like the nations, they need to hear how they are selfish, greedy, etc. He came to save the sinner. Rom 2:8 — God gave them over after they violated the natural instinct of right and wrong.

God-Likeness

Godly attributes are not recognized in some people, in others they are. It is hard to recognize some people as being the image of God, like Hitler or Al Capone. But some do reflect some of His attributes. Yahshua was the exact representation of the Father. We are not, but the day is coming when we will be like Him. We were created to be like God; now we are being brought back to be like Him. It is through the everyday problems, sufferings, hardships and trials that we are made like Him — if we make the right choices. (We must break down the word for our children, otherwise it is confusing.) Kindness makes you want to be kind back. If they practice this in the world, it will bring out the god-likeness in them. Those who instinctively do good are in the bonds of the covenant in Gen 3:16, not a pretended righteousness for others to notice. Many do good for bad motives the praise of man, self-glory, etc.

Taught by God

Rom 1:32 — A man is able to evaluate the deeds men are doing that they deserve to die for, but they go ahead and do it anyway. Only death deals with guilt. In Messiah we are taught by God. Isaiah speaks of a people taught by God. Jn 6:45 — a people taught by God. People in the world are not taught by God. 1 Jn 2:20 — In the Body all are taught by the anointing of the Holy Spirit. We all know Him. Those drawn to Messiah by the Father are taught. They are taught only one way, producing unity that will become a light to the nations, that the world would know the Father sent the Son.

Most of us were deserving of the second death, but He desired us. He chose us. We have to be more like Messiah to love (Eph 4:1). We are called to love one another regardless of our faults. In the flesh we will separate, therefore separating ourselves from Messiah (Eph 4:1-4). We need to forbear in the power of the Spirit. We will love and seek out those we would naturally, in the flesh, have nothing to do with.

Familiarity breeds contempt. We must overcome familiarity, forbearing with one another. We all have things that could separate us.

The French and Germans hate each other; their personalities are opposed to each other. In the body they are the best of friends. Even when they clash they must overcome. Getting nationalities together is a miracle. Getting races together without prejudice is a miracle, a light to the world. In the world Shem likes Shem, Châm likes Châm, Yapheth likes Yapheth. Only in Messiah can the races be joined as one. That is only possible in Messiah. Trying to get the world to do this apart from Messiah is anti-Christ.

The Choices We Make

Ecc'cus 12:14 — We will be judged by our choices, what choice we make. We choose right when we are

led by the Spirit. The righteous desire what is good. We choose to be kind, hateful, bitter, or good. Our attitude is a matter of choice. If we don't choose there is no basis for judgment. We chose to listen to the Good News. We chose not to resist. We went along with the Father drawing us. Now we must choose to be taught by Him. We can let our minds drift. God desires all to be saved. His desires are always pure. If we are like Him our desire will be pure.

We have desires and choose according to them food, clothing, and shelter. We could choose super-comfort. We are being taught what nakedness is. We choose God's way rather than comfort.

Clothing: Do we dress according to super comfort?

Food: We will be judged on the food we eat, whether we eat according to the pleasure of the flesh or the needs of the body. Our desire must be pure and moderate according to our needs.

Shopping: Browsing until we found something we desire, not what we need.

We're saturated already but our appetite is still alive. We have no legitimate need; it is only excessive.

Excessive desire is a form of greed. Our Master warned us to be on the look out for every form of greed.

Advertising creates impure desire; it does not matter what a person needs, just Sell! Sell! Sell! The clothing industry puts in every shade of every color to keep you from being satisfied. So you have 15 pieces of clothing of a slightly different shade just so you have what matches. You know the old saying, "Clothing makes the man." Even if this is not your particular problem, hundreds will come in who have this problem.

Greed

Greed defiles us; it causes us to never be satisfied. It keeps our mind on the flesh. Greed is being excessive, a state of exceeding what is needed, exceeding a reasonable degree of what is proper. Desire is on one hand, greed is on the other (Lk 13:23-24). Only a few will be able to judge themselves rightly. Only a few are from the place where you learn to judge yourself rightly. We can lay in bed and get a desire for something we want, not considering what we need. We will have to help others with greed. "Someone has this and I don't." Greed — the mind on the flesh. Someone may need nicer clothes than another person, because they meet the public more. Someone else may need more types of work clothes because they work more. We may not need what someone else has. We must judge according to need, not greed.

God chooses a place where we can learn what is right, to judge rightly and make right choices. Our choices will be right if we are being taught in Messiah. Be on the alert for all forms of greed. No one will be able to get through the door with anything extra because that was our choice. But is it God's choice?

No one will get through the door with anything extra on (attitudes, etc.). We must be on guard for anything excessive (a form of greed), in excess of need. We make the choices. We must be able to judge all things.

Where are we from that we still have these attitudes? Which clan, which tribe? Who was your household head? All clans and tribes have leaders who are responsible for passing on the mind of Messiah. Is Messiah a hard taskmaster? Do we just want our own comfort and not what He wants for us? Some think the Master is hard — they will be outside the door knocking. They did not acquire Messiah's mind (Lk 13:25). We have got to know it and do it.

1 Jn 2:20 — What is the anointing teaching you? In order to get through the narrow door we need to know it and do it. Many gain the comfort zone by complaining until they achieve exclusion from the Kingdom of God (1 Cor 10:1-13). No one can enter the Kingdom of God who grumbles or complains, criticizes, or murmurs about anything. We should not envy what the Gentiles desire or seek for.

Air Conditioning

Is air-conditioning necessary? We have to be able to make a judgment. Is the Holy of Holies air-conditioned? We will do many things to keep us in the comfort zone. You will acclimate yourselves to a hot climate if you face it without an air conditioner. Your flesh will always be screaming for the comfort zone when you begin sleeping night after night with an air conditioner blowing on you. Many sicknesses are a result of our rooms full of positive ions when all the windows are shut. Breathing the same air continually is deadly.

If this tribe sleeps in the “comfort” of air conditioning, will you be able to send its portion of the 144,000 to go out in the scorching heat?

Is the Holy of Holies air-conditioned? We can often do many things to keep us in the comfort zone. One teacher in Boston drove three blocks with his children while everyone else walked.

Can we lay down in the comfort of our air-conditioned rooms and honestly pray for the single brothers in the hot attic to make it through the night? Then we might come to the table the next morning refreshed, full of vision and encouragement, and wonder why that single brother next to us isn’t wide awake and teeming with life. Maybe on the blistering nights when it might be a need you could invite those who don’t have air conditioning to sleep in your room.

Let’s make our choices based on pure desire. Pure desire is based on pure need. Can we follow our Master with excesses — extra baggage? When you travel on commercial transportation you always have to pay for extra baggage. If you’re willing to pay the price for it you can. You might pay with money that should be used for necessary things, or with your health, and eventually the cost might be not being able to enter through the narrow door. Excess baggage causes us to fall short of following Messiah. The community continues to exist by alms giving — giving to those in need. Never store up excess clothing in your closet. Those meeting the public will need more dress clothes than those doing the physical work. They’ll need more work clothes than those meeting the public. Let’s not envy those who need more dress clothes. We don’t need to have more than we need.

The Law

The Law says every piece of clothing should have tassels. When they swing back and forth they will remind you of the Law. Should we begin to put tassels on our clothing? We don’t need to because the law is written in our hearts in the New Covenant. Remember, the scriptures contain the Old and New Covenants, not the Old and New Testaments. So, some things are to be left in the Old Covenant. We’ve been given *Ruach Ha Kodesh* to teach us what to bring out of the Old Covenant and into the New. We take what’s practical. Covering your nakedness is practical. Men’s shorts should cover their thighs.

Admixtures

An admixture is an element that is added by mixing. We must be careful not to bring anything in from the past, Christianity or whatever, and mix it with the anointing. We don’t want an ungodly, religious sound in our music. Let’s leave behind the songs and hymns that the sorcerers used in Christianity. Otherwise we’ll find the body defiled with every unclean bird. The hymn that I heard sung last night reminded me of how at the playing of *Just as I Am* I would begin to head straight for the altar every time. It’s sorcery that they use — their music and dances.

We can’t have a feast unless we have our own sanctified music and instruments. Yes, we are going to have our own instruments.

We need the Holy Spirit to lead and guide us into all truth. Everyone will be judged by the choices they make. 2 Cor 5:10 — *For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Messiah, that each may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.*

Are we making choices that will ruin our children? We can misuse things: air conditioners, etc. If we have an air conditioner and we don’t know when to turn it on and when to keep it off, we’ll destroy our children. We’ll never see the third generation. We need to train our children in everything, even the use of toilet paper.

We’re saints in the light (Col 1:12; Eph 5:8-11). We must expose to the light all unfruitful deeds of darkness. Don’t let any Christian spirits over the wall that produce a feeling like the Holy Spirit — that is sorcery. Some music might have good words, but we have to see that the spirit behind it all is sorcery. Get rid of traditional Christian songs first. We are being restored from that fallen house. That’s why we need to be writing our own music.

In Conclusion

The main thing we learned is to judge our desires. Don’t speak unless it flashes before you and you know you are going to speak the full concept. We need to act in faith in whatever we do. Wait until we have the faith to speak. Don’t have a higher estimation of yourselves than you should. Everything we do must be

coming from a conscious decision or choice realizing the consequential effect that it will have.

Ben Nabi: Last year as we came and faced the heat, I heard from Dan that an air-conditioned truck causes us problems in adjusting to the heat outside the truck. This week my son, Yohannan, asked me if we could roll the windows down because he was getting cold from the air conditioning in the car. I want to repent. I see that the foundation that is established here needs to be one that can expand and go forth from here. However we are in this clan is how we will be in all the clans to come. We must have the whole tribe in view, not just one household. There must be a foundation in us that would be resourceful and conservative for the vision of the future. All the wasted money can go for things that will build up and not tear down. We must utilize what we have. Everything must be judged. Asking ourselves what do we really need. We must pull things together in this new beginning for the sake of the whole tribe.

The flesh will come in if household heads don't hear and act upon what our Master is saying. They must have a vision for the future. I want to see us take any unnecessary financial burden off the brothers in the industry.

Dan: Rom 6:16-19 — Our Master doesn't want us enslaved to paying debts because of our fulfilling fallen desires. We owe everything to Him.

Shimon: I want to repent for my dullness. I'm so thankful for the sensitivity and discernment Yoneq possesses. I know I am effected deeply by my past involvement in Christianity. I was blind in asking Grace to sing that song last night. It was an admixture. It is a wicked spirit that brings good feelings from good words.

Dean: Hearing familiar music from Christianity brings in familiar spirits.

Yathed: There is such value in being close to our Master — then we will judge right. The perversion of living in a refrigerator would have eventually felt normal. If it weren't for those who live close to our Master, we would become like the world.

Nehemiah: I'm thankful we are taught by the right spirit. Only a few can judge rightly. Those who can't aren't in the right place to be taught. If we act according to being able to understand all the mechanisms, we will resort to our own reasonings and will not be taught by Him.

Shimon: We are some of the thousands who are going to desire only good, because we're being lovingly shown what excess baggage is and how it is we can even get it off.

The religious system never freed us from our excess baggage, but we have the opportunity to enter through the narrow door. We will be blessed to enter through if we gladly take on His burden/yoke.

When I heard how the scriptures speak of the desires of our Father, I was struck with awe considering how we've been specially led to the place where we are able to be taught through the anointing.

This week has really been evidence of this because we've talked to Christians who are totally blind to what our Father really desires. In fact they are opposing what our Father desires.

What an awesome privilege to be given the responsibility to bring our Master back to rule.

Atarah: Desire is a wish for or longing for something. It is a morally neutral word — its application determines whether it is good or bad.

There is an entire world system that is designed around allowing people to gratify the desires of the flesh. These desires are always evil and fulfilling these desires leads to death as is seen in Jms 1:14,15. Many of these desires center around basic human needs, such as food, clothing, and shelter. To desire food when you are hungry isn't evil, but it's the cravings for that which goes beyond fulfilling the basic needs that is evil. The things our Father has created are so wonderful — like an orange, for example. It is sweet, but not too sweet — a little tartness, lots of juice, and wonderful body-building vitamins and minerals. But the world takes things like sugar cane, cocoa, etc. removes all the life-giving properties and creates something so tantalizing that eating these things actually stirs up your desire to eat another on and another one. And it contributes nothing of value, but actually takes a toll on your body as you continue to indulge in this unnatural stimulant. The world is so full of things like this that one can walk down several aisles of the grocery store without ever seeing anything that is real food created by our God to sustain the body.

Clothing is the same way. The clothing industry is constantly coming up with new styles, new colors. Salesmen

are trained to never ask, "*Do you need this?*"

But this is what we need to be concerned with. Do we need it? Is it basic or is it excess baggage to make our flesh more comfortable? We are those who have crucified the flesh along with its passions and desires. If we walk in the Spirit we won't gratify the desires of the flesh. Walking in the Spirit is setting your desires on His will and purpose. Yahshua said, *If anyone desires or wishes to save his life, he will lose it, but if he willingly loses his life for my sake and the gospel's, he will find life.* This means we are to give up our own lives, forsake seeking to fulfill the desires of our fleshly nature for our Master's sake, that we could be close to Him and also for the gospel's sake that we could give all of our energy, strength, and vitality to seeing the good news proclaimed as a demonstration.

It's not that we want to be like monks and live in a cave somewhere, sleeping on a bed of nails. But it is that we want to be moderate, self-controlled, having and desiring only that which we need. We don't want to live like the world who turns up their nose at a glass of water, but must flavor it, color it, make it sweet and bubbly so it will tickle their noses and taste buds as well. Or pass up oranges and apples for cookies and cakes. Or despise clothes lovingly made by our sisters in favor of the latest *Levi* style.

We are going to be responsible before the God of Heaven for the choices we make, whether they were motivated by our desire for Him and His purpose or by the cravings of the flesh. He wants to save us from death of every kind. He doesn't want us to taste death even for a minute.

Our Father has been so good to us, in this age where the world is at its climax, and fulfilling the desires of the flesh is attainable for the multitudes, to show us the more excellent way of living simply, undistracted by the world, happy and content to have our basic needs met, satisfied by Him. We must learn to take on the mind about food, clothing, etc., for in this way we will find ourselves full of the love of the Father rather than the love of the world. Pleasing Him will be our desire. Our conscience will be clean. Our spirit will be keen.

Grace: The background on the air conditioners is this: We moved into Dan and Debbie's house. They already had a few air conditioners hooked up in different rooms. People started using them only at night during the very hot weather. Then the single brothers lived in the attic and someone said we should get an air conditioner for that hot attic.

A new woman moved into our house next door who was seven months pregnant. Her mother bought her an air conditioner, having "mercy" on her poor pregnant daughter. We had no air conditioners at this house until then. Next some of the brothers heard that I wasn't sleeping at night because my room is so hot. (Really there is no circulation in it and it is the hottest room in the house.) They thought it was necessary for my health that I sleep, so one night they surprised me with an air conditioner they worked off.

Then we couldn't let our guests have a guest room without an air conditioner in such a hot climate.

Fortunately, Yoneq was our first guest, putting an end to the never-ending increase of our *need* for air conditioners. Our *only-at-night* air conditioners had increased to the Sabbath's nap times and whenever we were in our rooms for any length of time.

My air conditioner let absolutely no good ions in the room. So while my 'sleepless nights' decreased, so was my health decreasing because my room had no fresh air intake and my body had no way of acclimating eventually to the heat.

So that's our story. We learned that Yahshua would never even venture to say *It is so hot*, because He did not have one ounce of complaint in Him. No grumblers, complainers, or murmurers will enter the Kingdom of God.

I'm thankful for this hot weather. It helped bring out things that, left unexposed, would have kept us from the kingdom.