

Covenant of Life and Peace

What is a covenant of life and peace? He continues to save us if we will continue to follow Him. Where is the covenant of life and peace in the New Covenant? What do we have to do to get life and peace? Rom 8:6 — That is a covenant. We are the ones who err. He never does. Rom 8:7 —*They cannot* — It is impossible for them to have life and peace because they *cannot* set their mind on the spirit no matter how hard they try. They cannot do it because they have not made a covenant, so therefore they cannot set their mind set on the spirit no matter how hard they try.

Isa 26:3 — Because he sets his mind upon you —*whose mind is stayed on you because he trusts in you.* We are saved by trusting. I made a covenant with Him; He made a covenant with me. He will keep me in life and peace if I keep my mind on Him. We have to put our mind on Him, in our heart, right there where peace is — that is the covenant. And if you cannot do that, Rom 8:7 says it is because you have not made that covenant. We surrendered to our Savior and made a covenant with Him, so He can give us peace if we keep our mind on the spirit.

We can help people with that. If you see someone who does not have peace, you can remind him of this. It is the word. Those who have the Holy Spirit of Messiah will receive the word. We are controlled by the word. The word controls me. If you speak the word to me, I surrender. We need to hear the word. Those who do not have peace are in the flesh. *“But we are not in the flesh, but we are in the spirit”*(Rom 8:9), *“whoever does not have the Spirit of Messiah does not belong to Him.”* How do we belong to Him? Does He own you? What do we have to do to belong to Him? Terminate your life, terminate your old man (Gal 5:24) with its passions and desires. If we have done that, we are not susceptible anymore — we know what is going on (Lk 9:23). Gal 3:27 tells how to belong to Him — we slipped Him on. He is a body to be entered; we are immersed into Him, we are clothed with Him, we put Him on. And then we put Him on every morning. We have to put on the new man (Gal 5:24).

We are His inheritance, His reward, His everything — we are His bride to be. Eph 2:1-5 tells us where we were at and where we should not be. At one time we were dead. What do you do with dead things? Bury them. We were buried in baptism, we terminated our old existence, so our new man can live. That is the secret of life and peace. You do not have much peace when the flesh is alive and well. So we have to crucify our flesh. Lk 9:23 says that we made a covenant to do that, to take up His cross. What do you do with a cross, carry it around on your back all day? No!!! You use it to crucify! You crucify the opposition; you crucify your flesh. If you do that you will have life and peace. Gal 5:16-18 — If we continue to live by the flesh we will die. You cannot produce the fruit of the spirit if the flesh is in the way. One has to be put out of the way. Which one are you going to crucify daily? We made a covenant to follow Him, and there is only one way — to crucify the flesh and put our mind on the spirit. That is the terms of peace. That is what a disciple does.

Messiah crucified is the only thing that appeals to people — that Messiah died on the cross to save them from their sins. Philosophy does not appeal to people, only Messiah crucified.

Cowards go to the lake of fire because men were not meant to be cowards. Cowardice is in everyone; it is part of the fall. Our Master came to undo the effect of the fall, to undo the works of Satan. Satan has accomplished something, and our Master is going to undo what Satan did. First He had to get us and now He is operating. We have to put our old man to sleep (death) in order to be operated on. We have to submit to His work of undoing whatever is twisted in us. If we have one another, we will be open with one another. If we are in fellowship we will have free access to people's lives. Elders are to guard one another, make sure we are in fellowship with one another. Then we can shepherd the flock. Do you have free access to your brother's life or is he going to defend himself? Our Master is working to undo the effect Satan has in our life and He is going to complete this work.

Shimonah: In the Proverbs it says if you are slack, in the day of distress your strength is limited. Yahshua is our strength and His strength is not limited. And this is the day of distress and we are coming into the days of distress. If we are slack to go to the throne, our strength is limited. We cannot be slack in being open with our lives and receiving grace from our Master because there is an

enemy seeking to devour us. We cannot be slack. We have to go to our Master and receive what He has for us. His strength is unlimited.

We are learning what to say and how to say it.

ha-Emeq: When Yoneq was talking about covenant, I was thinking about how in the last days, men are going to teach that it's something wrong to make covenants, like marriage. And you can tell — homosexuality is so far away from the image of God. They will teach you to think of man as a creature that can't keep his word, that he just can't do it. But now it's accepted that you could never stand up and say to a woman (or a man), "I'll love you till death do us part, sickness and health, rich or poor." They used to say this in the world when they got married, that no matter what happens, I'll love you. They say it to the people and then ask, "Will you do that, do you agree?" Then they say, "I do." And then they put a ring on their finger to prove that you made that agreement. And people would do it, they'd stand by their word. They would do it and you would see the person years later, desperately poor and suffering, but they were sticking together.

But nowadays, it's almost ridiculous to think of it. Because as soon as things get rough, no matter what you *said* standing in front of some preacher or something, you could walk out on the woman. So now people think so low of themselves, they won't even make the commitment. They'll say, "Really, I like you. I really like you. I like to be with you, you know. But I can't say that I'm gonna stay with you, so we're not going to even *get* married. I mean, I really like you, but you know I *can't say* that I'll stay with you because..." Well, they don't think they have what it takes to do it so even though they really seem like they love each other, "You know I don't have what it is to stand by my word so I'm just not going to say I'm going to love you till death do us part because I don't have what it takes."

And people don't. Because as soon as they get up one day and they feel kind of bad, and they look at the woman and she isn't so beautiful as they thought, they just say, "Aahhhhch, I'm leaving you." "But why? What about that day that you said... Remember? You promised!" "Well, you know, I didn't know it was going to be this way, I wasn't serious. You know, I just wasn't serious about it." And they just slump down, "You know, you just can't trust me, you know, because I don't know, maybe I wasn't... that day when I *said* that, I think maybe I wasn't sincere, that's all." "But you said it! You said it, you said 'I do'." The poor woman says, "Please, keep your promise." "But, you know, you know, I just didn't really meant it."

No dignity. Man has lost his dignity. He can't control himself enough to say, "Yes, I'm going to do something," and do it. Because then just as time passes, he just says, "Well, I guess I wasn't serious." It's such a *lie*.

Because man was created in the image of God. He *can* say, "I'm going to do it," and Yahshua died to give us the power to do it.

And that's why He picked the weakest ones on earth, the weakest ones. So that the world will see that Yahshua did come. Because Cheziqah, she can keep her vow. People say to her, "How are you doing it, how can you do it staying in that community, it must be hard sometimes." But she says, "Yes it is hard." "How can you do it, why don't you just give up?" And she can't say, "Well, I've always been a strong person." Because they would say, "No, we know you, you were always that kind of puny person. You know." But she can say, "Yahshua saved me. He came to save people. He gives you the power to do it." "Really???" "Yes!, I'm the weakest person; I could never be faithful to my husband; I could never walk in faithfulness to my God, never. But Yahshua gave me the power to do it." And you can say, "Yes, I'm going to do it." They say, "Well, I hate to be baptized there because I don't know if I could do that. You know I just don't know if I could do it."

But Yahshua came to save *you*. And He didn't lie when He said, "*You can do all things through the Messiah who gives you strength.*" You can do everything. You *can* do it. Havah, you *can*. If He lied when He said that, He lied when He said, I saved you from death, He lied when He said you'll have eternal life. You can do it. You can say "*Yes!, I'm gonna do it.*" Yes, I'm going to do this thing. You can really say it. Everybody always thinks that, you know, "I'm really having a hard time and I just don't feel like I can say I'm not going to do that anymore because I feel I'm just going to fall right into it again." And then you start going down and you droop again and you just say, "Aaahhhhch." But *you*

CAN! Because Yahshua is the all-powerful, almighty God, and He came to save us. He didn't just come to save some of us but He came to save everyone who calls on Him.

You saw John — he was so pitiful. But Kip was more pitiful than John [*guests who lived with us for a while and then left*] They were both pitiful men. They say, “I wish I could do it. I wish I could be like you people.” And they could have done it. Kip was just a slave to cigarettes. He wished that he could stop smoking, you know, but he just said, “Well, I want to do it, but...” You can do it!!! You CAN!! You can! “Oh, but I don't think I can.” And so he walked away into a life of darkness. But he could have been saved. He could have been right now among us full of life. You know why? He's exactly like Yair was when I first met him. Exactly like Levi, like all of us. And that's the good news, that no matter who, you can do all things. You can say, “I'm gonna do it,” and Yahshua can give you the strength to do it. And that's the good news.

And then when a man does that, he starts getting more and more back into the image of God. Because He made a covenant with us of life and peace. After a while He doesn't go, “Well, I don't think I can do it.”

Well that's the whole thing — you have to crucify that part in you that says, “I can't do it.” That's what has to be crucified.

ha-emeq: And that is a fact, because it's a lie that you can't do it. I know it is. Because I couldn't do it, I couldn't do anything. But I can do it now, I can make it. Yahshua gave us that. I'm thankful that I can keep the covenant now. I can do it. Even if someone says, “Oh, you weren't serious that night, you didn't know anything.” I didn't; I knew nothing, but I gave my word. I said, “I'm going to follow Yahshua. I'm going to obey His word. I'm going to be a disciple.” And then I can't do it except through Yahshua who gives me strength and forgives. And the enemy is going to come to me and say, “You can't do it. You can't do it, you were just lying.” But I can't listen to that — it's on the left side, it torments disciples all the time. “Well, now you said that, just wait to see what your going to get right after this.” Well, I don't care. If Yahshua can't give me the power to do it, He's not the Savior of the world, and I know He is and so I can do it. I don't care what any evil voice says. And Zachariah can do it, and Bahirah can do it. And that's the good news. That's what we need to tell people.

Amen.

Lev Hadash: If we set our eyes on ourselves, of course we can't do it, because we're not looking to the One who can do everything. But look to the one who can do everything and our Father will give you grace. If you look at yourself, you see you are deficient. But if we look to Him we can do it. Apart from Him we can do nothing. But the good news about that is that there is nothing that we can't do according to His will.

Hakam: We have the power through our Master to cross over a line, like the children of Israel did when Moses said, “Whoever can stand with our God, cross over this line.” And the Levites, that's what they did — they walked over the line and they took a stand, they said, “That's it, I'm not going to live on the other side of that line.” And that's really what our life is all about — coming across that line.

And it's really true what you said about how the evil one is always there to just make you think you can't do it, with every attitude under the sun, just feeding you, when you say you can't do it. You just get so hopeless. That's what happens to me — that spirit to give up like that, that attitude. But I'm thankful that we *are* being put back together inside, in our soul. We can have dignity and be sons of God and know that we can walk over a line and say yes and our God will uphold that — to do it. I remember when Yoneq first started talking about getting up in the morning and actually saying, “Yahshua, you are my Sovereign.” When he first started talking about that, I was so intimidated to do it because I thought, “If I say it, I can't do it.” I really went through a lot about this in my heart, for I don't know how long, and then I said in my heart, “But I *love* Yahshua, He *is* my Sovereign. And I'm just going to start saying it, and if a lightning bolt comes down, you know, and strikes me dead because I say that Yahshua is my Sovereign, then let it be. So be it if I'm that bad.” A lie comes to you that you might say it but you can't really walk it out, so why even say it. You know, all those kind of twisted thinking [Y

oneq — *That's the flesh speaking.* So, I crossed over the line and I said, "I'm going to *make* Him my Sovereign every day. Because that's what I believe, that's where my heart is." And I started doing it. And I believe that that one thing really has changed me — just getting up in the morning and with all my heart proclaiming that Yahshua is my Sovereign.

And so now I have a lot more confidence than I did. I know it's real because our God has been helping me. He's been helping me because I've been doing it — taking that stand and saying it with my voice every day. And I want to take that as an anchor in my life for all these other big enemies that just pounce on me every day — that I'll be able to have the same kind of stand, that I'll really know with all my heart that whenever we cross a line truly in our heart and say, "*no more*, I'm taking my stand right here," our God meets us right there. And He'll keep us right there on that side of the line. And that's the covenant He made with the priesthood that day, when they actually went back and they took the sword to everything else and made a covenant with Him right there. And that's really the covenant we're in — the covenant of life and peace that was made to Levi. That's the life and peace that we have in the new covenant. And unless we go over that line, there is no life and peace. You can sit there and think about it all day long, you can wish it or woe about it or have anxiety about it, but unless I, today, cross the line in that area where my enemies could overtake me, there is no life and peace. What ha-emeq said is the depths of the truth. And our God wants to restore our dignity; He wants us to be true men who will really *be* like our Master Yahshua.

Grace: We don't have to be slaves to sin. That is the covenant of life and peace — that we actually don't have to be a *slave* to sin. But that evil voice that comes to us and says, "Oh, I couldn't do it." That's the evil one who wants to keep us enslaved in sin and trapped in sin. But the covenant that our Master made with us is that we don't have to have to be a slave to sin. I know that voice. I know we all know that voice that says you can't do it. Yet I know there's something *deep within* me that says "It's *going to* happen. The twelve tribes *are* going to be raised up. There's going to be 144,000 of our seed who are going to come forth on this earth! And they're going to speak the truth and it's going to happen!!!" But then I say, "Ahhhahch, I can't even be faithful to take lecithin every day, you know, how's it going to happen." But that voice deep inside says it's going to happen! That's because of that Spirit that dwells deep within us and that's the one who can give us the power to do it. That's the Spirit that can give us the power to not be slaves to sin.

When ha-emeq was speaking, it was getting clear to me that I don't have to be a slave to sin, I don't *have* to do that. That's the covenant. I'm thankful for that covenant our Master made, that we can be set free. He can help us by His Spirit. We can't do anything, but that voice that's deep inside of us is the one that says, "I can do all things through Messiah."

I think Paul was saying that we have to consider our old man dead, we have to consider our flesh dead — consider it dead, it poses opposition. If our flesh is dead, then it will not pose opposition. That is why we have to crucify it every day. We cannot just continue to fight it because we will never win. The flesh will always win.

If there is a battle going on between the flesh and the spirit, the flesh always wins. That is why you have to put the enemy to death. That is the only way that we can live, if the flesh is dead.

Yehudah: Even to fight the flesh, you're contemplating the flesh. I can't walk on two roads at the same time, saying, "Well, I really want to walk on this road, but I really want to walk on that one."

That's double minded. But we have a choice. The world doesn't have a choice, but every one of us has a choice.

Life and peace is terminating the flesh, not battling against it every day, wanting to win. But we have to crucify the flesh and then we can live. We have to do that every day, all the time.

That is why it is important for us to give thanks, because we cannot give thanks unless we are doing that — there is no way you can give thanks when you are in the flesh. No one can say that Yahshua is Sovereign except by the Holy Spirit. If they do say it by another spirit, they are cursed.