

Borrowing from the Nations, Part 2

Kepha — What spoke to me this week is the understanding about the nations, that there's a difference between the Holy and the nations. Our Father doesn't expect the nations to be like the Holy. For example, things happen to them and they don't forgive from the heart. That's because they haven't been forgiven.

But we *have*. The way we can maintain the peace we have (Eph 4:2-3) is by patience and gentleness with one another. This is not given to the nations to do. It is given to *us* to do. The Holy Spirit has been given to us. We can forgive each other from the heart. We are not going to pay back evil for evil; it will shut the mouths of those who want to speak against us (1 Pet 2:12 and 3:16).

People in the nations can forgive to a point, but not the way we are supposed to forgive – 490 times. We have the capability to do it since we have the Holy Spirit.

Yacob — We should not hurt our neighbors by borrowing things and not returning them. We have to understand them. They cannot go beyond themselves. They cannot forgive the way we can. We could cause them to have accusations and this can hurt their eternal destiny. Someday we will have something to give to our neighbors. Someday they will come to us for seeds for good food when there is nothing good left. We should honor what is good, appreciate people's faithfulness for being married for 40 years, etc.

We have to have understanding of the nations – understand their frame like our Father understands our frame.

Sharat — It spoke to me that our Father understood Lot, that he was a man of the nations and he looked after providing for his family. When he stood on that hill with Abraham he only saw good farm land, but our Abba didn't hold it against him.

Our Master could have said, "No longer live like the *righteous* people of the nations, seeking after food and clothing. But seek the kingdom, and food and clothing will be distributed to you."

Isa 52:15 — This talks about His Body, of course, the demonstration of His life by a people.

ha-emeq — This week when Yoneq was talking about the people of the nations, Shoreshe read Proverbs 2, "...and discover the knowledge of God." I never read it that way. But it's the knowledge, the things we are coming to know, the knowledge that God has — like what we learned about our neighbors. It's simple knowledge, but it is so sweet because we will know what to do or what to say in situations with people. And Yoneq was sharing this week in 1 Tim 6:6-10. Those people it talks about in verse 9 desire a secure feeling from getting something. But our Master told us to seek for knowledge like we seek for silver and gold. So we will have that secure feeling in knowing what to do. I thought we should let *this* knowledge about the people of the nations go into our bank account and let it make us rich.

That security, that good feeling – that's all the comfort they are going to have. Our Master said they have their comfort in full. It's a trap.

Shoreshe — What I heard makes me think of Gal 6:10. We have to judge ourselves and the nations rightly. They don't understand what we understand. Lot saw good farmland — a good place to live with his family. Abraham saw so much more. He saw the promise of the longing of his heart being fulfilled.

If you press the people of the nations too far, their true colors come out, they react, etc. They cannot judge themselves. *We can barely judge ourselves.*

And even with ourselves, we need to love one another. If we do, then we can *take* the correction and discipline because we know the people we live with are for us and have good intentions for us. It's a tremendous battle we go through to learn how to judge ourselves. We need to love one another.

Our Father made man and is going to restore man — natural man. They will pay for their sins in death, if they can pay for their sins. We have to tolerate those sins in our neighbors — those are the sins they can pay for, as long as they are not killing us and lying about us, or ruining people's lives. They have sin, but not like Rev 21:8, whose sin goes on forever and ever. But the Holy won't even see a first death like the nations. Now there is a new creation. We are now the sons of God. He has to have many sons to rule over His restored natural man. We are the body of God. And we, His dwelling place, live with men.

You can see that new creation in Rev 21:24. And in Rev 22:5 that new creation will rule the nations with a rod of iron. We are learning to judge now. We are learning how to see their hearts now. We have to start now. It is

going into our soul now.

You know what glory is – being able to rule over yourself, over every area of your life. And that demands the respect of others. What we say and how we say it, and what we do and how we do it, serving by the strength he provides, seeking his glory, not our own glory. That is His glory. We are learning to be judges now. We are learning something eternal.