

Drawing Near with a True Heart

Hobab: I was thinking about how this day represents the day of preparation for the end of this age when everything will go back to its rightful owner. I was reading in Heb 10:24-26 and I know if we don't do what it says there then we'll die. When I was reading it, for the first time it really hit me how the first church fell away. They stopped meeting together at the appointed times and encouraging one another. I saw how I can be that way, too, if I'm not encouraging my brothers.

I'm thankful I can come here with my sins confessed. I want to have life to bring here and make sure my brothers are encouraged, too. What I read stimulated me to not want to come here with un-confessed sin, but to rule over the things in my life. I want to do this so our Master Yahshua can get the glory He deserves. I want to come to right judgment about these things.

Verse 26 says, "For if we go on sinning willfully after we have come to the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for our sins." It's talking about not drawing near with a *true* heart like it says in verse 22. Verses 19-25 say we have boldness to enter into the holy of holies. This place here is the holiest of holies. We can draw near to Him in full assurance of faith (verse 22) if our sins are confessed. Anything we do apart from faith is sin. We have to draw near to Him with a "true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water."

He is teaching us what to do in order to be His friends. Our Master said, "*You are My friends if you do as I say*" (Jn 15:14). We have to *do* His commands; if not then we're *not* His friends.

Verse 24 says, "*Let us consider one another in order to spur one another toward love and good deeds.*"

These are the good works we were saved to do. We have to see how we can spur one another on because we can get callused and not be forgiven of our sins. (Verse 26 is not talking about the obvious, outward sins, but it means not confessing the hidden sins. Some of our sins go before us and some lag behind and will follow us to the judgment.) It's important to learn this about our life because verse 30 isn't speaking about people in the world, but His very own people. "*The Sovereign will judge His people.*" YHWH will judge *His* people!

After we have come to the knowledge of the truth in these things; we're accountable. It doesn't mean just sinning one time, but if we continue on sinning in this way there no longer remains a sacrifice for us. Is it better to come to the knowledge of the truth or not? You might think if you never knew (became accountable) then you wouldn't be guilty of sinning a sin unto death. But we have to take on the responsibility for being accountable and come to the knowledge of the truth in *all* things. If we remain babes and never grow up then we're not worthy of the kingdom.

Hobab: Reading what I did last night I saw ways in my life that I've been for four years in the Body. It was the most enlightenment I've had in a long time. I don't want to be that way. I don't want to sit back while my brother is in need of my encouragement because I'm too dull to help him.

Chets Barur: In verse 22 it says, "... *having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience.*" I can't approach with a true heart in confidence if I'm not confessing my sins. We need to see this as a serious thing when we ignore one another. If we do and don't confess it we'll end up committing other sins like speaking godless chatter. It's what comes out of a person that defiles him. We can't approach in full assurance of faith because we don't have a good conscience if we walk past our brothers. Then we're more prone to committing other sins. We need to either see this or we'll shrink back. We need to make sure we're washed of these things or we'll have nothing to say in the minchah and we'll shrink back when our Master returns.

Mk 7:21-23 – "For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lewdness, an evil eye, blasphemy, *pride*, foolishness. All these evil things come from within and defile a man." Can we have pride that comes out of us? Pride is being *disdainful* towards others, thinking you're better or that they're worse. It can be something very subtle. Be careful you don't look down on others. Be *very* careful or you'll be guilty of the same sin the

Pharisees committed. They had a superior attitude towards others. When some people come into the Body they can have a disdainful attitude, or so can children who've been raised in the Edah. They shouldn't, but they might have a prideful attitude (a state of pride that's your permanent condition). Pride can be a very subtle thing. But our Master came for the lowly. Make sure that you don't become defiled by letting pride come in and things come out. This makes us unworthy of our Master. Remember Jn 15:14 – “*You are My friends if you do as I command.*” We have no greater purpose than to be friends of our Master Yahshua. So, we'd better be His friends. The qualifications of a friend is that he loves at all times. That means ALL times! If we walk by a brother in need, it's obvious we're not allied in the same cause, friends born for adversity. We have a lot of adversity every day. The enemy tries to press us down and make us think wrong about ourselves. But the Holy Spirit is an encourager, a comforter. He said that He would “*not leave us comfortless (orphans).*” Jn 14:18 — We are not *fatherless*. The word *orphan* means *fatherless*. (A father comforts his son.) Or He will not leave a brother as an orphan — not cared for.

As brothers, we walk by one another all day and strengthen and encourage each other. As a disciple, that's what we do. If you don't, then you're not a disciple. Disciples think the best; they're not prideful. “*You are My disciples if you do what I say.*” “*My **friends** do what I say.*” In the Greek the word is *whatsoever*. “*You are My friends if you do whatsoever.*” Are we going to do what He wants us to do, go where He wants us to go, say what He wants us to say and be what He wants us to be? That word, *whatsoever*, covers everything – go, do, say, then be. Then we're friends of our Master, not picking and choosing what we want to do, but doing *whatsoever* He has for us to do.

We need to remember we're allies in the same cause. There's nothing greater than a friend who loves at all times. Pr 17:17 – We can't get out of it. If we're not loving like this, we're not His *friends*. If you love someone you lay down your life for him. It's a love that *never* fails. Our Master said in Jn 13:34 – “*A new commandment I give you that you love one another, as I have loved you. That you also love one another.*” That's what a *friend* is.

Jn 14:20 — “*In that day you will know that I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you.*” (If you don't know this, then it's not talking to you.) It puts us in the same place as our Master Yahshua. We are the sons of God — that's who we are! Verse 21 – “*He who **has** My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me.*” Do you *have* His commandments? He said, “*If you do and you keep them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love Him and manifest Myself to him.*” If He's never been manifested to you then you don't love Him and obey His commands. A person who is like this is walking in the flesh. He has to *reveal* (manifest) Himself to you. That's what a friend is. “*The one who obeys Me is the one who loves Me and My Father will love him and I will love him.*” Whoever serves Him wherever He is will be honored by Him.

We are all allied together in the same cause – brothers born for adversity, to love at all times, laying down our lives for one another.

Hakam: To love that way we have to be in communion and seeing our Master in His Body (discerning the Body). When Yoneq was sharing last night about how there are different aspects of our personalities, I was thinking about how I have been seeing certain sins in my heart lately that keep me from turning my heart to Him. It's not just an exercise we do to turn our heart to Him, but we need to realize that we're created to be in communion with a spirit all the time whether it's the Holy Spirit or another spirit. And the certain aspects of our personalities are conformed, molded and controlled by and express the aspects of whatever spirit we give ourselves to. If we turn to our Master Yahshua and His Spirit, then we experience healing and restoration. The brother who doesn't get mad anymore is bearing the fruit of self-control because he's connected to the Holy Spirit. The immaterial aspects of our personality are formed and molded by what spirit we come in contact with. If we know this, who would want to be in communion with another spirit that would lead us to destruction? We have to see it that way. I'm thankful we can choose what spirit we want to be connected to.

Heb 10:22 – It's important that we come here with a *true* heart connected to our Master so we can offer

our bodies as a living sacrifice. We're allied in the same cause, becoming true brothers as our souls are being saved from all the things that are warped inside of us that we've inherited from our ancestors and they inherited from their ancestors and our grandparents from their ancestors. We must know that we're being healed. Salvation is coming to us and we need to rejoice in our salvation. We are being saved! Our Master came and laid down His life for us. So we then should lay down our lives for one another.

If we are connected to God, since God is love, then we'll love our brothers. It's an evil thing to let them down at the time when they need us the most. The word *leave* means to *betray* (Mt 24:9-12). Our Master was speaking about people right in the Church! (It's obvious they're not part of the Body, not connected to His Spirit.) At that time the nations will turn against nations and it will be a horrendous time of final testing before our Master returns. In verse 10 it says, *"Many will betray you."* It also speaks about this in Lk 12:53 – *"Father will be divided against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law."* They will hate one another because they weren't allied in the same cause from the beginning. They took the easy route. I hope there's no one here who will betray his brother! I hope there are no foolish virgins. Regardless, it says that 50% were foolish and not taken to be with our Master. They weren't faithful to the end. Five were wise and five were foolish. It speaks about this in Mt 24:40-41 – Some were taken and some were left behind.

We have to be *faithful* to keep our minds on the Spirit; then we'll have life and peace. Heb 10:31 – *"It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God."* They never kept their minds on the Spirit, loving their brothers. But we don't have to experience this if we keep our minds on His Spirit. We are not of those who will have to "shrink" back at His coming, but we are of those who give their bodies as a living sacrifice every morning and evening, having a *true* heart in sync with and controlled by His Holy Spirit. But He didn't create us to be robots; He wants us to *know* what we're doing.