

## Sons and Builders

Naomi — I am thankful because I have experienced a lot this week. I thought about how when we are not receiving our discipline then we start feeling like illegitimate children, separated, like we don't belong. If we turn our hearts to our Father and receive, then we become more His sons — we know we belong to him.

I am thankful that our Father wants me to belong to Him more and to trust my life to Him more. He is showing me ways that I don't do that. But I am thankful for that and the separation that I experience when He withdraws Himself from me to show me that there is something wrong and I can't go on without Him. I can't keep going but I have to get connected back to Him. I am thankful that He disciplines us as sons. I want to belong to Him.

I was also thankful for what Yoneq said about standing, like when you are standing under attack. Sometimes you have to stand under the barrage of the enemy. But you know that when you are standing there that if you cave in something is going to be lost — the image of God will be lost. It is like that for the nations. It is pertinent for us that we would stand and not let the evil one snatch away the image of God that is being restored in us. That is what's going to really bring the end. If we don't stand then there is not going to be an end to the evil that is being done on the earth. I know that us standing under attack is the most important thing.

What we learned about sons and builders is Isa 49:17, and it is a promise there that *"your builders will outdo [or 'outstrip'] your destroyers."* It says, *"Your builders will outdo your destroyers and those who laid you waste will go away from you."* In the first century Edah there were people who laid it waste. They laid the Edah waste; they destroyed it. Paul says, *"If we destroy the temple we will be destroyed."* We can't exist without the temple. There is no way we can independently exist without the temple, without the home, the Body of Messiah.

The Christians last night felt like they could exist independently out in the world. There is no way. There is no way the Holy Spirit can grant anyone His Spirit unless His Spirit causes a dwelling place, a body. He cannot give His Spirit to independent people.

We have learned in the scriptures, even in the New Testament scriptures, how the first Edah was destroyed and who were the destroyers. We have learned not to destroy, but to be builders, true sons. I am thankful we can learn from the records that have been kept of how the first century Edah lost its place. You can read about it in the New Testament. That is the benefit that we have over the first-century Edah. It is right there, but they didn't have it so much written down altogether. But they had the apostles speaking the word of our Master. Now we have no excuse. They didn't have any excuse either, but we certainly don't have any excuse because we have written records that tell us how to be builders and how not to be destroyers. We need to speak to one another. We need to encourage one another. Encouraging is building. An encouraging look is better than nothing.

Poriah — We talked about the verse in Revelation where John was writing to the church saying how he knew their toil and how they had perseverance and they were not able to withstand having evil men in their midst. But the one thing that they lacked was that they lost their first love. Without our first love we can't do anything that we have been talking about. It really made me want to have His love dwell in my heart throughout the day and not just forsake that sweet fellowship for getting things done or thinking I am laying down my life if I am serving all day long but not talking to Him throughout the day. The precious stones that we are building with is communion with Him. I am so thankful that He is so patient and merciful. He keeps reminding us and talking to us. I'm really thankful for our Master. I am thankful that it is simple, too. That He just wants His love to dwell in our hearts and then we'll be so happy. That is how we'll have that joy that we have been talking about. I am thankful for Him.

Mevaser — Our Master Yahshua said in Jn 14:18, *"I will not leave you as orphans, I will come to you."* I was thinking about how what we've been talking about, sons and builders, being builders, being true sons. Our Father is saving us through the discipline and is making us into builders. He is dealing with the things in us that destroy. But it is so important that we would receive our discipline, receive our brothers, receive the circumstances, we would confess our sins.

There is so much hope in that because the people in the first Edah were lead astray. Their own inner workings connected them to other spirits and they were led astray and led others astray, and it is the flesh. We are no better than they are apart from our Master Yahshua. We are part of the worst generation that has ever been. That's what we have come out of. As people were speaking about being disciplined, being sons, this morning, I thought about Heb 12:10. It talks about how "our earthly fathers disciplined us for a short time as seemed best to them, but He disciplines us for our good, that we may share His Holiness," that we may be the exact representation of Him, that we could be the third incarnation, we could be Him on the earth. But we have to receive our discipline. I am not going to let my little daughter, Ahavah, just go off and walk right into the road and get hit by a car. I am going to discipline her, I am going to constrict her path.

Our Father is the same way. We have a faithful Father. We aren't just orphans; we aren't just on our own, but we have a Father. You are a son because you have a father. If you don't have a father you are an orphan, you are on your own. Jeroboam didn't have a father; he lacked wisdom. He had the right heart, but he lacked wisdom. At one point he forsook council and ended up making a golden calf. But we have wisdom; we have our Father. We have a Father who disciplines us and He speaks to us. But it is so important we would receive, that we wouldn't resist His hand in our lives, we wouldn't resist correction and instruction.

There is just so much hope in that to me, that if I receive my discipline He will make me into a builder, I won't be a destroyer. I will be a builder if I receive my discipline. If I confess my sins, He will cleanse me of my unrighteousness (1 Jn 1:9). I mostly grew up without a father, but now I have a father. I have a faithful Father who is not going to forsake me, if I don't forsake Him. He will help me. I am really thankful for what we have heard about being sons and I know there is so much security in that, that we can address Him as "Father."

"You're my Father, I am a son." That joy no matter what the circumstances are, you have joy because you know that you are a son. "I am a son, I belong to my Father." I am thankful that we can abide in that and take security in being sons, knowing that He is going to help us and make us into His people, as we trust in Him and receive our discipline.

Matthew — I was thinking about Heb 12:5-8. I thought about what we heard this week about being sons and builders and how if we aspire to be a builder or a son, then we need to prepare ourselves for discipline. It says, "*What son is there whom a father does not discipline?*" I heard a couple weeks ago that it is not how much discipline we get but how much discipline we *receive* is what makes us into a son. There are children who are disciplined but they don't receive it, they're not sons. There have been those in our midst in the past who have grown up and received discipline, but they are not sons; they are not legitimate children because they didn't receive their discipline. This caused me to really want to receive my discipline, not just allow myself to get disciplined, but I want to receive it so that I can be a son, that it will do the work that it was intended to do.

The discipline will do the work of changing us into the image of our Abba. I know that is the goal of our discipline — that we become like Him. It says in Timothy that the goal of our instruction is love from a pure heart a sincere faith and a good conscience. That is how we want to be. I am thankful to be a son. I am thankful that our Father disciplines us for our good so that we will become like Him.

When our Master returns He is going to take the faithful ones. We have to reckon with our Master's words. He said there were five wise and five foolish. I know what being a foolish one or a foolish virgin means. Certainly we have all received the Spirit, but still we can be foolish virgins. "Virgins" mean that we actually belong to Him.

We belong to Him, but still we can be foolish. What makes a foolish virgin or a wise virgin? What makes us wise or foolish? Wise means that you listen to our brothers; it is simple. A wise virgin listens and heeds what his brothers and sisters tell him; or even speaking here, we listen to our brothers and sisters.

We all grow up into the head by hearing. By speaking the truth in love, we all grow up into the head (Eph 4:15). We will all grow up into the head if we listen. It's simple. A wise virgin listens and takes it into his heart, understands. It is amazing that what you hear comes from a person's mouth. We aren't even supposed to speak unless it is the very utterance of God. We're listening to our Father when we hear each other. He's speaking to us. It says that all will be taught by Him, "No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him,

and I will raise him up on the last day; and they will all be taught by God” (Jn 6:44-45).

Wise virgins can be taught, they are teachable, they are sons. He has sons to build with, not to destroy with. It is so wonderful what we are hearing. Just remember, there are five foolish, five wise. If it's possible let us all be the five wise. Inevitably there always will be foolish. I hate that, but it is our Master's words, “five foolish, five wise.”

When He comes back He is going to take the faithful followers (Rev 17:14). We understand this. We know it. This is not a condemnation, but it is hope. We have to hear these things in order to not be foolish, but be wise. We have to be faithful. He wants to have a faithful people in the last days.

I am thankful that we are hearing these things and for the opportunity that we have to bring back what we have heard all week long. You are doing a wonderful job. I am really surprised at how wonderful it is here and how you all are bringing these things back so wonderfully. I know that you are all going to grow up into the head. You are a light to this little town, certainly a light. It's just barely beginning to glow, but it will get brighter and brighter.

ha-meq — When everyone was sharing what they heard during the week, I thought that they may not realize that they actually learned something. You could actually, proudly take a stand and say, “This week I learned...” Sons learn by diligently studying the word. By listening we become wise virgins. On this morning, “Saturday” morning, when the rest of the world is watching cartoons, we are learning to be wise. The rest of the world has absolutely no potential to go anywhere from here, because the input they are getting is foolishness. But, where are the sons of God on this morning? They are sitting here listening and getting wise.

That son there is getting wise. He has potential now. With the building materials that he's gaining every day, he is going to become a great man. The sad thing is, in the middle of life you can lose a lot, when you get in the youth stage. That's when peer pressure can come and jump on you and you can think your “stupid” because you're spiritual. It can make you not want to think about anything. But if you keep on going from here with what you are learning right now, then by the time you are a man you will have such a wealth of wisdom. You'll be just like what Yoneq said, a wise virgin that our Master will come back for.

We're in the University of Yahshua. We really take seriously what God, our Father, is speaking to His people on Earth all week long, and study. Then on this morning we come excited and have our “book of remembrance” and we're ready to say what we gained and learned as students of the Word. We can really say it proudly because we gain a certain amount each week. We're not just thankful that we heard it, but we *learned* it. You actually learned what you shared. So you'll never be the same again once you learned about something. You'll be a little bit higher. You'll progress a little bit more. The things we learn become ours and they're our children's. We gain wisdom that way so we can really progress.

Sometimes people come into our midst that are what you might call “studious.” Right away they stand out. Like Obediah. Nobody had to tell him to study. He had a voracious appetite for the Word, the things he heard. And because of that he really learned things. He took this university seriously. This man is gaining. He is becoming a great man. He's submerged under seven children right now. But as his children grow up, you'll see more of Obediah, because he's a great man. Because he took seriously the things he heard and he thought about it and it really became his. So you would ask him later and he would have the ability to remember it, because those words that he heard abided in him. He's not forgetting what he learned.

So it's the same here with you. When you share what you “heard” you don't even realize what you're saying, but you learned something. You gained something. It has become yours, it starts to abide in you. You can start a “book of remembrance” and write down all the things you are learning so you can really hang on to it. This is my book of remembrance. I take notes in it. This day, the Shabbat, it's my fullest day because this is the day everyone shares from what they've learned. I write down everybody's name and I know what everybody is learning. Someday in 2030, I'll be able to remind you about what we learned back in Warsaw. And then we'll be wise virgins.

So it's not like we just casually come in on Shabbat morning. But it's true that what we learned is like a pile of building materials that we gained. “This is what it is...” So sharing what you learned is like a report from a student in a university. If it's important you'll remember, if it's not you won't retain it. People who were not

like Obediah, they forgot. They didn't take it seriously.

Ps 86:11 — *"Teach me your way O, Sovereign that I may walk in your truth. Give me an undivided heart, to revere Your name."* Teach me — that means you are a student, a disciple. He's the Teacher and we're being taught. Mal 3:16 — "Then, at an appointed time in history, those who revered Yahweh spoke to, and with, one another. Then, at that time, Yahweh took notes in Heaven. It says He took notes, and listened. He is wise, and a book of remembrance was written before Him. He was taking notes in His book of remembrance. He took notes. He started listening. He's wise. He's the teacher. We're the students.

"Yahweh took note and listened, and He started writing in His book of remembrance." It was written before Him of those who revered Yahweh (Ps 86:11) and *"thought on His Name."* *Thought* on His character, who He really is. That's what His name means, the actual reality of who He really is. That's what we're doing today.

*"They shall be Mine," says Yahweh.* "Mine, my possession. You're mine!" Just like your child, you tell him, "you're mine!" You can discipline your child because he's yours. You have all the right in the world to discipline your child. "You're mine!" We belong to Him. *"They shall be mine," says Yahweh of Hosts, "My special possession on the day that I act."* He's going to act pretty soon, but He's got to get us perfectly in His hand first. We've got to be totally trained. We've got to be trainable. Then He's going to act. He's not acting yet. He's training us. The day is going to come when He acts, when He does what He wants to do. He's preparing a people to do that, perfectly prepared for Him (Lk 1:17).

Mal 3:17-18 — On the day that He acts He will spare them as a parent spares his children. Then once more you will see the difference between those who are truly His, true disciples, and those who are not true disciples.

You'll see the difference between those who understand and those who do not understand, those who serve Him and those who do not serve Him. That's prophetic. That's prophecy. That's what our Father is saying to us. And we're that people in this dead little town. But this town is going to come alive. And we've got to be ready for it. We're going to have a little stake right here in the Midwest. We're going to have the indigenous people here of the Midwest. We're not here to just "be here." We are here to colonize, every town around here, all over the Ozarks. He's preparing us right now. We're being trained.

Rachel bat Mevasser — I think the thing that was impressed on me the most this week was what we heard about how anything done apart from communion with Him is lawlessness. I heard that Sabbath night while we were washing our feet. Then on First Day in the teaching we heard about how our God is not a God of condemnation but One who encourages. When we read the scriptures we don't hear, "If you don't live by this then you are going to die." But, we hear, "live by the Spirit and you won't die, you won't taste death." There's life in it. He wants us to know the seriousness of walking by the Spirit.

All week long, when I would be going through my day, I would think about anything done apart from Him is lawlessness. I got so encouraged because I knew that His heart was to be connected with us. He wasn't demanding something of us that we couldn't give. But all He wanted was for us to be connected to Him. He wants us to walk with Him so that He could have communion with us.

All down through the ages man has been separated from our Father because of sin. But now He is finally getting a people He can walk with, that He can use, because sin is being done away with through our Master's sacrifice.

It just encouraged me so much this week to think that I have an Abba who desires fellowship with me. It made me desire to be connected to Him all the time.

It's so wonderful that we can live by this mystical word, "faith." Actually, we live by Him prodding us, persuading us. Anything we do without that is sin, lawlessness. We do things by Him prodding us. He's the Shepherd. We're the sheep. He gives us direction. He prods our heart. That's how we live. We live by faith. That is what faith is. Faith is being persuaded by Him. He gives us something in our heart to know that we are doing what He wants us to do. If we're in communion with Him, we always live by His direction.

Simchah — I was thankful for how I learned that love is the first fruit and it's the first fruit to go. I was thankful I learned it because I thought I already understood that. I have often lacked self-control in many areas and I still do. I have heard before that if you don't have self-control, then you don't have any of the other fruits of the

spirit. I always thought that you would lose your self-control first then you would lose the rest. I realized that if you lack self-control then you have already lost all the other fruits of the spirit. I was thankful to learn that it's not a complicated thing, but I can realize that I lost my love for my Master, I lost my first love. When you do that it's like a flood, you lose everything else so quickly. I get so tangled up with, "Where did I go off?" "Did I get frustrated?" But it's simple, I can see that I lost my love for our Master. I'm thankful He taught me that this week.

Amen! Everyone needs to hear that. That's why He teaches us. When He teaches us something, it's ours. It belongs to us. But now we have the responsibility of giving it out to others. *"Whoever has my commands and keeps them, he is the one who loves me and I will love them and I will reveal myself to them."* He has revealed Himself to you. So therefore, what He has disclosed to you, you have to give out to others. You just can't hog it all up and just keep it. You've got to give it out. It's your responsibility.

#### **Partners**

**We are partners with Him in His struggle if we maintain our stand under attack, like our Master did. He maintained His fellowship with His Father. He endured. He kept His confidence. So we become partners with Him. Some translations say partakers. We certainly are partakers, but it's better to say "partners." We're partners in the same struggle. He went through the struggle. He didn't lose His fellowship and we can live the same way because we have the same grace, the same Spirit, the same Father as He did. We need to know that.**