July 2001 Intertribal Meetings — Part 5

Tribal Trading

Yadutan – There is "natural" leather made from latex in Brazil that is leing sold to people who want the feel of leather without killing an animal.

Ha-emeq – What do you think of that? Could we use it to make shoes?

Yonah – Yes.

Ha-emeq – We don't want to make any bags or sell anything that is not common sense. We could make our own computer bags.

Aharon – Vegan computer bags!

Ha-emeq – It is good in anything we make to get input from the tribes, what others think and how they could use or sell them. It would also be for the purpose that they could even come up with ideas of their own. *Yadutan showed us some leather bags made in Naftali...*

You have to pay for the labor to make such leather bags. There is a lot of labor in such a thing.

Haggai – In France we have African bags in every market (African leather products) and they are very cheap. They also are a lot of work.

Ha-emeq – Yadutan's bags definitely look like South American work.

Yadutan – We could sell this to you for \$30 wholesale.

David ben B'rith – We would sell it for at least \$65 Canadian. In U.S. it would be at least \$45.

What if we put these out and 500 people wanted these bags, how could we ever have enough to sell?

Ha-emeq – We could only give each tribe to sell what we had from our suppliers. You could get it to where the person making the bag could do it in three hours.

Yadutan – The way it is now they are all hand made.

Ha-emeq – \$30 in Brazil would be an amount they would be thankful to have for their day's labor... Just to have a few bags in our store adds to our flavor. It brings up the whole topic of our tribes in South America.

No Showers During Rush Hour

While all of you are here, it is good to pass things on. There are thirty of us here with two bathrooms. From 7 to 8 in the morning, since we are gathering at 8, that is rush hour. If we are taking showers then, as leaders, certainly others will do it in our communities at home. If we want to take a shower in the morning, we should get up so that we can be done before 7 o'clock. (One hour before the minchah since we all drink our water in the morning – twelve big swallows – and we need to go to the bathroom.) We ought to have showers separate from the toilets as some of you are doing. If they are in the same room it ties up the toilet while someone takes their shower. We don't take showers during rush hour, unless we have our own showers. Can we take that back?

Then people will take that legally and when you have a separate shower, not even associated with a toilet, they will say that people can't take showers then. But it is fine as long as it doesn't hurt anyone. Let's just do unto others, as you would have them do unto you.

Nun – All it requires is common sense.

Maqor – When we think of others as more important than ourselves, we ask, "Is this going to hurt anyone else?" And we train our children that way. Our Master said, "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you" (Mt 7:12). You have heard this all your lives living in a Christian society, but I don't think it worked. I don't think many of us really heard it.

Chanowk – Let's say they set their alarm clock and it didn't work. They can't go to the minchah without taking a shower.

Sehyah – Thinking the best is what our imagination is for.

Our Father gives us this kind of life to test us in every way. Think the best of your brother, but not with gritting teeth.

Tribal Trading

Ha-emeq - As you know, Naftali lives on a very small budget. If you feel like you could buy their leather

bags at a wholesale price before you leave, please do so.

The clothing order came in. That is why Tribal Trading is difficult, since we are caught in the middle. The money had to be there and we had to use someone's inheritance. After we get the money back in as the clothing goes out to the tribe we will be able to make another order.

We should pay for things through Tribal Trading when we order them. It might be hard for you to say, "I can pay you \$20,000 of clothing up front." You are probably in debt in many places due to the DC event. Then, if you get the clothes, you don't know if you are going to sell them or not.

All of the tribes are only drinking Tribal Trading maté.

We discussed how the maté sold to the brothers in Levi is hard for them to market because it has "sticks" in it, which we learned was by design. They help give it the desired flavor. In terms of their own use, they have a four-year supply.

Nahaliel – Do you have a hammer mill? Just grind it up.

Ha-emeq – How much do you really have in your warehouse?

Haggai – 3 or 4 hundred kilos in France.

Yahnathan – We have a year's supply in England.

Nahaliel – We can sell you the cheaper maté.

Ha-emeq – We need to decide whether Tribal Trading is going to be the place that is going to have the funds to carry our payments for a while.

Daniel – The only way Tribal Trading is going to work is for us is to consume the amounts we purchase, and not for us to store them. We are going to have find markets for it in order to justify importing large amounts. That is all that will justify the expenses of importing it, broker's fees, etc.

Ha-emeq – If you can make sure that it is certified organic in Europe...

Yadutan – The maté we have now is certified organic in Europe, by a well-recognized organization in Germany

We talked about shipping boxed maté of some kind versus packaging it ourselves in our tribes.

Ha-emeq – We are going to have to put it on our tea in signs and big labels. Attractive boxes take up a lot of room. I don't know if you could really imagine yourselves packaging it.

Yoceph – *What you would do is create a cottage industry.*

Baruch – One thing they can do in Brazil is to bag it in half-kilo bags. They can be packed in a big bag, and then you can print your own color box or whatever for your mate. (Example of how the granola is printed in Yehu dah, and they run it through again, only printing the black letters for the name and ingredients, when they need more of a particular kind of granola.) In our Father's timing we are about to get into maté right about the time as the rage for maté is rumbling over America. It is going to go from here to Europe.

People come to Manitou Springs from all over the world to see Pike's Peak.

Chanowk – You can buy maté in health food stores all over Germany. It is in the grocery stores. They control the size exactly. They are doing, in interacting with the growers, the same thing we are.

Nahaliel – We can get maté that is half the price of what we are getting for you now. We can get this little maté factory certified organic. You are pa ying for quality. We can get it cut to a certain size.

Ha-emeq – We need to create a name that goes with the kind of quality that we are selling.

Chanowk – They make a boast of selling the best in Germany.

Ha-emeq – We need to make posters, have documentation, and have our people photographed with the people who make the maté.

Mevaser – Can we package our products under Tribal Trading?

Nahaliel – We will have to certify you. If we are going to raise the standard we will have to know that you are going to keep that standard. We have to have character in this whole process. We can't lower our standards and keep on selling.

Baruch – You have the man here at the table, and the other one in your tribe. The one at the table represents both Tribal Trading and your tribe. He is going to stand in the gate and bringing those kinds of issues

to the council, so that such products can be approved. As Common Sense Natural Products, you are buying a bunch of things, some from Tribal Trading and some from other distributors.

Mevaser – Can we sell our maté and salt, which we are getting from you, and sell it as Tribal Trading? Baruch – Yes.

Aharon – I still think we should get the packaging accepted.

Baruch – Right now you are getting maté in a thirty-kilo sack, and salt in a 25 kilo sack. By the time the maté gets there, as we press on to packaging our maté, it will be in a labeled box.

Ha-emeq – If we do what Yoceph was saying, the tribes will package it as a cottage industry. We have gone back and forth many times and have yet to figure out how best to get it packaged. We could have a big poster saying, "Why sticks?"

Nahaliel – The proper proportion in maté is 30% sticks to 70% leaves. That gives it the proper flavor. If we decide that the tribes can have it different ways, we can cut it, grind it, and prepare it however you want it: leaves, powder, with or without sticks, etc. Vacuum packing might be a good solution for some markets. Ha-emeq – Somehow the leaves Chanowk was talking about, you have to use a lot more to get the same flavor. There is a company in the US that promotes it with posters, etc., showing how the natives harvest it and so on.

You can convince people to drink it like they we do in Germany. Chanowk – In wholesale you have to convince the *one* who has to go out to convince the *thousands*.

Israel – In wholesale, you have to have follow-up service. I think we should be stimulated towards doing it, rather than how we can't do it. Germans love quality.

Aharon – And they love to be educated.

Israel – We can't be dreamers either, but ha-emeq is saying we are going to be the best tribal traders. I just want to be stimulated to making it happen. There is so much gifting in the tribes.

Nahaliel – At our events like Washington, DC, Tribal Trading will be assigned the job of promoting maté.

Aharon – I wonder in light of what Israel is saying, whether we shouldn't sell one good product and promote it? Birkenstock doesn't sell all kinds of products, but just one, and then they become the standard.

Baruch – What we do have is this council and what we will have is the round table. And when he said that, really we are quite smart, I thought of how those twenty-four men represent the gifting of an entire nation. That goal at one particular moment may be, "How can we make maté sell?"

All of a sudden things start happening. The most beautiful posters, the wisest words, start coming forth. That kind of thing can come forth on every product we sell. There will be translation issues, but by the time it gets to your tribe, there will be the corporate understanding of our people driving it forward.

Yadutan – I think our Father is going to give us a lot of things. I have been visiting these maté plants, but in five years I can see us having our own maté plantation and processing plants. Then the costs will come down since we will be doing the work ourselves. We are in the beginning stages of everything, but we are going to grow.

Mevaser – There is a community way out in the woods where we live where they started out making nut butters 15 years ago and kept at it. Now they are a huge organization. If we pursue our Father's direction, it is going to grow – whatever we set our hands to.

Ha-emeq – When we talk to our people about the Tribal Trading part of our meeting at home, we can finish by asking, "Do you have any suggestions?"

The representative will come to the next meeting with ideas for banners, products, etc. I would love to see such ideas come forward. There is so much that we could do with salt. We could have so much if we went forward. Were things brought as gifts or what?

Yoceph – The apple cider press was a gift to whoever is going to take care of it.

Nahaliel – It seems like the products like baskets should go into our stores for people's interest to be stimulated by. What we do with them should be thought out and they should not just end up in people's rooms.

Ha-emeq – Don't go to the next meeting thinking about clothes orders. Tell Baruch what you can buy from him before you leave.

Nahaliel – We are looking at a web site called Uruguayan: The recently cut herb is the way the Brazilians like it.

Some web sites say it is better for human consumption to let it rest. These kinds of articles might help us to come to an opinion of our own.

Pricing for the Clothing

Baruch – Tribal Trading will be selling the linen garments for men and women for \$15 to \$20. The prices for cotton garments, T-shirts will be about \$5. It will be around that for the underwear, little less for the women's underwear and T-shirts. Women's nursing bras will sell for \$8 to \$10.

Ha-emeq – If you are going to sell organically grown cotton underwear you are going to have to communicate or even sell liquid soap that is not synthetic and that is not going to destroy the garment's organic qualities

In order to facilitate barter, the round table won't raise the price. They won't take a percent. The price the tribe is able to offer you a product for, plus shipping, will be the price you receive from them. Baruch – We will distribute a summary of the things we have learned about Tribal Trading. For now Tribal Trading will communicate monthly in the Communicator. In the future it will have its own newsletters.

Out of the Old and into the New

I just want to make sure that we all understand something. Some people have not yet understood it or passed it on to their people. They are not having married couple's meetings and single brother's meetings in order to talk about certain things they need to understand. This comes out of the old and into the new. It is from Lev 15:16-18. In this day and age, people probably wouldn't understand it. I don't think anyone else does this. We are bringing things out of the old into the new. We apply it in a different way in this age.

There are a lot of things we haven't come to rest about. When a woman is on her menstrual period, should she be breaking bread? Is it right that this should happen? Should they miss the breaking of bread on their period? How about their forty and eighty days after giving birth? Should they come to the minchot and the breaking of bread during that time?

What He has revealed to us we share. What He hasn't, we don't share. What we do know is Lev 15. It speaks about when a man has a seminal emission. (The only reason I am talking about this is because there is a lot of mix up.)

"Now if a man has a seminal emission, he shall bathe all of his body in water and be unclean until evening" (Lev 15:16).

What does that mean? Does it mean you can't go to the minchah if you have a seminal emission at night? We say that you can, if you bathe all over before you go. We say the same thing to the single brothers. We don't give license to the single brothers to masturbate all the time and kill themselves.

Masturbation is not the word we want to use, as it is some negative thing from the Catholic Church. I'm not sure what we should call it. Some boys have been really disciplined for the bad terms they used. I don't know where they came from. Then some of the girls hear about it and they spread it.

Coming to a meeting like this, although we haven't applied it so much, we wouldn't have emissions of semen the whole time we were there. Certain meetings we wouldn't have an emission of semen for three days beforehand. Is it just the lack of cleanliness or is it strength, stamina, and mental alertness? People don't live a long time that emit semen all the time from their bodies. You would want to give all your alertness to such a meeting as this. That might be something we want to consider. You are not thinking about such things, but you are concentric on the meetings and the issues coming forth.

Maybe that is why it says to wait until evening after an emission of semen. If you want to apply it by the letter... We have to understand why it says that. Of course, verse 16 is separate from verse 18. In verse 16 it is something that happens when you are alone, by yourself, or the result of a nocturnal emission. We just have to be careful that we don't say to our children, "Okay, anytime you want to do it, fine, it is not a sin." But we don't want them thinking about it all the time, preoccupied. Some boys create more semen than others. We have to take these things into account. We have to consider in masturbation whether it is from an evil spirit tempting you, making you have evil thoughts, or is it a natural thing? We have to help our youth understand, and everyone else, to determine whether we are being tempted by an evil spirit.

The Catholic Church made masturbation worse than having sex with a nun or participating in a homosexual act. The Puritans brought it down as well. Make sure that we don't pass condemnation on to our children. But we don't want them to feel the liberty to masturbate every time the urge comes. They have to have good judgment. I don't want to make a law, but here we are.

Lev 15:17 – "As for any garment on which there is seminal emission it is unclean until evening."

Well, why don't we wait until we have Wednesday Afternoon Affairs and Sabbath Child Care? The Wednesday Afternoon Affairs is focused on our children, that they could have a marvelous time, whatever we want to do with them. The way our community is at night makes it very difficult to come together because you are tired. Maybe if we could have two days a week that we could be together it would take care of that and enhance our married life.

A lot of wives have come to me about their overaggressive husband who can never be satisfied. Is it an over-seminal production or an evil spirit that has come in? There has got to be a looking forward to it on the wife's part. It is good for a man, health-wise, to be with his wife at least twice a week, maybe three times, but some self control is healthy. It seems logical, but maybe I am putting something on some brothers. For some wives, the hus band is so aggressive, wanting to be intimate so often, that the wife really doesn't enjoy it.

David Zerubbabel – Our sexual need will depend on what our mind is focused on.

On the other hand we know some people who haven't been with their wives for two months. I ask, "Well, what do you do on the Sabbath?" There is always some answer.

Nahaliel – When you go long periods of time without coming together, the wife starts to have problems with you and becomes insecure.

Some people don't have desire for their wives. One brother who was that way is no longer living. Neglect is hate, lacking compassion and mercy.

Haggai – Some people came into the community with the idea you should only come together to have children. Then the couple becomes weird because they go so long without being intimate.

Nahaliel – Our experience proves that we should have real caution with those who want it every night. When your mind is on having sexual relationships, you start producing semen. They are usually receiving from a sexual spirit. They usually are being stimulated by something unclean.

Aharon – Our life is so busy that sometimes we get to the end of the week hardly having talked to our wife. When we do, it opens her up and sets her at ease.

A lot of the people are not with us today because our Father allowed them to be tempted. It was to the degree that they couldn't resist; all because they weren't in fello wship... I have wondered about some of these aggressive youth, who were always talking about sex, like Amaz. I wonder if he came to the minchah unclean. How many times did he do it? Did they come to the Breaking of Bread that way? An unclean playing of music doesn't please our Father either.

Verse 18, "If a man a lies with a woman..." Right now we gather morning and evening. If we have an emission of semen at night, we bathe all over before we come to the minchah. If our youth would have a proper fear of that, maybe they wouldn't end up in the places some of them have.

That is in the Old Testament. Is there anything in the New Testament that speaks to this? Everything has to go to the edge of the robes. Just like this morning, it should have gone to the edge of the robe about not taking showers during rush hour. Once we come to the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for our sins. Isn't that good? Then we can come to a proper fear of Him in establishing our brand new culture. Heb 10:19 forward is speaking of the minchah. Heb $10:21 - \dots$ let us then draw near with a true heart." Let us come forward with our bodies and draw near with our hearts. That is what it means. Let us come with a true heart, full confidence. We are clean inwardly and outwardly. We come in full confidence and assurance, being persuaded, having our hearts sprinkled clean (by the blood of our Master) and then our bodies washed with pure water. That connects us with Lev 15.

Baruch – #5204 has to do with rain, especially a shower.

If you took a bath, you would shower off afterwards.

That is bringing the old into the new. Once we come to the knowledge of the truth and keep on sinning "in that

way", there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, but a terrifying expectation for judgment. That can help explain all the people who were ousted. When the race begins there will never be a time when we go before Him unclean, spiritually or physically.

We can always be legal, but if we are sincere, we won't do that. We have to teach these things to our children, the youth, and the single people, especially the males. If they do relieve themselves, they need to shower. I hate the word *masturbate*. When they do it a lot and make a joke out of it the girls who do the laundry can be defiled.

I hope everyone already knew this and has already passed it on to their children and their people.

Leviticus goes on to deal with when a woman is on her cycle.

Nun – Isn't there another place where it speaks of keeping your body in honor?

Nahaliel – Not in passion of lust... The object of sexual intercourse is not an end in itself; it is part of their relationship together.

1 Ths 4:3-4 – They don't know what it means when it says, "Each one knows how to possess his own vessel... Let no man defraud his brother in the matter... We have been called for the purpose of purity... Whoever rejects this rejects the Lord." What does this mean, "defraud his brother in the matter?"

Sho'er – What if it is also what you were talking about a few minutes ago, coming pure to a meeting? If you don't, you are defrauding (cheating) your brothers.

We just have to be priests. We can't be like the world. We have to know that sex is not evil. It is good. But it is inappropriate before some meetings, as we see in Ex 19:10. In war, what would happen? They weren't thinking about going to bed with their wives. They weren't thinking about masturbation either. Shoresh – Then there was the heart of Uriah the Hittite (2 Sam 11).

I cried over that, his heart.

Mevaser – This is an essential way we have to *visit* our people, to help our brothers think good thoughts. When we go by a magazine rack, we are not going to be attracted to that. But if we are thinking about it before, then we are receiving those actual spirits. If we have been in the world, and have been touched by that spirit, then we are going to have to deal with it continually. That is how we prove our love for our Master, by overcoming as an individual each thing we have been affected and touched by. If we grew up in the world, we have these memories.

We have tried to forgive even men who have come in the community from doing those kinds of perverted things in the world. We know they are forgiven and cleansed. They have to deal with that particular thing they have been touched by. Satan has an avenue. The door has to be closed.

Yachin – That is the only way we are going to put all those enemies under our Master's feet, by us putting each of those enemies under our feet.

We all have things to overcome. It might be eating, sports, or pornography. We may have been touched by hundreds of things. It is going to show our love and loyalty to our Master.

Sho'er – I thought of Rom 16:20, "And the God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet..."

He will do it by His Spirit, by His communion with our spirit. He is not going to do it regardless of what we are doing. Let us just help our people by letting them see that. That is why we need to have lots of showers. If you need to be cleansed in the morning, you are not justified if you wait for rush hour. Get up before.

Nun – The glory of youth is their strength. That is something we could pass on to them.

Never make them feel condemned unless they have an abnormality, an aberration.

Nun – We want to be able to develop self-judgment in our youth.

Shimon the Black told me he didn't know how to masturbate until someone in the community told him. Later a new boy in the block came in and told another boy, who told him. They learn how to release themselves quickly and then it transfers over to their wives and they have premature ejaculations. Then they may not be able to satisfy their wives unless they do it another way. It is a bad habit that you develop. You can relieve yourselves without all those thoughts. The evil thoughts are what is sinful.

Kephir – In our intimate relationship with our wife, we give our strength to her. Our essence is in our seed. But when the men of Israel went to war, they would give their strength to that. Of course if they had an emission,

they would step aside because of their weakness or they would be a hindrance to their fellow soldiers.

Even in sports, the coaches tell you not to do it before a game.

Nahaliel – Unless you give your vigor to others and your years to the cruel one (Pr 5:9).

Heb 10:22 (from verse 19) has brought Lev 15:16-18 into the New Covenant. Wash all over – what does that mean? Sinks in our bedroom only take care of what we need to take care of before we go to the bathroom; they are not a substitute for showers. Are there any questions?

Mevaser Malak – What kind of meetings would you like to prepare yourselves for? I don't know, something like this.

Aharon – What about a circumstance that came where you couldn't get that shower in before the minchah? You would be justified by your elder for the extenuating circumstances of not being able to get a shower in time. They would do this with discretion. You might be late or you might miss the minchah because of this.

By the way, don't listen to anyone who is consistently late for the minchah. We have to have a healthy fear about being on time.

Emet – How about hair? Should we wash our hair each time?

Do you want me to be first or last in the Kingdom? You can know yourself whether you can skip washing your hair or not. If your wife wants to put her hair up in a shower cap, I guess that's up to you; maybe you should do so, too.

Our Father will judge us on the law. Do we obey the spirit of the law or the letter? We will have to judge these things ourselves.

Haggai – What I think is that we have to do for others what we would like them to do to us. For me I have total peace that my wife and I take showers. My wife doesn't like to go out and wait for showers. She feels unclean at that time and would like privacy until she is clean. We have to provide many showers. We have twenty in Tabitha's Place.

Those who do aerobics take showers; so coming with wet hair is not a noticeable thing at the minchah. Since we can give up sleep for working on a project, we can give it up for our wives.

Nahaliel – Work, work, but that is another thing that comes under our control.

If we had Wednesday Afternoon Affairs it would really help.

Yoceph – How about the first year?

Yes, they are supposed to cheer their wives up.

The Communicator and E-mail

David Zerubbabel – We decided to have another regular publication for certain things we needed to communicate outside of the ITN. At a certain time of the month, articles would be sent in. I would edit it and assemble it and distribute it.

The leaders were to make sure that all who needed to hear about it did so. We could count on everyone hearing it I have heard in some places that the elders or leading brothers haven't been hearing about it. This defeats the purpose. I haven't gotten many things sent to me, but there are a few things every month.

We have all seen it, right?

David Zerubbabel – It is addressed to the leaders. Copies are not to be left lying around.

Nahaliel – The original conception of this was for Yoneq to be able to communicate to us about sensitive topics (as well as other uses). I don't know how dependable it will be for that since it flies through the Internet. We get teachings that are sent to us and sometimes they are out of context. We don't know what it is directed to. The Communicator would be the context filler. Sometimes you might want to tell us that someone in your community left that would be a prime example for us, although it should be well judged before it goes out.

Chanowk – Should that be a place where certain judgments that are made are communicated? I happened to know about such things as what happened to Amaz and Zebulun. It was confusing, though.

Mevaser – It happens all the time in Manasseh.

David Zerubbabel – This is just a monthly publication. Some things we will have to communicate in between.

Nun – Like what Yoneq has been doing throughout this meeting.

Nahaliel – Hearing about that incident from my sister was beneficial for us because it brought fear to us. This was very good for me, since it brought fear to me. She just happened to have come right afterwards. It is kind of the intention of this is that we would have the Communicator for important things.

It makes us all a fraternity of leaders.

Mevaser – We benefit from what you are learning from in your tribe.

Let's send it to the tribal heads and they would decide whom it needed to go to. If they care about their tribe, they will make sure it gets to whom it needs to go to.

E-mail

David Zerubbabel – The April issue of the Communicator has an article about e-mail and Internet usage. We have offices with computers set up and brothers going there for Internet access. I wish you could go back and read that article to see if what is happening in your community is good.

Everyone seems to have an e-mail address. People say, "No one responds to e-mail." Then we have many telephone and multiplying cell phones. Our hope is that we could have telegraph offices and faithful messengers. Then we found that we had youth in our communities with "Hotmail" addresses using e-mail every chance they got. I just wanted to draw your attention back to that article.

Any of us can fall. We have to take heed to our own spirits and have a proper fear of these things. Let's read the Communicator and contribute to it.

Baruch – With e-mail, questions that should normally be addressed at the local government level have gone to the tribal government, or even to Yoneq and ha-emeq. It can be easier than going to the local government. Rampant disorder starts to break out.

David Zerubbabel – No one should get an e-mail address or a computer without being covered. It should be very clear who is using them and why.

Encryption

David Zerubbabel – The last topic I had in mind was encryption. I would like us to have a standard mechanism to scramble our e-mails so that they cannot be read along the way. Without they are like a postcard, anyone with the know-how and determination can read them. It is not as easy as I would like it to be. But please talk with me about it if you do not know how to do it.

This is the 23rd anniversary of the first baptisms in Island Pond: Keli, Yachin and Savav.

First Aid Concerns

We might try to get someone like Hoshua to our meeting to speak to us about getting essential first aid into all of our communities. They could take care of some things and help judge others.

Remember, Aharon has told us we can use tea tree oil and eliminate our cavities.

Shoresh – If it doesn't work we can have a class action lawsuit against Aharon.

Aharon - Now remember, I said it worked for me...