

## To Worship Him in Spirit and Truth Requires Diligence

Eliezer — Zemirah and I went to a historical society meeting today. 22 people were there, all born and raised in this area. They were very respectful and kind to each other. It was a nice group of people. We have a great responsibility to represent our Father in this town. Those people want a museum for their town, but haven't been able to bring it about. We want to bring a gallery here if it's our Father's will. People in this town will love it. They will be startled with what we'll be able to present to them of the history of the world. We'll tie it in with local history.

Yadonah — I am thankful for our Father's purpose. It will change the whole world. I am thankful to be involved in it and not just be doing things in the world. Before I came to the community for many years I used to make a list every evening of the things that needed to be done the next day. My purpose the next day was to fulfill it. That was my satisfaction, to check these things off the next day. That was my life before I came into the edah. Our Father is saving us, setting us free from all of that. There are many out there who belong to Him that are depending on us to put His enemies under His feet. I am thankful to be part of that and to be set free more and more every day from things that had such a tenacious hold on me.

Ha-êmeq — 1 Tim 3:15 speaks about how we are to conduct ourselves in the edah. Christians think it means to be careful how you act when you go to church. Be careful how you act from 11 am to 12 am on Sunday morning. Is that what it talks about? Be careful about your behavior, how you are acting during the day in the edah, the pillar and foundation of the truth.

I got a letter from Caleb in Manitou Springs, Colorado. They really need a house there. Today they went to see one. It was the one they really liked. They saw the first floor, the second floor, the third floor. Then they wanted to see the basement, the foundation. They were told that they couldn't see the basement until after they made their offer. For some reason the people selling the house didn't want anybody to look at the basement. Someone told them that the foundation is broken. Shomer, who understands much about these things, saw how the staircase was slightly shifted. There were a few other things he detected.

We have to be careful how we behave in the edah. Our Father doesn't want us to hide the foundation. The edah is the pillar and foundation of the truth and it's all about how you drive, take care of your

brothers, wash the dishes, etc. Our Father is teaching us what godly behavior is. He is telling everyone, “You can see everything. Look at the foundation. I am proud of it. We’ll show you everything.” Otherwise we’ll be Christianity all over again. We say great things, but how do we treat the person besides us? That’s the true religion. The world doesn’t need another Christianity. It needs the good foundation.

Jn 4:21-24 — The true worshippers worship in spirit and truth. This goes with 1 Tim 3:15, the pillar and foundation of the truth. The woman at the well didn’t know what she was worshipping. Verse 23 — The time was coming they wouldn’t just worship in a certain particular place on earth, on a mountain or in the temple, but in every locality of every tribe of Israel.

Spirit and truth go together. You can’t worship in spirit without truth, and you can’t worship in truth without the Spirit. In the minchah you worship in spirit and truth, but if we give thanks and pray and speak mighty words and then go on to our jobs and it is not like we said, then it’s not spirit and truth.

To worship in spirit is not a natural, mental way, but it’s to worship with the Holy Spirit right alongside our spirit (1 Cor 6:17).

Truth is the unveiled reality lying at the basis of and agreeing with the appearance; the manifested or the veritable essence of matter; the reality pertaining to the appearance; the reality lying before our eyes, opposite to a mere appearance without reality. That’s how *truth* is explained in Greek. The reality pertaining to the appearance — so what do you do when no one is looking?

All of us are of the truth because we heard our Master’s voice (Jn 18:37; 4:24).

### **Diligence Leads to Honor**

Dan 9:23 — Daniel was honored; that means he was held in high esteem in the eyes of our Father. He was highly esteemed, honored, beloved, most loved by our Father. Jn 12:26 — We too will be honored if we serve Him where He is, with diligence.

Diligence is a man's greatest possession. What does it mean? We were looking at some property. There is a time set for you to find out everything about the property, perhaps 30 to 90 days, according to how you agree in the contract. This is a time for diligence. You discover things in that time, but you have to be diligent to discover these things. What's wrong with that basement? If we find something wrong, we get our down payment back. That's in the contract. You have to be diligent to look into the matter to see whether it's sound, solid, whether it's worth the price. If not, you don't buy it. If you have diligence you will discover it.

If a person has diligence he will discover first how much our Father loves him, how He saved him, changed his eternal destiny. It's all available to us by reading and studying the scriptures. Everything we need to overcome is available to us. We need to have perseverance and endurance because we have to go through certain things.

Zakar and Zerubbabel have been working on the fireplace in the new house. They are very diligent in their work. They find out what's good, what will hold and what will not. What they are doing will not fall apart in five years from now. If it fell apart, people would ask, "Who did this job?" "Oh, it was the two sons of Obadiah." That wouldn't be too good for them.

There is always a reason why we fail, why it doesn't go well with us. We see many children and adults like this. But then we also see many children it *has* gone well with. They are persevering, overcoming. They don't get discouraged. They don't have a discouraging spirit, an accusing spirit. The accusing spirit comes to them, but they don't listen to it.

Pr 12:24 — Do you wonder why diligence is a man's greatest possession?

There is always a reason we fail to prosper. We just confess our sin but we don't forsake it. Pr 28:13 — We confess over and over and over and over, but we don't forsake our sin. We are in the rut. It's not being very diligent. Being diligent in confessing doesn't

do any good if you don't forsake your sin. If you forsake your sin, then come mercy and compassion.

We actually shouldn't be any less esteemed than Daniel. We shouldn't even be any less esteemed than our Master. He was highly esteemed. If we suffer with Him we'll share His glory, we'll be esteemed along with Him.

God is Spirit. Jn 4:24 — To worship in spirit and truth is the only way we can worship. This entails all our time and effort. There is nothing else we live for. It is an amazing life. Christians don't see this. Nothing we do is excluded from worshiping and serving Him. There is a continual worship and serving going on in the twelve tribes (Acts 26:7).<sup>1</sup>

We must know what diligence really means and worship in spirit and truth. The reality must go along with the appearance. It is not just the appearance that matters. Heb 4:12-13 — You can't shine God on. He sees everything. We might as well have the reality behind the appearance because it will come out some day anyway. "Let's be real," as the old saying goes.

Eliezer — Mt 22:37-40 — To love Him with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength requires every last bit of your being, every fiber. If you do this, what else is left? Then of course you do the same for your neighbor.

We said in the Vine House, "Don't love your brother in the other house if you can't love the brother on the top bunk." Your neighbor is right there next to you. Maybe you don't have a hard time with the brother you don't see, but you might have a hard time with the brother you do see.

Mt 22:37-40 — Our Master was talking about this in the context of the nation, not in the world. We lay down our life for everyone in order to build up the nation. This is the greatest commandment. Love fulfills the whole law.

Neriyah — 1 Jn 2:3-6; 4:12-13 — You could think of the Holy Spirit in a mystical way, but His Spirit is love. Love bears all things. Love doesn't react

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<sup>1</sup> See also *Worship is a Way of Life* (2003.08.01-A01) and *The Sunrise from on High* (2003.08.07-P01).

to the brothers. Love sets us free. We know we're of the truth because we have the Spirit to love, not to fake it, but to love. We don't get jammed up by our brothers' sins. We overlook their faults.

Of course also if you see someone caught in a trespass you who are spiritual go to him and restore him. That's love (Gal 6:1).

Obadiah — Isa 26:9 — The NAS says *diligently*; NKJ says *early*. It's like Pr 13:24 — *diligently, early*.

In 2 Tim 2:15, "be diligent" (NKJ) and "study" (KJV) mean the same thing. To seek Him early is diligently, earnestly. Don't let the stain get set. Get it early enough to get it out. Give it the attention it needs early enough, then you don't need any other treatment to get it out. If you sin a sin over and over, then it may become indelible. Not loving your brother could cause an indelible stain.

If we seek Him early He'll let us find Him. 1 Chr 28:9 is probably one of the best verses in the Bible. We're building this temple, not out of bricks and stone, but a spiritual temple out of human beings. If you don't seek Him, He'll reject you forever — lasting for an age.

Obadiah — Not long ago I typed something up that Yônêq shared with us during his last stay in Levi. It spoke about the difficulties Solomon would face in building and especially in maintaining the temple.<sup>2</sup> In 1 Chr 28:9 David encourages and charges Solomon. It says twice in there, "Be courageous and act." It takes courage to build the temple, to live this life.

Heb 4:12 — There are too many cowards. He wants those who have courage. It takes courage to drink the waters of life. The cowards and unbelieving don't drink. You have to overcome anything that keeps you from eternal life. That's what overcoming means. Zerubbabel has to overcome everything that would keep him from drinking the waters of life.

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<sup>2</sup> See *Cutting off our Iniquities in order to Maintain the Light until the End* (1999.08.23-P01).