

Instruction for Leaders

(from several government meetings with the leaders of Shimon)

Apostolic Authority

There were seven “angels” over the seven apostolic centers mentioned in Revelation 2 and 3. A letter was addressed to “the angel of the church in Ephesus.” It’s not an *angel*, but a *messenger*. If I wanted to communicate with the tribe of Shimon for some reason, who would I communicate with? Who would I write to? You wouldn’t write to just anyone because it may not be the one who would have the grace to get the message out to the whole tribe, or to the whole apostolic center, or to the whole edah.

There are seven apostolic centers in a tribe, and no one center is above the others. The tribal head would coordinate things between all the centers, and each center would have a messenger over it.

Every elder has a deacon. There is no elder without a deacon. He’s your legman. He’s the one who carries out things. And you can have many — as many as you need — people you delegate to. The messenger of the apostolic center has many people he delegates to. That’s what the tribal head does also. He’s not just one person, but he has many people he works with. But of course he’s the tribal head.

If I were to write a letter to the tribe of Reuben, who would I communicate to so that I would have confidence that it would be communicated with grace and authority to the rest of the people? Right now it would be Haggai. But maybe Haggai will work inter-tribally. We don’t know yet. Let’s wait until the Race begins, or until just before, when everything will be set in order. We have to find out who loves to be first. You can tell who loves to be first.

It is wonderful that I can be in communication with people who have the same mind as I, not with glory seekers or oppositional thinkers, but those who say, “Father, I

just want to be used the way that I have the ability and the grace to do it.” Anything else would be destructive.

1 Cor 3:9-17 — If we build with natural abilities the temple will be destroyed. There is no way we can get out of it. If anyone destroys the temple, he will be destroyed. Someone like that will be saved through the fire. If anyone wants to be the tribal head and functions in his natural strength, and he’s a little bit jealous, that will destroy.

If you have authority from our Father you don’t have to protect it or defend it. He will take care of that. If I have authority from our Father and I’m not received, I can’t say, “What do you mean? I’m the authority here. Why don’t you do what I say?” Our Father takes care of that. It’s His authority. He has delegated it to us. He knows who He can delegate His authority to, and who He can’t.

If someone is in authority who doesn’t have the ability in the first place, it will be destructive. As Jn 7:18 says, some people seek the glory of our Master, and some seek their own glory. A lot of people like hearing themselves speak. Whoever wants to be the tribal head, stand up. I’m sure no one would. But who is there who wants to be and didn’t stand up? That’s how we are going to be destroyed, or how we’ll progress.

In Jn 7:18, is that someone in the Body or outside the Body? Our Master knew there would always be two kinds of people. If there’s strife and falsehood it will destroy because it’s Satan’s sin. He passes that sin right on to us if he can. Our Master always sought the glory of His Father. Satan wanted his own glory. He wanted to be equal and ascend.

Paul said if you lay hands on a new convert too quickly he participates in Satan’s sin. He will get proud. He could become a tyrant, arrogant, function in his own authority, seek his own glory. So we have to judge ourselves right, go to the throne of grace ourselves, and confess these things if they come to us. Our Father wants to know what we’ll do with it if they do come. You can’t say, “Oh, that never comes to me.” That could be a form of pride in itself. Even our Master was tempted. If Satan can’t take us

over, he will be destroyed; he knows that. In the first church the bishopric system came in with men clamoring to be first. Who is going to be the Vicar of Christ? That's what happened in the second century.

A leader sees the need more quickly than anyone else. And then what does he do? He acts, he leads. So you see he has ability. But if he doesn't have grace added to that ability he's burying his talent. Mt 25:14-15 — Talents were given to everyone according to their ability. Otherwise it would be like operating an automobile without gas.

Everyone recognizes grace and faith. Don't think too highly of yourself, but only according to the grace and faith given to you. That has to be recognized. Spiritual men recognize it. Whoever is receiving the greatest revelation from our Master Yahshua, he's the one you submit to.

"Where two or three are gathered together in My name..." If you don't have two or three, you don't even have an edah. You can't have anything in you against the other brothers, no grudges, nothing of the past. If we come together in our Master Yahshua's name, we gather in His name, He will give us the understanding of who we have to submit to, of who has the greater grace. That's how we conduct our meetings. Rom 12:3 — The one who has the greatest faith is the one you follow.

Can two walk together if they don't agree? Is there vindictiveness? If you hold something against a brother, you don't forgive, you've already made a judgment, you look at him that way; it's a spiritual thing, not a natural thing. Eph 4:2-3 — We have to forbear with one another, forgive one another, to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

The day will come when those with apostolic gifting will go and establish communities. Malak will have his community, Ben Jessed will have his community, etc. If we don't LOVE one another, it will be disaster. If anyone is a tyrannical leader our Father might take his life, like Diotrephes in 3 John. He'll lead him into a temptation he can't resist to cause him to fall flat on his face, to show him he's just operating without

grace. 1 Cor 16:22 — Whoever doesn't love our Master Yahshua, let him be accursed. Then he said, "Maranatha!" That means, "Come down and do it — cut him off."

Every single member has to be in absolute communion with one another and with the head. If we aren't then we'll have problems.

Keeping the Sabbath

Num 15:31 — How much worse is working on the Shabbat than picking up sticks? We maybe should have been killed for picking up sticks. The purpose of the Preparation Day is to gather sticks and put them as close to the fire as possible. They probably had to gather sticks all day. Verse 34 — They put him in custody because it had to be considered what should be done with him. He could have done it on the Preparation Day. It's pretty serious, isn't it? So should we even consider breaking the Sabbath? Sometimes we do these things.

In Vista on Thursday night (the beginning of Preparation Day) EVERYONE cleans the whole house, including gathering wood for the Shabbat. Preparation Day is not just to pray, but also to get things ready for the Shabbat, so you don't have to cook and you can do as little work as possible around the house. That's not the regular work we do to make a living, but it makes for a more pleasant and restful Shabbat. There's no one who does cooking on the Shabbat.

Working in Coordination

I wouldn't dare think I know more than anyone else. I have to go to Keli, or Chanowk, or whoever for counsel. That's how the Body functions. Nobody knows how the Body functions except the Holy Spirit. Christians know nothing about how the Body functions. It's a miraculous thing in the last day (Col 1:18). Eph 1:22-23 also says the church is the Body. If you don't discern the Body right you condemn yourself in the breaking of the bread. It's obvious that you don't discern the Body right if you don't function in coordination. You just use your own tongue, not the tongue of others. You're

thinking more highly of yourself, not of others. Is that how it should be? So why don't we just pray, "Father, lead me into temptation if I'm not humble. Let me stumble; show where I'm at"?

Accusations against Elders

Paul told Timothy not to listen to anyone who has an accusation against an elder, but get one or two witnesses. 1 Tim 5:19 — He's saying this to Timothy. "If you go to these communities and someone there has an accusation against an elder, don't take him by his word." He told him not to receive someone who says, "This elder is this way or that way," unless there are two or three others who have the same concern, and give witness to it. One person could just be Satan's advocate. That's how you should be with the elders.

I guess we are all elders in a certain way. None has been ordained, had hands laid upon, etc. The day will come when people will lay hands on those who will be the overseers. Don't talk bad about an elder unless you want to bring trouble upon yourself. We are talking among ourselves right now. When you have elders' meetings, that's the first thing you do — you guard one another and make sure you are in fellowship.

In the elders' meetings we have to start as in 1 Pet 1:22, "Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart." And, "Finally, all of you be of one mind, having compassion for one another; love as brothers, be tenderhearted, be courteous; not returning evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary blessing, knowing that you were called to this, that you may inherit a blessing" (1 Pet 3:8-9). In every meeting we have to receive this blessing and pass it on to the other parts of the Body. This unity is something contagious. How will we pass it on if we don't have it — compassion, love, unity? Sometimes it's not easy, but we have to reach this one mind about everything.

If one person comes to me and he has an accusation against an elder, what am I to do? Believe that one person? It turns me against that person. What I would do is go to the elders and ask them about the person who had the accusation. We have to be very, very careful not to receive accusations. Satan is the accuser of the brethren. Just think, if someone comes to me, and the evil one put him up to it, and then I receive bad thoughts about that elder, I would be judged for receiving those thoughts. But if one of you sees a brother in sin and you don't go to him, you are worse than him. Jn 12:26 — Those who are being honored go to those who aren't being honored.

In BOY, some of the older brothers saw all these problems with the younger brothers. I told them, "Go to them and confront them with it. Why do you come to me?" Something amazing happened. It won them and things got worked out right in the workplace. That's how the Body functions. Those brothers are all born here, and they are taking the lead, you can see. They are very perceptive; they know what's going on. But they were sweeping things under the rug. After a while of doing that... it stinks.

Keeping Traditions and Staying Fit

ha-êmeq noticed that we sell chocolate chip cookies in the store, and we've been trying to get rid of chocolate. The last time I tasted chocolate in a cookie I threw it down. I was addicted to chocolate and it was making me fat. We don't want our children to get hooked on chocolate. It's a chocolate world because they know that's what sells. The world wants to get you hooked on chocolate. They sell it to you at all the gas stations. I think you ought to replace it with carob.

You have to judge yourself on coffee. I tell people, "Look, you are going on a trip, so drink coffee because that's what it's for." But we don't drink it all the time. We think maté is good for you, but if you drink it thousand times a day it won't be good for you. If you want to drink wine, you might be strong, but someone else who looks at you might pattern his life after you.

2 Ths 2:15; 3:6 — This is speaking of traditions, things that we do or don't do. Our Father wants a holy people. Not to smoke is certainly our tradition. We don't drink wine because it says to not be drunk on wine, but be filled with the Spirit. Someone has to establish certain traditions. Who will do it?

It's the same thing with butter — we use olive oil; we don't need butter. Why don't you accept that? Of course, it won't hurt you if you have it once in a while. I'm not saying you can't eat butter. If you want to get fat, eat butter, but you certainly won't enter the kingdom, not with that excess fat that you could have done something about.

We could make light of it, make jokes about it, but when our Master calls us, only the faithful will be taken. If you don't do something about that extra fat there's something wrong in your spirit. We do elbow exercises. Do you know what those are? It's one thing you can do to lose weight. It's when you push yourself away from the table when someone tries to serve you more.

Excess weight is not pleasing to our Father. Some people just have hormone problems and they get fat. Our Father doesn't judge us for that, but He does judge us for a lack of self-control, and each person knows in his conscience what is at work in him. But I don't have to be fat. I'm back down to normal weight since I don't eat butter or chocolate or the other things people consistently eat and get fat on. These are just simple traditions.

We recently read in the *Intertribal News* that the bulging stomach is coming up in the edah. When you don't exercise self-control or do stomach exercises this is what happens. These aren't disciples. Do you think they are? They are not *disciplined*.

Our tradition is to drink water, eat pumpkin seeds, and all the things we know are good for you, like vinnie. Our Father wants a healthy people. So if you see a brother with a stomach bulging out, go to him. How can we walk down the street witnessing to someone with our belly bulging out? I think all the elders like that should resign. It shows they don't have self-control. Don't even listen to an elder who has his belly

bulging out. Shouldn't we help people when we see that their belly protrudes? If you see a brother in need, you have to go to him, or you are just as fat as he is, because you are afraid of him.

Everyone can do stomach exercises. You don't have to do a whole lot, but just be consistent. Some people run and run and run. I think getting into jogging could be another spirit. Some people get up at 4:30 in the morning to go jogging. That could be another spirit. You can do exercises on your own; it doesn't take a long time.

If a brother doesn't receive you, you have to take another one. And if he doesn't receive them, you take him to the qahal. If he doesn't receive the qahal he has to be treated as an unbeliever. If you don't do that you are worse than him. You have to read what our Master said in Matthew 18. It's up to him to receive or not receive you. But it's up to you to judge the matter if he keeps on sinning in this way. After that, none of his sins will be forgiven. That's the thing you need to do to help the man. Otherwise he'll die or be a bad representation.

Be careful about your stomach after a certain age, because your muscles relax. You have to keep them strong. How are your stomach muscles? You may have a tendency, an inherited problem. So just drink water first, do exercises, get Colon Care, and make sure you don't eat too much.

Do we love our brothers enough to go to them? Our Father is testing you to see what you'll do. If he doesn't receive you, you take him to a greater council.

Our Master said we have the keys to the kingdom. You can open up the kingdom for them if you help them see their need. The worst thing that happens is everybody gets fat. Everyone in America gets fat, everyone in Europe gets fat. So people ought to ask, "How come you all aren't fat?"

ha-êmeq — It says that our Master went about the villages healing the sick. Our Master was moved with compassion for the people. He saw that they were sheep without a shepherd. You talked about the leader being someone with compassion. All the leaders should be that way, not just one.

The one who really cares about the people, he is the one you should follow — the one who talks to the sheep, he who has a sleep-denying concern. Our Master loves the leaders who care about everything, not that they want to run everything. He wants these characteristics in the leaders. Their compassion makes them want to care for the people.

Just looking around the circle in the minchah makes you want to speak, because you see they are like sheep without a shepherd. Are you just going to stand there, thinking, “I don’t have much to share today”? Are you not even going to speak? If the shepherd were moved with compassion he would stand back and say, “Oh, my sheep look dirty. I need to help them.”

Or, “They have a pudgy belly.”

Fellowship among the Leaders

If our yes is not yes, and our no is not no, it means that we are hearing from the evil one. We don’t do what we say. Our Master said, “Let your ‘Yes’ be ‘Yes,’ and your ‘No’ be ‘No.’ For whatever is more than these is from the evil one.” (Mt 5:37)

Leaders need to be friends. We can’t do anything if we’re not one as the Father and the Son are one, if we don’t have the same mind.

ha-êmeq — In Gen 49 it said, “Simeon and Levi are brothers; instruments of cruelty are in their dwelling place. Let not my soul enter their council; let not my honor be united to their assembly; for in their anger they slew a man, and in their self-will they hamstrung an ox. Cursed be their anger, for it is fierce; and their wrath, for it is cruel! I will divide them in Jacob and scatter them in Israel.” (Gen 49:5-7)

That’s such an awesome, terrible warning for us. That’s the enemy you’d always be on guard for. If you have such a prophecy about your tribe you’d be particularly alert for it. If you have division in your council our Father is not there. They said meetings would go on for hours and hours without you coming to any decision, so you would just get on.

You might say, “Oh, ‘fierce wrath and anger,’ that’s not me. I just had a different opinion about something.” Even your yes not being yes shows there isn’t unity because our Father is not in that council.

It’s certainly prophetic to what’s in Shimon, even now, to what you have to overcome. We’ve talked about it in Levi before. Levi and Shimon tend to have a

vindictive spirit. “Let my soul not be united in their council.” You all know this very well and ought to judge yourselves about any division. All the men in every place raise their hands without any dissension, or anger, or thoughts that divide. Paul said, “Who is adequate for these things?” But our adequacy comes from our Father. So you have no excuse. No one is adequate. But our adequacy comes from our Father.

Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think of anything as being from ourselves, but our sufficiency is from God. (2 Cor 3:5)

No one has any right to have a complaint about any leader if you haven't been down on your knees praying for him, because you haven't been obedient to the Word of God. Eph 4:2-3 says a lot. We have to *forbear* with one another because... everyone gets along fine? No, we forbear because we have problems. If we didn't have troublesome faults we wouldn't have to forbear with one another. But some people aren't in fellowship with the one Spirit in verse 4. Those who are in fellowship with the one Spirit will have fellowship. That's how it was in the beginning until selfishness overcame them. Acts 4:32 — This is what our Master prayed for. He had it, for a while. So this is what we have to maintain until the end.

When two or three people get together they form a clique, a pact. Familiar fellows like to hang around with each other. Natural men like to hang out with natural men, the spiritual with the spiritual. This has happened in the past. The shepherds have to always watch out for that.

Gadgets and Finances

If the leaders or their children get better things, it just causes division. It's very hard to overcome. If grandmother buys this child a knife, and other children don't have one, then it causes some children to envy the other children, because they don't have a rich grandmother. You are supposed to watch over these things. You can't just say, “Don't covet.” It's a terrible thing in the Body if you get a gadget and cause others to envy.

Some people don't even know anymore how to write with a pen. They think they need a laptop. Then they think they always need the latest upgrade. Enormous amounts of money are spent on phone bills in the Community that could be spent on getting people's teeth fixed. That's why we have overseers, complaint meetings, social meetings, and elders' meetings.

A lot of people when they come in from the world like that security of having money in their billfold. They long for that comfort, that feeling of security. It can be very dangerous and harmful for them. The apostles said, "Silver and gold have I none." But some people feel like they need a little security money, like Ananias and Sapphira for example. But some people do need to handle money. They carry money around in case someone needs some. I'm just saying that because we'll be judged for everything. Some things keep us out of the Kingdom of God.

When someone is saved and brings money to the Community, you find out whether he has debts or is leaving anyone behind who needs support, so they don't have an accusation. If they reject us and try to keep us from being a disciple in the first place that's a different matter. One brother was saved who had a very good business. He sold his business in such a way that it provides continual support to his wife who would not follow him, but who has no way to support herself. It was a wise decision that he made in counsel with the elders, so that there would be no accusation.

If there's just a little community, and they get \$1,000,000, for sure they wouldn't keep it for themselves to cover their need; they would submit it to the apostolic center. It has to go to the greater need, a greater council where it can be judged circumspectly.

Delegation

Every leader needs eyes to help him — deacons, elders, all those who help him. If every leader had an adjutant working with him he would want to build that adjutant up, so that he would excel beyond him. He would be feeding him royal jelly. You are not

jealous. These things are going to come to us because Satan is in the air, but we have to judge them.

If we humble ourselves, in due time He will raise us up. He opposes the proud and gives grace to the humble. Holding on to your little position means our Master can't give you grace, and it's evil. If our Father hadn't made me the way I am, I would be in every decision. But we give the keys to others. Our Father hates know-it-alls.

People need to function in their gifts according to the grace. If our Father gives someone grace, who are we to say that he can't function in his grace? But if he's just functioning in his natural ability, that would not be a good thing. A leader is a leader because he leads. He sees a need and he leads. **1 Pet 2:18 says to submit to your leaders even if they are harsh. Just submit to them and you'll win them with your submission. I've always applied that verse even to crew heads.** Their manner of doing things might be a little different, but we have to understand the heart of a person.

If someone doesn't have watch over people's souls he's certainly not a leader.

You always have to think the best first. If you don't, you'll be subject to the evil one. 24 hours a day, day and night, he accuses the brethren.

You can see why it says it's a light thing to raise up the twelve tribes of Israel, but to maintain the light and the unity for 50 years is absolutely impossible. In Heb 12 Haggai was reading about the Race. Then in verse 2 it says that we have to throw off every weight or encumbrance to which we cling. We hate it and give it up. Then run with resolution — resolute, with endurance, determination — the Race in which we are entered. How are we going to endure? We will endure by having our eyes fixed on Yahshua from whom faith depends from start to finish. For the joy that lay ahead of Him He made light of the disgrace and took His seat to the right hand of God.

1 Pet 5:1 — I appeal to the elders of your community as a fellow elder, a witness of Messiah's suffering... The younger ones have greater perception. Even though the

Deadheads shoot up at first, then the testing comes, and our children who were born here steadily take the ground.

It's a wicked attitude to say, "How come all these people are coming in, taking over, not doing anything?" In due time... wait until you're thirty.

Heb 12:15 — One poisonous, noxious seed poisoning the whole, someone like Esau who sold his birthright for a single meal. One of us could be a poisonous seed that poisons the whole lump. A little bit of leaven leavens the whole lump.

Pr 6:12-19 is about someone coming to you. Let's look at it this way. The verse 12 type of person is a deliberate kind of a person. The verse 19 person is still under the dominion of the evil one, but not deliberately. We've seen many people in the Body who were broken without remedy (verse 15). Verse 16 — The seventh thing is an abomination; it is detestable to Him.

Have you ever had a good thought about a brother, and then someone comes to you to tell you something you didn't know about him, and suddenly there's a separation between you? It stirs up quarrels between brothers. The one who does this is the seventh; it's an abomination to our Father, the one who stirs up strife. We can be an abomination, be detestable to Him. We are either building or destroying; we are either for Him or against Him. Those who build with wood, hay, and stubble are destroying the Body, and they'll be destroyed.

The only thing we can do is make the bond of peace stronger. You'd better think before you speak about a brother. What you think might not be true, because maybe the other brother heard it wrong. They might have been misinformed, or they might have had a slant.

You can see why Isa 49:6 says it's a light thing to raise up the twelve tribes, but to maintain the unity each and every one is responsible, and the leaders and elders in particular. If you separate tribes and cause divisions between tribes, it's tribal war. Tribal

Trading is what is either going to build us or destroy us. To get it off the ground we have to struggle and suffer.

Enigmatic Leaders

I want to introduce a word to you to see whether you can figure it out. What's an enigma? Someone that's hidden, puzzling, you can't figure him out. It's very difficult to know what is working in him. Maybe he has hidden motives or an agenda. Have you ever heard of the word *ambiguous*? What does it mean? An ambiguous person is capable of being interpreted in two ways, doubtful or uncertain, an inexplicable person, incapable of being explained, hard to interpret.

You can't be part of the governing, leading authority unless the sheep know you and you are bonded to them. The way you are bonded to the sheep is by how you encourage, teach them, or express yourself in the minchah. They can't trust someone they don't hear speak. So each and every leader has to be a teacher. One of the qualifications of an elder is to be able to teach, to explain things, for them to come to understand and know our Master more. But if you don't hear them speak in the minchah they become an enigma.

A leader has to be out in the open — you know his heart, you know his mind, you know you can trust in him, you have fellowship with him.

In the First Edah the disciples were devoted to the apostles' teaching and fellowship. Therefore, the leaders are in fellowship with you, they talk to you. They don't have a hidden agenda. They know your heart. Someday elders will be appointed, ordained, laid hands on. And all the Edah will lay hands on them. They will be appointed.

Paul told Titus to appoint elders in every place, in every locality. Tit 1:5 — In every place, meaning city or township, locality. He came in and saw who trusted him. He was speaking to people, coming in and seeing who was free to speak, and who the

people entrusted their lives to. It's hard to entrust your life to enigmatic leaders. That's what *trust* means — that there's no hidden thing, no quagmire, no enigma.

So that's a leader. That's how Titus selected elders. More than likely he already knew this, or Paul knew it. And on that basis he selected leaders, not necessarily men who spoke all the time in the minchot, but men who spoke consistently. If someone receives a revelation and you receive it from him, you are bonded to him.

Not all speakers will be elders, of course, and not all people who have control of their children are elders, but they have to have control of their children to be elders.

1 Tim 3:1 — Not pugnacious, contentious, given to anger, free from the love of money. They exhibit the fruit of the spirit — patience, able to teach. One of their abilities is to teach. They show it in the minchah. That's more the basis on which you choose leaders, and the people know that. So you have to be very careful in every way. A person who controls the money you have to trust more than anybody. Everybody starts coming to him, and he starts having control because he has access to money.

The Body of Messiah has to function properly, and the only way it can is if it is in coordination with the Head. It's the corporate man, corporate body. It's a union of the head and the body, the head being in the body. In the eternal age our Master and His fellow brothers will be the corporate body, the very dwelling place of the triune God in a human body. He is the head, we are the body, the corporate body. It's the union of two.

After a while you have to not give responsibility to anyone whom the government feels is an enigma, because pretty soon you'll see them taking off or leaving or being lawless or controlling. You have to judge on this basis when you select elders, even in our own midst, who is the most likely person among us to be an enigma. Who is the one who trusts the least, or who is the least open with his life? We have to judge these things and help. If there's anyone like that in your midst you have to help that person and open him up. Sit down and talk to him and find out if anyone is an enigma. So many in the past 30 years have been this way with us or with me. And you see people that have

betrayed you, betrayed me, that were an enigma. You don't have joyous fellowship. You didn't know them.

There was a man who was with us in the beginning here, through Portugal, Spain, and then in Sus. He started manufacturing soap. He was very good. But after we got to Sus he left, because he was an enigma. You could never figure him out. Finally, it came out that he wanted to be someone big. He loved to be first. He just wouldn't take simple advice. He thought he knew more. When it first started, we said, "Don't be reading church history books, or you'll stumble, because you're not ready to extract the precious from the vile." And he went ahead anyway. He stumbled over that. So he's been gone for over 20 years.

He stumbled. We loved him very much, but he just wouldn't listen. Now we have brothers that are able to discern and extract the precious from the vile. After 30 years we're on the rock, and we can be trusted to go into church history. All historians have their own slant on things, the way they write things.

A brilliant light has to come down on all of us, exposing us. Even though the First Church was real, it left its first love and other things came in, and it turned into what you see today, Christianity. The church was absolutely finished off when Constantine came in and started bragging off of the church, winning them.

So do we all qualify to be leaders? Do we all speak in the minchah? Do we all bring revelation, understanding, do we prepare for it, do we pray that our Father would be able to speak, that His Spirit would be upon each and every one of us? We can also encourage our brothers and sisters that way.

These things are essential, or we'll fall apart, we'll divide, especially after we go to different places. I know my brothers, I know the leaders of the tribes; I can trust them. We are on the same team. We are allied in the same cause (Pr 17:17), or you won't be able to make it; the enemy will try to come in and destroy you. Those who endure until

the end are the true Body of Messiah, saved. So there has to be a perfect harmony between us — harmony, unity.

1 Pet 1:8 — and though you have not seen Him, you love Him, and though you do not see Him now, but believe in Him, you greatly rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory...

1 Pet 1:22 — Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart...

Fervently, like a fire — the First Church left that love, and they became lukewarm and He had to spew them out of His mouth. What's lukewarm? Where do we find ourselves? Are we lukewarm? We have to be either hot or cold. I don't know whether cold means good, but we have to be either hot or cold. Lukewarm is like an enigma; it's not clear what it is. The greatest thing we can do is admit, "This is talking about me." Then we can repent and change.

We're trying to readjust. Eph 4:16 speaks about putting the gifts to use.

Col 2:19 — and not holding fast to the head, from whom the entire body, being supplied and held together by the joints and ligaments, grows with a growth which is from God.

That's the kind of growth that comes from Him, that's what we want. And Eph 4:16, every member doing its part. In every aspect of our being we'll grow up. Eph 4:12 — Someday you'll be meeting with all the people in your locality to see whether they are functioning in the works prepared for them. Eph 2:10 — Are we working in those works? This is what we'll be doing in the future.

Forsaking the Gatherings

We heard that someone usually doesn't get to come to the evening minchah because he is working in the office. *[The office is connected to the store, which is open during the minchah, and one man would stay in the office so as to be available if there was a need in the store, since only one woman was left in the store...]* There must be a rotation.

The same person doesn't miss the minchah every night. You never consistently miss the minchah by any means. You are a priest.

Sometimes we close stores down if we're sinning to keep them open, working people too long. Is our Father pleased with how we treat widows and orphans? If not, that means our religion is worthless, useless, of no account.

In Heb 10:25-26 it says what? Forsaking the gathering together. And what are the consequences of that? No sacrifice for your sins if you go on sinning (Heb 10:25-27). Unless it's a total sacrifice of love you can't miss the minchah. We can keep the café open, but we might not even be able to do that. We might close for two hours. Let's not forsake the assembly, the gathering together, especially after coming to the knowledge of the truth. Heb 10:29 is talking about us. It's a sin unto death.

How much severer punishment do you think he will deserve who has trampled under foot the Son of God, and has regarded as unclean the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has insulted the Spirit of grace? For we know Him who said, "VENGEANCE IS MINE, I WILL REPAY." And again, "THE LORD WILL JUDGE HIS PEOPLE." (Heb 10:29-30)

So it's a very serious thing unless we are totally exonerated for missing the minchah.

1 Cor 3:17 — You will be destroyed according to the authenticity of your life. If you go on sinning this way you will be destroyed. Then you probably would have led astray all the sheep. A little leaven leavens the whole lump. This is what happens when we are in the flesh, not honoring the minchah. If you see someone not keeping these traditions you are not even supposed to speak to him, have communion with him. And if you don't you are just as bad as those who don't keep the traditions. That's the reason they fell away.

2 Ths 2:15; 3:6 — It's a serious thing in the Body, in the Community. We are trying to restore all things. Are we being led by the Holy Spirit? If not we are not the

sons of God. You never miss the minchah unless you are justified. Do you think the priests of old would miss the minchah?

Where do you think we got the story of James from? He saw the demise of his people. So let's just repent, be forgiven. Let's honor the minchah, honor the Shabbat, honor our widows and orphans. Otherwise you will be headed to 1 Tim 6:9, "But those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a snare and many foolish and harmful desires which plunge men into ruin and destruction."

Always remember, a little leaven leavens the whole loaf. The whole loaf was being leavened little bit by little bit. What's Satan's number one job? To lead us astray, by any means. "So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him" (Rev 12:9).

ha-êmeq — It's subtle. Like someone was saying, "Yeah, we're going to make a lot of money and give it to the other tribes."

I'm sure when our Master got out the whip, the people had excuses. "What do you mean? We're just selling these sacrifices."

The evil one is out to destroy us because he wants to continue to be the prince of the power of the air. He's all out. He's understanding who we are now. He's seen a lot of movements in the past. He's understanding who we are. Heb 10:13 — He has to go there, under our feet. We have to bruise our heels in doing so. There's no other way to go into the kingdom. The first thing you'll do as you enter the kingdom is to take off your shoes to see whether you have a bruise there.

Leaven leavens the whole loaf, and the bitter root comes in.

I'm not going to make something up if it's not given to me by the Holy Spirit. We won't be ignorant anymore. Pr 28:13 — The reason we don't prosper is because we don't renounce our sin; we confess it, but we don't renounce it. We have to confess it and forsake it.