

Lies, Complaints, and Temptations

Every day there's a circumstance. Maybe Netsak ran off with the keys to the car. You have to go somewhere, and the car is there, but no keys. And Netsak doesn't get back till three o'clock. All those things work in every way, don't they? And what do we do? Do we grind our teeth?

All things work together for the good for those who love our Master and are called according to His purpose, right? There are no mistakes, right? Do we make mistakes? Have you ever made a mistake? [*Netsak — I have.*] A mistake? It works in every way, though, doesn't it? It all works to the good — if we're thankful.

What I want to talk about tonight is Pr 16:27 and 18:8 and 17:4.

Proverbs 16:27

A worthless man plots evil, and his speech is like a scorching fire. (ESV)

Scoundrels concoct evil, and their speech is like a scorching fire. (NRS)

An ungodly man digs up evil, and it is on his lips like a burning fire. (NKJ)

“Digs up,” like a journalist looking for a juicy story. Or someone looks on the Internet for “Twelve Tribes” and he reads what Bob Pardon and Rick Ross and others say. A worthless person, a man of Belial, takes it right in.

Proverbs 18:8

The words of a whisperer are like delicious morsels; they go down into the inner parts of the body. (ESV)

The words of a talebearer are like tasty trifles, and they go down into the inmost body. (NKJ)

Proverbs 17:4

Our Father in heaven, the Source of all things, the Creator, who knows all things, has put this into His Word:

An evildoer listens to wicked lips, and a liar gives ear to a mischievous tongue. (ESV)

An evildoer listens to wicked lips; a liar pays attention to a destructive tongue. (NAS)

An evildoer gives heed to false lips; a liar listens eagerly to a spiteful tongue. (NKJ)

Wrongdoers eagerly listen to gossip; liars pay close attention to slander. (NLT)

So for us, all things work together for good, right?

The liar listens eagerly. He's motivated by some other spirit. He's choosing another spirit to listen to. So Pr 17:4 is a screen, sifting out the insincere. All things work together for good, right? We have to be thankful for everything, right? Does it say "all things"? (Rom 8:28; Eph 5:20)

Has anything ever happened to you that you didn't give thanks for? It works together for the good, doesn't it? Or was He kidding when He said we're supposed to be thankful? What if we're not thankful? That's one of the commandments, isn't it? What if we're not thankful?

Hannah bat Ayal — Then it hinders Him from it being able to work together for the good.

Yes, that's right. I see some hopelessness on people's faces as they think, "Oh, no, how could I be thankful for the way such and such a person is?" But it makes pearls out of us, doesn't it? The oyster covers over the irritating element and makes it into a pearl. "Love bears all things, hopes all things, endures all things..." We love them in the Body, like the oyster "loves" that grain of sand, gooping it over with love, and pretty soon, poof! It turns into a beautiful pearl. Wow! From a little piece of sand! The bigger the irritant, the bigger the pearl.

So we have to be thankful for people who are irritants, don't we? Should we? They become pearls. Do you want to be an irritant so you can be a pearl?

But I'm trying to get to Pr 17:4. It's actually a screen. All things work together for good, right? So how is it that Pr 17:4 works together for the good?

ha-êmeq — The liar listens eagerly to a malicious tongue. So if somebody hears something bad about us, and he listens and takes it in, then it indicates something about that person.

Right. It screens certain types of individuals out of the Community. It doesn't let them come in because they listen to the liar, and it goes into them, and they believe it, and that means they're evildoers. A liar pays attention to another liar or a malicious tongue. We always say that Bob Pardon weeds out the insincere for us. But some people hear what the liars say, and then they come running, like Shoresh and so many others. They say, "Well, if they're being persecuted, there must be something good going on there." I don't know how they do that, but they do.

Those who listen to the evil one's lies show themselves to be liars just like him, destined for the Lake of Fire along with Satan. All liars go to the Lake of Fire. Just because you've lied before doesn't make you a liar. Liars are those who continue to lie over and over again. They love and practice lying (Rev 22:15). Everyone has lied, but not all are liars. But if they keep on lying, then they become calloused, and then they become liars. And a liar listens to evil lips.

Rev 21:8 says that all liars go to the Lake of Fire. Are they deceived? They choose a spirit to listen to. They actually choose. Eve was deceived, but she chose to go to that tree and ponder. She had a desire, and according to that desire she was enticed, and then it led her to death.

It's all according to what a person chooses to believe. Someone chooses to believe a lie because his spirit was connected to the wrong source. Your spirit is what connects you to the spirit realm, but you have to have control over your spirit. Your will has to stand in the gate. "I don't want to listen to anything that's not the truth. I'm not going to believe a lie. Yahshua help me to not listen to a lie, not to be deceived. Keep me from the evil one." These are the things we have to pray every day. Our Master said, "Pray that you'll be delivered from the evil one" (Mt 6:13). We're commanded to pray that. Now what if we don't pray it?

So that's a requirement, isn't it? We're required to pray, even in the minchah, "Deliver us from the evil one," and in our private prayers, "Deliver ME from the evil one.

Deliver my brother or my sister, my wife, my children — deliver us!” If you actually pray that with all your heart, of course you will be delivered from the evil one. There’s no way our Father can’t deliver us if we pray in our Master’s authority, in His name, because He wouldn’t have asked us to pray for that and then not deliver us, since He *wants* us to be delivered. And if we’re delivered from the evil one, you just think of the peace that we’ll have in the Body, the peace we’ll have with one another.

But if we’re listening to other spirits, we’re not going to have peace, we’re not going to have rest, and we’re not going to have satisfaction.

So the evildoer and the liar are deceived into thinking that they are wise. And they love that, “Oh, I’m wise, I have knowledge. I know the truth about those people, because it’s been in the papers.” “I know about this man Yahshua, I know all about Him. They told me that He was an imposter, just a false Messiah.” They’re listening to that evil voice, but actually, they’re deceived into thinking they’re wise and lofty. They say they’ve heard it through “credible sources.” And the reason they’re given credibility is because of a defunct social order and the corrupt governmental officials they elect. We respect all authority, but there are some governmental officials that you can’t respect because of the way they deal with things. We have to obey God rather than man. When they say, “You can’t spank your child,” we have to obey God, or we become just as Christianity became when Constantine came along.

Our Master said the world would hate us (Jn 15:18). Those who are of the world and surrendered to the authority of the evil one will hate us.

You can see in Gen 3:1-5 how Eve was deceived. She thought she would be wise, have knowledge, something more than she should have known, because our Father had said, “Don’t eat of that tree.” She went beyond that. She was deceived by the evil one, but she *chose* that. She chose to be deceived. She chose to listen to that lie.

A lot of people listen to Satan’s ministers. There are actually servants of Satan on the earth today — actual human beings who work for Satan (2 Cor 11:13-15). Do you

understand that? Satan has ministers on the earth. Verse 15 — Their end will be according to their works of deception, those like Billy Graham, who tries to convince everyone they're saved, and brags about how many people have been saved at his "crusades." There are millions and millions of people he has led astray, and he's hobnobbed with all the presidents and kings and popes. He's wise, proud, he's exalted himself, he wants to be something that he's not. It's Satan's sin.

To exalt yourself, to raise yourself up, is Satan's sin. He wanted to raise himself up above the throne of God. He was an angel, a created being, and he wanted to be like an uncreated being. He thought he was wiser than God. I don't know how it entered him, but he found himself in that place.

So only evildoers and liars will heed and believe a lie, and they'll run with it. They'll start telling others. And they'll tell other liars who will also believe it. But those who are of the truth won't give heed to it at all (Jn 18:37).

Derush Yadon ben Chayil¹ is of the truth. He didn't know it, but since he was willing to do our Father's will, he heard the gospel and knew it was true, that it was from our Father, not just the words of men. Most of us didn't know we were of the truth, but the reason we received the Holy Spirit when other people didn't is because we were willing to do our Father's will, but they weren't. People have come in, gone under the water, but their confession wasn't real. They weren't willing. Our Father knew their heart, and after a while — a few weeks, months, or years — what happened? They just want to do their own thing. They don't want to do our Father's will. Time always tells.

We have the parables in Matthew 13 that talk about how the seed didn't go way down. It sprang up fast, seeming to thrive, but then the sun came down and burned it up. But Jn 18:37 says, "Whoever is of the truth hears My voice." And Jn 10:27 says, "My sheep hear My voice." And Jn 10:14 says, "I know My sheep, and My sheep know Me."

¹ Our newly baptized disciple, once called Damien.

And what does He give them? Jn 10:28 — “I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish.” Forever! “No one can snatch them out of My hand.” That’s great, isn’t it? You can hear all the lies in the world, but it won’t affect you, because you’re of the truth.

We’re of the truth, we hear His voice. We don’t hear the voice of a false shepherd. His sheep won’t hear another voice, they hear the voice of their Shepherd, the One that saved them and has given them eternal life. And we’re all working together, we all share all things in common. We have food, clothing, and shelter. What else do we need? Whatever we need to fulfill our Father’s purpose for us in the Body, we’ll be good stewards of it. If we need a phone, we’ll have a phone. I hate phones, but if you need one, then we’ll get one for you — but not just because you *want* a phone. People have left the Community because they said, “Well, so-and-so has a car, how come I don’t have a car?” Well, what would you do with the car if you had one? You don’t need to go anywhere. Are you going to shine it all day or something?

There’s no complaint in the Body, is there? 1 Cor 10:9-11 — Israel complained and what happened to them? They became our examples. What does your version say?

ha-êmeq — “These things occurred as examples for us, so we might not desire evil things as they did.”

So therefore, what will happen if we’re complainers? Now I’m sure we’ve all complained once or twice. But we can become complainers. What happens then? We’ll be destroyed, too, won’t we? We can’t be connected to our Master, and complain at the same time. You can’t drink out of two cups at the same time.

In the last days, when it gets really tough, the people who are complainers and murmurers will be ferretted out of the Body. Do you know what *ferretted* means?

ferret — *n.*, a domesticated albino or brown polecat used for catching rats or rabbits.

v., to search and discover through persistent investigation.

So, no more complaint, right? But maybe you don’t ever complain. Only those other people complain. But then verse 12 says, “Therefore, let him who stands take heed

lest he fall.” There you go, there’s pride! You think you stand on your own, without saying, “Father, help me, I need your strength.”

No temptation has overtaken you except as is common to man. But God is faithful who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able. But with the temptation will also make the way of escape that you will be able to bear it. (1 Cor 10:13)

Wherever we go we have to pray, “Father, don’t lead me into temptation. Deliver me from the evil one.” I don’t want Him to have to lead me into temptation to show me where I’m at. He doesn’t tempt us, but He can put us in that place where we can be tempted, so as to show us where we’re at. But if we’re praying to be delivered from temptation we’ll be delivered. We won’t be led astray; we’ll be able to stand.

So we’re just giving Derush his colostrums. He needs his first milk. It puts something into your whole immune system for life. Then, as you grow, you get more solid food later on. You probably won’t understand a lot of things that we might talk about, because there are babies and there are grown-ups all in the same place. Some things we don’t understand yet, but we understand a little more every day.

Havah bat Zerubbabel — I was thankful for what it said about how if we’re not thankful, then our Father can’t work everything for the good. And it just made me think of how important it is and how much we need our Father to work with that. But if we’re complaining about what He’s given us, then He won’t be able to bless us. I know I complain a lot about little things, like I’m hot or something. But it’s so little in comparison to what we have. I know that’s why our Father couldn’t give the land to Israel, because they complained. And He can’t give us what He’s promised us either if we’re going to complain like that. So it just made me want to be thankful all the time so that I can be clean for our Father to use me.

Our Master didn’t have one complaint on the cross. He didn’t complain one time, or even when He went into death and suffered three days. He didn’t complain one time, because He knew what it was going to accomplish when He would be raised from among the dead. If He had complained one time, He wouldn’t have been raised from the dead.

Almah — I was really thankful for what we heard tonight. This evening I started cleaning the kitchen over at the Robb House, and I was looking at the floor, how it was all coming up in front of the sink, and there was a little bit of complaint that came into my heart. Then I caught myself, and I just said, “Father, please give us another floor.” But I see that I actually hindered Him from answering that prayer, because I wasn’t thankful. And the way that I know I wasn’t thankful was because Netsak walked in and I didn’t greet him warmly, “Hi Netsak.” I didn’t say anything to him. He just walked in the door from a hard day’s work. Something tugged at my conscience when he walked by, but I wasn’t sharp enough to catch it and judge it.

But now hearing this, I see what happened. We’ve always said from the very beginning that we can’t change the circumstances, but we can change the atmosphere. Love is our home, and what makes our homes beautiful is the love that we have. The fruit of love is care and order and all those things. But it comes from a thankful, overflowing heart, being connected to our Master. If when Netsak walked in the door I had just warmly greeted him, that would have made our home beautiful.

There’s a remedy for that. It’s called a suggestion box. And you put your valid complaint right in that box. You suggest that the floor is going to fall through pretty soon, and the sextons get a hold of it, and they talk about it, and they get the most pressing needs done. So if we don’t have a suggestion box, then certainly we’re going to start complaining, but there’s a remedy for it. We’ve heard it for 25 years, and someday we’re going to DO IT.

And then also, we do have complaint mornings in normal communities. We call it complaint morning, but we complain with a good heart and good spirit. We sit down and TALK ABOUT IT, and then we can get something done. Someone writes it all down, and makes sure it’s being done that week. And then next week we come by and say, “Is there anything left over from last week?” And then someone says, “No, it’s all done. The sexton took care of it.” So that’s how a community is run.

Hannah bat Ayal — I’m so thankful that Yônêq started off tonight by saying that all things work together for the good for those who love Him and are called according to His purpose. In order to think that way, to

really know that everything works together for good, you have to be thinking ahead, not just thinking about everything in front of you, or just the things that are happening right around you. But you have to be thinking a lot further. We have to be thinking about what we're doing every day, what everyone else in all the other communities is doing, about our brothers in Naftali and Issachar, who don't have any money. That's the way that we'll show that we're those that are called according to His purpose, because we're not complaining about things, but making a remedy. And I'm thankful that our Master does have remedies for us. That's why we're here. He has all the remedies that we need. I want to be someone that lays my life down so that He can heal us. I want Him to be able to do that. I don't want to be someone who complains, so that He can't really function in our midst.

Amen.

Obadiah — There is a brother in the tribe of Levi, from the beginning, Yathed, and he didn't grow up with any religious input. So when he got baptized, he didn't know the Bible. Suddenly he discovered that there was a book called Lamentations. And in German you can read it either as "Song of Wailing" or as "Song of Complaint." I just remember his facial expression when he saw it for the first time, "What? There is someone in here complaining?" He couldn't get it; it just didn't fit together somehow.

Our Father allowed Israel to go through hardships (Dt 8:1-6) so they would find out what was *in them*, because they couldn't go into the Promised Land with that complaint in their heart. They had to find out FIRST what was IN them, so they wouldn't take it there and defile the whole nation.

So Pr 17:4 screens out a lot of people before they come in, and then for those who do come in, there are hardships that screen out others, if anyone slipped in over or under the wall.

Yadel shel Zahav — I am thankful for what we heard tonight. The reason that complainers are destroyers is because it quenches the life that's in the Body. Whenever someone is complaining, it just drags you down. You don't want to be around them. I know that I complain, and I don't want to be that way because I don't want to quench the life in the Body. I want to be someone that brings life to the Body. I know also that it makes me a bad wife when I complain, and I don't want to be that way. I don't want to drag

Zahav down with my petty complaints, but I want to be a good wife. I want to be someone that's encouraging to be around. I repent for the ways that I've complained, and I don't want to be that way.

Amen! Wonderful! But it's true, when you're in your room with your wife or family, you might complain then. No one can hear you, you think, but a little bird might find out and then fly over and whisper in the king's ear (Ecc 10:20). That's where we get the expression, "A little bird told me." Our Father hears all of our complaints (Ps 106:24-25).

Ishah Ruth — I'm thankful that we keep hearing about being delivered from the evil one, because he's always seeking someone whom he can whisper to, some complaint, some thought, just like when he came to Eve. He just came into her thoughts and led her astray through her own desire. He's looking for those of us that aren't really praying with all our hearts.

I try to remember to pray that, but sometimes I don't pray it with all my heart, and so then I realize that I've fallen into something, and think, "What happened?" But I want to pay attention. Our Master never complained, but if He had been thinking about how painful everything was, He would have complained. But that's not what His eyes were on. He was looking to the future. And I saw how if we just look at today, and tonight, and here and now, then the evil one can make us see all the wrong things, all the things we can complain about. I want to be delivered from the evil one.

I just want to emphasize this one more time. Acts 2:24 — On the cross our Master suffered, and then He died, and then He went into death — a place of torment. He said that in Lk 6:24, that death is a place of torment. That's what death means — a place of torment. The definition of death is a place of torment.

For three days and three nights He suffered agony. He didn't complain one time. In His humanity He went into death to suffer on our behalf, that we wouldn't have to go there. But if He had complained even *one* time, He wouldn't have risen from the dead, and He wouldn't have been our Savior. He couldn't save us if He had complained one time. He suffered on OUR behalf to withstand the temptations that came to Him. We can't even IMAGINE the temptations that came to Him.