

## Separated to Him

Lev 20:25-26 — His people are separated from the people of the nations. They are to distinguish between what is clean and unclean. He said, “You shall be separated to Me, and you shall be holy, separated from everything. I am YHWH; I am holy, and I am separated to you. I have separated you from the peoples of the world, that you should be Mine.” It is so wonderful that we could be His, and that we would belong to Him. We are in His hands; He lives in us, and we can obey Him.

Ex 31:13 — “Above all, keep My Sabbaths as a sign between Me and you throughout your generations, that you may know that I am YHWH, and I set you apart for Me.” We are set apart for His purpose. That is the only thing we live for; we don’t live for anything else.

**ha-êmeq** — When our Master was walking on the earth, He just loved the Shabbat, He delighted in it. He loved the Shabbat more than anyone else. I am sure that even by the time that He was a little boy, it was really clear that He loved the Sabbath, because He had joy above all of His brothers. He was totally happy. He loved the law, and He loved our Father.

There He was with all of His Jewish brothers, and when He got a little bit older, He started noticing that they were kind of divided up a little bit. Some were kind of hard-core, like the right-wing Pharisees and the left-wing Sadducees, but He was just a regular person. He would go to the temple with His family, and He loved the Sabbath. But He started to realize that there was *more* going on. There were some people that were just getting down on everybody and pointing the finger, saying things like, “You walked too far on the Sabbath.” It made it so that the Sabbath wasn’t really wonderful and encouraging, and a time to think about our Father. It made you feel as if someone was always watching you, and going to get you. And Yahshua said, “That is not the way it is supposed to be!”

Then He started walking with His disciples, and He would talk to people about the love of our Father. One Shabbat He said, “Come on, we are going to walk over there,” and His disciples said, “But we didn’t make any Shabbat pie!” and He said, “Our Father is going to provide.” He told them that when they walked along, they could just gather some of the grains and rub them together, and eat them. “They will give you nourishment.”

Then, all of a sudden, some of the right-wing Jews look at Him, and they growl, “He is breaking the Shabbat!” I am sure that at that moment, He probably felt so bad, because He loved the Shabbat more than anyone. He never wanted to break the Shabbat. He loved the Shabbat; it was His delight.

And then He did something else. He tried to help someone, and there they were again, “You healed someone! You broke the Shabbat!” It must have been just like an electric shock through His body, because He would never want to break one of the commandments. It would be just like murdering someone, for Him. “I would never do that. I love the Shabbat!”

So then it went down in history that He abolished the Shabbat, as if He was a Jewish person who didn’t even keep the Shabbat. “Well, Jesus didn’t keep the Shabbat. Look at how the people got mad at Him because He wasn’t keeping the Shabbat.” But He *was* keeping the Shabbat. He was keeping it from His heart, and I am sure He was keeping it from His own delight. He loved it, walking, helping people, loving them on the Shabbat.

There is nothing like being accused of breaking something that you know you are keeping more than anyone else. Have you ever been accused of doing something wrong that you absolutely would never want to do? It was the influential people that were accusing Him of it, but He wasn’t going to defend Himself. He saw that the spirit they were coming from was not the same Spirit as His Father’s, who gave the Shabbat to them. He could just feel it.

So the whole idea of the Shabbat has changed into some kind of heavy thing, and it is not what was in our Father’s heart. What is being restored on the earth is a people who can understand how wonderful the Shabbat is, but at the same time keep it strictly, because we really don’t want to break it.

I think that is what we have to learn as a people — to have wisdom to know how to treasure the Shabbat. It is as if you have the most valuable diamond, worth a billion dollars. We are handling something that is so precious to our Father. We have to really understand it because we are not going to be the ones pointing the finger, “You walked too far on the Sabbath!” But we are also not going to be the ones who are doing our own thing. How can we be the way that is exactly how our Master was?

I am so thankful He is opening our eyes to the treasure that the Sabbath really is. It is not easy to understand because people have been fighting and killing each other over this subject for years. I am thankful for Yahshua’s heart. It had been totally put into Him to love the Sabbath, and it is being put into us also.

Our Master had the glory that His Father had given Him, and He passed it on to His disciples, His apostles. Therefore, they could judge right, not just by the appearance, but with a righteous judgment. Without glory we will make a lot of bad judgments.

### **Critical Hearts**

Some people can see all the faults, and think that no one ever takes care of them, but they don't judge themselves. They don't consider whether they are fulfilling other people's needs. They might not like the way that certain people take care of their children, but they don't see their own faults. That is what a hypocrite is. The Pharisees really criticized our Master. They were *hypocritical* — that is where it comes from, *critical*. *Hypo* means less — you are thinking less of others, and you are *critical* of them while doing the same things yourself.

They were really critical of our Master for healing someone on the Sabbath. They really came down on Him. Our Master was trying to help them see that circumcision is not really from Moses, but from Abraham, 430 years before the Law (Jn 7:22). You are supposed to circumcise your male child on the eighth day, and if it falls on the Sabbath, what are you going to do? Are you going to break the Law? Are you going to do it on the Sabbath, or are you going to break the Law, and not circumcise him on the eighth day?

“So if a man receives circumcision on the Sabbath, so that the Law of Moses should not be broken, why are you angry with Me because I made a man completely well on the Sabbath?” He told them not to judge according to appearance, but judge with righteous judgment, and that takes glory. You have to have our Master's glory. He could see that they didn't have this glory because they were critical. We can be critical ourselves, if we don't judge rightly and see how loving and good our Father is.

### **An Enemy-Free Land**

If you pull your ox out of the ditch on the Sabbath, is that good or bad? It is good. Are you breaking the Law if you help a person out, when you see someone in trouble on

the Sabbath? It is good, and it has to be done because of love. That is what our Father wants from us. He gives us a Sabbath to rest because He loves us.

Our Master took the kingdom away from old Israel, and is giving it to a nation that will produce the fruit of it. There has to be a restoration of that nation in order to bear the fruit of the kingdom, so that what our Father promised Abraham would come true. He wants to give Abraham's descendants an enemy-free land — a twelve-tribed nation over in the land of Israel, free of enemies.

That has never happened. They have always allowed enemies in the land, and they kept taking on their customs. So our Father told them that He would give the kingdom to a nation who would do it for them. Acts 26:7 — “Our [present] twelve tribes” that Paul was establishing, that serve night and day, in order to bring about what our Father promised Abraham. We will do it for them.

There has to be a nation who does it in order for our Father to reestablish Israel in the Promised Land in the next age. It will be an enemy-free land, wherever the boundaries are. It should go all the way down to the Arabian Sea. They will finally do what our Father has always wanted them to do. But it is going to take a people who will fulfill the Law by the Spirit, loving our Father.

The reason why we keep the Sabbath is because we love our Father. The reason we keep the Law is because we love our Father, and we want His will to be done. Israel is going to be re-established as a twelve-tribed nation in the next age, when we bring our Master back to planet Earth.

Our Master was the Jew of all Jews. He was a true, real Jew. We are so thankful that He has caused the Jews and the Gentiles to live together in harmony and unity, in love and peace. It ought to have been that way through the centuries, but our Father is going to do a great and mighty work in the last days to have the perfect, pure unity of Eph 2:14. We are thankful for restoration.