

## The Proof of True Belief is Obedience

*We began our gathering with Psalm 92, “It is Good to Praise Your Name...”*

*“Senseless man does not know, fools do not understand Your ways.  
Though the wicked spring up like grass, they shall be destroyed forever.”*

Is that “senseless man” like those in Dan 12:10? Is it the people in the world or people in the community who do not understand? If we don’t understand, obviously, according to His understanding, we are wicked. Everyone who belongs to our Master seeks for understanding. They seek for knowledge (His knowledge), discernment, understanding, and insight — all the characteristics our Master had when He was on the earth. He came to have discretion. You can’t have discretion before you have all the rest of the essential things Proverbs 2 is talking about. We don’t know what we are doing unless we have revelation and understanding. When we quit having revelation and when He quits revealing Himself to us, we stop having understanding. We are then no longer doing things for His purpose and the gates of the underworld overtake us (Mt 16:16-18). So, that is a good song for us.

Mt 25:1-13 tells about those who do and don’t understand. It carries Dan 12:10 over into the New Testament when it speaks of the wise virgins and the foolish virgins. The foolish virgins are those who don’t understand. They are not seeking our Father and our Master. They do not desire His understanding and His knowledge. They don’t collect the oil. They wait until He comes and then try to make up for their neglect at the last minute. Well, there is plenty of time to get it now. Then, they will be outside waiting for entry into His kingdom, for they are not worthy. We want to be wise virgins. There are ten virgins all together — five wise and five foolish.

Each one of us here will either be a wise virgin or a foolish virgin. That is, those who are truly saved and have met the conditions for receiving His Holy Spirit. If we could understand this, it would solve a lot of problems.

There are certain essential things we must all understand about the gospel — what our Father did and what our Master did in order to give us eternal life — how He died, and rose again on the third day, and ascended into heaven — everyone knows that. Those are the things you have to believe in order to be saved. The other aspects of the gospel test whether you actually believe in your heart the essential aspects. The commands, which the Christians call the hard sayings, are what tests whether an individual has true belief or not.

“I was born for this cause,” our Master said, “and for this cause I came into the world.” There was a cause that He was born for as a human being. He was born as human being from a human seed, but also, at the same moment, the Word of God, the divine Word, came and made Himself one with that human nature and human spirit. Our Master has two aspects, human and divine. God wasn’t born. God was never born. But the man, Yahshua, was born. He was born, and the Word came into the world through Him.

He was not born of a fallen human being’s seed. It was from the same seed that our Father made Adam out of. He created human seed and made Adam. Then, somehow as the Holy Spirit hovered over Mary and planted a human seed in her womb, the Word of God could dwell there in that human nature.

What happened to us when we joined ourselves to Messiah, as 1 Cor 6:17 says? We become one spirit with the divine spirit.

When that baby grew up (He was even swaddled) He didn’t necessarily know who He was. He probably cried and He certainly nursed. He didn’t say to Himself, “I don’t have to cry, because I am God.” Thinking like that takes away His humanity. He wasn’t that way at all, but that is how we have been led to believe in a lot of ways. He was human being and suffered the things we go through and was tempted in every way, yet without sin. When we know the truth about Him, we can receive Him and His spirit will come into our spirit. Those are some of the essential aspects of the gospel.

You can't just preach giving up all of your possessions. How can they believe in someone when that is the first thing you greet them with? Yet a Christian already knows the information about who He was. They are already introduced to that understanding, but they have not had anyone come to them to tell them what they had to do, in order to test their belief. The testing of the hard sayings determines whether they believe in the right Savior or not. They have understanding, but it is from the Holy Spirit or is it just paper, degree, and doctrine?

The essential parts of the gospel, as Paul talked about in 1 Cor 15:1-3, were:

*“Moreover, brethren, I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand, by which also you are saved, if you hold fast that word which I preached to you – unless you believed in vain. For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Messiah died for our sins according to the Scriptures.”*

Then all the commands of the gospel test whether you truly believe the essential gospel in your heart. It tests whether the Holy Spirit has persuaded you to believe. Faith comes by hearing the good news from a son of God. A son of God is someone who has been joined to Messiah. Faith means you are persuaded. That is what faith means — *persuasion*. That demystifies the word *faith*. Agrippa said, “You have almost persuaded me.” (Acts 26:28)

There is the essential part of the gospel. Then if we go back to Mt 28:19-20 we can understand what our Master was telling His disciples.

*Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age. Amen.*

In one translation it says, “make disciples of all nations” and another one says, “teach all nations.” What does it mean? It is the same thing. You teach what the aspects of the gospel are. You teach them to observe all that Messiah has commanded us in the Gospels, just as the apostles did (Acts 2:42). You teach them the “hard sayings.” They

have to believe His words and obey them, and our Master said He was not going to give them the Holy Spirit until they truly believe in their heart. That is what settles it in heaven, where the determination to give the Holy Spirit is made.

We now, who are sent out to establish communities, are to make disciples out of them. We are to teach them. We are to teach them all that He has commanded us, just as He commanded the disciples of old, “Teach them what I have commanded you.” The teachings are so important because disciples have to continue to obey in order to receive revelation (Jn 14:21).

Yowceph Rodriguez – Obedience is what ratifies whether they really believe.

Exactly. It authenticates, seals, and confirms it. We are to continue to teach all that He had commanded them to do. What are some of the things He commanded them to do? You will find the answers in all four gospels. “No one can be My disciple unless he...”

- Gives up all his possessions (Lk 14:33),
- Takes up his cross and follows Me (Lk 9:23),
- Loves Me more than his father and mother (Mt 10:34-37), and so on.

### **Who has Eternal Life?**

You have to shun anything that keeps you from being a disciple, including your parents if the spirit in them wants to keep you from being a disciple. You have to cut yourself off from it. That is why our Master said you must hate your father, mother, wife, children, brothers, and sisters (Lk 14:26). He does not mean *hatred* as people today use that word, but to hate what keeps you from being a disciple. And that means, to them, that you hate them. Of course, if *they* can give you eternal life, then you can stay home. You can keep going to church on Sunday if that will give you eternal life.

We barely understand the gospel yet like we will. It is not inculcated yet.<sup>1</sup> We preach the essential message to those who have not heard it. But after they did that, on the day of Pentecost, the apostles preached the many others words before anyone was baptized. Then once they were saved, they were devoted to the four things: the apostles' teachings and fellowship, the Breaking of Bread, and the prayers — especially those offered up at the minchot. Whoever had need was taken care of and the whole life of love began you see in Acts 2 and 4– all that it entailed.

The essential gospel and the many other words bring people out of the world and into the Body. If you depart from that, there is no way you can not just bring about another religion. Then you forsake the commandments. To keep the commandments means you have to separate yourself from the world and obey the gospel.

The rich young ruler asked our Master, “What must I do to have eternal life?” For some reason, the Master didn't give him the essential gospel. Evidently, he knew Messiah and knew of His miracles.

Yowceph Rodriguez – It seems as though the rich young ruler recognized something because he called Him “Good teacher.” But then he wouldn't do what our Master said to him. He wouldn't obey our Master's words and so he didn't meet the requirements to be one of those whom our Father gives the free gift of eternal life to.

It was so hard for him. He put his head down and walked away sad.

Hilkiyah – Those hard sayings prove whether you have been persuaded or not. If you are not willing to do our Father's will, then faith *can't* come to you. The rich young ruler wasn't willing, so he wasn't persuaded. Otherwise, he would have received our Master and given those things up. Instead, he went away sad.

Shemiyah – When we are presenting the gospel to people, first we have to present the essential gospel, for otherwise they can't believe in Him. They have to see who He is in order to have that response. They have to somehow connect to who our Master is. They have to know who He is to

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<sup>1</sup> *Inculcate* means to teach and impress by frequent repetitions or admonitions.

them. His love for them is what releases them to obey His commandments. It wins their heart and makes them want to be a disciple. Then they are those our Master spoke of, “He who has My commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves Me.”

By obeying those commandments, what does it do? It brings them out of the world. You are baptized into the reality of the body of believers. Faith is demystified by the real, tangible Body of Messiah. It is so wonderful that we have those commands. You can't obey them outside of the context of community.

Yowceph Rodriguez – “Come,” our Master said to the rich young ruler, “sell all your possessions, come out of the life you are living and into the Body. There you will be purged, purified, and refined as you follow Me,” but he was unwilling.

In Mk 10:17 the rich young ruler asks a question, “What must I do to have eternal life?” Where is it answered? In verse 30:

*So Yahshua answered and said, “Assuredly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My sake and the gospel’s, who shall not receive a hundredfold now in this time – houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions – and in the age to come, eternal life.” (Mk 10:29-30)*

There it is. There He taught His disciples how to get eternal life. Verse 28 says they have already done that. Peter said, “We have left everything to follow You.”

There is so much to see in this. We might want to make a paper out of it. The word “observe” means there has to be someone in the community who can teach the disciples to obey what He has commanded them to do. It is a continual thing to keep His commandments, a part of a continual ongoing life. It is revelation, as our Master said in Mt 16:16-18. As long as the Father is revealing these things to you, not flesh and blood, the mere doctrines of men, then the underworld will not overtake you. Ongoing revelation from the Father keeps us. If that comes to an end, the underground takes over the Edah and it becomes Satan's property.

We have to call people out of the prison they are, out of the second or third prison they are in in Christianity. It long ago became Satan's property. Unless someone is restoring all things, specifically the Twelve Tribes are coming forth from what they are doing, then by leaving the Christian Church they have gone into a third or fourth prison. There has to be a nation producing the fruit of the Kingdom, as Israel was to do. If the result wasn't people laying down their lives for their brothers and sisters, then I would be false and you wouldn't receive the Holy Spirit through me.

John had to go to such people and say, "If you are not having fellowship with me, you are not having it with the Father."

*"He who receives you receives Me, and he who receives Me receives Him who sent Me." (Mt 10:40)*

Can you have fellowship with God apart from the apostles? No, you can't. You can't renounce John's spirit and know God. If you think you can, you have received an evil spirit through evil sent ones. If Yowceph is false, if Yochanan Abraham is false, if I am false, then you are going to receive another spirit. You are going to have a great disappointment. That is what I wanted to teach tonight, about observing all that He has commanded us.

If I didn't receive the Holy Spirit, then my wife didn't, and all the people in Chattanooga didn't either. They had to receive us to receive the Spirit we had, for according to Jn 13:20, there is no other way to receive the Holy Spirit. If there was there would be mass confusion. There has to be a nucleus in any nation, like the one formed on the day of Pentecost. The nation then grows as it spreads from the work of those who are sent out. What did Paul say in Rom 10:14? Isn't it an impossibility to receive the Holy Spirit from one who has not been sent?

*"How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach unless they are sent?" (Rom 10:14-15a)*

The sent one brings people into a Body. They start teaching them to observe all the commandments as our Master commanded them to do. Those who don't are rebellious and recalcitrant.<sup>2</sup> So, what does a teacher do? He makes disciples. What does Billy Graham do when he comes to town? Well, of course, he (or another brother with him) establishes a community. He would not just say, "Be warm and well fed, I will see you later. Stay tuned to our ministry and send in a donation."

What does it say in the last part of Zephaniah? "I will bring you home." It says, "I will bring you home." That's what is says on the back of our bus, not "I'll *take* you home." What is the difference between *take* and *bring*? To *bring* them home means you bring them to *your own* home. To *take* them home means you take them to *their* home. That's the difference.

*"At that time I will bring you back, even at the time I gather you; for I will give you fame and praise among all the peoples of the earth, when I return your captives before your eyes," says the Sovereign. (Zeph 3:20)*

We won't have renown and praise from a lot of people because they will do everything they can to discredit us. Eventually, those who deny our Master in the Body, living here as disciples, but not obeying His commandments, leave and then they often try to discredit us.

*"They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us; but they went out that they might be made manifest, that none of them were of us." (1 Jn 2:19)*

They never were of us. There has to be a people on the earth who are the "us." Is it talking about Christianity? My family left seventeen churches when I was growing up. There are five hundred different churches in Chattanooga. Who was the "us" there? There has to be restoration of all things – and you are part of it. You are restorers.

It is just amazing to see what Jn 6:44-45 says and then hear what the different denominations in Christianity say. One says, "God teaches us this doctrine," and another

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<sup>2</sup> *Recalcitrant* means marked by stubborn resistance to and defiant of authority or guidance.



says, “God teaches us that doctrine,” and they are different things. But the Word says, “We will all be taught by Elohim.”

But we have one anointing, one faucet. For a short period of time they did it in the first century – they had the unity and oneness that comes from hearing from our Father. Israel never did it for fifty years. Ha-êmeq was reading in Ezekiel today about how they filled up their houses with idols, with other gods. They did it continually. They would tear down their idols and build them up again twenty years later. Our Father has got to have a people, that generation that will not pass away until all things are fulfilled. There has to be a people where the iniquities of the parents are not passed on to the third and fourth generation. There has to be a people who LOVE and obey Him. We hate Him by not obeying Him.

If His name is going to be renowned and great, we have to pray for it every day of our lives. We will do this at every minchot. That is what prayer means, supplication. We beseech Him for that. How can it ever be unless we beseech Him? Mumbling some words can't do it. That's horrible.

Jeremiah – What you said really made it clear about Jn 6:45. We have to all be able to hear the same thing. You can then teach others to make disciples, and then the whole nation can be taught by God. In order for us to be our Father's people, we have to be able to hear from Him in our heart and pass it on. In the future each one of us has to be able to hear from our Father and pass it on – give others life. Sometimes we have been in communities where the life seems at a low level. What that means is that the people aren't getting the life from our Father and passing it on to their brothers and sisters. But the source is still there and He can still be reached. We are going to have to do that and then we'll be sprouting out everywhere.

Just read Proverbs 2 sometime. Just study and try to understand what it is saying to us. We have not been talking about it too, too long have we? We started before a lot of you were born, talking about Proverbs 2. If we never learn this we will fall. Unless we

do this we will never be like our Father or our Master. We will be like the last verse instead. This is something we have to desire. It doesn't come automatically.

*“For the upright will dwell in the land, and the blameless will remain in it; but the wicked will be cut off from the land, and the unfaithful will be uprooted from it.” (Pr 2:21-22)*

It is not *earth*, but *land*. We see the truth of that and people are cut off. They are cut off. For example, His people keep the Sabbath. If we don't keep the Sabbath, we are cut off from being His holy people. His people keep the Sabbath. It is a sign. If we are not keeping it we are cut off from being His holy people.

Soreph Gamaliel – I can see why our Father keeps reaching out to Christians. Many of them see the essential gospel and are willing to do the will of God, but they hear they don't have to, that doing His will is “works salvation.” Still, many read the Word and want to see His will come about. It appeals to them because it is so good, but they don't know what to do. Since I was a child I have wanted to see His Kingdom come on the earth. (I believed as a child as much as I do now – how could you believe more than a child does? They believe everything you tell them.) So you grow up in Christianity and you learn it is not going to happen. You are told it doesn't even have to, that things are going to stay the way are until He somehow decides to return, and you have nothing to do with the hunger inside of you to see God's will be done on the earth.

What our Father is saying to us is so wonderful. It is what the world has to observe. Whoever observes us who is willing to do His will is going to be saved. Well spoken.

Ha-êmeq – There is so much we have to get across to people. Discipleship is a *continuing* word. We observe His commandments because we are like His “drivers.” If anyone wants to be My driver, he must do this... So you do that to get your license.

“Ah, it's really nice,” you say, “I have a driver's license.”

Then someone says to you, “That is really nice. You have a driver's license. But are you going anywhere? You are just sitting there.”

So you just sit there the rest of their life. You don't need to observe the traffic laws, because you never get in a situation where you need to.

But you have a license and you are going to heaven!

Ha-êmeq – Being a disciple means you are constantly moving forward. You get into situations constantly where you get disciplined in your heart. It is so futile and foolish to a Christian to obey the traffic laws – because they are not driving! If you drive, you appreciate the laws. You love them. They start to be formed in your heart. You see the good purpose for all those laws and you are glad to stop. It is formed in there. The laws are a living, breathing thing to disciples.

Jesse – I was thinking about the many Christian events I have gone to. One of the big things they quote is the Great Commission of Mt 28:19-20. They only talk about one aspect of the gospel, bringing the gospel to the ends of the earth. They don't have the aspect of observing the commandments and all the hard sayings to bring it into balance. Their gospel is lopsided, warped. Our Master spoke of a gospel that would lose its saltiness (Lk 14:34-35).

He commanded us to love one another as He has loved us. In Luke 14 He was saying that if the gospel loses all the things He was teaching them, it is good for nothing. It is not even good for the manure pile. For a little while they did it and then they lost it. For two thousand years they have not done the things that ratify the gospel.

The Great Commission is meant to produce community. That is what it is for, to establish communities in every township until He comes. If Billy Graham were fulfilling the Great Commission that is what he would be doing — establishing communities.