

## “Where I Am, There Shall My Servant Be Also”

Where is the only place one can serve Yahshua? “There” — where He is. Can anyone serve Him in church on Sunday morning, while the rest of the week they do their own thing? No, no one can serve Messiah unless they follow Him, and where He is, there shall His servant be.

Jn 17:15-19 — “Where I am, there [in that place] My servant shall be also.” Where He is, there His servants are, as Acts 26:7 says, synergistically serving night and day. The promise to Abraham referred to in Acts 26:6 is Gen 15:17-18. It is the promise our twelve tribes hope to attain (for them) as they earnestly serve night and day the Elohim (God) who promised as Jer 34:18. So if God can raise the dead as He did His Son, He also can raise dead Israel (Rom 11:12-15).

To serve night and day means 24 hours a day, 7 days a week — 24/7. It means no uncoordinated, independent action, but abiding in that place that is sanctified for us to reside (1 Cor 1:2,10,13). There is the only place we do the works prepared for us to do.

God set Israel apart from the world, and they were to rule over all their enemies in order for the land grant to be given to them, for in that holy, set-apart nation they could serve God unhindered from worldly influences. The descendants of Abraham could live only there, where God was, in order to serve Him and bring about the promise to Abraham (Gen 18:19).

### A Place to Belong — It Takes a Community

Jn 14:3,18,20,23; 1 Pet 2:12 — *A place* for you — Jn 17:24, which is impossible without verse 23.

1 Tim 2:8 — In every *place* (Mal 1:11; 1 Ths 1:8) — every place where He is *there* His servant will be also.

1 Cor 1:2 is a *place*, a community set apart in the secular community, in a cluster of houses as close to each other as possible. In that neighborhood we live together and have all things in common; we are set apart in that place. So there and only there can we all become “saints” — holy and pure as our Master said in Jn 12:25-26.

So we are asked, “Where is it in the Bible where it says that disciples must live as you do? Where is the *commandment*?” And our answer is Jn 12:25, and then verse 26. “If anyone serves Me, he or she can only serve Me *where I am*.” Only there can anyone follow Him, as He commanded the rich young ruler in Mk 10:21. You can only follow Him where He is, for where He is, there also will His servant be, and all who serve Him will be honored by His Father.

Jn 12:25 — So now let’s put it out to the public: What does it mean *to have* one’s life in this world? Mt 16:24-26 — Then and only then can anyone follow Him and serve Him where He is. Where? To what place? As in 1 Cor 1:2,10 — *in every place* (#5117), which means *locality*, as Paul’s letters were sent to the disciples who lived in a particular township. *There*, in that place in the town, were disciples who *follow* the Master. *Follow* means to be in the same manner and place, as a disciple (1 Ths 1:6-8).

1 Cor 1:2 — *Sanctified* (#37) means to become *saints* (#40). *Sanctified* here means in relation to *holy* (#40), as the subject of the verse is to *become holy* in the *future* (time or age), by being set apart in this time or age so as to *become* holy. #40 cannot be accomplished without #37, by being separated from the normal life in the world (before knowing Yahshua) and by baptism into the Body of Messiah (1 Cor 12:12-13). But the Body of Messiah is in a *place* to be a witness of the Kingdom to all who are still not sanctified in that place. #40 cannot be accomplished without someone separating himself and withdrawing from fellowship with the world.

Jn 12:25-26 means to withdraw from fellowship with the world by first gaining fellowship with Messiah in His Body on earth in a particular place which is set apart from normal fellowship with the world. *Hate* in Jn 12:25 is #3404, as in Lk 14:26, meaning to love less than Yahshua, as also in Mt 10:37, in order to follow Yahshua without a cause to hold back in any way. To follow Him means to be separated or set apart to become holy, as Rev 3:4, worthy of Him for the Kingdom, which means one must forsake his own life (Lk 14:33) — possessions, family, friends which hold him back from eternal life (Mt 16:24-26). *Freely* in Rev 22:17 means without a cause to refuse Him, as did the rich young ruler (Mk 10:21).

As Lk 14:33 says, and Acts 4:37 demonstrates, Barnabas' own possessions were not shared with the Body. His new life, which can only be had after he hates his old one in the world (Jn 12:25) in order to follow Messiah where He is (verse 26; Mk 10:17-30).

To be *saved* as Acts 2:39-45, one must be as they were — separated from the usual, normal lifestyles in the world, living for oneself (“my four and no more”). Mt 6:31-33 and 2 Cor 5:15 — The gospel requires that one no longer live a selfish existence in the world of men, or there is no salvation.

Barnabas in Acts 4:37 did not physically abandon all his possessions to the world, but brought them into the Body (Acts 2:44-45; 4:32-37) and laid them at the Apostles' feet to be shared by all who were in need (Dt 15:4). Only if one's relatives refuse to go with him to follow Messiah must he abandon them, along with his job and possessions in the right way or priority (according to the needs of the Body), in order to follow Messiah where He is.

Jn 14:3 and 12:26 go together, and as He said in Jn 14:17-18,23, He must be *in* us in order for us to be where He is, ever since He came in the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost in Jerusalem. When anyone is sent out to establish another community, there He will be also, and all who receive the sent one receive Him as well, and His Father, as Jn 14:23 says (Mt 10:40-41; Lk 10:16; Jn 13:20). But in Jn 7:18 are two kinds of sent ones, and He can only be received through the second kind.