

Are You a Thermostat or a Thermometer?

It is really hot in here. Is the air conditioner on? It couldn't be on unless it is set at 80° or 90°. What is the temperature reading?

Gad — 72°, I think...

Are you a thermostat or a thermometer? Which one are you, Sameach? Are you a thermostat?

Sameach — I'm a needy man who is in the Community to be healed of my wrong ways. But I know what the difference is between a thermometer and a thermostat. A thermometer usually *measures* the temperature of something and a thermostat *regulates* the temperature.

Okay, good. So, are we all just thermometers? What about you, Asah Shalom. Which one are you? What is the difference between a thermostat and a thermometer?

Asah Shalom ben Shoer (5) — A thermometer is just hot, and a thermostat makes it cool.

What about you, Atarah? Which one would you rather be — a thermostat or a thermometer? What does a thermostat do that a thermometer doesn't?

Atarah bat Shoer (8) — It gives heat to other people.

Are you a thermostat? Can a thermostat be positive or negative? What does a thermostat do, if it is a positive thermostat? What would you do on a hot day if you were a thermostat? On a cold day, what would you do? If you want to get warm on a cold day, what do you do if you're a thermostat? Would you turn yourself down or up? What temperature would you like it to become... 80-90°, or 30-40°? Right now, for a hot day, maybe you would set it at 72°. So then a person who is a "thermostat" sets the temperature to what he would like it to be for others to be comfortable.

ha-êmeq — So a thermometer will just say, "*It's so hot in here,*" but a thermostat will exert some energy and bring the temperature down.

That is good. And so now you know what the difference is between a thermostat and thermometer. So what temperature is the thermostat set on right now?

Chazaq — It is set at 73° but the thermometer is reading 79°.

ha-êmeq — I learned once that our bodies have a built-in thermostat. We have 98.6° bodies, and so when they get into a freezing-cold situation, they go right to work in order to maintain that comfortable 98.6° temperature, no matter what is happening.

If you take your body temperature with a thermometer, it will always read 98.6°. It doesn't matter how hot a day it is or how cold it is. So then, your body is always working to maintain that temperature through the help of your hormones. This is why sometimes women whose hormones are a little bit "out of whack" might say all of a sudden, "*Oh, my... It is so hot outside!*" Their internal thermostat isn't working quite right. So when a change of temperature happens, a pregnant woman will suddenly feel uncomfortable. The thermostat starts trying to neutralize the heat, but for a minute it turns itself off instead of responding. Eventually, the woman feels relief, but for that moment she feels as if the world is going to end. It is amazing how the human body is.

Sameach — It is also amazing how our Father has made our body to elevate our temperature to destroy an invading micro-organism, and that is why you run a fever. But a lot of people, when they get sick, go to their family doctor in a panic, saying, "*Oh my, I've got a fever!*" and so they take pills to bring the fever down, which doesn't deal with the micro-organism.

If you get a fever, you should rest and drink a lot of water; then your body, the way our Father has made it, will burn out the invader. But if you suppress the fever through pills, then it will not do anything but mask over the problem.

So then, if the Body of Messiah is cold, what do you do if you're a thermostat? You try to elevate the temperature, right? If you're a thermostat, you can do it; but if you're only a thermometer, you just sit there and complain, "*It's so cold.*"

Hannah — A thermostat is someone who is responsible, someone who will do something about the temperature, and not just sit there complaining.

So a thermostat is a *responsible* member of the Body — able to respond.

ha-êmeq — A thermometer is a "problem-proclaimer" and a thermostat is a "problem-solver."

Zimrah — This makes me thankful to be here, where I am being saved from the fatal flaw. I want to be a thermostat and not just a thermometer. I

want to be one who, when it is cold, makes it warm; and if it's too hot, I want to be one who cools it down.

What does 1 Cor 14:26 say? If someone has something to share, he needs to share it. If no one has anything to share, we're not the Body. Does anyone else have anything to bring to this gathering that will cause the temperature to rise above lukewarmness?

Yotsah bat Zerubbabel (14) — I was thankful we heard about the thermostat. I want to be someone who is sensitive enough to notice that it is not right and do something about it. I can always at least change the atmosphere and not just leave things “*the way it is.*”

Ishah Ruth — I saw the difference between the two: the thermometer proclaims the problem, whereas the thermostat sees the problem and solves it. I want to be able to respond to the need like that.

Asah Shalom ben Shoer — I want to be a thermostat so that I can change the temperature and make people feel cool when it's hot.

Kefarah bat Zerubbabel (10) — I don't want to be just a thermometer who complains about the temperature, but I want to be a thermostat so I can actually help people.

Havah bat Zerubbabel — We talked in the Training Seminar about how easy it is to see how many teachers you *don't* have and how much help you need, but it takes energy to figure out what we can do to meet the need. So I want to be one who is encouraging, positive, and a helper.

Encouraging is a good word. We are to “*encourage one another, day after day.*” We must encourage each other *daily* (Heb 3:13).

Sekel shel Nun — Love will always find a way to bring help to a situation. Love demands this kind of action.

Elahav ben Nun — Phil 2:14 “*Do everything without complaining or arguing, so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault, in a crooked and depraved generation, which you shine like stars...*”

In the wilderness, that is just what the Israelites did — reacting, grumbling, and arguing. It was physically hot out, but their hearts were cold. I'm thankful we have the ability to be a thermostat; we don't have to be only a thermometer. When we see something wrong, we can raise the temperature to kill the germs that try to creep in.

That is great! Ok, who is the next thermostat?

Simchah bat Azuriyah — I'm thankful we can learn simple little things like this; it helps us be able to judge ourselves better during the day. I want to help regulate the temperature.

Isn't that wonderful? If we share, then we can all be thermostats, and that means we'll stay right on 72°, won't we? We need to ask our Father for grace so we can continue to be thermostats, and not just thermometers.

Shoer — We can also be thermostats in a negative way. We have the ability to bring the temperature down when it needs to go up, just by our bad attitude.

Sometimes just your countenance can bring the temperature down, if you don't have joy, which is one of the fruits of the Spirit.

Nun — A thermostat *governs* the temperature. We are called to be a spiritual type of thermostat — one that rules properly, maintaining peace in the Body. However, to do this, our will has to be completely surrendered to our spirit, which is in communion with His Spirit. The will operates by whatever is directing it. "Thermometers" can measure the temperature of situations from their emotions or even their natural intellect, pointing out the problems, but not doing anything to change the situation. But "thermostats" are problem-solvers, engaged in their will to bring peace and stability. They don't allow the fatal flaw to take over, causing the temperature to rise and fall.

Zimrah shel Sameach — A thermostat needs electricity — it needs to be connected to the source, or else it can't function; but a thermometer doesn't need to be connected to any electrical current.

Gad — *"So this I say, and affirm together with the Lord, that you walk no longer just as the Gentiles also walk, in the futility of their mind, being darkened in their understanding, excluded from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the hardness of their heart; they, having become callous..."* (Eph 4:17-20)

A thermostat is not callous, but has sensitivity to recognize that the temperature needs to be changed. We need sensitivity to recognize when there is something wrong. The anointing is giving us that sensitivity to recognize QUICKLY when something is coming in. We gain sensitivity by practicing the truth, the things we hear.

ha-êmeq — My version, says, *"Don't walk as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their mind."* Today, I was thinking it was hot, but Yônêq thought it was fine. My thermometer was off. So then if my thermometer had taken over, my thermostat would have changed the temperature. If we all just live by our own thoughts and don't judge ourselves rightly, then we might think that the thermostat needed to be on 62°, like at the complaint morning, when someone said, *"The thermostat downstairs was set at 62°."* Someone

was really hot and changed the thermostat. It all depends on what kind of a ruler you are. Living together would be horrible if everyone subjectively did everything according to what their “futile thoughts” dictated to them.

I loved what Zimrah said, because, really, if you’re not connected to the Source, then you have no power to REALLY change things to build up the Body. You can throw opinions around all day long, and *reorganize*, and make all the changes you might want to do, but if it isn’t from our Father, it is not going to accomplish His purpose.

In Chattanooga, Yônêq talked about a “DOES” kind of person — one who *DOES* our Father’s will.

And Yahshua answered them, “Who are my mother and my brothers?” And looking about at those who sat around him, he said, “Here are my mother and my brothers! Whoever DOES the will of God, he is my brother and sister and mother.” (Mk 3:33-35)

“Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who DOES the will of my Father who is in heaven will enter.” (Mt 7:21)

In that song, “Cause me to know,” where we all lift up our hands, we sing, “Teach me to do YOUR will” — the will of our Father. We have to be *doers* of His will. We didn’t know how to “do the will of God” in the futility of our own minds. I’m so thankful our Master Yahshua made the connection for us, so that now we have the power to *know* His will.

This morning, I thought it was hot; I even *felt* really hot. But as soon as Yônêq told me, “*ha-êmeq, it’s not hot,*” I said, “*Oh, good; it’s not hot.*” Do you know what happened? I wasn’t hot anymore. Nothing changed except that I had an authority over me to simply tell me, “*It’s not hot.*” I was fine after that. My futile thinking was put to rest, and I was fine. If we’re connected to our Source, then our thermostat will work properly.

Ishah Ruth — If the thermometer connected to the thermostat is reading subjectively, it won’t work right. I remember, back in Island Pond, how the thermostat was right by the front door. It would think it was cold because people kept coming in, opening the door. So the message the thermometer got was, “*It’s cold,*” and then it told the thermostat, “*It’s cold,*” and so everywhere else would become hot and stuffy. Andrew Lamb used to always tell us, “The thermostat always has to be in the right place, or it gets the wrong messages.”

If we’re not doing the deeds prepared for us — if we’re not in the right place at the right time — then we’ll think we have what people need for a situation, when we really don’t. We’ll change the temperature

according to how we feel. I saw how I can be that way; when I feel like I'm "on-the-spot," then I react to the "heat."

If we're all thermostats connected to the Source, we'll be His house — "*Our Master is the Son over HIS House — whose house we are, if we are all thermostats.*" That is what Heb 3:6 means. But if we're not thermostats, then He is not the Son over our house, because we don't make Him our King.

But Messiah was faithful as a Son over His house, whose house we are, if we hold fast our confidence and the rejoicing of our hope firm until the end. (Heb 3:6)

To be His house, *each and every member* has to have confidence and outspokenness — "*the rejoicing of our hope firm until the end.*" We need to rejoice in the hope of our calling (1 Jn 3:3). Confidence, of course, means *outspokenness*. We need to be *outspoken*, not silenced. This is how we become *His* house — when all of us are outspoken. And this is how we make Him, the Son (who is the head of the Body), to be King over us.

There are a lot of silent people in many of our gatherings. You can go to some communities and there is no outspokenness. Is Messiah the Son over that house? Are there any thermostats in that community? Is there just one thermostat — the Nicolaitan — and the rest are just thermometers? If so, then He is not the Son over THAT house. He is the Son over the house where ALL speak.

If all prophesy, and an unbeliever or an uninformed person comes in, he is convinced by all, he is convicted by all. And thus the secrets of his heart are revealed; and so, falling down on his face, he will worship God and report that God is truly among you. (1 Cor 14:24-25)

Our outspokenness has to be our Master speaking through each one of us:

If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God. If anyone ministers, let him do it as with the ability which God supplies, that in all things God may be glorified... (1 Pet 4:11)

Comparing thermostats and thermometers is a wonderful way to understand this. What all of you said this morning was amazing! I was SO thankful everyone shared! Throughout the Twelve Tribes, every gathering needs to be like this. In every place

where He has caused His Name to dwell, each and every member is a thermostat connected to the *same* Source (1 Cor 1:2).

Tamiym — I thought how our Father in heaven longs to hear from His children. If He just heard from one of us, and there were 20 of us in the room, that would grieve Him. He longs to hear from His children, and it warms His heart when everyone speaks. Then He knows the life is going in us, and the life is flowing out of us.

Shoer — In the first Edah it turned into just one thermostat in each place, and the rest thermometers.

And the thermostat was set on “lukewarm” — the perfect temperature for germs to flourish.

ha-êmeq — When you put on your diadem, you put on the thermostat. When you put on the “ruling sign,” that means you have to take dominion over the situation, and not just sit around complaining about the temperature.

Hannah — When ha-êmeq talked about our “futile minds,” I realized that if we just live by our own pragmatic thinking, it will be horrible. We’ll change something, totally reorganize it, every situation would be made without our Master Yahshua in it. You may *look* like you’re a thermostat, “regulating the temperature,” and you might even do it well, but it is not from our Father. I want our Father to be in what I say and what I do, to be one who DOES the will of our Father.

Tsiy-tsah shel Shoer — A thermometer gauges everything by how it affects him, but a thermostat is there to make the right environment for everyone. I’m thankful we don’t have to go through life thinking about “*Me, me, me*” — sitting back and judging according to how things affect us.

ha-êmeq — I had the terrifying thought of coming into a gathering where everyone is just a thermometer... and if I didn’t become a thermostat, nothing would happen. Everyone would be just sitting there, saying, “*It’s cold in here,*” but nobody would *do anything*. And then finally someone would just walk off to the bathroom and not come back. And I would just be standing there, all alone, because there was nobody who was willing to be a thermostat. It is set up so that it will become evident if a community doesn’t have any thermostats. *Something* will happen. It will self-destruct if there is no one who will break through the silence.

You were a thermostat, Asah Shalom, at this conference center, weren't you? You were a thermostat out there in the garden. You made it grow, didn't you? Yes, you made it grow: you cultivated it, you fertilized it, and watered it. Our Father didn't make it grow alone — He needed you to help, putting the seeds in and everything. You were a thermostat, and you made things happen, didn't you?

Asah Shalom ben Shoer — Yes.

ha-êmeq — Yônêq had a complaint morning somewhere and none of the children said anything. We have the “shorter perspective” here, and we're always thankful for the “shorter perspective” because they see that the doorknob is off. We really need the perspective of children on things; they can't just sit there and not have a suggestion.

Shoer — Engendering a voice in the children makes them want to grow up and be thermostats, and not just thermometers. You can just grow up, hearing and hearing, and never having any demand on you. Yônêq has often said, “*The greatest thing you can do in teaching children is to get them to speak.*” This causes them to grow up and be thermostats.

Elahav — There is a saying in the world, “*Keep it cool,*” which is really a stagnant expression, reflecting a complacent attitude. Young people in the world are in a stagnant place, leveled from peer pressure. But here we want it to be hot, as that song says, “*I want to be hot, instead of cold.*”

That is so wonderful! Are we training our children to be thermometers, or thermostats? And what about you, Ahavti?

Ahavti bat Sameach (13) — I want to be a thermostat. I was thankful how ha-êmeq defined it: a thermometer is a problem-proclaimer, and a thermostat is a problem-solver. I saw how even if I can't do something, I can at least have a bright countenance, and that is being a thermostat.

Kefarah bat Zerubbabel — I am thankful to live in a place where we can actually help people and not just say, “*That's your problem.*”

That's good... that's right! That's what the world says.

Yotsah bat Zerubbabel — Sometimes, it just takes one person who is connected for others to realize they are going off. It is better to not be disconnected, but some people are more sensitive. This makes me want to be more sensitive.

Simchah bat Asuryah — I'm thankful for what Zimrah shared about being connected. You can't just assume you're connected; you have to make sure

you're connected. You can't just wake up in the morning, thinking, "*Well, I was connected yesterday, so today I will be connected.*" You actually have to go out each day and make sure you are connected, which is what I want to do, so my thermostat can work right.

You've got to *do* something if you want to be a thermostat: you've got to speak with a loud voice and encourage. A thermometer just complains.

Nun — When I put on my diadem this morning, I had the impression I was putting on a crown, not just a piece of threaded linen fabric. I thought, "*Okay, get ready... Today, you must rule.*" Sometimes, I have more of that sense than others, but our diadem is a sign we are thermostats: rulers, governing situations, so that we can offer real help. Part of being a thermostat is recognizing our need to hear from our children. They see things we can't see. Our children might be seem to be "*the least of the brethren,*" those whom you may tend to think would not have an accurate perspective, so we may dismiss what they say too quickly. However, they are sometimes the very ones who possess the objectivity that is needed.

Chazaq — Ps 133:1 says, "Behold, how good and how *pleasant* it is for brothers to dwell together in unity." That is how we want it to be: pleasant. We have an opportunity every day to make our surroundings pleasant.