

Our Father's Business

Dear Michael,

It is clear from your short note to me that you are experiencing what many, many parents have experienced in the last thirty-five years when their child becomes interested in our life. We understand this very well and appreciate your desire to communicate. Most caring parents have expectations for their children, and when something else gets in the way of that expectation, it can be very threatening. I sincerely hope that you can hear where we are coming from concerning your precious daughter.

Our life is based on doing our Father's will (Mt 6:9-11) in order that His name could be made great and His Kingdom would come on earth. We are willing to do His will and not do our own will in this life (Jn 7:17). As a result of this willingness to obey Him, we look at the Scriptures in light of what God wants us to do and requires us to do in order to become a disciple. This is what will enable us to follow Him faithfully all the days of our lives. Specifically, we look at the words of the gospel of our Master and Savior Yahshua, which are recorded in the New Covenant Scriptures (commonly called the New Testament). These are the very words of the only Mediator between God and mankind, which is the man Yahshua (1 Tim 2:5). The gospel makes clear the only way a person can be saved from Death (that place of torment talked about in Lk 16:28). Our heavenly Father sacrificed His only begotten Son as a ransom to redeem all who would obey Him. And the gospel defines what true obedience is.

Michael, we hope that you will read these words for yourself. We are not making up anything that is not the very word of our Master and Savior, by which faith (the voice of God's Spirit) can come to a person who is willing to do His will. That faith comes by hearing it from a true and genuine disciple who represents the Mediator between God and mankind, whose Hebrew name is *Yahshua*, but who is called *Jesus* in the English New Testament, based on the Greek *Iesous*.

In this letter I have included some of the words Yahshua spoke, which were recorded by His disciples and apostles (Jn 13:20). I hope you also, like your daughter, will respond from your heart, that you may be drawn to His Son and taught by Him, as Jn 6:44-45 says. This is truly how one receives a “higher education,” and it is a means of grace or the first step to a person’s salvation (Eph 2:8-10). Those who are taught or educated by Him do not see the necessity of becoming “educated fools.” They look to a far greater, eternal “degree” that cannot even be compared to any degree the educational system could provide. Their mind and heart are set on receiving the ultimate eternal degree of glory one receives by being schooled in the University of Yahshua (Isa 54:13). The Scriptures say we shall be like our teachers if we receive a proper spiritual education, having followed their examples of faith (Phil 3:17; 2 Tim 2:2; Isa 50:4-5; Lk 6:40).

You should consider and question yourself whether you are being taught by God to prevent your daughter from having eternal life — being educated in the *Way of Yahweh* (Gen 18:19). This is truly the highest education anyone could ever receive in his lifetime. Being a father to your daughter, you must try to understand Lk 14:26, Jn 12:25-26, and Mt 10:37, which all speak about you in the position of father, so that you can understand what your daughter must do in order to become a disciple of the Son of God, and also what you too must do to become a disciple, as in Lk 14:33. This is the good news for those who are set free from all selfishness or sin in order to have eternal life (Acts 2:36-41,44-45; 4:32-37; 2 Cor 5:15).

Yahshua’s parents had to realize the same thing about their Son, as it is recorded in the gospels (Mk 3:20-21,31-35). Is that good news to you, Michael? The New Testament Scriptures are full of verses recording the words of Yahshua concerning what one must do to have eternal life and to do His Will. Please read these: Mk 10:17-30; 8:34-38; Jn 3:18,36; Acts 5:32; 2 Ths 1:8-9.

Michael, we are not enticing your daughter by our own words, but she is hearing the very words of God spoken through His Son, mediated through one of His disciples, as it says in Mt 10:40-41 and Jn 13:20. So what can we do about obeying our Master, whose words must be received and obeyed (Rom 10:14-17) in order for us to have eternal life?

Please, consider carefully whether you think it is better for her to have a “degree” rather than eternal life, lest she become an “educated fool” who goes to death — to that place of torment eternally. No one who desires to follow Yahshua can drink out of two cups, nor serve God and Mammon at the same time (Mt 6:24; 1 Cor 10:21).

Have you ever read the story our Master told about the rich man in Lk 16:19-31? In that passage our Master called death a “place of torment.” The rich man had every comfort and luxury notable among the educated, well-to-do, and refined. But his prosperity and wealth was at the expense of his own soul. For with all his higher learning, degrees, and accomplishments he cared little to nothing for his fellow neighbor, a fact which our Master dramatically brought to light in this story. Full of his own pride and affluence, he could barely lift his eyes to look upon the destitute Lazarus. Even the tiniest morsel of food from his table he would not spare to care for this unfortunate fellow. The rich man’s former, higher-education training had caused him to despise in his heart such men as this poor Lazarus.

Both died, but one was comforted in the afterlife while one was eternally in torment, paying for his sins. What about you, Michael? If you died and found yourself in death, would you want to send someone to your daughter and tell her about that place, in hopes that she would not reject the gospel as you may be doing? That is what the rich man pleaded would happen for the sake of his own brothers who still lived — that someone would warn them to turn away from the deception of riches so they would not come to that place of torment.

I hope the good news of salvation and deliverance from that place of eternal torment does not offend you. The rich young ruler asked in Mk 10:17-22, "What must I do to inherit eternal life?" so our Master told him and His own disciples (Mk 10:28-30) what one must do to receive the good news of salvation. This is what your daughter must do, and what you and every other human being must do if they want to be saved from that place of torment.

Remember, 2 Ths 1:8-9 makes it clear that the gospel must be *obeyed*. Also, remember what is recorded in Acts 2:36-45 — that *all* the believers (like the believers spoken about in Jn 3:16) lived together and shared all things in common. Acts 4:32-37 goes on to say this also.

So, I hope you would not consider a "degree" as having greater value than eternal life. This also applies to you, as Lk 10:16 says. As a matter of fact, Michael, we have not tried to persuade your daughter to quit college. She, by her own free will, was drawn to our Master due to His love in our hearts which we poured out upon her (Jn 6:44). It is like precious metal in her that is drawn like a magnet to the life of Yahshua in all of us, who likewise want to serve our Master with all our heart. "Like attracts like," and this is what your daughter was experiencing while among us.

Yahshua is the Savior of all who have in them a will to do His will (Jn 7:17). Only they are attracted and drawn to the magnet of His life. It is the same thing that drew us to Him by our Father's grace and faith. God used us as the grace that attracted your daughter to our Master, and by hearing and experiencing the words of God's love (the gospel, which is good news for some and bad news for others, Jn 3:36) she was starting to receive the faith — the word of God through the Holy Spirit in us — to believe and follow our Savior Yahshua.

Yahshua is the mediator between God and mankind (1 Tim 2:5), but those who obey him and do His will here on earth mediate for Him to other human beings, as His ambassadors (2 Cor 5:20). Your daughter could be reconciled to God through receiving

us, since we were acting on her behalf as mediators between Yahshua and her. And since she is a precious human being for whom you are responsible, it would seem that you would be looking out for her *eternal* welfare, since she is an eternal soul, just as the two mentioned in Lk 16:19-31 who had two separate destinies.

Since all humans beings have to spend eternity somewhere (Lk 16:23), you may cry out there one day yourself that your daughter would not have to come to that place of torment where you are — unless you can hear the words of our Master.

So, how much do you love her? What is the greatest thing she can have — a degree as an *educated fool* or as an *educated saint*? You may find yourself asking Abraham to send one of us to her so that she would not have to come to be with you in that place of torment, due to the hardness of your own heart against what our Master taught.

Michael, I realize that your daughter is your business, but I do have to say, and hope you realize, that I must take care of my Father's business. If it is His will to save all who are willing to do His will, then you yourself are *my* business too, as we are commanded to do His business until He comes (Mt 22:5; Lk 2:49; 19:12-27). And if I do not do His business, which has now become mine also (Lk 19:13), then I will be as the man in verse 27.

Our Master wants to see fruit or dividends from His investments in us. So, we must put to use the faith we have received in order to “do business” with His Word, to make disciples, putting it to good use. But in verse 14 are those who reject the gospel proclaimed by His sent ones (Lk 10:16). And we, who are His servants, must give an account of our labor while He is away in order to be worthy of Messiah (as in Rev 3:4), in order that we would rule with Him in the next age on earth.

So, Michael, if your daughter rejects us, both you and she will pay with eternal consequences. Your daughter must now, after hearing the gospel, obey it as Acts 5:32 says, or she will be as it says in Jn 3:18. She will be *judged already* (i.e., worthy of the

second death) as Rev 21:6-8 and Jn 7:37-39 point out. She would be a coward and unbeliever forever and ever, as Rev 21:8 describes the cowardly unbelievers who remain that way *still*, as in the category of the filthy (Rev 22:11).

To reject the Messiah is the worse sin mentioned in Rev 21:8. To reject Messiah when He is faithfully represented through a sent one (Lk 10:16) is the Number One Sin. That sin cannot be atoned for by Yahshua's sacrifice. But to receive Him is a matter of choice, and our Father gives every human being that right to choose his own eternal destiny. So, don't be categorized with the dull ones in Mt 13:15, as there is ample opportunity now to hear and obey.