

Show Your Bruised Heel

David Zerubbabel — Rom 12:1-2 speaks of us *giving our bodies as a living sacrifice*. Just try sometime to offer a *living* animal sacrifice. Just try to get Lily [*a goat*] or Bucky [*a calf*] to lay still on the altar. So what does Rom 12:1 mean by “*a living sacrifice*”? In old Israel, they would take the animal’s life first and then offer the animal up as a burnt offering. Anyone with enough physical strength can put a dead animal on the altar. What about us? Our Father wants us to “*present our bodies as a living sacrifice*” — to overcome everything that would keep us from being totally surrendered, coming to Him every morning without squirming, resisting, or desiring to be somewhere else, and without fear.

We start with Rom 12:1, and then the rest of the chapter is about maintaining our communion throughout the day in all we do. We might suffer today. In fact, we are going to *have* to suffer; our whole day is going to be full of opportunities to learn obedience through the things we suffer.

“When will I have time to go and pray?” someone asked. Well, after the minchah, we may not have time to go for a walk. Our life is required of us. Really, it’s all about maintaining communion. If the day starts out with surrender and leads up to surrender, and it’s all categorized by maintaining communion in between, then our Father is pleased with that.

What you do during the day is your worship for Him. Our work is *worship*, as in Acts 26:6-7, *serving or worshiping Him night and day*, however your translation reads. *Serve* and *worship* are the same word. In serving your King, you are worshiping Him. We offer our bodies as a living sacrifice so that we can work by the grace He provides, and our work is worship. We are all working — building the great, eternal dwelling place for Elohim.

Grace — What is it going to take, to truly know our Master Yahshua? *Laying down our lives for our friends*. You can’t say, “Well, I have to go read my Bible,” walking by your sister or brother under a pile of things. You have to judge the pressing need.

What will make the bride be so shiny out there in the wilderness? Her heart being connected with her Master’s will. They were one and the same. She knew what He would do because she was obedient, as our Master knew His Father and was obedient. He could say, “If you’ve seen

me, you've seen the Father." He had learned obedience. He had learned to be just like the Father was.

At the end of the age, there will be great pressure, even mental pressure, as we're being confined to our farms before we go into the wilderness. That is what is going to bring out all those subtle things, even accusations against one another and our Father. But when the King calls for His bride, she has no fear, but just that shiny countenance. She had allowed nothing to come in to rob her of her communion.

We have to be wise virgins all the time, judging every little thought that comes in during those times of pressure, when we have so much to do. We have to be like that bride, remaining shiny under intense pressure.

Havah bat Zerubbabel — As Grace spoke, I thought about the part in the wedding where Hannah was being judged. Ishah Ruth came running out and said, "I know she is worthy!" That part can't be rehearsed. Rather, it has to be from revelation; we *know* the deeds of the bride. We *know* how she has been a "shiner."

Grace talked about judging every situation. We heard that the bride will judge with righteousness and justice. It makes me want to cry out for wisdom and understanding because situations just come at you so fast sometimes. What if we're not begging our Father to help us to know what to do in every situation? Then you get overwhelmed, discouraged, and your countenance falls.

It reminds me of that time our Master was trying to go pray, and the people just kept following Him. The disciples said, "Why don't you just send the people home?" But He knew they needed Him. He wasn't about to send them away. I just love that story. We have the power to be like Him and not "send the people away" who need you, just to get out from that pressure. The bride isn't like that.

Being the bride isn't something mystical, but it has to do with everything we do, all day long. Hannah was "bright and shining" because of her deeds, not because of her religion. She does the will of our Father. I want to be more like that, and know that our Master Yahshua can give us grace to be just like He was. He loved people no matter how He felt.

Grace was saying that the first 3½ years of the tribulation we would be pressed close together in many ways. But we have 50 years of preparation, living together in households. The whole Race is a preparation time, even before the last 3½ years. We have to be *prepared* for that time.

As our new disciple John said, “The evil one gets between you and your brother or sister.” We can’t have that. We have to cast him out, if he is ever going to be cast out, if he is ever going to be put into the abyss. Will he be *put underfoot* by anyone in the world? The world can’t put him under their feet. We’re the only ones who can do that. We’re the only ones who can carry out our Father’s will.

Gen 3:15 is a very mysterious type of saying. And we don’t know exactly all that it’s talking about, but we can gather some things by what it says:

And I will put enmity between you and the woman, between your seed and her seed; he shall crush your head, and you shall bruise his heel. (Gen 3:15)

Enmity is hostility, animosity, alienation, malice. That’s what will form between the Serpent and the woman, between his seed and her seed. If you saw a snake today, you probably would kill it, not taking a chance whether it is poisonous or not. There is a lot of *enmity* there. And there is animosity between people, because of the fatal flaw of man. But it is wonderful that we can see and understand this verse.

It is our Master who is going to crush Satan’s head, but *we are His feet*. He doesn’t have any feet except ours, here on earth, so we’re the ones who are going to have to crush Satan’s head if it’s going to be crushed.

“Why can’t Man just get along?”

Man can’t get along because of the Serpent: because of animosity and enmity and antagonism between the Serpent and man. That’s the condition of fallen man. Humanity is now being separated into two camps. We know there are three categories of man, each with its own eternal destiny. But for the first time in almost 2000 years, the redeemed are being separated from the unredeemed. Within the unredeemed, of course, there are two categories, the just and the unjust. But now there is a separated people called the *Holy*, which means *separated in Messiah*. They live a different life in a different culture. A people is now being formed on earth who will crush Satan’s head, who will put him under their feet and then into the abyss. It will take us coming to *the end of selfishness*.

Two Cultures of Man

So the world is beginning to see two distinct cultures — the *supra-culture* of redeemed man, and the natural culture of unredeemed man. Some are better than others, but they're all still living for themselves. Even a good man in the world, working at a job to provide a living for his wife and family, is still living for himself. He's not doing anything to build the Kingdom. The two cultures are described in Mt 6:31-33.

Natural culture: Mt 6:31-32, seeking food and clothing for themselves.

Supra-culture: Mt 6:33, seeking first His kingdom and His righteousness.

For those who do as Mt 6:33, all the necessities the nations seek for are given to them as well. This new culture will be a witness to all mankind, reflecting the very image and likeness of the Creator. They are called the *Redeemed*, those who love our Father, and they love the *Redeemer*, our Master. The world doesn't love our Master. Only those who obey His commandments love Him. That's objective; there is no other way to love our Master.

If you love Me, you will keep My commandments... Whoever has My commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and reveal Myself to him. (Jn 14:15,21)

That is what He said Himself. Obviously, only the *redeemed* (not the pseudo-redeemed) can love our Master. We are in an environment where we *can* obey Him, and we will obey Him because we love Him; love demands that we would obey Him. That is what maintains our unity in the bond of love.

Two Categories of the Unredeemed

There will always be hostility between unredeemed mankind. Right from the beginning, after our Father said that to the Serpent in Gen 3:15, you see the story of Cain and Abel in Genesis 4 — two divisions within the fallen nature of Man. Both Cain and Abel had fallen nature, but one wanted to do what was good, and the other evil. Satan led Cain astray, and he murdered Abel because of the animosity in him, the

hostility that develops in people's hearts through Satan's venom. So we can see the two categories of unredeemed Man right there — the just and the unjust.

Cain and Abel is a striking parallel to the contrast and hostility between the redeemed and the pseudo-redeemed (Christianity). Christianity is not really "*redeemed by the blood of the Lamb*" as they claim, since they don't love one another and don't live together. There's no community, so there's no preparation of a bride.

We are being prepared for the time when we will no longer be able to function in the world, buying and selling, without compromise. During the first 3½ years of the tribulation we will probably need to all move on our farms, where we can be self-sustaining. When the first 3½ years are up, Satan will be incarnate in the beast, and then they will come against us totally and absolutely. That's when we have to flee, and that's when the 144,000 are sent out as a decoy so that we are able to flee to the wilderness. There will be a place prepared for us where we will be nourished for 3½ years (Rev 12:14).

But in the first 3½ years, we won't be so "nourished." We'll have a lot of ways to complain before the last 3½ years. If we're complaining about our food now, just think what is going to happen during the first 3½ years of the tribulation, when we can't buy or sell. Probably, they'll impose that on us first, in our tribal territories: we can't buy or sell without taking the Mark of the Beast (Rev 13:17). They won't impose it on the world until that first 3½ years are up. Then we will have to flee, because they will force us to take the Mark of the Beast or kill us.

Satan's End

So in the last days there will be redeemed and unredeemed humanity. The redeemed, though a tiny minority, will be a great witness all over the world, as those who *no longer live for themselves*. "Old things have passed away; all things have become new" (2 Cor 5:17), so that means a new culture, a new way of living that is in a different

realm entirely from the way the world lives. “*All things become new*” because our Master took all of our sin — all of our selfishness — on Himself, dying in our place. We don’t have to go to death and pay for our own selfishness because we’re putting it under our Master’s feet.

That is why Satan is cast in the abyss — because we undo the selfishness that motivates and runs the whole world. It not only *runs* the world; it *ruins* the world. Satan’s end will only come about through those who *no longer live for themselves*. You can see that 2 Cor 5:15 and Mt 6:33 are the only way that the redeemed can live as a witness. That is the only way the Serpent’s head can be *crushed*. What does it take to crush Satan’s head?

Gen 3:15 — *It takes the bruising of the heel to crush the Serpent’s head*. It’s not going to be an easy thing, as Christians think: “Jesus already did it all, so we don’t have to do anything.” Yahshua wants *us* to do it. We represent Him on earth; He provides the power and we provide the feet. But we have got to have the grace and the faith and the power of the Holy Spirit to carry it out. That’s the witness.

We have to be violent against whatever would keep us from being that witness. There is no entry into the kingdom unless you show your heel, to prove whether there is a bruise. It means you did your part.

...waiting from that time onward until His enemies be made a footstool for His feet.
(Heb 10:13)

He’s waiting, right now. And when will heaven release Him? Acts 3:21. Heaven can’t release Him until then, and then He returns and *restores all things* in the next age (Mt 19:28). Right now, we have to restore the Edah, the church, to how it was in the beginning, to the original pattern or paradigm.

Dimension of the Redeemed

There’s got to be another “dimension” than natural man lives in. Selfishness is a sin that causes all the strife in the world. The Civil War in America couldn’t be worked

out between them, even though both sides were Christians. The Christians in the north were praying for God's help to kill the people in the south, and the Christians in the south were praying for God's help to kill the people in the north. They're both Christians, supposedly crying out to the same God.

But there is no war between the saints. Messiah can't be divided in any way, Paul said. But strife can sneak in, as it was trying to among the Corinthians. Paul's words in 1 Cor 1:10 and 13 condemn all the denominations.

All strife is ended by 2 Cor 5:14-15 — by no longer living for yourself, but for Him who died on your behalf, in your place. We don't even vote; we don't take up the sword; we're not engaged in civilian pursuits. That's the world. The just (unredeemed) people in the world do, but the holy *won't* and *don't*.

Jn 13:34-35 — The world will know who His disciples are pretty soon, and that will come about as we love one another. There is no division between us; we are one as the Father and Son are one (Jn 17:11,21-23). So that's the end of Satan's reign on the earth. We have to pray to be delivered from the evil one, and when he comes to us, we have to rebuke him in our Master Yahshua's name. That is our power over him. That is how we keep ourselves from his touch (1 Jn 5:18).

Resist and Rebuke Satan

Gad — Selfishness so easily wants to entangle itself around us (Heb 12:1). Like those morning glories, which start out looking pretty and climb up with all their nice little flowers, but then they totally take over. They just wrap around, twist, and strangle the life out of the plant they're climbing on. That's how selfishness is sometimes. It doesn't seem like such a "big deal" at first, but then it strangles the life out of us.

To counter that strangling growth, it is not enough just to pray to be delivered from the evil one. The time comes when we have to *do* something. We have to say, "*I rebuke you, Satan, in the name of my Master Yahshua ha Mashiyach.*" Because sometimes

he comes into your mind like a flood, but when you put your helmet on, you can rebuke him in the name of our Master.

You can't beat Satan on your own; you have to use our Master Yahshua's name, and then, certainly, he has to flee. But, it is equally certain that he will come back. We are in a great fight, and it's only the beginning. We're not in the tribulation yet, though we're beginning to threaten him. He knows that something is going to come along and put him into the abyss. It's not going to be an easy task. It's going to take more than we have. That's why we need the power of the Holy Spirit. We have to be true believers; we have to have eternal life; we have to love one another, putting away all strife and division and immoral behavior.

Gen 3:15 — The Woman's seed crushes the Serpent's head. You don't normally think of woman as having a seed, but it's speaking of the Male Child (Rev 12:1-6; 6:9-11).

ha-êmeq — I was thankful that we put lambskins out for Hannah, the bride, to stand on in New Jerusalem. She got on a lamb's skin to be judged — she stood on a slaughtered lamb — and that's the only way the bride is going to stand! It is only His sacrifice that will make us endure any judgment, becoming a spotless bride for Him. We stand on our Master Yahshua, calling upon His name; otherwise, we'll be like that man in Acts who tried to rebuke Satan, but the demons said, "*We know Paul, but who are you?*" and they turned on him, beat him, and ripped his clothes apart. We can only stand on the rock of our Master Yahshua, our slain lamb. We have nothing to stand on without His powerful name.

Grace — One time I got bit by a spider in Palenville, and I didn't think much of it at first, but it took a whole month to get over it. I used to laugh at the girls screaming about spiders, but now when I see a black spider in my bed, and it hides, I search everywhere until I find it. If you watch a snake, it will crawl up into the bushes and hide, but it is still there. That is how the evil one is. You need to bruise your heel, and deal with it before it crawls away, waiting for an opportune time.