

Unveiled!

I, Yeshua your Lord, take you, Kehilat Kol Simcha, to be my lawfully wedded wife, to have and to hold, from this day forward, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, for all eternity.

When our Jewish people in *Parashah Yitro* were offered the opportunity to become a “peculiar treasure, a kingdom of priests and a holy nation” (Ex. 19:5-6), the response by all of Israel was “Everything *יהוה* has said we will do (*כָּל אֲשֶׁר-דִּבֶּר יְהוָה נַעֲשֶׂה*)” (vs. 8). Our people intended to obey when it came to doing what *יהוה* had said. That generation of our people that left Egypt (*Mitzrayim*) was willing to obey their new Master, without reservation. This is always true at any wedding—the unveiled bride is ready to honor, cherish, love and obey her husband-to-be! This commitment is one that must also be in our innermost being still today. Will we in *Kol Simcha* implicitly obey whatsoever He asks us to do?

Loving the Lord Means Keeping His Commandments.

Our Savior Yeshua said, “If ye love me, you will keep my commandments” (John 14:15). He gave three promises to everyone who will do this: “Whoever has my commands and keeps them is the one who loves me, and the one who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and reveal myself to him” (John 14:21).

Anyone who is loved by the Father and by His Son Yeshua, and who has had the Messiah made known to him will have a special ability to give wise and insightful testimony and counsel to others. All words of wisdom, as well as all the things that happen to us, are related to the goal of knowing Him and being conformed to His image. (See Ro. 8:28-29.)

Keeping His Commandments Means Loving Others.

Since God has so loved the world that he gave His only begotten Son (John 3:16), surely we must also love one another. Loving those who love us back is easy, loving the world with all of its problems is hard. When we take inventory of the Ten Words spoken by *Adonai* in Exodus 20, we realize how many of those have to do with others – relating to the world around us. “If anyone says, “I love God,” and hates his brother, he is a liar. For if a person does not love his brother, whom he has seen, then he cannot love God, whom he has not seen. Yes, this is the command we have from him: whoever loves God must love his brother too.” (1 John 4:20-21)

Those who receive our words must be convinced that we are speaking out of a heart of genuine love. They will be able to discern this only if we love the Lord with all of our heart and soul and mind and strength. It is on the basis of loving God that we do things for others, because Yeshua said: “Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did it to one of these brothers of Mine, even the least of them, you did it to Me” (Matthew 25:40).

Keeping His Commandments Produces Light in Our Eyes.

The whole purpose of testifying or giving godly counsel is providing light for others to follow. Without the light of God's truth, people stumble in the darkness. (Prov. 4:18-19.) We are to be the light of the world (Matt. 5:14). Yeshua explained precisely how to be that light in Matt. 6:22: “The light of the body is the eye...” Thus, we are to let the light of our eyes so shine before men that they will see the good works that we do for them and glorify our Father Who is in Heaven (Matt. 5:16). Having the Light of Messiah in our eyes is also a vital means of discerning the motives of those who come and ask questions. Those who want the truth will come to the light, while those who are evil will stay away from the light lest their deeds be reproved (Jo. 3:20-21).

Many would be witnesses of the Gospel spend countless hours of useless time trying to help those who do not really want to be free from their evil deeds. On the other hand, those who are eager for lasting results will be open to one who radiates love for God and the light of truth. The relationship between the commandments and the light in our eyes is given in Psalm 19:8: “The commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes.” When we witness to someone with light in our eyes, it causes their heart to rejoice since “The light of the eyes rejoiceth the heart...” (Prov. 15:30). At the conclusion of all *Adonai* spoke from Ex. 20-24 our people added another word to their response: *VeNishma* (*וַנִּשְׁמָע*) (Ex. 24:7). We will Sh'ma! Shabbat Shalom!