

The Last Message – We Need Another Helper

Years ago I would drive with the radio on, usually on the only Christian station around, 88.3FM WTLG. WTLG identified their station each hour, on the hour, always with a Scripture verse. I looked forward to hearing twice or three times per day this familiar passage: “*Do not let your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you. If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself, that where I am, there you may be also, and you know the way where I am going.*” Thomas said to Him, ‘Lord, we do not know where You are going, how do we know the way?’ Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, and the truth, and the life ; no one comes to the Father but through Me.’ glorifying Jesus, WTLG 88.3, Starke/Gainesville, Florida” I no longer drive with the radio on, and I do not know if WTLG still does this, nevertheless, I fully remember thanking God for WTLG’s messages from Scripture.

This passage from John Chapter 14 recounts dialog that took place on that last Passover, on Aviv 14, right after *Yeshua*’s Seder and before His death. What did *Yeshua* share with his disciples just before His death? He knew His time was at hand and so I believe He chose His words carefully. If you knew you were going to die later today, what would you share with your family and friends in the short time available? I know what I would share, don’t you? I would share what is *most important* for them to hear from me before I am gone. I would choose my words carefully and would want them to consider carefully whatever I had to say. Imagine yourself being there, a fly on the wall, listening to what *Yeshua* said to the eleven. Wait a minute! We do have a record of what was said:

¹“Do not let your heart be troubled ; believe in God, believe also in Me. ²In My Father's house are many dwelling places ; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you. ³If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself, that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴And you know the way where I am going.’ ⁵Thomas said to Him, ‘Lord, we do not know where You are going, how do we know the way?’ ⁶Yeshua said to him, ‘I am the way, and the truth, and the life ; no one comes to the Father but through Me.’ ⁷If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also ; from now on you know Him, and have seen Him’ ⁸Philip said to Him, ‘Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us.’ ⁹Yeshua said to him, ‘Have I been so long with you, and yet you have not come to know Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; how can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? ¹⁰‘Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father is in Me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on My own initiative, but the Father abiding in Me does His works. ¹¹Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father is in Me; otherwise believe because of the works themselves. ¹²Verily, Verily, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do, he will do also; and greater works than these he will do; because I go to the Father. ¹³Whatever you ask in My name, that will I do, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If you ask Me anything in My name, I will do it. ¹⁵If you love Me, you will keep My commandments. ¹⁶I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever; ¹⁷that is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not see Him or know Him, but you know Him because He abides with you and will be in you. ¹⁸I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. ¹⁹After a little while the world will no longer see Me, but you will see Me; because I live, you will live also. ²⁰In that day you will know that I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you. ²¹He who has My commandments and keeps them is the one who loves Me; and he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and will disclose Myself to him’. ²²Judas (not Iscariot) said to Him, ‘Lord, what then has happened that You are going to disclose Yourself to us and not to the world?’ ²³Yeshua answered and said to him, ‘If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our abode with him. ²⁴He who does not love Me does not keep My words; and the word which you hear is not Mine, but the Father's who sent Me. ²⁵These things I have spoken to you while abiding with you. ²⁶But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you. ²⁷Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not let your heart be troubled, nor let it be fearful. ²⁸You heard that I said to you, ‘I go away, and I will come to you.’ If you loved Me, you would have rejoiced because I go to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. ²⁹Now I have told you before it happens, so that when it happens, you may believe. ³⁰I will not speak much more with you, for the ruler of the world is coming, and he has nothing in Me; ³¹but so that the world may know that I love the Father, I do exactly as the Father commanded Me. Get up, let us go from here. (John 14)

The Samaritan Woman at the Well

In John 4 we have the story of the Samaritan Woman at the Well. It is one of my favorite passages in the *B'rit HaChadasha* and the *first time Yeshua* revealed Himself as the Messiah of Israel (Law of First Mention):

²³“*But an hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for such people the Father seeks to be His worshipers.*” ²⁴*God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.* ²⁵*The woman said to Him, ‘I know that Messiah is coming (He who is called Mashiach); when that One comes, He will declare all things to us.’* ²⁶*Yeshua said to her, ‘I who speak to you am He.’”* (John 4:23-26)

In returning north to the Galilee, *Yeshua* and his disciples came to the outskirts of the city of Sychar, a city in middle Samaria about 60 miles north of Jerusalem and about half way between Jerusalem and Capernaum. It was there that he first revealed clearly who he was. She asked him about the rift between Samaritans and Jews as to *where* to worship, but *Yeshua* explained to her that G-d is Spirit and that He must be worshiped in spirit and in truth. His words were beyond any argument as to *where* to worship. They revealed *how* Adonai must be worshiped. Such words the woman had never heard, and neither have we. Her eyes were opened. She told him that she perceived that he truly was a prophet and that they were expecting the Messiah to come and that when he came he would tell them all things. She was obviously familiar with the writings of the prophets. She was indirectly asking him if he was the prophesied Messiah. He replied, “I that speak unto thee am He” [John 4:26].

To be Sought by the Father

To be sought by the Father Himself is a *better* promise than the promise that we will find Him when we seek Him with all our heart. Both promises result in finding Him, but He has infinitely better resources at His disposal to accomplish the search (He is after all Omniscient, Omnipresent, and Omnipotent). But is it really possible that we can be sought by the Father? *Yeshua* said clearly: “*But an hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for such people the Father seeks to be His worshipers. God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.*” (John 4:23-24) There we have it. We must become true worshippers who esteem and practice worshipping the Father in Spirit (the Holy Spirit) and in (with) truth. In fact, verse 24 states that to truly worship the Father we must do so in Spirit and in Truth.

I want to be sought by the Father. In fact, I want our congregation to be sought by the Father. I want to be “found by Him” practicing *Holy Spirit* worship and living an integral life of truth. This is so fundamental to our ministry and to Kol Simcha that I am compelled to remind us again today that: “*We shall know the truth and the truth shall make us free.*” (John 8:32) Do you know The Truth and are you completely free?

One thing for sure is that our present world does not love truth (as perfectly predicted by Scripture.) People love lies and refuse to learn the truth. However, rest assured that in worshipping the Father with truth (and with His Spirit), He WILL seek us and He WILL find us.

We Need Another Helper

If *Yeshua*'s last message is truly important, then we need another Helper and we need to ask the Father in *Yeshua*'s Name for this gift. Why? Because we need to remember His words and we need to know things before they happen. “¹⁶*I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever;*” ¹⁷*that is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not see Him or know Him, but you know Him because He abides with you and will be in you...*” ²⁶*But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you...*” ²⁹*Now I have told you before it happens, so that when it happens, you may believe.*” ³⁰*I will not speak much more with you...*” Doesn't the Bible say: “*We have not because we ask not?*” (Jas.4:2) For sure *Yeshua* knows we need His Spirit with us, and we need it badly. Let us be frank with the Lord and say ‘*Lord, you knoweth.*’ I want to lay a foundation for *Shavout* (as advertised), that *WE* in *Kol Simcha* need everything *Yeshua* purchased for us. We need to admit to ourselves and to Him that we need another Helper, like He said we needed. Do you agree? I pray it be so... Shabbat Shalom!