

By Your Words

*“For by **your words** you will be **justified**, and by your words you will be **condemned**” (Matt. 12:37)*

My attitude and how I feel about things is up to me and nothing or no one else. This is a Biblical truth! Our attitude can have more influence than our past, our education, money, circumstances, appearance, skills, failures, successes, or how others treat us. The fact is that the borders of our comfort zones will be assaulted by the unexpected. Our hearts will be stripped and shaven by disappointment, failure, unmet expectations, illness, frustration, and broken relationships. We do not, however, have to allow any of these things to dictate our responses. If *Adonai* guides our life and mind, we have the power to respond to life with a godly attitude – with wisdom from above, which is viewing life from the Lord’s point of view.

As evidently obvious in Paul's admonitions to the Philippians, they had a tendency toward disunity (see Phil. 1:27; 4:2-3). But instead of fighting one another, Paul encouraged them to reflect an attitude rooted in their relationship with Messiah. *“**if** there is any encouragement in Messiah, **if** there is any comfort of love, **if** there is any fellowship of the Ruach, **if** there is any mercy and compassion,² then make my joy complete by being of the same mind, having the same love, united in spirit, with one purpose” (Phil. 2:1-2). **If . . . if . . . if . . . if**. These begin four conditional clauses in the Greek. Robert Lightner explains the significance of this structure.*

*The **if** clauses, being translations of first-class conditions in Greek, speak of certainties. So in this passage **if** may be translated “since.” Paul wrote here about realities, not questionable things. Paul appealed on the basis of (a) encouragement from being united with Messiah... (b) comfort from His love... (c) fellowship with the Spirit... (d) tenderness and compassion.*

Therefore, *since we have all these things*, *“⁵ Have this attitude in yourselves, which also was in Yeshua” (Phil. 2:5) and we will “Therefore, there is now no **condemnation** for those who are in Messiah Yeshua” (Ro. 8:1).*

Because Grumbling and Complaining is a Grievous Sin w/ Grievous Consequences – Stop It!

Parashat Sh’lach we see that complaining opens the door to a root of bitterness, which leads us to blame God for everything that is wrong. When our words curse instead of blessing, they bring death not life. Negative expectations bind our spouses, children; they bind God and they bind us. Rebbetzin Marilyn’s life message entitled *“Without Murmuring or Complaining,”* which was given on June 21, 2008 details these consequences:

1. Complaining brings *God's* judgment! *God* considers it evil, sin, wickedness and rebellion.
2. Israel could have had their desires in 11 days (see Deut. 1:2); instead they brought *God's* judgment. Everything they wanted and needed was in Canaan in great abundance. Ultimately, the things they were complaining about, they were not allowed to have. WHY? Because *“by **your words** you will be **justified**, and by your words you will be **condemned**.”*

Israel grumbled and deplored their situation, accusing Moses and Aaron. They said, *“...If only we had died in Egypt! If only we had died in this wilderness! (Nu. 14:2) Then Israel accuses the Almighty for bringing them to the wilderness to die. They wanted to take matters into their own hands and go back to Egypt.³ Why is Adonai bringing us to this land to fall by the sword? Our wives and children will be like plunder! Wouldn't it be better for us to return to Egypt?” (Nu. 14:3-4) The TLV correctly labels this chapter: ‘**Grumblers Will Not Enter the Land.**’*

But it does not stop there because complaining leads to rebellion (which is as the sin of divination and witchcraft): *“²³ For rebellion is like the sin of divination (witchcraft) and stubbornness is like iniquity and idolatry. Since you have rejected Adonai’s word, He has also rejected you as king” (1 Sam 15:23). God takes these words seriously and here is what He thinks about these complaints: “¹¹ Adonai said to Moses, “How long will these people treat Me contemptibly (provoke and despise)? How long will they neglect to trust in Me—in spite of all the miraculous signs I have performed among them?” (Nu. 14:11) The Lord interprets murmuring as evil and wickedness: “²⁷ “How long will this wicked community be grumbling (murmuring) against Me? I have heard the complaints of Bnei-Yisrael grumbling*

(murmur) against Me” (Nu. 14:27). The Children of Israel were discontent with their personal situation and they wanted things their way instead of God’s way. Further, in doing so we bring our own death and judgment: “²⁸ So tell them, ‘As surely as I live,’ says Adonai, ‘I will do to you just as I heard you say in My ears (See Nu. 14:2).’ ²⁹ In this very wilderness your bodies will drop—every one of you 20 years of age and older who was numbered in the census and grumbled against Me’” (Nu. 14:28-29). Notice that the Promised Land equals God's promises. And so murmuring and complaining is equated to despising and rejecting God's promises: “...the land that you have despised and rejected...” (Nu. 14:31) Our complaining causes others to complain. The men who returned made all the congregation grumble and complain against Moses. The Children of Israel, who brought an evil report of the Promised Land, died by a plague before Adonai (See Nu. 14:32).

Rebbetzin Marilyn’s Steps of Action:

The living Word of Adonai governs the affairs of Satan; it is and will be his destruction! His Word always prevails! So the bottom line is: “**Do we really believe and trust in God (that is, rely on, and cling to Him)?**” **How do we do this?** We want to speak Scripture for the things we want *God* to accomplish in our husbands, ourselves, our children and any other situation (Psalms 147:15, Hebrews 4:11,12). *We are to focus only* on the PROMISE, which is seeing life from God's perspective. Joshua and Caleb did exactly that and they received because they BELIEVED the promises God made. So, **are we going to possess the land or are we going to die in the wilderness?** (Numbers 14, Mark 11:23, 24)

In Conclusion – Say unto this mountain: Be Thou Removed

The Biblical word that best describes grumbling and complaining is unbelief. The Bible has a lot to say about unbelief. Who is responsible to move the grievous mountain of unbelief from before us? We are! We are to have the faith and trust, even as that of a mustard seed (the tiniest of seeds) and we are to “speak” (like Moshe was to speak to the rock) and command the mountain of unbelief to “*Be taken up and cast into the sea.*” The fact is that *Yeshua* told us that His promises are yes and amen and we can have whatsoever we desire. When we pray, we are to believe and trust that we will receive what we pray for according to His Will, and we will have it! Can you believe it? Some believers operate by faith for years, but when their “crisis of crises” comes, they give in to unbelief. “**Yeshua, how do I cast this mountain of unbelief from my heart?**” The answer is found at Gethsemane, the place where all mountains obey His Word. The modern posture of the Body of Messiah is to say: “Our generation is not a generation of tears. We have been called to celebrate.” But in the most despairing time in *Yeshua*’s life, His model and example was “*Thy Will and not My Will be done.*” He gets up from pleading, sweating blood, and agony and says, in essence: “*Father, I have prayed, wept, fasted, done everything. But now, Father, I unload my soul to you, in total trust. Your Will be done!*” He spoke to the mountain, and it was cast into the sea: “*For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned*”