

Greetings, today our manna is Joshua 8; Psalm 139; Jeremiah 2; Matthew 16.

July 6 - Melchizedek Devotional Perspective

[Note: **For teaching purposes only**, underlines, bold font, and highlight emphasis have been used in PDFs.]

Scripture Source: e-Sword TS2009 unless otherwise noted: <https://www.e-sword.net/>

Joshua 8 The Fall of Ai

Jos 8:1 And יהוה said to Yehoshua, “Do not be afraid, nor be discouraged. Take all the soldiers with you, and arise, go up to Ai. **See, I have given into your hand the sovereign of Ai, and his people, and his city, and his land.**

Jos 8:2 “So you shall do to Ai and its sovereign as you did to Yericho and its sovereign. **Only its spoil and its livestock you take as plunder for yourselves.** Set for yourselves an ambush for the city, behind it.”

Looking back, if Akan would have only resisted the lust of his eyes in taking the spoils under ban in Jericho; he, along with the rest of Israel, would have been blessed with the spoils of Ai.

Jos 8:3 And Yehoshua and all the soldiers rose up, to go up to Ai. And Yehoshua **chose thirty thousand mighty brave men** and sent them away by night,

We recall in Joshua 7:3, they only took 2-3 thousand men against Ai the first time.

Now we read about the ‘ambush’ plan. YHWH does His part; but we must also do our part. It is an active two-way relationship.

Jos 8:4 and commanded them, saying, “See, you are going to lie in ambush against the city, behind the city. Do not go very far from the city, but all of you shall be prepared,

Jos 8:5 while I and all the people who are with me approach the city. And it shall be, when they come out against us, as formerly, that we shall flee before them,

Jos 8:6 and they shall come out after us till we have drawn them from the city, as though saying, ‘They are fleeing before us as formerly.’ And we shall flee before them,

Jos 8:7 **then you shall rise from the ambush and seize the city. And יהוה your Elohim shall give it into your hand.**

Jos 8:8 “And it shall be, when you capture the city, that you burn the city with fire. Do according to the word of יהוה. See, I have commanded you.”

The army of Israel strategically take their positions:

Jos 8:9 And Yehoshua sent them out. And **they went to lie in ambush, and stayed between**

Běyth Ĕl and Ai, on the west side of Ai. But Yehoshua stayed that night in the midst of the people.

Jos 8:10 And Yehoshua rose up early in the morning and inspected the people, and went up, he and the elders of Yisra'ěl, before the people to Ai.

Jos 8:11 And all the soldiers who were with him went up and drew near, and came before the city and camped on the north side of Ai, with the valley between them and Ai.

Jos 8:12 And he took about **five thousand men and set them in ambush between Běyth Ĕl and Ai, on the west side of the city.**

Knowing that the first time, they had only sent 2-3 thousand men; it would seem feasible to those in Ai to think that the soldiers they viewed was all there was. This was a great military strategy executed under Joshua.

Jos 8:13 So **they stationed the people, all the army that was on the north of the city, and its rear guard on the west of the city, and Yehoshua went that night into the midst of the valley.**

Jos 8:14 And it came to be, when the sovereign of Ai saw it, that the men of the city hastened and rose up early and went out against Yisra'ěl to battle, he and all his people, at an appointed place before the desert plain. **But he did not know that there was an ambush against him behind the city.**

Jos 8:15 And Yehoshua and all Yisra'ěl let themselves be beaten before them, and **fled by the way of the wilderness.**

Jos 8:16 And all the people who were in **Ai were called together to pursue them.** And they pursued Yehoshua and were drawn away from the city.

Jos 8:17 So **there was not a man left in Ai or Běyth Ĕl who did not go out after Yisra'ěl, and they left the city open and pursued Yisra'ěl.**

Let us not forget YHWH went before them! He is the 'Captain of the host of YHWH' mentioned in Joshua 5.

Jos 5:14 And He said, "No, for **I have now come as Captain of the host of יהוה.**" And Yehoshua fell on his face to the earth and did obeisance, and said to Him, "What is my Master saying to His servant?"

By Joshua stretching out his hand with the spear, the ambush is activated.

Jos 8:18 **And יהוה said to Yehoshua,** "Stretch out the spear that is in your hand toward Ai, for I give it into your hand." And Yehoshua stretched out the spear that he had in his hand toward the city,

Jos 8:19 and the ambush rose up quickly from their place, and they ran at the stretching out of his hand, and entered the city and took it, and hastened to burn the city with fire.

Jos 8:20 **And the men of Ai looked behind them and saw the smoke of the city rising to the heavens.** And there was no power in them to flee this way or that way, for the people who had fled to the wilderness turned back on the pursuers.

Jos 8:21 For when Yehoshua and all Yisra'ël saw that the ambush had captured the city and that the smoke of the city went up, **they turned back and struck the men of Ai.**

None of the men of Ai escaped; and in the end of days, none will escape kneeling before Yahusha, with every tongue confessing, that Yahusha is the Messiah. Yahusha will divide the sheep from the goats; and the wheat from the tares.

Jos 8:22 The others also came out of the city against them, so they were in the midst of Yisra'ël, some on this side and some on that side. **And they struck them until none were left, and none had escaped.**

Jos 8:23 **But the sovereign of Ai they caught alive, and brought him to Yehoshua.**

Jos 8:24 And it came to be, when Yisra'ël ended killing all the inhabitants of Ai in the field, in the wilderness where they pursued them, and when they all had fallen by the edge of the sword until they were consumed, that all Yisra'ël returned to Ai and struck it with the edge of the sword.

Jos 8:25 And it came to be that all who fell that day, both men and women, **were twelve thousand – all men of Ai.**

Jos 8:26 And **Yehoshua did not draw back his hand, with which he stretched out the spear, until he had put all the inhabitants of Ai under the ban.**

Jos 8:27 **Only the livestock and the spoil of that city Yisra'ël took as booty for themselves, according to the word of יהוה which He had commanded Yehoshua.**

Jos 8:28 And Yehoshua burned Ai and made it a heap forever, a ruin to this day.

Jos 8:29 And **he hanged the sovereign of Ai on a tree until evening. And at sunset Yehoshua commanded that they should take his corpse down from the tree, and throw it at the entrance of the gate of the city, and raise over it a great heap of stones, to this day.**

The conquest of Ai was victorious and complete! Livestock and the spoils of that city were given to Israel as booty for themselves.

Joshua Renews the Covenant

Jos 8:30 And Yehoshua built a slaughter-place to יהוה Elohim of Yisra'ël in Mount Ēybal,

Jos 8:31 as Mosheh the servant of יהוה had commanded the children of Yisra'ël, as it is written in the **Book of the Torah** of Mosheh, “a slaughter-place of unhewn stones over which no man has wielded iron.” And they offered on it ascending offerings to יהוה, and slaughtered peace offerings.

Jos 8:32 **And there, in the presence of the children of Yisra'ël, he wrote on the stones a copy of the Torah of Mosheh, which he had written.**

Jos 8:33 And all Yisra'ël – the sojourner as well as the native – with their elders and officers and judges, stood on either side of the ark before the priests, the Lëwites, who bore the ark of the covenant of יהוה. **Half of them were in front of Mount Gerizim and half of them in front of Mount Ēybal,** as Mosheh the servant of יהוה had commanded before, that they should bless the people of Yisra'ël.

Jos 8:34 And **afterward he read all the words of the Torah**, the blessings and the cursings, according to all that is written in the **Book of the Torah**. [Book of the Law]

Jos 8:35 There was not a word of all that Mosheh had commanded which Yehoshua did not read before all the assembly of Yisra'ël, with the women, and the little ones, and the sojourners who accompanied them.

Living victoriously means walking in accordance to His Word. It means knowing the priesthood you are under, and the law that you are under. For them, they walked under the authority of the Aaronic Levitical Priesthood and the Book of the Law. For us, we walk under the authority of Yahusha our High Priest of the Melchizedek Order and Covenant Torah.

Psalms 139 Our desire is to live a righteous life and walk in His ways. Our desire is for Him to reveal anything in our lives that is not pleasing to Him. Our desire is to have those things 'burned' or cleansed out of our lives now; so that one day, we would spiritually be able to walk through the flames of purification and not be burned; because, there would be nothing left to burn. That would be the ultimate goal; to be like Him.

Search Me, O YHWH, and Know My Heart

Psa 139:1 O יהוה, You have searched me And know me.

Psa 139:2 You know my sitting down and my rising up; You understand my thought from afar.

Psa 139:3 You sift my path and my lying down, And know well all my ways.

Psa 139:4 For there is not a word on my tongue, But see, O יהוה, You know it all!

Psa 139:5 You have closed me in, behind and before, And laid Your hand upon me –

Psa 139:6 Knowledge too wondrous for me, It is high, I am unable to *reach* it.

Psa 139:7 Where would I go from Your Spirit? Or where would I flee from Your face?

Psa 139:8 If I go up into the heavens, You are there; If I make my bed in She'ol, see, You are there.

Psa 139:9 I take the wings of the morning, I dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,

Psa 139:10 There, too, Your hand would lead me, And Your right hand hold me.

Psa 139:11 If I say, "Darkness shall cover me," Then night would be light to me;

Psa 139:12 Even darkness is not dark for You, But night shines as the day – As is darkness, so is light.

Psa 139:13 For You, You possessed my kidneys, You have covered me in my mother's womb.

Psa 139:14 I give thanks to You, For I am awesomely and wondrously made! Wondrous are Your works, And my being knows it well.

Psa 139:15 My bones were not concealed from You, When I was shaped in a hidden place, Knit together in the depths of the earth.

Psa 139:16 Your eyes saw my unformed body. And in Your book all of them were written, The days they were formed, While none was among them.

Psa 139:17 And how precious are Your thoughts to me, O Ė! How great has been the sum of them!

Psa 139:18 If I should count them, They would be more than the sand; When I wake up, I am still with You.

Psa 139:19 Oh, that You would kill the wrong, O Eloah! Depart from me, therefore, men of bloodshed!

Psa 139:20 They speak against You wickedly. Bring Your enemies to naught!

Psa 139:21 O יהוה, do I not hate them, who hate You? And do I not loathe those who rise up against You?

Psa 139:22 With a complete hatred I hate them; They have become my enemies.

Psa 139:23 Search me, O Ēl, and know my heart; Try me, and know my thoughts;

Psa 139:24 And see if an idolatrous way is in me, And lead me in the way everlasting.

Jeremiah 2 As we reviewed yesterday, Jeremiah prophesied during the administrations of five of Judah's kings:

1. Josiah (639-608 B.C.)—31 years
2. Jehoahaz (608 B.C.)—3 months
3. Jehoiakim (608-597 B.C.)—11 years
4. Johoiachin (597 B.C.)—3 months
5. Zedekiah (597-586 B.C.)—11 years

His message was one of judgement if the kingdom of Judah would not repent. He recounts in Jeremiah 2 His people's unfaithfulness and whoredom.

Israel Forsakes YHWH

Jer 2:1 And the word of יהוה came to me, saying,

Jer 2:2 "Go, and you shall cry in the hearing of Yerushalayim, saying, 'Thus said יהוה, "I remember you, the loving-commitment of your youth, the love of your bridehood, when you went after Me in the wilderness, in a land that was not sown.

Jer 2:3 "Yisra'ël was set-apart to יהוה, the first-fruits of His increase. All who ate of it became guilty – evil came upon them," declares יהוה.' "

YHWH had Jeremiah recall to Jerusalem the youthful days of their loving-commitment; the love of their bridehood when they went after Him in the wilderness; when Israel had been set-apart for YHWH and was the first fruit of His increase.

His Word has always been about the greatest love story ever told. A love so strong that He laid down His life for His beloved; and took it back up. He had brought His beloved into the Promised Land, a land flowing with milk and honey, but His beloved defiled the land and made His inheritance an abomination.

Jer 2:4 Hear the word of יהוה, O house of Ya'aqob and all the clans of the house of Yisra'ël.

Jer 2:5 Thus said יהוה, “What unrighteousness have your fathers found in Me, that they have gone far from Me, and went after worthlessness, and became worthless?”

Jer 2:6 “And did not they say, ‘Where is יהוה, who brought us up out of the land of Mitsrayim, who led us through the wilderness, through a land of deserts and pits, through a land of drought and the shadow of death, a land that no one passed through and where no one dwelt?’

Jer 2:7 “Then I brought you into a garden land, to eat its fruit and its goodness. But when you entered, **you defiled My land and made My inheritance an abomination.**

Jer 2:8 “The priests did not say, ‘Where is יהוה?’ And those who handle the Torah did not know Me, and the *shepherds*^a transgressed against Me, and the prophets prophesied by Ba'al, and walked after *matters* that did not profit. Footnote: ^aSee [Jer 10:21](#), [Jer 12:10-11](#), [Jer 50:6-7](#).

Jer 2:9 “Therefore I still contend with you,” declares יהוה, “and with your children’s children I contend.

Jer 2:10 “For, pass beyond the isles of Kittim and see, and send to Qēḏar and observe well, and see if there has been any like this.

BDB Definition:

Chittim or Kittim = “bruisers”

- 1) a general term for all islanders of the Mediterranean Sea
- 2) the descendants of Javan, the son of Japheth and grandson of Noah

BDB Definition:

Kedar = “dark”

- 1) a son of Ishmael (noun proper masculine)
- 2) the descendants of Kedar (noun proper people)

Jer 2:11 “Has a nation changed its mighty ones, which are not mighty ones? **But My people have changed My esteem^b for that which does not profit.** Footnote: ^bSymbolic name for His Ark.

Jer 2:12 “Be amazed, O heavens, at this, and be frightened, be utterly dried up,” declares יהוה.

Jer 2:13 “**For My people have done two evils: they have forsaken Me, the fountain of living waters,^c to hew out for themselves cisterns, cracked cisterns,** which do not hold water.

Footnote: ^cSee [Jer 17:13](#).

Satan has weaved a major web of seduction for mankind. He appeals to the lust of the eyes; the lust of the flesh; and the pride of life. His goal is to seduce mankind into the temporary fleshly desires of this world. To waste their time on those things passing away and decaying. His goal is to make mankind fall into so much iniquity that YHWH Himself will have to bring judgment on the very ones He loves Himself.

Satan rejoices when the next generations know more about sports and music, rather than the Word of YHWH. Satan rejoices when Living Water is rejected; and cracked cisterns of limited water is chosen. Satan's goal is to create 'fatal distractions' that lead to 'fatal attractions' leading to death, destruction, and decay. Satan is all about the death culture and YHWH is all about the culture of life; eternal life; everlasting life.

Has Satan been successful? Sadly yes.

Are people still bowing down and kissing the feet of statues? Yes.

Are people still bowing down and kissing stones? Yes.

Are people still burning incense and offering fruits to little 'g' gods? Yes.

Are people celebrating pagan holidays, Easter (Ishtar), Christmas (Saturnalia; Tammuz)?
Yes

Are people seeking Psychics; witchcraft; New Age; blended worship? Yes

Are people still turning to mankind for answers instead of YHWH? Yes

Are people still committing whoredom against YHWH? Yes

Is the judgement message spoken by Jeremiah for us today? Yes

Is their time to repent and turn things around? Yes

Are people awakening? Yes

Does Yahusha love the sinner? Yes. He wants everyone to come to repentance and be saved.

Only in Yahusha is there salvation, He paid our sin debt in full on the crucifixion tree, but it is still up to each person to accept His proposal into the New Covenant ratified by the blood of the Lamb. Only then do we receive our garments of white without spot or blemish. Only then can we walk in the Spirit and not fulfill the lust of the flesh.

Jer 2:14 "Is Yisra'el a servant? Was he born in the house? Why is he given to plunder?"

Jer 2:15 "The young lions roared at him, they growled, and made his land waste; his cities have been burned, without inhabitant.

Jer 2:16 "Even the sons of Noph and of Tahpanhes have shaven the crown of your head.

BDB Definition:

Noph = “presentability”

1) another name for ‘Memphis’ the capital city of Egypt

BDB Definition:

Tahpanhes or Tahapanes or Tehaphnehes = “thou will fill hands with pity”

1) a city in Egypt; modern ‘Tel Defenneh’ or ‘Tel Defneh’ located approx 18 miles (29 kilometers) east southeast from Tanis

Jer 2:17 **“Have you not done this to yourself, by forsaking יהוה your Elohim when He led you in the way?”**

Jer 2:18 “And now why take the way to Mitsrayim, to drink the waters of Shiḥor? Or why take the way to Ashshur, to drink the waters of the River?”

Jer 2:19 **“Your own evil instructs you, and your backslidings reprove you. Know therefore and see that it is evil and bitter that you have forsaken יהוה your Elohim, and that My fear is not in you.”** declares the Master יהוה of hosts.

Jer 2:20 “For of old I have broken your yoke and torn off your chastisements. And you said, ‘I am not *servicing*^d You,’ **when on every high hill and under every green tree you lay down, a whore.** Footnote: ^dHeb. Or “transgressing”.

Jer 2:21 **“Yet I had planted you a choice vine,** all of it a true seed. How then have you turned before Me into the **degenerate plant of a strange vine?**”

Jer 2:22 **“Although you wash yourself with lye, and use much soap, yet your crookedness is ingrained before Me,”** declares the Master יהוה.

Jer 2:23 “How do you say, ‘I am not defiled, I have not gone after the Ba’als’? See your way in the valley, know what you have done: a swift dromedary [*young female camel*] breaking loose in her ways,

Jer 2:24 **a wild donkey used to the wilderness,** sniffing the wind in the desire of her being – in her time of mating, who turns her away? All those who seek her need not weary themselves; in her *month*^e they *find her*.^f Footnotes: ^eHebrew: Chodesh - New moon. ^fOn heat.

Jer 2:25 “Keep your foot from being bare, and your throat from thirst. But you said, ‘It is useless, because I love strangers, and after them I go.’”

His people had stooped to the lowest form of savagery animal instincts.

Jer 2:26 **“As the thief is ashamed when he is found out, so is the house of Yisra’ël ashamed – they and their sovereigns and their heads, and their priests and their prophets.”**

Jer 2:27 **saying to a tree,** ‘You are my father,’ and **to a stone,** ‘You gave birth to me.’ For they have turned their back to Me, and not their face. But in the time of their calamity they say, ‘Arise and save us.’”

Unfaithfulness prevailed among the people, the sovereigns, the leaders, their priests, and their prophets! They were like a ship without a rudder. Sheep without a shepherd. Prey for predator beasts.

Jer 2:28 “**But where are your mighty ones** that you have made for yourselves? Let them arise, see if they save you in the time of your calamity. Because your mighty ones have become as many as your cities, O Yehudah.

Jer 2:29 “Why do you complain to Me? **You all have transgressed against Me,” declares יהוה.**

Jer 2:30 “In vain have I stricken your children – **they received no instruction.** Your sword has devoured your prophets like a destroying lion.

Jer 2:31 “**O generation, see the word of יהוה!** Have I been a wilderness to Yisra’el, Or a land of darkness? **Why do My people say, ‘We have broken loose; we come to You no more’?**

Jer 2:32 “Would a maiden forget her ornaments, or a bride her headband? **Yet My people have forgotten Me, days without number.**

Jer 2:33 “Why do you embellish your way to seek love? Therefore you have even taught the evil women your ways.

Jer 2:34 “Even on your skirts is found the blood of the lives of the poor innocents. You did not find them breaking in, but in spite of all these,

Jer 2:35 you say, ‘Because I am innocent, certainly His displeasure shall turn from me.’ **See, I shall bring judgment on you, because you say, ‘I have not sinned.’**

Jer 2:36 “Why do you go about so much to change your way? Even of Mitsrayim you are to be ashamed, as you were ashamed of Ashshur.

Jer 2:37 “Even from this one you shall go forth, with your hands on your head. For יהוה has rejected those you trust, and you shall not prosper by them.

Israel had been exiled to Assyria and about 145 years later, Judah would be exiled to Babylon. The people were giving up the love and freedom in YHWH; to go back into despicable captivity. Judah had barely survived the attack of Assyria; they had even forgotten how YHWH has spared them!

Matthew 16

The Pharisees and Sadducees Demand Signs

Mat 16:1 And the **Pharisees and Sadducees came**, and trying Him asked that He would show them a sign from heaven.

Mat 16:2 And He answering, said to them, “When it is evening you say, ‘Fair weather, for the heaven is red,’

Mat 16:3 and in the morning, ‘Stormy weather today, for the heaven is red and overcast.’ You know how to discern the face of the heaven, but you are unable to *discern* the signs of the times!

Mat 16:4 “**A wicked and adulterous generation seeks after a sign, and no sign shall be given to**

it except the sign of the prophet Yonah.” And He left them and went away.

Yahusha has and will fulfill every prophecy written about Him. He has given more signs than anyone can count. All creation gives testimony to YHWH! It is simple for a person to find Him; if they seek Him with a sincere heart. Why? Because He lives and He can speak to them Himself. There is no excuse not to find Him unless the person’s heart is wicked and hardened.

The Leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees

Mat 16:5 And His taught ones came to the other side, and had forgotten to take bread.

Mat 16:6 And יהושע said to them, **“Mind! And beware of the leaven** of the Pharisees and the Sadducees.”

Mat 16:7 And they reasoned among themselves, saying, “Because we brought no bread!”

Mat 16:8 But יהושע, aware of this, said to them, **“O you of little belief, why do you reason among yourselves because you brought no bread?”**

Mat 16:9 “Do you still not understand, neither remember the five loaves of the five thousand and how many baskets you picked up?”

Mat 16:10 “Or the seven loaves of the four thousand and how many large baskets you picked up?”

Mat 16:11 “How is it that you do not understand that I did not speak to you concerning bread, *but* to beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees?”

Mat 16:12 Then they understood that **He did not say to beware of the leaven of bread, but of the teaching** of the Pharisees and the Sadducees.

Leaven is false teaching; added doctrine of men; added man-made traditions. This was the leaven that Yahusha was warning His taught ones about. Yesterday we share that the 5 loaves represented the first five books of the Torah. In the feeding of the 4,000, we see 7 loaves represented. These extra loaves represent the ‘added leaven’ or the ‘added teachings’ of the Pharisees and the Sadducees.

Peter Confesses Yahusha as the Messiah

Mat 16:13 Now when יהושע came into the parts of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His taught ones, saying, “Who do men say the Son of Adam is?”

Mat 16:14 And they said, “Some say Yoḥanan the Immerser, and others Ēliyahu, and others Yirmeyahu or one of the prophets.”

Mat 16:15 He said to them, “And you, who do you say I am?”

Mat 16:16 And Shim'on Kěpha answering, said, “**You are the Messiah, the Son of the living Elohim.**”^a Footnote: ^aThis is repeated in eight more places.

Mat 16:17 And יהושע answering, said to him, “Blessed are you, Shim'on Bar-Yonah, **for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father in the heavens.**”

Mat 16:18 “And I also say to you that you are Kěpha, and on this rock I shall build My assembly, and the gates of She’ol^b shall not overcome it. Footnote: ^bShem Tob^b reads: GěHinnom, i.e. ‘valley of weeping’.

Mat 16:19 **“And I shall give you the keys of the reign of the heavens, and whatever you bind on earth shall be having been bound in the heavens, and whatever you loosen on earth shall be having been loosened in the heavens.”**^c Footnote: ^cBinding and loosening is a Hebrew idiom for *exercising authority* (to prohibit and permit).

Mat 16:20 Then He warned His taught ones that they should say to no one that He is יהושע the Messiah.

When we receive our garments of white from Yahusha; we serve Him on earth as His Royal Ambassadors; as His kingdom of priests after the order of Melchizedek. We are set-apart and walk in the authority He has given us to fulfill YHWH’s will on earth. Each person is special. Each person has a kingdom purpose. Each person should be zealous in finding the narrow path that leads to righteousness; then go on to share this fantastically awesome Good News! As we go, we grow. Daily we are being sanctified; set-apart, more and more for His purposes in our lives.

Act 1:8 “But you shall receive power when the Set-apart Spirit has come upon you, and you shall be My witnesses in Yerushalayim, and in all Yehudah and Shomeron, and to the end of the earth.”

He has given us authority to bind and loose; to pray; to evangelize the lost; to give sight to the blind; hearing to the deaf; bring the dead to life; to cast out demons; to keep our temples clean ~ most of this occurs in the spiritual realm of sight, hearing, and life etc. ~ but some are gifted that have seen the Ruach HaKodesh provide physical healings for blindness; deafness; and even the dead being raised.

Most importantly we should walk within our boundaries and gifts. Otherwise we could harm and not help.

Yahusha Foretells His Death and Resurrection

Mat 16:21 From that time יהושע began to show to His taught ones that it was necessary for Him to go to Yerushalayim, and **to suffer much from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and to be raised again the third day.**

Mat 16:22 And Kěpha took Him aside and began to rebuke Him, saying, “Be kind to Yourself, Master, this shall not be to You!”

Mat 16:23 But He turned and said to Kěpha, “Get behind Me, Satan! You are a stumbling-block to Me, for your thoughts are not those of Elohim, but those of men.”

We should bring every thought captive and ponder if it is from YHWH; Satan; or our own fleshly thoughts. Like Peter, we have all uttered words that were not in alignment with His Word. This was one of those times for Peter; the message may have sounded compassionate, but if Yahusha did not carry out the mission of why He had come; then mankind would have been held in captivity forever.

Yahusha knew who had dropped that thought into Peter's mind. Though Yahusha was looking at Peter, He was speaking to Satan in the spirit realm. It was not Peter's desire to prevent the mission of the Messiah. Therefore, we must stay in His Word and know His Word; and if a thought doesn't align with His Word; we should reject that thought.

Take Up Your Cross and Follow Yahusha

Mat 16:24 Then יהושע said to His taught ones, "If anyone wishes to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his stake, and follow Me.

Mat 16:25 "For whoever wishes to save his life shall lose it, and whoever loses his life for My sake shall find it.

Mat 16:26 "For what is a man profited if he gains all the world, and loses his own life? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his life?

Act 20:24 "But I do not count my life of any value to me, so that I might accomplish my mission with joy, and the service which I received from the Master יהושע, to bear witness to the Good News of the favour of Elohim.

Mat 16:27 "For the Son of Adam is going to come in the esteem of His Father with His messengers, and then He shall reward each according to his works.^d [Psa 62:12](#), [Pro 24:12](#)

Footnote: ^dSee also [Mat 21:44](#), [Joh 5:29](#), [Rom 2:6](#), [2Co 5:10](#), [Eph 2:10](#), [Tit 2:7](#) and [Tit 2:14](#), [Jas 2:14-24](#), [Rev 22:12](#).

Mat 16:28 "Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who shall not taste death at all until they see the Son of Adam coming in His reign."^e Footnote: ^eSee [Mat 17:2-5](#).

Mat 17:2 and He was transformed before them, and His face shone like the sun, and His garments became as white as the light.

Mat 17:3 And see, Mosheh and Ĕliyahu appeared to them, talking with Him.

Mat 17:4 And Kěpha answering, said to יהושע, "Master, it is good for us to be here. If You wish, let us make here three booths: one for You, one for Mosheh, and one for Ĕliyahu."^a Footnote: ^aSee footnote [Mar 9:4](#).

Mat 17:5 While he was still speaking, see, a bright cloud overshadowed them. And see, a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is My Son, the Beloved, in whom I did delight. Hear Him!"

~ *Shalom* ~ Libby