

*Greetings, today our manna is from Genesis 5; Matthew 5; Ezra 5; Acts 5*

## January 5 – Melchizedek Devotional Perspective

[Note: I have added emphasis with underlines, highlights, and [brackets] to Scripture for [teaching purposes only.](#)]

### Genesis 5

#### Adam's Descendants to Noah

**Gen 5:1 This is the book of the genealogy of Adam. In the day that Elohim created man, He made him in the likeness of Elohim.**

**Gen 5:2** Male and female He created them, and He blessed them, and called their name 'Adam' in the day they were created.

Adam was made in the likeness of Elohim. They were called 'Adam', or some translations say, 'Man' or 'humans.' Adam and Eve were once clothed in glorified bodies by His radiance, by His light. When they sinned by partaking of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, their bodies changed, and they were naked. It is stated in Genesis 3:21 that Elohim [YHWH] made them garments of skin.

Gen 3:21 And יהוה Elohim made coats of skin for the man and his wife and dressed them. [TS2009]

Gen 3:21 Unto Adam also and to his wife did the LORD God make coats of skins, and clothed them. [KJV]

We get a glimpse of what their glorified bodies may have once looked like from the accounts of the Mount of Transfiguration and from when Yahusha appeared to Mary of Magdala, to his disciples, and to many others in His resurrected body.

One can possibly deduce that Adam and Eve, once walked in incorruptible bodies and after their disobedience; corruption entered their bodily state – the penalty for sin is death leading to decay. In other translations, the 'coats of skin' or 'coats of skins' are sometimes referred to as 'garments' or 'animal skins'; so, we have several descriptions.

The following are some possible interpretation:

1. YHWH clothed them with human corruptible layers of skin. Skin that would now protect them in creation's fallen environment. Human skin is made of the dermis; the epidermis; and the hypodermis. Whatever these garments or skins were, they were made of corruptible materials that would return to the ground from which they came.
2. YHWH clothed them with the skins of animals. Some see this as being a possible animal sacrifice for their sin, as well as, for their clothing.
3. Also, we must consider the patterns being formed of the 'bigger picture' throughout His Word. From the very beginning YHWH initiated His plan to redeem His people, the 'one new man' Israel. If you do not fully understand the phrase 'one new man'; you hopefully will as we continue reading His entire Word through these devotionals.

The tabernacle in wilderness; the temple built by Solomon; and believers, the present temple of His Ruach HaKodesh; **were all 'patterns' of the 'one new man'** and some even refer to this pattern as **'temple man.'** Yahusha is the head of the 'one new man' and we are the body. Col 1:18 And **He is the Head of the body, the assembly, who is the beginning, the first-born from the dead, that He might become the One who is first in all.**

We even read that the tabernacle in the wilderness was covered with "skins."

Exo 25:5 and **rams' skins dyed red, and fine leather**, and acacia wood,

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Num 4:5 And when the camp setteth forward, Aaron shall come, and his sons, and they shall take down the covering vail, and cover the ark of testimony with it:

Num 4:6 And shall put thereon the **covering of badgers' skins**, and shall spread over it a cloth wholly of blue, and shall put in the staves thereof. [KJV]

We read that all that believe and receive Yahusha HaMashiach, are now included in the 'one new man' and are within the heavenly citizenship of Israel. In Him, we are one. Yahusha broke down the barrier of separation that prevented access to the tree of life. He opened the door in Revelation 4:1. He has made us into a kingdom of priests of EVERY tribe, tongue, people, and nation for those that receive Him.

### One in Messiah

Eph 2:11 Therefore remember that you, once nations<sup>C</sup> in the flesh, who are called 'the uncircumcision' by what is called 'the circumcision' made in the flesh by hands, Footnote: <sup>C</sup>See 1Co 12:2.

Eph 2:12 that at that time you were without Messiah, excluded from the citizenship of Yisra'el and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no expectation and without Elohim in the world.

Eph 2:13 But now in Messiah יהושע you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of the Messiah.

Eph 2:14 For He is our peace, who has made both one, and having broken down the partition of the barrier,

Eph 2:15 having abolished in His flesh the enmity<sup>d</sup> – the torah of the commands in dogma – so as to create in Himself one renewed man from the two, thus making peace, Footnote: <sup>d</sup>Also see [Col 2:14](#), [Col 2:20](#), [Act 11:1-3](#).

Eph 2:16 and to completely restore to favour both of them unto Elohim in one body through the stake, having destroyed the enmity by it.

**Gen 5:3** And Adam lived one hundred and thirty years, and brought forth a son in his own likeness, after his image, and called his name Shěth.

We make note that neither Cain nor Able, [that had been slain by Cain], are mentioned; Adam's genealogy in Gen. 5:3 begins with the recording of Shěth. There are several theories on this that are brought forth from extra biblical texts.

For our devotional, we will make note as His Word records, and ask His Ruach HaKodesh for wisdom and understanding. Individuals can study the original Hebrew text; can look up definitions of words; and can compare translations for deeper studies. However, we should be very cautious of 'believing' everything that is written in extra-biblical texts, historical texts, or commentaries for we do not want to 'add to' or 'take away from' His divinely inspired Word.

Even my devotional comments, are simply my understandings to date. Always go to His Word to study and see if the Ruach HaKodesh leads you to the same conclusions or other possibilities. Over time, His Ruach will give us clearer understandings. At other times, His Ruach will help us 'unlearn' incorrect interpretations.

**Gen 5:4** And after he brought forth Shěth, the days of Adam were eight hundred years. And he brought forth sons and daughters.

**Gen 5:5** So **all the days that Adam lived were nine hundred and thirty years**, and he died.

**Gen 5:6** And Shěth lived one hundred and five years, and brought forth Enosh.

**Gen 5:7** And after he brought forth Enosh, Shěth lived eight hundred and seven years, and brought forth sons and daughters.

**Gen 5:8** So **all the days of Shěth were nine hundred and twelve years**, and he died.

**Gen 5:9** And Enosh lived ninety years, and brought forth Qěynan.

**Gen 5:10** And after he brought forth Qěynan, Enosh lived eight hundred and fifteen years, and brought forth sons and daughters.

Gen 5:11 So all the **days of Enosh were nine hundred and five years**, and he died.

Gen 5:12 And Qëynan lived seventy years, and brought forth Mahalal'ël.

Gen 5:13 After he brought forth Mahalal'ël, Qëynan lived eight hundred and forty years, and brought forth sons and daughters.

Gen 5:14 So all the **days of Qëynan were nine hundred and ten years**, and he died.

Gen 5:15 And Mahalal'ël lived sixty-five years, and brought forth Yeređ.

Gen 5:16 And after he brought forth Yeređ, Mahalal'ël lived eight hundred and thirty years, and brought forth sons and daughters.

Gen 5:17 So all **the days of Mahalal'ël were eight hundred and ninety-five years**, and he died.

Gen 5:18 And Yeređ lived one hundred and sixty-two years, and brought forth Һanok.

Gen 5:19 And after he brought forth Һanok, Yeređ lived eight hundred years, and brought forth sons and daughters.

Gen 5:20 So all **the days of Yeređ were nine hundred and sixty-two years**, and he died.

Gen 5:21 And Һanok lived sixty-five years, and brought forth Methushelah.

Gen 5:22 And after he brought forth Methushelah, Һanok walked with Elohim three hundred years, and brought forth sons and daughters.

Gen 5:23 So all **the days of Hanok were three hundred and sixty-five years**.

Gen 5:24 **And Һanok walked with Elohim. Then he was no more, for Elohim took him.**

Gen 5:25 And Methushelah lived one hundred and eighty-seven years, and brought forth Lemek.

Gen 5:26 And after he brought forth Lemek, Methushelah lived seven hundred and eighty-two years, and brought forth sons and daughters.

Gen 5:27 So all **the days of Methushelah were nine hundred and sixty-nine years**, and he died.

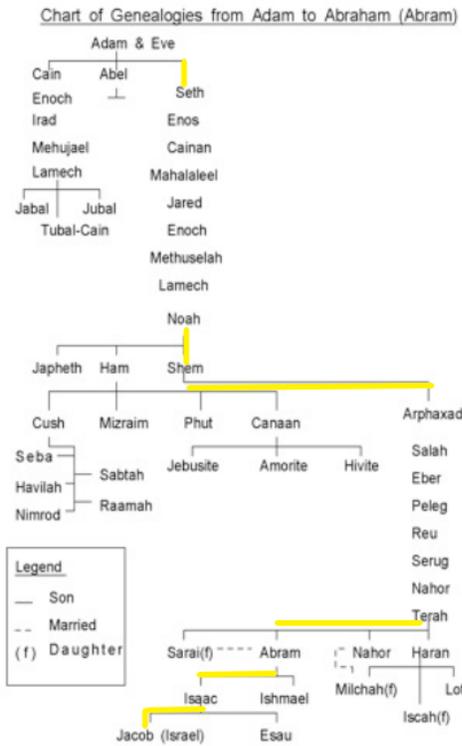
Gen 5:28 And Lemek lived one hundred and eighty-two years, and brought forth a son,

Gen 5:29 and called his name **Noah**, saying, **“This one does comfort us concerning our work and the toil of our hands, because of the ground which יהוה has cursed.”**

Gen 5:30 And after he brought forth Noah, Lemek lived five hundred and ninety-five years, and brought forth sons and daughters.

Gen 5:31 So all **the days of Lemek were seven hundred and seventy-seven years**, and he died.

Gen 5:32 **And Noah was five hundred years old, and Noah brought forth Shëm, Ham, and Yapheth.**



In Matthew 1, we see the genealogy of Yahusha HaMashiach begin with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

Mat 1:1 The book of the genealogy of יהושע Messiah, Son of Dawid, Son of Abraham:

Mat 1:2 **Abraham brought forth Yitshaq, and Yitshaq brought forth Ya'aqob**, and Ya'aqob brought forth Yehudah and his brothers....

The chart to the left shows the lineage from **Adam to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob**. It shows the genealogical descendants of the preachers of righteousness and the order of the Melchizedek lineage that would ultimately lead to Yahusha HaMashiach – THE Melchizedek.

The term ‘preacher of righteousness’ comes to us from 2Peter 2:5 when Noah is identified as a preacher of righteousness.

2Pe 2:5 And spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth *person*, a **preacher of righteousness**, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly;

The Bible shows the righteous lineage upon which Yahusha’s genealogy was recorded. Yahusha is our High Priest after the order of Melchizedek. He has made us into a set-apart people, a holy nation, a kingdom of priests of every tribe, tongue, people, and nation. In other words, those that enter and partake of His New Covenant, ratified by His precious blood, ARE His kingdom or priests or ‘preachers of righteousness.’ We proclaim walking and living in obedience to the New Covenant Confirming Gospel message.

Please keep in mind that Yahusha came in the ‘likeness’ of flesh. His flesh and bone were the manna from heaven. Mary [Miryam] provided her surrogate womb only, not her ovum, in which He entered this world. Yahusha was YHWH in Son. He was not a mixture of fallen man and divine Elohim; otherwise, we would have ended up with another Genesis 6 scenario. YHWH is not an Elohim of mixing. Yahusha most CERTAINLY came in the LIKENESS of flesh, but He was 100% from YHWH. The cliché that Yahusha was 100% GOD and 100% man is incorrect; and mathematically impossible. This is my understanding based on Scripture.

Rom 8:2 For the torah of the Spirit of the life in Messiah יהושע has set me free from the torah of sin and of death.

Rom 8:3 For the Torah being powerless, in that it was weak through the flesh, Elohim, **having sent His own Son in the likeness of flesh** of sin, and concerning sin, condemned sin in the flesh,

Rom 8:4 so that the righteousness of the Torah should be completed in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

## Matthew 5

### The Sermon on the Mount

**Mat 5:1** But when He saw the crowds, He went up on a mountain. And when He was seated His taught ones came to Him.

#### The Beatitudes

**Mat 5:2** And having opened His mouth, He was teaching them, saying,

**Mat 5:3** “Blessed are the poor in spirit, because theirs is the reign of the heavens.

**Luk 4:18** “The Spirit of יהוה is upon Me,<sup>c</sup> because He has anointed Me to bring the Good News to the poor. He has sent Me to heal the broken-hearted, to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to send away crushed ones with a release,

Footnote: <sup>c</sup>See [Isa 61:1-3](#).

**Mat 5:4** “Blessed are those who mourn, because they shall be comforted.

2Co 7:9 I now rejoice, not that you were made sad, but that you were saddened into repenting. For you were made sad according to Elohim, so that you suffered no loss from us.

2Co 7:10 For sadness according to Elohim works repentance to deliverance, not to be regretted, but the sadness of the world works death.

**Mat 5:5** “Blessed are the meek, because they shall inherit the earth.<sup>a</sup> [Psa 37:11](#).

Footnote: <sup>a</sup> [Psa 37:9](#), [Psa 37:11](#), [Psa 37:22](#), [Psa 37:29](#), [Psa 37:34](#).

Isa 60:21 “And **your people, all of them righteous**, shall inherit the earth forever – a branch of My planting, a work of My hands, to be adorned.

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Rom 4:13 For the promise that he should be the heir of the world, was not to Abraham or to his seed through the Torah [the Book of the Law], **but through a righteousness of belief**.

**Mat 5:6** “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,<sup>b</sup> because they shall be filled. Footnote: <sup>b</sup> [Isa 55:1-2](#), [Mat 4:4](#), [Joh 6:48-51](#).

Joh 7:37 And on the last day, the great day of the festival, יהושע stood and cried out, saying, “If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me, and let him who believes in Me drink.

**Mat 5:7** “Blessed are the compassionate, because they shall obtain compassion.

1Pe 2:10 who once were **not a people**,<sup>f</sup> but now the **people of Elohim**;<sup>f</sup> who had **not obtained compassion**,<sup>f</sup> but now **obtained compassion**.<sup>f</sup> [Hos 1:9-10](#), [Hos 2:23](#). Footnote: <sup>f</sup>Also see [Isa 65:1](#), [Hos 1:9](#), [Isa 63:16](#), [Isa 64:8](#), [Rom 9:25-26](#).

**Mat 5:8** “Blessed are the clean in **heart**,<sup>c</sup> because they shall see Elohim. Footnote: <sup>c</sup>[Psa 24:3-4](#).

Heb 12:14 Pursue peace with all, and *pursue* apartness without which no one shall see the Master.

Heb 12:15 See to it that no one falls short of the favour of Elohim, that no root of bitterness springing up causes trouble, by which many become defiled,

Heb 12:16 **lest there be anyone who whores, or profane one, like Ėsaw, who for a single meal sold his birthright**.<sup>b</sup> Footnote: <sup>b</sup>[Gen 25:32-33](#).

Heb 12:17 For you know that afterward, when he wished to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no place for repentance, though he sought it with tears.

**Mat 5:9** “Blessed are the peacemakers, because they shall be called sons of Elohim.

**Mat 5:10** “Blessed are those persecuted for **righteousness’ sake**,<sup>d</sup> because theirs is the reign of the heavens. Footnote: <sup>d</sup>[1Pe 3:14](#).

Jas 1:12 Blessed is the man who does endure trial, **for when he has been proved, he shall receive the crown of life which the Master has promised to those who love Him.**

**Mat 5:11** “Blessed are you when they reproach and persecute you, and falsely say every wicked word against you, for My sake.

**Mat 5:12** “Rejoice and be glad, because your reward in the heavens is great. For in this way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

1Pe 1:14 as obedient children, not conforming yourselves to the former lusts in your ignorance,

1Pe 1:15 instead, as the One who called you is set-apart, so **you also should become set-apart in all behavior**,

1Pe 1:16 because it has been written, **“Be set-apart, for I am set-apart.”** [Lev 11:44](#), [Lev 19:2](#).

### Salt and Light

**Mat 5:13** “**You are the salt of the earth**, but if the salt becomes tasteless, how shall it be seasoned? For it is no longer of any use but to be thrown out and to be trodden down by men.

2Pe 2:20 For if, after they have escaped the defilements of the world through the knowledge of the Master and Saviour יהושע Messiah, they are again entangled in them and overcome, the latter end is worse for them than the first.

2Pe 2:21 **For it would have been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness**, than having known it, to turn from the set-apart command<sup>e</sup> delivered unto them. Footnote: <sup>e</sup>The singular “command” often means “commands” – see [1Ti 6:14](#), [Deu 17:20](#), [Psa 19:8](#).

2Pe 2:22 For them the proverb has proved true, **“A dog returns to his own vomit,”** [Pro 26:11](#) and, “A washed sow *returns* to her rolling in the mud.”

**Mat 5:14** “You are the light of the world. It is impossible for a city to be hidden on a mountain.

**Mat 5:15** “Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it shines to all those in the house.

**Mat 5:16** “Let your light so shine before men, so that they see your good works and praise your Father who is in the heavens.

### **Messiah Came to Fulfill the Law**

**Mat 5:17** “Do not think that I came to destroy the [Torah or the Prophets](#).<sup>e</sup> I did not come to destroy but to complete. Footnote: <sup>e</sup>The [Law and the Prophets](#) is a term used for the pre-Messianic Scriptures.

Yahusha was born under the [Book of the Law](#), the ‘schoolmaster’ or ‘tutor’ that was implemented to spare the lives of the Israelites, UNTIL Yahusha would come. Only He was able to fulfill the [Book of the Law](#) requirements without fail. By fulfilling the requirements of the Law, he became our [Kinsman Redeemer](#) to adopt us as sons.

We must remember when Abraham asked YHWH for a [guarantee](#) to His promise in [Gen. 15](#), there was a ‘[death penalty](#)’ [condition attached](#); signified by the flaying of the animals. Afterwards, if this [conditional arm](#) of the promise was broken, someone would have to die.

Previously, in [Gen. 12](#), YHWH had [given His Word](#), His [unconditional promise](#), to Abraham to make Him a great nation.

We know the [promised covenant](#) made at Mt. Sinai, approximately 400 years later, was broken within 40 days with [the sin of the golden calf](#). YHWH relented from [wiping the people out](#) because Moses interceded. This did not do away with the fact that the [death penalty conditional arm](#) still needed to be fulfilled.

- Yahusha chose to lay down His own life for our redemption, and take it back up again. In doing so, He fulfilled the Book of the Law requirements.
- He had properly followed the priestly transference by being mikvah'd by the TRUE High Priest of the Aaronic Priesthood, John the Immerser. Thus, the priesthood was transferred from the Aaronic Levitical Priesthood; back to the reigning Melchizedek Priesthood. With a change of priesthood comes a change in law. [Heb. 7:12]
- The corrupt 'temple system' in Yahusha's day, chose the 'man-appointed' High Priest Caiaphas, who ends up disqualifying himself as 'high priest' by ripping His priestly garment. This clears the way for Yahusha to oversee His own crucifixion as High Priest after the order of Melchizedek. Yahusha, the spotless Lamb of Elohim, would offer His blood on the earthly altar and heavenly altar; then He sat down at the right hand of the Father. It was finished!

There would be no further need for any more blood sacrifices of bulls or goats for He made His atoning sacrifice once and for all for those that receive Him.

The priesthood and law transference had been completed. We are now under the New Covenant Torah and are under the Melchizedek Priesthood. Yahusha connected us back to the 'unconditional' promise YHWH gave to Abraham! Praise Yah!

Gal 4:4 But when the completion of the time came, Elohim sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under Torah,

Gal 4:5 to redeem those who were under Torah, in order to receive the adoption as sons.

Mat 5:18 "For truly, I say to you, till the heaven and the earth pass away, one yod or one tittle shall by no means pass from the Torah till all be done.<sup>f</sup> Footnote: <sup>f</sup> Luk 16:17.

Mat 5:19 **"Whoever, then, breaks one of the least of these commands, and teaches men so, shall be called least in the reign of the heavens; but whoever does and teaches them, he shall be called great in the reign of the heavens.**

Mat 5:20 "For I say to you, that unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees,<sup>9</sup> you shall by no means enter into the reign of the heavens. Footnote: <sup>9</sup>See also Mat 23:28, Mat 15:3-9, Mar 7:7-13, Joh 7:19, Act 7:53, Rom 2:23-27, Gal 6:13.

If someone disregards the finished work of Yahusha and rejects His New Covenant and still wants to hold on to the Book of the Law once administered under the Aaronic Levitical Priesthood, they diminish Yahusha's work on the crucifixion tree, and end up trampling on His blood by returning to the 'Book of the Law' animal sacrifices.

Heb 10:14 For by one offering He has perfected for all time those who are being set apart.

Heb 10:15 And the Set-apart Spirit also witnesses to us, for after having said before,

Heb 10:16 **“This is the covenant that I shall make with them after those days, says יהוה, giving My laws into their hearts, and in their minds I shall write them,”**<sup>a</sup> Jer 31:33.

Footnote: <sup>a</sup>See also Heb 8:8-12.

Heb 10:17 and, **“Their sins and their lawlessnesses I shall remember no more.”** Jer 31:34.

Heb 10:18 Now where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer a slaughter *offering* for sin.

### The Full Assurance of Faith

Heb 10:19 So, brothers, having boldness to enter into the Set-apart Place by the blood of יהושע,

Heb 10:20 **by a new and living way which He instituted for us, through the veil, that is, His flesh,**

Heb 10:21 and *having* a High Priest over the House of Elohim,

Heb 10:22 let us draw near with a true heart in completeness of belief, having our hearts sprinkled from a wicked conscience and our bodies washed with clean water.<sup>b</sup> Footnote: <sup>b</sup>Eze 36:25.

Heb 10:23 Let us hold fast the confession of our expectation without yielding, for He who promised is trustworthy.

Heb 10:24 And let us be concerned for one another in order to stir up love and good works,<sup>c</sup>

Footnote <sup>c</sup>Mat 16:27.

Heb 10:25 not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging, and so much more as you see the day coming near.

Heb 10:26 For if we **sin purposely** after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a slaughter *offering* for sins,<sup>d</sup> Footnote: <sup>d</sup>See also Heb 6:6. **This type of sinning is in contrast with sinning ignorantly** – Heb 9:7, Num 15:15-28.

Heb 10:27 but some fearsome anticipation of judgment, and **a fierce fire which is about to consume the opponents.** Isa 26:11.

Heb 10:28 Anyone who has disregarded the Torah of Mosheh dies without compassion on the witness of two or three witnesses.

Heb 10:29 **How much worse punishment do you think shall he deserve who has trampled the Son of Elohim underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was set apart as common, and insulted the Spirit of favour?**

Heb 10:30 For we know Him who has said, **“Vengeance is Mine, I shall repay, says יהוה.”** And again, **יהוה shall judge His people.”** Deu 32:35-36.

Heb 10:31 **It is fearsome to fall into the hands of the living Elohim.**

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Heb 7:11 Truly, then, if perfection were through the Lēwitical priesthood – for under it the people were given the Torah – why was there still need for another priest to arise according to the order of Malkitsedeq, and not be called according to the order of Aharon?

Heb 7:12 For the priesthood being changed, of necessity there takes place a change of law also.

Heb 7:13 **For He of whom this is said belongs to another tribe, from which no one had attended at the slaughter-place.**

### Anger

Mat 5:21 “You heard that it was said to those of old, **‘You shall not murder,’** Exo 20:13, Deu 5:17. and whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.

Mat 5:22 **“But I say to you that whoever is wroth with his brother without a cause shall**

be liable to judgment. And whoever says to his brother, 'Raka!' shall be liable to the Sanhedrin. But whoever says, 'You fool!' shall be liable to fire of GëHinnom.

The standards of the New Covenant raised the bar in many respects. For all of us have sinned and have fallen short of the glory of YHWH. It is only by grace through faith that we receive forgiveness by the washing of the blood of the Lamb and making our garments white. Knowing this, we should be mindful to love and forgive others as He has loved and forgiven us.

Yahusha ushered in YHWH's promise to Abraham with great esteem. The New Covenant cost Him His life. Now, we are to walk in love and forgiveness as He did for mankind; while we were all yet sinners!

**Mat 5:23** "If, then, you bring your gift to the slaughter-place, and there remember that your brother holds whatever against you,

**Mat 5:24** leave your gift there before the slaughter-place, and go, first make peace with your brother, and then come and offer your gift.

**Mat 5:25** "Be well-minded with your opponent, promptly, while you are on the way with him, lest your opponent deliver you to the judge, and the judge to the officer, and you be thrown into prison.

**Mat 5:26** "Truly, I say to you, you shall by no means get out of there till you have paid the last penny.

### Lust

**Mat 5:27** "You heard that it was said to those of old, '**You shall not commit adultery.**' Exo 20:14, Deu 5:18.

**Mat 5:28** "But I say to you that everyone looking at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

Again, the standard of the New Covenant raised the bar when it came to adultery. Now, by looking at someone with lustful eyes would equate to committing adultery in one's heart.

Though standards in many respects were raised by having the 'mind of Yahusha' and doing the 'will of the Father', the new Covenant ushered in forgiveness through grace by repenting when a person fell short. When we recognize those things unpleasing to YHWH; we turn from them and move forward in our walk of sanctification.

In other words, we clearly see that it is **ONLY by grace through faith** that we are saved. It is only by the blood of the Lamb that our sins are removed as far as the east is from the west. It is only through the Door, Yahusha, that we can be saved and become His kingdom of priests of every tribe, tongue, people, and nation. We are to be His set-apart people and above all show love! At the same time, we are to be wise as serpents and harmless as doves. Exercise wisdom!

**Mat 5:29** “And if your right eye causes you to stumble, pluck it out and throw it away from you. For it is better for you that one of your members perish, than for your entire body to be thrown into GěHinnom.

**Mat 5:30** “And if your right hand causes you to stumble, cut it off and throw it away from you. For it is better for you that one of your members perish, than for your entire body to be thrown into GěHinnom.

### Divorce

**Mat 5:31** “And it has been said, ‘**Whoever puts away his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.**’ [Deu 24:1](#).

**Mat 5:32** “But I say to you that whoever puts away his wife, **except for the matter of whoring,<sup>h</sup> makes her commit adultery.** And whoever marries a woman who has been put away commits adultery. **Footnote:** <sup>h</sup>See also [Mat 19:9](#) and [Deu 24:1](#).

### Oaths

**Mat 5:33** “Again, you heard that it was said to those of old, ‘**You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform your oaths to יהוה.**’ [Lev 19:12](#), [Num 30:2](#), [Deu 23:21](#).

**Mat 5:34** “But I say to you, do not swear [[vainly](#)]<sup>i</sup> at all, neither by the heaven, because it is Elohim’s throne; **Footnote:** <sup>i</sup>Shem Tob texts include ‘vainly’= Hebrew: Shaw’.

**Mat 5:35** nor by **the earth**, for it is His **footstool**; [Isa 66:1](#) nor by Yerushalayim, for it is **the city of the great Sovereign**; [Psa 48:2](#).

**Mat 5:36** nor swear by your head, because you are not able to make one hair white or black.

**Mat 5:37** “But let your word ‘Yes’ be ‘Yes,’ and your ‘No’ be ‘No.’ And what goes beyond these is from the wicked one.

We should think before we speak. We should bring our thoughts under submission to Him. We should determine if the thought is in accordance to YHWH; in accordance to our own fleshly desire; or being influence by Satan. Our spoken or written words should be guided by His Word.

Therefore, we should listen twice as much as we speak; and when we do speak, we should carefully consider the words we choose. By staying in His Word, we will see that our thoughts, words, and deeds becoming more and more in line with His.

### Retaliation

**Mat 5:38** “You heard that it was said, ‘**An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth,**’<sup>j</sup> Exo 21:24. Footnote: <sup>j</sup>This was the principle for the judges to follow, while יהושע speaks in the next verse of our personal conduct.

**Mat 5:39** but I say to you, do not resist the wicked. But whoever slaps you on your right cheek, turn the other to him also.

**Mat 5:40** “And he who wishes to sue you and take away your inner garment, let him have your outer garment as well.

**Mat 5:41** “And whoever compels you to go one mile, go with him two.

**Mat 5:42** “Give to him who asks of you, and from him who wishes to borrow from you, do not turn away.

There is no need to retaliate. YHWH will right all the wrongs. Vengeance belongs to Him.

### Love Your Enemies

**Mat 5:43** “You heard that it was said, ‘**You shall love your neighbour** Lev 19:18 and hate your enemy.’<sup>k</sup> Footnote: <sup>k</sup>*Hate your enemy* was “said,” not “written.”

**Mat 5:44** “But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those cursing you, do good to those hating you, and pray for those insulting you and persecuting you,

**Mat 5:45** so that you become sons of your Father in the heavens. Because He makes His sun rise on the wicked and on the good, and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous.<sup>l</sup> Footnote: <sup>l</sup>Luk 6:35, Act 14:16-17.

**Mat 5:46** “For if you love those loving you, what reward have you? Are the tax collectors not doing the same too?

**Mat 5:47** “And if you greet your brothers only, what do you do more *than others*? Are the tax collectors not doing so too?

**Mat 5:48** “Therefore, be perfect,<sup>m</sup> as your Father in the heavens is perfect. Footnote: <sup>m</sup>Gen 17:1, Psa 119:1, 1Jn 2:5, Heb 6:1.

Love covers a multitude of sins! While Yahusha hung on the crucifixion tree, He said, ‘Father forgive them for they know not what they do.’ Yahusha set the highest of all standards. Praise Yah for all that He has done! He is worthy! Walk faithful in Covenant Torah.

**Luk 23:34** And יהושע said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do.” **And they divided His garments and cast lots.** Psa 22:18.

**Ezra 5** YHWH's prophetic plans continue.

### Rebuilding Begins Anew

**Ezr 5:1** Then the prophets, Haggai the prophet and Zekaryah son of Iddo, prophesied to the Yehudim who were in Yehudah and Yerushalayim, in the Name of the Elah of Yisra'ël upon them.

**Ezr 5:2** Then Zerubbabel son of She'alti'ël and Yëshua son of Yotsadaq rose up and began to build the House of Elah which is in Yerushalayim. And the prophets of Elah were with them, helping them.

**Ezr 5:3** At that time Tattenai the governor beyond the River and Shethar-Bozenai and their companions came to them and said this to them, "Who has made you a decree to build this House and to complete this wall?"

**Ezr 5:4** Then we told them what the names were of the men who were building this building.

**Ezr 5:5** And the eye of their Elah was upon the elders of the Yehudim, so that they could not make them cease until the matter went to Dareyawesh. And then they sent back a letter concerning this.

F. B. Meyer records there had been a 15-year lapse since Judah was told to cease their work. However, YHWH was with the returning exiles and they would now restart building the House of Eloah and the wall. The adversarial coven of companions reemerges to halt the progress. The Yehudim elders of Judah stand their ground and state they cannot cease until the matter goes to Darius. Tattenai wastes no time in sending Darius a letter but this letter seems milder than the last one sent to Artaxerxes.

### Tattenai's Letter to King Darius

**Ezr 5:6** This is a copy of the letter that Tattenai, governor beyond the River, had sent, and Shethar-Bozenai, and his companions the officials beyond the River, to Dareyawesh the sovereign.

**Ezr 5:7** They sent a letter to him, and this was written in it: To Dareyawesh the sovereign: All peace.

**Ezr 5:8** Let it be known to the sovereign that we went into the province of Yehudah, to the House of the great Elah, which is being built with heavy stones, and timber is being laid in the walls. And this work goes on speedily and is blessed in their hands.

**Ezr 5:9** Then we asked those elders, saying this to them, "Who made you a decree to build this House and to complete these walls?"

**Ezr 5:10** And we also asked them their names, in order to inform you, so we could write the names of the men at their head.

**Ezr 5:11** And this is the answer they gave us, saying, "We are the servants of the Elah of heaven and earth, and we are rebuilding the House that was built many years ago,

which a great sovereign of Yisra'el built and completed.

**Ezr 5:12** “But because our fathers provoked the Elah of heaven, He gave them into the hand of Nebukadnetstsar sovereign of Babel, the Kasdaia, who destroyed this House and exiled the people to Babel.

**Ezr 5:13** “But in the first year of Koresh [Cyrus] sovereign of Babel, **Koresh the sovereign made a decree to build this House of Elah.**

**Ezr 5:14** “And also, the gold and silver utensils of the House of Elah, which Nebukadnetstsar had taken from the Hēkal that was in Yerushalayim and brought to the hēkal of Babel, those Sovereign Koresh took from the hēkal of Babel and they were given to one named Shēshbatstsar, whom he had made governor,

**Ezr 5:15** and said to him, ‘Take these utensils, go, deposit them in the Hēkal in Yerushalayim, and let the House of Elah be built on its place.’

**Ezr 5:16** “Then the same Shēshbatstsar came, laid the foundation of the House of Elah which is in Yerushalayim, and since that time even until now it has been in building, and it is not completed.”

**Ezr 5:17** And now, if it seems good to the sovereign, let a search be made in the sovereign’s treasure-house, which is there in Babel, whether it is so that a decree was made by Sovereign Koresh to build this House of Elah at Yerushalayim, and let the sovereign send us his decision concerning this.

## Acts 5

### Ananias and Sapphira

**Act 5:1** But a certain man named Hānanyah, with Shappirah his wife, sold a possession.

**Act 5:2** And he kept back from the price, his wife also being aware of it, and brought a certain part and laid it at the feet of the emissaries.

**Act 5:3** But Kēpha said, “Hānanyah, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Set-apart Spirit and keep back from the price of the land for yourself?”

**Act 5:4** “While it remained, did it not remain your own? And after it was sold, was it not in your authority? **Why have you conceived this deed in your heart? You have not lied to men but to Elohim.**”

**Act 5:5** Then Hānanyah, hearing these words, fell down and breathed his last. And great fear came upon all those who heard of this.

**Act 5:6** But the young men arose and wrapped him up, carried him out and buried him.

**Act 5:7** And it came to be, about three hours later, that his wife came in, not knowing what had taken place.

**Act 5:8** And Kēpha responded to her, “Say to me whether you sold the land for so much?” And she said, “Yes, for so much.”

**Act 5:9** So Kēpha said to her, “**Why have you agreed to try the Spirit of יהוה? Look, the feet of those who have buried your husband are at the door, and they shall carry you out.**”

**Act 5:10** And immediately she fell down at his feet and breathed her last. And the young men came in and found her dead, and carrying her out, they buried her beside her husband.

**Act 5:11** And great fear came upon all the assembly and upon all who heard of this.

The Spirit filled assembly had received a prophetic word by Yahusha in **Acts 1:8**. The assembly of believers that were being ‘born anew’ was growing. These were the 1<sup>st</sup> century believers that had begun their walk as His kingdom of priests, a set-apart people, after the order of Melchizedek. Believers were receiving the Comforter, the Ruach HaKodesh, and powerful transformations were occurring.

Their witness was taking hold in Jerusalem, but still ahead was Judea, Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. There was much to be done and we see sin raise its head very quickly.

The sin of lying, deceit, and hypocrisy was quickly confronted. Resources were being contributed and were needed; yet, we know the ‘love’ of money is the root of all evil.

Most had now devoted their lives to the ministry. Were Ananias and Sapphire wolves in sheep’s clothing? Had a Jezebel spirit crept into the assembly? Ananias and Sapphira wanted to appear righteous as they proclaimed a lie.

### Many Signs and Wonders Done

**Act 5:12** And through the hands of the emissaries many signs and wonders were done among the people. And **they were all with one mind in Shelomoh’s Porch**.

**Act 5:13** **But of the rest no one had the courage to join them**, however, the people made much of them.

**Act 5:14** And **more believers were added to the Master, large numbers of both men and women**.

**Act 5:15** so that they **brought the sick** out into the streets and laid them on beds and couches, that at least the shadow of Kěpha, passing by, might fall on some of them.

**Act 5:16** A large number also gathered from the surrounding cities to Yerushalayim, bringing **sick ones and those who were troubled by unclean spirits, and they were all healed**.

The prayers for boldness in Acts 4 and for YHWH to work mighty miracles through them, were being answered and large numbers of both men and women were being saved.

### The Apostles Arrested and Freed

**Act 5:17** But the high priest rose up, and all those with him, which is the sect of the

Sadducees, and they were **filled with jealousy**,

Act 5:18 and **seized the emissaries and put them in the public jail.**

Act 5:19 **But a messenger of יהוה opened the prison doors at night and brought them out, and said,**

Act 5:20 **“Go and stand in the Set-apart Place and speak to the people all the words of this life.”**

Act 5:21 Now when they heard, they **went into the Set-apart Place early in the morning, and were teaching.**

But the high priest and those with him came and called the council together, with all the elders of the children of Yisra'ël, and sent to the prison for them to be brought.

Act 5:22 **But having come, the officers did not find them in the prison, and they went back and reported it,**

Act 5:23 saying, **“We found the prison shut in all safety, and the watches standing outside before the doors. But having opened them, we found no one inside!”**

It is glorious to see the hand of YHWH at work! This old priestly system was all man driven. It was a withering vine. The true reigning High Priest was Yahusha HaMashiach of the Melchizedek Order; and all those believing in Him by faith, were being made into His kingdom of priests of every tongue, tribe, people, and nation. This kingdom of priests would not require specific mother / father lineage. These were those that had been born from above; had had their garments washed by the blood of the Lamb; and had been entered into the heavenly register.

Psa 87:5 And of Tsiyon it is said, “Each one was born in her; For the Most High Himself does establish her.” Psa 87:6 **יהוה does write. In the register of the peoples, “This one was born there.”** Selah.

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Heb 12:22 But **you have drawn near to Mount Tsiyon** and to the city of the living Elohim, to the heavenly Yerushalayim, to myriads of messengers,

Heb 12:23 to **the entire gathering and assembly of the first-born** **having been enrolled in heaven,** and to **Elohim the Judge of all,** and to the spirits of righteous men made perfect,

Heb 12:24 and to **יהושע** the Mediator<sup>d</sup> of a new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling which speaks better than *the blood of Hebel*.

Act 5:24 And as the high priest and the captain of the Set-apart Place and the chief priests heard these words, they were puzzled and wondered what this might be.

Act 5:25 **But one came and reported to them, saying, “Look, the men whom you put in prison are standing in the Set-apart Place and teaching the people!”**

Act 5:26 Then the captain went with the officers and brought them, not with force, for they feared the people, lest they should be stoned.

Act 5:27 And having brought them, they set them before the council and the high priest asked them,

**Act 5:28** saying, “Did we not strictly command you not to teach in this Name? And look, you have filled Yerushalayim with your teaching, and intend to bring the blood of this Man upon us!”

**Act 5:29** And Kēpha and the other emissaries answering, said, “**We have to obey Elohim rather than men.**<sup>a</sup> Footnote: <sup>a</sup>See [Act 4:19](#).”

**Act 5:30** “**The Elohim of our fathers** [Exo 3:15](#) raised up יהושע whom you laid hands on, **hanging Him on a timber.** [Deu 21:22-23](#).”

**Act 5:31** “Him, **a Prince<sup>b</sup> and a Saviour, Elohim has exalted to His right hand,** [Psa 110:1](#) to give repentance to Yisra’ēl and forgiveness of sins. Footnote: <sup>b</sup>See [Act 3:15](#).”

**Psa 110:1** יהוה said to my Master, “**Sit at My right hand, Until I make Your enemies a footstool for Your feet.**”

**Psa 110:2** יהוה sends Your mighty sceptre out of Tsiyon. Rule in the midst of Your enemies!

**Psa 110:3** Your people volunteer in the day of Your might, In the splendours of set-apartness! From the womb, from the morning, You have the dew of Your youth!

**Psa 110:4** יהוה has sworn and does not relent, “You are a priest forever According to the order of Malkitsedeq.”

**Act 5:32** “And **we are His witnesses** to these matters, and **so also is the Set-apart Spirit** whom Elohim has given to those who obey Him.”<sup>c</sup> Footnote: <sup>c</sup>See also [1Jn 3:24](#).”

**Act 5:33** And **those hearing were cut to the heart, and took counsel to kill them.**

**1Jn 3:24** And the one guarding His commands stays in Him, and He in him. And by this we know that He stays in us, by the Spirit which He gave us.<sup>9</sup> Footnote: <sup>9</sup> [Joh 14:23-24](#), [Act 5:32](#), [Rom 8:7-11](#), [1Jn 2:5](#), [1Jn 4:13](#).”

We are also His witnesses! Those guarding and obeying His commands. Those set-apart to Him in service.

**Act 5:34** But a certain one in the council stood up, **a Pharisee named Gamli’ēl, a teacher of the Torah, respected by all the people, and ordered them to put the emissaries outside** for a little while,

We will see later in Acts 22; Paul shares he was taught by Gamliel.

**Act 22:3** “I am indeed a Yehudi, having been born in Tarsos of Kilikia, **but brought up in this city at the feet of Gamli’ēl,** having been instructed according to the exactness of the Torah of our fathers, being ardent for Elohim, as you all are today,

**Act 5:35** **and said to them,** “Men of Yisra’ēl, **take heed to yourselves what you intend to do** to these men.

**Act 5:36** “For before these days Todah rose up, claiming to be somebody. A number of men, about four hundred, did join him. He was slain, and all who obeyed him were dispersed, and came to naught.

**Act 5:37** “After him, Yehudah of Galil rose up in the days of the census, and drew away many people after him. He also perished, and all who obeyed him were scattered.

**Act 5:38** **“And now I say to you, stay away from these men and leave them alone, because if this plan or this work is of men, it shall be overthrown,**

**Act 5:39** **but if it is of Elohim, you are unable to overthrow it, lest you even be found to fight against Elohim.”**

**Act 5:40** And they heeded his advice, and having called for the emissaries, beating them, they commanded that they should not speak in the Name of יהושע, and let them go.

**Act 5:41** **Then indeed they went rejoicing from the presence of the council, because they were counted worthy to suffer shame for His Name.**

The emissaries took their beating; rejoiced and picked up where they left off! They continued to teach the Good News of Yahusha HaMashiach! Unlike the false leaders mentioned by Gamliel, the Good News of Yahusha spoken by His believers, prevails to this very day and forevermore!

**Act 5:42** And **daily in the Set-apart Place, and in every house, they did not cease teaching and bringing the Good News: יהושע the Messiah!**

*~ Shalom ~ Libby*

Devotional Reading Plan Link: <http://www.mcheyne.info/calendar.pdf>