

Greetings everyone, today our devotionals are Gen. 44; Job 10; Mark 14; Romans 14

February 11 – 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/>

Genesis 44

Joseph Tests His Brothers

Gen 44:1 And he commanded the one over his house, saying, “Fill the men’s sacks with food, as they are able to bear, and put each man’s silver in the mouth of his sack.

Gen 44:2 “And put my cup, the silver cup, in the mouth of the sack of the youngest, and the silver for his grain.” And he did according to the word of Yosëph which he spoke.

Gen 44:3 As soon as the morning was light, the men were sent away, they and their donkeys.

Surely Joseph’s brothers breathed a sigh of relief as they were headed home to their father all saddled up with food provisions, along with Shimon and Benjamin. One can’t help but wonder what their conversations covered about the whole experience. It would have been normal to hear laughs of relief from all the stress they had felt as well as expressing joy of being together. For a moment, the load they had been carrying was lifted but it would be short lived. Joseph, using a divine plan, instructs the man over his house as to what to do and what to say. Though we don’t exactly know ‘who’ this man was; we saw a glimpse of him when the brothers first arrived back to the house of Joseph.

Gen 43:19 So they came near to the man over the house of Yosëph, and spoke to him at the door of the house,...

Gen 44:4 And when they had gone out of the city, not having gone far, Yosëph said to the one over his house, “Rise up, follow the men, and when you overtake them, say to them, ‘Why have you repaid evil for good?

Gen 44:5 Is this not the one from which my master drinks, and with which he indeed divines? You have done evil in what you have done.’ ”

Gen 44:6 So he overtook them and spoke these words to them.

Gen 44:7 And they said to him, “Why does my master say these words? Far be it from us that your servants should do according to this word.

Gen 44:8 “See, we brought back to you from the land of Kena’an the silver which we found in the mouth of our sacks. How then should we steal silver or gold from your master’s house?”

Gen 44:9 “With whomever of your servants it is found – he shall die and we shall become my master’s slaves as well.”

After making a flippant oath, **Gen 44:9** “With whomever of your servants it is found – he shall die and we shall become my master’s slaves as well.”; we read that the silver [silver meaning redemption] cup and coins are found in Benjamin’s sack. And then finally we see a breakthrough. Their hearts are rent just like **their garments**. They return to the house of Joseph and fall down on the ground before him and Judah speaks these words: **Gen 44:16** And Yehudah said, “What do we say to my master? What do we speak? Or how do we clear ourselves? Elohim has found out the crookedness of your servants. See, we are my master’s slaves, both we and he also with whom the cup was found.”

Gen 44:10 And he said, “Now also let it be according to your words: he with whom it is found becomes my slave, and you are innocent.”

Gen 44:11 And they hurried, each man let down his sack to the ground, and each opened his sack.

Gen 44:12 And he searched, with the oldest first and with the youngest last, and the cup was found in Binyamin’s sack.

Gen 44:13 And they tore their garments, and each man loaded his donkey and went back to the city.

Gen 44:14 And Yehudah and his brothers came to Yosëph’s house, and he was still there. And they fell before him on the ground.

Gen 44:15 And Yosëph said to them, “What deed is this you have done? Did you not know that a man like me indeed divines?”

Gen 44:16 And Yehudah said, “What do we say to my master? What do we speak? Or how do we clear ourselves? Elohim has found out the crookedness of your servants. See, we are my master’s slaves, both we and he also with whom the cup was found.”

Gen 44:17 But he said, “Far be it from me to do this. The man in whose hand the cup was found, he becomes my slave. And you, go up in peace to your father.”

Gen 44:18 And Yehudah came near to him and said, “O my master, please let your servant speak a word in my master’s hearing, and do not let your displeasure burn against your servant, for you are like Pharaoh.

Gen 44:19 “My master asked his servants, saying, ‘Have you a father or a brother?’

At first glance, one may think Joseph is seeking revenge and playing games. I would say, he now knew the shrewdness of his brothers and how they operated. There would have been ‘no guarantee’ if Joseph had simply been open with them and told them immediately, “I am Joseph, please go home and get Benjamin and father and bring them here.” The brothers had kept their ‘secret sin’ from their father for all these years; they had despised Joseph for so long; and now, once naïve Joseph, had grown up and put his trust totally in YHWH; in Him alone. One must also remember that this is the **divine prophetic dream** playing out. The dream dreamed so very long ago.

Gen 44:20 “And we said to my master, ‘We have a father, an old man, and a young child of *his* old age, and his brother is dead, and he alone is left of his mother’s children, and his father loves him.’”

Gen 44:21 “And you said to your servants, ‘Bring him down to me, and let me set my eyes on him.’”

Gen 44:22 “And we said to my master, ‘The boy is not able to leave his father, for if he leaves his father, his father shall die.’”

Gen 44:23 “But you said to your servants, ‘Unless your youngest brother comes down with you, you do not see my face again.’”

Gen 44:24 “And it came to be, when we went up to your servant my father, that we told him the words of my master.”

Gen 44:25 “And our father said, ‘Go back and buy us a little food.’”

Gen 44:26 “But we said, ‘We are not able to go down. If our youngest brother is with us, then we shall go down, for we are not able to see the man’s face unless our youngest brother is with us.’”

Gen 44:27 “Then your servant my father said to us, ‘You know that my wife bore me two sons,

Gen 44:28 and the one went out from me, and I said, “Truly, he is torn, torn to pieces!” And I have not seen him since.

Gen 44:29 And if you take this one from me too, and harm comes to him, you shall bring down my grey hair with evil to She’ol.’”

Gen 44:30 “And now, if I come to your servant my father and the boy is not with us – since his own life is bound up in his life –

Gen 44:31 then it shall be, when he sees that the boy is not with us, that he shall die. So your servants shall bring down the grey hair of your servant our father with evil to She’ol.

Gen 44:32 “For your servant went guaranty for the boy to my father, saying, ‘If I do not bring him back to you, then I shall be a sinner before my father forever.’”

Gen 44:33 “And now, please let your servant remain instead of the boy as a slave to my master, and let the boy go up with his brothers.

Gen 44:34 “For how do I go up to my father if the boy is not with me, lest I see the evil that would come upon my father?”

Now they are at Joseph’s mercy and grace as they explain fully the conversations, they had prior with their father Jacob. They do not want to relive the pain and anguish they have lived with all these years; their hearts now have been rent. They now have **eyes to see evil and want no part of it** as we read: **Gen 44:34** “For how do I go up to my father if the boy is not with me, lest I **see the evil** that would come upon my father?”

Job 10

Job continues to lament before Eloah. He is suffering and longing for a break, a pause, in his suffering. Sa_tan is throwing everything that he can at Job except for death. Truly it is a miracle that he can even form thoughts and words to YHWH. Evil, usurps energy and amusement from others suffering. Yah on the other hand flips the word E-V-I-L to the word L-I-V-E. Even when situations ‘appear’ hopeless; we know YHWH is our Hope. **Romans 8:31** What then shall we say to this? If Elohim is for us, who is against us? **32** Truly, He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up on behalf of us all – how shall He not, along with Him, freely give us all else? **33** Who shall bring any charge against Elohim’s chosen ones? It is Elohim who is declaring right.

Job Continues: A Plea to Eloah

Job 10:1 “My being has grown weary of life. I let loose my complaint, I speak in the bitterness of my being.

Job 10:2 I say to Eloah, ‘Do not declare me wrong, show me why You strive with me.

Job 10:3 Is it good to You that You should crush, that You should despise the work of Your hands, and shine on the counsel of the wrong?

Job 10:4 Do You have eyes of flesh? Do You see as man sees?

Job 10:5 Are Your days like the days of a mortal man? Are Your years like the days of a mighty man,

Job 10:6 that You should seek for my crookedness and search out my sin?

Job 10:7 For You know that I am not wrong, and there is no one to deliver from Your hand.

Job 10:8 Your hands have made me and shaped me, together all around, yet You destroy me.

Job 10:9 Remember, please, that You have made me like clay. And would You turn me into dust again?

Job 10:10 Did You not pour me out like milk, and curdle me like cheese?

Job 10:11 Skin and flesh you put on me, and wove me with bones and sinews.

Job 10:12 Life and loving-commitment You have bestowed on me, and Your visitation has preserved my spirit.

Job 10:13 And these You have laid up in Your heart, I know that this was with You:

Job 10:14 If I sin, then You watch me, and let no crookedness of mine go unpunished.

Job 10:15 If I am wrong, woe to me! And if I am righteous, I would not lift up my head – filled with shame and seeing my grief!

Job 10:16 If I lift it up high, you hunt me as a lion, and again You would show Yourself marvellous against me.

Job 10:17 You renew Your witnesses against me, and increase Your vexation toward me; changes and a host are with me.

Job 10:18 So why have You brought me forth from the womb? Oh, that I had perished and no eye had seen me!

Job 10:19 I should have been as though I had not been – brought from the womb to the burial-site.

Job 10:20 Are not my days few? Then cease! Leave me alone, so that I brighten up a little,

Job 10:21 Before I go, and not return, to the land of darkness and the shadow of death,

Job 10:22 a land as dark as darkness itself, as the shadow of death, without any order, whose light is as darkness.”

Mark 14

The Plot to Kill Yahusha

Mar 14:1 Now the *Pěsah^a* and the *Festival of Matzot^b* was after two days. And the chief priests and the scribes were seeking how to take Him through treachery and put Him to death. Footnotes: ^aPassover. ^bUnleavened Bread.

Mar 14:2 And they said, **“Not at the festival, lest there shall be an uproar of the people.”**

Yahusha Anointed at Bethany

Mar 14:3 And while He was in Běyth Anyah in the house of Shim'on the leper, and sitting at the table, a woman came having an alabaster flask of perfume, genuine nard, very costly. And breaking the flask she poured it on His head.

Mar 14:4 But there were some who were much displeased among themselves, and said, “Why was this perfume wasted?”

Mar 14:5 “For it could have been sold for more than three hundred denarii and given to the poor.” And **they were scolding her.**

Mar 14:6 But יהושע said, “Leave her alone. Why do you trouble her? **She has done a good work for Me.**

Mar 14:7 “For you have the poor with you always, and you are able do good to them,

whenever you wish. But you do not always have Me.

Mar 14:8 “What she had, she used. She took it beforehand to anoint My body for the burial.

Mar 14:9 “Truly, I say to you, wherever this Good News is proclaimed in all the world, what this woman did shall also be spoken of, to her remembrance.”

A woman comes and anoints Yahusha out of her great love and reverence for Him. She lavishes on Him a brand-new sealed container of very expensive perfume. The aroma must have lingered with Him as a very fragrant reminder of her love shown. The sweet aroma would have stood in stark contrast to the hatred, pain, agony, and stench of the whole crucifixion process.

The perfume was an extravagant love offering for her beloved Messiah.

Judas to Betray Yahusha

Mar 14:10 And Yehudah from Qerioth, one of the twelve, went to the chief priests to deliver Him up to them.

Mar 14:11 And when they heard it, they were glad, and promised to give him silver. And he was seeking how to deliver Him up, conveniently.

Never sell the righteous for silver. YHWH sees every wrongful deed done without cause to His people and He reserves the right to be the ‘Avenger.’

The Passover with the Disciples

Mar 14:12 And on the first day of Unleavened Bread, when they were slaughtering the Pěsaḥ^a lamb, His taught ones said to Him, “Where do You wish us to go and prepare, for You to eat the Pěsaḥ?” Footnote: ^aPassover.

Mar 14:13 And He sent out two of His taught ones and said to them, “Go into the city, and there a man bearing a jar of water shall meet you, follow him.”

Heb 13:2 Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.

One wonders if this could have been an angel partaking in making preparation. If not, then YHWH had already known the person He would use to prepare the room.

Mar 14:14 “And wherever he enters, say to the master of the house, ‘The Teacher says, “Where is the guest room in which I am to eat the Pěsaḥ with My taught ones?”’”

Mar 14:15 “And he shall show you **a large upper room, furnished, ready**. Prepare for us there.”

Mar 14:16 And His taught ones went out and came into the city, and found it as He said to them, and they prepared the Pěsah.

Mar 14:17 **And evening having come, He came with the twelve.**

Mar 14:18 And as they sat and ate, יהושע said, **“Truly, I say to you, one of you who is eating with Me shall deliver Me up.”**

Mar 14:19 And they began to be grieved, and to say to Him one by one, “Is it I?” And another, “Is it I?”

Mar 14:20 And He answering, said to them, “It is one of the twelve, he who is dipping with Me in the dish.”

Mar 14:21 “The Son of Adam is indeed going, as it has been written of Him, **but woe to that man by whom the Son of Adam is delivered up! It would have been good for that man if he had not been born.**”

Institution of the New Covenant Confirming Meal

Mar 14:22 And as they were eating, יהושע took bread, having blessed, broke it, gave it to them and said, “Take, eat, this is My body.”

Mar 14:23 And taking the cup, giving thanks, He gave it to them, and they all drank from it.

Mar 14:24 And He said to them, **“This is My blood, that of the renewed [new] covenant, which is shed for many.**”

Mar 14:25 “Truly, I say to you, I shall certainly no more drink of the fruit of the vine till that day when I drink it anew in the **reign of Elohim.**”

This meal represented the new blood ratified covenant confirming meal under the Melchizedek Order. Through divinely orchestrated and prophesied events, Yahusha would serve as the High Priest, after the Order of Melchizedek, over His own crucifixion. He was the perfect Lamb of Elohim, who chose to lay down His life and take it back up. He would present His precious blood on the heavenly altar and make full atonement ‘at-one-ment’ for our sins, once and for all. Those that say ‘yes’ to His New Covenant proposal enter His kingdom from every tongue, tribe, people, and nation.

Yahusha Foretells Peter's Denial

Mar 14:26 And having sung a song, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

Mar 14:27 And יהושע said to them, “All of you shall stumble in Me this night, for it has

been written, **'I shall strike the shepherd, and the sheep shall be scattered.'**
[Zec 13:7.](#)

Mar 14:28 “But after I am raised, I shall go before you to Galil.”

Mar 14:29 And Kěpha said to Him, “Even if all shall stumble, yet not I.”

Mar 14:30 And יהושע said to him, “Truly, I say to you that today, this night, before the cock shall crow twice, you shall deny Me three times.”

Mar 14:31 But he spoke more strongly, “If I have to die with You, I shall not deny You!” And they all said the same.

The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak. As Yahusha stated, they all would stumble in Him that night. They would grieve like never before; yet, we know everything changes when Yahusha sends the Comforter! His disciples rise to the occasion and are shown to be faithful even unto death.

Yahusha Prays in Gethsemane

Mar 14:32 And they came to a place called Gethsemane. And He said to His taught ones, **“Sit here while I pray.”**

Mar 14:33 And He took with Him **Kěpha, and Ya'aqob, and Yoħanan,** and He began to be greatly amazed, and to be deeply distressed.

Mar 14:34 And He said to them, “My being is exceedingly grieved, even to death. **Stay here and watch.**”

Mar 14:35 And He went on a little, and fell on the ground, and was praying that if it were possible, the hour might pass from Him.

Mar 14:36 And He said, “Abba, Father, all is possible for You. Make this cup pass from Me. Yet not what I desire, but what You desire.”

Yahusha was not asking His Father ‘not to be crucified’; He was asking His Father not to let him die prematurely in the garden. He was grieved exceedingly, even to death. It was Yahusha’s desire to complete what He was sent to do – lay down His life to be crucified for our sins, and take it back up.

He was very weak having sweated great drops of blood, a condition we know as Hematidrosis. He was exceedingly grieved, even to death.

Hematidrosis is a condition in which [capillary](#) blood vessels that feed the [sweat glands](#) rupture, causing them to exude blood, occurring under conditions of extreme physical or emotional [stress](#).^[4] Severe mental [anxiety](#) activates the [sympathetic nervous system](#) to invoke the [stress-Fight-or-flight response](#) to such a degree as to cause hemorrhage of the vessels supplying the sweat glands.^[5] It has been suggested that acute fear and extreme stress can cause hematidrosis.^[6] <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hematidrosis>

Mar 14:37 And He came and found them sleeping, and said to Kěpha, “Shim'on, are you sleeping? **You were not able to watch one hour!**

Mar 14:38 “**Watch and pray,** lest you enter into trial. The spirit indeed is eager, but the flesh is weak.”

Mar 14:39 And again He went away and prayed, and spoke the same words.

Mar 14:40 And having returned, **He found them asleep again,** for their eyes were heavy. And they did not know what to answer Him.

Mar 14:41 And **He came the third time and said to them, “Are you still sleeping and resting? It is enough! The hour has come. See, the Son of Adam is being delivered up into the hands of the sinners.**

Mar 14:42 “Rise up, let us go. See, he who is delivering Me up has drawn near.”

We too are reminded to [watch and pray during the Passover rehearsal](#). In Exodus 12, this feast is referred to as the [‘night of watches.’](#) We are to be ready for our Groom to arrive; for no one knows the day or hour except for YHWH. Therefore, we should vigilantly keep His rehearsals, His moedim.

Exo 12:42 **It is a night of watches unto יהוה** for bringing them out of the land of Mitsrayim. This is that night of watches unto יהוה, for all the children of Yisra’el throughout their generations.

Betrayed with a kiss by Judas of Iscariot and the arrest of Yahusha

Mar 14:43 And immediately, while He was still speaking, **Yehudah, one of the twelve, with a large crowd with swords and clubs, came from**

- the chief priests and
- the scribes and
- the elders.

Mar 14:44 And the one who was delivering Him up had given them **a signal, saying, “Whomever I kiss, it is He** – seize Him and lead Him away safely.”

Mar 14:45 And coming, going straight up to Him, he said to Him, “Rabbi, Rabbi!” and kissed Him.

Mar 14:46 And they laid their hands on Him and seized Him.

Mar 14:47 And one of those standing by drew his sword and struck the servant of the high priest, and cut off his ear.

Mar 14:48 And יהושע answering, said to them, **“Have you come out as against a robber, with swords and clubs, to take Me?”**

Mar 14:49 **“Daily I was with you in the Set-apart Place teaching, and you did not seize Me. But let the Scriptures be filled.”**

Mar 14:50 And they all left Him and fled.

A Young Man Flees

Mar 14:51 And a certain young man was following Him, having a linen cloth thrown around *his* naked *body*. And when they seized him,

Mar 14:52 he left the linen cloth and fled from them naked.

This is a brief and very unusual account. Who was this young man? What was the significance of the linen cloth he leaves behind? Would we see the use of this linen cloth later?

Yahusha Before the Council

Mar 14:53 And they led יהושע away to the high priest. And all the chief priests, and the elders, and the scribes came together to Him.

Mar 14:54 And Kēpha followed Him at a distance, even into the courtyard of the high priest. And he was sitting with the officers and warming himself at the fire.

Mar 14:55 And the chief priests and all the council were seeking witness against יהושע to put Him to death, and they were finding none.

Mar 14:56 For many bore false witness against Him, but their evidences did not agree.

Mar 14:57 And some rose up and bore false witness against Him, saying,

Mar 14:58 “We heard Him saying, ‘I shall destroy this Dwelling Place that is made with hands, and within three days I shall build another made without hands.’ ”

Mar 14:59 And not even then did their witness agree.

Mar 14:60 Then the high priest stood up in the centre and asked יהושע, saying, “Have You no answer to make? What do these witness against You?”

Mar 14:61 **But He remained silent and gave no answer.** Again the high priest asked Him, saying to Him, **“Are You the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed?”**

Mar 14:62 And יהושע said, “I am, and you shall see the **Son of Adam sitting at the right hand of the Power, Psa 110:1 and coming with the clouds of the heaven.**” **Dan 7:13.**

Mar 14:63 And **tearing his garments, the high priest said,** “What further need do we have of witnesses?”

Mar 14:64 **“You have heard the blasphemy!** What do you think?” And they all condemned Him to be liable to death.

Mar 14:65 And some began to spit on Him, and to blindfold Him, and to beat Him, and to say to Him, “Prophecy!” And the officers struck Him with the palms of their hands.

In Matthew 26:63 it is recorded that Caiaphas had put Yahusha under oath, Yahusha had to answer or else break Leviticus 5:1 under the Book of the Law; which would have been a sin.

Lev 5:1 ‘And when a being sins in that he has heard the voice of swearing, and is a witness, or has seen, or has known, but does not reveal it, he shall bear his crookedness.

Then Yahusha goes on to quote Psalm 110:1.

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.”

And then onto Daniel 7:13:

Dan 7:13 “I was looking in the night visions and saw One like the Son of Enosh,^a coming with the clouds of the heavens! And He came to the Ancient of Days, and they brought Him near before Him. Footnote: ^a*Son of Enosh* - This Aramaic term is similar to the Hebrew ‘Ben Adam,’ (Son of Adam) but not the exact equivalent of it.

By Caiaphas tearing his priestly garment; he was disqualified as High Priest and actually worthy of death. It is for this reason, that Yahusha, already having been mikvah’d by the true High Priest, John the Immerser, is prepared to officiate as High Priest of the Melchizedek order over His own crucifixion; the crucifixion of the spotless Lamb of Elohim. The Melchizedek order would now be returned to its reigning position, once and for all.

Peter Denies Yahusha

Mar 14:66 And as Kēpha was below in the courtyard, one of the servant girls of the high priest came,

Mar 14:67 and seeing Kēpha warming himself, she looked at him and said, “And you were with יהושע of Natsareth.”

Mar 14:68 But he denied it, saying, “I do not know nor understand what you are saying.” And he went out onto the porch, and a cock crowed.

Mar 14:69 And the servant girl saw him again, and began to say to those who stood by,

“This is one of them.”

Mar 14:70 And again he was denying it. And after a little while those who stood by again said to Kěpha, “Truly you are one of them, for you are a Galilean too, and your speech is alike.”

Mar 14:71 And he began to curse and swear, “I do not know this Man of whom you speak!”

Mar 14:72 And a second time the cock crowed. And Kěpha remembered the word that יהושע had said to him, “Before the cock crows twice, you shall deny Me three times.” And thinking on it, he wept.

We can all relate to failures in our lives. This was one of Peter’s epic failures; but even that failure was foreknown by Yahusha. Peter was broken hearted; but praise Yah, He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

Peter’s broken heart is later healed, and he becomes a mighty witness to Yahusha even unto death on a cross. It is said that Peter requested to be crucified upside down, for he didn’t feel worthy to be crucified right side up as His Savior. His desire was to exalt Yahusha; and humbly lay down his life for Him. We know Peter finishes the race, and he finishes well! Praise Yah!

Romans 14

Teaching Commentary [in brown] on Romans 14 by Matthew Nolan

Link to teaching on Romans 14 - <https://www.torahtothetribes.com/teaching/romans-from-a-torah-covenant-perspective-chapter-14/>

Do you cause fellow believers to stumble by your eating? Many have used this passage to establish unbiblical precedents. Shaul/Paul is not doing away with the dietary instructions, but rather establishes standards of building a community and what causes harm to that community. We are commanded to exhibit faithfulness with our approach to our food, so not as to condemn ourselves with what we allow.

Do Not Pass Judgment on One Another

Rom 14:1 And receive him who is weak in the belief, not criticizing *his* thoughts.

Rom 14:2 One indeed believes to eat all *food*, but he who is weak eats only vegetables.

Rom 14:3 He that eats, let him not despise him who does not eat, and he that does not eat, let him not judge him who eats, for Elohim received him.

Romans 14:3 *Let not him that eats (esthiō) ('meat' is not in the text. if a translation has it here it's a translator making their own value judgement) despise him that eats*

not (me esthio) ('meat'); and let not him who does not eat ('meat') judge him that eats ('meat'): for vuvh [Elohim] has received kol Yisrael.

The status quo interpretation is one where the weak in faith – the Jews, are eating kosher and keeping sacred days like the seventh day sabbath. These archaic practices are fine, but not binding or necessary for modern believers – Jewish or gentile.

Rom 14:4 Who are you that judges another's servant? To his own master he stands or falls. But he shall be made to stand, for Elohim is able to make him stand.

Rom 14:5 One indeed judges one day above another, another judges every day *alike*. Let each one be completely persuaded in his own mind.

Romans 3:31 Do we then nullify the Torah through faithfulness? May it never be! On the contrary, we uphold the Torah.

The context is 'opinions,' V.1, held by human individuals, *not* commandments given by the One True Living Elohim!

The context supports Paul addressing a controversy that had erupted during mealtimes due to the fallout from the Edict of Claudius and how it had affected the availability and accessibility of meat for the Jewish community and the believing community at large....

Jew's couldn't procure meat and wine from their own sources, Jewish butchers and slaughter markets were no longer readily accessible.

The few Jewish butchers that had returned as the Edict was lifted would have been unwilling to sell meat to Jewish followers of Yahusha! (I know, I've had many an uncomfortable experience in an Orthodox Jewish butchers and restaurants.)

1 Samuel 14:32 Then the people rushed greedily upon the plunder, took sheep, oxen and calves, butchered them on the ground, and the people ate them with the blood. 33Then they reported to Saul saying, "Behold, the people are sinning against Adonai by eating with the blood."

Be aware of a change of status: A clean animal once slaughtered changes status from animal to meat and meat can be designated clean or unclean even if from a clean animal, and the act of consuming it can thereby be sin or not all depending upon the method of slaughter/the origin of the meat.

There's an Oneg in a "strong" person's house (a seasoned gentile/Ephramite believers house) and the Jewish neophyte will eat only the vegetables; and is abused by the 'strong' for doing so!

Judean Jews were highly skeptical of the kosher adherence of diaspora Jews.

'Weak' is akin to a 'seared' or 'sensitive' in conscience!

Additionally, we know that the early Nazarenes and the Ebionites only ate vegetables as recorded in the early Christian Epiphanius writing's!

Vegetarianism easily eliminated the threat of idol contamination or association.

What works to build a community and what does harm to a community is what this section of the letter is about...not abrogating Torah!

Acts 15:20 sets a precedent: **“abstain from the contamination of idols, and from sexual immorality, and from what is strangled, and from blood. For Moses from ancient generations has had in every city those who proclaim him, since he is read in all the synagogues every Shabbat.”**

Romans 14:2 For one believes that he may eat ‘all things’: another, who is weak, eats only vegetables. This is NOT an abstract statement, the ‘all things’ are NOT unqualified! Paul is writing in line with the Apostolic decree of Acts 15, so this is a qualified statement!

Paul already designated the meat clean in V. 20 anyway; Gk. ‘katharos’, Heb. *Lev 14: tahor, châṭâ’*.

But just because it’s clean according to Lev 14 doesn’t guarantee that it’s not ‘koinos’ ‘common.’ (V. 14) from Roman instead of Jewish sources.

The stricter people who eat only vegetables are most probably the same ones who fast and don’t eat on extra calendar fast days like the Ninth of Av, regular Jewish Mon. & Thurs. fast etc.

Sacred days is not referring to the Shabbat or biblical feasts, but Jewish traditional fast days – ‘Sabbaton’ is glaringly absent from our text!

Rom 14:6 He who minds the day, minds it to יהוה. And he who does not mind the day, to יהוה he does not mind it. He who eats, eats to יהוה, for he gives Elohim thanks. And he who does not eat, to יהוה he does not eat, and gives Elohim thanks.

Romans 14:6 He that regards the day of eating, regards it to vuvh [YHWH]; and he that regards not the day, to vuvh [YHWH] he does not regard it. (this is a positive action, not a negative action, meaning it’s applied to extra-curricular Jewish fast days, not pagan love fest’s) **He that eats, eats to vuvh [YHWH], for he gives hodu (thanks);** (the Bracha/food blessing) **and he that eats not, before vuvh [YHWH] he eats not, and neither gives vuvh hodu (thanks).**

Rom 14:7 For not one of us lives to himself, and not one dies to himself.

Rom 14:8 For both, if we live, we live unto the Master, and if we die, we die unto the Master. Therefore, whether we live or die, we are the Master’s.

Rom 14:9 For unto this Messiah died and rose and lived again, to rule over both the

dead and the living.

Rom 14:10 But why do you judge your brother? Or why do you despise your brother? For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Messiah.

Rom 14:11 For it has been written, “**As I live, says יהוה, every knee shall bow to Me, and every tongue shall confess to Elohim.**” [Isa 45:23](#).

Rom 14:12 Each one of us, therefore, shall give account of himself to Elohim.

Do Not Cause Another to Stumble

Rom 14:13 Therefore let us not judge one another any longer, but rather judge this, not to put an obstacle or a stumbling-block in our brother’s way.

Rom 14:14 I know and am persuaded in the Master יהושע that none at all is common (*koinos*) of itself. But to him who regards whatever to be common, to him it is common.

V.14 if Paul had wanted to abrogate the food laws then here was his opportunity to codify it within the text using the Greek: *“there is nothing common (koinos) of itself.”*

The Torah designates unclean animals in Lev 14 as *‘tamei’*, the LXX translates *‘tamei’* as *“Akathartos.”* But *“Akathartos”* does NOT appear here in the text...Nowhere! Paul deliberately uses *‘koinos’* instead.

V.14 is a slam dunk textual proof that Paul isn’t abrogating the food laws!

‘Koinos’ – ‘to lie common or open to all’, ‘common’ or ‘common ownership.’

Why would Paul use a word that doesn’t even appear in the LXX Torah! Unless he wanted to leave absolutely no confusion that HE WASN’T ABROGATING THE FOOD LAWS!

The translation bias’s in V.14 should key you into the deception:

Rom 14:15 And if your brother is grieved because of your food, you are no longer walking in love. Do not by your food ruin the one for whom Messiah died.

Romans 14:15 *But if your Yisraelite brother is grieved with your food (Gk Broma, Heb. אֶקֶל ‘ôkel – Lev 11:34 i.e. clean meat, only occurrence in Torah: “Of all meat which may be eaten.”)...*

Rom 14:16 Do not then allow your good to be spoken of as evil.

Rom 14:17 For the reign of Elohim is not eating and drinking, but **righteousness** and **peace** and **joy** in the Set-apart Spirit.

Rom 14:18 For he who is serving Messiah in these *matters* is well-pleasing to Elohim and approved by men.

Rom 14:19 So, then, let us pursue the *matters* of peace and the *matters* **for building up one another.**

Rom 14:20 Do not destroy the work of Elohim for the sake of food. All indeed are clean, but evil to that man who eats so as to cause stumbling.

Rom 14:21 It is good not to eat meat or drink wine, nor *to do whatever* by which your brother stumbles.

Rom 14:22 Do you have belief? Have it to yourself before Elohim. Blessed is he who does not condemn himself in what he approves.

Rom 14:23 But he who doubts, if he eats, is condemned, because it is not of belief, and all that is not of belief is sin.

Link to teaching on Romans 14 - <https://www.torahtothetribes.com/teaching/romans-from-a-torah-covenant-perspective-chapter-14/>

~ *Shalom* ~ Libby

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