

Counting of the עֶמֶר, Omer, 2024

Day 30

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Psalms 78: 1 – 16

For the next five days our reflections during the Omer count are going to be focused on the seventy-two verses of *Psalms 78*; and this Psalm, is in essence, a condensed version of the history of Yisrael from their deliverance from Egypt, to the establishment of David's reign in Jerusalem. In order to get a preview on perhaps where Yahweh is leading us this week, it might be beneficial to take the additional time to read the entire Psalm. In so doing, you will be preparing your hearts to reflect upon many of the historical accounts that are recorded in the Torah of Mosheh and some of the early writings of the Judges, Joshua, Samuel, and other writers who recorded the pre-Davidic era in the history of Yisrael. Now that we are less than three weeks from the Feast of Weeks, the anticipation of the spring harvest and the opportunity to give praise and thanksgiving to our Creator, is building in our hearts. So before commenting on some thoughts that today's reflection brought to mind, if you are led, please take the time to refocus on *Psalms 37* and the opening verses of *Psalms 78*:

Psalms 37: 1-10

*Fret not yourself because of evildoers, neither be you envious against the workers of iniquity. 2 For they shall soon be cut down like the grass, and wither as the green herb. 3 Trust in Yahweh, and do good; so shall you dwell in the land, and verily you shall be fed. 4 Delight yourself also in Yahweh; and he shall give you the desires of thine heart. 5 Commit your way unto Yahweh; trust also in Him; and He shall bring it to pass. 6 **And He shall bring forth your righteousness as the light, and your judgment as the noonday.** 7 Rest in Yahweh, and wait patiently for Him: fret **NOT** yourself because of him who prospers in his way, because of the man who brings wicked devices to pass. 8 Cease from anger, and forsake wrath: fret not yourself in any wise to do evil. 9 For evildoers shall be cut off: but those who wait upon Yahweh, they shall inherit the earth. 10 For yet a little while, and the wicked shall **NOT** be: yea, you shall diligently consider his place, and it shall not be.*

Here in *verse 10*, the Psalmist informs us, that after a little while, the wicked shall not be. What do you think the Psalmist is telling us through this statement? Well, as I mentioned yesterday, our heavenly Father measures things in terms of eternity, which means, that the life span of man, whether it sixty, eighty, or even, one hundred years, is not even a blip on the radar screen of eternity. Which means, that once their life here on earth is over, the wicked will be relegated to the Lake of fire, on judgement day, never to be seen again. However, as we discussed yesterday, because **YOU** have chosen to **wait on Yahweh**, which means, because you have chosen to believe, follow and obey the Words of the Father's Torah of Life, and Trust in, and wait on Yahweh, to fulfill His Promises to you, as is evidenced by the Fact that you are reading this little study as part of counting the Omer, which means that you are being obedient to Yahweh, you will be rewarded with everlasting Life in the kingdom of Elohim.

Psalms 78: 1 – 16

*1 Give ear, O My people, to My Torah (Law): incline your ears to the words of My Mouth. 2 I will open My mouth in a parable: I will utter dark sayings **OF OLD**: 3 Which we have heard and known, and our fathers have told us. 4 We will **NOT** hide them from their children, showing to the generation to come, the praises of Yahweh, and His strength, and His wonderful works that He has done. 5 For He established a testimony in Ya'aqov, and appointed a Torah (Law) in Yisrael, which He Commanded our fathers, that they should make them known to their children: 6 That the generation to come, might know (Yada) them, even the children which should be born; who should arise and declare them to their children: 7 That they might set their **hope** in Elohim, and **NOT** forget the works of Elohim, **but KEEP** His Commandments: 8 And might **NOT BE AS** their fathers, a stubborn and rebellious generation; a generation that **DID NOT SET** their heart aright, and, whose spirit was **NOT STEADFAST** with Elohim. 9 The children of Ephraim, being armed, and carrying bows, turned back in the day of battle. 10 They did **NOT keep the Covenant of Elohim, and refused to walk in obedience to the Words of His Torah (Law)**; 11 And forgot His Works, and His Wonders that He had showed them. 12 Marvellous things did He in the sight of their fathers, in the land of Egypt, in the field of Zoan. 13 He divided the sea, and caused them to pass through; and He made the waters to stand as a heap. 14 In the daytime also He led them with a cloud, and all the night with a light of fire. 15 He cleaved the rocks in the wilderness, and gave them drink as out of the great depths. 16 He brought streams also out of the rock, and caused waters to run down like rivers.*

The words **give ear** used here are the Hebrew word, Ha'Aziynah, הִאֲזִינָה, which is from the Hebrew word Ozen, אוֹזַן, which means, ear, and, in its broader meaning, it means *listen, broaden your understanding, weigh what you are hearing and then ponder or meditate on what you have heard.*

This word tells us that we have to develop the attitude that whatever Yahweh **IS** saying, we, His children, are to make sure that we **carefully listen to every word He says, meditate on, and ponder the Words that come forth from the Mouth of Yahweh, for He is omniscient**, and if we can do that, then, it will broaden our understanding, of what He wants us to **weigh**, and **ponder**?

What does Yahweh want us to **focus on**?

He says *Give ear, O My people, to **MY TORAH (Law)**; incline your **EARS** to the Words of My Mouth;*

The word Torah תּוֹרָה, means, **teaching, instruction**, it is called the Book of the **LAW** by Christians, **BUT**, it's real meaning, **IS**, the inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions of our heavenly Father, the Words of His Torah of Life, the very Same Torah that He gave to Mosheh at Mount Sinai, it is also called the Pentateuch, for the Torah is comprised of Five Books, Bereshiyt, In the beginning, Shemot, Names, Vayiqra, and He called, Bemidbar, in the Wilderness, and Devriym, pertaining to Words, which of course refers to the Words of our heavenly Father, that were given to Mosheh at Mount Sinai, it also means, theory, system, a book containing the principles of any branch of science)

It seems pretty clear to me, that Yahweh wants us to **FOCUS** on the Words of His Torah, the Words of His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, for He says, **THAT HIS TORAH WILL BROADEN OUR UNDERSTANDING**. It should be obvious therefore, that Yahweh, wants us to ponder, weigh, and or meditate on the Words of His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, and that He encourages every single human being to do so, and then, He goes on to say, that **IF** and **WHEN** we **DO**, incline our ears to the Words of His Torah of Life, the Words that flow out of His mouth, He has promised us, that **IT WILL BE LIFE TO US**.

By saying *Give ear to My Torah*, and then, in the same *verse*, say, *incline your ears to the Words of My Mouth*, Yahweh **IS** forever linking **the WORDS OF HIS MOUTH to the WORDS OF HIS TORAH of LIFE**, He is telling us, that the Words of His Mouth **ARE THE WORDS OF HIS TORAH OF LIFE**.

With that in mind, let's go through the other *verses*. Yahweh says, through the Psalmist, My Sayings are of **OLD**, which means that they are ancient and *from the beginning*. He wants us to incorporate His ancient sayings into our daily lives, and **MAKE THEM**, our Way of life, and furthermore, we are to teach our children to do the same. The Psalmist tells us that **IT IS** Yahweh that established His Torah, the Words of His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions in Yisrael, and Commanded our father's to **MAKE IT KNOWN** to their children.

Some may ask, **WHY** are we to teach our children about Yahweh and His Ways, the Words of His Torah of Life? It is so that, they too, can have an intimate relationship with Him, and set their **HOPES** upon Him. What happens to the generation that does **NOT KNOW**, or **THAT CHOOSES NOT TO BELIEVE YAHWEH**? The Scriptures tell us, that the nation without Torah, without the Living Word of Yahweh, **WILL PERISH**.

Yahweh has made a Covenant with us, a rather one sided covenant, where He provides for us, protect us, blesses us, keeps us healthy, makes our crops to grow, keeps us at peace even with our enemies, and for our part, all we have **TO DO, IS** learn to willingly and lovingly obey the Words of His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, the Words of His Torah of Life, because when we do, He bestows all of these blessings and circumstances into our lives.

In *verse 9* for example, he tells us that Ephraim relied on their weapons rather than relying on Yahweh and they were **defeated**. We, have to understand, that by telling us this, the Psalmist wants us to realize that there **IS ONLY ONE TRUE SOURCE OF LIFE** that a person **IS** to **RELY ON**, and it is the one and only source that will **ALWAYS** be there to protect you, and **NEVER EVER CHANGE**. That same source, will **Fight** your battles for you, **Provide** for all your needs, **Protect** you from all things, and **Bless** you with abundance. The Psalmist **IS** showing us the awesome power of our heavenly Father, and the great mercy, love and empathy that He has towards us.

The Psalmist wants us to see, what he sees, he wants us to understand that **IF** we will simply choose to allow Yahweh into our daily lives, through surrendered loving obedience to the Words of His Torah of Life, **THEN** our heavenly Father will indeed make us His children, heirs **IF** you will, to all that He has to offer.

Meditate on that **FACT**, while you are being obedient to the Commandment of counting the Omer, and see what possibilities that that will open up in your everyday life. Be blessed my friends, for your obedience in following this Commandment, **WILL** draw you nearer to our Creator, Redeemer, Saviour, and the Elohim of the whole world. He **IS** your Abba, which means that you are part of Him, and the Commandment that comes directly from the Mouth of Yahweh, **IS** *Love your neighbour as yourself*, therefore, Yahweh will indeed obey His own Commandments, and love you as He loves Himself. Amein

Studying and keeping Torah together as a community.

Have a great Elohim blessed week and may Yahweh bless your every thought, and your every deed. Until we meet again, שְׁלוֹם עֲלֵיכֶם, Shalom Aleykem. Amein!