

Counting of the עֶזְרָא, Omer, 2024

Day 49

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Psalms 118: 1 – 8

As we read the Scriptures, we find that many times Yahweh says, He does something for His **NAME**'s sake, or that in time, people will glorify His Holy **NAME**, or that His **NAME** is above all other names. It is quite evident, that to our heavenly Father, His **NAME**, and how people perceive His **NAME**, is extremely important to Him, and yet, as we discover in today's Psalm reading, Yahweh has **EXALTED** His **WORD**, His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, His Living Torah even above His Holy **NAME**. For that reason alone, **WE** should **MAGNIFY** His Word above every aspect of our own lives. **Our heavenly Father has magnified ALL of His WORD above His Holy Name**, and **IF** we pick and choose which part of His Word, **WE** will decide to **KEEP OR TOSS OUT, THEN** in essence, **WE** are discarding what our heavenly Father **has MAGNIFIED above His NAME and holds close to His heart**. Since our Elohim is omnipotent, omniscient, and omnipresent, **MAYBE** we, **His finite beings, should let Him pick what He wants to MAGNIFY, and then, just join in and follow His example**. But before expounding the balance of the Psalm, perhaps if you have the time and are led, you can read and declare out loud, the following Psalms for your own personal edification.

Psalms 91: 1-16

He that dwells in the secret place of the most High, shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. 2 I will say of Yahweh, He is my refuge and my fortress: my Elohim; in Him will I trust. 3 Surely He shall deliver you from the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence. 4 He shall cover you with His feathers, and under His wings shall you trust: His Truth shall be your shield and buckler. 5 You shall not be afraid for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flies by day; 6 Nor for the pestilence that walks in darkness; nor for the destruction that waste at noonday. 7 A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh you. 8 Only with your eyes shall you behold and see the reward of the wicked. 9 Because you have made Yahweh, who is my refuge, even the most High, your habitation; 10 There shall no evil befall you, neither shall any plague come near your dwelling. 11 For He shall give His angels, charge over you, to keep you in all your ways. 12 They shall bear you up in their hands, lest you dash your foot against a stone. 13 You shall tread upon the lion and adder: the young lion and the dragon shall you trample under feet. 14 Because he has set his love upon Me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he has known My Name. 15 He shall call upon Me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him. 16 With long life will I satisfy him, and shew him my salvation.

Today, I would like to talk about, verses 10-14 where the **righteous** people that have chosen to believe, follow and obey the Words of our heavenly Father's Torah of life, are told, **There SHALL NO EVIL befall you, neither shall any plague come near your dwelling**.

Now just think about what Yahweh is promising here to the people who choose to live a Righteous Life, a life of loving surrendered obedience to **ALL** the Words of His Torah of Life? The Psalmist

tells us, that ***no evil shall befall you, neither shall any plague come near your dwelling.*** This promise is only for the people that have willingly chosen to surrender their hearts, minds, soul and strength to our heavenly Father, **AND** who have committed, to believe follow and obey the Words of His Torah of Life. That means, that under the scenario that I talked about yesterday, that over eight billion, people have some kind of evil happen to them, and that they will suffer the same kind of plagues, that Egypt suffered when Yahweh told Pharaoh to divorce His people, and send them away.

However, for the ***Righteous***, we are told in verse 11 *That Yahweh shall give His angels, charge, over you, to keep you in all your ways.*

Here again, we have this incredible promise that Yahweh will have His messengers, His soldiers, His angels, protect and watch over the ***Righteous*** people, so that no harm will come to them. How's that for a promise?

Not only that, but the Psalmist tells us, that *Yahweh's Soldiers, His angels, shall bear you up in their hands, lest you dash your foot against a stone.*

Can you picture this scenario in your minds eye, your walking along the sidewalk, and a thief or a mugger has his eyes on you, and just as he is about to strike, an angel stops him, in the act, or, in another scenario, your walking along the sidewalk and something falls off of a building, and just as it is about to hit you, the angel steps in, and protects you. There are countless scenarios where Yahweh has instructed His angels to protect all of the ***righteous*** people, like He protected Sadrak Meshak and Abednego.

Now after making sure, that we are fully protected, Yahweh then tells us, that we *will tread upon the lion and adder, the young lion and the dragon shall you trample under your feet*

These animals the young lion and the dragon, are shadow pictures of the people that **ARE** the enemies of the ***Righteous***, and the Psalmist says, that we, you and I, along with all the other ***righteous*** people will trample them under foot.

And finally the Psalmist says: 14 *Because he, the **Righteous person** has set his love upon Me, Yahweh, therefore **will I deliver him**: I will set him on high, because he has known My Name, My Shem,*

The Word Shem שֵׁם, means, ***name, designation, reputation, renown, fame, character, the essence of***, it could be said, that ***it is everything that person stands for, his beliefs, his way of life***, and as an adverb, it means, there, existing, in existence, and it is also the name of one of Noach's sons.

So what Yahweh is saying is, because the ***Righteous person*** has known, my Name, because he has known, My ***designation, reputation, renown, fame, character, My essence, everything, that I, the Creator of the universe stand for, My beliefs, My Way of Life.***

This is what every ***Righteous person*** can count on, because it is a promise from Yahweh Himself. Now, it is up to all of us, to decide to, either believe what is said here, and choose to continue to live a life based on Yahweh's righteousness, the Words of His Torah of Life, and let Yahweh, and His angels take care of our enemies, or not. Amein

Psalms 138; 1 – 8

*I will praise You with my whole heart: before the mighty ones will I sing praise unto You. 2 I will worship toward Your holy temple, and praise Your Name for Your lovingkindness and for Your **TRUTH** (Torah, Psalm 119:142): for **You have magnified Your Word above all Your name.** 3 In the day when I cried, You **answered me, and strengthened me with strength in my soul.** 4 All the kings of the earth shall praise You, O Yahweh, when they hear the **WORDS** of Your mouth. 5 Yea, they shall sing in the **WAYS** of Yahweh: for great is the glory of Yahweh. 6 Though Yahweh be high, **YET** has He **respect** unto the lowly: **BUT** the proud He knows afar off. 7 Though I walk in the midst of trouble, You **will** revive me: You **shall** stretch forth Your Hand against the wrath of my enemies, and Your Right Hand **shall** save me. 8 Yahweh **will** perfect that which concerns me: Your mercy, O Yahweh, endures for ever: do **NOT** forsake the **WORKS** of Your own hands.*

Here again, we see the Psalmist bare his heart, as he says; *I will praise you with my whole heart.* Have you ever done that, have you ever just lost yourself in praising and worshiping Yahweh? If you have not done that yet, I would highly recommend that you try and do it on a regular basis. Try and mimic, or copy what the Psalmist did on a regular basis. Now I have to ask, do you, like the Psalmist, willingly and lovingly choose to declare the glory of Yahweh, everywhere, by your words and your actions? **IF NOT, THEN** maybe that is an area that we can all work on together. Are you sometimes worried what people will think, **IF** you speak the Word of Yahweh in public? If you do feel that kind of pressure, to remain silent about the Word of Yahweh when you are in a public surrounding, **THEN** remember the words of Messiah when He said in *Mark 8:38 Whosoever therefore shall be **ASHAMED** of Me and of My **WORDS** in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him also, shall the Son of man **BE ASHAMED**, when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels.*

*Luke 9:26 For whosoever shall be **ASHAMED** of Me and of My Words, of him shall the Son of man **BE ASHAMED**, when He shall come in His own glory, and in His Father's, and of the holy angels.*

To love the Word of Yahweh and to declare it to the world, should be an exciting and invigorating event, because, Speaking His Words, **IS** part of the way that we declare our love for Him. Look at how the Psalmist feels about keeping and speaking the Word of Yahweh.

*Psalm 119:6 Then shall I **NOT** be **ASHAMED**, when I have **RESPECT** unto **ALL YOUR COMMANDMENTS.***

*Psalm 119:80 Let my heart be sound in Your Statutes; that I be **NOT ASHAMED.***

*Psalm 119:116 Uphold me, according unto Your Word, that I may live: and let me **NOT** be **ASHAMED** of my hope.*

Yahweh wants us to be **PROUD** of who we are, in Him, and then, set the example for the world to see, by being obedient to **ALL** of His Commandments, and being proud of it. Not in an arrogant way, but in a loving, surrendered obedient way. Our mandate **IS** to grow fruit, the fruit of Yahweh's Spirit, which can only grow in Yahweh's fertile soil, which of course **IS** the Words of His Torah of Life, His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, that we are to internalize. And the hope is, that when people see the beautiful fruit that we produce, **BECAUSE** we are willingly and

lovingly following and obeying the Words of our heavenly Father's Torah of life, they will naturally want some of it, and, as many choose to partake of the fruit that we produce, which contains the seed of YHVH, which of course **IS** His **WORD**, that **IS** embedded in the fruit, then, that seed will grow within the new believer, and the end result is, that they too, will also begin to produce the Fruit of Yahweh's Holy Spirit, which is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

The Psalmist tells us in *verse 4 All the kings of the earth SHALL praise You, O Yahweh, when they hear the Words of Your Mouth. 5 Yea, they shall sing in the Ways of Yahweh: for great is the glory of Yahweh.*

That has not happened yet, **BUT IT WILL**. The day is coming, when **ALL** the world will exalt, worship and praise Yahweh, **SO WHY NOT START NOW**. Be bold for Yahweh, and **KEEP ALL** of His Commandments, especially when the world **IS** watching, for some will love you for it, while many others will actually hate you for it, but those that love what you are doing, **WILL COME** and eat of your fruit, and the Scripture tells us that he who wins souls **IS WISE**.

Proverbs 11:30 The fruit of the righteous IS a tree of life; and he that wins souls is wise.

Sleep on it tonight and be prepared to praise and to worship Yahweh in a very special way tomorrow on Shavuot, for it is the day that marks the giving of the Torah, to the people of Yisrael, of whom you and I, are a part of. The giving of the Torah **IS A PICTURE** of our heavenly Father giving us His Heart, the essence of who He is, and, asking us to protect it. **WILL YOU PROTECT OUR HEAVENLY FATHER'S HEART?**

You have already begun to do so, by being obedient in counting the Omer, now, all you have to do **IS CHOOSE** to continue to protect Yahweh's Heart, by guarding the Words of His Torah of Life, His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, so close to your heart, that you would rather die, than have someone take our heavenly Father's inerrant and everlasting teachings, His Torah of Life away from you. Amen

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. Shalom Alechem!*