



Portion:

SCRIPTURES

- Leviticus 25-27
- II Samuel 7:1-29
- 1 Kings 8:1-30
- John 2:13-22; 16:12-15
- John 20:19-23; 15:1-10
- I Corinthians 3:5-17; 6:12-20
- II Corinthians 6:11-18

Title:

THE TALE OF TWO

PREPOSITIONS!

- David's Prophetic Genius
- A Heart Aligned with God
- A Son's Footsteps
- More Things to Say
- Paul's Prophetic Genius
- Among vs. In

Sometimes it is in the smallest nuances that we learn the most important lessons. These lessons don't come easily and they always have an explosive back-story. The spiritual territory we apprehend comes at a great price, as the ground we take often involves great personal loss. Consider King David and the Apostle Paul as two stellar examples. Both had to encounter God through some spiritually and often physically violent circumstances. They had to wrestle for what they were ultimately used for, which then changed the course of history, YOUR HISTORY! Welcome, as we unfold one

of those minute details that you just might consider the most important aspect of your life as a Christian.

THEME: MAIN SCRIPTURE(S) THAT HAS INSPIRED MESSAGE

“I will set My tabernacle among you, and My soul shall not abhor you. I will walk among you and be your God, and you shall be My people.” Leviticus 26:11-12 NKJV

OUTCOME: MAIN TAKEAWAY(S) I AM HOPING FOR PEOPLE

“Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? If anyone defiles the temple of God, God will destroy him. For the temple of God is holy, which temple you are.” I Corinthians 3:16-17 NKJV

“And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: **“I will dwell in them And walk among them. I will be their God, And they shall be My people.””** II Corinthians 6:16 NKJV

Let's Set the Scene: Portion in a blurb

1. This portion from the Torah introduces the laws of the sabbatical years, the jubilee and laws concerning redemption. The end of the reading promises blessings and rewards for Israel if they will keep the Torah, but punishment and curses if they break the commandments of the Torah. The last chapter discusses laws pertaining to vows, valuations and tithes.
2. **The Sabbath of the Seventh Year:** Land is to be worked and harvested for six years and rested in the seventh. You shall neither sow your field nor prune your vineyard. What grows of its own accord of your harvest you shall not reap, nor gather the grapes of your untended vine. This means you are not to harvest for commercial purposes as you are permitted to consume the sabbath produce that the land naturally yields. It shall be food for your household, servants, workers, and animals.
3. **The Year of Jubilee:** Count seven sabbaths of years ($7 \times 7 = 49$ years) Then on the Day of Atonement (10th day of the 7th month) blow the trumpet of the Jubilee. All debt is forgiven throughout the land. The fiftieth year (which is the first year of the next seven) is treated like the seventh year sabbath as far as resting the land. Realize that this then causes there to be two consecutive sabbaths. Think of a regular week and it will help

you understand; the seventh day (Saturday) is the sabbath, and Sunday is the first day of the week. So, now thinking in years, apply the same pattern. The 49th year is a sabbath year (as every seventh year) and the 50th year (equivalent to a Sunday or first year of the next week of years) also becomes a Sabbath, so the land rests two consecutive years.

4. When considering commerce, knowing when the Jubilee is coming is of critical importance. When you are buying and selling, values must be calculated knowing when the Jubilee (release of debt) is coming. Obviously the closer your transactions are to the Jubilee, the less valuable the sale of possessions, as they are to be returned in the 50th year.
5. **Provisions for the Seventh Year:** If you obey these laws the land will provide for you in abundance even when you are resting!
6. Think about it. If you are resting the land in years 49 and 50, then what will you have in year 51? (And let's be clear that if year 50 is the first day after the seventh sabbath of years and it is equivalent to a 'Sunday', then it is also the first year (like the first day of the week) of the counting of the next seven years. It is NOT just an added extra year stuck in the middle of groups of 49 years. So that means, as the land has rested for its regular sabbath year (Saturday), and now again on the 50th year (Sunday), then the year after that is a Monday (the 2nd year of

the next sabbath of weeks). Ask yourself this important question: If the land has now been unattended for two consecutive years, where will the food come from after two years of resting the land?

7. This is what Yahweh promises if you will obey this: *“I will command My blessing on you in the sixth year, and it will bring forth produce enough for three years. You shall sow in the eighth year [Sunday], and eat old produce until the ninth year [Monday]; until its produce comes in, you shall eat of the old harvest.”*
8. **Redemption of Property:** The land shall not be sold permanently, for the land is Yahweh’s. All the land can be redeemed by either the person who sold it or his relatives by calculating the number of years from the sale to the next sabbath of years. If no one can redeem it over the 49 year cycle, it shall remain in the hand of him who bought it until the Year of Jubilee; and in the Jubilee it shall be released, and the original owner shall return to his possession.
9. The rules are not the same if the property sold is within a walled city. The seller has only one year to redeem it and if it is not redeemed, then the house in the walled city shall belong permanently to him who bought it, throughout his generations. It shall not be released in the Jubilee.

10. Houses in villages which have no walls around them shall be counted as the fields of the country and can be redeemed in the same way as any property in the Jubilee cycle.
11. Houses in any cities owned by Levites never lose rights of redemption no matter where they are. And the land of Levites can never be sold to anyone as it is their perpetual possession.
12. **Lending to the Poor:** You must lend to the poor of God's people with no interest. And give food at no profit.
13. **The Law Concerning Slavery:** If a poor brother must sell himself he is to be treated as a hired servant, not a slave. He shall be with you, *and* shall serve you until the Year of Jubilee when he and his family are released.
14. Slaves may be purchased from the foreign lands and they become permanent slaves. Keep in mind that these slaves were treated with utmost respect and honor as if family, not like we witnessed in Egypt or in the horrific era of slavery in Britain and early American history.
15. If a poor fellow Israelite is purchased by a foreigner living among you, he may be redeemed under Jubilee rules by a relative. He must be treated gently like a hired servant, not a slave!

16. **Promise of Blessing and Retribution:** Here we have similar promises for obedience and disobedience as we see in Deuteronomy 28.
17. **Obedience** brings rain in its season and all sorts of abundance, peace and protection from evil.
- (a) Yahweh will set His **tabernacle among the people. He** will walk among you and be your God, and you shall be My people. (See Pauls take on this.)
18. **But if you do not obey Me,** and do not observe all these commandments this is what you get:
- (a) Disease, plagues, defeat, desolation, and vengeance. He will break the pride of your power; your land shall not yield its produce; He will destroy your high places and cut down your incense altars; He will scatter you among the nations and your land shall be desolate and your cities wasted; You shall perish among the nations.
19. **But if you repent:** confess your iniquity and the iniquity of your fathers, with your unfaithfulness and that you have walked contrary to Me, and *humble your* uncircumcised hearts, and you accept your guilt—then He will remember His covenant.
20. Yet for all that, He will not cast you away, nor utterly destroy you nor break His covenant with you; But for your sake He will remember the covenant of your ancestors, whom He brought

out of the land of Egypt in the sight of the nations, that He might be your God.

21. **Redeeming Persons and Property Dedicated to God:**

Valuations for all ages of people and rules for the poor are set. Valuations and redemption costs and rules for all animal offerings, unclean animals, houses, land, fields, and various ownership rights and how they relate to the Jubilee are set down, as well as rules and values for firstborn animals. Every devoted offering is most holy to the Lord.

22. No person under the ban, who may become doomed to destruction among men, shall be redeemed, *but* shall surely be put to death.

23. Rules for tithes of the land, seeds and animals are discussed.

DAVID'S PROPHETIC GENIUS

1. **The Limitless Insight of a Man after Yahweh's Heart**

A. **A Heart to Align with God's Plan, even when it's not in writing!**

(1) David was a man after God's own heart; Saul was not!

(a) "And Samuel said to Saul, "**You have done foolishly. You have not kept the commandment** of the LORD your God, which He commanded you. For now the LORD would have established your kingdom over Israel

forever. But now your kingdom shall not continue. **The LORD has sought for Himself a man after His own heart**, and the LORD has commanded him to be commander over His people, because you have not kept what the LORD commanded you.” I Samuel 13:13-14 NKJV

- (b) “And afterward they asked for a king; so God gave them Saul the son of Kish, a man of the tribe of Benjamin, for forty years. And when He had removed him, He raised up for them **David as king, to whom also He gave testimony and said**, ‘I have found David the son of Jesse, **a man after My own heart**, who will do all My will.’ From this man’s seed, according to the promise, God raised up for Israel a Savior—Jesus—” Acts 13:21-23 NKJV

(2) What can a man who has the heart of God figure out without being told?

- (a) “Now it came to pass when the king was dwelling in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies all around, that the king said to Nathan the prophet, **“See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells inside tent curtains.”** Then Nathan

said to the king, “Go, do all that is in your heart, for the LORD is with you.””II Samuel 7:1-3 NKJV

1. I live in a palace; God lives in a tent. I have to do something about this!

(3) Risky Business: to tell Yahweh you are going to do something for Him that He has not ever mentioned before!

(a) “But it happened that night that the word of the LORD came to Nathan, saying, **“Go and tell My servant David, ‘Thus says the LORD: “Would you build a house for Me to dwell in?”** For I have not dwelt in a house since the time that I brought the children of Israel up from Egypt, even to this day, but have moved about in a tent and in a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about with all the children of Israel, **have I ever spoken a word to anyone** from the tribes of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd My people Israel, **saying, ‘Why have you not built Me a house of cedar?’ ” ’”** II Samuel 7:4-7 NKJV

1. I will build God a house

2. God’s asks, “Would you build a house for Me to dwell in?”

3. Has God ever asked anyone why they have not built Him a house of cedar?

4. At this point it looks bad for David

(4) What did David do with his responsibility of rulership and blessing of rest? And what would be the outcome for his people?

(a) “Now therefore, thus shall you say to My servant David, ‘Thus says the LORD of hosts: “I took you from the sheepfold, from following the sheep, to be **ruler over My people**, over Israel. And I have been with you wherever you have gone, and have **cut off all your enemies** from before you, and have made you a great name, like the name of the great men who are on the earth. Moreover **I will appoint a place for My people** Israel, and will plant them, that they may dwell in a place of their own and move no more; **nor shall the sons of wickedness oppress them anymore**, as previously, since the time that I commanded judges to be over My people Israel, **and have caused you to rest from all your enemies. Also the LORD tells you that He will make you a house.**” II Samuel 7:8-11 NKJV

1. I made you ruler.
2. I cut off your enemies.
3. I guarded you from the wicked.

4. And now that you've declared to build Me a house...

I WILL BUILD YOU A HOUSE!

5. Wow—He got it right!

(5) What happened because David was so bold?

(a) ""When your days are fulfilled and you rest with your fathers, I will **set up your seed after you**, who will come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. **He shall build a house** for My name, and **I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. I will be his Father, and he shall be My son.** [like Leviticus 26:11-12] If he commits iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men and with the blows of the sons of men. **But My mercy shall not depart from him**, as I took it from Saul, whom I removed from before you. And your house **and your kingdom shall be established forever before you. Your throne shall be established forever.**" ' "" II Samuel 7:12-16 NKJV

1. I will establish your seed AND he will be the one who actually builds Me the house you promised.

2. I will establish his throne forever.

3. I will be his father; he will be my son.

4. And YOUR kingdom, David, will be established forever!

(b) “According to all these words and according to all this vision, so Nathan spoke to David.” II Samuel 7:17 NKJV

(6) David’s Thankfulness

(a) “Then King David went in and sat before the LORD; and he said: “Who am I, O Lord GOD? And what is my house, that You have brought me this far? And yet this was a small thing in Your sight, O Lord GOD; and You have also spoken of Your servant’s house for a great while to come. Is this the manner of man, O Lord GOD? Now what more can David say to You? For You, Lord GOD, know Your servant. **For Your word’s sake, and according to Your own heart, You have done all these great things, to make Your servant know them.** Therefore You are great, O Lord GOD. For there is none like You, nor is there any God besides You, according to all that we have heard with our ears. And who is like Your people, like Israel, the one nation on the earth whom God went to redeem for Himself as a people, to make for Himself a name—and to do for Yourself great and awesome deeds for Your land—before Your people whom You redeemed for Yourself from Egypt, the nations, and their gods? For You have made Your people

Israel Your very own people forever; and You, LORD, have become their God." II Samuel 7:18-24 NKJV

1. Yahweh—It was You who did all this; I was just doing what you showed me!

(7) **KEY PROPHETIC MOMENT!** David's Prayer: David acknowledges that it **MUST** have been Yahweh who who revealed this desire in his heart!

(a) ""Now, O LORD God, the word which You have spoken concerning Your servant and concerning his house, establish it forever and do as You have said. So let Your name be magnified forever, saying, 'The LORD of hosts is the God over Israel.' And let the house of Your servant David be established before You. For You, **O LORD of hosts, God of Israel, have revealed this to Your servant, saying, 'I will build you a house.'** **Therefore Your servant has found it in his heart to pray this prayer to You.** "And now, O Lord GOD, You are God, and Your words are true, and You have promised this goodness to Your servant. Now therefore, let it please You to bless the house of Your servant, that it may continue before You forever; for You, O Lord GOD, have spoken it, and with Your blessing let the house of Your servant be blessed forever."" II Samuel 7:25-29 NKJV

1. *David prayed the prayer he prayed simply because Yahweh revealed it to him **and** his heart was open to hear it!
- (b) **DELIGHT, COMMIT, TRUST:** “**Delight** yourself also in the LORD, And He shall give you the desires of your heart. **Commit** your way to the LORD, **Trust** also in Him, And He shall bring it to pass.” Psalms 37:4-5 NKJV

B. A Son Following in his Father’s Footsteps

- (1) After Solomon finally finished the Temple, what did he recognize immediately?
 - (a) 1 KINGS 8:1-21: the Ark is brought into the temple, the Temple is Complete and ready to be dedicated! (All of II Chronicles 6 is identical to 1 Kings 8!)
 - (b) ““But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Behold, **heaven and the heaven of heavens cannot contain You. How much less this temple which I have built!**” I Kings 8:27 NKJV
- (2) The Entire Narrative
 - (a) “Then Solomon stood before the altar of the LORD in the presence of all the assembly of Israel, and spread out his hands toward heaven; and he said: “ LORD God of Israel, there is no God in heaven above or on earth below like You, who keep Your covenant and mercy

with Your servants who walk before You with all their hearts. You have kept what You promised Your servant David my father; You have both spoken with Your mouth and fulfilled it with Your hand, as it is this day.

Therefore, LORD God of Israel, now keep what You promised Your servant David my father, saying, 'You shall not fail to have a man sit before Me on the throne of Israel, only if your sons take heed to their way, that they walk before Me as you have walked before Me.'

And now I pray, O God of Israel, let Your word come true, which You have spoken to Your servant David my father. **"But will God indeed dwell on the earth?**

Behold, heaven and the heaven of heavens cannot contain You. How much less this temple which I have

built! Yet regard the prayer of Your servant and his supplication, O LORD my God, and listen to the cry and the prayer which Your servant is praying before You today: that Your eyes may be open toward this temple night and day, toward the place of which You said, 'My name shall be there,' that You may hear the prayer which Your servant makes toward this place. And may You hear the supplication of Your servant and of Your people Israel, when they pray toward this place. Hear in

heaven Your dwelling place; and when You hear, forgive." I Kings 8:22-30 NKJV

(3) Where was this thing heading? Y'shua's allusion to the Temple: But He was speaking about the temple that was his body.

(a) "Now the Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. And He found in the temple those who sold oxen and sheep and doves, and the money changers doing business. When He had made a whip of cords, He drove them all out of the temple, with the sheep and the oxen, and poured out the changers' money and overturned the tables. And He said to those who sold doves, "Take these things away! Do not make **My Father's house** a house of merchandise!" Then His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for Your house has eaten Me up." So the Jews answered and said to Him, "**What sign do You show to us, since You do these things?**" Jesus answered and said to them, "**Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.**" Then the Jews said, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will You raise it up in three days?" **But He was speaking of the temple of His body.** Therefore, when He had risen from the dead, His

disciples remembered that He had said this to them; and they **believed the Scripture** and the word which Jesus had said." John 2:13-22 NKJV

1. Believed what scriptures? Yes... 2 Samuel 7 and 1 Kings 8!

MORE THINGS TO SAY

2. When the Spirit Comes

A. When this happened, everything started to come into focus!

(1) The Holy Spirit Changes everything

(a) "“I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. However, when He, **the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth**; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you. All things that the Father has are Mine. Therefore I said that He will take of Mine and declare it to you.” John 16:12-15 NKJV

(b) “Then, the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst, and said to them, “Peace be with

you." When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. So Jesus said to them again, "Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you." **And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit.** If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'" John 20:19-23 NKJV

- (c) "When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. **And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit** and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance." Acts 2:1-4 NKJV

B. Abiding

(1) Enmeshed Together

- (a) "'I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit. You are already clean because of

the word which I have spoken to you. Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. "I am the vine, you are the branches. **He who abides in Me**, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing. If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned. **If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you**, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you. By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples. **"As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; abide in My love. If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love."** John 15:1-10 NKJV

(2) You have become a "Spiritual House"

- (a) "Coming to Him as to a living stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God and precious, **you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house**, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. Therefore it is also contained in the Scripture, "Behold, I lay in Zion A

chief cornerstone, elect, precious, And he who believes on Him will by no means be put to shame." Therefore, to you who believe, He is precious; but to those who are disobedient, "The stone which the builders rejected Has become the chief cornerstone," and "A stone of stumbling And a rock of offense." They stumble, being disobedient to the word, to which they also were appointed. **But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people,** that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; who once were not a people but are now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy." I Peter 2:4-10 NKJV

(b) SEE LIVING STONES POEM AT THE END

PAUL'S PROPHETIC GENIUS

3. **One Small Preposition, One Giant Step for Mankind!**

A. **Levitical Words as Seen through the Eyes of the Spirit-Filled Believer!**

(1) AMONG!

(a) “**I will set My tabernacle among you**, and My soul shall not abhor you. **I will walk among you and be your God**, and you shall be My people.” Leviticus 26:11-12 NKJV

(2) IN!

(a) “And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: “**I will dwell in them And walk among them**. I will be their God, And they shall be My people.”” II Corinthians 6:16 NKJV

(b) “Do you not know that you are the temple of God **and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?** If anyone defiles the temple of God, God will destroy him. For the temple of God is holy, which temple you are.” I Corinthians 3:16-17 NKJV

(c) Or do you not know that **your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit** who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?” I Corinthians 6:19 NKJV

B. Among vs. In

(1) Among

(a) Hebrew בְּתוֹכְכֶם (bə·tō·wk·kem) Preposition—midst, middle, among a number of persons

(2) I will live... in

- (a) I will live—Greek ἔνοικῆσω (Enoikēsō) Verb—to dwell in or be **indwelling**, to **inhabit**.
- (b) In—Greek ἐν (en) A preposition denoting position relative to the phrase before. Indwelling and Inhabit makes this preposition “**In and not with or among**”!

C. Among vs. In (Expanded Text Explanation)

(1) AMONG!

- (a) “**I will set My tabernacle among you**, and My soul shall not abhor you. **I will walk among you and be your God**, and you shall be My people.” Leviticus 26:11-12 NKJV

(2) IN! Paul’s Prophetic Masterpiece (Paul caught the vision of this Temple Lesson) The Living Temple! **It was all leading to this place.**

- (a) “Who then is Paul, and who is Apollos, but ministers through whom you believed, as the Lord gave to each one? I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase. So then neither he who plants is anything, nor he who waters, but God who gives the increase. Now he who plants and he who waters are one, and each one will receive his own reward according to his own labor. **For we are God’s fellow workers; you are God’s field, you are God’s building. According to the grace of**

God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds on it. **For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.** Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is. If anyone's work which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward. If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire. **Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? If anyone defiles the temple of God, God will destroy him. For the temple of God is holy, which temple you are."** I Corinthians 3:5-17 NKJV

(3) The Temple of the Holy Spirit

- (a) "All things are lawful for me, but all things are not helpful. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any. Foods for the stomach and the stomach for foods, but God will destroy both it and them. Now the body is not for **sexual immorality**

[SEE Acts 15:19-21] but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God both raised up the Lord and will also raise us up by His power. **Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them members of a harlot?** Certainly not! Or do you not know that he who is joined to a harlot is one body with her? For “the two,” He says, “shall become one flesh.” But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him. Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body. (19) **Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?** [SEE Galatians 2:20] For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God’s.” I Corinthians 6:12-20 NKJV

1. “Therefore I judge that we should not trouble those from among the Gentiles who are turning to God, but that we write to them to abstain from things polluted by idols, from **sexual immorality**, from things strangled, and from blood. For Moses has had throughout many generations those who preach him

in every city, being read in the synagogues every Sabbath.”” Acts 15:19-21 NKJV

2. “But if, while we seek to be justified by Christ, we ourselves also are found sinners, is Christ therefore a minister of sin? Certainly not! For if I build again those things which I destroyed, I make myself a transgressor. For I through the law died to the law that I might live to God. **I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.** I do not set aside the grace of God; for if righteousness comes through the law, then Christ died in vain.”” [See Romans 3:21-31]

Galatians 2:17-21 NKJV

- a) “But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, even the righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe. For there is no difference; for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God set

forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed, to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus. Where is boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? Of works? No, but by the law of faith. Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith apart from the deeds of the law. Or is He the God of the Jews only? Is He not also the God of the Gentiles? Yes, of the Gentiles also, since there is one God who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through faith. **Do we then make void the law through faith? Certainly not! On the contrary, we establish the law."**

Romans 3:21-31 NKJV

(4) And Paul Brings it all together:

(a) "O Corinthians! We have spoken openly to you, our heart is wide open. You are not restricted by us, but you are restricted by your own affections. Now in return for the same (I speak as to children), you also be open. Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For

what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness?
And what communion has light with darkness? And
what accord has Christ with Belial? Or what part has a
believer with an unbeliever? And what agreement has
the temple of God with idols? ***For you are the temple
of the living God. As God has said: “I will dwell in
them And walk among them. I will be their God, And
they shall be My people.”** Therefore ****“Come out from
among them And be separate, says the Lord. Do not
touch what is unclean, And I will receive you.”** *****I
will be a Father to you, And you shall be My sons and
daughters, Says the LORD Almighty.”**” II Corinthians
6:11-18 NKJV

1. THE **DWELL-IN** TWIST

- a) “I will set My tabernacle among you, and My soul shall not abhor you. **I will walk among** you and be your God, and you shall be My people.” Leviticus 26:11-12 NKJV
- b) “Moreover I will make a covenant of peace with them, and it shall be an everlasting covenant with them; I will establish them and multiply them, and **I will set My sanctuary in their midst forevermore. My tabernacle also shall be with them;** indeed I

will be their God, and they shall be My people.”

Ezekiel 37:26-27 NKJV

2. COME OUT/DON'T TOUCH

- a) **“Depart! Depart! Go out from there, Touch no unclean thing;** Go out from the midst of her, Be clean, You who bear the vessels of the LORD.”

Isaiah 52:11 NKJV

3. YOU WILL BE MY SONS!

- a) **“I will be his Father, and he shall be My son.** If he commits iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men and with the blows of the sons of men.” II

Samuel 7:14 NKJV

(5) REMINDER: YAHWEH AND HIS CHILDREN, A
PROPHETIC DESTINATION

(a) I'm the Father; Act Like My Children

1. Elijah comes to restore all things (Matthew 17:10-13)
2. John the Baptist came in the spirit of Elijah to prepare a way for Y'shua and to restore the hearts of fathers and children (Luke 1:13-17).
3. Elijah comes BEFORE the return of Messiah:
“Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet Before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD.
And he will turn The hearts of the fathers to the

children, And the hearts of the children to their fathers, Lest I come and strike the earth with a curse."” Malachi 4:5-6 NKJV

THE DEEP THINGS OF YAHWEH COME WITH A GREAT PRICE

4. **Fight For It!**

A. Violence

(1) Physical

(a) “Then Jacob was left alone; and a Man **wrestled with him until the breaking of day.** Now when He saw that He did not prevail against him, He touched the socket of his hip; and the socket of Jacob’s hip was out of joint as He wrestled with him. And He said, “Let Me go, for the day breaks.” But he said, “**I will not let You go unless You bless me!**”” Genesis 32:24-26 NKJV

(2) Spiritual

(a) “And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, **and the violent take it by force.**” Matthew 11:12 NKJV

B. David’s Fight

(1) David’s Persecution from Saul

(a) “Now Saul spoke to Jonathan his son and to all his servants, that **they should kill David;** but Jonathan,

Saul's son, delighted greatly in David...Now the distressing spirit from the LORD came upon Saul as he sat in his house with his spear in his hand. And David was playing music with his hand. **Then Saul sought to pin David to the wall with the spear**, but he slipped away from Saul's presence; and he drove the spear into the wall. So David fled and escaped that night. Saul also sent messengers to David's house to watch him and **to kill him** in the morning. And Michal, David's wife, told him, saying, "If you do not save your life tonight, tomorrow you will be killed." I Samuel 19:1, 9-11 NKJV

- (b) Read Psalms 55 and 80 as examples of how David had to plead for protection against his persecutors!
- (2) After the Bathsheba Uriah atrocity 2 Samuel 11, and David getting EXPOSED by Nathan in 2 Samuel 12:1-9, this is what happens!
 - (a) "Now therefore, the sword shall never depart from your house, because you have despised Me, and have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your wife.' Thus says the LORD: **'Behold, I will raise up adversity against you from your own house;** and I will take your wives before your eyes and give them to your neighbor, and he shall

lie with your wives in the sight of this sun. For you did it secretly, but I will do this thing before all Israel, before the sun.' " So David said to Nathan, **"I have sinned against the LORD."** And Nathan said to David, **"The LORD also has put away your sin; you shall not die.** However, because by this deed you have given great occasion to the enemies of the LORD to blaspheme, **the child also who is born to you shall surely die."**" II

Samuel 12:10-14 NKJV

- (3) Of course, read all 19 verses of Psalm 51 to feel David's remorse.
 - (a) "Have mercy upon me, O God, According to Your lovingkindness; According to the multitude of Your tender mercies, **Blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, And cleanse me from my sin.** For I acknowledge my transgressions, And my sin is always before me. **Against You, You only, have I sinned,** And done this evil in Your sight— That You may be found just when You speak, And blameless when You judge." Psalms 51:1-4 NKJV

C. Paul's Fight

- (1) First he did the persecuting!

- (a) “Now Saul was consenting to his death. **At that time a great persecution arose against the church** which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles. And devout men carried Stephen to his burial, and made great lamentation over him. **As for Saul, he made havoc of the church, entering every house, and dragging off men and women, committing them to prison.”** Acts 8:1-3 NKJV
- (2) Then he got knocked off his high horse!
- (a) “Then Saul, still **breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord**, went to the high priest and asked letters from him to the synagogues of Damascus, so that if he found any who were of the Way, whether men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. As he journeyed he came near Damascus, and **suddenly a light shone around him from heaven. Then he fell to the ground**, and heard a voice saying to him, “Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?”” Acts 9:1-4 NKJV
- (3) Then he was called and he needed to be separated for three years!

- (a) “But when it pleased God, who **separated me** from my mother’s womb and called me through His grace, to reveal His Son in me, that I might preach Him among the Gentiles, **I did not immediately confer with flesh and blood**, nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me; but I went to Arabia, and returned again to Damascus. **Then after three years** I went up to Jerusalem to see Peter, and remained with him fifteen days.” Galatians 1:15-18 NKJV
- (4) Then he had be pruned for another eleven years:
- (a) “**Then after fourteen years** I went up again to Jerusalem with Barnabas, and also took Titus with me.” Galatians 2:1 NKJV
- (5) He was hard-pressed on every side:
- (a) “But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us. **We are hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed**— always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body. For we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus’ sake, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our

mortal flesh. So then death is working in us, but life in you." II Corinthians 4:7-12 NKJV

(6) Dedicated to the ministry no matter what?

- (a) "We then, as workers together with Him also plead with you not to receive the grace of God in vain. For He says: "In an acceptable time I have heard you, And in the day of salvation I have helped you." Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation. We give no offense in anything, that our ministry may not be blamed. But **in all things we commend ourselves as ministers of God: in much patience, in tribulations, in needs, in distresses, in stripes, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labors,** in sleeplessness, in fastings; by purity, by knowledge, by longsuffering, by kindness, by the Holy Spirit, by sincere love, by the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armor of righteousness on the right hand and on the left, by honor and dishonor, by evil report and good report; as deceivers, and yet true; as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold we live; as chastened, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing all things." II Corinthians 6:1-10 NKJV

(7) And suffered more than anyone!

(a) “Are they Hebrews? So am I. Are they Israelites? So am I. Are they the seed of Abraham? So am I. Are they ministers of Christ?—I speak as a fool—**I am more: in labors more abundant, in stripes above measure, in prisons more frequently, in deaths often. From the Jews five times I received forty stripes minus one. Three times I was beaten with rods; once I was stoned; three times I was shipwrecked; a night and a day I have been in the deep; in journeys often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils of my own countrymen, in perils of the Gentiles, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren; in weariness and toil, in sleeplessness often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness**— besides the other things, what comes upon me daily: my deep concern for all the churches.”

II Corinthians 11:22-28 NKJV

(8) And in the end he learned to:

(a) “Not that I speak in regard to need, **for I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content:** I know how to be abased, and I know how to abound. Everywhere and in all things I have learned both to be full and to be

hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.” Philippians 4:11-13 NKJV

Living Stones

~a love poem by Dr. Jeff to Andrea 15 years ago~

*They asked and He replied,
In the resurrection
You are neither married nor given to marriage...
“So sad” you might say
For you and I who love so deeply.
But there is a house for us to dwell
Together.
And it takes many stones to build,
All laid perfectly in place,
One stone near the other,
A unique role each plays
Building this place,
A spiritual house of living stones
All different yet still the same.
One body
Completely dependent on each stone
To set in place
Perfectly.
A mysterious marriage of form and function
In this place
Where unity is the vow of perfection,*

*Permanence born out of a world of shadows
And weightless vapors.*

*So from this world,
When love's fait entwines
Two lives as one
As yours and mine,
There remains one way
To stay
An inseparable one
In that place.
And that is...
...To lay
My living stone
On yours
For all eternity
To taste,
Our living stones
Together
As One
In Place.*

*Forever laid next to you my love
Jeff*

QUESTIONS & DISCUSSION

1. What does it mean that David was a man after Yahweh's heart?

- A. What did he do that was so risky after he brought the ark of the covenant to Jerusalem?
- B. What did he know even though it was not written in Scriptures prior to this event?
- C. What was the outcome of his declaration?

2. After Solomon dedicated the completed Temple, he made a statement that was profound.

- A. What did he recognize about Yahweh and the Temple that is significant to us today?
- B. Seven hundred years later, Y'shua made a profound statement about the Temple that alluded to His body. Explain how Solomon's realization and Y'shua's allusion are related.

3. Paul made a minute shift in language when quoting from Leviticus 26:11-12.

- A. What preposition did he replace and with which one?
- B. Explain the profundity of this purposeful switch.

4. Apprehending the deep things of God comes at a great price.

- A. What price did David pay?
- B. What price did Paul pay?
- C. What price are you paying?