



Portion:

SCRIPTURES

- Genesis 47:28-50:26
- Matthew 13:52; 26:50-56
- Ephesians 6:10-20
- Matthew 10:16-26
- John 13:12-17; 15:18-25
- Luke 19:9-44; 24:13-49
- Romans 8:28-30; 12:9-21
- I Corinthians 10:13
- I Peter 2:11-12
- Acts 3:3-18; 17:2-4;
26:19-28
- Psalms 20:1-9
- Isaiah 53:1-12; 30:1-5; 31:1
- Exodus 14:9-14
- II Chronicles 20:5-24
- Psalms 46:1-11
- II Corinthians 4:1-15

Title:

AMBASSADORS WITH SWORDS IN CHAINS

- Ambassador Training
- Kingdom Training University
- Ambassador in Chains
- The Day of Visitation
- Put Away Your Sword
- I am Joseph
- Called, Justified, Glorified
- Always a Way Out
- Ought Not the Christ
- Draw the Sword or Stand Still
- No death; No resurrection
- Making Sense of Suffering
- Vengeance is Yahweh's
- Some Trust in Chariots
- Position Yourself
- The Final Battle

Here we are, facing our greatest enemy. We could be standing in the garden with Y'shua on the night of His betrayal, or standing with Moses at the edge of the sea on the night of our deliverance from Egypt. "Draw the sword and fight or stand still and see the deliverance of Yahweh?" that is the question. Look around you this very day. Do you feel the danger; do you feel your enemies pressing in against you? Do you feel the need to prepare, to ready for the fight, the need to defend yourself and your family against the tyranny? We are poised at the precipice of a PROPHETIC MOMENT in history. What is the Lord asking us to do? Should we "cut off the ear of our foe" or "be still"?

Today we explore the final chapters in the life of Joseph, a man who had many opportunities to raise the sword against his enemies. What can we learn from his life? What can we learn from the heart of the man who said to his adversaries (may I paraphrase?), "I'm Joseph, do not be afraid; it's all good. I'm not God and He had a plan all along to use my chains as a means to become an ambassador to the most powerful nation on earth. And He did it all so He could save you! So no, I have no sword to lift against you; now stand still and see the deliverance of the Lord!"

THEME: MAIN SCRIPTURE(S) THAT HAS INSPIRED MESSAGE

“Joseph said to them, “Do not be afraid, for am I in the place of God? **But as for you, you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good, in order to bring it about as it is this day, to save many people alive.** Now therefore, do not be afraid; I will provide for you and your little ones.” And he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.” Genesis 50:19-21 NKJV

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

“And we know that **all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.** For whom He foreknew, He also **predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son**, that He might be **the firstborn among many brethren.** Moreover whom He predestined, these **He also called**; whom He called, these **He also justified**; and whom He justified, these **He also glorified.**” Romans 8:28-30 NKJV

Let's Set the Scene: Portion in a blurb

1. In this Torah portion, Jacob prepares for his death by securing a double portion of inheritance for Joseph and then blessing each of his sons with prophetic blessings. The book of Genesis ends with the death of Jacob, followed shortly by the death of Joseph

and a promise of redemption from Egypt. **NOTE: there are some active links included here for your convenient reference!** The first link is to last year's teaching on this Portion. It is called:

[Passing the Mantel](#)

2. Jacob is 147 years old and he asks Joseph right before his death to promise that he'd bury him with his "fathers" in the cave in the land that Abraham purchased (see [Hidden Treasure](#) sermon notes.) Joseph agrees.
3. Jacob claims Joseph's two sons Manasseh and Ephraim as if they were his own.
4. Jacob reminds us of the "fruitful and multiply" blessing that started with his grandfather Abraham, passed to his father Isaac, now rests on him, and he is ready to pass it down.
5. Jacob's eyesight is failing and he wants to bless the two boys and he says, "I didn't expect I'd see your face, but now God has shown me your children too."
6. Joseph puts his boys in front of his father but Israel crosses his hands and blesses the second born Ephraim with his right hand (another second born taking firstborn status—See [Birthrights For Sale](#) sermon notes.)
7. Joseph tries to correct his father, but Israel says, Manasseh will be great also, but his younger brother will be greater and become many nations."

8. Israel blessed them that day, saying, "Through you, Israel will pronounce blessings, saying, 'May God make you like Ephraim and Manasseh.'"
9. Israel prophesies that his people will return to Canaan one day and shows Joseph that by taking his two sons as his own that Joseph will actually receive a double portion inheritance, the extra coming from the plunder of the Amorites.
 - a) *"Moreover I have given to you one portion above your brothers, which I took **from the hand of the Amorite** with my sword and my bow."* Genesis 48:22 NKJV
10. Jacob summons each of his sons and reveals their destinies.
"Gather around so that I can tell you what will happen to you in the coming days." Genesis 49:1 NKJV (Just like Moses blessed the tribes in Deuteronomy 33.)
11. For our purposes we will emphasize Judah and Joseph as from Judah comes the Jews and is the lineage of Y'shua. And from Joseph comes Ephraim, the seed of Promise and the Church.
12. Judah is a lion; the scepter won't depart from Judah, nor the ruler's staff from among his banners. Gifts will be brought to him; people will obey him, and by exterior the Messiah.
13. Joseph is a young bull, who strides with oxen. The Almighty will bless him with blessings from the skies above and blessings

from the deep sea below; His blessings are excessive. Joseph is the one set apart from his brothers.

14. Jacob dies and they mourned for him forty days; the Egyptians mourned him for seventy days.
15. Joseph requests from Pharaoh to bury his father where he requested to be buried.
 - a) *“I [Jacob] am to be gathered to my people; bury me with my fathers in the cave that is in the field of Ephron the Hittite, in the cave that is in the field of Machpelah, which is before Mamre in the land of Canaan, which Abraham bought with the field of Ephron the Hittite as a possession for a burial place.”* Genesis 49:29-30 NKJV
16. Pharaoh agrees and sends his own servants and the elder statesmen in his household and all of the elder statesmen in the land of Egypt to be at the burial.
17. Joseph goes with his entire household, his brothers, and his father’s household (no children or animals) for a seven day service.
18. Joseph returns to Egypt, but his brothers are worried that now that their father is gone, Joseph may decide to revisit his bitterness against them so they concoct a story.
 - a) *“So they sent messengers to Joseph, saying, “Before your father died he commanded, saying, ‘Thus you shall say to*

Joseph: "I beg you, please forgive the trespass of your brothers and their sin; for they did evil to you." ' Now, please, forgive the trespass of the servants of the God of your father." And Joseph wept when they spoke to him." Genesis 50:16-17 NKJV

19. Joseph and his brothers wept and Joseph said to them:

1. *"Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid, for am I in the place of God? But as for you, you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good, in order to bring it about as it is this day, to save many people alive. Now therefore, do not be afraid; I will provide for you and your little ones." And he comforted them and spoke kindly to them." Genesis 50:19-21 NKJV*
2. **Remember Joseph knew:** *"And God sent me before you to preserve a posterity for you in the earth, and to save your lives by a great deliverance. So now it was not you who sent me here, but God; and He has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house, and a ruler throughout all the land of Egypt."Genesis 45:7-8 NKJV*

20. Joseph lived 110 years and saw Ephraim's and Manasseh's grandchildren. Remember, Joseph was seventeen years old when he was sold into slavery. He was thirty years old when he was released from prison and made second in command over Egypt, which means he ruled for eighty years!

21. *“And Joseph said to his brethren, “I am dying; but God will surely visit you, and bring you out of this land to the land of which He swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.””* Genesis 50:24 NKJV

22. Then Joseph made the children of Israel promise him they would take his bones out of Egypt when they eventually leave; *“God will surely visit you, and you shall carry up my bones from here.”* Genesis 50:25 NKJV And this we see happening many years later in the exodus!

23. **Note:** there seems to be a math controversy about how long it was between the death of Joseph and the new Pharaoh making the Israelite slaves in Egypt and the Exodus. There is a great explanation [here](#) and it is not what you think!

- a) **Facts to Note:** Joseph died 144 years before the exodus and Moses is born 64 years later. We know that Moses is 80 when the exodus takes place.
- b) Up until at least the death of Joseph, Israel is a guest in Egypt, not a slave. At some point after his death; *“There arose a new king over Egypt, who did not know Joseph.”* Exodus 1:8 NKJV
- c) It is not until some point in this new Pharaoh’s reign that Israel is subjected to “hard labor,” which of course lasts until the exodus when Moses is 80 years old.

AMBASSADOR TRAINING

1. Kingdom Training University

A. Even experts must have Kingdom training

(1) Trained and Instructed—two versions

(a) “Then he said to them, “ Therefore, **every legal expert who has been trained as a disciple for the kingdom** of heaven is like the head of a household who brings old and new things out of their treasure chest. ”” Matthew 13:52 CEB

(b) “Then He said to them, “**Therefore every scribe instructed concerning the kingdom of heaven** is like a householder who brings out of his treasure things new and old.”” Matthew 13:52 NKJV

(2) Train your mind to be a disciple for the kingdom—to see with the correct lenses!

(a) **We do not war in the physical:** “Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. **For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood [human enemies], but against principalities [rulers], against powers [authorities], against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts [powers] of wickedness**

[evil] in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints— and for me, that utterance may be given to me, that I may open my mouth boldly to make known the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an **ambassador in chains**; that in it I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.” Ephesians 6:10-20 NKJV

B. Ambassador in Chains or one who draws a sword?

- (1) Put away your sword—all who fight by the sword will die by the sword—recognize the battle is not against flesh and blood...and the ultimate sword is in the Spirit!
 - (a) “But Jesus said to him, “Friend, why have you come?”
Then they came and laid hands on Jesus and took Him.

And **suddenly, one of those who were with Jesus stretched out his hand and drew his sword**, struck the servant of the high priest, and cut off his ear.” Matthew 26:50-51 NKJV

- (b) “But Jesus said to him, “**Put your sword in its place, for all who take the sword will perish by the sword.** Or do you think that I cannot now **pray to My Father**, and He **will provide Me with more than twelve legions of angels? How then could the Scriptures be fulfilled, that it must happen thus?**”” Matthew 26:52-54 NKJV

(2) Your sword is your attempt to subvert prophecy!

- (a) “In that hour Jesus said to the multitudes, “Have you come out, as against a robber, with swords and clubs to take Me? I sat daily with you, teaching in the temple, and you did not seize Me. **But all this was done that the Scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled.**” Then all the disciples forsook Him and fled.” Matthew 26:55-56 NKJV

(3) Disciple—don’t you remember what I taught you?

- (a) ““**Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves.** Therefore be wise as serpents and harmless as doves. **But beware of men, for they will deliver you up to councils and scourge you in their synagogues. You**

will be brought before governors and kings for My sake, as a testimony to them and to the Gentiles. But when they deliver you up, do not worry about how or what you should speak. For it will be given to you in that hour what you should speak; for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father who speaks in you.

“Now brother will deliver up brother to death, and a father his child; and children will rise up against parents and cause them to be put to death. **And you will be hated by all for My name’s sake.** But he who endures to the end will be saved. **When they persecute you in this city, flee to another.** For assuredly, I say to you, you will not have gone through the cities of Israel before the Son of Man comes. **“A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his master.** It is enough for a disciple that he be like his teacher, and a servant like his master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebub, how much more will they call those of his household! **Therefore do not fear them.** For there is nothing covered that will not be revealed, and hidden that will not be known.” Matthew 10:16-26 NKJV

- C. **If Paul was an ambassador in chains and Y’shua was willing to be taken...**

- (1) A servant is not greater than his master
- (a) “So when He had washed their feet, taken His garments, and sat down again, He said to them, “Do you know what I have done to you? You call Me Teacher and Lord, and you say well, for so I am. If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you. Most assuredly, I say to you, **a servant is not greater than his master; nor is he who is sent greater than he who sent him.** If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them.” John 13:12-17 NKJV
- (2) If they hated Him...if they persecuted Him...
- (a) **“If the world hates you, you know that it hated Me before it hated you.** If you were of the world, the world would love its own. Yet because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you. Remember the word that I said to you, **‘A servant is not greater than his master.’ If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you.** If they kept My word, they will keep yours also. But all these things they will do to you for My name’s sake, because they do not know Him who sent Me. If I had not come

and spoken to them, they would have no sin, but now they have no excuse for their sin. He who hates Me hates My Father also. If I had not done among them the works which no one else did, they would have no sin; but now they have seen and also hated both Me and My Father. **But this happened that the word might be fulfilled** which is written in their law, **'They hated Me without a cause.'**" John 15:18-25 NKJV

(3) Hated without cause

(a) "Let them not rejoice over me who are wrongfully my enemies; Nor let them wink with the eye who **hate me without a cause.**" Psalms 35:19 NKJV

(b) "Save me, O God! For the waters have come up to my neck. I sink in deep mire, Where there is no standing; I have come into deep waters, Where the floods overflow me. I am weary with my crying; My throat is dry; My eyes fail while I wait for my God. **Those who hate me without a cause Are more than the hairs of my head;** They are mighty who would destroy me, Being my enemies wrongfully; Though I have stolen nothing, I still must restore it." Psalms 69:1-4 NKJV

D. The Question is simple—what will you do when you are confronted with your enemy?

- (1) You “Will” NOT “If”! The real question is if you will be prepared for the Spirit to act through you?
- (a) “**You will be brought before governors and kings** for My sake, **as a testimony** to them and to the Gentiles. But when they deliver you up, **do not worry about how or what you should speak**. For it will be given to you in that hour what you should speak; for it is not you who speak, **but the Spirit of your Father who speaks in you**.
Matthew 10:18-20 NKJV

- (2) Sound Familiar? He was brought before the king and what did he do? He allowed God to speak!
- (a) “**Then Pharaoh sent and called Joseph**, and they brought him quickly out of the dungeon; and he shaved, changed his clothing, and **came to Pharaoh**. And Pharaoh said to Joseph, “I have had a dream, and there is no one who can interpret it. But I have heard it said of you that you can understand a dream, to interpret it.” So **Joseph answered Pharaoh, saying, “ It is not in me; God will give Pharaoh an answer of peace.”**” Genesis 41:14-16 NKJV

E. What will you do with your moment of visitation—sword or spirit? Will you respond in the flesh (your answer) or the Spirit (God’s answer?)

(1) Abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul!

(a) “Beloved, I beg you as sojourners and pilgrims, **abstain from fleshly lusts** which war against the soul, having your conduct honorable among the Gentiles, that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may, by your good works which they observe, glorify God **in the day of visitation.**” I Peter 2:11-12 NKJV

F. Put away your sword—in the day of your visitation!

(1) The grave error of misinterpreting the moment

(a) “Now as He drew near, He saw the city and wept over it, saying, “If you had known, even you, especially in this your day, the things that make for your peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes. **For days will come upon you when your enemies will build an embankment around you, surround you and close you in on every side,** and level you, and your children within you, to the ground; and they will not leave in you one stone upon another, because you did not know **the time of your visitation.**”” Luke 19:41-44 NKJ

(b) **THEY STILL MISSED IT! Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel:** “And being assembled together with them, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father,

“which,” He said, “you have heard from Me; for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

Therefore, when they had come together, they asked Him, saying, **“Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?”** And He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority. But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”” Acts 1:4-8 NKJV

- (2) What led up to this comment about knowing the time of visitation?
- (a) “Now behold, there was a man named Zacchaeus who was a chief tax collector, and he was rich.” Luke 19:2 NKJV
 - (b) First Y’shua has an encounter with Zacchaeus and his response is SPOT ON! He invites Y’shua to impact his entire household. He does NOT miss his day of visitation.
 - (c) “And Jesus said to him, **“Today salvation has come to this house,** because he also is a son of Abraham; for the

Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost.”” Luke 19:9-10 NKJV

- (3) The disciples then misinterpret what the encounter meant—they miss the deeper meaning.
 - (a) “Now as they heard these things, He spoke another parable, because He was near Jerusalem and because **they thought the kingdom of God would appear immediately.**” Luke 19:11 NKJV
 - (b) They see what happens in Zacchaeus’ house as the end of the story **as opposed to the beginning**, so He tells them a parable about the how the kingdom will come—servants **MUST** be prepared for the day of Visitation or else...
 - (c) The last versa of the parable: **“But bring here those enemies of mine, who did not want me to reign over them, and slay them before me.”** ”” Luke 19:27 NKJV
- (4) The entire parable is about about man’s participation and responsibility as partners with God to bring the kingdom...don’t miss it!
 - (a) This parable is similar to parable about the Talents but does a masterful job relating the entire lesson **to the Kingdom.** It is clear He wants His disciples to be

capable of distinguishing the born again moment from the more elaborate idea of the Kingdom.

- (b) **For your reading pleasure:** “Now as they heard these things, He spoke another parable, because He was near Jerusalem and because they thought the kingdom of God would appear immediately. Therefore He said: “A certain nobleman went into a far country to **receive for himself a kingdom** and to return. So he called ten of his servants, delivered to them ten minas, and said to them, ‘**Do business till I come.**’ But his citizens hated him, and sent a delegation after him, saying, ‘We will not have this man to reign over us.’ “And so it was that when he returned, **having received the kingdom**, he then commanded these servants, to whom he had given the money, to be called to him, that he might know how much every man had gained by trading. Then came the first, saying, ‘Master, your mina has earned ten minas.’ And he said to him, ‘Well done, good servant; because you were faithful in a very little, have **authority over ten cities.**’ And the second came, saying, ‘Master, your mina has earned five minas.’ Likewise he said to him, ‘You also be over five cities.’ “Then another came, saying, ‘Master, here is your mina, which I have kept put away

in a handkerchief. For I feared you, **because you are an austere man. You collect what you did not deposit, and reap what you did not sow.** And he said to him, 'Out of your own mouth I will judge you, you wicked servant. You knew that I was an austere man, collecting what I did not deposit and reaping what I did not sow. Why then did you not put my money in the bank, that at my coming I might have collected it with interest?' "And he said to those who stood by, 'Take the mina from him, and give it to him who has ten minas.' (But they said to him, 'Master, he has ten minas.')

'For I say to you, that to **everyone who has will be given; and from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away from him. But bring here those enemies of mine, who did not want me to reign over them, and slay them before me.**' "" Luke 19:11-27 NKJV

- (5) Then He makes His triumphant entry into Jerusalem and weeps over the people who HAVE MISSED it (His Visitation and what it meant). DON'T MISS IT AGAIN! If you miss it, then you will be vulnerable to your enemies, if you get it (the Kingdom) then you will be victorious!
- (a) **...For days will come upon you when your enemies will build an embankment around you, surround you and**

close you in on every side, and level you, ... because you did not know **the time of your visitation.**” Luke 19:41-44 NKJ

- (b) “...**abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul, having your conduct honorable among the Gentiles, ...in the day of visitation.**” I Peter 2:11-12 NKJV

G. I am Joseph—whom you sold into Egypt—Am I in the place of God?

- (1) The day of visitation—we move on from Joseph’s encounter with Pharaoh to his encounter with his Brothers
- (a) **I am Joseph:** “Then Joseph said to his brothers, “**I am Joseph**; does my father still live?” But his brothers could not answer him, for they were dismayed in his presence. And Joseph said to his brothers, “Please come near to me.” So they came near. Then he said: “**I am Joseph your brother, whom you sold into Egypt.** But now, do not therefore be grieved or angry with yourselves because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For these two years the famine has been in the land, and there are still five years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvesting.” Genesis 45:3-6 NKJV “And **God sent me before you to preserve a**

posterity for you in the earth, **and to save your lives by a great deliverance**. So now it was not you who sent me here, but God; and He has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house, and a ruler throughout all the land of Egypt.” Genesis 45:7-8 NKJV

(b) **Am I in the place of God?** “Joseph said to them, “Do not be afraid, for **am I in the place of God? But as for you, you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good, in order to bring it about as it is this day, to save many people alive**. Now therefore, do not be afraid; I will provide for you and your little ones.” And he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.” Genesis 50:19-21 NKJV

(2) Translation—all things work together for good, I am simply an ambassador in chains!

(a) **Process—Called, Justified, Glorified:** “And we know that **all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose**. For whom He foreknew, He also **predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son**, that He might be **the firstborn among many brethren**. Moreover whom He predestined, these **He also called**; whom He

called, these **He also justified**; and whom He justified, these **He also glorified.**” Romans 8:28-30 NKJV

- (b) **Always a way out!** “No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation **will also make the way of escape**, that you may be able to bear it.” I Corinthians 10:13 NKJV

(3) Your REACTION in the day of Visitation—What you say in that moment may be either your greatest or worst witness!

- (a) **Missing the day of visitation:** “Now as He drew near, He saw the city and wept over it, saying, “If you had known, even you, especially in this your day, the things that make for your peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes. **For days will come upon you when your enemies will build an embankment around you, surround you and close you in on every side**, and level you, and your children within you, to the ground; and they will not leave in you one stone upon another, because you did not know **the time of your visitation.**”” Luke 19:41-44 NKJ

- (b) **Avoiding a flesh response in the day of visitation:** “Beloved, I beg you as sojourners and pilgrims, **abstain**

from fleshly lusts which war against the soul, having your conduct honorable among the Gentiles, that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may, by your good works which they observe, glorify God **in the day of visitation.**” 1 Peter 2:11-12 NKJV

- (c) **In other words? “Put your sword in its place, for all who take the sword will perish by the sword. Or do you think that I cannot now pray to My Father, and He will provide Me with more than twelve legions of angels? [That is what we want to do!] How then could the Scriptures be fulfilled, that it must happen thus?”**”

Matthew 26:52-54 NKJV

- (4) Pharaoh this is Joseph; Brothers, “I am Joseph”—no swords involved!

- (a) **AGAIN, SEE THIS! You will be brought before governors and kings for My sake—Like Joseph—A testimony to the Gentiles; what will you do?** “Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves. Therefore be wise as serpents and harmless as doves. But beware of men, for they will deliver you up to councils and scourge you in their synagogues. **You will be brought before governors and kings for My sake, as a testimony to them and to the Gentiles.** But when they

deliver you up, do not worry about how or what you should speak. **For it will be given to you in that hour what you should speak; for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father who speaks in you.**" Matthew 10:16-20 NKJV

(b) **How you appear to those outside the faith:** "Walk in wisdom toward those who are outside, redeeming the time. **Let your speech** always be with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer each one." Colossians 4:5-6 NKJV

(c) **Your speech can impart grace, the supernatural empowerment of God!** "Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that **it may impart grace** to the hearers." Ephesians 4:29 NKJV

Summary: AMBASSADOR TRAINING

- 1) Even experts must have Kingdom training.
- 2) We do not war in the physical.
- 3) Are you an Ambassador in Chains or one who draws a sword.
- 4) Your sword may be your attempt to subvert prophecy.
- 5) You will be brought before governors and kings for His sake, as a testimony.

- 6) If Paul was an ambassador in chains and Y'shua was willing to be taken...what about you?
- 7) If it was good for Him it is good for you!
- 8) The question is simple—what will you do when you are confronted with your enemy?
- 9) What will you do with your moment of visitation—sword or spirit? Will you respond in the flesh (your answer) or the Spirit (God's answer?)
- 10) Put away your sword—in the day of your visitation!
- 11) Joseph's suffering: Am I in the place of God?
- 12) Avoiding a flesh response in the day of visitation.
- 13) Your speech to those outside the faith can impart grace!

OUGHT NOT THE CHRIST TO HAVE SUFFERED

2. Draw the Sword or Stand Still—More evidence that we need to PUT AWAY THE SWORD!

A. Suffering According to the Scripture

- (1) Don't you believe all that the prophets have spoken?
 - (a) "Then He said to them, "O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken! **Ought not the Christ to have suffered these things and to enter into His glory?"** And beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, He expounded to them in all the

Scriptures the things concerning Himself.” Luke
24:25-27 NKJV

(2) The Story before the question—“Ought not...?”

- (a) **The Road to Emmaus:** “Now behold, two of them were traveling that same day to a village called Emmaus, which was seven miles from Jerusalem. And they talked together of all these things which had happened. So it was, while they conversed and reasoned, that Jesus Himself drew near and went with them. **But their eyes were restrained, so that they did not know Him.** And He said to them, “What kind of conversation is this that you have with one another as you walk and are sad?” Then the one whose name was Cleopas answered and said to Him, “Are You the only stranger in Jerusalem, and have You not known the things which happened there in these days?” And He said to them, “What things?” So they said to Him, “The things concerning Jesus of Nazareth, who was a Prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how the chief priests and our rulers delivered Him to be condemned to death, and crucified Him. **But we were hoping that it was He who was going to redeem Israel. [by rescuing Israel from Rome with the sword]** Indeed,

besides all this, today is the third day since these things happened. Yes, and certain women of our company, who arrived at the tomb early, astonished us. When they did not find His body, they came saying that they had also seen a vision of angels who said He was alive. And certain of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but Him they did not see.” Luke 24:13-24 NKJV

- (3) He opened their eyes to what must have occurred—are your eyes open? The Christ must suffer!
- (a) “And they said to one another, “Did not our heart burn within us while He talked with us on the road, and **while He opened the Scriptures to us?**” Luke 24:32 NKJV
- (b) “Then He said to them, “These are the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that **all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms concerning Me.**” And He opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures.” Luke 24:44-45 NKJV
- (c) “Then He said to them, “**Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer** and to rise from the dead the third day, and that repentance and

remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. And you are witnesses of these things. Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high.” Luke 24:46-49
NKJV

B. It had to happen this way—no death; no resurrection!

(1) “But those things which God foretold by the mouth of all His prophets, **that the Christ would suffer**, He has thus fulfilled.” Acts 3:18 NKJV

(a) **You did it in ignorance BUT it had to happen:** “So when Peter saw it, he responded to the people: “Men of Israel, why do you marvel at this? Or why look so intently at us, **as though by our own power or godliness** we had made this man walk? The God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, the God of our fathers, glorified His Servant Jesus, whom you delivered up and denied in the presence of Pilate, when he was determined to let Him go. **But you denied the Holy One and the Just, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, and killed the Prince of life**, whom God **raised from the dead**, of which we are witnesses. And His name, through faith in His name, has made this man strong, whom you see

and know. Yes, the faith which comes through Him has given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all. **“Yet now, brethren, I know that you did it in ignorance,** as did also your rulers.” Acts 3:12-17 NKJV

(2) Making sense of suffering

(a) “Then Paul, as his custom was, went in to them, and for three Sabbaths **reasoned with them from the Scriptures, explaining and demonstrating that the Christ had to suffer** and rise again from the dead, and saying, “This Jesus whom I preach to you is the Christ.”” Acts 17:2-3 NKJV

(b) “And **some of them were persuaded;** and a great multitude of the devout Greeks, and not a few of the leading women, **joined Paul and Silas.**” Acts 17:4 NKJV

(3) Convincing even Agrippa—Testimonies before enemies/
Gentiles: *“You will be brought before governors and kings for My sake, as a testimony to them and to the Gentiles.”*
Matthew 10:18 NKJV

(a) *““Therefore, King Agrippa, **I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision, but declared** first to those in Damascus and in Jerusalem, and throughout all the region of Judea, and then to the Gentiles, that they should repent, turn to God, and do works befitting repentance. For*

these reasons the Jews seized me in the temple and tried to kill me.” Acts 26:19-21 NKJV

(b) **He stood before King Agrippa as an “Ambassador in Chains” as a witness, not with a sword!** “Therefore, having obtained help from God, to this day **I stand, witnessing both to small and great, saying no other things than those which the prophets and Moses said would come— that the Christ would suffer,** that He would be the first to rise from the dead, and would proclaim light to the Jewish people and to the Gentiles.”” Acts 26:22-23 NKJV

(c) “Then Agrippa said to Paul, “You almost persuade me to become a Christian.”” Acts 26:28 NKJV

C. No Better Proof...Isaiah 53

(1) A Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief!

(a) “Who has believed our report? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? For He shall grow up before Him as a tender plant, And as a root out of dry ground. He has no form or comeliness; And when we see Him, There is no beauty that we should desire Him. He is despised and rejected by men, **A Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief.** And we hid, as it were, our faces from Him; He was despised, and we did not

esteem Him. Surely He has borne our griefs And carried our sorrows; Yet we esteemed Him stricken, Smitten by God, and afflicted. But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way; And the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed and He was afflicted, Yet He opened not His mouth; He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, And as a sheep before its shearers is silent, So He opened not His mouth. He was taken from prison and from judgment, And who will declare His generation? For He was cut off from the land of the living; For the transgressions of My people He was stricken. And they made His grave with the wicked— But with the rich at His death, Because He had done no violence, Nor was any deceit in His mouth. Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise Him; He has put Him to grief. When You make His soul an offering for sin, He shall see His seed, He shall prolong His days, And the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in His hand. He shall see the labor of His soul, and be satisfied. By His knowledge My righteous Servant shall

justify many, For He shall bear their iniquities. Therefore I will divide Him a portion with the great, And He shall divide the spoil with the strong, Because He poured out His soul unto death, And He was numbered with the transgressors, And He bore the sin of many, And made intercession for the transgressors.” Isaiah 53:1-12 NKJV

D. Put Away the Sword—Vengeance is Mine says the Lord—The power of living like a believer should

- (1) **Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse!
Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.**

(a) “Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good. Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another; not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; rejoicing in hope, **patient in tribulation**, continuing steadfastly in prayer; distributing to the needs of the saints, given to hospitality. **Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse.** Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep. Be of the same mind toward one another. Do not set your mind on high things, but associate with

the humble. Do not be wise in your own opinion.”

Romans 12:9-16 NKJV

- (b) **“Repay no one evil for evil. Have regard for good things in the sight of all men.** If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men. Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, **“Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,” says the Lord.** Therefore “If your enemy is hungry, feed him; If he is thirsty, give him a drink; For in so doing you will heap coals of fire on his head.” **Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.**” Romans 12:17-21 NKJV

- (2) Vengeance is Yahweh’s—Your job is to bless your enemy!
- (a) “For their rock is not like our Rock, Even our enemies themselves being judges. For their vine is of the vine of Sodom And of the fields of Gomorrah; Their grapes are grapes of gall, Their clusters are bitter. Their wine is the poison of serpents, And the cruel venom of cobras. ‘ Is this not laid up in store with Me, Sealed up among My treasures? **Vengeance is Mine**, and recompense; Their foot shall slip in due time; For the day of their calamity is at hand, And the things to come hasten upon them.’ “For the LORD will judge His people And have

compassion on His servants, When He sees that their power is gone, And there is no one remaining, bond or free.” Deuteronomy 32:31-36 NKJV

- (b) **“If your enemy is hungry, give him bread to eat; And if he is thirsty, give him water to drink; For so you will heap coals of fire on his head, And the LORD will reward you.”** Proverbs 25:21-22 NKJV

E. Some trust in chariots — David Trusted in Yahweh—not swords!

(1) May Yahweh be your answer in the day of trouble

- (a) **“May the LORD answer you in the day of trouble; May the name of the God of Jacob defend you; May He send you help from the sanctuary, And strengthen you out of Zion; May He remember all your offerings, And accept your burnt sacrifice. Selah May He grant you according to your heart’s desire, And fulfill all your purpose. We will rejoice in your salvation, And in the name of our God we will set up our banners! May the LORD fulfill all your petitions. Now I know that the LORD saves His anointed; He will answer him from His holy heaven With the saving strength of His right hand. **Some trust in chariots, and some in horses; But we will remember the name of the LORD our God.** They have bowed**

down and fallen; But we have risen and stand upright.
Save, LORD! May the King answer us when we call.”

Psalms 20:1-9 NKJV

(2) Looking for an army to help—not a good idea

(a) ““Woe to the rebellious children,” says the LORD,
“**Who take counsel, but not of Me, And who devise
plans, but not of My Spirit,** That they may add sin to sin;
Who walk to go down to Egypt, And have not asked My
advice, **To strengthen themselves in the strength of
Pharaoh, And to trust in the shadow of Egypt!** Therefore
**the strength of Pharaoh Shall be your shame, And trust
in the shadow of Egypt Shall be your humiliation.** For
his princes were at Zoan, And **his ambassadors** came to
Hanes. They were all ashamed of a people who could
not benefit them, Or be help or benefit, But a shame
and also a reproach.”” Isaiah 30:1-5 NKJV

(b) “**Woe to those who go down to Egypt for help, and rely
on horses, who trust in chariots** because they are many,
and in horsemen because they are very strong, **but who
do not look to the Holy One of Israel,** nor seek the
LORD!” Isaiah 31:1 NKJV

(3) Reminders—No apply it!

- (a) “For **we do not wrestle against flesh and blood**, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.” Ephesians 6:12 NKJV
- (b) “But Jesus said to him, “**Put your sword in its place**, for **all who take the sword will perish by the sword**. Or do you think that I cannot now **pray to My Father**, and He **will provide Me with more than twelve legions of angels? How then could the Scriptures be fulfilled, that it must happen thus?**”” Matthew 26:52-54 NKJV

F. Instead of taking up the sword—Stand Still and See the Deliverance of the Lord—An Undeniable Pattern!

- (1) Moses—see what He will accomplish for you today.
 - (a) **Do not be afraid. Stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD:** “So the Egyptians **pursued them, all the horses and chariots of Pharaoh**, his horsemen and his army, and overtook them camping by the sea beside Pi Hahiroth, before Baal Zephon. And when Pharaoh drew near, the children of Israel lifted their eyes, and behold, the Egyptians marched after them. So they were very afraid, and the children of Israel cried out to the LORD. Then they said to Moses, “Because there were no graves

in Egypt, have you taken us away to die in the wilderness? Why have you so dealt with us, to bring us up out of Egypt? Is this not the word that we told you in Egypt, saying, 'Let us alone that we may serve the Egyptians'? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than that we should die in the wilderness." **And Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid. Stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which He will accomplish for you today.** For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall see again no more forever. The LORD will fight for you, and you shall hold your peace.'" Exodus 14:9-14 NKJV

(2) David—Be still, and know that I am God

(a) **A very present help in trouble!** "God is our refuge and strength, **A very present help in trouble.** Therefore we will not fear, Even though the earth be removed, And though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; Though its waters roar and be troubled, Though the mountains shake with its swelling. Selah There is a river whose streams shall make glad the city of God, The holy place of the tabernacle of the Most High. God is in the midst of her, she shall not be moved; God shall help her, just at the break of dawn. **The nations raged, the**

kingdoms were moved; He uttered His voice, the earth melted. The LORD of hosts is with us; The God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah Come, behold the works of the LORD, **Who has made desolations in the earth.** He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; He breaks the bow and cuts the spear in two; He burns the chariot in the fire. **Be still, and know that I am God;** I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth! The LORD of hosts is with us; The God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah” Psalms 46:1-11 NKJV

(3) Jehoshaphat—Position yourselves, stand still and see the salvation of the LORD

(a) **A power and might that no one is able to withstand!**

“Then Jehoshaphat stood in the assembly of Judah and Jerusalem, in the house of the LORD, before the new court, and said: “O LORD God of our fathers, are You not God in heaven, and **do You not rule over all the kingdoms of the nations, and in Your hand is there not power and might, so that no one is able to withstand You?** Are You not our God, who drove out the inhabitants of this land before Your people Israel, and gave it to the descendants of Abraham Your friend forever? And they dwell in it, and have built You a

sanctuary in it for Your name, saying, **'If disaster comes upon us—sword, judgment, pestilence, or famine—we will stand before this temple and in Your presence (for Your name is in this temple), and cry out to You in our affliction, and You will hear and save.'** And now, here are the people of Ammon, Moab, and Mount Seir—whom You would not let Israel invade when they came out of the land of Egypt, but they turned from them and did not destroy them— here they are, rewarding us by coming to throw us out of Your possession which You have given us to inherit. **O our God, will You not judge them? For we have no power against this great multitude that is coming against us; nor do we know what to do, but our eyes are upon You.**”” II Chronicles 20:5-12 NKJV

- (b) **Position Yourself and then Be still!** “Now all Judah, with their little ones, their wives, and their children, stood before the LORD. **Then the Spirit of the LORD came upon Jahaziel** the son of Zechariah, the son of Benaiah, the son of Jeiel, the son of Mattaniah, a Levite of the sons of Asaph, in the midst of the assembly. And he said, “**Listen**, all you of Judah and you inhabitants of Jerusalem, and you, King Jehoshaphat! Thus says the

LORD to you: **'Do not be afraid nor dismayed because of this great multitude, for the battle is not yours, but God's. Tomorrow go down against them. They will surely come up by the Ascent of Ziz, and you will find them at the end of the brook before the Wilderness of Jeruel. You will not need to fight in this battle. Position yourselves, stand still and see the salvation of the LORD, who is with you, O Judah and Jerusalem!' Do not fear or be dismayed; tomorrow go out against them, for the LORD is with you.'**" II Chronicles 20:13-17 NKJV

(c) **How do you "Position Yourself?"** "Therefore every scribe **instructed concerning the kingdom** of heaven is like a householder who brings out of his treasure things new and old.'" Matthew 13:52 NKJV

(d) **Believe a Watch!** "So they rose early in the morning and went out into the Wilderness of Tekoa; and as they went out, Jehoshaphat stood and said, "Hear me, O Judah and you inhabitants of Jerusalem: **Believe in the LORD your God, and you shall be established; believe His prophets, and you shall prosper.**" II Chronicles 20:20 NKJV

(e) **No enemy will escape!** “And when he had consulted with the people, he **appointed those who should sing** to the LORD, **and who should praise** the beauty of holiness, as they went out before the army and were saying: “Praise the LORD, For His mercy endures forever.” Now when they began to sing and to praise, **the LORD set ambushes** against the people of Ammon, Moab, and Mount Seir, who had come against Judah; and they were defeated. For the people of Ammon and Moab stood up against the inhabitants of Mount Seir to utterly kill and destroy them. And when they had made an end of the inhabitants of Seir, **they helped to destroy one another. So when Judah came** to a place overlooking the wilderness, **they looked** toward the multitude; and there were their dead bodies, fallen on the earth. **No one had escaped.”** II Chronicles 20:21-24 NKJV

(4) And since we have the same spirit of faith...we don't pick up the sword—Instead...

(a) **We believe and we speak!** “And since we have the **same spirit of faith**, according to what is written, “**I believed and therefore I spoke,**” **we also believe and therefore speak**, knowing that He who raised up the

Lord Jesus will also raise us up with Jesus, and will present us with you. For all things are for your sakes, that grace, having spread through the many, may cause thanksgiving to abound to the glory of God." II

Corinthians 4:13-15 NKJV

- (b) **We don't lose heart!** "Therefore, since we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, **we do not lose heart**. But we have renounced the hidden things of shame, not walking in craftiness nor handling the word of God deceitfully, but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God. But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them. For we do not preach ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord, and ourselves your bondservants for Jesus' sake. **For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.**" II

Corinthians 4:1-6 NKJV

- (c) **We trust in His power not our own!** “But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that **the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us.**” II Corinthians 4:7 NKJV
- (d) **And even though we may feel hemmed in on all sides, we suffer so that He may be manifested in 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 4:8-12 NKJV

G. The Final Battle: Why should we be still? Prayer NOT the Sword in the day of our visitation

- (1) This ought to be our PRAYER TODAY! Put Away the Sword —See last year’s teaching for more on thus topic : [Hard Pressed on Every Side](#)
- (a) **All things work for your good!** “And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to

those who are the called according to His purpose.”

Romans 8:28 NKJV

- (b) **Will you trust in Swords or Yahweh?** “Some trust in chariots, and some in horses; But we will remember **[trust]** the name of the LORD our God.” Psalms 20:7
NKJV

Summary: OUGHT NOT THE CHRIST TO HAVE SUFFERED

- 1) Suffering According to the Scripture—it was always necessary for progress.
- 2) It had to happen this way—no death; no resurrection!
- 3) Standing as a witness, not with a sword!
- 4) Put Away the Sword—Vengeance is Mine says the Lord—The power of living like a believer should.
- 5) Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse! Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.
- 6) Some trust in chariots, and some in horses; But we should trust in God.
- 7) Instead of taking up the sword—Stand Still and See the Deliverance of the Lord.
- 8) You will not need to fight in this battle. Position yourselves!

- 9) We believe and we speak! We don't lose heart! We trust in His power not our own! And even though we may feel hemmed in on all sides, we suffer so that He may be manifested in us!
- 10) The Final Battle: Why should we be still? Prayer NOT the Sword in the day of our visitation.
- 11) Because all things work together for good to those who love God & we trust Yahweh!

QUESTIONS & DISCUSSION

- 1. Y'shua taught us that even legal experts in the Scriptures must be trained, instructed, and disciplined concerning the Kingdom:**
 - A. Why do you think He said that?
 - B. What is so distinct about the Kingdom that even experts need specific training?
- 2. Paul taught us in Ephesians 6 that the true battles we face are not against flesh and blood:**
 - A. If so, then with whom are the true battles?
 - B. How are these battles fought?
 - C. How does this teaching relate to Y'shua's instruction to Peter to put away his sword in the Garden of Gethsemane?
 - D. How does this relate to Paul referring to himself as an "ambassador in chains"?

- 3. After Y'shua told Peter to put his sword down:**
 - A. What did He tell us He could do in a moment had he desired?
 - B. How does this support Paul's words in Ephesians 6?
- 4. It is obvious that no matter how much persecution Y'shua endured, He never picked up a weapon to defend Himself:**
 - A. Why not?
 - B. How should this play out in the lives of His disciples?
- 5. Y'shua taught us that we "would be brought before governors and kings for His sake, as a testimony":**
 - A. What did He promise would happen in those moments?
 - B. How did this play out in the life of Joseph?
- 6. The Scriptures teach us that we ought not miss the day of Christ's visitation:**
 - A. How does this relate to our response to our enemies?
 - B. How does this relate to the parable about the minas?
 - C. How does the parable about the minas relate to the Kingdom?
- 7. Moses, Joseph, David, and Jehoshaphat all had moments in life when they could either pick up the sword and fight, or be still:**
 - A. Describe the choices each of them made and the outcome.

8. In particular, the Spirit spoke to Jahaziel (a priest), on behalf of all of Judah and King Jehoshaphat saying, “You will not need to fight in this battle. Position yourselves.”

A. Relate this directive to Y’shua’s words to Peter in the Garden; *“Put your sword in its place, for all who take the sword will perish by the sword. Or do you think that I cannot now pray to My Father, and He will provide Me with more than twelve legions of angels?”*