# Portion:

#### **SCRIPTURES: DOUBLE**

- Leviticus 25-27
- Exodus 16
- Luke 12
- Matthew 6, 24

# Title:

#### **RAVENS & LILIES**

- I'm Worried
- What Will We Eat?
- Don't Worry; Seek First
- Pagans Worry; Believers Rest

Have you ever come to the end of your faith? You know, that moment when you think, maybe even say out loud, "How can I possibly get through this? My circumstance is impossible! Where on earth will I find provision?" When the people of Israel were instructed to let the land rest for a full year, every seven years, they worried about the inevitable lack of provision; "Where will we get our food?"

On one occasion, thousands followed Jesus to a deserted place to hear His words and be healed, and by evening they were hungry. Jesus simply asked His disciples, "Where shall we buy bread, that these may eat?" They responded in the same spirit as their ancestors; "Where will we get food to feed them? Send them away to get their own food." Jesus went on to challenge them;

"They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat." We learn in John's Gospel that He did this to test them! What was the test?

Later in His ministry, Jesus taught a parable explaining this very test. If a homeowner knew in advance the schemes of a thief, what would he do? It's simple; he'd prepare for the break in. The lesson is that if you have advanced notice of an impending event, let's say, like the Master asking you to "give the people something to eat in a deserted place," you too must be prepared. It turns out Jesus has, indeed, given us such advanced notice! "Who is the faithful and wise steward, whom his master will make ruler over his household, to give the people food in due season? Blessed is that servant whom his master will find so doing when he comes." In other words, be prepared to feed My people when the famine comes!

Oh, and if you are worried about from where such provision will come, Jesus has something to say about that as well. "Do not worry about what you should eat or what you should drink, nor have an anxious mind. The pagans worry about these things. Your Father knows what you need; all you have to do is seek the kingdom of God." Do that and you will have all the provision you will ever need! And blessed will that servant be!

THEME: MAIN SCRIPTURE(S) THAT HAS INSPIRED MESSAGE
"And if you say, "What shall we eat in the seventh year, since we
shall not sow nor gather in our produce?" Then I will command
My blessing on you in the sixth year, and it will bring forth
produce enough for three years. And you shall sow in the eighth
year, and eat old produce until the ninth year; until its produce
comes in, you shall eat of the old harvest." Leviticus 25:20-22 NKJV

OUTCOME: MAIN TAKEAWAY(S) I AM HOPING FOR PEOPLE ""And do not seek what you should eat or what you should drink, nor have an anxious mind. For all these things the nations of the world seek after, and your Father knows that you need these things. But seek the kingdom of God, and all these things shall be added to you. "Do not fear, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell what you have and give alms; provide yourselves money bags which do not grow old, a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches nor moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." Luke 12:29-34 NKJV

# Let's Set the Scene: Portion in a blurb

- 1. The Torah is divided into 54 weekly readings meant to be explored throughout each biblical calendar year called the annual Torah cycle. Yet, the normal length of a biblical year is counted by lunar (moon) cycles, not a solar (sun) cycle, and has only 354 days, which yields only 50 or 51 sabbaths on which to do those readings. The biblical "leap year" adds an extra month every 3 years which then adds 4 sabbaths for reading. In addition, a few of the readings each year are meant to be read on biblical feast days and not on the weekly sabbath. So to insure that each year all of the portions are read, some weeks have double portion readings. This can happen up to 7 times in any Biblical calendar year, differing dependent on when the feasts days fall and if we are in a leap year. This week calls for one of those double portion readings.
- 2. These portions introduce 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.

Portion One: Leviticus 25:1-26:2

- 3. 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.
- 4. **The Year of Jubilee:** Count seven sabbaths of years (7 x 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 sabbath years. 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.
- 5. 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.
- 6. **Provisions for the Seventh Year:** If you obey these laws the land will provide for you in abundance even when you are resting!
- 7. 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 it's 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?
- 8. 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."
- 9. **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.
- 10. 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.
- 11. 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.
- 12. 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.
- 13. **Lending to the Poor:** You must lend to the poor of God's people with no interest. And give food at no profit.

- 14. **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.
- 15. 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 Great Britain and early American history.
- 16. 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!

Portion Two: Leviticus 26:3-27:34

- 17. **Promise of Blessing and Retribution:** Here we have similar promises for obedience and disobedience as we see in Deuteronomy 28.
- 18. **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 Paul's take on this.)

- 19. **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.
- 20. **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.
- 21. 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.

# 22. 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.
- 23. No person under the ban, who may become doomed to destruction among men, shall be redeemed, *but* shall surely be put to death.
- 24. Rules for tithes of the land, seeds and animals are discussed.
- 25. You can study last year's teaching on these portions here: <u>The Tale of Two Prepositions</u>

#### I'M WORRIED

#### 1. What will we eat?

#### A. Don't Plant; Don't Harvest

- (1) Rest...l got this!
  - (a) "And the LORD spoke to Moses on Mount Sinai, saying, "Speak to the children of Israel, and say to them: 'When you come into the land which I give you, then the land shall keep a sabbath to the LORD." Leviticus 25:1-2 NKIV
  - (b) "Six years you shall sow your field, and six years you shall prune your vineyard, and gather its fruit; but in the seventh year there shall be a sabbath of solemn rest for the land, a sabbath to the LORD. You shall neither sow

- your field nor prune your vineyard." Leviticus 25:3-4 NKJV
- (2) Harvest vs. Food: Not business as usual—don't look at what grows naturally as a harvest
  - (a) Don't Reap: "What grows of its own accord of your harvest you shall not reap, nor gather the grapes of your untended vine, for it is a year of rest for the land." Leviticus 25:5 NKJV
  - (b) Instead, look at is as food! "And the sabbath produce of the land shall be food for you: for you, your male and female servants, your hired man, and the stranger who dwells with you, for your livestock and the beasts that are in your land—all its produce shall be for food."

    Leviticus 25:6-7 NKJV
- (3) The Jubilee—A Double Sabbath
  - (a) **Proclaim Liberty:** "And you shall consecrate the **fiftieth year**, and **proclaim liberty** throughout all the land to all its inhabitants. It shall be a **Jubilee** for you; and each of you shall **return to his possession**, and each of you shall return to his family." Leviticus 25:10 NKJV
  - (b) **Again—don't sow nor reap!** "That fiftieth year shall be a Jubilee to you; in it **you shall neither sow nor reap what**

- **grows of its own accord**, nor gather the grapes of your untended vine." Leviticus 25:11 NKJV
- (c) **But do eat!** "For it is the Jubilee; it shall be holy to you; you shall eat its produce from the field." Leviticus 25:12 NKJV
- (d) **The Return:** "'In this Year of Jubilee, each of you shall return to his possession." Leviticus 25:13 NKJV
  - 1. **Verses 14-17:** How to value something you buy or sell with the Jubilee in mind...
- (4) Provision for the seventh year (the year of sabbath rest)— SEEK FIRST—the ultimate faith in Yahweh's provision!
  - (a) If you OBEY... "'So you shall observe My statutes and keep My judgments, and perform them; and you will dwell in the land in safety. Then the land will yield its fruit, and you will eat your fill, and dwell there in safety." Leviticus 25:18-19 NKJV
  - (b) Then you will be BLESSED... "'And if you say, "What shall we eat in the seventh year, since we shall not sow nor gather in our produce?" Then I will command My blessing on you in the sixth year, and it will bring forth produce enough for three years. And you shall sow in the eighth year, and eat old produce until the ninth

**year;** until its produce comes in, you shall eat of the old harvest." Leviticus 25:20-22 NKJV

# B. <u>Bread from Heaven—the legal premise for provision on the Sabbath!</u>

- (1) Don't Complain
  - (a) Oh, that we had died in Egypt! "And they journeyed from Elim, and all the congregation of the children of Israel came to the Wilderness of Sin, which is between Elim and Sinai, on the fifteenth day of the second month after they departed from the land of Egypt. Then the whole congregation of the children of Israel complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. And the children of Israel said to them, "Oh, that we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the pots of meat and when we ate bread to the full! For you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.""
- (2) I will give you Bread from Heaven—but even in this there is a test of faith-based obedience
  - (a) Take only what you need—trust it is enough! "Then the LORD said to Moses, "Behold, I will rain bread from heaven for you. And the people shall go out and gather

they will walk in My law or not. And it shall be on the sixth day that they shall prepare what they bring in, and it shall be twice as much as they gather daily.""

Exodus 16:4-5 NKJV

- (3) The Bread of Life
  - (a) What He provides daily is enough: "In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as it is in heaven. [11] Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors. And do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen." Matthew 6:9-13 NKJV
  - (b) Your Job is to BELIEVE: "Jesus answered them and said, "Most assuredly, I say to you, you seek Me, not because you saw the signs, but because you ate of the loaves and were filled. Do not labor for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures [laboring for food which endures = seeking first the Kingdom] to everlasting life, which the Son of Man will give you, because God the Father has set His seal on Him." Then they said to Him, "What shall we do, that we may work

the works of God?" Jesus answered and said to them,
"This is the work of God, that you believe [Remember
the powerful 5-word prayer ("I believe; help my
unbelief!") on page 41 from this teaching: Are You Still
Walking with a Limp?] in Him whom He sent."
Therefore they said to Him, "What sign will You
perform then, that we may see it and believe You?
What work will You do?" John 6:26-30 NKJV

- (c) The SIGN...The Bread of Life: "Then Jesus said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, Moses did not give you the bread from heaven, but My Father gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is He who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world [see Exodus 16:9-15 below]." Then they said to Him, "Lord, give us this bread always." And Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst." John 6:32-35 NKJV
- (d) **Spiritual Food...The Bread of Life:** "Moreover, brethren, I do not want you to be unaware that all our fathers were under the cloud, all passed through the sea, all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, **all ate the same spiritual food**, and all drank the same

- spiritual drink. For they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them, **and that Rock was Christ.** But with most of them God was not well pleased, for their bodies were scattered in the wilderness." I Corinthians 10:1-5 NKJV
- (4) Proof that Yahweh has got you!
  - (a) Yahweh hears your complaints! "Then Moses and Aaron said to all the children of Israel, "At evening you shall know that the LORD has brought you out of the land of Egypt. And in the morning you shall see the glory of the LORD; for He hears your complaints against the LORD. But what are we, that you complain against us?" Also Moses said, "This shall be seen when the LORD gives you meat to eat in the evening, and in the morning bread to the full; for the LORD hears your complaints which you make against Him. And what are we? Your complaints are not against us but against the LORD."" Exodus 16:6-8 NKIV
- (5) More than you ask for!
  - (a) You asked for it—meat and bread: "Then Moses spoke to Aaron, "Say to all the congregation of the children of Israel, 'Come near before the LORD, for He has heard your complaints.' " Now it came to pass, as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the children of

Israel, that they looked toward the wilderness, and behold, the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud. And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, "I have heard the complaints of the children of Israel. Speak to them, saying, 'At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall be filled with bread. And you shall know that I am the LORD your God.' " So it was that quails came up at evening and covered the camp, and in the morning the dew lay all around the camp. And when the layer of dew lifted, there, on the surface of the wilderness, was a small round substance, as fine as **frost on the ground**. So when the children of Israel saw it, they said to one another, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. And Moses said to them, "This is the bread which the LORD has given you to eat [see John 6:32-35 above]." Exodus 16:9-15 NKJV

- (b) More than you ask or imagine in all generations: "Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen."

  Ephesians 3:20-21 NKJV
- (6) Gather only what you need—it's a test of faith

- (a) **If you take more than you need...it will rot!** "This is the thing which the LORD has commanded: 'Let every man gather it according to each one's need ["Give us this day our daily bread..." Mat. 6:11], one omer for each person, according to the number of persons; let every man take for those who are in his tent." "Then the children of Israel did so and gathered, some more, some less. So when they measured it by omers, he who gathered much had nothing left over, and he who gathered little had no lack. **Every man had gathered** according to each one's need. And Moses said, "Let no one leave any of it till morning." Notwithstanding they did not heed Moses. But some of them left part of it until morning, and it bred worms and stank. And Moses was angry with them. So they gathered it every morning, every man according to his need. And when the sun became hot, it melted." Exodus 16:16-21 NKJV
- (7) HERE IT IS...the promised DOUBLE PORTION
  - (a) Double-up on the sixth day! It's Yahweh's Pattern of provision: "And so it was, on the sixth day, that they gathered twice as much bread, two omers for each one. And all the rulers of the congregation came and told Moses. Then he said to them, "This is what the LORD

has said: 'Tomorrow is a Sabbath rest, a holy Sabbath to the LORD. Bake what you will bake today, and boil what you will boil; and lay up for yourselves all that remains, to be kept until morning." So they laid it up till morning, as Moses commanded; and it did not stink, nor were there any worms in it. Then Moses said, "Eat that today, for today is a Sabbath to the LORD; today you will not find it in the field. Six days you shall gather it, but on the seventh day, the Sabbath, there will be none [Keep this prophetic thought it mind: "The Sabbath must be prepared for in advance because there is a famine of food on that day! In other words, if the people have not prepared food ahead of time, someone must be ready to feed them in due season. (See Matthew 24:45-47 and Section )]."" Exodus 16:22-26 NKIV

- Note: Important teachings about Joseph as the faithful and wise servant hinted to in Matthew 24:45-47 and Luke 12:42-44
  - a) The Faithful and Wise Servant (notes only)
  - b) New Wineskins
  - c) Between Two Verses—Prepped for Power

- (8) And Still—some insist on being disobedient (not demonstrating faith in His provision!)
  - (a) You should REST in Yahweh: "Now it happened that some of the people went out on the seventh day to gather, but they found none. And the LORD said to Moses, "How long do you refuse to keep My commandments and My laws? See! For the LORD has given you the Sabbath; therefore He gives you on the sixth day bread for two days. Let every man remain in his place; let no man go out of his place on the seventh day." So the people rested on the seventh day." Exodus 16:27-30 NKJV
- (9) This entire lesson was to PROVIDE a TESTIMONY for you to REMEMBER!
  - (a) It's called Manna; you better remember! "And the house of Israel called its name Manna. And it was like white coriander seed, and the taste of it was like wafers made with honey. Then Moses said, "This is the thing which the LORD has commanded: 'Fill an omer with it, to be kept for your generations, that they may see the bread with which I fed you in the wilderness, when I brought you out of the land of Egypt.' "And Moses said to Aaron, "Take a pot and put an omer of manna in it,

and lay it up before the LORD, to be kept for your generations." As the LORD commanded Moses, so **Aaron laid it up before the Testimony, to be kept.** And the children of **Israel ate manna forty years, until they came to an inhabited land;** they ate manna until they came to the border of the land of Canaan. Now an omer is one-tenth of an ephah." Exodus 16:31-36 NKJV

# **Summary:** I'M WORRIED

- 1. Yahweh will provide all you need when He tells you to rest!
- 2. Trusting in the provision for the seventh year (the year of sabbath rest) demonstrates the ultimate faith in Yahweh's provision!
- 3. If you OBEY... Then you will be BLESSED...
- 4. Manna from Heaven—the legal premise for provision on the Sabbath! Just stop complaining!
- 5. Take only what you need. This is the test of faith-based obedience.
- 6. Manna was always pointing to Y'shua as the Bread of Life.
- 7. Your Job is to BELIEVE!
- 8. HERE IT IS... you gather only what you need and He promises a DOUBLE PORTION for you to prepare for the Sabbath.

- 9. The Sabbath is indicative of famine (no food), a day that must be supernaturally prepared for!
- 10. This entire lesson about gathering only what you need is to PROVIDE a TESTIMONY for you to REMEMBER!

### DON'T WORRY; SEEK FIRST

## 2. Pagans Worry; Believers Rest

#### A. This is a test!

- (1) The testimony is for the test!
  - (a) The gathering quota was a TEST! "Then the LORD said to Moses, "Behold, I will rain bread from heaven for you. And the people shall go out and gather a certain quota every day, that I may test them, whether they will walk in My law or not [Can you recognize what He tests?—OBEDIENCE!]. And it shall be on the sixth day that they shall prepare [sixth day = prepare] what they bring in, and it shall be twice as much as they gather daily."" Exodus 16:4-5 NKJV
  - (b) The entire wilderness journey was a TEST! ""Every commandment which I command you today you must be careful to observe, that you may live and multiply, and go in and possess the land of which the LORD swore to your fathers. And you shall remember that the

LORD your God led you all the way these forty years in the wilderness, to humble you and test you, to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep His commandments or not [Can you recognize what He tests?—OBEDIENCE!]. So He humbled you, allowed you to hunger, and fed you with manna which you did not know nor did your fathers know, that He might make you know that man shall not live by bread alone; but man lives by every word [the Bread of Life] that proceeds from the mouth of the LORD. Your garments did not wear out on you, nor did your foot swell these forty years. You should know in your heart that as a man chastens his son, so the LORD your God chastens you."

(c) The Feeding of the 5000 was a TEST! "After these things Jesus went over the Sea of Galilee, which is the Sea of Tiberias. Then a great multitude followed Him, because they saw His signs which He performed on those who were diseased. And Jesus went up on the mountain, and there He sat with His disciples. Now the Passover, a feast of the Jews, was near. Then Jesus lifted up His eyes, and seeing a great multitude coming toward Him, He said to Philip, "Where shall we buy bread, that these

- may eat?" But this He said to test him [Can you recognize what He tests?—OBEDIENCE! In this case their Prophetic sensibilities. Could they see what they were being called to do/obey?], for He Himself knew what He would do." John 6:1-6 NKJV
- (d) Notice that in John's account—Y'shua tells Philip to make the people sit, as opposed to telling them **Himself!** "Philip answered Him, "Two hundred denarii worth of bread is not sufficient for them, that every one of them may have a little." One of His disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to Him, "There is a lad here who has five barley loaves and two small fish, but what are they among so many?" Then Jesus said, "Make the people sit down [The Prophetic Perspective —human initiative partnered with God in what He is doing in the earth—then Y'shua simply moves on and handles the feeding.]." Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, in number about five thousand. And Jesus took the loaves, and when He had given thanks He distributed them to the disciples, and the disciples to those sitting down; and likewise of the fish, as much as they wanted. So when they were filled, He said to His disciples, "Gather up the fragments that

- **remain**, so that nothing is lost." Therefore they gathered them up, and filled twelve baskets with **the fragments** of the five barley loaves which were left over by those who had eaten. Then those men, when they had seen the sign that Jesus did, said, "This is truly the Prophet who is to come into the world."" John 6:7-14 NKJV
- (2) The other three Gospels tell the same story with an emphasis on a different perspective [Their LACK of Prophetic Perspective is exposed and he emphasizes the Pastoral Perspective—one of everyday human needs]!
  - (a) Matthew 14:13-21; Mark 6:31-44; Luke 9:12-17
    - 1. Matthew: "And when Jesus went out He saw a great multitude; and He was moved with compassion for them, and healed their sick. When it was evening, His disciples came to Him, saying, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is already late. Send the multitudes away, that they may go into the villages and buy themselves food." But Jesus said to them, "They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat [LACK of Prophetic Perspective is exposed]."" Matthew 14:14-16 NKJV
    - 2. **Mark:** "When the day was now far spent, His disciples came to Him and said, "This is a deserted

place, and already the hour is late. Send them away, that they may go into the surrounding country and villages and buy themselves bread; for they have nothing to eat." But He answered and said to them, "You give them something to eat [LACK of Prophetic Perspective is exposed]." And they said to Him, "Shall we go and buy two hundred denarii worth of bread and give them something to eat?""Mark 6:35-37 NKJV

3. Luke: "And the apostles, when they had returned, told Him all that they had done. Then He took them and went aside privately into a deserted place belonging to the city called Bethsaida. But when the multitudes knew it, they followed Him; and He received them and spoke to them about the kingdom of God, and healed those who had need of healing. When the day began to wear away, the twelve came and said to Him, "Send the multitude away, that they may go into the surrounding towns and country, and lodge and get provisions; for we are in a deserted place here." But He said to them, "You give them something to eat [LACK of Prophetic Perspective is exposed]." And they said, "We have no more than

- five loaves and two fish, unless we go and buy food for all these people."" Luke 9:10-13 NKJV
- (3) Pause—pay attention—notice the lesson—Y'shua demonstrated how WE SHOULD respond to the test!
  - (a) Notice the pattern: [The Prophetic] Order a Rest— and Look to Heaven for Provision. [The Pastoral] Bless & Give—Provision is more than needed—Plenty left over! [a perfect blend of the Prophetic and Pastoral Perspectives]
    - 1. "Then He commanded the multitudes to sit down on the grass [and REST]. And He took the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven [Look to Heaven for Provision—this is the Prophetic piece the disciples missed], He blessed and broke and gave [Bless & Give] the loaves to the disciples; and the disciples gave to the multitudes. So they all ate and were filled [Provision is more than needed], and they took up twelve baskets full of the fragments that remained [Plenty left over!]." Matthew 14:19-20 NKIV
    - 2. "So they **sat down [and RESTED]** in ranks, in hundreds and in fifties. And when He had taken the five loaves and the two fish, **He looked up to heaven**

[Look to Heaven for Provision—this is the Prophetic piece the disciples missed], blessed and broke the loaves, and gave [Bless & Give] them to His disciples to set before them; and the two fish He divided among them all. So they all ate and were filled [Provision is more than needed]. And they took up twelve baskets full of fragments [Plenty left over!] and of the fish." Mark 6:40-43 NKJV

- 3. "And they did so, and made them all sit down [and REST]. Then He took the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven [Look to Heaven for Provision—this is the Prophetic piece the disciples missed], He blessed and broke them, and gave [Bless & Give] them to the disciples to set before the multitude. So they all ate and were filled [Provision is more than needed], and twelve baskets of the leftover fragments [Plenty left over!] were taken up by them." Luke 9:15-17 NKJV
- B. <u>Don't make the crucial error that God's provision is the</u> same as PROVIDING FOR YOURSELF!
  - (1) What are you using to define who you are?
    - (a) **It's not about THINGS!** "Then one from the crowd said to Him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the

inheritance with me." But He said to him, "Man, who made Me a judge or an arbitrator over you?" And He said to them, "Take heed and beware of covetousness, for **one's life does not consist in the abundance of the things he possesses**."" Luke 12:13-15 NKJV

- (2) Bigger Barns is NOT the answer!
  - (a) He who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich **toward God:** "Then He spoke a parable to them, saying: "The ground of a certain rich man yielded plentifully." And he thought within himself, saying, 'What shall I do, since I have no room to store my crops?' So he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build greater, and there I will store all my crops and my goods. And I will say to my soul, "Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years; take your ease; eat, **drink, and be merry.**" 'But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul will be required of you; then whose will those things be which you have provided?" "So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God."" Luke 12:16-21 NKJV [Notice the things you provide in your flesh will not do the trick!]
- C. Instead of Your own Treasure...

- (1) Luke 12 connects the parable of "depending on your own treasure" with Matthew's Sermon on the Mount in <a href="Matthew 6">Matthew 6</a> with what Matthew's Olivet Discourse teaches in <a href="Matthew 24">Matthew 24</a>, which connects back to the feeding of the 5000 that appears in all four Gospels!
  - (a) Why is this connection so important, prophetically?
- (2) For where your treasure is...
  - (a) There your heart will be also! For where your <u>treasure</u> is, there your <u>heart</u> will be also; "And do not seek what you should eat or what you should drink, nor have an anxious mind." Luke 12:29 NKJV
- (3) Do you think the answer is to worry about providing for yourself?
  - (a) LIKE MATTHEW 6:25-34 (Not even Solomon in all his glory! So don't build bigger barns—like storing more manna than needed)... "Then He said to His disciples, "Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat; nor about the body, what you will put on. Life is more than food, and the body is more than clothing. Consider the ravens, for they neither sow nor reap, which have neither storehouse nor barn; and God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds? And which of you by worrying can add one cubit

to his stature? If you then are not able to do the least, why are you anxious for the rest? **Consider the lilies**, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; and yet I say to you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed **like one of these**. If then God so clothes the **grass**, which today is in the field and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will He clothe you, O you of little faith? "And do not seek what you should eat or what you should drink, nor have an anxious mind. For all these things the nations of the world seek after, and your Father knows that you need these things. But seek the kingdom of God, and all these things shall be added to you. "Do not fear, little flock, for it is your Father's **good pleasure to give you the kingdom**. Sell what you have and give alms; provide yourselves money bags which do not grow old, a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches nor moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." Luke 12:22-34 NKJV

(4) Seeking the Kingdom means what? (It means not preparing by worrying about building bigger barns, but instead preparing by discovering what Yahweh is doing

prophetically. Your job is to...prepare by knowing who the faithful and wise servant is.)

- (a) LIKE MATTHEW 24:32-44, 48-51 (PREPARATION!!) ""Let your waist be girded and your lamps burning; and you yourselves be like men who wait for their master, when he will return from the wedding, that when he comes and knocks they may open to him immediately. Blessed are those servants whom the master, when he comes, will find watching. Assuredly, I say to you that he will gird himself and have them sit down to eat, and will come and serve them. And if he should come in the second watch, or come in the third watch, and find them so, blessed are those servants. But know this, that if the master of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched and not allowed his house to be broken into. Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect." Then Peter said to Him, "Lord, do You speak this parable only to us, or to all people? "" Luke 12:35-41 NKJV
- (5) What does a prepared servant look like?
  - (a) First a quick reminder from John 6:26-30 (when He supernaturally feeds the 5000 plus!)

- 1. [Y'shua]: Do not labor for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures...
- 2. [The Disciples]: "What shall we do, that we may work the works of God?"
- 3. [Y'shua]: "This is the work of God, that you believe...
- 4. [The Disciples]: "What sign will You perform then, that we may see it and believe You? What work will You do?"
- Answer THE BREAD OF LIFE FROM HEAVEN: John
   6:31-40 and telling us all this JUST AFTER HE
   SUPERNATURALLY FED THE 5000
- (b) LIKE MATTHEW 24:45-47 (Joseph!) "And the Lord said, "Who then is that faithful and wise steward, whom his master will make ruler over his household, to give them their portion of food in due season? Blessed is that servant whom his master will find so doing when he comes." Luke 12:42-43 NKJV
  - 1. (Read all of Genesis 41) ""Now therefore, let
    Pharaoh select a discerning and wise man, and set
    him over the land of Egypt. Let Pharaoh do this, and
    let him appoint officers over the land, to collect onefifth of the produce of the land of Egypt in the seven
    plentiful years. And let them gather all the food of

those good years that are coming, and store up grain under the authority of Pharaoh, and let them keep food in the cities. Then that food shall be as a reserve for the land for the seven years of famine which shall be in the land of Egypt, that the land may not perish during the famine." So the advice was good in the eyes of Pharaoh and in the eyes of all his servants. And Pharaoh said to his servants, "Can we find such a one as this, a man in whom is the Spirit of God?" Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, "Inasmuch as God has shown you all this, there is no one as discerning and wise as you. You shall be over my house, and all my people shall be ruled according to your word; only in regard to the throne will I be greater than you." And Pharaoh said to Joseph, "See, I have set you over all the land of Egypt."" Genesis 41:33-41 NKJV

- 2. Note: Important teachings about Joseph as the faithful and wise servant hinted to in Matthew 24:45-47 and Luke 12:42-44
  - a) The Faithful and Wise Servant (notes only)
  - b) New Wineskins
  - c) <u>Between Two Verses—Prepped for Power</u>

#### D. Pick a Master

- (1) You cannot serve two masters (your own provision vs. Yahweh's provision)
  - (a) **You cannot serve two masters:** ""No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. **You cannot serve God and mammon**." Matthew 6:24 NKJV
  - (b) Do not lay up treasures....(Like the bigger barns) ""Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." Matthew 6:19-21 NKJV
- (2) Don't Store, Don't Worry; Instead Seek!
  - (a) Matthew's Version: ""Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? Which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his

stature? "So why do you worry about clothing? Consider the **lilies of the field**, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; and yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. Now if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? "Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. **But seek first the** kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble." Matthew 6:25-34 NKJV

# E. Be Anxious for Nothing

- (1) Anxiety
  - (a) **An Anxious Mind:** ""And do not seek what you should eat or what you should drink, **nor have an anxious** mind." Luke 12:29 NKJV
  - (b) **Be anxious for nothing:** "Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with

thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:6-7 NKJV

- (2) Supernatural Provision
  - (a) **Prayer:** "Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. **The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much**." James 5:16 NKJV
  - (b) Needs: "And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:19 NKJV
  - (c) A Father's Provision: ""So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. If a son asks for bread from any father among you, will he give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent instead of a fish? Or if he asks for an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father

**give** the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!"" Luke 11:9-13 NKJV (see also Matthew 7:7-12)

#### (3) Peace

- (a) Peace: "Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid." John 14:27 NKJV
- (b) Rest: "Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light."" Matthew 11:28-30 NKJV
  - 1. Note: it was when David was at rest from all his enemies the his deepest revelation came...
    - a) (see last year's teaching for details: <u>The Tale of Two Prepositions!</u>)
    - b) "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."" II Samuel 7:1-2 NKJV

## **Summary:** DON'T WORRY; SEEK FIRST

- 1. Pagans Worry; Believers Rest; It's all a test!
- 2. The gathering quota was a TEST!
- 3. The entire wilderness journey was a TEST!
- 4. The Feeding of the 5000 was a TEST!
- 5. You must recognize both the prophetic and pastoral perspectives of the feeding of the 5000 narrative!
- 6. Notice the pattern: [The Prophetic] Order a Rest— and Look to Heaven for Provision. [The Pastoral] Bless & Give—Provision is more than needed—Plenty left over!
- 7. Don't make the crucial error that God's provision is the same as PROVIDING FOR YOURSELF!
- 8. Bigger Barns are NOT the answer!
- 9. Luke 12 connects the parable of "depending on your own treasure" with Matthew 6 (Sermon on the Mount) with Matthew 24 (Olivet Discourse), which connects back to the feeding of the 5000 that appears in all four Gospels!
- 10. The answer is NOT to worry about providing for yourself?

  Instead of Your own Treasure...know how to seek His treasure.
- 11. Seeking the Kingdom means what? It means not preparing by worrying about building bigger barns, but instead preparing by discovering what Yahweh is doing prophetically. Your job is to... prepare by knowing who the faithful and wise servant is.)

- 12. What does a prepared servant look like? Do not labor for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures... the faithful and wise steward.
- 13. Pick a Master: you cannot serve two masters (your own provision vs. Yahweh's provision)
- 14. Be Anxious for Nothing; trust in Supernatural Provision; Have peace—it's from that place the deepest revelations come!

#### OTHER NOTEWORTHY REFERENCES

3. **Disobedience & Repentance** (Please refer to: <u>The Tale of Two Prepositions</u>)

### A. <u>Blessings and Curses</u>

- (1) Leviticus 26 is like Deuteronomy 28 describing blessings for obedience and curses for disobedience.
- (2) Israel's length of exile is related to each Sabbath Year they violated!
  - (a) "I will scatter you among the nations and draw out a sword after you; your land shall be desolate and your cities waste. Then the land shall enjoy its sabbaths as long as it lies desolate and you are in your enemies' land; then the land shall rest and enjoy its sabbaths. As long as it lies desolate it shall rest— for the time it did

# not rest on your sabbaths when you dwelt in it." Leviticus 26:33-35 NKJV

## B. Repentance

- (1) If they repent...
  - (a) "'But **if they confess their iniquity and the iniquity of their fathers**, with their unfaithfulness in which they
    were unfaithful to Me, and that they also have walked
    contrary to Me," Leviticus 26:40 NKJV.
  - (b) "and that I also have walked contrary to them and have brought them into the land of their enemies; if their uncircumcised hearts are humbled, and they accept their guilt—" Leviticus 26:41 NKJV
- (2) Then...
  - (a) I will remember! "then I will remember My covenant with Jacob, and My covenant with Isaac and My covenant with Abraham I will remember; I will remember the land." Leviticus 26:42 NKJV
  - (b) And restore! "The land also shall be left empty by them, and will enjoy its sabbaths while it lies desolate without them; they will accept their guilt, because they despised My judgments and because their soul abhorred My statutes. Yet for all that, when they are in the land of their enemies, I will not cast them away, nor shall I

abhor them, to utterly destroy them and break My covenant with them; for I am the LORD their God. But for their sake I will remember the covenant of their ancestors, whom I brought out of the land of Egypt in the sight of the nations, that I might be their God: I am the LORD.' "These are the statutes and judgments and laws which the LORD made between Himself and the children of Israel on Mount Sinai by the hand of Moses." Leviticus 26:43-46 NKJV

## C. The Redemption Story

- (1) Leviticus 27–Redemption
  - (a) Key ideas to consider
    - 1. There is a yearly tangible tax (on a person).
    - 2. There are certain valuations and redemption prices.
    - 3. The poor may have a reduction in the redemption price set by the priest on a case by case basis.
    - 4. If he is using an animal for payment—he must use a "good" one; he cannot use a defective one to pay the redemption price.
    - 5. He can use an unclean animal for payment—of course it would not be used by the priest for temple purposes (but for other reasons he could use one).

- 6. And if the person wants to later get it back, he has to add 1/5 to the values he was given for it (like a pawn shop).
- 7. When a house or part of a field or it's crop (land) is dedicated, the priest sets the value! The value takes into consideration the jubilee.
- 8. The priest's final valuation stands!
- 9. Again it will cost 1/5 more to redeem and if he chooses not to, then the priest will own it forever.
- 10. If he dedicates a field that is subject to return to someone else, then the priest will use the Jubilee calculation to value it and in the end it will go back to the original owner.
- 11. You cannot use firstborn animals as "payment" as they ALREADY belong to Yahweh.
- 12. Nothing that ALREADY belongs to Yahweh can be use to pay (not land, beast, nor man).
- 13. And by the way—you cannot use these valuations to redeem a man already condemned to death!
  - (a) "No person under the ban, who may become doomed to destruction among men, shall be redeemed, but shall surely be put to death." Leviticus 27:29 NKJV

- 14. If you want to borrow against your tithe it will cost you 1/5 more to repay.
- 15. 1/10 already belongs to the Lord, so you cannot use that to make payments either (this tax comes after the 10th).
- (2) The ending punctuation of the Book of Leviticus
  - (a) "These are the commandments which the LORD commanded Moses for the children of Israel on Mount Sinai." Leviticus 27:34 NKJV

#### **QUESTIONS & DISCUSSION**

- 1. How do you respond when God requires something of you that seems completely impossible?
  - D. What obvious question arose when Israel was told to rest the land every seven years?
  - E. What did Yahweh tell them they could and could not do?
  - F. What does this teach us about Yahweh?
- 2. What did Yahweh provide for the Israelites when they were hungry in the wilderness?
  - A. What rules did He give them about collecting their daily provision?

- B. What did He promise them for the Sabbath that set the premise for His provision for resting the land every seven years?
- C. Why was it critical that Israel remember, for all generations, His supernatural provision of bread from heaven?
- D. Relate Manna to Y'shua as the Bread of Life.

# 3. This is a test; this is only a test!

- A. Describe and discuss the test of collecting only the Manna needed for daily consumption, the test of Israel in the wilderness, and how Y'shua tested the disciples when He asked them to feed thousands of people in a desolate place.
- B. Relate this to the Lord's Prayer.
- 4. What is the critical mistake we are warned not to make when we are desperate for provision?
  - A. What are we instructed to do? {Hint: P \_ \_ \_ \_ & S \_ \_ \_}
- 5. Relate the following ideas to each other (think prophetically!).
  - A. Building bigger barns
  - B. Storing up treasure
  - C. Worrying about provision
  - D. The way pagans think
  - E. Advanced notice of an impending event
  - F. The feeding of the 5000
  - G. The faithful and wise servant

- H. Joseph the son of Jacob
- I. Serving two masters
- J. Anxiety vs. Peace