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# Encouragement from Set Apart Ministries

An Equipping Ministry
May 2006

**Shalom Aleichem!**

We are pleased to greet you once again during this season of anticipating joy. (We have included a few pictures from our Pesach celebration in our Joy section this week although we wish you could have been there to experience the sweetness and joy of that day!)

Today, we have much to share in the way of developments for Set Apart Ministries as well as continuing our attention to the matter of whether or not GRACE is evident in the Messianic understanding, and beginning to address matters of the "flesh" as they pertain to walking out our maturity through life.

This next section pertaining to our local concerns is rather long. You can scroll down to the list of articles if you need to go directly to any of the other pieces included today.

We are thankful for the information provided to us by Batya Wootten in regard to use of the Name. We affirm that we see no value in contentiousness over the transliteration of the Name. Our preference is to use the Hebrew Font but we have yet to be able to integrate this font into our website and this newsletter format. Efforts are underway. We did *not* know that using the transliteration Yahshua seems to bring some "baggage" along with it as it is associated with the groups who view it as the only acceptable way. We do not think that the transliteration preferred is the most important focus. Until we are able to incorporate the Hebrew font, we appreciate our readers understanding that we do not intend to be dogmatic on this issue in any way.

What would it look like if my faith were more of a fear bond as

## SNARK THAT SARK!

If you're like me, I sometimes think about what it must have been like to live in the Garden of Eden. What joy it must have been to live in a perfect environment, walking and talking with *Elohim*! *Adam* and *Hava* didn't know about murder, lust, abortion, stress, illness--all the things that plague us in our modern day lives. They did not know about evil. As long as they stayed away from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and

opposed to a love bond? An article examining this is now online at our site. Since so many people struggle with comprehending our Abba's character in view of the failings of their physical fathers, this subject seems worthy to address! Your feedback is most welcome! Where do you see yourself in this comparison?

As we prepare to schedule telephone follow up surveys with those who responded to our Messianic Leadership Concerns survey, we have met with an unexpected opportunity.
Praise be to our Messiah!
Because we listed our survey request in Hebrew Roots newsletter, we have been contacted by Messianic Believers in several prison settings, requesting our materials and resources. One letter represented a group of about 60 Messianic Believers who are in need of encouragement, Scripture study materials and materials about the development of maturity.

We will respond to the request for support as well as we are able to do so and then will be giving prayerful consideration to what ongoing service we are to offer. It is certain that the concerns they face, both as individuals and as groups within the prison setting would be different from fellowships in communities in many ways.

We would like very much to respond to their requests and come alongside them in the process of maturing in our Messiah, though our financial resources are limited. Since they do not have access to online materials, we would like to send the following package to each prisoner or group:
1 Book Living From the Heart Jesus Gave You
1 Work book " " " "
Paper copies of our newsletters with maturity information
Paper copies of related articles from our website

It would appear that this would require approximately $40 per each request for purchase, production and mailing. Where there is a group of Messianic Believers we would like to send a CD ROM Teaching on Maturity if they have access to the necessary equipment to make use of it. This would be an additional $20 cost.

Would you be willing to stand with us and support these incarcerated Messianic Believers as they grow toward Maturity in our Messiah? We have received one set of book and workbook that we can send along so far.
We would appreciate financial donations toward this effort--this one time provision of a set of materials --as well as printing and mailing costs on a monthly basis.
If you could provide the toner cartridge or printing service for

Evil, all was well.

Unfortunately, we all know the story. *Hashatan* tempted *Hava* with the fruit by appealing to her flesh, "You shall be like God." *There is a way which seems right to a man, But its end is the way of death (Prov. 14:12 NASB).*

Ever since that moment, with the bite of the fruit we have been in an endless battle with our flesh and our true heart in *Yahshua*. There is the struggle to understand what is **Truth** and what is **False**. The *Life Model* calls this the "sark." This word is based on the Greek word *sarx,* which *is the seat of false discernment, false guidance, and false knowledge of good and evil. (Page 110, Life Model, copyright 2000-R).*

In our bi-monthly group, we have people with a wonderful sense of humor. They began to make up a Dr. Suess-style poem called, "Snark that Sark!" It's funny, but it is also a good reminder! Don't let that flesh get in the way!

Daily, we hear people making decisions with their false understanding. An unwed pregnant teen with no place to go--abortion is the answer. This "problem" would only complicate her life and

the articles, that would also go a long way toward meeting this request.
We will continue to pray for Yahshua's leading as we come alongside these brothers.

Well, we will be dealing with all that comes with relocating our office during the month of June. We appreciate your patience as we go through setting up telephone and internet service during this time. (If you have had trouble getting through to us by email please let us know using our 800 telephone number (866-634-0291).
We have just had a recent notice that this has happened again and we do not want to miss communicating with you.)

This move is part of Set Apart Ministries coming out from under the "wing" of Still Waters of Green Bay, Inc. my outpatient mental health clinic. As I continue to make the transition away from formal mental health services, a coming out of Egypt if you will, Still Waters is no longer able to subsidize Set Apart Ministries. This transition has been in the making and expected for some time, though how exactly it is to be accomplished is still not entirely clear. I appreciate your prayer cover during this time as well.

My thoughts parallel those of the psalmist and of Marty Goetz' song: *and though I'm slow of step and though my heart is filled with fears, still after all these years,* ***this one thing I know: Unless it is the Lord Who builds the house, the watchmen watch in vain!***

Several of our SAM people are exercising their creative abilities and are pleased to be able to offer Tzittziot, challah covers, tallit and shofar bags, and various praise and moedim banners for your enjoyment and donations.
We even have a number of 6 foot long Tzit tzits for display! We will be making them available to you at our June 18th presentation of First Fruits of Zion, Restoration! seminar by Toby Janicki. We also hope to have a table at the MIA conference in Nashville, where we will also be offering the Steps to Joy: Dance Worship training for Non Dancers DVD. Our website will host a catalog for these and other items when we are able to set this up, hopefully by this summer. Plans are also in progress to do a video format teaching on how to tie tzit tzit. Watch for it sometime this summer as well.

Our little Set Apart community here in Green Bay requests your prayers and support as we continue our efforts to prepare for the Nashville MIA conference in July and, in fact, just as we live from day to day. Financial and health crisis have hit a

the child's. The best thing to do is get rid of the problem. It's called tolerance to accept homosexuality, after all they were born that way. Put old and sick people out of their misery with euthanasia. We don't want them to suffer unnecessarily.

For us as believers in the *Torah* of *YHWH*, those are easy answers. Without a doubt, we know they are **wrong** according to *YHWH*. It's simple to stand upon the correct answers in these situations. Then there are situations when it's not so clear.

When **we** begin to try to "figure out" what is the best solution, we immediately enter dangerous territory. Think of some situations when you thought you were doing the "right, sensible" thing and it turned out to be a disaster. A difficult area in which our "sark" can take over is in being a people helper. We don't like to see people struggle (parents, can you relate?). I had a relative who was very generous and loved her family. She indiscriminately gave money to her children and grandchildren. As a result, they never learned how to be financially responsible

number of our members.
Although we have covered the registration costs (in part thanks to generous donations) and have some money set aside toward travel expenses for the 20 people who are carpooling, the hotel expense for 7 rooms for 5 nights looks daunting just now. We are so appreciative of MIA's arrangements for half price rooms yet this still represents a major expense.
As you may know, only several members of our little community are gainfully employed. Many of our members are disabled and have bare minimum incomes, often having to make such choices as whether to buy groceries or pay for necessary medications. Several members of our group live next door to one another in low income housing and have become very good at carpooling, yet one of them has just lost her car as irreparable. She has no funds to replace it. The various problems that have arisen in the past few months have drained the resources of those on disability and limited the available funds for those who are employed to help. We are focusing on worship and joy in our Messiah for whatever provision He chooses to make, as well as taking whatever physical steps we can to address the concerns.

Our next teleconference in the last Sunday of the month, May 28 at 9:00 am CST. Details will be found below. Looking forward to talking with you then!

May you be blessed and strengthened in His GRACE as you follow our Messiah in returning to the ancient paths!

B.K.


- SNARK THAT SARK!
- But What About Grace? Part II
- Keeping Your Joy Full!
- Teleconference Announcement
- About Us


## But What About Grace? Part II

GRACE DEFINED

In a secular context, people may think of grace as physical ability and ease of movement. People may also think in terms of social grace, as in charm and beauty. In a Biblical sense, however, we often think of grace as "unmerited favor." In our English Bibles, the word grace appears to have just this one meaning and that one has been presented most often as "unmerited favor." In truth, there are at least two Hebrew words that are translated into English as grace.

leaving in their wake pain, anger and frustration.

Jeremiah 17:9 says *the heart is more deceitful than all else and is desperately sick; who can understand it? (NASB)* Did Jeremiah mean that the heart is always wrong; that we can *never* trust it? This is a warning to keep our hearts healthy. We must have hearts that know *Yahshua* and His *Torah*.

*The three conditions of **true knowing** are these:* **

- Our hearts must be the healthy hearts that Jesus (*Yahshua*) gave us.
- Our hearts must be turned toward God with all our love and strength.
- We must weed out and avoid the words and judgments of the *sark*.

*The three conditions of **false knowing** are these:***

- We are listening to our own understanding (the *sark*).
- Our hearts are too sick, blind or deaf to discern God.
- Our hearts are not turned toward God

Chesed: the common understanding applies to this one: unmerited favor Strongs #2616/17

Chen: the less understood related word meaning grace, beauty, charm, Strongs # 2580/81

The common understanding has been that grace is only evident in the Brit Chadasha/New Testament. Yet grace is evident through out the Tanakh/OldTestament and, in fact, is used more often than it is in the Brit Chadasha! Avi Ben Mordechai does a very thorough chapter on these concepts in his book: *Messiah, Understanding His Life and Teachings in Hebraic Context, Vol. 1*.

Personally, I was so excited to learn this following bit of information that clearly demonstrates YHWH's nature includes grace, by His own report, even in ancient times of the prophets. In Exodus 34: 6-7 our YHWH gives a description of His own character. Both chesed and chen concepts fit within this description. (Click here for a chart of Thirteen Attributes of YHWH in Exodus 34:6-7) The study of these verses with both English and Hebrew transliterations will be found at this link to our website. When looking at the Hebrew and the form provided, this information indicates twelve aspects of mercy, lovingkindness and covenant love that He has for His people, including forbearance for rebellion, intentional sin and inadvertent sin, and then only one aspect of judgment. It gave me new understanding of the expression that mercy triumphs over justice. When I was shown these things, I could only sit in awe, and wish that such information had been made known to me long ago! It is such a clear foundation for the grace and mercy that Yahshua walked out during His time in the flesh with us, and the judgment in which He will stand when He returns the second time.

In the Gospel account written by John, Yochanan in the Hebrew, it is noted that:

- The Law came through Moses; grace and truth through Messiah Y'shua. John 1: 17-18

The Greek language is utilized in much of the Brit Chadasha/New Testament although scholarship since the Dead Sea Scrolls were found is now much more clear that many of these books were written in Hebrew first, or at the least, are filled with Hebrewisms and turns of thought. Efforts to

but are loving and listening to a different source.

*Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight." (Prov. 3:5-6 NASB)*

The defilement of the world can squeeze the truth that lies in our hearts. We become tired and worn out. On the other hand, the flesh will feed off of the defilement causing more confusion and lack of understanding. Time and time again, we see the example of the Israelis in the *Torah*. They allowed themselves to be led in the wrong direction and everyone *did what was right in his own eyes* (Deut. 12:8; Judg. 17:6; Judg. 21:25). As a result, the nation suffered the consequences (curses) of their actions.

Until next month, I encourage you to read Isaiah 6, Jeremiah 17 and Ezekiel 36. The prophets were addressing the issue of the "sick hearts" of the people. Pray and ask *YHWH* to show you the places where your heart is sick. Next month we'll discuss how we can win the battle with our *sarks*

translate these thoughts into Greek without fully comprehending the idioms has been found by some Biblical scholars to be the basis for the awkwardness of the Greek phrases. Previous efforts to understand this resulted in the concept of Koine Greek, or the less well educated use of the language that was suspected to be how the apostles may have written it. This was discovered by a number of people who noticed that the syntax or word order of the Greek flowed naturally back into Hebrew with a minimum of the usual type of struggle that translation involves.

If we put in the Hebraic understanding rather than the English words we are so familiar with it looks like this:

- For the Torah=Righteous Teachings of YHWH came through Mosheh; beauty/charm and truth came through Messiah Yeshua.

Many translations have further obscured this understanding by placing a conjunction between these phrases: but

- For the Law came through Moses; BUT grace and truth came through Christ Jesus.

You will notice that this little word is written in italics, which indicates that it is not in the original language! By adding this conjunction, the impression is given that the Law is somehow inferior to the grace and truth that comes through Messiah; rather than understanding that Messiah demonstrated the fullness of grace, beauty, charm and truth that was/is the essence of our YHWH's righteous teachings, so often called Law. In this way, a faulty understanding that polarized the concepts of grace and law came into being. It was never intended to be so! The righteous teachings came first to show us the standard, and demonstrate that on our own we as human beings really can't reach the standard. Then the beauty, grace and charm of Yahshua's sinless obedient life showed us what Torah Righteousness really looks like, and the coming of His Ruach, writing that Law on our hearts gives us the resource of Himself in whom we live and move and have our being to walk out this grace and love.

When we can clear our hearts and minds of this false dichotomy, or polarization, of the two concepts, we are well on our way to more accurately understand just what this concept of grace really means.

HISTORICAL (MIS)INTERPRETATIONS OF GRACE

and live from the hearts that *Yahshua* gave us. (M.G.)

**Life Model, page 111, copyright 2000-R. For more information see www.lifemodel.org.

## Quick Links...

Biblical Holidays

Sheep of Israel-David Gipson

First Year Torah Observance Survey

Messianic Community Leadership Concerns Survey

Messianic Discipleship Resources from Natan Lawrence, Hoshana Rabbah

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Marcion, one of the "church fathers" in the early days following the Resurrection developed the idea, among others, that the Old Testament God, YHWH, is one of judgment and wrath, while the New Testament God, Jesus/Yahshua, is filled with grace. Though Marcion was removed from his church position because of beliefs such as this, still this concept managed to weave it's way into general thinking and practice then, and remains to this day. In the days of such persecution that people felt compelled to distance themselves from Judaism because Jews were seen as the ones who had killed Messiah, it makes sense that this concept could take hold though it directly contradicts Yahshua's own statements that He and the Father are One; thus He is the Law Giver. It was somehow easier to overlook the fact that the entire Book was written describing Messiah so that we could recognize Him, as He confirmed on the road to Emmaus when He spoke of how all the Law and the Prophets spoke of Himself.

Continuing Next time with:
Is Grace the Opposite of Legalism?
Is Grace Really Missing in the Old Testament?
Can the Concept of Grace be Misapplied to Avoid Learning YHWH's Commands?
How Do we Deal in Grace with People who don't trust God and His Grace because they have been Betrayed and Traumatized by Those who Should Have Protected Them?
As One Moves toward Torah Obedience are there Precautions to follow to avoid falling into a Legalistic Snare?
This series will continue next time! Are you finding it helpful? Is there an aspect of grace you would like to see added? Please contact us!

## Keeping Your Joy Full!

Pesach! We would like to share a little of the joy and worship we experienced this year during our time of Passover. There was joy in working together to prepare and plan, through the seder and eating, worshipping and dancing. We hope these pictures bring you joy as you remember your own celebration! Thank you to Yahshua, our Passover Lamb!

## Teleconference Announcement

Ladies! Mark your calenders!

Sunday, May 28, 2006
9:00 - 10:00 AM CST

Our next scheduled For

Women Only teleconference will be held in the morning again this month! This time has worked out well for those who have participated in the past few months.

This teleconference is open to all women who are coming into a Torah observant lifestyle who may be single, divorced, widowed or even married but whose spouse isn't yet interested.

Our discussion will follow the format below: Introductions and Get Acquainted Time

Today's Topic:

Do you have a need for healing after having been betrayed by another Believer?

To register for this months teleconference, please contact us with your email address. We will send out a reminder several days prior to the conference, with the telephone number and PIN number to use to enter into this months discussion!

## About Us

**Barbara L. Klika, MSW, LCSW, Personal Life Coach** is a licensed mental health professional and founder of Set Apart Ministries, Inc., in practice since 1983 with an abiding interest in working with attachment/bonding and maturity issues for individuals, couples, and groups. She has been a congregational leader for over 20 years in several areas, including Bible Study and vocal and handbell choir direction. She is also a certified Bethel Bible Study teacher who has participated in serous study of the Word since 1993 through such organizations as Precepts Ministries and First Fruits of Zion. She has completed basic coaching training through MentorCoach, Inc. and will be continuing work toward an additional Masters degree in coaching. Barb has provided the clinical leadership in pursuing the Life Model group and individual teaching and processing emotional and maturity issues for the past 3 years. She offers her gifts of exhortation, discernment, intercession and prophecy to the Body of Messiah, both locally and in our extended community via telephone and the Internet.

**Marilyn T. Guffey, lay counselor, Personal Life Coach**. Marilyn had been a congregational leader in her home church for over 20 years, providing Bible

study, worship opportunities and lay counseling for women in transition for most of that time. She has completed her basic coaching training through MentorCoach, Inc. Marilyn has been the coleader in the provision of group and individual teaching and processing emotional and maturity issues for the past 3 years. Marilyn is a serious student of the Word and has participated in and provided many Bible study opportunities, most recently with First Fruits of Zion and numerous additional Messianic Torah study materials. She thrives on offering her gifts of mercy, discernment, encouragement, intercession and helps and has a strong desire to support the Body of Messiah in growing in maturity and faith, both locally and in our extended community via telephone and the Internet.

**Board Member (VP) and support person Janell Schroeder, BBA** works professionally as a computer reports specialist for a very large transportation company. She has been instrumental in the founding of Set Apart Ministries, functioning as a support person for people going through trauma recovery. She has attended numerous training experiences in this area and has participated in the Life Model program since its beginning. Janell is a certified Bethel Bible study teacher as well as a certified Precepts Bible Study teacher. She has also been in leadership in her previous congregation as a member of church council and in Adult and Child Education She is currently working on her Bachelors Degree in Messianic Studies and plans to complete a Masters Degree through the Messianic Bible Institute Yeshiva. She brings her spiritual gifts of teaching and helps to our home Set Apart Ministries Community.

**Board Member, Secretary Treasurer: Robert Klika, BS** Bob currently works professionally as a supervisor in the area of milk sanitation for the Wisconsin Dept. of Agriculture. Bob has been a leader in previous congregations through service on church council as well as in men's ministries. He provides leadership in several areas of our home community, particularly in the areas of practical arrangements for gatherings, youth ministry and fun nights, and corporate prayer as well as keeping accounts and necessary organizational paper work. He completed his high school education in a Roman Catholic Seminary and has participated in Bible study since then through several studies, including the Bethel Bible Study series and Messianic Torah for the past 4 years through First Fruits of Zion and many additional supplemental materials.

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