

Study of Matthew 4
by
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Matthew 4:1-25

1 Then was Yeshua led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil.

Now this is a very important statement for Scripture tells us that YHVH **CANNOT** be tempted, but here we are told that Yeshua, who is the Word of YHVH made flesh, **WAS** indeed tempted; therefore this means that in His fleshly body, Yeshua had chosen to set His deity aside, therefore He was able to be tempted, which in turn means that He was fully human as you and I are, and that is important because we are to emulate Him and if He is an Eloha (God), then we cannot be like Him, nor emulate Him, for we are **NOT** and cannot be an Eloha (God).

*Jamess 1:13 Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of Elohim: for Elohim **cannot** be tempted with evil, neither tempts he any man: 14 But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away by his own lust, and enticed.*

Verse 2 And when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, He was afterward very hungry.

Verse 3 And when the tempter came to Him, He said, If You are the Son of Elohim, Command that these stones be made bread.

Now we have to understand that after forty days of fasting, that Yeshua was hungry, in other words His **flesh** wanted to be satisfied, and that is when the devil came to Him to tempt Him, and said **IF** you are indeed the Son of Elohim, then command that these stones be made bread, (which means that IF Messiah gave in to the temptation, He could then eat the bread and satisfy His fleshly hunger, but instead of Messiah succumbing to the temptation of relying on His fleshly desires, He showed His love for our heavenly Father by saying in *verse 4* *But He answered and said,*

*Verse 4 It is written, Man shall **NOT** live by bread alone, **BUT MAN SHALL LIVE BY** every Word that proceeds out of the mouth of Elohim.*

Now since every Word that proceeds out of the mouth of YHVH is what we are to live by, it seems like a very important fact for us to know **WHAT** Words do indeed come out of the mouth of YHVH.

*Deuteronomy 5:29 O that there were such a heart in My people Israel, that they would fear Me, and keep **ALL** My Commandments always, that it might be well with them, and with their children **for ever!***

Deuteronomy 10:12-13 And now, Israel, what does YHVH your Elohim require of you, but to

*fear YHVH your Elohim, to walk in **ALL** His Ways, and to Love Him, and to serve YHVH your Elohim with all your heart and with all your soul, To keep the Commandments of YHVH, and His Statutes, which I Command you this day for your good?*

Based on these *verses* and many, many more like them, it is obvious that the Words that YHVH spoke are the Words of His Torah of Life, which He Commands **ALL** of His Children to believe, follow, obey and **DO**. Therefore if anyone chooses to reject or toss out any of the Words that came out of the mouth of of YHVH Elohim, which we have just learned **ARE** the Words of His Torah of Life, **THEN** are they **NOT** rejecting and or tossing out what YHVH says gives them Life? And **IF** they reject and or toss out what YHVH says, gives them **LIFE**, then all that remains **IS DEATH**.

The first temptation which tempted Yeshua's physical fleshly needs or desires for food, did **NOT** work, therefore the devil tried another tactic.

*Verse 5 Then the devil took Yeshua up into the holy city, and set Him on a pinnacle of the temple, 6 And said unto Him, If You are the Son of Elohim, Cast Yourself down: For **it is written**, He shall give His angels charge concerning You: And in their hands they shall bear You up, Lest at any time you dash your foot against a stone.*

In the Second temptation, the devil is trying to instill doubt in Yeshua's mind so that He will test Elohim to see **IF** what Elohim has said is really true, and please notice that the devil knows what is written in the Scriptures, for he says, *for it is written*, but Yeshua is **NOT** deceived in any way by the devils ploy, that just because the devil can quote *verses* from the Scripture, does **NOT** mean that he obeys them, or that he is something, or someone special, and therefore Messiah says in *verse 7*

*Verse 7 Yeshua said unto him, **IT IS WRITTEN**, You shall **NOT** tempt YHVH your Elohim.*

This is a good lesson for us, because there are many people that can and do quote *verses* from the Scriptures and that can be quite impressive to some people, but we are not to rely just on what people say, we are to test their fruit, we are to analyze their walk, and see **IF** they willingly and lovingly choose to walk in total obedience to the Father's Torah of Life, and we are to study the Scripture for ourselves to check and see that what they quoted, so that we can make an informed decision, as to whether or not we should believe them, For the Torah does **NOT** lie, but people **DO**. I have had many people quote something that they thought was from the Scriptures only to find out that what they were quoting was **WRONG**, therefore it is up to us to study the Scriptures so that we are **NOT** fooled by the counterfeiters.

In the third temptation the devil tests Yeshua to see if He is filled with pride and or greed.

*Verse 8 Again, the devil took Him up into an exceeding high mountain, and showed Him **ALL** the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them; 9 And says unto Him, **ALL** these things **WILL I GIVE YOU, IF** You will fall down and worship me.*

Messiah's surrendered obedient heart and His love for our heavenly Father was so great, that no matter what the devil offered Him, He did not hesitate for one moment, but rebuked the devil by quoting the words, *it is written* in the Torah.

Verse 10 Then Yeshua said unto him, Get you hence, Satan: For it is written, You shall worship YHVH your Elohim, And Him only shall you serve.

Messiah again quoted Scripture, and after the third temptation, the devil left Messiah, for he knew that Messiah would **NOT** succumb to any temptations for His heart was fully surrendered to our heavenly Father in total loving surrendered obedience to the Father's Torah of Life. In Scripture the number three speaks of coming from death to Life, from darkness into YHVH's marvellous Life saving Light, and therefore I believe that Messiah is telling us to continually rebuke the devil by quoting and living by what is written in the Torah of YHVH, and it will be **life** for us.

Another thing that we are to understand is that the devil is persistent and that the more you refuse to succumb to the temptation that are put before you, the less you will be tempted, therefore let us commit to surrender more of our hearts to our heavenly Father today, so that He will fill us with His Holy Spirit, who will cause any and all willing hearts to believe, follow, obey and **DO** His Torah of Life, thereby causing the devil to flee from us.

Verse 11 Then the devil left Him, And, behold, angels came and ministered unto Him.

Since the angels came to minister to Messiah when He rejected the temptations that the devil put before Him, I am sure that the very same angels will come to minister to every one of **US, IF** we, like Messiah, willingly choose to reject the temptations of the devil, and surrender our flesh to YHVH in total loving surrendered obedience to His Torah of Life.

Next we read in verse 12 Now when Yeshua had heard that John was cast into prison, He departed into Galilee; 13 And leaving Nazareth, He came and dwelt in Capernaum, which is upon the sea coast, in the borders of Zebulun and Naphthalene: 14 That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying, 15 The land of Zebulun, and the land of Naphthalene, By the way of the sea, beyond Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles; 16 The people which sat in darkness saw great light; And to them which sat in the region and shadow of death light is sprung up.

Matthew was quoting Isaiah.

Isaiah 9:1-2 Nevertheless the dimness shall not be such as was in her vexation, when at the first he lightly afflicted the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, and afterward did more

grievously afflict her by the way of the sea, beyond Jordan, in Galilee of the nations. 2 The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined.

This was a prophecy of the coming of Messiah, the Light of the world into a world that was mired in darkness, because the people of Israel and Judah had willingly walked away from obeying the Torah of YHVH, therefore they were not fulfilling their mandate of becoming a kingdom of priests and a holy nation, they were not being a Light onto the nations of the world that are mired in darkness as YHVH Commanded them to be.

Verse 17 From that time Yeshua began to preach, and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

What was Yeshua wanting the people that He was talking to, to repent from? He wanted them to repent from transgressing the Father's Torah of Life, which means that He wanted them to stop sinning, for according to Scripture, **SIN IS** transgression of YHVH's Torah of Life.

Verse 18 And Yeshua, walking by the sea of Galilee, Saw two brethren, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother; casting a net into the sea: For they were fishers. 19 And he said unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men. 20 And they straightway left their nets, and followed him.

Now try and picture this event. We have two brothers working on a boat and all of a sudden a man appears to them and says follow me. Why would anyone in their right mind do that? The only reason anyone would do that is **IF** they were somehow prompted or influenced by the Holy Spirit to do so, therefore they must have seen or sensed something that compelled them to believe this man, and then commit to follow Messiah, the very instant that He asked them to follow Him.

Verse 21 And going on from thence, he saw other two brethren, James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother; in a ship with Zebedee their father; mending their nets; and he called them. 22 And they immediately left the ship and their father, and followed him.

After recruiting Peter and Andrew, Yeshua sees another set of brothers, the sons of Zebedee, James and John, and He called onto them to come and follow Him, and they too, without hesitation, even though they were working with their earthly father, they stopped the work of mending their nets with their father, they stopped what they were doing, and immediately followed Messiah. Again we have to ask ourselves, what compelled these men to do that? The only answer that I can come up with is that they were prompted by the Holy Spirit of YHVH.

If it is indeed the Holy Spirit that compelled these men to follow Messiah, and Scripture makes it abundantly clear, the Holy Spirit of YHVH is given to people for the very specific purpose of causing them to walk out our heavenly Father's Torah of Life, and we see that in *Ezekiel 36:26-27*, then that means that these four people, who were prompted by the Holy Spirit to

follow Messiah, who **IS** the Living Torah made flesh, were already obeying the Holy Spirit or they were predisposed to believe, follow and obey the Torah of YHVH.

*Verse 23 And Yeshua went about all Galilee, Teaching in their synagogues, And preaching the **GOSPEL** of the kingdom,*

*According to Ephesians 1:13-14 In whom you also trusted, after you heard the Word of **TRUTH**, the **GOSPEL** of your **SALVATION**: in whom also after that you **believed**, you were sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise, Which is the pledge of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of His glory.*

This tells us that the **GOSPEL** that Messiah was preaching **IS** YHVH's **TRUTH**, and in *Psalm 119:142* it says *Your righteousness is an everlasting righteousness, and **Your TORAH IS the TRUTH.***

Now it is very important that you understand this, Matthew is telling us that Messiah was teaching our heavenly Father's **TRUTH**, which means that Messiah was teaching the Torah of our heavenly Father, the very same Torah that YHVH gave to Moses at Mount Sinai.

And what was the result of YHVH preaching the Torah of our heavenly Father? Well we are given the answer in the balance of *verse 23 And He healed all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people.*

It is very important to understand that Messiah **IS** the Living Torah of our heavenly Father made flesh, **BUT** when He was in His fleshly body, it is just as important for us to know that He Himself did **NOT** do any miracles and or healings, it was our heavenly Father that did the miracles, and the healings by His Holy Spirit, through Messiah. *Acts 2:22 You men of Israel, hear these words; Yeshua of Nazareth, a man **approved** of Elohim among you by miracles and wonders and signs, which Elohim **DID BY HIM** in the midst of you, as you yourselves also know:*

*Verse 24 And His fame went throughout all Syria:
And they brought unto Him all sick people that were taken with divers diseases and torments,
And those which were (**possessed**) with devils,*

The only word that is translated in the phrase *possessed by devils* **IS** the word devils which is Strong's Number G1139 δαιμονίζομαι, daimonízomai, the word possessed has been inserted, and Thayer's Greek lexicon defines this word devils as, of the insane, people that are afflicted with especially severe diseases, whether bodily or mental, such as paralysis, blindness, loss of speech, epilepsy, melancholy, insanity, etc.

*And those which were lunatic, (which obviously is a mental condition)
And those that had the palsy;*

And he healed them, which means that Yeshua brought them back to their right mind.

*Verse 25 And there followed him great multitudes of people from Galilee,
And from Decapolis, And from Jerusalem, And from Judea, And from beyond Jordan.*

We have to understand that people are like sheep, and when they see something they like or something that they want to experience for themselves, then many of them will go to the ends of the earth to experience it. Here they saw miracles of people being healed, lunatics being restored to their right mind, just like Nebuchadnezzar was after seven years of living like an animal, **NOT** because he was possessed by devils, because he was **NOT** of a right mind, and as far as they were concerned, it was Messiah that was doing those miracles, those healings, and they wanted to experience some of those miracles in their own lives. Unfortunately, for many, if not most of the people, they missed the real Miracle, and that is that the Word of YHVH, His Torah was made flesh, and that the Torah that was made flesh was actually dwelling among them, and the majority of the people missed it because they were more interested in the signs and wonders, than they were in changing their lives to line up with our heavenly Father's inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, His Torah of Life, and therefore, even **IF** they were healed, they were destined to be afflicted again and again, **IF** they did **NOT** change their Way of Life to have it line up with the Torah of YHVH, the very same Torah that YHVH gave to Moses at Mount Sinai.

Let us **NOT** fall into the same trap of searching for signs and wonders, because **IF** you will just take the time to read and lift up your Scriptures, there are countless miracles found therein, and **IF** you can learn to believe, follow, obey and **DO** what our heavenly Father has Commanded us to do, in His Torah of Life, then miracles will be a way of life, for YHVH has promised all people who willingly and lovingly choose to believe, follow, obey and **DO** His Torah of Life, in *Deuteronomy 7:12-15 Wherefore it shall come to pass, IF you hearken to these judgments, and keep, and do them, that YHVH your Elohim SHALL Keep unto You, the Covenant and the Mercy which He swore unto your fathers: 13 And He will LOVE you, and BLESS you, and multiply you: He WILL also BLESS the fruit of your womb, and the fruit of your land, your grain, and your wine, and your oil, the increase of your kine, and the flocks of your sheep, in the land which He swore unto your fathers to give YOU. You shall be blessed above all people: there shall NOT be male or female barren among you, nor among your cattle. And YHVH WILL TAKE AWAY FROM YOU ALL SICKNESS, and He will put NONE of the evil diseases of Egypt, which you know, upon YOU; BUT He will lay them upon all them that hate you.*

How's that for signs and wonders, and **ALL** anyone has to do to experience this kind of Life, is submit to YHVH, and He will fill you with His Holy Spirit who is **tasked** with causing all surrendered contrite obedient hearts to believe, follow, obey and **DO** the Father's inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, His Torah of Life. Amen

Studying and keeping Torah together as a community.

*Have a great Elohim blessed week and may YHVH bless your every thought,
and your every deed. Until we meet again. Shalom Alechem*