

Study of Matthew 6

by

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Matthew 6:1-34

1 Take heed that you do not give your alms before men, to be seen of them:

When I was a little boy and I went to the Catholic church with my father and all my family, they passed around a silver plate for the collection of the tithe, and every once in a while you could hear the sound of the coins hitting the metal and it resounded through the church. I thought nothing of it until my father said, did you hear the sound of those coins dropping into the plate? And I said yes I did, and my father said, that that sound is from people wanting everybody around them, and the people throughout the congregation to know, that they **GAVE** money to the church, and that they did not want their giving to go unnoticed, but for the people that truly give from their heart, the recognition is not important, so they give in silence, because they love Elohim and the church.

Just like my father, our heavenly Father has a warning for them too, He says: *Otherwise you have no reward of your Father who is in heaven.*

*Verse 2 Therefore when you give your alms, **DO NOT** sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may have the recognition and glory of men.*

According to our heavenly Father, giving should be a very personal deed, something between you and our heavenly Father, because He is the only one that really matters. Please understand that because of your character and everything else you do, your friends will automatically know if you have a giving heart or not. Therefore don't be like the pharisees and brag about the amount of money you give to this or that organization, or the church or to the poor, just give in secret, and the pleasure of giving will be magnified in your soul.

When you publicly announce to the world that you are or have given an amount of money to this or that charity, then you already have the reward that you were looking for, you have the recognition of the people around you, the people that you have made sure, **KNOW**, that you have given money, but unfortunately for the people that display this kind of behaviour, YHVH already knows that they do **NOT** have a giving heart, and that instead they they have a haughty or prideful heart, therefore they absolutely have to toot their own horns, and say, look at me world, I have a giving heart. Messiah says to these kind of people, *Verily I say unto you, they have their reward already.*

*Verse 3 But when **YOU** give alms, **DO NOT** let your left hand **know** what your right hand does:*

Verse 4 That your alms may be in secret:

WHY are we to give in secret? It is because that is what a giving heart does, that kind of heart is satisfied with the pleasure of giving, the pleasure of returning a portion of what YHVH has blessed him with, back to YHVH, so that it can be used for His purposes, *And your Father who sees in secret, Himself shall reward you openly.*

*Verse 5 And when you pray, you shall **NOT** be as the hypocrites are:*

For they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, So that they may be seen of men.

Verily I say unto you, They have their reward already.

*Verse 6 **BUT YOU, WHEN YOU PRAY,***

*Enter into your closet, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret, shall reward you openly. 7 But when you pray, do not use vain repetitions (the rosary, as the heathens do: For they **THINK** that they shall be heard for their much speaking. 8 Therefore Do **NOT** be like them: For your Father already knows what things you have need of, before you ask Him.*

Now please, let us take a moment here and digest what Messiah has just told us in this *verse*. Prayer is a very personal activity, it is something that should be done in private between you and our heavenly Father and His Son our Messiah. It is a place where you can share your most intimate thoughts, with our heavenly Father, and since He is omniscient, He already knows your heart and what it is that you want and need, and I can assure you that He delights in hearing from you, for that is the reason that He created **YOU** in the first place, so that He could have an intimate relationship with you and walk with you in the cool of the day as He did with Adam, so that you would know how much He loves you, and wants to spend time with you.

With that in mind Messiah said in *verse 9 Therefore when you pray, you are to pray after this manner:* here in the Apostolic Scriptures Yeshua has admonished us, that when we pray to our heavenly Father, that there is a certain manner in which we are to pray and He tells us what that is in *Matthew 6:9-13*. Unfortunately we have taken what Messiah has given us as a guide to a perfect prayer and made the guide, the prayer, when in truth **it is only an outline of how we are to address our Heavenly Father when we pray to Him**. Permit me to show you what I believe Messiah was saying when He uttered these words.

OUR FATHER

In *Exodus 20*, in the first Commandment Yahweh tells us is that He is our Elohim and that we are not to have any other Elohim's before Him. Here in the Lord's Prayer, we are to understand that YHVH is our Father. We are to see Him as a compassionate, merciful, loving, nurturing and caring Father that He is. A Father that desires to have an intimate relationship with each and everyone of us, even more so than a good earthly father would have a desire to have a relationship with his son.

WHO ART IN HEAVEN,

This speaks of Yahweh's sovereignty and that we can rest assured in His promises. We can know beyond a shadow of a doubt that He is reigning from heaven. We can rest in His assurance that He watches over us, protects us, helps us and provides for all of our needs.

HALLOWED BE THY NAME

Yahweh, You are worthy to be praised, You are our Creator, our Deliverer, our Provider, You sustain life, You are merciful and longsuffering, filled with grace and compassion for Your creation, and it is Your wish that none would perish. You are an awesome Elohim filled with **LOVE**, and You show that love to us each and every day of our lives, there we will Hallow your Name.

THY KINGDOM COME

You created each and every one of us with a perfect plan for our lives. That perfect plan is that we would walk in obedience to Your inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, Your Torah of Life, Your Commandments, in Your Kingdom here on earth. Therefore we ask that through Your infinite mercy heavenly Father, that You guide us and teach us Your Ways, so that we may indeed walk in Your Kingdom here on earth, follow and obey Your constitution, Your Torah of Life, the perfect plan that You formed for each and everyone of our lives, at the beginning of time.

THY WILL BE DONE ON EARTH

And Your will be done in my heart, in my soul, in my spirit, in my mind and body, in my home, in my family, at my work, when I am alone, when I am with friends, with family or with any of your creation, may Your will be done **IN ME, AS IT IS IN HEAVEN.**

GIVE US THIS DAY OUR DAILY BREAD.

YHVH/Messiah You came to earth to bring us life, and to bring it to us more abundantly. Master, apart from You we can do nothing; and bread received from any other source than from You, **IS** worthless, therefore we pray that you provide Your bread, Your Manna for our lives that we may grow in Your Righteousness, walk in Your promises and be a blessing to all people around us by sharing that bread of life, Yeshua our Saviour, with all people.

AND FORGIVE US OUR TRESPASSES

Master you have made us a new creation by Your selfless sacrifice on the cross, and our righteousness comes from You alone, from willingly and lovingly obeying our heavenly Father's inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, His Torah of life, as Messiah willingly and lovingly chose to obey the Father's Torah and taught us to do the same, **BUT** the old man that we once were, often rears up its ugly head, and we give in to those temptations. Yahweh, we fall daily, therefore we need Your merciful forgiveness everyday of our lives,

AS WE FORGIVE THOSE WHO TRESPASS AGAINST US,

Yahweh Your scriptures tell us that we must first forgive all trespasses against us, **IF** we are to be forgiven by You, **BUT** to forgive **IS NOT** in us, unless we have Your divine intervention to

help us to do so. Therefore we implore You heavenly Father to please help us, through Your infinite mercy and grace and place in us the desire to forgive all trespasses against us as Yeshua our Saviour forgave us from the cross,

DO NOT LET US BE LEAD INTO TEMPTATION.

Master, IF we are left to our own devices, we will return to our old ways, as Your Word says, The dog is turned to his own vomit again; and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire. If tempted, we **WILL** more than likely fall, therefore Master we implore You, to keep **ALL** temptation away from us while You are building us up to be strong in our belief, in Your Word, Your Torah of Life, until the day that we believe Your Scriptures and Your promises and understand what **IT TRULY MEANS TO BE IN A** Covenant Relationship with Our Elohim, where we can **BELIEVE** Your promises that state that “*the battle is Yours*” and that, “*obedience is better than sacrifice*”, is completely entrenched and internalized in our hearts, minds and souls and then we with a surrendered heart to You, can resist the devil and he will flee from us,

BUT DELIVER US FROM EVIL.

Evil surrounds us everyday and the only real protection we have, **IS** You, Heavenly Father, and Your Torah Made Flesh, our Messiah, You are, our strong Tower. Please be gracious onto us and give us the discernment to help us recognize the evil in our lives, for many times it manifests itself as “*good intentions*” by which we are often deceived. Teach us to run to You, our strong tower every time that evil lifts its deceitfully ugly head,

FOR TRULY THINE IS THE KINGDOM, THE POWER AND THE GLORY, AMEN!

You are the Creator of all things and all of creation belongs to You. You are Omnipotent, and the battle that we call our daily lives can only be won by lovingly surrendering ourselves to You, and choosing to willingly and lovingly follow and obey Your merciful inerrant and everlasting teachings and instructions, for that is where *True* and *everlasting Freedom* is found, and it can only come through surrendering our hearts, minds, souls and strength to You, in loving obedience to Your Torah, Your infinite system of justice.

YOU SHALL KNOW THE TRUTH AND THE TRUTH SHALL SET YOU FREE IS MESSIAH’S GUARANTEE. True liberty can only be experienced in our Heavenly Father’s justice, His Torah, which is His inerrant and everlasting teachings and instructions and THAT IS WHY ALL GLORY AND PRAISE BELONG TO HIM. Amen.

Verse 14 For IF you forgive men their trespasses, THEN your heavenly Father will also forgive you: 15 BUT IF you do NOT forgive men their trespasses, THEN neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

Just think about this for a moment! Have you ever trespassed the Father’s Torah of Life? If you answered **YES** to that question, which is the only truthful answer that anyone can give, then you need YHVH’s forgiveness, because, as Scripture clearly points out, **ALL** have sinned and

fallen short of the Glory of Elohim, therefore that means that **ALL** of us are going to need His forgiveness, **BUT** here in Matthew Messiah tells us that YHVH's forgiveness, IS conditional on you forgiving any and all people that trespass against you. Do you have anyone in your life that you need to forgive, because of something that they have done against you, but at this stage in your life you cannot forgive them? Well **NOW** that you **KNOW** that you will **NOT** be forgiven your trespasses unless you forgive other people their trespasses against you, I believe it is high time that **ALL** of us search our hearts to see if there is any resentment or unforgiveness in our hearts, so that we can rid ourselves of that unforgiveness, once and for all, thereby clearing the way for YHVH to forgive us. Amein

Verse 16 Moreover when you fast,

Do Not be as the hypocrites, of a sad countenance: For they disfigure their faces, that they may appear unto men to fast. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward already.

When you are fasting for any reason, don't look sad or depressed so that other people will know that you are fasting, but instead do what Messiah has admonished us to do in *verse 17 But YOU, when YOU fast, anoint your head, and wash your face; 18 That YOU do NOT appear unto men to fast, But unto your Father who is in secret: And your Father, who sees in secret, shall reward you openly.*

When you choose to fast, do it in YHVH's Name, do it unto Him, and act as if you are the happiest person on earth, because you are doing something that our heavenly Father loves, He loves the fact that you have chosen to fast as He has commanded you to do, because fasting IS a form of prayer, a prayer where you deny yourself, and your fleshly need, in order to obey our heavenly Father, and His Commandments. *1 Thessalonians 5:17 Pray without ceasing. 18 In every thing give thanks: for this IS the will of Elohim in Messiah Yeshua, the living Torah made flesh, concerning YOU.*

Verse 19 Do NOT Lay up for yourselves treasures upon earth, Where moth and rust does corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal:

Don't strive to accumulate material things, things that will eventually perish, **BUT** instead do what our Messiah, who is the Living Word of the Father tells us to do and that is *verse 20 But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust does corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: 21 For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.*

What are the treasures that Messiah is talking about that we are to lay up in heaven? Let me explain it to you this way, it says in *Matthew 5: 7 Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.*

The word Merciful is Strong's Number 1655 ἐλεήμων, eleēmōn, from 1653; actively compassionate, have pity, kind, gracious, merciful. The best way to explain this is with the example of an ATM (Automated Teller Machine), which is how you can access the money that

you have deposited in your own bank account, at any ATM machine anywhere in the world, **BUT** the necessary ingredient for you being able to access or get money out of an ATM machine, is that you first have to have put money in your account to start with, or the ATM will give you a message that reads *Insufficient funds*, and you will not be able to get access to any cash. It is the same with mercy; through your daily life, when you are merciful, kind, gracious and compassionate to other people, it is like making a deposit in your Mercy bank account, so that when **YOU** need mercy, kindness, grace, and or compassion, all you have to do is go to your ATME, and ask to get some mercy out of your account. Then your ATME, which is an acronym for Access To My Elohim, will search your Mercy account and see **IF** you have built up any mercy in your account, and **IF** you have indeed deposited or performed acts of mercy, **THEN** the ATME will automatically dispense the Mercy, kindness, grace and or compassion that you need for the particular situation or circumstance that you are in at that time, **BUT IF** the ATME searches your account and does **NOT** find any acts of mercy, grace, kindness or compassion, then it cannot and will **NOT** dispense any **MERCY**. Therefore **IF** anyone wants to have **mercy** extended to them, then, they had better be prepared to dispense mercy to all people, thereby building up their own **MERCY** savings account, for when they need to access it. This example also applies for all the fruits or gifts or treasures of the Holy Spirit found in *Galatians 5:22-23* The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance:

We are to build up these accounts also, so that when we need them, we can easily access them, through the ATME, for they cannot be destroyed, or stolen by our enemies, for they are under the protection of our omnipotent Creator, and since Scripture makes it abundantly clear that we are to seek first the kingdom of Elohim and His Righteousness, then this is where our hearts are supposed to be, our hearts are to be surrendered to Him in loving obedience to His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, His Torah of Life, which contains all these treasures that do not decay.

Verse 22 The light of the body is the eye: If therefore your eye be single

(573 ἁπλοῦς, haploûs, which means singleness of purpose, determined to obey)

Then your whole body shall be full of light.

Messiah is telling us that if we can learn to focus on the Creator of the universe and His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, His Torah of Life, then our eyes and our whole body will reflect His Light, the Light of the world

Verse 23 BUT if your eye is evil

(4190 πονηρός, ponērós, which means hurtful in effect or influence, degenerate, diseased, derelict, vicious, malicious, guilt, the devil, sinners, bad, grievous, harm, malignant evil)

Then your whole body shall be full of darkness (the ways of the devil, our adversary, who has come to steal, kill and destroy.

If therefore the Light that is in you is darkness

(If your focus is on anything else **BUT** the Commandments of YHVH, His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, His Torah of Life made flesh, our Messiah, then you are filled with darkness, because Messiah, the Living Torah made flesh, **IS** the Light of the world, and **IF** you have taken the position that the Torah of our heavenly Father has somehow been abolished or done away with, **THEN** it means that you have abolished the Light of the world, our heavenly Father's Torah of Life, made flesh, our Messiah, who is supposed to abide in and or inhabit all who profess to believe that He is the Son of our heavenly Father, and that have committed to do as Yeshua has done, and that is walk in His Torah obedient footsteps).

THEN *How great is that darkness!* The problem with darkness, is that it is impossible for any one to find their way home, and home for any believer, should be the kingdom of Elohim, where His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions **IS** the constitution of His kingdom.

Next Messiah makes it abundantly clear, that we can only follow one ruler at a time, because focus that is split is **NO** focus at all, and following two masters will only cause confusion.

Verse 24 No man can serve two masters: For either he will hate the one, and love the other; Or else he will hold to (or agree) with the one, and despise (disagree with) the other. You cannot serve Elohim and mammon

(Strong's Number 3126 μαμμωνᾶς, mammōnās, which means, riches, wealth, filthy lucre, avarice),

In these next *verses* YHVH assures us that we are **NOT** to worry at all about our life, what we will eat, and what we will wear, **BECAUSE**, He is our Father, and He, who is omnipotent and omniscient, says, I will provide **ALL** of your needs, and what follows is comparisons, between birds and men, Solomon's apparel, and that of flowers that YHVH created.

Verse 25 Therefore I say unto you, do NOT take any thought for (don't worry about) your life, (don't worry about) what you shall eat, Or what you shall drink; Nor yet (don't worry about) your body, nor about what you shall put on. Is not the life of a man more than meat (food), And the body of a man more than raiment (clothing)?

Verse 26 Behold the fowls of the air: For they do not sow, they do not reap, they do not gather into barns; YET your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much better than these birds?

I know that it is hard to believe what we read here, **BUT** the Creator of the universe has commanded us that we are **NOT** to worry, because He will provide all of our needs, and it is a similar comment to what Paul told us in *Philippians 4:6 Be anxious for nothing; BUT in every thing, BY prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known unto Elohim. 7 And the peace of Elohim, which passes ALL understanding, SHALL keep your hearts and minds through Messiah, Yeshua, the living Torah made flesh.*

Next YHVH is telling us, that worrying, **WILL NOT** change even one iota of our situation, which means that worrying is pointless, therefore, if worrying is pointless, then at least try instead to believe the Words of the Creator of the universe, the Word of YHVH, His Torah of Life made flesh, which contains all of His promises, and see where that takes you.

*Verse 27 Which one of you, by taking thought (by worrying) can add one cubit unto his stature?
28 And **WHY** do you take any thought (why worry) for raiment, for what you are going to wear? Instead, please consider the lilies of the field,
How they grow
For the lilies **DO NOT** toil,
The lilies **DO NOT** spin:
Yet, I YHVH, your Creator, say unto you,
That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these beautiful lillies.*

*Verse 30 Therefore, **IF** Elohim so clothes the grass of the field, Which is here to day, And tomorrow it is cast into the oven, Shall **NOT** YHVH, much more clothe **YOU**, His child, more than these flowers, O you of little belief?*

What follows is Messiah's conclusion on the matter.

*Verse 31 Therefore do **NOT** take any thought, (do not worry) saying,
What shall we eat?
Or, What shall we drink?
Or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed?*

*Verse 32 For the gentiles seek after all these material things:
For your heavenly Father **KNOWS** that you have need of all these things.*

As you can see, Messiah Himself, who is **ONE** with the Father, tells us in *verse 33 Seek you first the kingdom of Elohim, And His righteousness;*
What is YHVH's righteousness? *Deuteronomy 6:24-25 And YHVH Commanded us to do ALL these Statutes, to fear YHVH our Elohim, for our good always, that He might preserve us alive, as it is at this day. And **IT SHALL BE OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS, IF WE OBSERVE TO DO ALL** these Commandments (His Torah of Life) before YHVH our Elohim, as He has commanded us.*

And all these things shall be added unto you.

What are all these things that will be added onto us? YHVH's grace, mercy, forgiveness, His healing power, His provisional power, His protective power, His salvation power.

*Verse 34 Take therefore no thought (**DON'T WORRY ABOUT**) tomorrow: For tomorrow shall take thought for the things of itself (you can't change anything anyway, so why worry).*

Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.

YHVH is telling us that there is no point at all to worry for what could happen tomorrow, especially **IF** we have Him, YHVH, on your side, for He has guaranteed us that **IF** we learn to believe, follow, obey and **DO** His Torah of Life, as Messiah did, and taught us to do, then **NO** Weapon formed against us will prosper, (*Isaiah 54:17*), He will take all sickness away from us (*Deuteronomy 6:15*), YHVH will command His blessings to be poured upon us and overtake us, (*Deuteronomy 28:2*); YHVH will cause all of our enemies who come against us to be defeated, they shall come against us one way, and flee from us seven ways (*Deuteronomy 28:7*), and much more.

So let us adopt the theme song title, Don't Worry Be Happy, for your Father in heaven, loves you, and does **NOT** want even one of us to perish, so at the risk of repeating myself **DON'T WORRY**. Amein

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!