

Counting of the Omer, עֶמֶר

Day 9

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Psalms 119: 65 – 72

Interestingly, as we continue to count the Omer, עֶמֶר, we are still at the mercy of what is happening in the world in which we live. Day by day, as we focus on the command to *count the Omer* (*Leviticus 23:15-16*) as we look forward to celebrating the Feast of Weeks or *Shavuot*. The recommended meditations from Psalms are bringing many different thoughts and conclusions that I believe, have the stamp of the Holy Spirit's approval. For those of us who are earnestly seeking to **ALLOW** the Holy Spirit to **CAUSE** us to walk in obedience to the Words of the Father's Torah of Life, it is an encouragement to continue on our quest to obey the Words of the Father's Torah of Life, and it is beyond my ability to try and explain this compulsion to do so, for it creates an inner joy, that is hard to put into words, because it gives me a heart felt assurance, that I somehow know, beyond a shadow of a doubt, that our heavenly Father is very pleased with all of His children who choose to obey His Commandment to count the Omer. But before taking a look at what gems we will see today, please take the time to first read today's selections.

Psalm 23:1-7

1 Yahweh is my shepherd; I shall not want. 2 He makes me to lie down in green pastures: he leads me beside the still waters. 3 He restores my soul: he leads me in the paths of righteousness for his Name's sake. 4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me. 5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies: You anoint my head with oil; my cup runs over. 6 Surely, goodness and mercy shall follow me, all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of Yahweh for ever.

Here in *verse 5* the Psalmist talks about the benefits that he derives from obeying all of the Words of Yahweh's Torah of Life. He says, You Yahweh have prepared a table for me in the presence of my enemies. Have you ever thought about, or contemplated, what these words actually mean, and what the Psalmist was trying to convey to us? A table is a place where people normally sit down to have a meal, a place where the family gets together, every evening, at least in times past, and discuss the events of the day. It is a place where love is shared, a place where problems are discussed and hopefully resolved. It is a place and a time, where most family members can feel safe and cared for, and that is why most people look forward to getting together at the dinner table, because, it is a place where they can feel safe and loved.

Now, normally, when the dinner table is set, you can rest assured that there are no enemies anywhere near that dinner table, but here, the Psalmist says that Yahweh prepares a table for him, in the **presence** of his enemies. What does that mean? Does the Psalmist have to keep looking over his shoulder, to make sure that his enemies are not going to attack him and his family, and steal their food, and maybe even kill them? **NO**, of course **NOT**. So why is Yahweh preparing a table for this Psalmist, in the presence of his enemies? It is to show the Psalmist's enemies, what they are missing, to show his enemies, the blessing that are derived from Yahweh, when His people, willingly and lovingly choose to believe, follow and obey, the Words of His Torah of Life. Therefore the reason

that the Psalmist tells us that Yahweh prepares a table for him in the presence of his enemies, **IS** two fold, one is to show the Psalmist and us, that Yahweh will provide all that we, His people, need, while He has a protective covering over us, that the enemy cannot penetrate, and the other, **IS** to show our enemies, the benefits that His people have, when they believe, follow and obey Yahweh Elohim, and hopefully cause them, to turn their hearts over to Yahweh, so that they can partake of the benefits that Yahweh gives to His people, Yisrael.

The additional reading for today are found in the *verses* of *Psalms 119:65-72*, and I would like you to re-read what Yahweh has to say, in these *verses* and meditate on them. Amen

65 You have dealt well with your servant, O Yahweh, according unto Your Word.

Here the Psalmist is praising and thanking Yahweh for His grace, mercy and kindness, and he adds another dimension to his praising, and he does that, because he wants us to understand who Yahweh truly is. He says, you have dealt **well** with me, exactly as it says in Your Words, in your inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, that you will do. As James said, in *James 1:17 Every good and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of Lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning*. The Psalmist is also very convinced that there is no variableness nor shadow of changing with Yahweh. For whatever Yahweh has promised in His Word, we can rest assured that He **WILL** make it come to pass, including showering us with His Grace, Mercy, Love, His compassion, and His forgiving nature.

66 Teach me good judgment and knowledge: for I have believed Your Commandments.

Throughout all of the Psalms, the Psalmist, who in this case, is King David, knows the Torah, and he continually asks Yahweh to teach him His Word, His Commandments, His Statutes, His Testimonies and His Precepts. Why is he so insistent on being taught good judgement? It is because David knows that they are **ABSOLUTE TRUTH**, and that there is no variableness in His Word, His Torah because there is **NO** variableness in Yahweh.

67 Before I was afflicted I went astray: but now have I kept Your Word.

Here the Psalmist acknowledges that he was afflicted **BY** Yahweh Himself, because he went astray from Yahweh's cycles of righteousness, he went astray from the Words of His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, His Torah of Life, and therefore, David acknowledges that Yahweh was right in afflicting him, because now, he has learned his lesson and he has returned to the Word of Yahweh, and chosen to willingly **KEEP ALL** the Words of the Torah of Yahweh with His whole heart.

68 You are good, Tov, טוב, and You do good, Tov, טוב; teach me Your Statutes.

This may seem like an understatement, but David is simply stating an absolute fact, and that is, that Yahweh, and His inerrant and everlasting Word, **IS GOOD**, His Torah of Life **IS GOOD**, it is Tov, טוב, which means that **it functions in the manner that Yahweh created it to function**. His Word was meant to bring Light, Grace, Mercy, Understanding, Compassion, and Love to a world mired in darkness, and that is exactly what **IT HAS AND CONTINUES TO DO**, in the Life of a person who has willingly chosen to lovingly obey the Words of the Father's Torah on a daily basis. The reason that I am so sure of this, is because Yahweh Himself has promised every surrendered contrite

obedient heart, that **IF** they will **ALLOW** the Holy Spirit to **CAUSE** them to believe and Keep the Words of His Torah of Life, *Ezekiel 36:27* then His Grace, Love, Mercy and Compassion, will never leave them.

*69 The proud have forged a lie against me: but I will **KEEP** Your precepts with my whole heart.*

The proud are those that have chosen to walk on their own paths, and **NOT** follow the Ways **NOR** the Words of Yahweh, **NOT** follow **NOR** obey the Words of His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, His Torah of Life. These proud people, have forged a lie against David, and David's defence against this **LIE, IS VERY SIMPLE**. He says **I WILL KEEP Your Precepts with my whole heart**. How **IS KEEPING** Yahweh's Precepts going to counteract the **LIE** that the people have forged against David? It doesn't counteract the **LIE, BUT** it puts the onus on Yahweh to take care of the matter and deal with these **LIARS**, and give them what they are due. Vengeance **IS MINE** says Yahweh.

70 Their heart is as fat as grease; but I delight in Your Torah (Law).

Here David says that these **LIARS'** hearts, are as fat as grease. The word fat is an analogy that means that they are satisfied with the way their life is going, and they are certainly **NOT** willing to turn to Yahweh for anything, for they are satiated by their own ways, and their own understanding of what Life is about. However the Psalmist says, that He uses another formula to satiate himself, he **delights** in reading, studying and obeying the Words of the Torah of Yahweh, and that in doing so, He gets the wisdom, understanding and knowledge that he needs to deal with these **LIARS** in his life.

71 It is good for me that I have been afflicted; that I might learn Your Statutes.

Again the Psalmist says that **IT IS GOOD for me** that I have been afflicted. In saying so, the Psalmist is admitting that he deserved the discipline that Yahweh imposed upon him, because of his Sins, because of his transgressions of the Words of the Father's Torah of Life, and he acknowledges that it is **GOOD** for him, because it makes him focus on the benefits that are contained in the Words of Yahweh's Torah of Life, Yahweh's inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, for a full and complete life here on earth and for eternity with our heavenly Father.

72 The Torah (Law) of Your mouth is better unto me than thousands of gold and silver pieces.

Here the Psalmist is letting us know, that the Torah of Yahweh, the Words of His inerrant and everlasting Truth, His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, are more valuable than **ALL** the riches of the world, because, they come from an infinitely wise Elohim, who loves us with a perfect love and does **NOT** want even **ONE** person to perish, and because, when obeyed with a loving surrendered heart, it leads all people into the everlasting kingdom of Elohim. Amein!

Studying and keeping Torah together as a community.

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