

## 145 - What qualifies - or disqualifies -- a man, and builds the Body of The Messiah

When we finished *Light Up The Scriptures* last week, I thought I was done setting the precedent for the Father raising up His daughters at this time as has never been seen before, to my knowledge, at least in the scriptures. But, in the past couple of days, I've been working on formatting Barbara's book for the Amazon Kindle. Now, it also turns out that Kindle books can be read from PC's, iPads, and other devices in addition to Kindle readers.

Anyway, during this process, I found myself lighting on the quotations in the Marriage chapter in Barbara's book, from Paul's writing in Ephesians and Corinthians. Then, 2 days ago, Bible Gateway's verse of the day was from **Ephesians 6:12-13** (first from the ESV):

For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm.

As you may remember from the study we did about fighting the wrong giants, we found the correct wording from the Greek translation of the CLNT:

### **Ephesians 6:12-13**

12 for it is not ours to wrestle with blood and flesh, but with the sovereignties, with the authorities, with the world-mights of this darkness, with the spiritual forces of wickedness among the celestials.

13 Therefore take up the panoply of God that you may be enabled to withstand in the wicked day, and having effected all, to stand.

**“Blood and flesh”** is not the same as flesh and blood. Flesh and blood refers to family most of the time, whereas blood and flesh refers to the nature of human beings. Paul makes this critical distinction between human nature and the nature and station of celestial authorities.

Why is this important today? Why invest our time looking at this again?

Here’s Bible Gateway’s verse of the day today:

**Mark 9:35 (CLNT)**

"If anyone is wanting to be first, he will be last of all, and servant of all."

The Father is helping me form a picture to paint for you through our study tonight, using the Scriptures He inspired, to establish why He is raising His daughters to accomplish His purpose today:

Look at the passage from Mark again, but let’s go into the context to find out why Yeshua had to say it to the 12...

**Mark 9:28-37** -- Yeshua has just cast the demon out of the kid who got thrown around into fire and water, AFTER the dad brought him because the disciples had tried to cast it out and failed.

His disciples inquired of Him privately, "Wherefore could we not cast it out?"

29 And He said to them, "This species can come out by nothing except by prayer."

30 And coming out thence, they went along through Galilee, and He did not want that anyone may know.

31 For He taught His disciples and said to them that "The Son of Mankind is being given up into the hands of men, and they will be killing Him. And, being killed, after three days He will be rising."

32 Yet they were ignorant of the declaration, and they feared to inquire of Him.

33 And they came into Capernaum, and, coming to be in the house, He inquired of them, "What did you reason with yourselves on the road?"

34 Yet they were silent, **for they argued with one another on the road as to who is greatest.**

Stop here and notice that Yeshua knew two things about the disciples He walked with: First, they WERE “*reasoning*” with one another, which means they hung back thinking He wouldn’t hear them or know what they were “*reasoning*” about. They knew Yeshua had busted them, so they “were silent,” which is EXACTLY what the Pharisees did when they couldn’t answer Yeshua’s questions to them after trying to trap Him with THEIR questions. Second, Yeshua KNEW what their argument had been about, which leads Him to establish the principle in **verse 35**:

35 And, being seated, He summons the twelve and is saying to them, "If anyone is wanting to be first, he will be last of all, and servant of all."

Now go on to see how simple things are:

36 And, taking a little child, He stands it in their midst, and, clasping it in His arms, said to them,

37 "Whoever should be receiving one of such little children in My name, is receiving Me, and whosoever may be receiving Me is not receiving Me, but Him Who commissions Me."

How like grown men to have to be reminded of the innocence, purity and simplicity of childhood. And that is the point: these 12 grown men were “[*arguing*] *with one another as to who is greatest.*” Yeshua had to set them straight that their typically male, aggressive jockeying for position, was opposed to -- was SATAN -- to the posture of a servant of all and the pure receiving of Him as a child.

“Give it up, Guys,” Yeshua is saying, “And let me set you straight: You are way too busy in your heads. That’s why you couldn’t cast out the demon. It didn’t even occur to you to pray! And you’re arguing about who

is the greatest? Hey, the only way to be first is to put yourself last and serve everyone else first. Your manhood is in your way right now, but if you were like this child, you wouldn't think about position; you would serve and receive me automatically.”

Now go back to the Ephesians 6 passage: wrestling *with blood and flesh* is entirely beside the point and a waste of time and energy -- it's a waste of LIFE! We'll never deal effectively with the celestial realm while we're battling the human realm.

The Realm of the Miraculous is Supernatural and Superhuman. OK that's great, Doc. What does that have to do with the Father raising up His daughters today?

Men don't get these principles without having to be hit with a 2 x 4. They're too busy flexing their muscles, and doing it in the name of the Lord! Women don't have this problem from what I can see. I understand women can be catty as all get out -- I managed a big manufacturing operation with over 100 women in my departments. I'm not talking about women walking in the ways of the present wicked eon; they're as big a mess as men are. I'm talking about women of God. Spirit-filled, totally committed, awake and alert women who know the Father's voice and heed His instructions. Yes they need training; I get that; but they recognize revelation more quickly and even more importantly, they're quicker to obey than men are generally (this is my experience and observation, you understand).

Look at who Barbara and I are walking with today: All but one are women. Other men have come and gone, and I'm on my way out. What I didn't say last week was that one of the reasons I can't stay is because the world, when it sees a man and a woman, looks to the man for the voice of authority before it looks to the woman. I cannot stand between Barbara and the world to which she is called as a herald, an apostle, a

prophet, and a teacher, even if only in the eyes of the world. I must decrease so she may increase -- not because I'm usurping her position but because the world, which knows little or nothing of the Father and of their relationship to Him, would look to me before Barbara. It's just how things have been established throughout thousands of years of Judaic tradition and, for the last 2,000 years of Judeo-Christian tradition.

The bottom line is, it hasn't gotten the job done, so the Father, knowing what it will take to bring in the full complement of the Gentiles, which must occur prior to the end of this eon and the Messiah's second advent, has, I believe, moved on His daughters to do what men have been ineffective at doing. The only way I can see a man being effective at anything that the Father wills to be accomplished in this eon, is if he puts himself last and becomes the servant of all.

I'm in the midst of this right now -- it was less than a month ago when I realized, because of a word from my Father through Barbara, that my voice has to become silent in the world; my face has to be invisible to the world; even my name must be relatively unknown to the world. WHY? So that *Barbara's* voice can be heard, *her* face seen, and *her* name known. She is the one with the on-going mission on the Father's behalf, not me.

Come back with me into Paul's instructions and admonitions to the Ephesians...

### Ephesians 5

1 Become, then, imitators of God [the Father], as beloved children,  
2 and be walking in love, according *as Christ* [as the Messiah] also loves you, and gives Himself up for us, an approach present and a sacrifice to God, for a fragrant odor.

The Messiah, Yeshua, is the standard for what love looks like; He's the standard for how to become imitators of God. Yeshua was called "*the beloved*" by His father at least twice in the gospel accounts (one at His

baptism in the Jordan, and one on the Mount of Transfiguration). You and I can be the Father's beloved child also, BY imitating the Father, just as Yeshua did; by walking in the same love as He did, which results in giving ourselves up for Him and for one another, even as He gave Himself up for us. Sacrificing our own lives -- our natures; our blood and flesh -- for His sake and on behalf of humanity, becomes a fragrant aroma in our Father's nostrils, like Yeshua's sacrifice of His own flesh and blood.

If we will grasp this principle of Yeshua as our standard -- for our thinking and acting toward one another, the Father will be free to do all His good pleasure in and through our lives for the sake of His purpose. Is there some greater purpose you can imagine for your life? I can think of none.

3 Now, all prostitution and uncleanness or greed -- let it not even be named among you, according as is becoming in saints --  
4 and vileness and stupid speaking or insinuating, which are not proper, **but rather thanksgiving.**

If we as the Body of the Messiah are going to be known for something, it ought to be "**thanksgiving.**" The world is known -- and frankly, Christianity is known -- for all the stuff "**which is not proper,**" the scripture declares. When Yeshua admonished His disciples in Mark 9, they had not yet been filled with the Spirit of Holiness -- the Ruach ha Kodesh. Once they were, they became serious servants of all, giving up their own lives for the sake of the evangel and the name of Yeshua, as did so many after them.

5 For this you perceive, knowing that no paramour at all or unclean or greedy person, who is an idolater, has any enjoyment of the allotment in the kingdom of Christ and of God.

6 Let no one be seducing you with empty words, for because of these things the indignation of God is coming on the sons of [the] stubbornness.

7 Do not, then, become joint partakers with them,

8 for you were once darkness, yet now you are light in the Lord.

9 As children of light be walking (for the fruit of the light is in all [or every] goodness and righteousness and truth),

If you ever wonder, or if anyone ever asks you for the definition of goodness and righteousness, hold up Yeshua. If you ever wonder, or if someone ever asks you what truth is, say this, “The words of the Messiah Yeshua are written, ‘*Hallow them -- make them holy -- by the truth. Thy word is truth.*’” (John 17:17)

10 testing what is well pleasing to the Lord.

11 And be not joint participants in the unfruitful acts of [the] darkness, yet rather be exposing them also,

12 for it is a shame even to speak of the hidden things occurring, done by them.

...15 Be observing accurately, then, brethren [sisteren], how you are walking, not as unwise, but as wise,

16 reclaiming the era, for the days are wicked.

17 Therefore do not become imprudent, but understand what the will of the Lord is. [*How needed this is today!*]

18 And be not drunk with wine, in which is profligacy, but be filled full with spirit, [*it's actually be filled full IN spirit*]

19 speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and playing music in your hearts to the Lord,

20 giving thanks always for all things, in the name of our Lord, Yeshua the Messiah,

21 to our Elohim and Father, being subject to one another in the fear of the Messiah.

Can you see that in all things, Yeshua is the standard? Paul emulated Him; probably so did the other apostles. The declarations or sayings of God, which the Father magnifies together with His name above all else, sets and sustains the plumb line for thought and action today.

Now we get to the tough part of male-female relationships. It's only tough, I believe, because men have lorded it over women, which is and has been incorrect, ungodly, and was never intended, as can be readily determined when we correctly cut the word of the truth, as we'll see:

22 Let the wives be subject to their own husbands, **as to the Lord**,  
As we will see quickly, the scripture here, by the Apostle Paul's hand, ASSUMES that the husband is living according to Yeshua the Messiah's standard, which He established in what we already read, and is therefore walking worthily of his calling, and is, therefore, **qualified** as a husband who can be trusted, like the Lord can be trusted, so that the wife is SAFE to be subject.

**Subject** ("submitted" in many versions) = *This word was a Greek military term meaning "to arrange [troop divisions] in a military fashion under the command of a leader". In non-military use, it was "a voluntary attitude of giving in, cooperating, assuming responsibility, and carrying a burden".*

If the husband is walking according to Ephesians 5 up to this point, which means He's living up to Yeshua's standard, his leadership is valid and he's safe for his wife to cooperate with. If not, NOT! And every woman knows whether her husband is meeting that standard or not, whether **he** knows it or not!

Here comes the coupe de gras for any man who thinks he can demand his wife's obedience, let alone her cooperation. He had better be operating according to Yeshua's clear and high standard:

23 for the husband is head of the wife **even as** the Messiah is Head of the ecclesia, and He is the Saviour of the body.

**"Even as"** will get us every time. It means **"just like,"** or even better, **"exactly like."** What is not said here is as important as what IS said: The husband is NOT head of the wife UNLESS and UNTIL he fulfills verse 25 coming up:

24 Nevertheless, as the ecclesia is subject to the Messiah, thus are the wives also to their husbands in everything.

25 Husbands, be loving your wives *according as -- even as, exactly like* -- the Messiah also loves the ecclesia,

Read that gain, slowly. How does the Messiah love the ecclesia? Here it is

and gives Himself up for its sake,

26 that He should be hallowing it, cleansing it in the bath of the water (with His declaration),

27 that He should be presenting to Himself a glorious ecclesia, not having spot or wrinkle or any such things, but that it may be holy and flawless.

28 Thus [*-- this is exactly how --*] the husbands also ought to be loving their own wives as their own bodies. He who is loving his own wife is loving himself.

29 For no one at any time hates his own flesh, but is *nurturing* and *cherishing* it, *according as [-- even as, exactly like --]* the Messiah also the ecclesia,

30 for we are members of His body.

31 For this "a man shall leave his father and mother and shall be joined to his wife, and the two shall be one flesh."

32 This secret is great: yet I am saying this as to the Messiah and as to the ecclesia.

33 Moreover, you also individually, each be loving his own wife thus, as himself, yet that the wife may be fearing the husband.

The picture of godly marriage is exactly like Yeshua's relationship to the ecclesia. It only works when the husband first lives up to Yeshua's standard of love for HIS body. Yeshua is the FIRST, isn't He; that is FIRST in Position among all mankind? How did He get there? He put Himself last and everyone else first, serving all, as we read in Mark 9.

Yeshua's standard of service, selflessness, and sacrifice establishes the only example of a relationship for any daughter of God to be safe as any man's wife, exactly like she is safe with Yeshua Himself.

A wife's trust, cooperation, agreement, "**holy subjection**" -- quote unquote -- is won, not dictated; it is CO-manded, not DE-manded, by her husband's obedience to the Lord first, because He will then realize that His role is to put her welfare, well-being, first and to serve her as He serves the Lord.

One of the great mistakes made by Christians is applying only parts of the extraordinarily high standard set by the Apostle Paul in Ephesians, and then coupling that mistake with applying only parts of **1 Corinthians 7**:

**1 It is ideal for a man not to be touching a woman.**

**2 Yet, because of prostitutions, let each man have a wife for himself and each woman have her own husband.**

The Apostle established the ideal in verse 1 (read it again):

"It would be ideal if EVERYONE kept their hands to themselves. It would be best for all concerned if y'all could be trusted to live celibately, set apart and holy to God." Then he says, "**BUT, BECAUSE OF PROSTITUTIONS...you better marry one another. You are so out of control, all of you, that at least if you take one wife and one husband, you put some constraints on yourselves. At least then the legal bond of matrimony contains your lust and profligacy, so as not to defile the Name and the Body of the Messiah!**"

### **1 Corinthians 7:6**

**6 Now this I am saying as a concession, not as an injunction.**

"I'm accommodating you because of your moral depravity," Paul is saying, "But I'm not telling you, 'Thus saith the Lord.'"

The "this" Paul referred to in verse 6 is everything from verse 2-5:

**2 Yet, because of prostitutions, let each man have a wife for himself and each woman have her own husband.**

**3 Let the husband render to the wife her due, yet likewise the wife also to the husband.**

4 The wife has not the jurisdiction of her own body, but the husband, yet likewise the husband also has not the jurisdiction of his own body, but the wife.

5 Do not deprive one another, except sometime it should be by agreement for a period, that you should have leisure for prayer, and you may be the same again, lest Satan may be trying you because of your incontinence.

“If you HAVE to give in to your lusts, at least do it with your wife or husband, and do it as often as each of you wants it unless you agree to chill out a while to give God a thought; then go right back at it; otherwise sa-tan -- that which opposes God -- may be trying you, because, obviously, you’re an out of control, sex-crazed lot who can’t keep their pants on and, outside of the marriage vows, you’re fair game for all manner of depravity.”

Men, husbands, who demand “marital favors,” “conjugal duties,” from their wives (I can’t imagine that it would go the other way), dishonor the Lord as well as their wives. Their positions are nullified by their own self-interested and self-important attitudes and behavior. They are not the example of the Messiah loving the ecclesia, they are disposition and actions are opposed to Yeshua’s example and standard; Those husbands are sa-tan.

So, read whatever you like about wives and husbands, but throughout you will find Yeshua’s standard raised high, to which we aspire. When His standard is ignored, all bets are off.

Now, take this into the realm of “government” within the Body of the Messiah.”

Look with me at **Ephesians 4:**

1 I am entreating you, then, I, the prisoner in the Lord, to walk **worthily** of the calling with which you were called,

2 with every **humility** and **meekness**, with **patience**, **bearing** with

one another in love,  
3 endeavoring *[being diligent]* to keep the unity of the spirit with *[IN]* the tie of peace: *[which is]*  
4 one body and one spirit, according as *[or, just like]* you were called also with one expectation of your calling;  
5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism,  
6 one God and Father of all, *[the One]* Who is over all and through all and in all.

How does the Christian Church measure up to that description of what we are called to while we live on this Earth? Unity of the spirit? One Body, One spirit, One expectation, One Lord, One faith, One baptism, One God and Father OF ALL Who is over all and through all and in all?

At best the Father of Christianity appears to have many bodies, many spirits, many expectations; perhaps one Lord, but many faiths, different baptisms; perhaps one God and Father, but of some, not all; He may be over all, but He is certainly not through all or in all.

#### Ephesians 4:

7 Now to each one of us was given grace in accord with the measure of the gratuity of the Messiah.

8 Wherefore He is saying, Ascending on high, He captures captivity And gives gifts to mankind.

9 Now the 'He ascended,' what is it except that He first descended also into the lower parts of the earth?

10 He *[the One]* Who descends is the Same *[One]* Who ascends also, *up over all who are of the heavens [who is that?]*, *[so]* that He should be completing [the] all.

Can you see that, EVEN AS the Messiah Yeshua ascended up over all the celestials -- to which height or station you and I have been invited also, by the way -- He most certainly will be completing THE all. His ascension seals the completing of the all. It is the completing of the all to the glory of God the Father, which the obedience of the Messiah accomplished. The all includes the celestials AND the terrestrials -- the heavenly and the

Earthly -- those of spirit and those of flesh. Blood and flesh is promised immortality in glorified bodies like the Lord's body at His coming. Others will wait until the consummation. The celestials are awaiting their completion too, which Yeshua the Messiah's ascension assures. He began among them, was made lower than they, but was and is exalted above them all; and we are invited into His level, while the celestials await their own completion. Only the Father and the Messiah know what that looks like!

#### **Ephesians 4:**

11 And the same One [that is the Messiah Yeshua] gives these, indeed, as apostles, yet these as prophets, yet these as evangelists, yet these as pastors and teachers,

We have many self-proclaimed apostles and prophets in the Christian Church today, but where are the genuine apostles and prophets? We see an abundance of evangelists, but what are they preaching? How does God look to those whom they are evangelizing? We have an abundance of pastors, but how are they tending the flock? We have many teachers, but what are they teaching?

These Five ministries, appointed by the Messiah, are the five smooth stones in his bag. He may only use one to slay any giant, but He has all five. Each one is necessary to accomplish the work, which Paul declares next:

#### **Ephesians 4:**

12 toward the adjusting of the saints for the work of dispensing, for the upbuilding of the body of the Messiah,

13 unto the end that we should all attain [noticed it does not say "strive to attain," because when Yeshua's appointed ones are doing their jobs properly, attaining is guaranteed. Attaining to what?] *INto* the unity of the faith and of the realization of the son of God, *INto* a mature man, *INto* the measure of the stature of the complement of the Messiah

[that which completes the Messiah: His Body completes Him like a wife completes a husband. And why is this so important, apart even from the fact that we are the Messiah's completion?]

14 that we may by no means still be minors, surging hither and thither and being carried about by every wind of teaching, by human caprice, by craftiness with a view to the systematizing of the deception.

This is why every one of the five stones is absolutely essential (read 14 again). when a stone is missing or ineffective, the entire body of the Messiah is at risk of injury or malfunction.

#### Ephesians 4:

15 Now, being true, in love we should be making [the] all grow into Him, Who is the Head -- the Messiah --

16 out of Whom the entire body, being articulated together and united through every assimilation of the supply [*the vision here is like a capillary bed, where thousands upon thousands of tiny vessels transport nutrients to specific cells around them*], in accord with the operation in measure of each one's part, is making for the growth of the body, *INTo* the upbuilding of itself in love.

#### Finally, look with me at Galatians 3

25 Now, at the coming of [the] faith, we are no longer under an escort [*referring to the law*],

26 for you are all sons [*and daughters*] of God [*we forgive Paul His patriarchal, Judaic bent*], through [the] faith *in* the Messiah Yeshua.

27 For whoever are baptized into the Messiah, **put on** the Messiah,

If you've been baptized into the Messiah, put Him on; You Do It! This is not the "middle voice" in Greek, so putting on the Messiah isn't done for us. WE DO IT! - and this baptism, btw, has nothing to do with

water, any more than salvation has to do with law. This is all by the Spirit of God.

**28 in Whom there is no Jew nor yet Greek, there is no slave nor yet free, there is no male and female, for you all are one in the Messiah Yeshua.**