

4 November 1995, Morning Minchah      Sus, France

Believing in the Heart versus Believing in the Mind

God cannot be tempted. That's why He had to come to earth and become a man. He came on our level. You can see in the old covenant the Shekinah glory came into the tabernacle and tent of meeting, but it was a spirit.

It's amazing how our Master could distinguish between those whose belief was only mental and those who believed in their heart. It's the same word in Greek; they didn't know how to distinguish this. More than half of the people only believe mentally, so the fallout comes even 20 years later.

John 8 — He said something that offended them, and they got ready to throw stones at Him. Other people professed but did not confess because they were afraid to be kicked out of the synagogue.

Jn 2:23 — It's the same word in Greek — *pisteo*. That's why our Master said, "We must bear much fruit and prove to be His disciples," John 15:8. We must bear thirty times, sixty times, or a hundred times as much fruit. Thirty times is much in our Master's viewpoint. There are people who come in over the wall, never producing much fruit, not loving their brothers and laying down their lives. That's why 1 John was written. John wrote the gospel, but then he saw many people just receive Yahshua intellectually. They only believed in their mind, not in their heart. A new religion developed. They called it *gnosticism*.

Rom 10:9 teaches us that confession comes from believing in the *heart*, not only intellectually. If a person confesses, the Word has gone down deep into the human personality — the heart. There is a difference — one is salvation, one isn't. Outwardly it's very difficult to determine whether a person actually believes in the heart or the mind. Later on the community life brings it out. Going to church doesn't do it. There is no testing of faith. There is much in the scriptures about testing of faith — like the testing of gold or silver.

When you come into His Body you are to confess Yahshua as Sovereign, or you have to wait till judgment day to be judged that you didn't regard our Master Yahshua as worthy to surrender, that you only had an intellectual acceptance. That kind of faith is related to knowledge. There is only profession. It's an intellectual thing. It's hard to distinguish.

The production of the fruit of the Spirit: If we work with complaint in our heart, it shows us that we really don't know Him. We feel He is not worthy of our serving Him, our washing lettuce, or whatever you do in the Body. He is not worthy that we would serve Him.

We've been raised from the dead. That's why we are as happy as we are, because we've been delivered from death. We can't be more happy, grateful. We call people *grateful*. They are as grateful as they can be. We crucified our flesh. We crucify it daily, that's how we walk, imitating God.

We are disciples. When you call on Yahshua to confess Him you have to do it with all your heart, like children.

Matthew 13 talks about four kinds of seed:

along the path;

rocks with a little bit of soil;

among the thorns;

in good soil.

In the second case, the evil one comes along, taking the seed out of a person's heart before it gets really planted. The Spirit comes to people when they come here, yet not sealing them to eternity unless they actually die in the waters. The Spirit is with them, giving them understanding,

drawing them to Yahshua. The Spirit draws them. They can't just receive on their own. So sometimes there is a glow on people, but then it goes away. For example, when Moshe spoke with our Father the glow was on his face, but then later on it went away. Another example: this young man named Sean who came around our brothers in England. In the beginning when he heard the Word you could see the glow on his face, but then he got defiled, and now all is gone. He even came against us.

You know about the fig tree. "Let's cut it down." "No, cultivate it for one year." The man really cultivated for one year. Next year he found fruit, if not he cut it out.

We must bear fruit if we have received the Holy Spirit and are abiding in the vine. Jn 5:24 — We've passed out of death into life. How do you know that? That's the gospel we believe. If we believe in our Master Yahshua we'll be raised on the last day. What if we are not raised on that day or taken up?

We produce fruit — 1 Jn 3:14,16. If we love our brothers we lay down our life for them, not complaining. Israel was taken out of Egypt through the Red Sea but didn't cross over the Jordan. To cross the Jordan is another thing. They all died except Joshua, Caleb, and the youth. They would have brought their Egyptian ways into the Promised Land. They still had to cross the Jordan. When they did the priests went in first. It took forty years to go into the land, into the kingdom. It was one thing to pass through the Red Sea, another thing to cross the Jordan. Their bones bleached in the wilderness. A new generation had to come up.

Jn 4:42 — Do they have eternal life now? Are they going to be raised on the last day? We don't know if it was a real belief or just intellectual acceptance. We never saw any long-lasting fruit in them later. They may have come into the community and received the Holy Spirit.

There was a decisive moment. He was right there. They could receive Him. Disciples, people with eternal life read the Word, read the gospel, fall in love with Yahshua. 1 Cor 16:22 — If you don't love Him you are cursed, if you don't have a relationship with Him, speak to Him at night in your heart. It doesn't need to be verbally. He understands.

We don't want people just believing intellectually. That's not what we are looking for. We want true, real disciples.

The first church was a transition from Judaism to Christianity. They held on to many old things from Judaism. Later on we see a transition from Judaism to Christianity. That's when all the people died who truly believed in the Son of God. People started coming in who only believed intellectually, and their belief was certainly confirmed by another spirit. Paul talked about another spirit, another gospel, another Yahshua.

Christianity began when the first church fell away and the lampstand was removed. If it's only an intellectual belief it doesn't allow a person to give up all his possessions and lay down his life.

Why do we live in community? Well, you can't obey the Word of God outside of community.

The word was written to communities, who were held together by the Word. Letters were written to communities. The gospel forms community. It assumes community. If we want to obey we have to live in community. If we don't obey every word of Yahshua we'll be cut off from among His people.

The first church was a community. They believed in their heart. If people say: "Where does it say you have to live in community?" they are evil; they received another spirit. They see the commandments they can't keep, like laying down their lives, loving one another, encouraging one another daily... It's life for life. We don't see His worth if we don't give up our life. It's ridiculous to believe and hang on to our life.

Let's come together and give thanks for the life He's given us. If we sinned, we confess our sin and we are forgiven and we are thankful.