

November 23, 1994, Morning Minchah

Reuben

Unstable

Our Father said when you get into the land and you get everything, you will get dull and you will not be thankful anymore. Remember how thankful we were in the beginning when we got some fruit or some furniture? It used to be a big deal.

Israel was commanded to come up to feast before YHWH three times a year. They were commanded that not one would come empty-handed. Otherwise they probably would be cut off. They had to come with gifts. With us empty-handedness means empty-handedness. We cannot come here empty-handed. Priests offer up gifts and praises. Heb. 13:15 - stand every morning and evening to give praise.

James 4:6 If you are proud you are an abomination, detestable to God. Prov. 16:5. James 4:7 You submit to God through prayer, through giving yourself. Without submitting our will to Him we will never get anything. That is the only way we will ever get anything. The evil one only flees away from people who resist him. You only can resist him if you are humble. He makes you discouraged, double-minded. (James 4:8-6 You have to read this backwards.) A proud person will not pray. We have to draw near to Him. That is a commandment we have to obey. If we are proud we won't submit our will to Him. What does it mean to be double-minded? Trying to drink out of two cups at the same time. Undetermined, unstable in all of his ways.

James 1:5 How do you know if you lack wisdom. Some people may think they have all the wisdom, but they are proud - an abomination. If you see your deficit you ask Him for wisdom.

What does it mean that He gives without reproach? He does not mock us, scold us, answer us with sarcastic words.

How far away is God from us? His Spirit is in our hearts. Deut. 4:7 He is as near as our heart is from our mouth. That's what Paul says. He even says that to unbelievers. Rom. 10:8

Sometimes we actually speak to Him. Last night I was talking to Him and I uttered out of my mouth and I knew He was that near to me.

James 1:5 He gives to us without reminding us of our unworthiness. The devil means accuser, slanderer. He makes you unstable, double-minded, makes you think you will never get anything from God. If you believe the devil over God you will never get anything. You will be unstable in all of your ways. That's why we have the word of God. Satan's chief job is to accuse us day and night. Satan makes us lose heart, he discourages us to the point that we are not even thankful for our daily food, without which we would starve.

1 Chr. 28:9 - Blessed are the pure in heart, those who have a single-minded devotion, those who are not double-minded. If you are double-minded you try to serve God and the devil at the same time, or God and money. You will always be unstable, tossed here and fro like the waves of the sea.

Why should we doubt if we have faith? If we have faith we have no doubt. When you went into the water there was no doubt in you, you wanted to be saved. When you are about to drown, going down for the third time, you don't doubt what you want; you just want to be saved.

James 1:5 - 8

Why do you put a horse in a stable? Did you ever put a horse in a place, a narrow place where it couldn't turn around?

What is it to be double-minded and unstable in all your ways? If you doubt God you are receiving ministry from the one who causes doubt. It is from Satan.

What is it to be unstable? What is a double-minded person? A double-minded person is drawn in two opposite directions. His allegiance is divided. Because of his lack of sincerity he vacillates between belief and disbelief - going back and forth, sometimes thinking God will help him and other times giving up all hope in Him. Such a person is unstable in all of his ways. We have the word of God to believe, to be stable in all of our ways. An unstable person is not going to enter the kingdom. An unstable person is hardly going to enter the nations.

He is unstable not only in praying, but in all of his ways. That is a pretty serious thing. If a person does not believe God, he believes another spirit - he is unstable in all of his ways. This lack of consistency betrays his character. An unstable person is not fixed, not steady, he is wavering. He is like a horse - you have to say, "Steady, steady." Like our youth sometimes. Youthhood is a most unstable time. A youth is unstable socially, emotionally, mentally, spiritually. He is not steady in purpose.

When James was written, the church was waning. It looked like it was beyond hope. James saw so many unstable people. It caused division, double-mindedness. There were only a few that didn't stain their garments. Is. 26:3 They didn't waver. They were stable.

What if we ask Him for wisdom? Do we need wisdom? Our Master is our wisdom. If we have Him we have wisdom.

Let's give our sacrifice. What do we sacrifice? We give our bodies. Do we give our old or our new life? We give a living sacrifice. Our old life is buried - it is dead.

Read Job sometime. How they used to get silver and gold because they didn't have machines. People risked their lives. That's how we should seek wisdom. Prov. 2 Then we will come to the knowledge of God and the fear of the Sovereign. The fear of the Sovereign is the beginning of wisdom. A person is not wise if they don't ask for wisdom.

Speaking to Andreas our newborn who confessed how he is drawn in many directions, who wants to be stable and only have one direction:

It is so wonderful how he is crying out for his first milk, the colostrum. If you are part of the mother you will give him that, because the mother has milk.