

## **Enlarged by Pressure**

Just as a branch can do nothing apart from the vine but rot, so are we in this world. A branch is totally dependent upon the vine for all of its life. Only arrogant humanity thinks differently. This humanity is rotting away just as Larry Davis, Gary Castelle, Sam Simmons and some even who have a reputation of being alive but are dead. These may still stay for awhile longer in the physical community but will be lopped off soon and thrown into the fire, for what good is a branch apart from vital communion with the vine. It withers up, for every branch in me that, like Judas, bears no fruit — good, permanent fruit of the kingdom, that will last into the kingdom, enduring the fire of testing — is thrown into the fire (Jn 15:6; 1Cor 3:14-15; Dan 12:10). But if he is still standing until the end before Him — and has not been told to depart from Him — then he is considered blessed for he has endured to the end of the judgment seat of Messiah when our fruit is examined by the fire of judgment. If anyone has lasting fruit he will be fit for the kingdom. If anyone has not been vitally united to the vine he will be cast away. For unless we are vitally connected to the vine we cannot produce the fruit that glorifies our Father, doing His will (Jn 15:8; Mt 7:21-23).

Enduring to the end means until the very end of the 45 days of the transition between the old order and the new order (2 Ths 1:5), where we are considered worthy of the kingdom and gaining His glory (2 Ths 2:14), attaining to the resurrection and having a part in it (Phil 3:11; Rev 20:6), and not being told at this 45-day judgment that we must depart (Lk 13:28), and are assigned a place with the unfaithful and unbelievers (Lk 12:46). We must in this age "make every effort" to be obedient to Lk 12:58 because this judgment will be very exacting (verse 59). We are now on the way to this judgment. We must make every effort to settle with Him; every last problem we have ever had with our brother must be a settled matter, so that no root of bitterness springs up in the last hour and mars the church. For anyone who mars this temple, he will be marred at the judgment if not before (1 Cor 3:17; Heb 12:15).

Today we must pay our vows as Yahshua paid His (Lk 12:15). Many now, when Jn 15:2 is read, “Every branch in me, if it bears no fruit, He takes away,” start counting their fruit or what they suppose is good fruit; like those in Mt 7:22 did – “I’ve done this, I’ve done that,” but they don’t know what good fruit is. They think in terms of being busy and doing what they judge good fruit, instead of waiting for this judgment (1 Cor 4:4-5; 2 Cor 5:10). For many on that day will say, “Lord, Lord,” but still will not enter the kingdom, for every sacrifice or burnt offering (Rom 12:1), must be salted with fire (Mk 9:49-50).

What has to be done must have to happen in our lives. Our sins are covered and we are forgiven by the Blood of the Lamb, but now we must by necessity be purified. So every man’s life must be a sacrifice to YHWH and the salt of the sacrifice is the purifying fire of affliction.

It is then, absolutely necessary (and the utmost essentiality) that those who enter the kingdom in the first resurrection enter in by the narrow gate. That gate is a furnace. The kingdom is on the other side. Anyone who tries to enter in except through the gate is a thief and a robber. So let us be encouraged at this good news of the kingdom. The good news is that there is a way that all suffering and hardship and all evil will someday come to an end and it will be because a few entered in by this door of affliction (Acts 14:22).

Jms 5:11 — We called blessed those who have endured. You have heard of the perseverance of Job and you have seen the end of YHWH – Job realized the end of YHWH. But how many come to the end before the end of YHWH is reached?

We all who enter this door must see the outcome which YHWH wants to bring to us. Everyone must have eyes to see with – His kingdom (Jn 3:3). Because YHWH is merciful and compassionate. How many of us are pressed by distress and fail to come into an enlarged place?

Ps 4:1 — When in distress, you are brought by Him to an enlarged place to enjoy Him – where distress is not able to depress you. David has learned his need of absolute dependence upon Him – His righteousness.

Ps 4:1 — “In a strait place you have made room for me.” T.E.B. Darby version says, “In pressure you have enlarged me.” As soon as we feel the slightest distress or even a distress

signal, we panic and murmur and accuse our Father of being unfair. Where are our redeemed eyes to see, “the end of the Lord.” Before His end is reached, we come to the end of our endurance (Jms 1:12; 1 Pet 1:6-9). We fail to see His end; we fail to see His mercy and compassion in all this; we fail to see that this is the good news being lived out – the only way into the kingdom of the Son (1 Jn 2:6). How often do we fail to receive or welcome into our hearts the love of the truth? (2 Ths 2:10). And we take on or receive a misleading influence instead and believe a lie, that our Father is not compassionate and merciful in His dealings with us. Do we see the outcome He brought in Job’s case? We call him blessed. We call those in Heb 11 blessed. Yahshua said you must be born of the Spirit in order to see the truth and live by it – the kingdom, the end of this age of suffering (Heb 11:39-40). Look at those who have passed their days peacefully and at ease – the outcome is spiritual poverty – no one would come to them when troubled or distressed because they would not understand anyway. YHWH is looking for those who have a case history before Him. He looks for those who have passed through deep waters and distress, turmoil and suffering. They are those who “press on to know Him,” who come to that enlarged place out of the valley of the shadow of death. He is making a noble vessel, a cup for His very own use. So therefore, can He use a lump of clay that has just been forgiven? Does He just want to have a bunch of lumps of dry, hard clay laying around in the New Jerusalem? Or does He want something else? Before this ole lump could be fashioned into His very own image, it had to be covered by His blood – forgiven, set free from bondage (Col 1:13), where He could get His hands on us to form us, shape us, mold us. When He gets through doing this He lovingly, graciously, tenderly places us into an oven, a furnace, and He as a part of the Good News, turns the heat up. You know the rest of the story. Finally He comes with His hands and opens the door and takes us out and lets us cool off and we get comfortable and then He comes and takes us again in His hands. Then very lovingly He slaps some cold gooey stuff all over us and we start to complain but we remember the end of Him, compassionate and full of mercy. We willingly give ourselves to Him as He goes for the oven again. Another furnace experience, you say as you remember the end of Him, compassionate and full of mercy and

tenderness and kindness. He places you into that rack and shuts the door and turns the heat on extra HOT. You stay there – the only way to the kingdom – the only way His will can be done.

Some day He will put the earth in this furnace, but now He is just interested in us. What good would a purified earth be with impure saints upon it? 1 Jn 3:9 says He is faithful – but also righteous to forgive us, but also to cleanse purge us, purify us, prune us from ALL (every last bit) of unrighteousness. ALL MEANS ALL. After He purifies us, then there will not be any unrighteousness left in us.

The day will come when He comes and takes us from the furnace and only after we are purified.

There is and end to YHWH. How many are willing to wait for His end and not come to our end before He comes to His end? What is His end? His end is a wife – a spotless and pure bride for His spotless and pure Son (1 Pet 1:19). After all, it is only fitting to be made fit for Him in the only way He can make us fit. For He is faithful and also righteous.

If we have laid our hands upon the sacrifice, we will be made fit. There is no way that we can be made fit except that those who make up the bride lay down their lives for one another, just as the Bridegroom, the Sacrifice, laid down His life for His bride (1 Pet 1:22; 1 Jn 3:16).

So who sees the END OF YHWH? Is it worth it? So all those who have died with Him, the Bridegroom, live no longer for themselves but for Him who died for them and rose again for them. He did it all for us – to gain us for Himself. He must have wanted us pretty bad. How much do we want Him? It is hard to know with all this stuff in us. So even to know we must be purified more and more. This is the good news of the kingdom. Does it sound gruesome? Not with new eyes and new ears – to be able to see His glorious kingdom. No natural eyes and natural ears have ever seen or heard the glorious things our Father has prepared for those who love Him enough (nor has it ever entered into a natural heart), but it is revealed by a new life born of His Spirit (Isa 64:4-6; 1 Cor 2:9). The physical manifestation of YHWH's presence among man is something we can barely imagine. Who is today working for Him while waiting for Him? But this YHWH works for him who waits for Him. He works for those who eagerly wait for Him to make His

physical presence among men. He works for those who wait for His end or outcome to be finished in their lives.

YHWH meets him who joyfully works righteousness, those who remember Him and His ways, who rejoice in doing righteousness (Isa 64:6-7).

We all had become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds were like a polluted garment. There was none that called upon your Name, that stirred themselves up to take hold of you. We were lost, undone, with no one to deliver, no one who entered that door (Jn 10:2).