

5 April 1995 Morning Minchah

Tent of Meeting, Sus

## **Good Stewards of His Grace**

Heb 2:14-18 — It really makes a point there that He was going through death. He was going through death.

1 Pet 4:8 — we experience that many times in the Body, sometimes even daily. That's how we can know we are in the true Body of Messiah. Love forgives, disregards the offenses of others. Pr 10:12.

If we have love for one another we can forgive each other's transgressions. Without love you can't forgive. There is absolutely no way. That's what moved our Father to forgive us. If it wasn't for love, how could He have forgiven us? 1 Pet 4:9. Be hospitable to the brethren, be lovers of outsiders, foreigners, guests we don't know, we never met before, to everybody in Messiah's body and to brothers from other tribes. Verse 10 — Employ it in serving. It's a special, particular gift that you've got. Maybe it's a gift that really sets you apart from others. Rom 12 mentions the gifts of discernment, of knowledge ...

What is a steward? What do you do when you are the steward of a car? You make sure the car is in order. A good steward of His grace — make sure you use that grace in the right way. You have gift and grace working together. They work together. You are to use the grace to employ the gift. You have been entrusted with a gift and with grace.

1 Pet 4:11 — Matt 25:14 According to their ability — make sure you don't use the gift without grace.

Gasoline energizes the car. You need gasoline and oil. Without oil the car would blow up. You need both: faith and grace. Rom 12:3-9 backs that up. Make sure faith and grace are coming to you. Don't use your gifts just in your natural power. It's going to hurt you.

Only when we receive the Holy Spirit can we use these gifts to build up the Body. In the world you'd use them naturally, without grace. There are speaking gifts and serving gifts. Some people have organizing gifts. When people come to you asking you what can we do about this

matter, make sure your organizing is with grace. In the world you'd be a good organizer, but here it doesn't work because we have spiritual powers against us. In the world they use things, like if you don't exercise what you've got you will be fired. So you work harder and overtime.

You are a steward of the talents and of the grace that our Father entrusts us. We are understanding something in Matt 25:13 that most people in the world and in Christianity don't understand.

He is not going to be glorified if we use our own strength. We give Him the glory forever and ever in the ages to come.

Rom 12 also comes from Matt 25:14-30. We need to thoroughly understand these things, so that one day we don't say, "How come you are casting me out? I didn't know any better (Lk 12:46-48). It's better that we know these things than not know them. If we don't know them we will receive only a few lashes, but if we know them and don't do them we will receive many lashes.

But we also can build up the Body if we know them. But woe to the servant who knows and doesn't give out. If I don't give out what I have I don't love you.

Lk 12:46-48 — Our Master took here also from Deuteronomy and Numbers. You can't make sense by just reading the Bible through. You have to put it together. The word needs to become ours. Rom 12:3 — we rate a person's ability according to the faith he has. Verse 4 — All these parts just like the human body don't have the same function. That goes together with 1 Pet 4:9-11. Individually, we are parts of one another. Mutually, we depend on each other.

There is a particular gift of mercy. When people are sick you have a particular person that goes around that does acts of mercy. They do it cheerfully. How would you like it if they do it begrudgingly?

You see how the grace has to go along with it. you may have a gift and in the world you might have become a doctor, but if it's done without grace, begrudgingly, impatiently, who likes that?

Meshulam: "In Luke it talks about many lashes and few lashes. It's better to go without lashes. It's wonderful that we are learning this.

Yoneq: If you had a kingdom and you are preparing to rule the world, who would you like to rule the world with — with people that have grace or with tyrants, hard-task masters ... We've put people in authority and they got imperial madness. They ruled with legalistic principles, without grace.

Matt 25 — The key to understand this is that according to a person's ability they were given faith and grace. You see people working with faith and patience and with perseverance here in the Body. We have good examples of that in the Body.

People work for others, staying up at night before fairs and trips to get everything ready. Our Fathers sees their true value because they are working by His grace, not begrudgingly. A person might have a mechanical gift but he knows he works for his Fathers and brothers, not begrudgingly. That person will be the first. The first will be the last.

Of course, not all the first will be the last and not all the last will be the first. It's according to how we respond. Messiah couldn't do it without His Father. How can we do it without our Father? He had an extreme ministry, greater than all of us. He had extreme opposition against Himself. We have extreme opposition coming against us corporately. Some feel it more.

But we have to cast our anxieties and cares upon Him or it'll kill us.

Lk 21:34-36 — All those three things kill us — drunkenness, overeating, and worrying. If your bible doesn't say *overeating* a liar put it in. That's what the Greek says but they didn't want to put that in. Overeating kills you. It puts stress on your body.

If we have the Holy Spirit we can exercise self-control. We should quit before we are full, before we can't stuff another bite into us. Surfeiting is still a general term. Everyone overeats.

Therefore, we are not in fellowship like we should be. Overeating works your body to death. It's good to fast. Your body comes to rest, your digestive system.

Shimon: "There is a gift of mercy but the grace is that it is exercised with cheerfulness. In this way our God will be glorified. When I ask for grace for example when I make bread, I realize that the grace is more than merely making a nice bread, because sometimes I ask for grace and the bread burnt a little. But I realized that I had grace. Grace is a spiritual power. It is something that goes to your spirit. It causes you to love your brothers, keep your peace, stay in fellowship, take care of your children.

In the world many people make good bread but it doesn't bring glory to God. Even if we burn the bread and we have grace we can give thanks and do it again with a good attitude.

Or like a mechanic who works really hard under the car, grease dripping in his eyes and then a screw breaks and it is stuck in there and it is really hard and a big deal to get it back out. Well, if he keeps his peace and doesn't react but keeps his fellowship he has grace."