

July 28, 1994, Morning Sacrifice Boston
No Cause for Stumbling

We have been talking with brothers who have been suffering in the Body — because they have to work for sodomites. The music they play in their apartments is so defiling, and so are the pictures they put on their walls. The things they do are animalistic, no, it is lower than the animals. You can't even imagine what they do. You should never even know what they engage in — and then we have to go into their apartments and work for them! It's a hardship for our brothers to do this.

If we only knew the effects of the words we speak to one another. We can destroy one another by what we say. Shimone listened to what a certain brother said who was passing on doubt, and it provoked doubt in Shimone. If we are not building up we are tearing down. It is so important to pass on words of life to one another. Some brothers are so familiar with other brothers they feel they can say anything to them. We should be salt to each other and say, "Hey, I am not going to listen to this," and have nothing to do with foolish conversation and gossip.

I guess we don't really understand who we are and where we are going by what we speak in our conversations with each other. We don't realize what we are in tune with — devices of the enemy that destroy the Body — they almost destroyed Shimone. We reveal we are under the subtle influence of the evil one in the things we say. We reveal our true character and whose servant we are by what we say.

1 Chron 28:8 and Pro 12:24 — "*The hand of the diligent will rule ...*" (Pro 10:4; 13:4; 19:15) This is not just talking about work, but about ruling. A slothful person can not rule — instead he becomes subject to the rule of another. Nothing good happens if we aren't submitting to Yahweh. If we are not ruling we are submitted to the enemy, we let him in and he rules our life. We pass on his thought because he is ruling.

(We at least dealt a heavy blow to the enemy in our youth. But how are we dealing with the underground in the other tribes?)

In 1 Chr 28:8 it says, "Now, therefore . . ." (We always have to find out what the therefore is there for.) This is a basic understanding we have to have. See verse 7 — "I will establish the rule of Solomon if he is diligent." Be very careful — full of care (diligent) — because your life depends on it — to seek out all the commandments of Yahweh your God. (Pro 12:24) The whole Bible is full of life-giving instruction. If we don't have it we fall when we come into a given situation because we don't know what to do. If we seek after the commandments we will possess the land, we will stand in it, and it will go to our children after us as an inheritance, even to the third and fourth generations. If not, those generations will not be able to rule.

1 Chr 28:9 — We have to seek a relationship with Him. I have heard people say, "I just can't go on with all these anxieties and burdens." Or, "I can't go on with all these problems of mine without grace — He hasn't given me grace." They say this as if there is nothing we can do — as if we have had no instruction. We are not under the law, the word is our friend — we seek it out to know how to live. His commandments are to be sought out and obeyed. Our Master died for us so we can live and not see death. He suffered for us so we wouldn't have to suffer in the same way. But if we don't confess and renounce our sin, we will have to suffer in the way He tried to take from us. We have to be diligent to rule over our enemies by the strength He supplies.

We don't receive grace because of our pride. We have to humble ourselves like a little child. If you can't humble yourself you are not His child. We have already learned what the way up is — you have to willingly go down first. We have to go down to go up. We have to humble ourselves and give up our own strength. We have to confess and renounce our sins. He expects us to. If we confess our sins He'll take them from us. If we cast our cares, burdens and anxieties upon Him, He'll take them from us. But He won't if we keep them. We end up carrying what we are not built to carry. (The slothful will not rule — the lazy will be put to forced labor.)

1 Chr 28:9 — Eternal life is a relationship with our Master. (We can only have a relationship with Him on His terms — Mark 8 and Mark 10 and Luke 14 — total surrender.)

Verse 8 — Be careful to seek out all the commandments of the Lord your God. Verse 9 — We are to know Him and serve Him with an undivided — loyal — heart. Let nothing come in. Don't let thoughts come in like unclean birds; such thoughts are Satan's messengers. Christianity is full of these unclean birds, that is what Rev 18:2 says. They flew in over the wall.

We are to know Him and serve Him with a "willing mind." We are either willing or unwilling. He can't entrust Himself to someone who is not willing to do His will. We are not even saved apart from that. What kind of word is chosen? It equals willing. We can't fool God. He knows us right now from head to foot. He knows my heart and thoughts, whether I am a pretender or not. He communicates to me what I need to do.

Col 1:10 — He communicates to me what I need to repent of, what I need to change. We are to walk just like Him. If He were here, we should be walking step by step with Him. 1 John 2:6 — We are to walk with Him. Can two walk together unless they agree? How horrible it is if you don't agree with someone to walk along with them (to do anything with them). Col 1:10 tells us we are to walk in a manner worthy of Him, that we are to bear fruit, and that we are to increase in the knowledge of Him. This is how we will become fully pleasing to Him.

1 Chr 28:9 — He knows our conversation every day. He knows whether it is productive and fruitful, whether it is building up or tearing down. There is no neutral ground. We are either gathering or scattering. Don't be around someone unless you are going to be salt to them. He searches all hearts and understands every intent of the thoughts. If you seek Him He will let you find Him. But if you aren't seeking Him, the evil one will let you find him. We are an unwalled city if we are not seeking Him. We are totally vulnerable in that condition. If we seek Him we will find Him, but if we forsake Him He will cast us aside.

1 Chr 28:10 — "Consider now for Yahweh has chosen you to build a house for Him." Verse 8 speaks of the Edah of Yahweh. Israel is the Edah of Yahweh. We live in Him and He lives in us. There is therefore only one way for us to behave. If we find someone acting any other way and we don't reprove them, we will stumble ourselves. If they are going astray in their conversation we have to reprove them or we will go astray. We can't just listen to the empty talk

of fools or we will become like them. We know these things, we have the Word — we know what to do. If we are not doing what the Word says we shouldn't complain when we lack grace, when we have cares, when we are weighed down with our condition. Humble yourself, be obedient to the Word. If you humble yourself He will lift you up in due time. You can't pick yourself up — only He can.

We have to humble ourselves before we go to the throne of grace. We can't go arrogantly. Humbly is the only way to go in confidence to the throne of grace. We'll find mercy to help in time of need if we go to the throne that way. If you cannot find mercy in your time of need then you have to evaluate your whole spiritual life and condition. You have to know there's something wrong. Go to someone and say, "I am obviously not a disciple, not a son."

We have to seek out His Word and His commandments. We are here to build up, not to see people stumble or to cause them to doubt by what we say to them. We're not unaware of the enemy's schemes. The evil one wants to destroy us.

There will always be people traveling around, making up for the lacks of the tribes. We appreciate those who are helping us with our cafe. We are thankful for those who have to come here to serve like Nehemiah, Dardah, and Rose. Rose is a widow. We have to take care of all her needs.