

Suffering for Righteousness Sake *(That the World May Learn)*

The word that our Master spoke about Himself in Jn 14:30 applies to His body. Verse 31 — We are to walk as He walked in order to represent Him. If He only did this He lived in vain. If He only died and there is no response, He died in vain. He wanted us, many sons (Heb 2:10-11), many brothers. He gave something lesser to gain something greater. Our Father sent Him to get us. He had to have many sons. He wanted us. He couldn't do what He wanted to do apart from the many sons. If He never gets the many sons, He died in vain. Heb 2:10 talks about many sons. He couldn't do what He wanted to do without many sons, without violating His righteousness.

Our Master proved that Satan had no hold on Him, so he would have no hold on us. He broke Satan's power. The evil one continues to try to bring us into bondage, but he doesn't have that power if we don't give it to him. Yahshua broke that power.

Jn 14:30 — We are not just reading history here. Where the Spirit is there is freedom to not sin. That doesn't mean the evil one is not working, but he has no hold on us. Jn 10:17-18 — "I willingly lay down my life." If He was helpless and someone took His life from Him He would have sinned. He willingly gave it. No one took His life from Him. If it had been taken, then He wouldn't have risen from the dead. He gave it voluntarily. That's why the Father gave it back to Him.

Here is His mission (Jn 14:31) that the world would come to know it finally. This is not talking about a one-time knowing. Actually it is more a learning — that the world may learn. This applies to us. The world must learn that we love the Father. All they have seen is compromise.

Satan makes his entry into our lives through fear. The world must learn that we love the Father. No matter what they did to our Master, He never violated His covenant with His Father. We have to be the same.

The last part in Rom 12 says to never take vengeance but to leave room for God's wrath. Some Anabaptist group here in France was up on a mountain and the authorities came to get them so they started rolling big stones down and killed the people that came to get them. What good were they after that? They proved in the last moment that they didn't belong to the Father. The world never learned that Yahshua loves His Father and that His people love Him. We must prove that we love the Father no matter what they do to us. We must leave room for the wrath of the Father.

Isa 53:10 — The world is going to learn through His offspring, His seed. The disciples remembered that. They talked about it. The Holy Spirit brought it back to their remembrance. Yahshua told Peter how he (Peter) would die. Peter remembered when He was hung upside down on that cross. The world learned that Peter loved the Father. The world has to learn through His offspring. They have to do exactly what the Father says.

Our Master did exactly what His Father wanted Him to do. That took determination and calling on the Father night and day for fear that He might not do what the Father wants.

ha-Emeq: Yoneq said that it was clear determination in Jn 14:31. There was a determination in our Master. This is like Keli who would come to the sacrifice in Boston full of determination and stating at different times, "I came to this sacrifice tonight to give my life to our Father, or I came here to worship." He was determined. There was a will there. It expressed a determination to do what he said no matter what it meant. When Job was tested when Satan said about him, "Yes, he is good, but remove the hedge from around him." He was not perfect. He squirmed a little bit and we can sense a slight reaction. It was not like that with our Master. He never reacted, not even a hint. All the way through He did what our Father commanded. He never fell from that wonderful and perfect standard that our Father has for man. That standard seems so high. We are being trained to keep that standard. We, as a people, have to be like that so that the world may know.

1 Pet 2:19-21 — It is commendable if a man keeps up under pain when suffering unjustly. This is what we were called to. Did you know that? This is why we are alive here on earth. This is what we are called for just like we read a while back in Jn 14:30-31.

Did our Master bear up under unjust treatment? 1 Jn 2:6 — The Son left an example for us to follow in His steps. We were called to unity regardless what happens. Your conscience is in unity with God and your mind is in unity with your soul, which is in unity with your spirit, your spirit with the Holy Spirit, the Holy Spirit with the Son, the Son with the Father and we are in unity with all those who are in unity with the Father through the Son in the Spirit.

We are called to suffer not when we do wrong but when we do right (Mt 5). Are we going to be persecuted for doing right or wrong? The family of love, Jehovah's witnesses, and other religious groups are persecuted, but it is not for righteousness sake. Probably a lot of times we've been persecuted or got bad publicity because of inadvertence. It was our inadvertence when the block in Island Pond burned down, even though our Father may have burned it for a purpose. One of our children risked her life in order to save another child from this fire in Judah. Someone made a fire in the furnace inadvertently and left it burning when someone had said not to do that.

1 Pet 2:18-25; 1 Pet 3:1 — In the same way wives, even if the husband is harsh. 1 Pet 2:18 — It says that even if the master is harsh we are to submit.

Our Master told Peter in John 21 how he (Peter) was going to die. Peter knew it. This was one of the last things He told him here on the earth. He also said, "If I want John to live until I return, if I want him to live for 2000 years, it's up to Me." Our life is in His hands.

"You follow Me." Peter followed our Master.

Our lives are in our Master's hands. We could be those that live until His return.

To follow Him means to do what He does.

I'm thankful we have the word. The word has been preserved down through history, even though it passed through the hands of the Pharisees, Judaizers, Masorites, etc.. Our Father watched over it, the old covenant and the new covenant. He kept it for us. The word is relevant, even in the old covenant. It is so to the point of what we are going through.

Let's give our body as a living sacrifice. Paul urged the Romans to do this. But they didn't do it. They only did it half-heartedly, so another spirit came in. Whenever we don't give ourselves with all our heart, another spirit comes in — we worship in a different spirit, we call out to a different Yahshua. Anytime we don't worship with our whole heart we receive another spirit and fall away. This is how we become just another religion.

That is what happened to the Romans. They switched right over to Christianity. The *baals* came in. They didn't continue in His kindness (Rom 11:22). They are cut off. Paul was worried that they wouldn't give their lives, because then another spirit is there to take the place of the Holy Spirit, masquerading as the Spirit of truth. Paul betrothed them to Yahshua but he also said that it was possible that they could receive another YAHSHUA, another spirit, another gospel. That's what happened. There were only a few left who didn't soil their garments. They were considered to be troublemakers.

Is the Roman church the church of the living God? Why were they cut off? They didn't stay in His kindness where His love could reach them. They started complaining. They didn't consider it joy when they suffered. They weren't content just to be doing what our Father wanted them to do. They were never content with the daily things our Father wanted them to do. They complained.

Godliness, being connected to God and contentment is the greatest gain you can have. There is no greater gain than that. If you have that you will rule the universe.

If He wants us to live, then we will live.