



Message 6-2-18
Be Ha'alotecha-In Your Making Going Up
Numbers 8:1-12:16
Zechariah 2:14-4:7
Matthew 4:1-11

Introduction

Many of us often fail to take God seriously – we prefer to believe in God without the consequences of believing in God. With God as a cosmic “Big Buddy,” we can tailor our beliefs to make us comfortable wherever we are now. If we were to recognize God as a commanding presence, we would have a demanding faith, compelling us to struggle toward deeper levels of insight, caring, community, and response.

Numbers 12:1-8

1 Miriam and Aaron spoke against Moses because of the Cushite woman whom he had married, for he had married a Cushite woman. **2** And they said, "Has the LORD indeed spoken only through Moses? Has he not spoken through us also?" And the LORD heard it. **3** Now the man Moses was very meek, more than all people who were on the face of the earth. **4** And suddenly the LORD said to Moses and to Aaron and Miriam, "Come out, you three, to the tent of meeting." And the three of them came out. **5** And the LORD came down in a pillar of cloud and stood at the entrance of the tent and called Aaron and Miriam, and they both came forward. **6** And he said, "Hear my words: If there is a prophet among you, I the LORD make myself known to him in a vision; I speak with him in a dream. **7** Not so with my servant Moses. He is faithful in all my house. **8** With him I speak mouth to mouth, clearly, and not in riddles, and he beholds the form of the LORD. Why then were you not afraid to speak against my servant Moses?" (ESV)

Notice how this conversation starts out. Miriam and Aaron approach Moses to complain about his wife, but the truth of what they wanted to talk to Moses about quickly comes out. It is to who God speaks through in which they are challenging him. They basically claim equal standing with Moses because God spoke through them as well as through Moses. Was this a play for a part in the leadership of Israel or to take their younger brother's place as leader? The Almighty heard their conversation and calls out all three of them to come to the Tent of Meeting where the Holy One came down in a pillar of cloud and stood at the entrance to the tent. Notice how He would not allow them to enter the tent. He called to Aaron and Miriam, and they stepped forward. Maybe, in that moment they thought they were going to be blessed by the Almighty, but that idea was very short-lived.

He starts out telling them if there is a prophet among you, He makes Himself known to them in a vision or a dream. Now, He goes on to tell them how He speaks to Moses. He speaks to Moses mouth to mouth, clearly, and not in riddles, and most importantly, Moses can see the form of the Almighty. Because of this, He asks why they were not afraid to speak against the Almighty's servant, Moses? In other words, Aaron, and Miriam are not equal to Moses. In fact, there is no one in Israel who is like Moses, and a character trait that Moses has that the Almighty treasures is humility. He is described as the meekest man on the face of the earth. Because of this encounter, Miriam is struck by the Holy One with a skin disease. Aaron is not and pleads with Moses to intercede on her behalf. He does, but the Almighty orders that she is to remain outside the camp for the required number of days because of the affliction. Miriam has been punished for *lashon hara* or slander. She stands as an example before Israel of what happens when you challenge the Almighty's anointed.

There are so many today who think nothing of challenging the Almighty's leaders. It's one thing to want to discuss a difference of opinion or to suggest something, but to come against those whom the Holy Lord has chosen is offensive to the Holy One, and we had better be aware of it. It's one thing if a leader attacks someone, comes against the Holy One, denies His Son, or blasphemes the Holy Spirit. There is a saying we put in our weekly Bulletin for our congregation. ***The Difference Between a Discussion and an Argument, an argument is to discover who's right. A discussion is to discover what's right.*** This saying speaks volumes about the difference between a discussion and an argument. We need to discuss more than we argue. Arguments are just a person's way of blowing off some steam and possibly directing it in someone's direction. This never works out well for anyone. Take my word for it, people!

Zechariah 3:1-10

1 Then he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the LORD, and Satan standing at his right hand to accuse him. 2 And the LORD said to Satan, "The LORD rebuke you, O Satan! The LORD who has chosen Jerusalem rebuke you! Is not this a brand plucked from the fire?" 3 Now Joshua was standing before the angel, clothed with filthy garments. 4 And the angel said to those who were standing before him, "Remove the filthy garments from him." And to him he said, "Behold, I have taken your iniquity away from you, and I will clothe you with pure vestments." 5 And I said, "Let them put a clean turban on his head." So, they put a clean turban on his head and clothed him with garments. And the angel of the LORD was standing by. 6 And the angel of the LORD solemnly assured Joshua, 7 "Thus says the LORD of hosts: If you will walk in my ways and keep my charge, then you shall rule my house and have charge of my courts, and I will give you the right of access among those who are standing here. 8 Hear now, O Joshua the high priest, you and your friends who sit before you, for they are men who are a sign: behold, I will bring my servant the Branch. 9 For behold, on the stone that I have set before Joshua, on a single stone with seven eyes, I will engrave its inscription, declares the LORD of hosts, and I will remove the iniquity of this land in a single day. 10 In that day, declares the LORD of hosts, every one of you will invite his neighbor to come under his vine and under his fig tree." (ESV)

In the High Priest, Joshua, we can see our High Priest, Yeshua. Yeshua's name may have even been Yehoshua or Joshua with Yeshua being the Aramaic or a contraction of sorts of Yeshua's name. The important thing to understand here is we can see our Messiah Yeshua in the High Priest, Joshua. Satan tries to attack Joshua and is rebuked by the Almighty. Yeshua is tempted by Satan but overcomes him by quoting the Torah to him. Joshua is clothed in filthy garments, and an angel orders that he be clothed in new clothing befitting his position. The Messiah took our sins upon Himself and became the very embodiment of sin being made unclean by us. In removing His iniquity and putting pure vestments on Him and a turban on His head, Yeshua has been set apart from everyone else, including the angels and mankind. In effect, He is the branch from whom will come forth the redeemed of Israel, both Judah, Ephraim, and the Nations. His kingdom has no place for differing levels of citizenship. We are all equal in the eyes of the Father and the Son born anew with the Ruach HaKodesh within us walking in Torah redeemed by Messiah Yeshua. The day is fast approaching when the Holy One of Israel will remove the iniquity of the Promised Land, and in that day, His people will finally come together under the Kingship of the King Messiah.

Matthew 4:1-11

1 Then the Spirit led Yeshua up into the wilderness to be tempted by the Adversary. ² After Yeshua had fasted forty days and nights, he was hungry. ³ The **Tempter** came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, order these stones to become bread." ⁴ But he answered, "The *Tanakh* says, 'Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of ADONAI'" ⁵ Then the **Adversary** took him to the holy city and set him on the highest point of the Temple. ⁶ "If you are the Son of God," he said, "jump! For the *Tanakh* says, 'He will order his angels to be responsible for you.... They will support you with their hands, so that you will not hurt your feet on the stones.'" ⁷ Yeshua replied to him, "But it also says, 'Do not put ADONAI your God to the test.'" ⁸ Once more, the **Adversary** took him up to the summit of a very high mountain, showed him all the kingdoms of the world in all their glory, ⁹ and said to him, "All this I will give you if you will bow down and worship me." ¹⁰ "Away with you, **Satan!**" Yeshua told him, "For the *Tanakh* says, 'Worship ADONAI your God, and serve only him.'" ¹¹ Then the Adversary let him alone, and angels came and took care of him. (CJB)

<1228> διάβολος *diabolos*

Meaning: slanderous, accusing falsely

Origin: from 1225

Usage: devil (34), malicious gossips (3).

<3985> πειράζω *peirazo*

Meaning: to make proof of, to attempt, test, tempt

Origin: from 3984

Usage: did (1), put (1), put to the test (2), tempt (2), tempted (13), tempter (2), test (6), tested (2), testing (7), tried (2), trying (2).

<4567> Σατανᾶς *Satanas*

Meaning: *the adversary, Satan, i.e. the devil*

Origin: of Heb. or. 7854

Usage: Satan (35), Satan's (1).

Deuteronomy 8:3 And he humbled you and let you hunger and fed you with manna, which you did not know, nor did your fathers know, that he might make you know that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD. (ESV)

Psalm 91:11 For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways. ¹² On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone. (ESV)

Deuteronomy 6:16 "You shall not put the LORD your God to the test, as you tested him at Massah. (ESV)

Deuteronomy 6:13 It is the LORD your God you shall fear. Him you shall serve and by his name you shall swear. (ESV)

Satan caused Aaron and Miriam to come against Moses because of his Cushite wife, when in truth, they wanted to challenge him for leadership or co-leadership. Satan came against the High Priest, Joshua, a form of Messiah. The result of all these various encounters is that the Almighty wins in the end, no matter what. Through His Son Yeshua, the Father reigns over everything in heaven and on the earth. In the end, the plan that the Almighty laid out in the beginning will happen no matter what man or Satan tries to do. Satan has lost. He lost from the beginning before he was created. Once again, I point out that Satan is a created being trying to usurp his Creator. Despite what he thinks, he has lost, and all those who follow him have lost as well.

You might not believe you follow Satan if you do not believe in the Son of the Almighty, Yeshua. There is no neutral position in the battle between the Holy One and Satan. In this battle, there will be a victor, and by the Bible I read ***it will be Messiah Yeshua and His Father!***

Torah Man says: "All people smile in the same language."

Blessings in Messiah Yeshua,

Mordecai Silver

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