

What Were You Thinking, When You Prayed? “YAHUAH [God] Gives Back Your Wave & Heave Offerings”

I. SCRIPTURE

Matthew 6:33 NKJV – **“But seek first the kingdom of YAHWEH [God] and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.”**

II. YAHUAH [God] GIVES BACK YOUR GENEROUS WAVE & HEAVE OFFERINGS

A. YAHUAH [God] GENEROUSLY REWARDS YOU FOR YOUR PRIESTLY SERVICE

A few weeks ago, as I was putting together His message for this group, YAHUAH [God] interjected a little verse that He wanted to provide as a reassurance to me personally and to my family. This text came from the Torah (from Leviticus 7:28-35): **“Then YAHUAH [the LORD] spoke to Moses, saying, ‘Speak to the children of Israel, saying: “He who offers the sacrifice of his peace offering to YAHUAH [the LORD] shall bring his [own] offering to YAHUAH [the LORD] from the sacrifice of his peace offering. His own hands shall bring the offerings made by fire to YAHUAH [the LORD]. The fat with the breast he shall bring, that the breast may be waved as a wave offering before the LORD. And the priest shall burn the fat on the altar, but the breast shall be Aaron’s and his sons’. Also, the right thigh you shall give to the priest as a heave offering from the sacrifices of your peace offerings. He among the sons of Aaron, who offers the blood of the peace offering and the fat, shall have the right thigh for his part. For the breast of the wave offering and the thigh of the heave offering I have taken from the children of Israel, from the sacrifices of their peace offerings, and I have given them to Aaron the priest and to his sons from the children of Israel by a statute forever.”** This is the consecrated portion for Aaron and his sons, from the offerings made by fire to YAHUAH [the LORD], on the day when Moses presented them to minister to YAHUAH [the LORD] as priests.”

B. YOUR HEAVE & WAVE “PEACE” OFFERINGS

Per the noted college and seminary professor, and author Dr Elmer Towns: the Heave Offering receives its name from the motion used in its presentation where the priest used an up and down motion—lifting it up to the Lord and receiving it

back from Him. Likewise, the Wave Offering receives its name from the motion used when the priest presented the Wave Offering in a waving type motion. The sacrifice was held in the offeror's hands, with the priest's hands underneath the offeror's, and it was waved forward toward the altar and then backward from the altar—giving it to the Lord [YAHUAH] and then receiving it back from Him as a gift to the priest.¹

The right shoulder, better translated right thigh, of the sacrificial animal was a Heave Offering and the breast-piece was a Wave Offering. Both of these pieces were given to the priest to eat, and the rest of the flesh was given to the offeror to eat, sharing it with his family and friends in the presence of the Lord [YAHUAH] in His sanctuary. The Heave and Wave Offerings were part of the Peace Offering, which was one of the five Offerings we read about in the book of Leviticus. The Peace Offering was the only offering in which the donor received back a portion of the sacrifice to eat himself. Furthermore, it was the only animal sacrifice that did not deal with making atonement for sin. The Meat Offering was the only Offering of the five that did not involve an animal sacrifice—it was a Meal or Cereal Offering instead of an animal sacrifice. It is this feature which in particular is pictured by the 'peace offering,' also called the 'thank offering'; for, according to this YAHUAH [God]-ordained practice, part of this offering was laid on the altar and burnt as a gift to the Lord [YAHUAH], part was given to the priests, and the remainder was eaten by the worshiper, his family, and his friends.²

III. YAHUAH [the LORD] PROVIDES WELL FOR THOSE WHO SEEK HIM FIRST

As so we have this beautiful promise, this “forever” decree, made by YAHUAH [God] Himself, to reward those priests who faithfully serve Him. As it has been YAHUAH [God]'s will that Hydie and I serve Him through this “church” and organization over these last several years, I thank Him again that He chose again recently to provide me and my family with yet another reassurance that all will be well with us here, if we continue to seek Him and His kingdom first in our service.

One of highest spiritual experiences for me and my family during our years of service here in Hawthorne was our trip to Pakistan in the Summer of 2019. It was on that trip, where Hydie and I would witness firsthand how YAHUAH [God] works miracles for those who put their mind to doing His will. And yet, it was during that same time

¹. Towns, Elmer. “What are the Heave and Wave Offerings?” Bible Sprout, Accessed January 23, 2021. <https://www.biblesprout.com/articles/god/heave-wave-offering/>

². Towns, Elmer.

that my business back home would suffer its worst organizational attack. I would leave for Pakistan with business debt at an all-time. Another local business would try to recruit away my most experienced, loyal employee. A huge data loss would occur that would have, and still has, a very serious impact on business operations. While Hydrie and I were seeking to do YAHUAH [God]'s will in Pakistan and YAHUAH [God] AND He was providing all the resources to serve Him there... back home, Satan's forces were doing their best to wage war on the business and church back home.

After we returned home and I began to realize and to assess the damage that was inflicted, one of you would tell me that "maybe YAHUAH [God] is telling you that He wants you to give the business up so you can serve Him more fully in your role in His church". I responded by letting them know that their same thought had also already crossed my mind... and so, I had already gotten on my knees in prayer, reminding YAHUAH [God] (which really meant that I was reminding myself), that I had already given Him the business... so, I would go along with whatever He saw best for me... I told Him that if He wanted to take it away, that would be fine... I told Him that I knew that He would provide a way forward for me to continue to serve Him... that He would take care of me and my family needs... and His church family, too... although I had no clue how He would do that. I asked Him, if that is His will, then please do it quickly. Meanwhile, I'm thinking that like Paul, with his tentmaking skills, that I didn't have to take a salary from the church and GFAN organization because of my business had been supporting me and my family. I reminded Him, too, that the business was also supporting others by providing for its employees, and providing the church and GFAN through the gifts that He had so previously and generously provided through it. And I am here today to say, that YAHUAH [God] answered that prayer... and He reminds me as He reminds you, **"but seek first the kingdom of YAHWEH [God] and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you."** By March 2020, by the beginning of the financial impact of COVID-19m, after dealing with me on some personal spiritual deficits, YAHUAH [God] began provided **"these things"** so that all the impending debt of the business would be paid, and the other issues would be or on well on their way to being resolved. And once again, as 2021 begins, YAHUAH [God] reassures us that the best parts of our peace offerings – the Wave and Heave offerings – will be generously returned back to us.

IV. YAHUAH [the LORD] PROVIDES WELL FOR THOSE WHO SEEK PEACE & UNITY

I appreciate what Dr Towns said when he summarized the meaning of the Heave and Waves offerings for today's church. He says, "The[se] Peace Offering foreshadowed the fellowship and peace we as believers can have with God through Jesus Christ."³

I know from personal experience that it's difficult to have this type of fellowship and peace among YAHUAH [God]'s children, through YAHUSHA [Jesus]. Although YAHUSHA [Jesus] prayed that we would be united, as one with Him in the RUACH [Spirit] as He is united as one with His Father, it appears to me that we are more divided as a church today than we have ever been in recent years. As YAHUAH [God]'s people, why are we allowing ourselves to continue being willing participants in the one of the most divisive election ever? Let it go! As YAHUAH [God]'s people, why are we allowing ourselves to be pawns of a biased left and biased right media? If you can't see through it, turn it off! As YAHUAH [God]'s people, why are we participating in and allowing ourselves to be manipulated by greedy, powerful corporations? Don't you know that they are part of today's world, seeking riches and power? Remember that "the world is passing away ... but he [or she] who does the will of YAHUAH [God] abides forever"⁴? It's as if YAHUAH [God]'s people, instead of trusting Him to work all things out for the good of those of us who seek Him, we are resenting how He is leading the affairs of the nations! We resent how He is leading us in our personal lives! We resent how he is leading some of our Christian brothers and sisters, even our own family and friends, in how it seems that they are behaving toward us in our own personal service to Him! Don't' you know that you can claim His promise, sent to you through the Apostle John, "that all things work together for good to [every one] who love YAHUAH [God], to those who are the called according to His purpose? For [you,] whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among [you, as one of the] many brethren [and sisters within His body]?"⁵

"How many Israelites do you think came out of the wilderness with Moses?" In Exodus 12, it says that there were 600,000 men not including children (Exodus 12:37). If most men have parents, sisters, sons and daughters, then it is safe to conclude that there were at least 5 members in his family. Therefore, the number of Israelites that fled from Egypt is between 2.5 to 3 million. And the children of Israel journeyed from Rameses to Succoth, about six hundred thousand on foot that were men,

³. Towns, Elmer.

⁴. 1 John 2:17.

⁵. Rom. 8:28-30.

beside children. Even all they that were numbered were six hundred thousand and three thousand and five hundred and fifty (Numbers 1:46).⁶ These huge numbers of *grumbling* wanderers makes me wonder how Moses could put up with them all. I have a hard enough time just handling the complaints and grumbings of a couple dozen on the path to our Canaan. Come on people! Let's start seeking...! So that we can start enjoying that "peace" ... that "fellowship" ... so that we *can* have a unity with our Christian family... all of us united in peace and fellowship with YAHUAH [God] through YAHUSHA HA'MASHIACH [Jesus Christ]. We can have this unity, *if* we are really seeking Him first in our lives: seeking Him first not just with our words... but seeking Him first through our actions toward each other.

When you heard me share with you the reassuring promise that YAHUAH [God] has recently provided me and my family... don't believe that it was a promise just meant just me and my families as part of His priesthood? It was not! Remember this... that from "the Peace Offering given by the Israelites... the *donor* received back a portion of the sacrifice to eat himself". And remember that... "part of this offering was laid on the altar and burnt as a gift to the Lord [YAHUAH], part was given to the priests, and the remainder was eaten by *the worshiper, his family, and his friends.*" And if that doesn't convince you that YAHUAH [God] will return back the best parts of your "peace" offering to Him... but that it might still be reserved for just the priests, then consider this scripture written by the Apostle Peter: "but *you are* a royal priesthood, a chosen generation, a holy nation, [YAHUAH's] own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; *who* once were not [this] people but are now the people of YAHUAH [God], who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy."⁷

And so now what does Peter say that you are to do, if you are truly seeking YAHUAH [God] first, His kingdom and His righteousness? He says that you are to "therefore, lay aside all malice, all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and all evil speaking, as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby, if indeed you have tasted that YAHUAH [the Lord] is gracious". That you are to "come to YAHUSHA [Jesus] as to a living stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by YAHUAH [God] and precious, you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, *a holy priesthood*, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to YAHUAH [God] through YAHUSHA HA'MASHIACH [Jesus Christ]."⁸

⁶. How many Israelites came out of the Wilderness with Moses?" Answers. December 11, 2008. Accessed January 23, 2021. https://www.answers.com/Q/How_many_Israelites_came_out_of_the_Wilderness_with_Moses.

⁷. 1 Pet.2:9-10.

⁸. 1 Pet. 2:1-5.

V. SEEKING YAHUAH [God] FIRST, HIS KINGDOM & HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS

Dear brothers and sisters... dear family in MESSIAH [Christ]... is your life fulfilled today? Are you still waiting to receive these things that you want added to your life? Are you asking for them with the right motives? Is what you are asking for your will? Or is it YAHUAH [God]'s will that is ahead of you as you are praying to Him? Remember, "You and do not receive, because you ask amiss ..." ⁹ And how will you know whether you are putting YAHUAH [God]'s will first...? Or your own first? Well, consider this... reflect now on what you are asking Him for? As you are asking, as you are seeking, as you are knocking... are you asking for the bread, the fish, or the eggs first? Or are you asking your loving heavenly Father first... who knows better than you how to give you these good gifts that you need and desire... are you instead asking Him *first* for the RUACH HA'QODESH [Holy Spirit]? Depending on how you can honestly answer this specific question, you will know for sure if you are seeking "**first the kingdom of YAHWEH [God] and His righteousness...**" And you will know, whether or not "**all these [other] things shall be added to you**". [Let me repeat.] Let's pray this prayer together now, in peace and fellowship...

VI. CLOSING PRAYER

Dearest Father in heaven, hallowed be thy name. As it seems today that things haven't quite gone the way we have expected, or the way that we have prayed, we realize now what you told the prophet Isaiah: "**for My thoughts *are not your thoughts, nor *are your ways My ways,****" ... "**For *as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts.***" ¹⁰

So dearest Father in heaven, we desire to "**seek You [first in our lives now] while You may be [still be] found, [to] call upon You while You are near. Let the wicked forsake their ways, and the let the unrighteous pers their thoughts; but let me return to You, so You will have mercy on me; and [return] to our ELOHIYM [God], for He will abundantly pardon.**" ¹¹ And now dear Father, having offered you this heartfelt prayer, where we are seeking You first in our lives today, please send your RUACH [Spirit] to go with us now, as your royal priesthood... from now and forevermore. We ask this now in the precious name of YAHUSHA HA'MASHIACH [Jesus Christ]. Amen.

⁹. James 4:3.

¹⁰. Isa. 55:8-9.

¹¹. Isa. 55:6-7.