

Fear Not

“Let’s Learn to Love and Help Each Other Out”

I. SCRIPTURE

Matthew 10:26 ESV – **“So have no fear of them, for nothing is covered that will not be revealed, or hidden that will not be known.”**

II. WE LIVE IN FEAR

The title of today’s message is **“Fear Not”**. I’d like to ask you: “how many of you today are experiencing some sort of fear in your lives?” As you made it to bed last night, were you worrying about anything? When you woke up this morning, was worry still lingering in your heart? Have you been thinking something like, “I wonder how I’m going to pay my bills?” Or maybe, “I wonder when I’ll get another job? I wonder what kind of work it will be? I wonder if it will be enough to pay me what I need...? I wonder if it be enough to sustain me and my family?” Or maybe it’s: “I wonder if my current fixed income, my retirement or my social program is going to enough to get me through another month...? Another year?” Or maybe it’s “I wonder if the pain I’ve been having is something serious? I wonder if it’s cancer? I wonder if I might be close to a heart attack or a stroke?” Or maybe your worry is about much bigger, more noble? Maybe it’s something like “God, what is happening in my country, my state, my community right now? Why are the leaders going against your will in what they do?” Or maybe it’s a little more focused, like “why do my family and friends seem to be against me all the time?” “Why do my family and are my friends seem to want to live their lives differently than what YAHUAH [God] wants them to live? I sometimes wonder if they are really saved?” And so, our worries, whatever they may be, seem to be without end, don’t they? When we seem to get past worrying about one thing, then something new seems to come along to worry about, doesn’t it?

We all face moments of fear, don’t we? It seems to creep into our lives, and steal our joy and our peace? So, what should we do? Many of us are faced with *valid* fears, aren’t we? Particularly fears like the fear of losing a job, our sickness, the death of a loved one, and the future of our children and grandchildren, our parents or grandparents? What are we to do about these? Well, the answer is pretty straightforward: during these times, we turn to the words of our Father and Savior,

and we remind ourselves of Their love and promises of protection and peace in our lives. How many times, exactly, do you think that our Father YAHUAH [God] has put the words “Fear Not” in His word... in Scripture? You might be surprised. The term “fear not” is stated in the Bible 365 times, which, ironically, is how many days we each have in a year.¹ And so, YAHUAH [God] has given us exactly enough “fear not” promises, to cover every day of every year of our lives. Isn’t that amazing?

III. GO! PREACH! “SAYING, ‘THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS AT HAND’”

Yesterday, I was led to today’s scripture in Matthew. These are the red-letter words of YAHUSHA [Jesus], recorded in the 10th chapter. The context of this scripture is that our Jewish YAHUSHA [Jesus] is sending His Jewish disciples out to their Jewish brothers and sisters in the church, to “**the lost sheep of the house of Israel**”. He is telling them to go out and “**preach**” to them... to preach about the stuff that they should already know. They were told to talk to their brothers and sisters, “**saying, ‘the Kingdom of heaven is at hand’**”. Even though they should already know this, YAHUSHA [Jesus] is telling them to go out to them anyway, to help them out. And as they are preaching to them, YAHUSHA [Jesus] is telling them to “**heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, and cast out demons**” among them. Yes, He is telling them to go out and save their church family, their friends... that as they are “preaching” to them about His coming Kingdom, He is telling them to also “**freely give [to them because] freely [they have] received**”.²

IV. THE ELEPHANT OF FEAR IN THE LIVING ROOM

As so today’s scripture begins with “**so have no fear...**”, but it continues with... “**of them, for nothing is covered that will not be revealed, or hidden that will not be known**”. So, who are they who we should not fear? It is the “they” who are covering stuff up, who are hiding stuff, that’s who! And so, as today’s text continues further, YAHUSHA [Jesus] is telling us specifically that “**whatever I tell you in the dark, speak in the light; and what you hear in the ear, preach on the housetops**”. And so, I am here today to speak to you about that elephant of fear that is living right in the middle of our lives, our living rooms, at this very moment. And this is it:

¹. (BibleStudy Tools Staff). “When Fear Knocks on our Door, send Faith to Answer.” BibleStudy Tools, 8/19/2020. Accessed January 30, 2021. <https://www.biblestudytools.com/topical-verses/fear-bible-verses/#:~:text=The%20term%20%E2%80%9Cfear%20not%E2%80%9D%20is%20stated%20in%20the,Prayers%20to%20Exchange%20Fear%20and%20Anxiety%20for%20Peace.>

². Matt. 10:5-8.

Our country, our world is going down a path of irreversible, eternal destruction. Despite whether your politics are conservative, liberal, or you think that you might somehow be neutral, that you can somehow stay out of it all ... the truth is this ... whether you want to admit it or not... that the people of our nation... the people in our communities... and even those within our own families and circle of friends... that they are embracing a way of life that is an exact opposite our Father YAHUAH [God]’s righteous will... and we will each and every one be punished for it. Some of us will be punished in this country, in this world, in the shorter term, together with our family and friends because of what they believe... but some of us will not only be punished in the here and now, in the shorter term, but we will also be punished with eternal damnation for what we have chosen either to believe, or not to believe. For isn’t it written: “woe [are] those who call evil good, and good evil? Who put darkness for light, and light for darkness? Who put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!”³ Yes! This is surely written down: these words of YAHUAH [God] through His prophet Isaiah and reaffirmed by the MESSIAH [Christ]’s own hand-picked apostle Paul (in Romans 1:18-32). For we have surely been warned: “woe [are] those who are wise in their own eyes, and prudent in their own sight!” about these things.

Dear family and friends, for example, I am here to tell you from the dark, and to preach from the housetop... and from the pulpit, for that matter, that ...

... it is *not* in YAHUAH [God]’s will that we should condone abortion. For doesn’t He tell each of us that “before I formed you in the womb, I *knew* you... and before you were born, I consecrated you”?⁴ And, “you shall not murder”⁵? If He knew you before He formed you, and consecrated you, why would you even begin to think that He didn’t know and intend to consecrate those 40 to 50 million babies who are being aborted every single year⁶?

... it is not in YAHUAH [God]’s will that we should condone any gender besides the gender of male or female... that particular sex into which each man and woman has been born. For doesn’t He tell each of us that in the beginning “ELOHIYM [God] created man”? That “He made him in the likeness of ELOHIYM [God]? That, “He created them male and female, and blessed them and called them Mankind in the day they were created”?

³. Isa. 5:20.

⁴. Ps. 139:16. Jer. 1:5.

⁵. Exod. 20:13.

⁶. Abortion Statistics. Worldometer. Accessed 1/30/2021. <https://www.worldometers.info/abortions/>

... it is not in the will of YAHUSHA [Jesus] that we be quiet about these things, about sin. For in today's scripture, he says that **"whatever I tell you in the dark, speak in the light; and what you hear in the ear, preach on the housetops"**, does He not? So why are the media, the billionaires, the politicians and governments today trying to stop "free" speech, particularly the words of morality...? Of conscience? For aren't the words that YAHUSHA [Jesus] have given to you and me, to "go therefore...? Teaching them to observe all that [YAHUSHA (Jesus)] has commanded" us? So that we might make disciples of all nations, including our family and friends, even the people of the media, the billionaires, the politicians and people of governments, who nowadays are "calling evil good, and good evil? Who are putting darkness for light, and light for darkness?" Who seem to be bitter about the sweet words of our Father, and our MESSIAH [Christ]? Are not the words of YAHUSHA [Jesus], found at the end of the Gospel of Matthew... that we are to bring *all* of these people into a fellowship, a *sister and brotherhood*, into a unified body that is organized under the name of "the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit (per John's gospel, chapter 17)?

Dear sisters and brothers, dear family... today, your ears may be itching for some other message, something softer and sweeter than what He is providing you. But the message you are hearing today, together with the messages of the past, are exactly what YAHUAH [God], through His son YAHUSHA [Jesus] and the RUACH HA'QODESH [Holy Spirit], are intending to provide you. Yes, if you are hearing this message today, then this message it was meant for you to hear.

Then if you are here today, are you capable of hearing and bearing what is ahead for you in 2021? Do you want to know what your part is in the year ahead? Then, I need only to restate a small portion of the message that was provided to you at the beginning of the Jewish new year 5781, on September 26, 2020. So, as 2021 begins, we are being told that we are entering "The Esther Season". The beautiful promise back then that led us into this message, was "yes, it's dark outside these days, but hope can shine within us. So, we must be of good cheer as 'we must "hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of [our] hope firm to the end' (Hebrews 3:6b)".

V. THE ESTHER SEASON

You and I, as the Bride of MESSIAH [Christ]... are entering the Esther Season. As we enter, we are to be pure and true to our Husband [YAHUSHA (Christ)]. It doesn't matter where we live – what country we live in, or what church we attend. For as He did in Esther's time, *today* YAHUAH [God] is calling His people, you and me, to enter into a season of prayer and fasting. Make no mistake about it: now is NOT a season

about bringing *our* own of petitions to Him. Instead, now is a season of YAHUAH [God] offering a very generous and gracious opportunity for you to repent and to receive His mercy... He is requiring stillness and silence in His presence. (Comment of use of our “passive” vs. our “active” skills with YAHUAH [God]). You are to come to Him with humble ears, ready to hearken to (to listen to and to give a respectful attention to) His word, and to heed it, to obey His every command. How quickly and how long this season will be is going to be different for everyone. But, each and every one of us need to be denying ourselves, taking up our cross each daily, and following Him on the path He puts in front of us. We are to be ready to become *uncomfortable!* Ready to *sacrifice!* Ready to *suffer!* ...and to *serve* Him as He *asks* us. Our lives must be a life of “go and sin no more”! But we are to be comforted, though, because the RUACH HA’QODESH [Holy Spirit] has been promised to us, if we ask, and He will continue to lead you, to each, and comfort us if we remain connected to Him.

Do not make the mistake, that as persecution and calamity comes to His Body, to our countries and the world, YAHUAH [God] is giving you permission to ignore the sufferings of your brethren and sisters, whether you agree with their religiosity or not, their individual choices, whether you think them good or bad, or not. YAHUAH [God] is *not* giving you permission to ignore the sufferings of your brethren and sisters; He is not! You and I need to remain with a spiritually ready heart and mind, ready to suffer and sacrifice for the sake of others, as we are to suffer for our ADONAI YAHUSHA HA’MASHIACH [Lord Jesus Christ].

VI. HELPING EACH OTHER OUT OF THE DARKNESS OF FEAR

You might still be asking, well... what am I really supposed to do when my friends and family, many whom I think are not yet genuinely connected to Him, His body, and His Kingdom because they are deceived... how am I supposed to handle them when they are faced with fear, and I am still working out my own salvation? They might be faced with a valid fear like the loss of a job? The answer to this is that you are to help take care of their physical needs, to best of your ability, until they are back on track, if ever. Remember, “freely you have received, freely give”.⁷ Well, what am I supposed to do when my friends or family suffer the death of a loved one? You are to go above and beyond... go to them and share your words of comfort, and cry tears of sympathy together with them. What, you might ask, if they are worried about the future of their children and grandchildren? You are to them, and participate in their concerns, and help them out emotionally and materially, as you

⁷. Matt. 10:8b.

can. Remember: “freely you have received, [so] freely give”. What, you might ask, if they are suffering from sickness, either physically or mentally? (Need I mention that last year, the COVID-19 pestilence brought with it much physical and mental sickness.) What are you to do, then? You are to go above and beyond, to go out of your way, to help each and every person who is within your reach.

Please notice today’s photo, at the front of our bulletin. On today’s photo, there appears to be two people. The one on the left side in the picture appears to be helping out the one on the right, to escape the black, the darkness that is behind him. The one on the right, who is in need, has his arm over the back of the other one. It appears that he needs the strength of the other to be able to walk forward. The one on the left has his hand around the waist of the one in need, keeping him upright and helping him along into the brighter, greener area that is ahead of them. This is a brilliant picture of how we need to work together on our road to the Kingdom of heaven, that we are fast approaching.

VII. THE SPIRIT OF THE LATTER CHURCH

As this year proceeds, we need to have the same goal that the early church had, who were so wonderfully filled with the RUACH HA’QODESH [Holy Spirit]. We are to “testified and encourage [others], saying, ‘be saved from this [present] perverse generation’. And we are to continue steadfastly in the apostles’ doctrine and in fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers. So then, that the good Godly fear [instead of worldly fear] will come upon every soul, and many wonders and signs will be done, and... all who will believe will be united together, and have all things in common, including our possessions and goods, and [so] they will be divided among all, as anyone has need.”⁸

Our mindset today and going forward is that we “**freely give**” because we have “**freely received**”.

VIII. CLOSING PRAYER

Dear Father, You know that we live in a crazy and chaotic world. You also know that I think that some of my friends and family are also crazy and chaotic. But You know that it may be me instead. You also know my struggles each day. When life gets to be too much, I ask that you please give me the frame of mind to come to You. Calm my thoughts and emotions and open my heart to your peace, comfort, and wisdom.

⁸. Acts 2:40-45.

Help me not to live in fear. Please reduce the feelings of fear and anxiety that plague me. Help me to find peace... to find rest in You. Help me to trust You as I navigate through this broken world. And in the process, as others also have need, please give freely to me enough, so that I may freely pass it on to them as they, as anyone else has need. Thank you, dear Father. I pray this prayer now in the beautiful, life-changing, life-saving name of YAHUSHA HA'MASHIACH [Jesus Christ]. Amen.⁹

⁹. "When Fear Knocks on our Door, send Faith to Answer."