

The Red-Letter Words of Yeshua ~ Part 57

As I have stated previously, I am following F. LaGard Smith's *"The Narrated Bible in Chronological Order"* for the outline of this series and his introductions to the topics. As usual, Scripture quotations are from the *Complete Jewish Bible* (CJB) by David Stern. Since the CJB is not a **Red-Letter** edition, I double-checked the **red** versus **green** with the English Standard Version (ESV).

Performing Miracles ~ Part 1

It is one thing for a man to teach what he claims is truth; it is another thing to demonstrate one's authority to claim the truth. [Think Moshe and Aharon before Pharaoh.] That is why **Yeshua's** miracles are such a vital part of His ministry. They are not being performed to entertain, show off His divine power, or even convince skeptics. The miracles are a means of confirming the message that the Kingdom of God is now being established with power!

Challenging Followers

MT 18 When Yeshua saw the crowd around him, He gave orders to cross to the other side of the lake. 19 A Torah-teacher approached and said to Him, "Rabbi, I will follow you wherever you go." 20 Yeshua said to him, "The foxes have holes, and the birds flying about have nests, but the Son of Man has no home of his own."

Son of Man. One of the titles of the **Messiah** is based on Daniel 7:13–14, where the text has "*bar-enosh*" (Aramaic). "*Bar-enosh*," like Hebrew *ben-adam*, can also mean "son of man," "typical man," "one schooled to be a man," or simply "man.". **Yeshua** is all of these: the **Messiah**, a typical (ideal) man, and one schooled both in heaven and on earth to be a man. **Yeshua** refers to Himself by this title frequently, stressing His complete identification with the human condition. ¹

LK 59 To another, He said, "Follow me!" but the man replied, "Sir, first let me go away and bury my father." 60 Yeshua said, "Let the dead bury their own dead; you, go and proclaim the Kingdom of God!"

The call to discipleship takes precedence over all other duties.

61 Yet another said, "I will follow you, sir, but first let me say goodbye to the people at home."

62 To him, Yeshua said, "No one who puts his hand to the plow and keeps looking back is fit to serve in the Kingdom of God."~ Mattityahu 8:18-22 (see Luke 9:59-62).

Followers of **Yeshua** must have a singular focus on the work of **God's Kingdom**.

Yeshua Calms the Sea

23 He boarded the boat, and his talmidim followed. 24 Then, without warning, a furious storm arose on the lake so that waves were sweeping over the boat. But Yeshua was sleeping. 25 So they came and roused him, saying, "Sir! Help! We're about to die!" 26 He said to them, "Why are you afraid? So little trust you have!" Then he got up and rebuked the winds and the waves, and there was a dead calm.

Yeshua uses this phrase at the beginning of verse 26 to respond to His talmidim doubt that **God** would care for them. Their weak faith contrasts with the centurion's great faith (v. 8:10).

¹ David H. Stern, *Jewish New Testament Commentary*.

27 The men were astounded. They asked, "What kind of man is this that even the winds and sea obey him?" ~ Mattityahu 13:44

In our next post, we continue to focus on **Yeshua Performing Miracles** in Mattityahu 8:28-34.