

The Red-Letter Words of Yeshua ~ Part 93

In Yerushalayim for Feast of Sukkot (Tabernacles) ~ Part 7

In our last post, we learned that **Yeshua** says, *"I am the Light of the World."* In this post, we will learn that **Yeshua Warns Against Unbelief** and more.

As in our last post, **Yeshua** is still speaking on the last day of **Sukkot, Hoshana Rabbah**.

Warning Against Unbelief

²¹ *Again, He told them, "I am going away, and you will look for me, but you will die in your sin—where I am going, you cannot come."*

You will die in your sin. This is a new teaching. Until now, **Yeshua** has not said you must trust in Him unless you are prepared to die in your sin.

²² *The Judeans said, "Is He going to commit suicide? Is that what He means when He says, 'Where I am going, you cannot come'?"* ²³ *Yeshua said to them, "You are from below, I am from above; you are of this world, I am not of this world.* ²⁴ *This is why I said to you that you will die in your sins; for if you do not trust that I AM [who I say I am], you will die in your sins."*

I am who I say I am, literally, **"I am."** **Yeshua** is intimating here and in v. 28 (below) that He is to be identified with **God**.

²⁵ *At this, they said to Him, "You? Who are you?" Yeshua answered, "Just what I've been telling you from the start.* ²⁶ *There are many things I could say about you and many judgments I could make. However, the One who sent Me is true; so I say in the world only what I have heard from Him."* ²⁷ *They did not understand that He was talking to them about the Father.* ²⁸ *So Yeshua said, "When you lift up the Son of Man, then you will know that I AM [who I say I am], and that of myself I do nothing, but say only what the Father has taught me."*

When you lift up the Son of Man, **Yeshua** predicts the manner and instrumentality of His death: these **Judeans** will have Him crucified by the **Romans**.

²⁹ *Also, the One who sent me is still with me; he did not leave me to myself because I always do what pleases him.* ³⁰ *Many people who heard him say these things trusted in Him.* ¹

On Spiritual Freedom

³¹ *So Yeshua said to the Judeans who had trusted Him, "If you obey what I say, then you are really My talmidim,* ³² *you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."*

There is a kind of trust which falls short of making one *really* a **talmid** of **Yeshua**. Real **talmidim** obeys **Yeshua**, which is more than mentally acknowledging who He is. The famous quotation, *"You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free,"* is conditioned on obeying what **Yeshua** says.

³³ *They answered, "We are the seed of Avraham and have never been slaves to anyone; so what do you mean by saying, 'You will be set free?'"* ³⁴ *Yeshua answered them, "Yes, indeed! I tell you that everyone who practices sin is a slave of sin."*

¹ Yochanan 8:21–30.

We ... have never been slaves. Valid for the speakers but not for the nation, which was redeemed from slavery in Egypt. The "Four Questions" of the **Haggadah** read on **Pesach** are answered by a passage which begins, "**Avadim hayinu**" ("We were slaves"). The speakers are avoiding **Yeshua's** challenge by invoking extreme literalism.

³⁵ Now, a slave does not remain with a family forever, but a son does remain with it forever. ³⁶ So if the Son frees you, you will really be free! ³⁷ I know you are the seed of Avraham. Yet you are out to kill me because what I am saying makes no headway in you. ³⁸ I say what my Father has shown me; you do what your Father has told you!"²

In our next post, we continue with our new series on **Yeshua's Journey to Yerushalayim for the Feast of Sukkot**. In our next post, we learn about who are the **True Children of Avraham**.

² Yochanan 8:30–38.