

There will weeping and gnashing of teeth

**Written by: Todd D. Bennett
www.shemayisrael.net**

This message was first published as a weekly Shabbat message on Day 10 of Month 12 on the Creator's Calendar, also known as February 12, 2022 on the Roman Calendar.

I often speak of the pagan origins of the Roman Gregorian Calendar and, of course, it is hard not to see aspects of ancient pagan culture consuming this modern society.

For instance, today is the Sabbath. It is a set apart day of rest established by the Creator during the process of Creation. Anyone who has read past the first chapter of Genesis should know that the seventh day is the Sabbath.

"1 Thus the heavens and the earth, and all the host of them, were finished. 2 And on the seventh day Elohim ended His work which He had done, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done. 3 Then Elohim blessed the seventh day and set it apart, because in it He rested from all His work which Elohim had created and made." Genesis 2:1-3

Despite the corruption of time, most calendars still show Sunday as the first day of the week, and Saturday as the seventh day of the week.

Sunday is the first day because the sun has the most importance in sun worship. Saturday is the name ascribed to the seventh day because Saturn is the seventh celestial body from the sun, including the sun.

The pagans have distorted the name and the meaning of the Sabbath. Instead of a day of rest, in honor of the Creator, it has become a day of work, shopping and recreation.

The commandment for those who follow YHWH is as follows: *“Six days shall work be done, but the seventh day is a Sabbath of solemn rest, a set apart rehearsal. You shall do no work on it; it is the Sabbath of YHWH in all your dwellings.”* Leviticus 23:3

So, we are Commanded to work six days – Sunday through Friday. We then rest on the seventh day and make our homes into set apart places, like the Garden of Eden, where YHWH can come and fellowship with us while we rest.

It is a beautiful pattern of the plan that YHWH has for His people. That is why it is called a “set apart rehearsal” (qadosh miqra). The entire plan of Elohim is actually encapsulated within this weekly cycle.

They question is: Where are you when YHWH comes knocking on Shabbat?

Consider the message given to the Assembly of Laodicea:

“¹⁴ And to the messenger of the assembly of the Laodiceans write, These things says the Amen, the Faithful and True Witness, the Beginning of the creation of Elohim: ¹⁵ I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot. ¹⁶ So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth. ¹⁷ Because you say, I am rich, have become wealthy, and have need of nothing - and do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked - ¹⁸ I counsel you to buy from Me gold refined in the fire, that you may be rich; and white garments, that you may be clothed, that the shame of

your nakedness may not be revealed; and anoint your eyes with eye salve, that you may see. ¹⁹ As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. Therefore, be zealous and repent. ²⁰ Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me.” Revelation 3:14-20

We live in a prosperous culture, likely the most prosperous in our known history – even more so than the Laodiceans. How appropriate this message is for Western Christianity.

He is standing at your door and knocking today. Are you in your set apart dwelling, prepared to let Him come in? Or are you outside mowing your lawn, washing your car, eating out or shopping?

He who has ears let him hear!

The lukewarm are on the broad way that leads to destruction. The zealous are on the narrow way.

Each week we have an opportunity to repent, reset our walk with Elohim and get in synchronicity with Him. It is the sign that we exhibit to the world.

This week I have had a lot of opportunities to talk about the Sabbath, because I have a variety of Christian contractors bulldozing, and helping us with our small structure that we are building.

When I tell them that we don't work and we don't allow any work on our property, it is usually met with an inquisitive look followed by the question: "I thought Sunday was the Sabbath."

At that point I feel like Babe Ruth winding up to hit a home run.

It's such a simple response.

“Well if you think the Pope and the Catholic Church have the authority to change the Commandments then I suppose Sunday is your sabbath. I don't follow the Pope. I follow the Creator of the Universe, and He says that the seventh day is the Sabbath, not the first day.”

If they seem interested and want more, I hand them my book titled *The Sabbath*. If they want to argue, I just ask them to show me in the Bible where Elohim changed the Sabbath or allowed anyone to change any of His Commandments. It's not in there, because He does not change. That is why He is described as a rock, time and time again in the Scriptures.

So, the followers of YHWH rest on this seventh day Sabbath, while much of the world profanes this set apart day and ascribes it to Saturn – the Roman god of sowing seed and the harvest. How ironic when you consider the topic of our discussion over the past several weeks.

To the pagans, Saturn is also the god of wealth and time. Again, quite ironic when we consider all the confusion concerning time.

While the followers of YHWH recognize that we are in the 12th month of the yearly cycle, much of the world is acknowledging February, a traditional “dead month” on the ancient Roman calendar.

Remember that there were originally only 10 months on the Roman calendar, and the period between December and March

was not counted, until month one was shifted to January and February became the second month.

The month of February is named after Februus, the Roman god of purification, and the Etruscan god of death and the underworld. I doubt that very few know this, or even care.

Most of the world is either asleep or distracted. Only the wise are discerning the time and preparing for the Master's return.

Last week we talked about being wise and bearing fruit.

We left off talking about the 5 foolish virgins, and the fact that while they were physically capable of being brides, they were not properly prepared, waiting and actually ready for the wedding.

Something was missing. They lacked oil, which means they had no light to find their way in the darkness.

The Scriptures are very clear that the Word of YHWH, His Torah, is the Lamp that Yahushua was referring to in the Parable.

***"Your word is a lamp to my feet,
and a light to my path."***

Psalm 109:105

***"For the commandment is a lamp,
and the Torah a light;
Reproofs of instruction are the way of life."***

Proverbs 6:23

This is so crystal clear, yet how many completely neglect the Commandments and Instructions of Elohim. They would rather

rely on a quote from Paul and consider the Commandments “nailed to the cross” and done away with.

Well, nothing could be further from the truth. While the accusations against us (i.e. our sins) may have been nailed to the cross and forgiven, because of the shed blood of Yahushua, the Torah was certainly not.

Here is a clear word and unequivocal statement from Yahushua directly on point.

“¹⁷ Do not think that I came to destroy the Torah or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill. ¹⁸ For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one tittle will by no means pass from the Torah till all is fulfilled.” Matthew 5:17-18

Guess what? Heaven and earth are still here.

If you are waiting for Yahushua to return then you must acknowledge that all is not fulfilled.

Therefore, nothing has passed from the Torah . . . nothing . . . nada! It is completely intact and applicable.

Sure, there is no Temple standing in Jerusalem, but that is because it was corrupted and defiled. Yahushua declared judgment upon it, as well as the House of Judah. It wasn't the first time.

It does not mean that YHWH changed His standard for righteousness and sin. Just because He allowed a structure built by men to be demolished does not mean that He changed in any way. In fact, we are assured in Malachi that He does not change. (Malachi 3:6)

Further, it does not mean that He changed His Sabbath, built into the very fabric of creation. Nor did He allow the Roman Catholic Church to change the seventh day Sabbath to the first day of the week – Sun Day.

Of course, the day of the Sun would be a “holy day” to a Roman sun worshipper. It makes sense that observing Sunday sabbath would be a “mark” or a “sign” of the Catholic Church – religion of Babylon.

None of that changes the fact that the seventh day Sabbath remains a sign for those in Covenant with YHWH.

So, what sign do you carry and present to the world?

Signs are important, especially the ones set in place by the Creator. We know from the first week of Creation that the lights in the heavens are for signs.

“Then Elohim said, ‘Let there be lights in the firmament of the heavens to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs and Appointed Times (moadim), and for days and years.” Genesis 1:14

Last week I talked about how the “wise men” from the east discerned certain signs that led them to Jerusalem seeking out the Messiah of Yisrael. I discuss the various signs that occurred in the Walk in the Light book titled *The Messiah*.

As we anticipate the return of the Messiah, the wise will be looking at the signs. In fact, that is what we are doing when we are keeping track of time and rehearsing the Appointed Times.

As we discern the times and understand that we are around the 120th Jubilee, many seek to know exactly when the Master will return, but I don't believe that is the point of the exercise.

The point is not to know the exact moment of His return so you can get ready right before He returns. No. The point is to be ready at all times, because you don't know when He will return.

Even though Daniel was provided with a timeline, and there was an expectation of the Messiah, no one knew the precise moment of His birth or the location. It was actually confirmed by a sign in the heavens described in Revelation.

"¹ Now a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a garland of twelve stars. ² Then being with child, she cried out in labor and in pain to give birth." Revelation 12:1-2

This great sign appeared in the skies above Jerusalem when Yahushua was born on the Appointed Time of Yom Teruah – the Day of Blasting. (Leviticus 23:23-25)

At that moment, those who were "rehearsing" the Appointed Times and sounding their shofars were actually involved in a celestial "birthday party," and they didn't even know it.

Even though there was an expectation, many people completely missed Yahushua, because He did not fit into their religious paradigm.

I can assure you that there will be many church-going Christians who will not be ready for the return of Yahushua, because they are caught up in a religion, rather than His renewed Covenant.

They bear the sign of the Catholic Church, instead of the Creator of all things. Most do not heed His words, or even know His Name. Most are not expecting Yahushua, they are looking for Jesus.

While they are busy being religious, they may find themselves shut out of the wedding, and in a place where there will be “weeping and gnashing of teeth.”

It’s a narrow gate. Yahushua warned that many will seek to enter and will not be able.

Last week I quoted that warning of Yahushua from Matthew 7. Here is another warning from the text of Luke.

“²⁴ Strive to enter through the narrow gate, for many, I say to you, will seek to enter and will not be able. ²⁵ When once the Master of the house has risen up and shut the door, and you begin to stand outside and knock at the door, saying, Lord, Lord, open for us, and He will answer and say to you, I do not know you, where you are from, ²⁶ then you will begin to say, We ate and drank in Your presence, and You taught in our streets. ²⁷ But He will say, I tell you I do not know you, where you are from. Depart from Me, all you workers of iniquity. ²⁸ There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of Elohim, and yourselves thrust out. ²⁹ They will come from the east and the west, from the north and the south, and sit down in the kingdom of Elohim. ³⁰ And indeed there are last who will be first, and there are first who will be last.” Luke 13:24-30

Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and the Prophets were all under the so-called “Old Covenant.” How do they get into the Kingdom, but people who lived with Yahushua get shut out?

They actually ate and they drank with Him. They think that they know Him, but He does not know them. He says there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Again, it all comes down to the fact that they are “workers of iniquity” also known as “those who practice lawlessness.” (Matthew 7:23) It’s the same thing.

Workers of iniquity, and those who practice lawlessness, are the ones who disobey the Commandments.

As we discussed last week, you can go to Church every Sunday, you can sing hymns, pray and even manifest signs and miracles, but that doesn’t equate to good fruit, and that’s not going to get you into the Kingdom.

The blood of Yahushua provides entry into the Kingdom, but once you gain access, you need to abide by the rules of the House. That is why the Passover is at the very beginning the annual cycle of the Appointed Times, which provide the roadmap back to Eden.

If you refuse to obey, you will be thrown out.

“¹¹ But when the king came in to see the guests, he saw a man there who did not have on a wedding garment. ¹² So he said to him, Friend, how did you come in here without a wedding garment? And he was speechless. ¹³ Then the king said to the servants, Bind him hand and foot, take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.” Matthew 22:11-13

Here again, we read about weeping and gnashing of teeth by people who wanted to get into the wedding.

We should all be preparing for the Wedding – the Marriage Supper of the Lamb. This is the culmination of the Appointed Times, and it is the reason why we rehearse.

We participate in the rehearsals built into the Appointed Times so that we are constantly anticipating and preparing. If you are not involved in that process then you may find yourself in with the 5 foolish.

Many people claim to follow the Messiah, but they do not do what He says.

Here is what they can expect to hear from Him if they don't repent and be zealous for His word.

“But why do you call Me ‘Lord, Lord,’ and not do the things which I say?” Luke 6:46

Those who do not do the things which He says are like those who build without a foundation. When the storms come, the house gets wiped out.

So, we don't just believe in our hearts, we express our belief through our lives. We demonstrate that we believe Him by what we do, and if we truly love Him, we keep His Commandments. (John 14:15)

When we walk in obedience and diligently observe His Appointed Times, at the correct time, we will be found ready when He returns.

The point is not necessarily to know the exact time. The repeated focus of Yahushua's parables is that we won't know precisely when He will return.

In fact, while He was sitting on the Mount of Olives and speaking the words of the Olivet Discourse, shortly before telling the Parable of the 10 Virgins, He stated:

***"³⁶ But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the messengers of heaven, but My Father only. ³⁷ But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. ³⁸ For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, ³⁹ and did not know until the flood came and took them all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. ⁴⁰ Then two men will be in the field: one will be taken and the other left. ⁴¹ Two women will be grinding at the mill: one will be taken and the other left. ⁴² Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Master is coming. ⁴³ But know this, that if the master of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched and not allowed his house to be broken into. ⁴⁴ Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."* Matthew 24:36-44**

The fact that He compares His coming with the Days of Noah is no coincidence. The last time He came judging the House of Judah. When He returns, He will be judging the Nations.

Another version of this message in Mark adds a little different information.

"³² But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the messengers in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³ Take heed, watch and pray; for you do not know when the time is. ³⁴ It is

like a man going to a far country, who left his house and gave authority to his servants, and to each his work, and commanded the doorkeeper to watch. ³⁵ Watch therefore, for you do not know when the master of the house is coming - in the evening, at midnight, at the crowing of the rooster, or in the morning - ³⁶ lest, coming suddenly, he find you sleeping. ³⁷ And what I say to you, I say to all: Watch!" Mark 13:32-37

Four times He uses the word - "watch." So, the prevailing warning is to watch, and be prepared if you want to be ready.

The prophets are supposed to be watching, warning and pointing people to the narrow path.

Sadly, most people who call themselves "watchmen" or "prophets" are failing miserably at their job. While they may be able to expose some of the works of darkness, they are failing to point people to the Covenant path.

Many of these so-called watchmen and prophets don't even know the Name of the Messiah or the Name of the Father. How is it that they can have so much "intel" and "inside information" and not even know the Name of the One they claim to serve.

Yahushua refers to these types of people as wolves dressed up like sheep. (Matthew 7:15) What good is their warning if they offer no solution, or their solution still leads to destruction?

Immediately after warning about the 5 foolish virgins Yahushua again instructed us to watch, followed by another important lesson on the Kingdom.

"¹³ Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour in which the Son of Man is coming. ¹⁴ For the kingdom of heaven is

like a man traveling to a far country, who called his own servants and delivered his goods to them. ¹⁵ And to one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one, to each according to his own ability; and immediately he went on a journey. ¹⁶ Then he who had received the five talents went and traded with them, and made another five talents. ¹⁷ And likewise he who had received two gained two more also. ¹⁸ But he who had received one went and dug in the ground, and hid his master's money. ¹⁹ After a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰ So he who had received five talents came and brought five other talents, saying, Master, you delivered to me five talents; look, I have gained five more talents besides them. ²¹ His master said to him, Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your master. ²² He also who had received two talents came and said, Master, you delivered to me two talents; look, I have gained two more talents besides them. ²³ His master said to him, Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your master. ²⁴ Then he who had received the one talent came and said, Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you have not sown, and gathering where you have not scattered seed. ²⁵ And I was afraid, and went and hid your talent in the ground. Look, there you have what is yours. ²⁶ But his master answered and said to him, You wicked and lazy servant, you knew that I reap where I have not sown, and gather where I have not scattered seed. ²⁷ So you ought to have deposited my money with the bankers, and at my coming I would have received back my own with interest. ²⁸ So take the talent from him, and give it to him who has ten talents. ²⁹ For to everyone who has, more will be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away. ³⁰ And cast the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth." Matthew 25:13-30

Here again, we read about someone weeping and gnashing their teeth. This is a sign of despair and frustration, because they realize that they missed out. This person was described as a servant, but he failed to please the master. He was therefore not ready when the Master returned.

Yahushua tells us who the wise servant is.

“⁴⁵ Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his master made ruler over his household, to give them food in due season? ⁴⁶ Blessed is that servant whom his master, when he comes, will find so doing. ⁴⁷ Assuredly, I say to you that he will make him ruler over all his goods. ⁴⁸ But if that evil servant says in his heart, My master is delaying his coming, ⁴⁹ and begins to beat his fellow servants, and to eat and drink with the drunkards, ⁵⁰ the master of that servant will come on a day when he is not looking for him and at an hour that he is not aware of, ⁵¹ and will cut him in two and appoint him his portion with the hypocrites. There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.” Matthew 24:45-51

Can you see a pattern here?

The point is that we are supposed to be found doing - bearing fruit and multiplying.

It doesn't matter how much you have been given to start. It only matters that you produce a hundred-fold return.

You have not been given life, truth and the opportunity for redemption just so you can “enjoy everyday life” and feel good about yourself.

You are expected to reap a bountiful crop.

The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few. Make sure that you are involved in the harvest!

Speaking of the harvest and laborers, last week we bought brother Thomas in Kenya a motorcycle. The country has been restricting public transportation for the unvaccinated. Now he can freely travel to more small villages and sow more seed. He has a wonderful new tool, and we are expecting an increase in his yield as a result.

Thanks to all who support Shema Yisrael for making this possible! If you are interested in helping out, you can always go to the website and make a donation.

We need to all take an inventory regarding the resources (talents) that we have been given. Are you burying them or multiplying them?

When the Master returns, He's expecting a return on His investment.

Next week we will examine the culmination of Yahushua's message, and the kind of fruit that He considers to be good.

Berakhot

Todd

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P.S. – This past week a dear friend and brother in Costa Rica named Walter passed on. Please keep his wife Florence in your prayers.

Shema Yisrael (Hear O Yisrael) are the words that Yahushua spoke when asked what was the First Command.

“The first of all the Commandments is: ‘Hear, O Yisrael, YHWH our Elohim, YHWH is one.’”

Mark 12:29

“He who has ears to hear, let him hear!”

Matthew 11:15