

Avoiding Idols by Following His Directions



Shalom All

Today is Day 22 of Month 4 on the Creator's calendar, also known as June 29, 2024 on the Roman calendar.

If we are tracking the Appointed Times in "real time" then we just commemorated the sin of the golden calf.

As stated last week, the Fast of the Fourth Month was a traditional Fast that YHWH acknowledged through the Prophet Zechariah. It commemorated the sin of the golden calf at Mount Sinai. (Zechariah 8:18)

I hope you had an opportunity to fast last week. It is a great way to focus our attention, remember the lessons of the past, and assess our current Covenant walk.

At Mount Sinai, the Children of Yisrael heard the powerful voice of YHWH, but they did not heed those instructions. Here is what they heard.

"¹ And Elohim spoke all these words, saying, ² I am YHWH your Elohim, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. ³ You shall have no other gods before me. ⁴ You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵ You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I YHWH your Elohim am a jealous Elohim, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me, ⁶ but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love Me and keep My Commandments. ⁷ You shall not take the name of YHWH your Elohim in vain, for YHWH will not hold him guiltless who takes His name in vain. ⁸ Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it set apart. ⁹ Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, ¹⁰ but the seventh day is a Sabbath to YHWH your Elohim. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates. ¹¹ For in six days YHWH made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore YHWH blessed the Sabbath day and made it set apart. ¹² Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that YHWH your Elohim is giving you. ¹³ You shall not murder. ¹⁴ You shall not commit adultery. ¹⁵ You shall not steal. ¹⁶ You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. ¹⁷ You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor's. ¹⁸ Now when all the

people saw the thunder and the flashes of lightning and the sound of the shofar and the mountain smoking, the people were afraid and trembled, and they stood far off.” Exodus 20:1-18

It is interesting that the text says that the people “saw the thunder.” I can understand seeing “the flashes of lightning,” but thunder is an entirely different matter. The air must have resonated with the intense sound to the point where they could see the sound.

After the Ten Commandments were spoken, Moses went up the mountain for forty days and forty nights. He was then given two tablets engraved by the Finger of Elohim.

Here is what happened:

“31:12 And YHWH spoke to Moses, saying, ¹³ ‘Speak also to the children of Israel, saying: ‘Surely My Sabbaths you shall keep, for it is a sign between Me and you throughout your generations, that you may know that I am YHWH who sanctifies you. ¹⁴ You shall keep the Sabbath, therefore, for it is holy to you. Everyone who profanes it shall surely be put to death; for whoever does any work on it, that person shall be cut off from among his people. ¹⁵ Work shall be done for six days, but the seventh is the Sabbath of rest, holy to YHWH. Whoever does any work on the Sabbath day, he shall surely be put to death. ¹⁶ Therefore the children of Yisrael shall keep the Sabbath, to observe the Sabbath throughout their generations as a perpetual covenant. ¹⁷ It is a sign between Me and the children of Yisrael forever; for in six days YHWH made the heavens and the earth, and on the seventh day He rested and was refreshed. ¹⁸ And when He had made an end of speaking with him on Mount Sinai, He gave Moses two tablets of the Testimony, tablets of stone, written with the finger of Elohim. ^{32:1} Now when the people saw that Moses delayed coming down from the mountain, the people gathered together to Aaron, and said to him, ‘Come, make us gods that shall go before us; for as for this Moses, the man who brought us up out

of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him.' ² And Aaron said to them, 'Break off the golden earrings which are in the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me.' ³ So all the people broke off the golden earrings which were in their ears, and brought them to Aaron. ⁴ And he received the gold from their hand, and he fashioned it with an engraving tool, and made a molded calf. Then they said, 'This is your god, O Yisrael, that brought you out of the land of Egypt!' ⁵ So when Aaron saw it, he built an altar before it. And Aaron made a proclamation and said, 'Tomorrow is a feast to YHWH.' ⁶ Then they rose early on the next day, offered burnt offerings, and brought peace offerings; and the people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play. ⁷ And YHWH said to Moses, 'Go, get down! For your people whom you brought out of the land of Egypt have corrupted themselves. ⁸ They have turned aside quickly out of the way which I commanded them. They have made themselves a molded calf, and worshiped it and sacrificed to it, and said, This is your god, O Yisrael, that brought you out of the land of Egypt!' ⁹ And YHWH said to Moses, 'I have seen this people, and indeed it is a stiff-necked people! ¹⁰ Now therefore, let Me alone, that My wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them. And I will make of you a great nation.' ¹¹ Then Moses pleaded with YHWH his Elohim, and said: YHWH, why does Your wrath burn hot against Your people whom You have brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? ¹² Why should the Egyptians speak, and say, He brought them out to harm them, to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth? Turn from Your fierce wrath, and relent from this harm to Your people. ¹³ Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Yisrael, Your servants, to whom You swore by Your own self, and said to them, 'I will multiply your seed as the stars of heaven; and all this land that I have spoken of I give to your seed, and they shall inherit it forever.' ¹⁴ So YHWH relented from the harm which He said He would do to His people. ¹⁵ And Moses turned and went down from the mountain, and the two tablets of the Testimony were in his hand. The tablets were written on both sides; on the one side and on the other they were written. ¹⁶ Now the tablets were

the work of Elohim, and the writing was the writing of Elohim engraved on the tablets. ¹⁷ And when Yahushua heard the noise of the people as they shouted, he said to Moses, 'There is a noise of war in the camp.' ¹⁸ But he said: 'It is not the noise of the shout of victory, nor the noise of the cry of defeat, but the sound of singing I hear. ¹⁹ So it was, as soon as he came near the camp, that he saw the calf and the dancing. So Moses' anger became hot, and he cast the tablets out of his hands and broke them at the foot of the mountain. ²⁰ Then he took the calf which they had made, burned it in the fire, and ground it to powder; and he scattered it on the water and made the children of Yisrael drink it. ²¹ And Moses said to Aaron, 'What did this people do to you that you have brought so great a sin upon them?' ²² So Aaron said, 'Do not let the anger of my lord become hot. You know the people, that they are set on evil. ²³ For they said to me, Make us gods that shall go before us; as for this Moses, the man who brought us out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him.' ²⁴ And I said to them, 'Whoever has any gold, let them break it off.' So they gave it to me, and I cast it into the fire, and this calf came out.' ²⁵ Now when Moses saw that the people were unrestrained (for Aaron had not restrained them, to their shame among their enemies), ²⁶ then Moses stood in the entrance of the camp, and said, 'Whoever is on YHWH's side - come to me!' And all the sons of Levi gathered themselves together to him. ²⁷ And he said to them, 'Thus says YHWH Elohim of Yisrael: 'Let every man put his sword on his side, and go in and out from entrance to entrance throughout the camp, and let every man kill his brother, every man his companion, and every man his neighbor.' ²⁸ So the sons of Levi did according to the word of Moses. And about three thousand men of the people fell that day. ²⁹ Then Moses said, 'Consecrate yourselves today to YHWH, that He may bestow on you a blessing this day, for every man has opposed his son and his brother.' ³⁰ Now it came to pass on the next day that Moses said to the people, 'You have committed a great sin. So now I will go up to YHWH; perhaps I can make atonement for your sin.' ³¹ Then Moses returned to YHWH and said, 'Oh, these people have committed a great sin, and have made for themselves a god of gold! ³² Yet now, if You will forgive their sin - but

if not, I pray, blot me out of Your Scroll which You have written.’³³ And YHWH said to Moses, ‘Whoever has sinned against Me, I will blot him out of My Scroll.’³⁴ Now therefore, go, lead the people to the place of which I have spoken to you. Behold, My Messenger shall go before you. Nevertheless, in the day when I visit for punishment, I will visit punishment upon them for their sin.’³⁵ So YHWH plagued the people because of what they did with the calf which Aaron made.” Exodus 31:12 to 33:35

We all know this story, but it still amazes me what an incredible mediator Moses was for the people of Yisrael. I imagine he was frustrated and exhausted on countless occasions. YHWH even offered to make him a “great nation.” Nevertheless, we read that Moses pleaded with YHWH, and YHWH relented.

I also find it interesting that the final words that YHWH spoke to Moses before handing him the two tablets were concerning the Sabbath.

While YHWH reiterated the importance of the set-apart day, the people were down below celebrating their own “Feast to YHWH.” Their conduct was definitely not set-apart, although they thought it was. They used the gold that they plundered from Egypt to make an Egyptian god.

That is why YHWH does not want us carrying foreign luxuries into the Land. Remember the lust of Achan at the Valley of Achor? (see Joshua 7) All the stuff that our flesh desires eventually ends up turning into an idol.

Well, the Children of Yisrael decided to wait no longer for Moses, they were going to do it their way.

Their decision to use their gold to build an idol was a pivotal moment for the Assembly of Yisrael. These people had witnessed the ten plagues upon Egypt, and now they were going to be plagued like Egypt because they brought Egypt into the camp.

Incredibly, the fifth plague was specifically directed toward the Egyptian goddess Hathor, and now the Yisraelites decided to worship her image. Not only that, they were declaring that the image of Hathor represented YHWH. What about those first three Commandments? You know, the ones that YHWH shouted from the mountain.

Well, they almost got wiped out, and they would have if Moses had not intervened. You could say that they were “saved” thanks to Moses’ mediation. This would establish the pattern for another “like Moses” who was needed to mediate to restore the relationship between YHWH and Yisrael.

“I will raise up for them a Prophet like you from among their brethren, and will put My words in His mouth, and He shall speak to them all that I command (צוה) Him.” Deuteronomy 18:18

The relationship needed to be repaired because it had dramatically changed. Things would be different from that point on. The people would be separated from YHWH. There would be no deep intimacy, because the Bride had been caught cheating in the midst of the wedding ceremony.

In Hebrew, the word “zanah” (זנה) is interchangeable for idolatry, adultery and harlotry. Yisrael had played the harlot, and it was as if she had been relegated to a concubine or worse.

This event also resulted in a shift in the Priesthood. It was removed from the firstborn and transferred to the Tribe of Levi. They would now mediate between YHWH and the people.

This story is important because it reminds us of the fact that the Covenant relationship needed to be repaired. The status quo with the Levites as Priests was not the relationship that YHWH originally intended. That is why YHWH eventually allowed it all to be destroyed by the Romans in 70 CE.

We are not looking for another Temple to be built and filled with Levites. We are anticipating the restoration of the Melchizedek Order through a House of Prayer for all Nations built by the Firstborn Son. (see Isaiah 56)

YHWH revealed the pattern of renewal through Moses. While the terms of the Covenant would remain the same, the Covenant needed to be renewed. Only now Moses had to cut the two stone tablets and then present them before YHWH.

Here is the account of the replacement tablets.

“¹⁷ You shall make no molded gods for yourselves. ¹⁸ The Feast of Unleavened Bread you shall keep. Seven days you shall eat unleavened bread, as I commanded you, in the appointed time of the month of the Abib; for in the month of the Abib you came out from Egypt. ¹⁹ All that open the womb are Mine, and every male firstborn among your livestock, whether ox or sheep. ²⁰ But the firstborn of a donkey you shall redeem with a lamb. And if you will not redeem him, then you shall break his neck. All the firstborn of your sons you shall redeem. And none shall appear before Me empty-handed. ²¹ Six days you shall work, but on the seventh day you shall rest; in plowing time and in harvest you shall rest. ²² And you shall observe the Feast of Weeks, of the firstfruits of wheat harvest, and the Feast of Ingathering at the year’s end. ²³ Three times in the year all your men shall appear before the Adon, YHWH Elohim of Yisrael. ²⁴ For I will cast out the nations before you and enlarge your borders; neither will any man covet your land when you

go up to appear before YHWH your Elohim three times in the year. ²⁵ You shall not offer the blood of My sacrifice with leaven, nor shall the sacrifice of the Feast of the Passover be left until morning. ²⁶ The first of the firstfruits of your land you shall bring to the house of YHWH your Elohim. You shall not boil a young goat in its mother's milk. ²⁷ Then YHWH said to Moses, Write these words, for according to the tenor of these אֵל-words I have made a covenant with you and with אֵל -Yisrael. ²⁸ So he was there with YHWH forty days and forty nights; he neither ate bread nor drank water. And He wrote on the tablets אֵל words of the Covenant, the Ten Commandments.” Exodus 34:27-28

Did you notice the final words of YHWH before He wrote on the Tablets? Now He was specifically reminding Moses not to make any images and He outlined the Appointed Times.

Again, that emphasis is important because those Appointed Times would lead us to a renewal of the Covenant that would restore the intimacy lost when the Covenant was broken and the first tablets were smashed.

We see the aleph tau (אָ) in this renewal process, and this points to a future renewal of the broken Covenant by the Messiah.

There is a tradition that the first set of Tablets were written on Sapphire stone from the Throne of YHWH. They were the work of YHWH. (see Exodus 24:10-12 Ezekiel 1:26 and 10:1)

Now, the second set of tablets were made of stone, fashioned by a man.

We want to return to that Covenant of Sapphire and appear before the Throne. (Ezekiel 1:26 and 10:1, Revelation 21:19)

These “Ten Commandments” written by YHWH are literally described as “Ten Words (דְּבָרִים)” in the text. It is worth noting that we sometimes get the wrong impression by describing those “Words” as “Commands.”

Last week, a friend sent me a commentary concerning the ancient Hebrew understanding of the word translated “commandment.” It was from an article written by Jeff Benner titled *God's commands are not "commands!"*

Here is an excerpt:

“An English definition of a command or commandment is "to direct with authority" or "to give orders" as a general does to his troops.

And it shall be our righteousness, if we observe to do all these commandments (mitsvah) before the LORD our God, as he hath commanded us. Deuteronomy 6:25 (KJV)

Is the meaning of the Hebrew word מצוה (*mitsvah*, Strong's #H4687), as found in the passage above, a command? Is God our general giving us an order to obey? Or is the Ancient Hebrew understanding of this word something different?

And we departed from Horeb and walked through all that great and fearful wilderness which you saw by the path of the mountain of Amorites just as Yahweh our God directed (tsavah) us and we came unto Qadesh Barnea. Deuteronomy 1:19

The word "directed" above is the verb צוה (*tsavah*, Strong's #H6680), the root of the word *mitsvah*. While translators usually translate this word as "command," an abstract word, the more Hebraic definition is "to direct," a concrete concept meaning "to show or point out a path." God is not a general barking orders but a guide. He is our guide and his *mitsvah* is his direction to us to lead us on his path as can be seen in several passages from Psalm 119.

With all my heart I will seek after you, you will cause me to not stray from your directions (mitsvah). Verse 10

I will run the path of your directions (mitsvah) because you have widened my heart. Verse 32

Lead me in the pathway of your directions (mitsvah) for in it is my delight. Verse 35

I have gone astray like a lost sheep, seek your servant so that I don't forget your directions (mitsvah). Verse 176

The Biblical Greek word used to translate the Hebrew word *mitsvah* is *entole*, (Strong's #G1785) and is a combination of the word *en*, (Strong's #G1722), meaning "in" or "with," and *telos*, (Strong's #G5056) meaning "end" or "goal." *Entole* literally means "with a goal" and is very similar to our Hebraic understanding of the *mitsvah* as a direction.

Yeshua was asked a question in regards to the *mitsvah*.

Rabbi, tell us, what is the great direction (entole/mitsvah) which is in the teachings (torah)? He said to him, "And you shall love Yahweh your God with all your heart.' This is the first, the second is like it, 'And you shall love your neighbor as yourself,' and upon these two directions (entole/mitsvah) all the teachings hang, and the prophets." Matthew 22:36 (This translation is from the Shem Tov Hebrew Matthew)"

This is an important point because the word “direction” is much different than “commandment.” A person follows directions to get to a destination, and a person asks for directions when they are lost. The directions are meant to guide a person.

When we are on a trip, following directions, we are often confronted with “commands” to “stop,” “yield,” “limit your speed,” etc. The commands are often created by men, and they have punishments associated with them. So the emphasis of the word “command” involves a penalty.

The same dichotomy exists between the translation of “the Torah” as “the Law” in most English texts. The word Torah actually means “instructions” and involves pointing and moving.

The Torah points us in the way that we should walk. It contains the “directions” for the Covenant journey that leads us home to YHWH Elohim.

So, the ten “Words” or “directions” provided instructions and priorities for how people should live. They are provided so that we can pass the tests, avoid the plagues and make it to the destination.

I always find it interesting when I hear Rabbis promote the so-called “Seven Noahide Laws” that they say apply to Gentiles.

They teach that Gentiles cannot and should not obey the Torah, which is exactly the opposite of the mandate of Yisrael to be “*a Kingdom of Priests.*” Exodus 19:6

It’s just another example of how the religion of Judaism does not represent the faith of Yisrael. Judaism is a newly contrived religion from a sect of Pharisees who rejected the atoning sacrifice of Yahushua.

They now seek atonement through “Teshuva” – Repentance, “Tzedekah” (good deeds) and “Tefillin” (prayers). This is not the path described through the “directions” found in the Torah.

As a result, Judaism has created its own path, separate from the direction provided by YHWH through His Son.

Yahushua said that He was the Way and the door, but Judaism has rejected that entrance into the Kingdom.

Judaism seeks a different door. They have decided to do it their own way, just like the Yisraelites who built the golden calf. Indeed, some are now looking for a red cow to slaughter when Yahushua fulfilled the pattern of the red heifer.

The Yisraelites at Sinai got impatient and did not want to wait for Moses. That was actually one of the ten tests in the wilderness that they failed.

Remember that while there were ten plagues rendered upon Egypt, the Yisraelites were involved in ten tests after they left Egypt.

As Numbers 14:20-23 says: *“²⁰ Then YHWH said: I have pardoned, according to your word, ²¹ but truly, as I live, the אשׁ-whole-earth shall be filled with the glory (kabod) of YHWH - ²² because all these men who have seen My אשׁ-glory (kabod) and the אשׁ-signs which I did in Egypt and in the wilderness, and have put Me to the test now these ten times, and have not heeded My voice, ²³ they certainly shall not see the אשׁ-Land of which I swore to their fathers, nor shall any of those who rejected Me see it.”*

Failing those “ten tests” kept that generation from entering the Land. This passage is quite profound because it promises a time when the kavod of YHWH will fill the whole earth, and that promise is associated with the aleph tau (אשׁ) – the Messiah.

Incredibly, only two from the generation that left Egypt would make it in. It is no coincidence that the man Yahushua would lead the Yisraelites. Caleb was also allowed in.

Why Caleb you might ask?

“But My servant Caleb, because he has a different spirit in him and has followed Me fully, I will bring into the land where he went, and his seed shall inherit it.” Numbers 14:24

Caleb followed YHWH fully. He followed all the directions. He did not fail the tests.

We already discussed the first six tests leading up to Mount Sinai. Those six tests between Passover and Shavuot were all based upon trust, faith and obedience. YHWH wanted to determine whether the people would obey Him or not. Would they trust Him to protect them and provide for their needs? Would they simply follow the directions?

Last week I discussed the connection between the first woman and worship. We saw that obedience is an integral part of worship as we saw from the incidents involving Chawah and Abraham

Contrast those two events.

Chawah disobeyed a very simple and specific instruction. As a result, she was ejected from paradise, along with Adam and the rest of mankind.

Abraham obeyed and was promised seed that would bless all the Nations of the Earth. His seed would draw the scattered Nations back to YHWH.

Abraham didn't just obey by refraining from eating a certain fruit. He obeyed by offering the most precious thing in his life.

Chawah disobeyed because she wanted something beyond what she was given. Abraham obeyed by offering the greatest thing that he was given.

Think about that for a moment.

We have a majority of Christians who believe they can be the Bride of Messiah and live lives of complete lawlessness. The mantra is "We can't do anything, it's all Jesus."

They don't want to give up anything - their pagan holidays, their bacon or their Saturday shopping sprees at the Mall. And they don't want to have to do anything because that's legalism, and they're not under the law.

They forget the lesson that we are supposed to "walk with Elohim." That is why Yahushua was always on the move and said, "Follow Me."

Many Christians have turned their “walk” into a “sit-in” – waiting for the rapture.

Was Abraham unique, or did his life provide an example for the rest of us to follow? There would be no Covenant if he didn’t follow the directions from Babylon to the land of Canaan. His life provided us with a map, so to speak.

Sometimes, we read about people in the Scriptures in a very detached manner. We view them as anomalies rather than as examples to emulate.

We should be no different from Abraham, and we must be willing to give up, or should I say, “give back”, the thing we most value.

And that brings us back to idolatry (זנה).

If there is anything in our lives that we cannot give back to YHWH, then it is likely an idol. If it takes our kavod and strength, our worship, away from YHWH then it is an idol.

We should not be making idols, owning idols, collecting idols or worshipping idols. We must discard all of the “images” of Egypt and our inherited Babylonian religion.

As I mentioned last week, the lost sheep of the House of Yisrael are currently in exile because of our ancestors' idolatry. King Jeroboam was promised a Kingdom like David.

“³⁷ So I will take you, and you shall reign over all your heart desires, and you shall be king over Yisrael. ³⁸ Then it shall be, if you heed all that I command (אצו) you, walk in My ways, and do what is right in My sight,

to keep My statutes and My commandments (mitzvot), as My servant David did, then I will be with you and build for you an enduring house, as I built for David, and will give Yisrael to you. ³⁹ And I will afflict the descendants of David because of this, but not forever.” 1 Kings 11:37-39

Sadly, Jeroboam did not have a heart like David. He didn't trust the promise of YHWH, and he was not willing to follow the “directions” of YHWH. After he returned from Egypt, he constructed two golden calves to prevent his people from going to Jerusalem.

“²⁸ Therefore the king asked advice, made two calves of gold, and said to the people, ‘It is too much for you to go up to Jerusalem. Here are your gods, O Yisrael, which brought you up from the land of Egypt!’ ²⁹ And he set up one in Beit-El, and the other he put in Dan. ³⁰ Now this thing became a sin, for the people went to worship before the one as far as Dan. ³¹ He made shrines on the high places, and made priests from every class of people, who were not of the sons of Levi. ³² Jeroboam ordained a feast on the fifteenth day of the eighth month, like the feast that was in Yahudah, and offered sacrifices on the altar. So he did at Beit-El, sacrificing to the calves that he had made. And at Bethel he installed the priests of the high places which he had made. ³³ So he made offerings on the altar which he had made at Beit-El on the fifteenth day of the eighth month, in the month which he had devised in his own heart. And he ordained a feast for the children of Yisrael, and offered sacrifices on the altar and burned incense.” 1 Kings 12:28-33

His time in Egypt had affected and influenced him, and he ended up committing the same sin as the Children of Yisrael at Sinai, only worse.

Jeroboam made two golden calves and set up an altar at Beit-El. This was right in YHWH's face, at the place called House of El (Beit-El). He also changed the Feast dates and the priesthood.

Jeroboam essentially set up a new and different religion, just like Christianity and Judaism have done. He did this because he took advice from others, and it was all about securing his own power. He decided to do it his way instead of the way YHWH instructed.

Ultimately, that is what happens when we don't follow the directions. We get lost, and if we don't course correct, we end up on the way that leads to destruction. (Matthew 7:13)

This may seem elementary to many who have been in the Covenant for some time, but it never hurts to go back to the basics.

We are all walking on a path that I refer to as "Leaving Babylon." We were given directions for the journey, and it is up to us to start walking and keep walking. YHWH provides rest stops and even an oasis through His Sabbaths and Appointed Times.

We all carry certain baggage with us from our past lives in Babylon. We need to make sure we aren't carrying any idols or fashioning foreign gods along the way.

If so, it's time to lighten the load and follow the directions so that we can pass the tests and make it to the destination.

The prophet Zechariah told of a time when the Fast of the Fourth Month would be "*joy and gladness and a cheerful Feast.*" (Zechariah 8:19)

The way that will happen is when "*... ten men from every language of the Nations shall grasp the kanaph (כַּנָּף) of a Yahudi man, saying, 'Let us go with you, for we have heard that Elohim is with you.'*" Zechariah 8:23

Clearly, this is referring to the Lost Sheep of the House of Yisrael (the 10 northern tribes in exile) finding their way back to YHWH by following Yahushua.

The “kanaph” (כנף) is where the tzitzit are located on our garments, and the tzitzit are intended to remind us of the directions (mitzvot).

“³⁸ Speak to the children of Yisrael: Tell them to make tzitzit on the corners (כנף) of their garments throughout their generations, and to put a blue thread in the tzitzit of the corners (כנף). ³⁹ And you shall have the tzitzit, that you may look upon it and remember all the directions (mitzvot) of YHWH and do them, and that you may not follow the idolatry (זנה) to which your own heart and your own eyes are inclined, ⁴⁰ and that you may remember and do all My directions, (mitzvot) and be set-apart for your Elohim. ⁴¹ I am YHWH your Elohim, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, to be your Elohim: I am YHWH your Elohim.” Numbers (Bemidbar) 15:37-41

The mitzvot concerning the tzitzit was given “in the wilderness,” which is “b’midbar” (במדבר) in Hebrew. The only way to make it out of the wilderness and be restored to YHWH is through the Covenant renewed by the Yahudi man – Yahushua the Messiah.

We must take hold of His tzitzit and follow His directions.

I recommend that you hold on tight!

Berakhot

Todd

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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*