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Apostolic Epistle

THERE REMAINS A REST: THE DEEPER MEANING OF THE SABBATH

In the Name of Almighty YAHUWAH our Father and Messiah Yah'shua our Redeemer, Greetings.

Beloved family, for those of us who have been blessed with the knowledge of our true identity and destiny as Hebrew Yisraelites, the Fourth Commandment to consecrate the Shabbat should take on a whole new cultural and spiritual significance. Certainly, it should cause us to re-examine its meaning in light of our rediscovered *national* relationship to the Torah. But unfortunately, for many of us, just as it was before we lost our national identity, the Shabbat has become not much more than a misguided source of cultural pride.

For many of us, the Sabbath has simply become a carnal means of drawing a false distinction between “us” – the Hebrew Yisraelite-aware, and “them” – those despicable “X-tians.” But the truth is, just like the whole Law given at Sinai, the keeping of the Shabbat was originally commanded of us not as a badge of cultural uniqueness, but as a prophetic revelation of a divine principle. And as a means of introducing a carnal group of Hebrew slaves to the spiritual and invisible YAHUWAH.

But beyond the Shabbat causing us to reflect upon the seventh day of creation, or the principle of weeks or ‘sevens,’ there is a profound deeper meaning of the Fourth Commandment. In this final hour, Abba YAH is restoring to His remnant a fresh and renewed revelation of Himself, His vision, and His purpose and plan for our lives, through the greater meaning and purpose of the Sabbath.

Now of course, the weekly Shabbat is fundamentally about *rest*. YAHUWAH Elohim created the heavens and the earth in six “days,” and on the seventh day, They rested. And the very fact that the Law of Shabbat is included in the Ten Commandments means that to forsake the weekly rest, is to forfeit the divine blessing that comes with the tablets of stone being found in our hearts! And clearly, beyond traditional Christianity’s heretical misreading of YAH’s grace, we know and innerstand well that the stone tablets *were not nailed to the cross*. SÉLAH.

Now – with YAH being omnipotent and having no need, why would He rest on the seventh day?

Behold Yisrael: our Abba was establishing for all time, in the very process of creation itself, a divine principle of victory over sin! And surely, that victory sees its ultimate fulfillment in His people ceasing from dead works – from their own labor in righteousness; and resting in the *living* works made available through the salvation of Mashiach. The fourth chapter of Hebrews (notice the name of this NT book) illuminated by the Holy Spirit, reveals to us this mystery hidden from the ancient Yisraelites, who for the most part, saw no deeper than its external meaning...

Sadly, the ancient nation consistently rejected the revelation of the prophets into its deeper meaning: that the Shabbat in the Commandments is much more than a Memorial Feast commemorating the Shabbat of Elohim after the creation; or the Exodus from Egypt, and rest from the burden of slavery. In truth, the Fourth Commandment is also a foreshadowing of a spiritual rest from the letter of the Law... The deeper meaning of the Sabbath.

Brethren, even though our fathers entered into the Promised Land under Yahushua-Joshua and rested from *physical* slavery, it was Joshua himself who prophesied of a *spiritual* rest that must come to the children of Yisrael. As it is written, “For if Joshua had given them rest, then he would not afterward have spoken of another day. Therefore, there remains a rest for the people of YAH.” And as it is written, “For he who has entered into His rest has himself also ceased from his works as YAH did from His. Let us therefore be diligent to enter that rest, lest anyone fall according to the same example of disobedience.” (Heb. 4:8-11).

Beloved family, we as Yisraelim must know and understand that Mashiach has not “...freed us from the Law.” YAH forbid! However, He *has* freed us from the *curse* of the Law. That is to say, Yahushua has freed us from the burden and hard slave labor of righteousness through ritualism and the outward appearance of righteousness – Levitical ceremonies, washings, etc. – and emancipating us unto a true spiritual rest, the heavenly Shabbat of an authentically peaceful and

righteous life! SÉLAH. Surely, our liberation as a people must be absolute – not just in mind and body, but in spirit. And love simply cannot flourish in a climate of confusion. Especially not in the midst of our long and difficult struggle toward repatriation. At all times and under all circumstances, all things must be done decently and in order.

Sh'ma Yisrael: our greatest rest is not found in the Exodus of our fathers from Egypt; nor in being unchained by our American slave masters, nor even in the *physical* rest of the weekly Shabbat.

Our greatest rest is found in the knowledge that Yah'shua Ha Mashiach, the sacrificial Lamb offered up once and for all, for all worshipers of YAH for all time, has freed us not from the Torah, but from the law of sin and death. And even as the Tablets of Stone were placed inside the Ark of the Covenant with the Torah scrolls placed *beside* it, the Ten Commandments have been written in our hearts by Ruakh Ha Qodesh, that we may keep the Torah close at hand, and receive the pure language of Abba YAH!

Beloved children, in this final hour of our captivity, the sincere prayer of this servant is that each of you may finally stand with a clear conscience; purged from the dead rituals of self-righteousness, to serve our Father, the true and living GOD of our fathers, with living works; and to obey His Torah in spirit, deed and truth.

May the Grace, Mercy and Divine Completeness of Almighty YAH be with you all. ECHAD!

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