***What did Yahshua Really Say- Part 12?***

**Matthew 16:1-4** *1 Then the Pharisees and Sadducees came, and testing Him asked that He would show them a sign from heaven. 2 He answered and said to them, "When it is evening you say, 'It will be fair weather, for the sky is red'; 3 and in the morning, 'It will be foul weather today, for the sky is red and threatening.' Hypocrites! You know how to discern the face of the sky, but you cannot discern the signs of the times. 4 A wicked and adulterous generation seeks after a sign, and no sign shall be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah." And He left them and departed.*

Yahshua provided a saying that Sailors have used for two thousand years.

Red sky at night….. sailors delight. Red sky at morn…… sailors take warn.

They could interpret the signs of weather but they missed all of the signs and prophecies of the Old Testament that predicted His coming. And this was supposed to be their area of expertise. This is what He is referring to here.

So why is it wrong to ask for a sign? Didn’t other people in the Old Testament ask for a sign?

Yahshua was all over the Torah and the Prophets and all the people were in fact expecting the Messiah but they obviously had no clue and were not paying any attention to the prophecies given that described Yahshua perfectly! This is why they were wicked because “Referring to Messiah” they had already been given dozens of prophecies that clearly pointed to Yahshua.

***Matthew 16:5-12*** *5 Now when His disciples had come to the other side, they had forgotten to take bread. 6 Then Yahshua said to them, "Take heed and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and the Sadducees." 7 And they reasoned among themselves, saying, "It is because we have taken no bread." 8 But Yahshua, being aware of it, said to them, "O you of little faith, why do you reason among yourselves because you have brought no bread? 9 Do you not yet understand, or remember the five loaves of the five thousand and how many baskets you took up? 10 Nor the seven loaves of the four thousand and how many large baskets you took up? 11 How is it you do not understand that I did not speak to you concerning bread?--but to beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees." 12 Then they understood that He did not tell them to beware of the leaven of bread, but of the doctrine of the Pharisees and Sadducees.*

This is so appropriate for today and I would take it literally that we should beware of any of the teaching of the pastors, ministers, and teachers if they do not follow the Bible in its entirety the way Yahshua and His disciples taught it! It is so easy to be deceived if we are not paying attention. Remember, the Pharisees and Sadducees were teaching much of the Torah and Scriptures correctly. They just twisted a little here, added a little there…… kind of improved upon it……. In their own minds anyway.

Much like today’s religious authorities. Not everything they teach is wrong! Far from it. They simply just twist a little here, added a little there…… kind of improved upon it for the 21st century……. And they are rock stars in their own minds and much of America’s eyes.

It may sound good, feel good and tickle your ears but remember what the prophet said *Proverbs 14:12 There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death!*

***Matthew 16:13-20*** *13 When Yahshua came into the region of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, saying, "Who do men say that I, the Son of Man, am?" 14 So they said, "Some say John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets."
15 He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" 16 Simon Peter answered and said, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." 17 Yahshua answered and said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven.* ***18 And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. 19 And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."*** *20 Then He commanded His disciples that they should tell no one that He was the Messiah.*

Yahovah had revealed to Simon that Yahshua was the Messiah. But the next statement by Yahshua is quite misunderstood. Lets read it from Hebrew, and it is almost identical in both Hebrew versions of Matthew.

*Vs 18 I say to you: you are a stone and I will build upon you my house of prayer. The gates of Gehenna will not prevail against you 19 because I will give to you the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven. Whatsoever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.*

This states that upon the shoulders of Peter he would establish his house of prayer.

It also states that I “will” give to you the Keys to the Kingdom of Heaven. This is a future tense that will happen at Pentecost. Let’s take this apart a bit because there are so many misconceptions about verse 19.

Keys (to the kingdom) Kleis 2807 - the keeper of the keys has the power to open and to shut **Metaphor**. in the NT to denote power and authority of various kinds

So Peter or “Rock” Will be given the power and authority of heaven and this does happen. It was also given to the other disciples who were all there in one accord. It is for us today, but more on that in a minute.

Lets get to the binding and loosing. It makes little sense in English but these were common terms used in Yahshua’s time that simply mean this.

Binding = Forbidding and Loosing = Permitting but they were almost exclusively used regarding the “Proper teaching of the Torah and the Prophets”. On the contrary the modern use of these terms is for binding the enemy and loosing the blessings which is a perversion of the Scriptures.

Can we really forbid things on earth and heaven must follow and then permit things on earth and heaven again must follow our lead? **That’s** **Ridiculous.**

If we let Scripture interpret Scripture we all will have no problem acknowledging that we do not direct Yahovah, but rather He directs us.

If we can establish that simple fact then it has to be in our modern English translations that don’t always make perfect sense. Lets read two versions that I believe have more accurately translated the verse properly from the original language.

**Matthew 16:19 (New American Standard Bible)**
*"I will give you* *the keys of the kingdom of heaven; and* *whatever you bind on earth* *shall have been bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth* *shall have been loosed in heaven."*

• Two chapters later we have the same verse almost word for word so lets read from the:

 **(Williams’ Translation) Matthew 18:18**
*I solemnly say to you, whatever you forbid on earth must be already forbidden in heaven, and whatever you permit on earth must be already be permitted in heaven.”*

It does not say here, but I believe that after Yahshua taught the disciples for 40 days after his resurrection, and they received the power of the Holy Spirit, Yahshua knew that Peter and the others would now properly follow the Torah and Yahshua’s instructions completely and fully from here on out. In effect they would be in tune with the Fathers instructions and they would “bind and loose” according to the Scriptures and NOT according to the ridiculous “name it claim” it schemes we see today!

I also believe that this power (or keys) of the Kingdom of Heaven is available to us today when we reach the point that Peter and the disciples reached. This is the same point that Paul eventually reached and many others who have followed Yahshua all out 100%.

They went through intense discipleship just like Paul had to do after his conversion. Their advantage is they all had a great understanding and knowledge of the Torah and Scriptures where we start out almost as true infants. We possibly have a 4-5 year olds understanding of the Torah (when we start this journey) and are really in need of intense training, teaching and discipleship.

• ***When will we get to that point? How Hungry Are You?***

***Matthew 16:21-23*** *21 From that time Yahshua began to show to His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem, and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised the third day. 22 Then Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him, saying, "Far be it from You, Lord; this shall not happen to You!" 23 But He turned and said to Peter, "Get behind Me, Satan! You are an offense to Me, for you are not mindful of the things of God, but the things of men."*

Yahshua is explaining to His disciples for the first time (in detail) how he will have to suffer in Jerusalem and die, but he also gave them the hope of his resurrection after 3 days. This is a shock to the disciples, but why? The disciples believed, as all the Jews, that Messiah would set up His kingdom on earth and restore Israel. Peter is not ready to accept that Yahshua is NOT going to do that on this visit and unwittingly rebukes Yahshua.

• Hebrew Matthew states: *Go away Satan; do not disobey me because you do not regard the Word of God but the words of man.*

Peter is acting in the natural, which is to protect his teacher and the one he has acknowledged as the Messiah. But he is ignoring the Scriptures because he is in the moment and is not thinking along God’s will but rather his own will.

***Matthew 16:24-28*** *24 Then Yahshua said to His disciples, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. 25 For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it. 26 For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul? 27 For the Son of Man will come in the glory of His Father with His angels, and then* ***He will reward each according to his works.*** *28 Assuredly, I say to you, there are some standing here who shall not taste death till they see the Son of Man coming in His kingdom."*

• To come after Yahshua simply means to follow Him. To hear, listen and obey 100%. To give our life over to Him completely. To be sold out……

• Deny yourself – means to put your wants and desires BEHIND those of Yahovah! If you think you can follow Messiah and put your own wants and desires first I am sorry to have to rain on your parade. That will NEVER work.

• Take up ones Cross – Means to lift up and carry the burden of your execution stake.
Simply put it is to sacrifice your own life for a “New life” following and obeying your Messiah Yahshua.

• Whoever desires to save his life…. Will lose it. You still want to keep doing things your way? Not ready to give up your desires or wants? You will end up losing it ALL in the end. This is why he quoted verse 26…. Do you really want to gain the whole world…… and are you then willing to lose your soul to eternal destruction? Only YOU can answer these questions.

• Yahshua is giving us a straight-forward instruction that in order to follow Him we must turn over 100% of our own lives along with our own desires.

Now to the spoiler……

Verse 27 tells us that we will receive rewards according to our works. Why do we do works? To please the Father by following His instructions. By pleasing Him we will also be rewarded by Him. Remember John says we can’t love Him if we don’t Obey Him.

• Salvation is not based on works, but by Faith alone, but we have also learned that Faith without Works is DEAD according to James and John says that obeying the commandments is our proof that we love Him and if we don’t obey His commands the love of God is NOT in us.

*28 Assuredly, I say to you, there are some standing here who shall not taste death till they see the Son of Man coming in His kingdom."*

The word coming is the greek word Erchomai – it means to come, to appear, enter, to go

John saw Yahshua “In His glory” in the Revelation

All or most of the disciples did See Yahshua going to His Kingdom when he concluded the 40 days of teaching and when he took them to Bethany and blessed them.

The Greek word for see is Eido, which means: see, perceive, discern, discover, among other things.

Most of the disciples would eventually perceive and understand that Yahshua is in His kingdom but we simply can’t know whom he was referring to when he said some standing here will not see death.

**Matthew 17:1-9**  *1 Now after six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, led them up on a high mountain by themselves; 2 and He was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became as white as the light. 3 And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, talking with Him. 4 Then Peter answered and said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if You wish, let us* *make here three tabernacles: one for You, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." 5 While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them; and suddenly a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Hear Him!" 6 And when the disciples heard it, they fell on their faces and were greatly afraid. 7 But Jesus came and touched them and said, "Arise, and do not be afraid." 8 When they had lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only. 9 Now as they came down from the mountain, Jesus commanded them, saying, "Tell the vision to no one until the Son of Man is risen from the dead."*

The transfiguration could very likely be the Day of Atonement in the chronology. Just a few days prior in our previous teachings it was the Day of Trumpets or the first day of the 7th month. A couple of days pass and now it states “After 6 days” which is 7 days and is likely to be Yom Kippur, which is the 10th day of the 7th month.

Regardless, this is a day where several (3) of the disciples see Yahshua transfigured and they hear a voice from Heaven. This very well could be the incident that backs up what Yahshua quoted earlier saying “some of you here will not see death till you see the Son of Man coming in His glory”. We just can’t say for certain.

The three tabernacles – both Hebrew versions of Matthew state that he said “Let us build three tabernacles for You, Moses and Eliyahu, because he did not know what he was saying”. Peter had a habit of opening his mouth and speaking before thinking….. at least until he receives the Holy Spirit at Shavuot……

Regardless of Peter’s mindset and reasoning he just threw out a random statement but it is likely that he wanted to go ahead and build the Sukkots there on the mountain and avoid going to Jerusalem where he thought for sure they would kill Yahshua. Peter has a lot of things he says that seems like good intentions but are really bad ideas because they do not follow the mindset of God.  **That is our challenge today.**

**To discard our own mindset and seek after the mind of God!**

Yahshua had to go to Jerusalem to fulfill the commandments or he would not have been able to be our lamb without spot or blemish. He had to be in Jerusalem for the Feast as instructed in the Torah, but Peter is still trying to figure out how he can save his life even though we know (after the fact) that this would not be the Feast where he would lose His life, but they did not know this.

***Matthew 17:10-13***

*10 And His disciples asked Him, saying, "Why then do the scribes say that Elijah must come first?" 11 Jesus answered and said to them, "Indeed, Elijah is coming first* *and will restore all things. 12 But I say to you that Elijah has come already, and they did not know him but did to him whatever they wished. Likewise the Son of Man is also about to suffer at their hands."* ***13 Then the disciples understood that He spoke to them of John the Baptist.***

John the Immerser – He came to preach repentance and prepare the way of the Messiah. He came in the spirit and power of Elijah (Luke 1:17) but this is not a direct fulfillment of Malachi 4:5 that promises to send Elijah before the great and terrible day of Yahovah.

*Mal 4:5 Behold, I am going to send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and terrible day of Yahovah.*

Verse 13 is of concern because in Hebrew one version says “He was speaking about John and the other says He was NOT speaking about John. So we have a dilemma because John himself said to the Pharisees he was NOT Elijah when they questioned him at the Jordan River. So the reference could have been about the spirit and power of Elijah but not Elijah himself who will still come before the Big Day. Possibly as one of the two witnesses revealed in Revelation that come to preach in the streets of Jerusalem.

***Matthew 17:14-21*** *14 And when they had come to the multitude, a man came to Him, kneeling down to Him and saying, 15 "Lord, have mercy on my son, for he is an epileptic* *and suffers severely; for he often falls into the fire and often into the water. 16 So I brought him to Your disciples, but they could not cure him." 17 Then Jesus answered and said, "O faithless and perverse generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I bear with you? Bring him here to Me." 18 And Jesus rebuked the demon, and it came out of him; and the child was cured from that very hour. 19 Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, "Why could we not cast it out?" 20 So Jesus said to them, "Because of your unbelief;* *for assuredly, I say to you, if you have faith as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you. 21 However, this kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting."*

Always seems to be a multitude…… at the bottom of the mountain. A recurring theme.

We see throughout Yahshua’s ministry that he goes off to a mountain, or goes into the wilderness to spend time to pray. Yes we need Faith, but we also have to put that into action and be prayer warriors (preaching to myself here) and we need to fast seeing the direction of Yahovah. This is the only way we can tackle the mountains. Today, most can barely kick over an ant hill and we usually end up with ant bites everywhere……

***Matthew 17:22-27*** *22 Now while they were staying* *in Galilee, Jesus said to them, "The Son of Man is about to be betrayed into the hands of men, 23 and they will kill Him, and the third day He will be raised up." And they were exceedingly sorrowful. 24 When they had come to Capernaum,* *those who received the temple tax came to Peter and said, "Does your Teacher not pay the temple tax?" 25 He said, "Yes." And when he had come into the house, Jesus anticipated him, saying, "What do you think, Simon? From whom do the kings of the earth take customs or taxes, from their sons or from strangers?" 26 Peter said to Him, "From strangers." Jesus said to him, "Then the sons are free. 27 Nevertheless, lest we offend them, go to the sea, cast in a hook, and take the fish that comes up first. And when you have opened its mouth, you will find a piece of money;* *take that and give it to them for Me and you."*

Here is your math question for the day – What coin came out of the fish’s mouth?

A Shekel – Yahshua stated it would be “A coin” singular. The temple tax was a half shekel so that is why the coin covered Yahshua and Peter.

\*All the other disciples were on their own☺

Yahshua is building Peters faith surely and steadily. I have fished a lot. I mean deep sea fishing, back water fishing, fresh water, everything but ice fishing and to this day, a shock to many of you, but I have never found a coin in the mouth of a fish???