

Notes: Shabbat – May 12, 2012 (Mother's Day weekend)

Start: 10 am

Order of Service:

Meet and Greet
Introduction (if new people)
Announcements
Open in Prayer for service
Liturgy – Sh'ma
Praise and Worship Songs
Mother's Day message - Jeri
Message
Kaddash - Time of Prayer
Aaronic Blessing
Kiddush
Oneg

Introduction:

From today's Parshah – Emor, is a continuation of instructions given by Adonai to set Israel apart from the rest of the nations.

Lev 22:31 "You are to keep my mitzvot and obey them; I am Adonai.

Lev 22:32 You are not to profane my holy name; on the contrary, I am to be regarded as holy among the people of Isra'el; I am Adonai, who makes you holy,

Lev 22:33 who brought you out of the land of Egypt to be your God; I am Adonai."

"Everyone who studies Torah must excel in his love for other people, in showing honor and respect to other people, and in the pleasant manner with which he should always speak to others. His elevated behavior should be on such a level that everyone will say about him, "How fortunate is his father who taught him Torah. how fortunate is his teacher who taught him Torah. How unfortunate are those who have not studied Torah. This person who has studied Torah, see how pleasant are his ways."

Rabbi Yeruchem Levovitz (1873 - 1936)

This statement of Rabbi Yeruchem Levovitz should be repeated over and over again. Based on the Talmudic statement in the Bavli Talmud, Yoma 86a, it stresses three points:

- 1) love for other people
- 2) honor and respect for others
- 3) a pleasant manner of speaking.

Not everyone can appreciate the genius of deep Torah thoughts.

However, everyone does appreciate being spoken to with kindness and respect.

The Chasam Sofer (Moshe Sofer) comments that verse 31 is an introduction to verse 32. Rashi states that "you shall observe my commandments" refers to studying Torah since the only way to have the knowledge to observe the commandments is through studying them first. Therefore, the Torah immediately warns those who study Torah against *chilul HaShem*, desecration of the Almighty's name; it obliges those who study Torah to make a *kidush HaShem*, a sanctification of the Almighty's name. The behavior of anyone who studies Torah should be on such a level that it will

be an expression of the sanctity of the Almighty. People who observe those who study Torah should be able to say that the Torah gives those who study it much wisdom and promotes excellence in their daily behavior.

The Chasam Sofer - Rabbi Moshe Sofer (1762 - 1838)

Chillul HaShem – desecration of Adonai's Name – How:

- By doing things that are prohibited
 - idolatry, murder, forbidden sexual relations, etc...
- A Jew is required to die rather than to commit such a sin and those that commit these offenses dishonor Adonai by refusing to give up their lives
- Faced with the choice – they should choose to die or they have committed chillul HaShem
- If a non-Jew commands a Jew to sin in front of a minyan of other Jews, he is also to be put to death

Kiddush HaShem – sanctifying Adonai's Name – How:

- To honor the Name of Adonai by giving up our lives.
- When we recite the Sh'ma we affirm that we would rather die than deny.

Friday's experience - “Ask the Pastor” (background about the show)

- Theme of show turned out to be faith (many questions relating to this aspect)
- They were asked about James 2:17

Jas 2:17 Thus, faith by itself, unaccompanied by actions, is dead.

Jas 2:17 Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone.

What this doesn't mean – works doesn't mean being under the law...

Went throughout scripture explaining this verse without reading further for the explanation given by Ya'akov

Jas 2:18 But someone will say that you have faith and I have actions. Show me this faith of yours without the actions, and I will show you my faith by my actions!

Jas 2:19 You believe that "God is one"? Good for you! The demons believe it too – the thought makes them shudder with fear!

Jas 2:20 But, foolish fellow, do you want to be shown that such "faith" apart from actions is barren?

Jas 2:21 Wasn't Avraham avinu declared righteous because of actions when he offered up his son Yitz'chak on the altar?

Jas 2:22 You see that his faith worked with his actions; by the actions the faith was made complete;

Jas 2:23 and the passage of the Tanakh was fulfilled which says, "Avraham had faith in God, and it was credited to his account as righteousness." He was even called God's friend.

Jas 2:24 You see that a person is declared righteous because of actions and not because of faith alone.

Jas 2:25 Likewise, wasn't Rachav the prostitute also declared righteous because of actions when she welcomed the messengers and sent them out by another route?

Jas 2:26 Indeed, just as the body without a spirit is dead, so too faith without actions is dead.

Sha'ul speaking to Timothy:

2Ti 2:8 Remember Yeshua the Messiah, who was raised from the dead, who was a descendant of David. This is the Good News I proclaim,

2Ti 2:9 and for which I am suffering to the point of being bound in chains — but the Word of God is not bound in chains!

2Ti 2:10 Why do I persevere through it all? For the sake of those who have been chosen, so that they too may obtain the deliverance that comes through the Messiah Yeshua, with eternal glory.

2Ti 2:11 Here is a statement you can trust: If we have died with him, we will also live with him.

2Ti 2:12 If we persevere, we will also rule with him. If we disown him, he will also disown us.

2Ti 2:13 If we are faithless, he remains faithful, for he cannot disown himself.

2Ti 2:14 Keep reminding people of this, and charge them solemnly before the Lord not to engage in word-battles. They accomplish nothing useful and are a catastrophe for the hearers!

2Ti 2:15 Do all you can to present yourself to God as someone worthy of his approval, as a worker with no need to be ashamed, because he deals straightforwardly with the Word of the Truth.

2Ti 2:15 Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. (KJV)

2Ti 2:16 But keep away from godless babbling, for those who engage in it will only become more ungodly,

2Ti 2:17 and their teaching will eat away at people like gangrene. Hymenaeus and Philetus are among these;

2Ti 2:18 they have missed the mark, as far as the truth is concerned, by saying that our resurrection has already taken place; and they are overturning some people's faith.

2Ti 2:19 Nevertheless, God's firm foundation stands, stamped with these words: "The Lord knows his own," (Numbers 16:5) and, "Let everyone who claims he belongs to the Lord stand apart from wrongdoing." (Numbers 16:26)

Joh 14:15 "If you love me, you will keep my commands;

Joh 15:10 If you keep my commands, you will stay in my love — just as I have kept my Father's commands and stay in his love.

How can you keep something if you don't know what it is to begin with?

As a result of all this, our study, which leads to our understanding and commitment to Yeshua through His instructions makes us His ambassadors.

People will be watching and listening...

Some will hear while others won't

Some will be supportive, while others won't

As an ambassador, you are a representative of the one who commissioned you. We are not being asked to do anymore than what Yeshua Himself has already done.

It was mentioned that there is one sin that was unforgivable...that being blasphemy of the Ruach Ha Kodesh. There are actually two unforgivable sins...

With regards to blasphemy, it is both a matter of one's heart and intention. Two additional explanations are:

1. Denying the Gospel when the Ruach Ha Kodesh has made clear to you its truth.
2. Attributing the works of the Ruach Ha Kodesh as works of the Adversary (Ha Satan)

In both cases, it is a denial of the power, authority and deity of Adonai, through the very power of His Spirit. The same Spirit that we see at the very beginning in Genesis 1:2 and the same Spirit that is promised to reside in believers today.

What is the second unforgivable sin?

An Unrepentant heart:

Num 15:30 " 'But an individual who does something wrong intentionally, whether a citizen or a foreigner, is blaspheming Adonai. That person will be cut off from his people.

Num 15:31 Because he has had contempt for the word of Adonai and has disobeyed his command, that person will be cut off completely; his offense will remain with him.' "

The unrepentant heart in essence is a manner of blaspheming the Ruach Ha Kodesh, so they are one in the same transgression.