Knowing God's Will

There continues to be this void in many believer's walk. That void seems to be knowing what God's Will is. I have talked about it before and always continue to. A few weeks ago, I shared about the Mind – Heart Continuum and the connection between the two, the source for them and the status of their connection and reconnection.

This past week I seem to have experienced this void twice. One through an email shared with me. The other through a meeting with other leaders in the body of Messiah.

It doesn't seem to get any easier hearing such redundant questions, responses and prayers.

Case in point...excerpts from one congregant's email...

"I try to explain things but it's not easy to convince people of what they don't understand they've been taught wrong."

"Tonight people were saying the sabbath on Saturday is outdated and that the sabbath is now Sunday because Yeshua rose on Sunday. One day is the same as another day. I know that's wrong."

They're also saying that the kosher laws are done away with, but again I also know that's wrong. I told them about Leviticus 11. One of the women was more interested in it.

People were saying that the Tanakh was outdated and if you follow it you're being legalistic.

How do I combat this?

How do you combat such erroneous understanding, that is systemic within the body of Messiah. Let's see if I am using the most appropriate word here...

Define systemic - Relating to or affecting the entire body or an entire organism.

Maybe there is another word...what about Epidemic?

Define epidemic - Spreading rapidly and extensively by infection and affecting many individuals in an area or a population at the same time.

This word is still familiar within our lexicon...what about Pandemic?

Define pandemic - Epidemic over a wide geographic area and affecting a large proportion of the population.

We are dealing with something systemic and pandemic. This lack of understanding God's Will is seen throughout the body of Messiah and its reach is globally.

It is interesting that believers think God's Word is outdated.

We recently went through this passage in Hebrews...

Heb 8:13 By using the term, "new," he has made the first covenant "old"; and something being made old, something in the process of aging, is on its way to vanishing altogether.

Yet this verse is part of a large passage talking about the Temple and the sacrifices performed at the Temple.

What is old and new are the means by which Atonement will be made. The writer of Hebrews conveys what the New is, in contrast to that which is "old"

Heb 9:13 For if sprinkling ceremonially unclean persons with the blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer restores their outward purity;

Heb 9:14 then how much more the blood of the Messiah, who, through the eternal Spirit, offered himself to God as a sacrifice without blemish, will purify our conscience from works that lead to death, so that we can serve the living God!

I seem to recall that God and His Word are always relevant...

Num 23:19 "God is not a human who lies or a mortal who changes his mind. When he says something, he will do it; when he makes a promise, he will fulfill it.

He doesn't change.

It isn't our responsibility to convince them or that we are able to change their minds. It is our responsibility to be His witnesses. As easy as that sounds it is just as challenging when you are constantly confronted by ignorant believers who continue to spout the same tired trope.

Rather than debate, I have used this tool over and over.

First, ask permission to share.

Second, if they give you permission then you are free to share and they should understand that. Whether they receive or not is not up to you but up to them. You are the messanger.

Jeri once talked about taking the place of the Ruach ha Kodesh. You don't need to take on that responsibility, the Ruach is more than capable.

Joh 14:26 But the Counselor, the Ruach HaKodesh, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything; that is, he will remind you of everything I have said to you.

Third, always use Scripture, never your opinion or "I think / I believe"

- Pro 3:1 My son, don't forget my teaching, keep my commands in your heart;
- Pro 3:2 for they will add to you many days, years of life and peace.
- Pro 3:3 Do not let grace and truth leave you—bind them around your neck; write them on the tablet of your heart.
- Pro 3:4 Then you will win favor and esteem in the sight of God and of people.
- Pro 3:5 Trust in Adonai with all your heart; do not rely on your own understanding.
- Pro 3:6 In all your ways acknowledge him; then he will level your paths.
- Pro 3:7 Don't be conceited about your own wisdom; but fear Adonai, and turn from evil.

So, applying what I have asked you to do...

Shabbat...

The tired trope...it has been done away with because Yeshua rose on the first day.

First...He rose on the first day, because it was an appointed time – Shavuot. I just taught on this at Messiah conference and have posted the notes on or web site...many of you have the thumb drive with the recording.

Second, He rose on the first day of the week because the previous two days were Shabbats and he was to be in the grave three days and three nights. Do the math.

What does Yeshua say about Shabbat...

Mar 2:23 One Shabbat Yeshua was passing through some wheat fields; and as they went along, his talmidim began picking heads of grain.

Mar 2:24 The P'rushim said to him, "Look! Why are they violating Shabbat?"

Mar 2:25 He said to them, "Haven't you ever read what David did when he and those with him were hungry and needed food?

Mar 2:26 He entered the House of God when Evyatar was cohen gadol and ate the Bread of the Presence,"—which is forbidden for anyone to eat but the cohanim—"and even gave some to his companions."

Mar 2:27 Then he said to them, "Shabbat was made for mankind, not mankind for Shabbat;

Mar 2:28 So the Son of Man is Lord even of Shabbat."

Shabbat was given to Israel as a sign of the covenant at Sinai. It has not changed or been done away with. Yeshua makes that statement clear in the passage I shared from Mark, where He is Lord of Shabbat.

He also makes it clear here...

Mat 5:17 "Don't think that I have come to abolish the Torah or the Prophets. I have come not to abolish but to complete.

Mat 5:18 Yes indeed! I tell you that until heaven and earth pass away, not so much as a yud (') or a stroke will pass from the Torah—not until everything that must happen has happened.

Mat 5:19 So whoever disobeys the least of these mitzvot and teaches others to do so will be called the least in the Kingdom of Heaven. But whoever obeys them and so teaches will be called great in the Kingdom of Heaven.

Mat 5:20 For I tell you that unless your righteousness is far greater than that of the Torah-teachers and P'rushim, you will certainly not enter the Kingdom of Heaven!

Torah, where Shabbat is identified will not pass away either, hence the mitzvot, the instruction is still valid to this day. A single tree, an olive tree, comprising both natural and wild branches bear one root, one source, one way.

Again, going back to Numbers 23:19, once Adonai has said something, He can't take it back or undo it. The means by which Shabbat is transformed to the first day of the week, Yeshua's resurrection is rather weak. There is a reason He rose on the first day of the week. He had an appointment to keep. It was a moad, it was Ha Bikkurim (First Fruits). The other reason He was resurrected on the first day of the week is that He was to be in the grave for three days and three nights

according to the Prophecy through Jonah...

Mat 12:38 At this some of the Torah-teachers said, "Rabbi, we want to see a miraculous sign from you."

Mat 12:39 He replied, "A wicked and adulterous generation asks for a sign? No! None will be given to it but the sign of the prophet Yonah.

Mat 12:40 For just as Yonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the sea-monster, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the depths of the earth.

Mat 12:41 The people of Ninveh will stand up at the Judgment with this generation and condemn it, for they turned from their sins to God when Yonah preached, but what is here now is greater than Yonah.

Mat 12:42 The Queen of the South will stand up at the Judgment with this generation and condemn it, for she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Shlomo, but what is here now is greater than Shlomo.

Regarding Shabbat, let your words be few and your actions be noticed. Set the day apart as is instructed.

Exo 20:8 T "Remember the day, Shabbat, to set it apart for God.

Deu $5:12\,$ T " 'Observe the day of Shabbat, to set it apart as holy, as Adonai your God ordered you to do.

If you are truly grafted into the olive tree of Israel, then as a wild olive branch you bear the same root, hence you bear the same heritage.

As I have said many times, you can worship any day of the week you want, but there is only one day Adonai has set apart and only one day of the week he has sanctified...

Gen 2:3 God blessed the seventh day and separated it as holy; because on that day God rested from all his work which he had created, so that it itself could produce.

Yeshua recognized this through the resurrection. It has not changed.

Everyone seems to have this issue with food, one of the lowest of the commandments. Yet they don't understand the reason behind it.

Adonai created the animals, but not all animals were meant to be food for us. It wasn't until after the flood that His creation was permitted to eat animals.

Gen 9:2 The fear and dread of you will be upon every wild animal, every bird in the air, every creature populating the ground, and all the fish in the sea; they have been handed over to you.

Gen 9:3 Every moving thing that lives will be food for you; just as I gave you green plants before, so now I give you everything—

Gen 9:4 only flesh with its life, which is its blood, you are not to eat.

Everything was permissible until he established His nation. It would be Leviticus 11 that would define what was appropriate to eat and that which was not.

And the reason Adonai gave...

Lev 11:44 For I am Adonai your God; therefore, consecrate yourselves and be holy, for I am holy; and do not defile yourselves with any kind of swarming creature that moves along the ground.

Lev 11:45 For I am Adonai, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt to be your God. Therefore you are to be holy, because I am holy.

Lev 11:46 " 'Such, then, is the law concerning animals, flying creatures, all living creatures that move about in the water, and all creatures that swarm on the ground.

Lev 11:47 Its purpose is to distinguish between the unclean and the clean, and between the creatures that may be eaten and those that may not be eaten.'

Simply put...be holy because I am holy.

Are we not set apart because of Messiah, Jew and Gentile?

Is God not one and His Word is One?

Did Yeshua in any way go against the very Word from above where He existed and is identified...

Joh 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

Joh 1:2 He was with God in the beginning.

Joh 1:3 All things came to be through him, and without him nothing made had being.

Joh 1:4 In him was life, and the life was the light of mankind.

Joh 1:5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not suppressed

it.

Joh 1:6 There was a man sent from God whose name was Yochanan.

Joh 1:7 He came to be a testimony, to bear witness concerning the light; so that through him, everyone might put his trust in God and be faithful to him.

Joh 1:8 He himself was not that light; no, he came to bear witness concerning the light.

Joh 1:9 This was the true light, which gives light to everyone entering the world.

Joh 1:10 He was in the world—the world came to be through him—yet the world did not know him.

Joh 1:11 He came to his own homeland, yet his own people did not receive him.

Simply put...

To know the Will of God is to know His Word. If you know Yeshua than you should know His Word and thus You should Know His Will.

Hence when people are praying and are asking to show, to reveal His will in a specific matter that is being prayed, then they haven't looked at His Word before they Pray.

Everything we need to know is there. It belongs to us.

Deu 29:28 "Things which are hidden belong to Adonai our God. But the things that have been revealed belong to us and our children forever, so that we can observe all the words of this Torah.

We have His Words to live by and we have the Power of the Ruach to live by them.

So, let us continue to be light, shining brightly and eminate His Word.

To know God's Will is to Know His mind, yet, Sha'ul quoting Isaiah 40:13

Rom 11:33 O the depth of the riches and the wisdom and knowledge of God! How inscrutable are his judgments! How unsearchable are his ways!

Rom 11:34 For, 'Who has known the mind of Adonai? Who has been his counselor?'

Rom 11:35 Or, 'Who has given him anything and made him pay it back?'

Rom 11:36 For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be the glory forever! Amen.

The actual verse in Isaiah reads...

Isa 40:13 Who has **measured the Spirit of Adonai**? Who has been his counselor, instructing him?

Where "mind" is used in Romans, is actual translated as "Spirit" and the Hebrew Word is Ruach.

LŀN

rûach

roo'-akh

From H7306; wind; by resemblance **breath**, that is, a sensible (or even violent) exhalation; figuratively **life**, anger, unsubstantiality; by extension a region of the sky; by resemblance **spirit**, but only of a rational being (including its expression and functions): - air, anger, blast, **breath**, X cool, courage, **mind**, X quarter, X side, **spirit** ([-ual]), tempest, X vain, ([whirl-]) wind (-y).

And the word for known in Romans is translated as measured in the Hebrew is...

עכן

tâkan

taw-kan'

A primitive root; **to balance**, that is, **measure out** (by weight or dimension); figuratively to arrange, equalize, through the idea of levelling (mentally estimate, test): - bear up, direct, be ([un-]) equal, mete, **ponder**, tell, weigh.

Hence, the mind of God is in essence His Ruach and we received that when Adonai breathed life into Adam and we received it again when the Ruach came upon after we accepted Yeshua as Messiah.

We do have the means to know the Will of God because He showed it to Israel through Moshe...

Deu 30:15 "Look! I am presenting you today with, on the one hand, life and good; and on the other, death and evil—

Deu 30:16 in that I am ordering you today to love Adonai your God, to follow his ways, and to obey his mitzvot, regulations and rulings; for if you do, you will live

and increase your numbers; and Adonai your God will bless you in the land you are entering in order to take possession of it.

Let us try not to get discouraged as I have at times because in reality it is a broken record that we keep hearing and the skips get irritating. So Let us pray for shalom and His wisdom when we are confronted.

One thing to share with people who question what you believe.

As I shared with you about your challenges with others, consider Sha'ul's warning and instruction to Timothy...

- **2Ti 3:1** Moreover, understand this: in the acharit-hayamim will come trying times.
- 2Ti 3:2 People will be self-loving, money-loving, proud, arrogant, insulting, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy,
- 2Ti 3:3 heartless, unappeasable, slanderous, uncontrolled, brutal, hateful of good,
- 2Ti 3:4 traitorous, headstrong, swollen with conceit, loving pleasure rather than God,
- 2Ti 3:5 as they retain the outer form of religion but deny its power. Stay away from these people!
- 2Ti 3:6 For some of them worm their way into homes and get control of weak-willed women who are heaped with sins and swayed by various impulses,
- 2Ti 3:7 who are always learning but never able to come to full knowledge of the truth.
- 2Ti 3:8 In the same way as Jannes and Jambres opposed Moshe, so also these people oppose the truth. They are people with corrupted minds, whose trust cannot pass the test.
- 2Ti 3:9 However, they won't get very far; because everyone will see how stupid they are, just as happened with those two.
- 2Ti 3:10 But you, you have closely followed my teaching, conduct, purpose in life, trust, steadfastness, love and perseverance—
- 2Ti 3:11 as well as the persecutions and sufferings that came my way in Antioch, Iconium and Lystra. What persecutions I endured! Yet the Lord rescued me from all of them.

2Ti 3:12 And indeed, all who want to live a godly life united with the Messiah Yeshua will be persecuted,

2Ti 3:13 while evil people and impostors will go from bad to worse, deceiving others and being deceived themselves.

2Ti 3:14 But you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, recalling the people from whom you learned it;

2Ti 3:15 and recalling too how from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which can give you the wisdom that leads to deliverance through trusting in Yeshua the Messiah.

2Ti 3:16 All Scripture is God-breathed and is valuable for teaching the truth, convicting of sin, correcting faults and training in right living;

2Ti 3:17 thus anyone who belongs to God may be fully equipped for every good work.

To know God's Will, is to know His Word.

To know the Mind of God, is to have the Spirit of God residing with you.

Thus as Sha'ul conveys we are full equipped for every good work.

Hence to ask God what His will is, doesn't convey we walking in the Spirit as we should nor allowing the Spirit to guide us in teaching that leads to understanding and thus leads to knowing.