

Notes: March 2, 2019

Start: 10 AM

Order of service:

1. Meet and Greet
2. Introduction (if new people)
3. Ma Tovv
4. Open in Prayer for service
5. Liturgy – Sh'ma +
6. Announcements
7. Praise and Worship Songs
8. Message
9. Aaronic Blessing
10. Kiddush
11. Oneg

Children's Blessing:

Transliteration: *Ye'simcha Elohim ke-Ephraim ve hee-Menashe*

English: *May God make you like Ephraim and Menashe*

Transliteration: *Ye'simech Elohim ke-Sarah, Rivka, Rachel ve-Leah.*

English: *May God make you like Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel and Leah.*

Introduction: *The Results of Being Unbalanced*

Last Shabbat I talked about the Balanced Believer and the five elements required to have balance...

- 1. Tefillah – Prayer**
- 2. Midrash – Study**
- 3. Hallel (Praise) – Worship**
- 4. Shabbat – Rest**
- 5. Fellowship**

These five primary aspects are vital for a believer to grow into maturity, while at the same time, a balance of these five aspects is equally important. Too much of any one, while ignoring any of the others will lead to weakness.

This weakness is demonstrated by one's faith, or lack of faith.

[Rom 10:17](#) So trust comes from what is heard, and what is heard comes through a word proclaimed about the Messiah.

Faith and trust are the result of incorporating a balanced life once we have incorporated these five aspects into our lives.

How strong is your faith?

How effective are your prayers if you don't first understand what prayer is?

How?

This is the result to a problem Sha'ul was addressing...

Rom 10:16 The problem is that they haven't all paid attention to the Good News and obeyed it. For Yeshua`yahu says, "Adonai, who has trusted what he has heard from us?"

This bigger issue Sha'ul addresses is Israel's lack of trust when it comes to Yeshua.

Rom 10:1 Brothers, my heart's deepest desire and my prayer to God for Isra'el is for their salvation;

Rom 10:2 for I can testify to their zeal for God. But it is not based on correct understanding;

Rom 10:3 for, since they are unaware of God's way of making people righteous and instead seek to set up their own, they have not submitted themselves to God's way of making people righteous.

Rom 10:4 For the goal at which the Torah aims is the Messiah, who offers righteousness to everyone who trusts.

A balanced approach as believers should not only make you stronger in your faith, but should also make you more effective.

When you speak with authority and conviction, Adonai moves. When that happens, what we think to be impossible is made possible.

Case in point, Kefa...

Before...

Luk 22:31 "Shim`on, Shim`on, listen! The Adversary demanded to have you people for himself, to sift you like wheat!

Luk 22:32 But I prayed for you, Shim`on, that your trust might not fail. And you, once you have turned back in repentance, strengthen your brothers!"

Luk 22:33 Shim`on said to him, "Lord, I am prepared to go with you both to prison and to death!"

Luk 22:34 Yeshua replied, "I tell you, Kefa, the rooster will not crow today until you have denied three times that you know me."

He believed his faith to be strong. The one thing that was missing...He wasn't battle tested.

We all know what happened...

Mat 26:69 Kefa was sitting outside in the courtyard when a servant girl came up to him. "You too were with Yeshua from the Galil," she said.

Mat 26:70 But he denied it in front of everyone — "I don't know what you're talking about!"

Mat 26:71 He went out onto the porch, and another girl saw him and said to the people there, "This man was with Yeshua of Natzeret."

Mat 26:72 Again he denied it, swearing, "I don't know the man!"

Mat 26:73 After a little while, the bystanders approached Kefa and said, "You must be one of them — your accent gives you away."

Mat 26:74 This time he began to invoke a curse on himself as he swore, "I do not know the man!" — and immediately a rooster crowed.

Mat 26:75 Kefa remembered what Yeshua had said, "Before the rooster crows, you will disown me three times"; and he went outside and cried bitterly.

He was not battle tested and as of this moment was not Spirit filled.

Yet, receiving the Ruach HaKodesh during Shavuot when many had received the Spirit as well, yet lacked understanding as to what had happened, many were questioning..."what does this mean:

We see a once defeated, once broken Kefa stand up...

Act 2:14 Then Kefa stood up with the Eleven and raised his voice to address them: "You Judeans, and all of you staying here in Yerushalayim! Let me tell you what this means! Listen carefully to me!

A once over confident talmid of Yeshua, whom Yeshua corrected and for which Kefa would grow in his faith became extremely effective...

Act 2:40 He pressed his case with many other arguments and kept pleading with them, "Save yourselves from this perverse generation!"

Act 2:41 So those who accepted what he said were immersed, and there were added to the group that day about three thousand people.

What happened after this...

Act 2:42 They continued faithfully in the teaching of the emissaries, in fellowship, in breaking bread and in the prayers.

Balance.

So what happens when balance isn't there?

We come to Corinth

1Co 1:1 From: Sha'ul, called by God's will to be an emissary of the Messiah Yeshua; and from brother Sosthenes

1Co 1:2 To: God's Messianic community in Corinth, consisting of those who have been set apart by Yeshua the Messiah and called to be God's holy people — along with everyone everywhere who calls on the name of our Lord Yeshua the Messiah, their Lord as well as ours:

They have been set apart to be God's holy people.

In other words they have heard the Good News of Yeshua and like what happened in Jerusalem on Shavuot were transformed.

1Co 1:4 I thank my God always for you because of God's love and kindness given to you through the Messiah Yeshua,

1Co 1:5 in that you have been enriched by him in so many ways, particularly in power of speech and depth of knowledge.

1Co 1:6 Indeed, the testimony about the Messiah has become firmly established in you;

1Co 1:7 so that you are not lacking any spiritual gift and are eagerly awaiting the revealing of our Lord Yeshua the Messiah.

They have received everything promised.

1Co 1:8 He will enable you to hold out until the end and thus be blameless on the Day of our Lord Yeshua the Messiah —

1Co 1:9 God is trustworthy: it was he who called you into fellowship with his Son, Yeshua the Messiah, our Lord.

Yet, if they have been fully equipped, why would Sha'ul convey the following to this community of believers in Yeshua?

1Co 1:10 Nevertheless, brothers, I call on you in the name of our Lord Yeshua the Messiah to agree, all of you, in what you say, and not to let yourselves remain split into factions but be restored to having a

common mind and a common purpose.

Fully equipped, yet there are divisions occurring within the Body of Messiah at Corinth.

Chapter 2 is Sha'ul's recounts a previous encounter where he would...

1Co 2:7 On the contrary, we are **communicating a secret wisdom from God which has been hidden until now but which, before history began, God had decreed would bring us glory.**

Yet, when we come to chapter 3 of Sha'ul's letter, we are made aware of the stark reality to the condition of the Body of Messiah at Corinth...

1Co 3:1 As for me, brothers, I couldn't talk to you as spiritual people but as worldly people, as babies, so far as experience with the Messiah is concerned.

1Co 3:2 I gave you milk, not solid food, because you were not yet ready for it. But you aren't ready for it now either!

1Co 3:3 For you are still worldly! Isn't it obvious from all the jealousy and quarrelling among you that you are worldly and living by merely human standards?

Not only are there factions causing division, but these factions are causing confusion...

1Co 3:4 For when one says, "I follow Sha'ul" and another, "I follow Apollos," aren't you being merely human?

1Co 3:5 After all, what is Apollos? What is Sha'ul? Only servants through whom you came to trust. Indeed, it was the Lord who brought you to trust through one of us or through another.

1Co 3:6 I planted the seed, and Apollos watered it, but it was God who made it grow.

1Co 3:7 So neither the planter nor the waterer is anything, only God who makes things grow —

1Co 3:8 planter and waterer are the same. However, each will be rewarded according to his work.

1Co 3:9 For we are God's co-workers; you are God's field, God's building.

To where these words from Sha'ul are intended to admonish their behavior while at the same time correcting their path.

1Co 3:18 Let no one fool himself. If someone among you thinks he is wise (by this world's standards), let him become "foolish," so that he may become really wise.

1Co 3:19 For the wisdom of this world is nonsense, as far as God is concerned; inasmuch as the Tanakh says, "He traps the wise in their own cleverness,"

1Co 3:20 and again, "Adonai knows that the thoughts of the wise are worthless."

1Co 3:21 So let no one boast about human beings, for all things are yours —

1Co 3:22 whether Sha'ul or Apollos or Kefa or the world or life or death or the present or the future: they all belong to you,

1Co 3:23 and you belong to the Messiah, and the Messiah belongs to God.

There appears to be a lack of the five aspects that are fundamental to every believer...

1Co 4:6 Now in what I have said here, brothers, I have used myself and Apollos as examples to teach you not to go beyond what the Tanakh says, proudly taking the side of one leader against another.

1Co 4:14 I am not writing you this to make you feel ashamed, but, as my dear children, to confront you and get you to change.

1Co 4:17 This is why I have sent you Timothy, my beloved and trustworthy child in the Lord. He will remind you of the way of life I follow in union with the Messiah Yeshua and teach everywhere in every congregation.

Their lifestyle is at best worldly, not grounded in trust. So much so that Sha'ul calls out their transgression as he had stated not with the intention to make you feel ashamed but in order to get you to change.

1Co 5:1 It is actually being reported that there is sexual sin among you, and it is sexual sin of a kind that is condemned even by pagans — a man is living with his stepmother!

1Co 5:2 And you stay proud? Shouldn't you rather have felt some sadness that would have led you to remove from your company the man who has done this thing?

1Co 6:1 How dare one of you with a complaint against another go to court before pagan judges and not before God's people?

There is plenty more here that could be said about their errant ways.

Later on in his letter, Sha'ul addresses the congregational aspect and issues that have arisen.

1Co 14:12 Likewise with you: since you eagerly seek the things of the Spirit, seek especially what will help in edifying the congregation.

1Co 14:13 Therefore someone who speaks in a tongue should pray for the power to interpret.

1Co 14:14 For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit does pray, but my mind is unproductive.

1Co 14:15 So, what about it? I will pray with my spirit, but I will also pray with my mind; I will sing with my spirit, but I will also sing with my mind.

Notice that Sha'ul's words are focused on impacting the entire congregation. If you will recall, last week I shared parts of chapter 12 with you, where Sha'ul relates the congregation, the Body of Messiah, to the human body and its many parts. Ultimately conveying that the body is only as strong as its weakest member and that each is important in the body because Adonai has uniquely made the Body and equipped each member with gifts, enabled by the Ruach HaKodesh for the purpose of strengthening the Body for the work Yeshua has commanded His body to do – the Great Commission.

This imbalance isn't unique to Corinth, although the poster child for what not to do, there were other challenges in the Body...

In Galatia, Judaizers are perverting Torah, twisting it to where Sha'ul questions those whom he taught...

Gal 3:1 You stupid Galatians! Who has put you under a spell? Before your very eyes Yeshua the Messiah was clearly portrayed as having been put to death as a criminal!

Gal 3:2 I want to know from you just this one thing: did you receive the Spirit by legalistic observance of Torah commands or by trusting in what you heard and being faithful to it?

The writer of Hebrews conveys another troubling matter, this time in Judea...

Heb 6:4 For when people have once been enlightened, tasted the heavenly gift, become sharers in the Ruach HaKodesh,

Heb 6:5 and tasted the goodness of God's Word and the powers of the `olam haba —

Heb 6:6 and then have fallen away — it is impossible to renew them so that they turn from their sin, as long as for themselves they keep executing the Son of God on the stake all over again and keep holding him up to public contempt.

These verses convey that Messianic Jews who once embraced Yeshua have now returned to the sacrificial system for their atoning sacrifices.

All of these examples convey one aspect as a result of not living a balanced life as a believer of Messiah.

Weakness.

Out of balance, we are more susceptible to being deceived, being led astray.

Why are there warnings conveyed throughout the Tanakh and Brith Hadoshah.

Deu 13:1 (13:2) "If a prophet or someone who gets messages while dreaming arises among you and he gives you a sign or wonder,

Deu 13:2 (13:3) and the sign or wonder comes about as he predicted when he said, 'Let's follow other gods, which you have not known; and let us serve them,'

Deu 13:3 (13:4) you are not to listen to what that prophet or dreamer says. For Adonai your God is testing you, in order to find out whether you really do love Adonai your God with all your heart and being.

Jer 29:8 For this is what Adonai-Tzva'ot, the God of Isra'el, says: 'Don't let your prophets who are living among you and your diviners deceive you, and don't pay attention to the dreams you urge them to dream.

Jer 29:9 For they are prophesying falsely in my name; I have not sent them,' says Adonai.

Mat 24:4 Yeshua replied: "Watch out! Don't let anyone fool you!

Mat 24:5 For many will come in my name, saying, 'I am the Messiah!' and they will lead many astray.

2Pe 2:1 But among the people there were also false prophets, just as there will be false teachers among you. Under false pretenses they will introduce destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, and thus bring on themselves swift destruction.

2Pe 2:2 Many will follow their debaucheries; and because of them, the true Way will be maligned.

We are vulnerable to the attack, the deception of the Adversary when we live out of balance.

Sha'ul, having dealt with many communities and their variety of issues likely follows this example for every community...

Eph 4:11 Furthermore, he gave some people as emissaries, some as prophets, some as proclaimers of the Good News, and some as shepherds and teachers.

Eph 4:12 Their task is to equip God's people for the work of service that builds the body of the Messiah,
Eph 4:13 until we all arrive at the unity implied by trusting and knowing the Son of God, at full manhood, at the standard of maturity set by the Messiah's perfection.

We are vulnerable when we separate ourselves from those who are called to lead and in essence choose to lead ourselves.

There is saying in the legal profession – anyone who chooses to represent themselves has a fool for a client.

This is no different in the body of Messiah.

1Co 1:21 For God's wisdom ordained that the world, using its own wisdom, would not come to know him. Therefore God decided to use the "nonsense" of what we proclaim as his means of saving those who come to trust in it.

1Co 1:22 Precisely because Jews ask for signs and Greeks try to find wisdom,

1Co 1:23 we go on proclaiming a Messiah executed on a stake as a criminal! To Jews this is an obstacle, and to Greeks it is nonsense;

1Co 1:24 but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, this same Messiah is God's power and God's wisdom!

I can't tell you the number of times I have heard strange doctrine by those who have isolated themselves from the body of Messiah or are part of a shepherdless group where everyone is permitted to speak, without order, and ultimately separated themselves from shepherds, who have been called to shepherd the Shepherd's sheep.

And part of this balance is fellowship...

Heb 10:24 And let us keep paying attention to one another, in order to spur each other on to love and good deeds,

Heb 10:25 not neglecting our own congregational meetings, as some have made a practice of doing, but, rather, encouraging each other. And let us do this all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Remember Timothy, whom Sha'ul had sent to Corinth.

This is what Sha'ul conveyed to Timothy.

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.

Thus everything I have conveyed previously about these five aspects...

- 1. Tefillah – Prayer**
- 2. Midrash – Study**
- 3. Hallel (Praise) – Worship**
- 4. Shabbat – Rest**
- 5. Fellowship**

are found in Scripture and are to be applied in balance. Please, do not open the door to going down a path that is out of balance. It will only lead you away from the Promise of Adonai that is found in Yeshua. .