

LOVE

My fellow Mennonite Brethren and Companions

Long ago, it was written in my religious mind with a religious pen that the "Law" was only for Israel but not for the "Church." Now, even though grace and experience have removed that scrawl from my mind, just like that which has been erased from a pad of paper, a shadow of what was written there remains faintly visible. Even now I am overwhelmed when I hear that YHWH our Elohim shows kindness "to [those who love Him and guard His commands](#)" (Shemoth 20:6). I am overwhelmed because it is so clear that love and YHWH's Torah are inextricably linked. When I hear Yeshua say, "[If you love Me, keep My commandments](#)" (Yohannen 14:15), all doubt is removed. YHWH's Torah (Law) is for all our generations.

Beloved, centuries of Torah disobedience have inured our consciences to lawlessness. Of course those commandments that are socially acceptable are revered by all those who call themselves Christians. The sins of murder, adultery, stealing and lying are considered too dreadful to even contemplate. However, the more "spiritual" sins such as buying and selling on the Sabbath are not even recognized as sin. There is no remorse when we bring festive trees into our homes, color fertility eggs, erect steeples and use pagan terminology in our worship services. So removed are we from our Israelite heritage that a whole two thirds of our Scriptures are considered "old" or not applicable. Consequently our definition of sin has been entirely disengaged from the Scriptures. Worse yet we do not know Yeshua intimately because we do not guard His commandments.

Brethren, somehow I have been given a mandate to turn my fellow Mennonites from their sin. There is no doubt in my mind that this is anything that I can do of myself. Moreover, it is by decree that my people "[have ears that do not hear and eyes that do not see](#)." It has been the very purpose of Elohim that you have forgotten who you are or the standards to which you have been called. But, I know with absolute certainty that the time of your restoration is at hand, and that it is the desire of Yeshua to cleanse you from your sin. You might want to ask yourself very honestly, "Is it not true that I think that I have no sin?" Ask also, "After all, if the Torah (Law) does not apply, how can I even be sinning?" You might also want to consider that all those true ministers who have come before me, without acception, have spoken out against sin. Please remember too that the fundamental purpose of Yeshua's coming was to redeem His people from their sin. It is my conviction that once you are able to overcome the barrier of believing that you are not sinning, you will be able to hear what Yeshua is saying to you at this time. Once you are able to admit to yourself that you are sinning, YHWH's loving kindness is at hand.

Beloved, I want to end on a "theological" note. Every time that YHWH made Himself known, it was through Yeshua Messiah. In every instance throughout all the Scripture, when YHWH's presence broke through into the human consciousness, it was through Yeshua Messiah. Yeshua appeared to our father Avraham, brought our people out of Egypt, spoke to us at Sinai, and dwelt in the Temple in Yahrushalayim. My point is that the Torah we have received is Yeshua's Torah. That is why He said, "[If you love Me, keep My commandments.](#)" In that utterance, Yeshua was making it clear that the commandments that YHWH gave to us through Moshe came through Him. Yeshua was telling us plainly that it is through His commandments that we can love Him.

Shalom

Maria Wiens

"Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people" Debarim 4:6