

## The commandments are not burdensome

"For this command which I am commanding you today, it is not too hard for you, nor is it far off." (Deut 30:11)

"For My yoke is gentle and My burden is light." (Matt 11:30)

Contrary to all that you have been taught and what you are so sure about, YHWH's laws are NOT burdensome. It is not difficult to keep the Sabbath, to worship according to the sacred calendar, to abstain from unclean food and all the other commandments that YHWH gave to Israel. I have no idea of what the numbers would be like if we added up all our everyday man made laws, but I'm sure that they would outnumber by far the 613 laws that are found in the Torah. Moreover, if the two realms, human and sacred, are compared for their wisdom, the margin of difference is infinite. In the human realm, armies of lawyers are needed to interpret and apply the laws of our government, and many detailed volumes have been written about the rules of social etiquette. Truly, most of those "laws" never touch our lives or make us any better. Yet of YHWH's laws, it is written:

"The Torah of YHWH is perfect, bringing back the being;  
The witness of YHWH is trustworthy, making wise the simple;  
The orders of YHWH are straight, rejoicing the heart;.....  
The right-rulings of YHWH are true, they are righteous altogether;  
More desirable than gold, and sweeter than honey." (Ps 19:7-10)

Occasionally, we do complain that there are too many laws of the manmade kind, and we do at times plead ignorance when we fail to keep one of those laws. But never, ever do we reject those laws with the vehemence that reject the commandments of YHWH. Over and over we tell ourselves that His laws are impossible to keep perfectly, or that they are an unbearable burden, or that trying to keep them is slavery. We accept our human laws with a certain amount of humility, but the commandments of YHWH we reject out of hand....or, to ease our conscience, we spiritualize them out of existence. Man's constantly changing laws we meekly respect, but YHWH's eternal commandments we proudly claim have been set aside. This is not what Yeshua said:

"For truly, I say to you, till the heaven and the earth pass away, one jot or one tittle shall by no means pass from the Torah till all be done." (Matt 5:18). (As I look out my window, the heaven and earth are still there, so the Torah must still be valid.)

"Whoever, then breaks one of the least of these commands, and teaches men so, shall be called least in the reign of the heavens." (vs 19). (There are a lot of you out there who are doing exactly that.....teaching others that they don't need to keep the 7th day Sabbath or that they can eat all the pork that they like, etc.)

My brethren, I'm not writing to condemn you or to suggest that Yeshua hasn't died for our sins. (Yeshua HAS died for our sins.) But, I am telling you that your heart needs to be changed about YHWH's commandments. They are NOT too hard for you: and in the keeping of them is wisdom and much joy. I am also telling you that, according to the prophets, YHWH is going to change your hearts toward His commandments. For Moses said long ago:

"You shall bring them back to your heart among all the gentiles where YHWH your Elohim (has driven) you, and shall turn back to YHWH your Elohim and obey His voice, according to all that I command you today, with all your heart and all your being" (Deut 30:1-2).

Yeshua was the living Torah. He was YHWH in the flesh, and One with His Father. Therefore He could say: "If you guard My commandments, you shall stay in My love, even as I have guarded My Father's commandments and stay in His love. These words I have spoken to you, so that My joy might be in you, and that your joy might be complete." (John 15:10-11)

(Now my brethren, please don't write me back and say that you keep YHWH's commandments because you follow the law of love, or that you don't need to keep the commandments because Yeshua kept them for you. Those deceptions have to end: "The one who says, "I know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him." (1 John 2:4) )

Shalom