April 2023 Volume 17 Issue 4

# YAIY NEWS



# The Leavening of Pride

When we come into the season of Passover and Days of Unleavened, we can start thinking about what these days represent for us. In particular, what does Yahweh think of pride? After all, we are to consider ourselves, yes, even judge ourselves, so we are not judged and partake of this time in an unworthy manner.

There are seven things Yahweh hates, and pride, which puffs one up like leavening, is one of them.

There are six things which Yahweh hates, yes, seven which are an abomination to Him: haughty eyes, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, a heart that devises wicked plans, feet that run rapidly to evil, a false witness who utters lies, and one who spreads strife among brothers, Proverbs 6:16-19. The New American Standard Bible is used throughout unless otherwise noted.



At the top of the list, are haughty eyes. The King James Version says a "proud look," and Proverbs 21:4 renders "haughty eyes and a proud heart" as synonymous terms.

Next, comes a lying tongue, which with pride, are attributes that characterize Satan - the father of lies – who from the beginning, lifted himself up in pride and with a heart that devis-

es wickedness, runs about like a roaring lion perpetrating evil. And as the false accuser of the brethren, he spreads strife among brothers, sisters, neighbors, and all peoples everywhere.

Is it any wonder that Yahweh hates these things? They embody what Satan is, and what we currently see in the world. Yahweh wants us to resist Satan and completely reject what the devil represents.

The fear of Yahweh is to hate evil; pride and arrogance and the evil way and the perverted mouth, I hate, Proverbs 8:13.

To fear, honor, and respect Yahweh is to reject Satan's ways and sin which leads to death. It goes on to say in verse 36, those who hate Him love death.

We don't think of a loving Elohim hating anything, but all things contrary to Him, He rejects. And, the lesson to us, is to do the same.

Yahweh will not tolerate sin indefinitely – sin produces death.

Yahweh's Assembly in Yahshua

*PRIDE GOETH* **BEFORE** DESTRUCTION, AND AN **HAUGHTY** SPIRIT BEFORE A FALL.

Proverbs 16:18 KJV

I AM FILLED



The Leavening of Pride

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## The Leavening of Pride ...,cont.

### **Pride Goes Before Destruction**

Yahweh will tear down the house of the proud, but He will establish the boundary of the widow. Evil plans are an abomination to Yahweh, but pleasant words are pure. He who profits illicitly troubles his own house, but he who hates bribes will live. The heart of the righteous ponders how to answer, but the mouth of the wicked pours out evil things. Yahweh is far from the wicked, but He hears the prayer of the righteous, Proverbs 15:25–29.

Either Yahweh and His ways, or Satan and his — opposites do not attract, but rather repel each other. One is Life; the other, death. For You save an afflicted people, but haughty eyes You abase, Psalm 18:27. The theme is the same, Yahweh will tear down the house of the proud.

Whoever secretly slanders his neighbor, him I will destroy; no one who has a haughty look and an arrogant heart will I endure. My eyes shall be upon the faithful of the land, that they may dwell with Me; he who walks in a blameless way is the one who will minister to Me. He who practices deceit shall not dwell within My house; he who speaks falsehood shall not maintain his position before Me, Psalm 101:5–7. (See also Proverbs 16:18.)

When we read the book of Revelation, it speaks of few being left on the earth after the tribulation. He is no doubt going to be looking at who is faithful in the land to bring them into the Kingdom. But the proud, unless they repent, will be abased and ultimately destroyed.

### Satan is Full of Pride

But you said in your heart, "I will ascend to heaven; I will raise my throne above the stars of Elohim, and I will sit on the mount of assembly in the recesses of the north. I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High," Isaiah 14:13-14.

Satan was full of pride and sought more power. As the saying goes, "Power corrupts and absolute power absolutely corrupts," and this is what we find happened with Satan ... and so, also, with others in contemporary times: Adolf Hitler, Benito Mussolini, Saddam Hussein, Bashor al Assad. It also happened to many others throughout history. Hitler, Mussolini, Saddam Husain, and the list goes on.

Scripturally, we find King Saul started out humble and good, but then he sinned and added sin upon sin from which he never properly repented but rather, sought the esteem of his subjects (1 Sam. 15:30).

King Nebuchadnezzar, too, thought he was somewhat until Yahweh abased him. For seven years, he remained in a mean estate until he repented and acknowledged Yahweh, exalting and honoring Him (Dan. 4:37).

For them, sin and pride were not so subtle, but it can be.

### Subtle and Not So Subtle, Pride is Still Leavened

Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a city, and spend a year there and engage in business and make a profit." Yet you do not know what your life will be like tomorrow. You are just a vapor that appears for a little while and then vanishes away. Instead, you ought to say, "If Yahweh wills, we will live and also do this or that." But as it is, you boast in your arrogance; all such boasting is evil. Therefore, to one who knows the right thing to do and does not do it, to him it is sin, James 4:13–17.

In context, talking about doing this or doing that, which we all do can lead to sin if we don't consider our place in Yahweh's plans.

Since we were purchased with the price of innocent blood of which Passover reminds us, we cannot choose to do our own will. To do so, is sin. To forget about what Yahweh would have of us is a sin. To be proud and think, "I'm going to do it my way," is sin.

For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world. The world is passing away, and also its lusts; but the one who does the will of Elohim lives forever, 1 John 2:16-17.

We can see clearly distinguish them who are of the world from them who have separated themselves from the world — neither longing after, nor pursuing the pleasures of the world but rather, pursuing the things of Yahweh, the things of the coming Kingdom.

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## The Leavening of Pride ...,cont.

## Humble (De-Leaven) Ourselves, as Did Yahshua

But He gives a greater grace. Therefore it says, "ELOHIM IS OPPOSED TO THE PROUD, BUT GIVES GRACE TO THE HUMBLE." Submit therefore to Elohim. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Draw near to Elohim and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Be miserable and mourn and weep; let your laughter be turned into mourning and your joy to gloom. Humble yourselves in the presence of Yahweh, and He will exalt you, James 4:6-10.

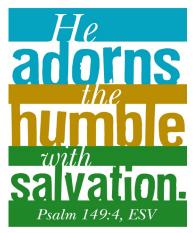
The message? be humble and resist the devil. For by resisting the devil, we'll be able to be humble.

Yahshua the Messiah came to serve, and not be served. Speaking to the sons of Zebedee who sought places of prominence on either side of Yahshua in His Reign, we find Yahshua addressing their wrong attitude.

Yahshua called them to Himself and said, "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great men exercise authority over them. It is not [to be] this way among you, but whoever wishes to become great among you shall be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you shall be your slave; just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many," Matthew 20:25–28.

Not only did Yahshua come to serve and not be served, He came also to give His life for many.

Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a torture stake. For this reason also, Elohim highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the Name which is above every name, so that at the Name of Yahshua EVERY KNEE WILL BOW, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and that every tongue will confess that Yahshua Messiah is Master, to the esteem of Elohim the Father, Philippians 2:8–11.



We also, as we humble ourselves and are sometimes persecuted for righteousness' sake, will be exalted at the appointed time and be rewarded for the deeds done in these bodies.

So then, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your salvation with fear and trembling; for it is Elohim Who is at work in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure. Do all things without grumbling or disputing; so that you will prove yourselves to be blameless and innocent, children of Elohim above reproach in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you appear as lights in the world, Philippians 2:12–15.

We are called to live and to teach the example Yahshua did – not living in sin, but honoring the Heavenly Father doing His will just as our Savior did.

Yahshua also taught that the rewards are not for the proud, but for the humble (Matt. 5:3-9). Therefore, let us not have the leavening of pride, but rather the humbleness which is an attribute of His people.

May Yahweh bless you this season of Passover and Days of Unleavened Bread.

Elder David Brett

# The Last Musings of a Man

"I have kept the faith ... I have fought a good fight ... I have finished my course ... I am now ready to be offered" (2 Tim. 4:6-7).

Though not exactly presented in Scriptural word order, these are the last musings of a man who, in his own words, persecuted the *ekklesia*, and wasted it. And when they were put to death, he gave he voice against *them*. And being exceedingly mad against them, he persecuted them even to strange cities (Gal. 1:13; Acts 26:10-11).

But Paul's last musings of every man who had progressed from being called out of gross darkness into marvelous light and passed from death to everlasting life; yes, who had been born again, a new creature: old things passed away, all things become new, his old man crucified; the body of his sin destroyed; and he, reck-

## The Last Musings of a Man ...,cont.

oned to be dead indeed unto sin; those things which were behind, <u>FOR-GIVEN</u>; the mark for the prize of the High Calling, set before and pressed toward ... the last musings of every man, we say, who likewise has been enlightened and tasted of the Heavenly Gift; been made partaker of His Holy Spirit; have tasted the Good Word of Yahweh and experienced the powers of the world to come, and for whom also, an undefiled and incorruptible Crown of Righteousness has been reserved.

#### Elder John W. Reece

## Abib was Confirmed in Jerusalem

With this year's confirmation of Abib barley in Jerusalem and the new moon on the evening of March 22nd here in North America, locally we will be planning for the Passover Memorial Service after sunset on April 4th at 7:30pm. Only those baptized in the Saving Name of Yahshua are allowed to partake of the foot washing, emblems of grape juice and unleavened bread (symbolic of His blood and body).

For brethren not able to be with us, we have provided an outline paper (available online or via postal mail) which will help guide one through this time period, just after sunset, on the 14th day of the first Biblical month. This is when Yahshua our Savior kept the Passover, as an example for us, providing the instituted emblems, and keeping the correct timing according to the law (rather than tradition). Feast of Unleavened Bread, April 6th-12th. YAIY studies which one may desire to review this year:

He Arose ... But When?
Our Savior's Resurrection
Biblical vs. Jewish Calendar
Why Passover Is Not a High Day
Passover: Memorial for All Time
Controversy: Wine or Grape Juice
Yahweh's Feast Days (Affording them)
The Passover Cup - Wine or Grape Juice?



## **Prayer List**

David & Barbara Creel, Robert Dorchester, Stella Rogers, Sean Rogers and Family, Loretta Reyes and Family, Michael Hutchinson, Chauncey Hargrove, David & Nancy Wilson Family/Friends, Jerry Castle, Mary Giles Family, Kenneth Faulkner, Quinnten Allen, Kat Durban, Isaiah Davis, Dulcena Tessner, Marylyn Patterson Family, David Andrews, Kenya Washington, Elder Lionel Gets Family, Joseph Miller, Adam Galvan Family, Neville & Maryke Stanton, Antionette Swart, Bertha Tidwell, Annette Heyward, Tammy Boucher, Magdalena M. Torres, Angela Bradley, Luann Campbell Family, Dwayne Marian, Randell Serfess, Sonja Morgan, Dianne E. Wright

Family, Dwayne Mariam, Randell Serfess, Sonja Morgan, Dianne E. Wright Family, Victor Kiiru Family, Maria Nelson Family, Hilda Driedger, David Nathaniel Malm, Susana Malm, Mike and Sheila Kemper, Susan Freeman, Paul Ingram, Ruth Bamba, Charlie Pelton, Eric Perkins Family, Marcy Mallinson, Monica Kleb, James Penn Family, Elder Jerry Healan Family, Sheila Sendeyo, NyHuff/Thompson family, Ronald Tidwell, Eugene and Rockie Family, Robert Creech, Emma Moss, Diane Crocker, Valerie Freeman, Lucas Bentley, Nyakim Gatkuoth, Dustin Mariam, Jacqueline Maribicuro, Ryan Irving, Melissa Taylor, Zion Gotay (11-year old with heart problems), Henry Sunderman, Eileen Pelton, Annie Pelton, Elder Victor Kiira, Bertha Tidwell, Sheree Irving, Brown and Diane Morgan, David Townsend, Thomas Hunt, Valerie Freeman, Robbie Lenard.

Also include in your prayers individuals seeking Yahweh from within prison facilities and for their families, plus overseas brethren and especially for the peace of Jerusalem (Psa. 122:6). The world's leaders could also use our prayers (Jer. 29:7; 1 Tim. 2:2).

And give Him no rest, till He establish, till He makes Jerusalem a praise in the earth, Isaiah 62:7.



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