

NO MIXING

Have you ever had freshly squeezed sweet lemonade or a homemade glass of sweet tea? It certainly doesn't get much better when quenching your thirst on a hot day, that's for sure. The combination of sugar and tea or sugar and lemons is always a good thing. On the other hand, have you ever had a bug fly into your drink? Have you ever had to drink out of a bottle of water after a 3-year-old? Not much compares when you pick up that bottle of water when thirst overwhelms you and you see little floaty things swirling around. Just as lemons and water or tea and sugar is a good mix, there are also some things that are really just ... well, bad. What about a fly in your drink? Do you just pick out the fly and keep on drinking? We don't, we pour out the entire drink!



In this article, we are going to take a look at a section in this week's Torah Portion and see exactly what the Father has to say about how to conquer the giants in our land and how to take back control from the enemy over our lives. As we continue to move through the Scriptures of Deuteronomy Chapter 7.

Read Deuteronomy 7:1-5

“When the Lord your God brings you into the land which you go to possess, and has cast out many nations before you, the Hittites and the Girgashites and the Amorites and the Canaanites

and the Perizzites and the Hivites and the Jebusites, seven nations greater and mightier than you, ² and when the Lord your God delivers them over to you, you shall conquer them and utterly destroy them. You shall make no covenant with them nor show mercy to them. ³ Nor shall you make marriages with them. You shall not give your daughter to their son, nor take their daughter for your son. ⁴ For they will turn your sons away from following Me, to serve other gods; so the anger of the Lord will be aroused against you and destroy you suddenly. ⁵ But thus you shall deal with them: you shall destroy their altars, and break down their sacred pillars, and cut down their wooden images, and burn their carved images with fire."

Yahweh makes it very clear that when they go into the land, they are to destroy everything in sight. These people that have been squatting on their land for over 400 years are vile people that serve other gods. Many of them are not even real humans, being children of the daughters of men that mated with the fallen angels, producing the Nephilim, the giants. To make sure that all of mankind would not eventually be destroyed through this unholy mix in the DNA and to ensure His people would not ever be tempted to follow their gods, Yahweh gave the instructions to "utterly destroy them."

Although at first it may seem like a very cruel command, in reality, it is mercy to all mankind. Yahweh, in His infinite knowledge, understood that the future of mankind depended on the utter destruction of the half man, half angel mixed breeds. Not to mention that God understood that these people were illegally living on land that was not theirs to begin with. It is also important to point out that only the nations that decided to go to war with Israel were destroyed. If they allowed Israel to pass in peace, there was peace. If they did not, they were destroyed. The people could have just left once the real homeowners showed back up and thanked them for allowing them to live there for hundreds of years. Instead, to their own demise, they decided to fight for what was not theirs to begin with.

QUESTION: How can we apply this section to our lives today?

Read Genesis 2:15-17 ¹⁵ *Then the Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to tend and keep it. ¹⁶ And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, "Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; ¹⁷ but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die."*

Read Leviticus 10:10-11 ¹⁰ *"that you may distinguish between holy and unholy, and between unclean and clean, ¹¹ and that you may teach the children of Israel all the statutes which the LORD has spoken to them by the hand of Moses."*

Read Ezekiel 44:23-24 ²³ *"And they shall teach My people the difference between the holy and the unholy, and cause them to discern between the unclean and the clean. ²⁴ In controversy they shall stand as judges, and judge it according to My judgments. They shall keep My laws and My statutes in all My appointed meetings, and they shall hallow My Sabbaths."*

The Father knew that unholy and evil already existed in the world. As long as the serpent, the adversary was there in the garden; as long as the "**tree of good and evil**" was there, the adversary would constantly try to get them to eat from this tree. The tree of the knowledge of

good and evil was simply the mixture of both the truth that brought eternal life, and the lies from the serpent. Their sin had less to do with the actual tree itself and more to do with the fact that they mixed the clear instruction of their Maker. They were told not to eat from this particular tree and the serpent whispered that it would make them wise. Adam and Eve justified their actions because of their desire to be wiser. This seems like a noble cause but when it violates the Scriptures, it will always end in death. When you mix the holy with the profane, it brings death. A healthy garden does not choke out the weeds. The weeds and thorn bushes choke out the healthy garden plants.

QUESTION: *What does your garden look like? Are you utterly destroying all that is not of God in your life? Is there anything in your life right now that is a mixture of good and evil?*

QUESTION: *Why did Yahweh tell them to destroy everything?*

Read Deuteronomy 7:6-8

⁶ "For you are a holy people to the Lord your God; the Lord your God has chosen you to be a people for Himself, a special treasure above all the peoples on the face of the earth. ⁷ The Lord did not set His love on you nor choose you because you were more in number than any other people, for you were the least of all peoples; ⁸ but because the Lord loves you, and because He would keep the oath which He swore to your fathers, the Lord has brought you out with a mighty hand, and redeemed you from the house of bondage, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt."

He tells them to destroy everything because He loves them. As strange as it might sound, destroying evil is an act of love. When we tolerate evil, we are encouraging it to continue to grow and infect our entire life, family, society and country. Tolerance of evil eventually brings the destruction of the entire society. This is what happened with Sodom and Gomorrah. Unfortunately, it is happening today in America. Where once we were a country based on strong convictions and morals found in the Bible, we are now sliding down the slippery slope of "everything is permissible" and the term "one nation under tolerance" will be the next phrase minted on our national money. True love does not allow evil in its home, congregation or society.

Sometimes we look at the profane and believe it is something that is evil and obviously wrong. But that is not what He is saying. A "profane" mixture can be much more subtle. The word "holy" is "kadosh", which means *set apart* for a specific purpose, like fine china that is used on special occasions. "Profane" is something that is "common", like everyday dinnerware. At my house, that's paper plates! There is nothing inherently wrong with regular dinner plates. But if you were having a dignitary over for dinner, you would certainly use the best dinnerware you have available. Using paper plates would be very offensive in a situation like that.

Read Deuteronomy 22:11

"You shall not wear a garment of different sorts, wool and linen together."

This certainly is a strange commandment. Why on earth would Yahweh not want us to wear linen and wool mixed together? This certainly proves that the Old Testament is "Old" and archaic, doesn't it? On the contrary - it is cutting edge technology! It would take a man over 3000 years to catch up to what He already knew. Science has finally proven that every molecule in the universe vibrates and creates a "**sound**" or a frequency. And out of all the fabrics available today, wool and linen both put off the highest and the exact same frequency. When the two are worn together, the two frequencies cancel each other out and create a negative charge on the body. Because the body is electrical and operates off electrical impulses and frequencies, a negative charge on the body will pull down the body's average operating frequency. This may actually cause the body to be predisposed to sickness. Yahweh simply is smarter than we are and knew ahead of time that we humans love to mix. He was simply telling us that this mix is a "**bad mix.**" It is harmful to the body.

In the same way, sometimes we can live our lives in such a way that we don't even know we are mixing our thoughts and wills with the will of God and what He wants us to do. This kind of mixing causes a "**negative charge**" on the entire body of Messiah. This can sometimes be the most dangerous form of eating from the tree of knowledge of good and evil. In my own life, I know that for years I served the Father in ministry doing all that I knew how to do. My normal speed of 100mph didn't seem to be a problem and I prayed that the Father would bless all that was being done in His name. However, at this tremendous speed there were many projects that He never asked me to do for Him. Those projects and ministry ideas came from MY mind and what "I" wanted to do for Him. Without knowing it, I was planting my own ministry seeds alongside the seeds the Father was planting through me. As time went on, it became more and more difficult to keep up with the garden. The Father plants in nice, perfectly neat rows, and we tend to just throw seeds everywhere based on whatever we feel at the moment. Our carelessness of making sure that we only do what He says to do and when He says to do it, creates plants growing in the walkways, in-between His plants and all over the place. And because they are not weeds, we don't think to pull them. They appear to be healthy plants. And they might even be His plants. But if they are planted at the wrong time, the wrong place or in the wrong way, then those plants are not of Him. One who plants his own garden labors in vain, so to speak.

QUESTION: *Can you think of anything in your life that you have chosen to do that God has not specifically endorsed? Are there things in your life that you chose to do and didn't bring them to Him first?*

Yahweh made it very clear when the Israelites crossed over into the Land, which city to take first, second, third and so on. He gave specific instructions on whom to attack, whom to annihilate and which cities they could take the booty from and which ones they could not. He was ordaining their steps.

Read Proverbs 16:9

A man's heart plans his way, But the Lord directs his steps.

Read Psalms 37:23

The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord, And He delights in his way.

Read Psalms 119:133

Direct my steps by Your word, And let no iniquity have dominion over me.

Read 1 Peter 2:21

For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps.

In the days of the Exodus, the Israelites did not choose their own way, or at least they weren't supposed to. They followed the cloud. Yahweh guided their every step. Every battle was His to fight. Today, we are commanded to "follow Christ" and follow His footsteps. How can the above Scriptures be true? Because we are following Him. The steps of the righteous are ordained because the righteous ones are following the Shepherd that is in front of them. They do not choose on their own. They acknowledge (wait, look into, pause and intently consider) Him in every step they take, keeping a very keen eye and ear out for that still, small voice just in case they are getting off track. Staying behind the Father and destroying everything that is evil before us is a sure fire way to kill the giants in your land. *If you remove the evil, you kill the food for the giants.* Over time, the giants begin to shrink and lose their power over your life. The Father knows that when we make unholy connections, relationships, or decisions we are putting a fly in our drink. It kills our ability to be all we can be and takes over the entire Promised Land that He has for each of us. Unfortunately, when we continually mix our seed with His, eventually He will have to plow the entire garden and start over again. No matter how much fruit comes from your garden, if it is not laid out as He designed, He will eventually fire up the tiller.

FINAL THOUGHT: So take time and ask the Father over the next few days what is in your life that you need to get rid of. What relationships are in your life that are not drawing you closer to Him? Are you letting weeds grow up with what the Spirit is doing in your life? Are you planting your own seeds alongside His? Now is the time to conquer the giants in your life. And according to the Scriptures, it starts with removing the holy from the profane and asking Him to guide each and every step as you tend to your garden.

Shalom,
Jim Staley