

## *Walking in the Light*

*The year was A.D. 85; the Natsarim Assembly had been in operation for about one generation already. Not only had it faced severe persecution, but it survived it as well. The talmid who “Yahushua loved” Yohanan (Yohanan 21:20), not only walked and talked with Yahushua, but he saw Him heal, heard Him teach, watched Him die, met Him arisen, and saw Him ascend. He had a special relationship, with Yahushua and enjoyed fellowshipping with the Father and Son, all the days of his life.*

*As the elder leader of the Natsarim Assembly, he wrote the letter of I Yohanan, to his “dear children”, presenting Yahuah as light, love, and life. In very simple but practical terms, he explained to them just what it means to have true fellowship with Yahuah. At the very same time, false teachers had entered into the Assembly and there was an urgent need to correct their serious errors.*

*Yohanan’s letter is actually a model for us to follow, as we combat the lies and deception of the enemy shatan, and this world’s acceptance of it, while denying the truth. The major problem which confronted the Natsarim Assembly at that time remains visible today, and is the cause for the condition which the Assembly has transformed into (church), and that problem is refusing to “commit” their lives to Yahuah, because they have chosen to conform to the standards of this world.*

*False teachers were plentiful then just as they are today, and have only accelerated the Assembly (church) into a downward spiral away from the truth. From this position, we are unable to stand up for Yahushua, causing our faith to be compromised.*

*Yohanan wrote this letter in hopes of helping put the Natsarim followers back on track, showing the difference between light (Yahuah) and darkness (shatan), or truth and error. It encouraged the Assembly to not only grow in genuine love for Yahuah, but for one another as well.*

*We have all heard of the expression “Walking in the Light”, but what does it mean? More importantly, how can we know if we are walking in it?*

*Yohanan answered this question when he wrote; “This is the message we have heard from Him and declare to you: Yahuah is light; in Him is NO darkness at all. If we claim to have fellowship with Him, yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live by the TRUTH. But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the Blood of Yahushua, His Son, purifies us from all sin.*

*If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. If we claim we have not sinned, we make Him out to be a liar and His word has no place in our lives” (I Yohanan 1:5-10).*

*Daniel was walking in the light, because as soon as he confessed the sins of Yisrael and laid down his petition to Yahuah, he was given his answer, hand delivered by Gabriel, the servant of the Most High.*

*Yahuah’s light represents what is pure, good, true, reliable, and Qodesh. He is perfect. There is no one that can guide us in the darkness of sin, but Him. That light is related to truth, and will expose everything in our lives that exists. Good or bad.*

*If we want a relationship with Yahuah, we must put aside our sinful ways of living. No one can claim to be a believer and follower of the Mighty One Yahuah, saying they belong to Him, yet continue to sin, by choice, by living their lives for themselves, following the traditions of man, just as this world is doing. Anyone who does this is a hypocrite.*

*Truly if we desire a relationship with Yahuah, fellowshiping and walking in His light of truth, we must identify ourselves with Yahushua, Why? He has already paid the penalty for our sins, which is death, by the shedding of His Blood, purifying us and opening the door to fellowship with Him.*

*As long as we are in these earthly bodies, we will be capable of sinning. We have a natural tendency toward sin. Everyone sins, but it requires Yahuah's forgiveness, and we can only get that by confessing our sins, all of them. Then we must repent from them, which means with physical effort on our part, to turn away from that sin.*

*False teachers have taught that upon atonement, all of our sins are forgiven, past present, and future, and there is never ever a need to confess any sin in our lives, we may develop ever again.*

*They have taught that our sin nature is gone, and nothing we can do will ever break fellowship with Yahuah! In other words, we can have fellowship and go on living in spiritual darkness.*

*This is a lie because false teachers refuse to take sin seriously. They want to be considered as believers and followers but they see no need to confess or repent from sin. In reality they are encouraging sin among believers of the faith. This is why Yohanan wrote; "IF we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us" (V-8).*

*By denying the reality of the sin, we are only fooling ourselves and refusing to live according to the truth. True confession involves a commitment on our behalf, and that is, not to continue in sin. All it takes when we sin is to confess it to Yahuah and He will be faithful to forgive us and purify us from all unrighteousness.*

*So before any of us can say again; "I have not sinned" we need to check ourselves out. We do not want to make Yahuah out to look like He is a liar. It's difficult for people to admit their faults and short comings to Yahuah or one another. We would rather pretend that we are strong.*

*There is one more contrast other than light and darkness, or truth and error that we must understand, and that is the contrast between "saying and doing".*

*As professing believers and followers of Yahushua, our lives must amount to more than just mere talk; we must also "WALK" or live what we believe. If we claim to "walking in the light", then our lives better back up what our lips are saying.*

*We cannot begin to walk in the light overnight. We must first learn to walk and overcome the difficulties of sin, and that is going to take some practice and effort on our behalf.*

*Sin is a refusal to submit to the laws of Yahuah, and these bodies of ours have been refusing for sometime. This is called lawlessness or independence from the law, which is the very condition of sin. We cannot love Yahuah and court sin at the same time.*

*If we decide to walk independent to Yahuah's law, how can we possibly walk in fellowship with Him? Can two walk together except they be agreed (Amos 3:3).*

*We cannot whitewash our sins. When I was independent from Yahuah's law, I belonged to shatan. I deceived, lied, and stole, even murdered people with the drugs I sold them.*

*But I confessed my sins, repented and believed on Yahuah's son, Yahushua the Messiah, and Yahuah forgave me by cleansing my record, but He did not wave some magical wand and change the results. I still came to prison for breaking this governments law. You cannot unscramble an egg.*

*Therefore, we must deal with our sins, if we intend to enjoy the life that is real; "Walking in the light". We only have three choices when it comes to dealing with sin.*

*First choice, we can try and "cover up our sins". If we are going to walk in the light, the darkness has to go. If we continue to hold on to sin, then the light will go. There is no middle ground or "grey area", where sin is concerned. Yahuah is light and in Him is NO darkness; REMEMBER (Yohanan 1:5).*

*But yet there are some that will try covering up their sins by telling lies. First we tell lies to others (v-6) because we want our family and friends to think we are really walking in the light.*

*So we lie about our lives not having any sin, trying hard to make a favorable impression on them. We want them to think we are walking in the light, though in reality, we are walking in darkness.*

*Once we begin to lie to others, it's not long before we lie to ourselves (v-8). The problem now isn't deceiving others but its deceiving ourselves. Can you see how it is possible to live in sin, yet convince ourselves that all is well in our relationship with Yahuah?*

*Listen to what King Dawid did (2Samuel 11+12). First he commits sin by lusting after Bathsheba. Then he actually commits adultery.*

*Instead of confessing what he done, he tried to cover these sins up. In attempt to deceive Bathsheba's husband, he gets him drunk in order to manipulate him. When that fails, he then haves him set up to be killed.*

*He was lying to himself, while still trying to carry on his royal duties as if nothing was wrong, that is until the prophet Nathan, who was under the direct orders of **THE MOST HIGH**, confronts King Dawid with a most convicting situation.*

*After condemning this person, The King finds out that it is him. Once we start lying, to others, it won't be long before we actually begin believing our lies.*

*Now hang on because the spiritual decline doesn't stop there. The next step is trying to lie to Yahuah (v-10). We've made ourselves liars, now were try making Yahuah a liar, by contradicting His word which says; "All have sinned" (Romans 3:23).*

*We begin to apply Yahuah's word to others lives, becoming critical of those professing believers, that we cant see ourselves resisting to apply the word to our own lives. What has become of us? We've lied about having fellowship with Yahuah, we've lied about Yahuah's nature, and we've lied about Yahuah's actions.*

*Sin, it sure has a deadly way of spreading, doesn't it? Anyone who experiences covering up sin is missing a very important factor of what it means to walk in the light, and that is **HONESTY**.*

*We must be honest with ourselves, honest with others, and of course honest with Yahuah. If we try covering up our sins, we are living a dishonest life, a phony you might say. It's as if we are actors playing out a role and not living a real life.*

*If any of us are living like this, then that means we have lost His word, lost His truth, and because the truth is no longer in us, we turn the truth into lies. Perhaps the greatest loss is having fellowship with Yahuah and His people. Finally, after losing all of these things, we lose our character.*

*This all started by telling a lie which turns us into a liar, then lying has become the very essence of our lives. King Dawid tried covering up his sins and it cost him his health, joy, family, and almost his Reign. If we want to walk in the light, we must never cover up our sins. So what should we do?*

*Here is our second choice. 1 Yohanan 1:9 says that if we “Confess our sins” He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. Right from the start, we must understand that confession, isn’t praying some lovely and well rehearsed little prayer in order to impress Yahuah or other believers.*

*True confession is naming our sins, calling it by name. Like envy, hatred, lust, deception, adultery, stealing, lying, or whatever it is. It means being honest with Yahuah, ourselves, and when others are involved, with them.*

*It has to be more than just admitting to the sin. We have to be able to judge what sin is, then face up to it when we have sinned. Confessing our sins, we know Yahuah promises to forgive us.*

*Don’t take advantage of this promise, by continuing to willfully sin, just because we will be forgiven. Remember what it cost Yahuah to forgive our sins? His son Yahushua had to die for them.*

*Believe it or not, many people think that forgiveness is like some cheap sideshow trick, which Yahuah performs.*

*Yahuah is faithful to His promise and just. If we sin, we are sinning against a faithful and loving ELOHOM. So when should we confess our sin? Immediately! By walking in the light, we are able to see the filth of our sins, and can deal with it quickly, just as soon as we discover it.*

*So when it comes to dealing with our sin, we either “COVER THEM UP”, “CONFESS THEM”, or “CONQUER OUR SINS”. How can we be sure if we are walking in the light? Now we will know for sure.*

*Yohanan, in a warm and fatherly way, addressed the Natsarim Assembly to show his affection for them, by giving them the answer to this question, plain and simple.*

*“We know that we have come to know Him (Yahuah) if we obey His commands. The man who says ‘I know Him’, but does not do what He commands is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But if anyone obeys His word, Yahuah’s love is truly made complete in him. Whoever claims to live in Him ‘MUST WALK AS YAHUSHUA DID’ (1 Yohanan 2:3-6).*

*There it is, we now have the answer, and was it powerful! Yohanan said it in the simplest form, cut and dry, no need for an interpreter to explain. He said OBEY His commands and live your life on this earth just like Yahushua did when He walked on it.*

*Now I have to say this, because for some people, this is not going to be enough proof. It will not matter to them that Yohanan was present when the Messiah Yahushua, taught this particular lesson shortly after eating the Passover meal, before He was impaled to the stake. It will not be enough for them to go by and be fully convinced.*

*So for those not fully convinced, please listen to what Yahushua the Messiah Himself said to His Talmidim. "A new command I give you, love one another, as I have loved you" (Yohanan 13:34). "If you love me, you will obey what I command" (Yohanan 14:23). "If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love" (Yohanan 15:10). "You are my friends if you do what I command" (Yohanan 15:14). "This is my command: love each other" (Yohanan 5:17). "And this is His command: to believe in the name of His Son, Yahushua the Messiah" (1 Yohanan 3:23).*

*If you haven't notice, love is the key to "Walking in the light". Being obedient to His commands and His teachings are the foundation of belonging to Him and walking in His light.*

*Those commands are the ten spoken of in Exodus 20, which are the guidelines intended for us to live by, and meet the needs of every individual on this earth, in a loving and responsible manner.*

*The teachings we are to be obedient to are , Keeping the weekly Shabbat, honoring His Qodesh days such as; The feast of Passover, unleavened bread, first fruits, Pentecost, Trumpets, day of Atonement and Tabernacles. The most valuable teaching is to "Love one Another".*

*Is there any of us who are feeling a little guilty, maybe condemned right now, knowing that we continue to sin and are not living our lives completely by His words?*

*As hard as we think we are trying, we are still being tripped up by shatan, and you can guarantee that he is right there demanding the death penalty for us. It takes practice to walk in the light, and the more we continue to practice His commands and teachings, the better we will get at it.*

*The secret to having victory over sin can be found in the phrase “walk in the light”. This means that our lives are open for all to see. It means to be completely honest and sincere in all we do. By walking in Yahuah’s light, there is nothing we can hide, keeping us from masquerading.*

*Walking in the light means we live in Yahuah’s word, spending time in it daily, meditating on it until we discover His will, then we obey what He has told us.*

*If we can’t see where He wants us to walk, how can we follow Him? We have to live our lives in His word and that word says “Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path (Psalm 119:105).*

*Obedience to His word is proof of our love for Him. When you walk in the light, you live to please one person, **YAHUAH**.*

*If we are living to please ourselves and Yahuah, we are trying to serve two masters and that never works. If we live to please man, we will always be in trouble because no to men will agree, then we find ourselves caught in the middle.*

*Yohanan made it clear that the person who walks in the light has no love for sin. Instead of trying to cover up sin, a true Natsarim confesses all sin and tries to conquer it by walking in the light of Yahuah’s word.*

*Did you notice I said “tries”? We have to do more than just sound reverent by using a religion of words. Yaaqob said; “Doers of the word”. Its going to take sincere and honest effort in order to get it perfected, until then, do not give up hope, but especially do not worry about the accuser shatan, let me tell you why.*

*You see, we have the very best defense attorney in the whole universe who is pleading our case in front of the Judge. He is truly our “Defender”, and let me remind you of two things.*

***First,** He is the Judges Son, and I tell you indeed, “if you have seen the Son, you have seen the Father, for the words that the Son speaks, are not His own, but the Father also who is in Him” (Yohanan 14:9-10).*

***Second,** And I want to ask you to please hold on to this as close to your heart as you can, because there are going to be days when shatan will turn our world upside down, and we will be whipped so bad that all we want to do is give up and die.*

*Standing right before the judge will be shatan asking for the death penalty for our sins, but do not fear!*

*Remember Yahushua ha Mashiach, our attorney, sacrificed His life not only to satisfy the payment for that death penalty, by the shedding of His Precious Blood, but those sins are removed from the record forever.*

*We can never be tried for a case that is no longer on the docket. He has already won the case for us (1 John 2:1).*

*If we are in Him, walking in the light, that means we are forgiven and purified. There is no one, no matter what sin has been committed, that is beyond forgiveness.*

*All any person has to do, to “**Walk in the Light**”, is to turn from their sins, ask and receive Yahushua’s forgiveness, and commit their lives to Him by being obedient to His every commands and teachings, Amein.*

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