

June 5, 2024

In the Body as He Desires

Shalom,

Do a head count of all the community of Bnei-Yisrael by their families and their ancestral house, with a total of every male one by one. You and Aaron are to muster by their divisions every son from 20 years and upward available to serve in the army of Israel. One man from each tribe, each head of his father's household, is to assist you. These then are the names of the men who will assist you: ... (Numbers 1:2-5 TLV)

The portion found in **Numbers 1:1—4:20**, called **Bamidbar**, or “In the Wilderness,” relates God’s command to Moses and Aaron to number the men available to serve in His army and to also take a census of the men of the tribe of Levi qualified to serve in the ministry of the Tabernacle. We can see that God’s plan for His people is that of carrying out specific and vital assignments on this earth, under His authority, that manifest His will for all to see. Although the numbering applied to men of specific ages for ministry tasks, we can be certain that every individual of every gender and age group must have been involved in the health and welfare of all the nation, or congregation. Every member was important to the other members, and **every one of God’s people are valuable and precious to Him.**

Imagine the various tasks that would have been necessary to take care of all the needs of a congregation of over two million people. It is easy to understand that everyone would have needed to carry out their assignments for such a multitude to be fed, clothed, warmed, protected, and various other provision needs in that inhospitable environment.

For just as the body is one and has many parts, and all the parts of the body—though many—are one body, so also is Messiah. (1 Corinthians 12:12 TLV)

It is possible for people to gather in congregational meetings and feel that their participation is unimportant, or that someone else will take care of what needs to be done, but if we will choose to be sensitive to the leading of the Holy Spirit we will be led into ministry, or service, within the congregation in a manner assigned by, and pleasing to, God that will serve the Lord and His body to bring about harmony and fruitfulness in the Spirit of Love. We will find amazing fulfillment and perfect shalom in being what we are called to be, never usurping another’s place or ministry, but faithfully sharing the grace that it given to each of us.

For through the grace given me, I say to everyone among you not to think more highly of yourself than you ought to think—but to use sound judgment, as God has assigned

to each person a measure of faith. For just as we have many parts in one body—and all the parts do not have the same function—so we, who are many, are one body in Messiah and everyone parts of one another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace that was given to us—... (Romans 12:3-6 TLV)

But now God has placed the parts—each one of them—in the body just as He desired. (1 Corinthians 12:18 TLV)

The children of Israel spent forty years on the world's largest and longest camping trip, and all along the way, through victories and trials and miraculous provisions and hardships, they were being formed into a people of God, a kingdom of priests and a holy nation. For two to three million people to survive in those stark conditions, they had to first learn to trust in God as their provider, and next, they each had to fulfill the service ministry assigned to them. **God established the Tabernacle, and His presence in it was to be the very center of their existence.**

But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. (Matthew 6:33 KJV)

Loving God and putting Him first is the critical difference between the people of the kingdom of God and the people of the nations of the earth.

The kingdom of God is not meat and drink, but righteousness, peace, and joy, in the Holy Spirit. (Romans 14:17 Lamsa Bible)

Just as the Levites had the specific responsibilities for the area of life regarding the worship of YHWH, we, the born-again believers in Yeshua, are assigned specific roles in the Body of the Messiah. Every function is necessary, and provides a wonderful service to the whole body, because it is established and empowered by the supernatural, grace endowment of God through the Holy Spirit. Think about it: you have not been placed on this earth to be a spectator, and certainly not a victim. Every one of us has been called and tenderly placed in the body of Messiah to channel the supply of God to the rest of the members. We are each vital. **There is a life-giving function assigned to each of us to carry the nourishment supplied by the Head to the whole body.**

Don't allow the enemy to tell you that what you are called to do doesn't matter. **God has given you a place in the most exciting and most powerful work ever known to man.** You are part of the Kingdom of God, and all of the kingdoms of this world will become the Kingdom of our Lord, and of His Messiah, and He will reign forever (Revelation 11:15). So, whatever your role, and whatever you do, do it heartily, as unto

God, and not unto man. We are becoming what YHWH has destined us to be. It may take some time to manifest as you abide in the vine, but know for certain, if you abide in Yeshua you will bear much fruit. Don't allow weariness to enter your thinking. You will reap if you don't give up.

Therefore I, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you were called— with complete humility and gentleness, with patience, putting up with one another in love, making every effort to keep the unity of the Ruach in the bond of shalom. There is one body and one Ruach, just as you also were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one immersion; one God and Father of all, Who is over all and through all and in all. But to each one of us grace was given in keeping with the measure of Messiah's gift. (Ephesians 4:1-7 TLV)

Never allow yourself to become casual with God and count our anointing and calling an optional thing. Be diligent to recognize and rejoice that we have been placed in the Body of Messiah, and that **we have a special ministry in the Body that supplies God's provision through us to the rest of the members.** As a new creation in Christ, we have been created to bring forth good works (Ephesians 2:10), not by natural means and ability, but by the anointing of the Holy Spirit.

Moving by anointing,
Terry

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