**ASKING, SEEKING, KNOCKING**

 **THE SOURCE OF ALL PROVISION**

 **Luke 11:9-13, NAS**: “So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. [**10**](https://biblehub.com/luke/11-10.htm)For everyone who asks

receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks, it will be opened. [**11**](https://biblehub.com/luke/11-11.htm)Now which one of you fathers will his son ask for a fish, and instead of a fish, he will give him a snake? [**12**](https://biblehub.com/luke/11-12.htm)Or he will even ask for an egg, *and his father* will give him a scorpion? [**13**](https://biblehub.com/luke/11-13.htm)So if you, *despite* being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him?”

 Sadly, most western-culture “believers” look at the “ask, seek, and knock, and it will be opened to you” and translate it by their self-centered carnal minds to be a promise that all we have to do is ask, seek, and knock and we’ll get what we want. It makes “God” a Fairy Godmother, a Santa Claus, or someone who has to do what He’s asked to do - in their mind. Thus, the passage of Scripture, quoting Yahushua, concludes for such people with great disappointment. They don’t want the “Holy Spirit.” They want what they want. They want their needs met. They want their wants met. “After all,” they declare “we’re King’s kids and deserve the best.” They reject the “how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those that ask?” What a downer!

 My youngest daughter worked for a big hotel in Fort Worth, and part of what she did was to drive important people out to the TBN (Trinity Broadcasting Company) headquarters where they were interviewed for various T.V. programs. She told me that one day she drove two ladies down the freeway to the TBN headquarters. She said that the ladies actually rolled down the windows and leaned their heads out and cried out with loud voices “money come,” “money come,” over and over.

 The “name it and claim it,” or “blab it and grab it” Pentecostal/Charismatic foolishness at that time is still major foolishness. It’s like making “God” an ATM machine!

 In the early 90s I was ordained and had my own 501C Corporation in Texas. I was friends with some of the biggest names in the “Word of Faith” movement. However, in taking me to the Middle East for 16 years from 1999, Abba separated me from all of that. I never believed in the hype of that “movement,” but I did personally love the leaders of it, simply because they were part of my church-family. In the midst of it, however, Abba took from me out of all that had put me in high standing with the big names of Christianity, and began teaching me Himself. I left the Middle East, as far as a living headquarters, a much different person. My identity was no longer in my two ordinations and my ministry Corporation. My identity was in who He said I was. He began training me in the Negev Desert of Jordan for what I will do in the future. From 1992, 1994-1995, I began going to Europe and then to China, and from 1999 in Jordan, I began going to the world.

 In this Scripture, why did Messiah dash the hopes of the greedy by saying that by asking, seeking, and knocking, one gets the Spirit of Yahuwah - the “Holy Spirit”? Was He trying to dampen their enthusiasm that all they had to do was ask, seek, and knock and they’d get what they wanted?

 **Luke 11:9-13** starts with a parable. **Luke 11:5-8**: And He said to them, “Which of you shall have a friend, and go to him at midnight and say to him, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves, [**6**](https://biblehub.com/luke/11-6.htm)since a friend of mine has come to me on his journey, and I do not have *food* to set before him,’ [**7**](https://biblehub.com/luke/11-7.htm)then the one inside answering, says, ‘Do not trouble me, the door is already locked, and my children with me are in bed. I am unable to get up and give to you’? [**8**](https://biblehub.com/luke/11-8.htm)“I say to you, if he does not get up and give to him because he is his friend, he shall get up and give him as many as he needs because of his persistence.”

 Persistence gets us what we need. In the Greek language the words for “ask,” “seek” and “knock” carry the idea of “keep on asking,” “keep on seeking,” “keep on knocking.” Don’t give up!

 There is an old Pentecostal lie that goes like this: “If you ask God more than once for something, the rest of your asking will be without faith.” In other words, you ask in faith once, and hold onto the promise until you get it, because if you keeping asking, seeking and knocking it shows you have no faith. That’s not at all what Messiah taught us. In our faith and rising desperation for our need to be met, our faith is strengthened. We become more determined. We seek Him harder. We conform to His will more and more. He draws us to Himself by our “pressing in.”

 Our task before we start the asking, seeking, knocking is to make sure that what we’re asking is in His will, not ours. Lots of women ask for a husband, but are not walking in obedience to the Master, neither are they relying on the leading of the Spirit. They start a relationship with someone who appeals to them, and think it is God who is leading them to marry that person. That may be true, but it might not be true, too. Much deception comes when we pray with a wrong motive, outside of what He has for us. First, we must let Him speak to us in our re-born spirit what His will is, and then confirm it by giving us peace and joy. Then we proceed with our pressing in to obtain. In praying for others, we must seek how to pray from His mind, or else we could be praying wrongly against His will. Many pray for a loved one to be healed, yet they want to go home to heaven. Yahuwah honors free will.

 He knows our daily needs. We must ask: “Give us this day our daily bread,” for we know that is His will. The Scriptures reveal His will so much of the time, so we need to seek Him in the Scriptures every day. Each situation is different. Just know that He leads by peace. In asking Him questions, wait quietly for peace, or his gentle troubling, so that we know how to proceed. We must daily sit quietly in His Presence to get to know how He thinks, and what He thinks about us.

 Asking Yahuwah for things must always pass through the High Priest, Yahushua our Mediator. In other words, we must be born again by faith in His shed blood for us and His resurrection for us. Yahuwah, our heavenly Father, must be able to see us as His children, with His nature, and His thinking, as a result of a true new birth, obedient to His Word and shining with His Light. He is “our Father who is in heaven,” as **Luke 11:1-4** tells us.

 Throughout the Word, Yahuwah tells to seek Him. **Jeremiah 29:11-13**: “‘For I know the plans I am planning for you,’ declares יהוה, ‘plans of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and an expectancy. [12](https://biblehub.com/jeremiah/29-12.htm)‘**Then you shall call on Me, and shall come and pray to Me, and I shall listen to you.** [**13**](https://biblehub.com/jeremiah/29-13.htm)**‘And you shall seek Me, and shall find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart.**”

 Our seeking, asking, knocking, and receiving our answer, is based on mutual relationship between us and our heavenly Father. Does He know us personally? Are we good servants of our Master Yahushua? Or, are we a stranger in His throne room, only bombing in when we need something – the “O GOD HELP” syndrome.

That doesn’t work. He must know us as an obedient loving child who reflects His nature, ways, and thinking.

 It’s all about relationship. It’s all about trust. It’s all about persistent “pressing in” to receive from Him, even as a baby kitten presses on the teats of its mother to get milk.

 One of Yahuwah’s key titles, the title He gave Abraham for Himself, is “Shaddai.” We know it as “Almighty.” However, going into the Hebrew meaning, it also means “the many breasted One.” The One with many teats. We must be like the kitten, or the new calf, etc., pressing in to Him to get our needs met - our nourishment, our comfort, our security with the One who is the Giver of all good.

 The idea of yelling “money come” out the window of a car surely is not based on the intimacy, required in the “secret place” to receive our needs from the Almighty.

 So, dear ones, in order to “ask” and the request be granted, there first has to be the seeking. Seeking His will to make sure that what is asked if His perfect will. Then we can ask; then we can knock.

 The parable is quite clear of the woman who had need and kept on asking until she got it taken care of. She was not asking for herself, but for provision to share with her guest. She was not yelling “money come.” Her concern was for her friend who had been on a long trip and was hungry. Her desperation to help someone else, brought provision to her from her neighbor. In other words, make sure your requests are not from carnal selfishness, worldly pursuit, desire for things, which can be related to idolatry.

 Then there is the avoided part of that passage “how much more will your heavenly father give the Holy Spirit to those that ask?” To Pentecostal/Charismatic Christians, they are already baptized in the Spirit and speak in tongues. Why would He refer to receiving the Spirit? It’s like one saying, “I need a new car. My old one is a year old. So, why is He talking about receiving the Spirit. I don’t need the Spirit; I need a new car.” Oh, the curse of materialism in affluent western culture!

 We must evaluate what real life in serving the Master is all about. I understand “adequate.” He provides our needs, and sometimes we get blessings at Goodwill. In Africa, I stayed in mud huts, and preached in churches make of wooden slats with tin roofs. I taught teenagers who had never seen an airplane, never heard of a computer, who did not know that America was not just “over the hill.” Yet, brilliant young people with a willing heart to serve Jesus. What is really important in life, especially now as we face great tribulation?

 Is receiving the baptism into the Spirit a one-time thing? Many speak in tongues and then check it off as a religious experience, a badge of honor. Yet, their nature doesn’t change? The true new birth is really understood, nor its principals considered, in affluent western culture. The majority of “believers” take on a religious belief-system, then continue on in their carnal nature. They do not understand the basics of **Colossians 1** - the transfer out from under the dominion of the carnal, sin-related nature, and the kingdom of darkness, to be transformed by the indwelling Spirit so that we take on the nature, ways, and thinking of Yahuwah, and walk in obedience to our Savior-Master. Thus after 30 or more years of being a “Christian,” or “Messianic,” many are still self-centered spoiled little kids. The “ask, seek, and knock” words of Messiah were not given to those who continue to be self-centered spoiled little kids!!!

 Yes, as on the day of Pentecost, receiving the Spirit after a true new birth is a one-time thing, evidenced by speaking in tongues, a language of heaven, or of earth, as evidence that He is within us. However, as we see in **Acts 4**, it must be maintained.

 **Luke 8:18** is in the headlines again: “Therefore, take heed how you hear. For whoever possesses, to him more shall be given; and whoever does not possess, even what he thinks he possesses shall be taken from him.” We must possess what we are given, protect, guard it, and press in to stay filled with our Yahuwah’s Spirit. After all, there is no separate Spirit other than Yahuwah in His Person, as we read in **II Corinthians 3:17-18**, and **John 4:24**. The Word does not separate Yahuwah from the Spirit to create a “third Person of a trinity.” That concept came from 5,000 years ago with Nimrod, Semaramis, and Tammuz. Semaramis supposedly was impregnated by the rays of the sun, by her dead sun-god husband, Nimrod, when a white dove floated over her, whom she called “the spirit” of the sun-god. Her baby was called the son of the sun god. It is a pagan doctrine.

 Please read: “Exposing the Trinity Doctrine”/Mikvah of Present Reality. If that’s not enough Messiah put that pagan doctrine to rest in **John 17**, asking Yahuwah for you and I to be as They are - One. If They are the same person, then Yahushua was talking praying for “singularity,” or the Brahman state of Buddhism, or about some New Age doctrine. However, if He and His Father are “echad,” a Hebrew word used to denote two in unity as one, as in **Genesis 2:24** with Adam and Eve as one-flesh, then for us to be like Them, we retain our own identity but are in unity as if we were One in nature, ways, thinking, and acting.

 This amplifies the need to be filled with Yahuwah’s Spirit so that He teaches us Truth and confirms it to us by many means. We cannot be “one” with Father and Son without the infilling of the Spirit to transform us from within. He is our Teacher. He is our guide and counselor. He is the One who convicts of sin, so we can repent. He is our comforter. He is our protector. Please read **John 16**.

 As Steve Quayle said in his last report: “Without the Holy Spirit indwelling us, we will never make it through the great tribulation that is fast-coming upon us.” Amen brother!

 It may help to understand **Acts 4:29-31**: “And now, יהוה, look on their threats, and give to Your servants all boldness to speak Your word, [30](https://biblehub.com/acts/4-30.htm)by stretching out Your hand for healing, and signs, and wonders to take place through the Name of Your set-apart Servant יהושע.” [31](https://biblehub.com/acts/4-31.htm)And when they had prayed, the place where they came together was shaken. And they were all filled with the Set-apart Spirit, and they spoke the word of Elohim with boldness.”

 These Spirit-filled people of the early assembly were threatened with death by the Pharisees and the Roman soldiers. They asked for help to be able to speak with all boldness, and to see His manifestations of power in their midst. He heard them. The house was shaken, and they were renewed by the filling of the Spirit, who transformed these servants of Messiah into bold proclaimers in the face of death.

Fear causes the Spirit of Yahuwah to draw back. Their prayer brought His power renewed within them, and the fear left. Boldness took the place of fear. The Spirit manifests Himself to strengthen. He is our precious heavenly Father who wants to dwell within us to help us. **John 16**! Messiah called Him “the helper.”

 \*\*\***Why would He say to ask, seek and knock and we would receive the Spirit? Because Yahuwah, the Spirit, is our source of all good - the source of all we need in all of our life to live a peaceful and safe life**.

 Yes, we’re humans. Spirit-filled people can become terrified because of their imminent death for being believers, as those in **Acts 4**. But He gives the renewed infilling to erase the fear and fill us with His power to overcome. “Whenever I am afraid, I will trust in You,” King David wrote.

 Those in **Acts 4** needed their battery charged, for their strength had worn down, and fear had caused His Presence to seem very far away. As they entered into prayer, the Spirit within them rose up – and filled them to capacity. They were ready to face anything. Oh, how we need that today as we face things forced on us that are out of hell itself.

 Today’s “Charismatics,” “Pentecostals,” Messianics, -- and all those truly born again -- must remove themselves in mind, emotions, and spirit, from the carnal world and enter into His Presence as a dwelling place. They must stay “charged up.” They must stay prepared. And, as the uncertainty comes, the trauma, the fears, the anxieties, instead of falling apart, they can be filled up with the Spirit of Yahuwah who brings boldness, strength, authority-power, security, and direction to their Spirit. All we need is found in Yahuwah, the Spirit, who wants to give to us freely what we need, and to answer our prayers for others. Each one who is born again, must be “filled with the Spirit,” in order to be truly set-apart.

 **Ephesians 5:15-17**: “See, then, that you walk exactly, not as unwise, but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil. So then, do not be foolish, but understand what the desire of Yahuwah is. And do not be drunk with wine, but be filled with the Spirit…”

 Messiah Yahushua paid the price we deserve for our sin – and rose again to give us eternal life. He promised His disciples that He would send the Spirit of Yahuwah, His Father, upon them after He returned to heaven. It is His pattern. It is through the Spirit within, as we walk in faith, praise, proclamation, joy, love, - the nature of Yahuwah - that all things are granted to us from the throne of Yahuwah. It is by His gifts within us (**II Corinthians 12:1-11**) in operation that we have access to His authority and power.

 Messiah said: “The works that I do, you shall do, and greater works shall you do because I go to My Father.” The greater works are only possible as one is filled with the Spirit, baptized into the Spirit by Messiah. This Messiah did in **Acts 2** and this He does with each born again believer who ASKS, KNOCKS, and SEEKS.

 The giver of all good gifts if Yahuwah, our heaven Father, the King of the Kingdom of Light. He is sovereign over His Kingdom, and ask we align to His Spirit’s working within us, He transforms us into His nature, ways, and thinking so that He recognizes us as one of His children.

 All provision for our needs is there for us, but we must ask, knock, and seek Him from whom our eternal life flows – Yahuwah – the Spirit.

 **II Corinthians 3:17-18**: “Now יהוה is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of יהוה is, there is freedom. [18](https://biblehub.com/2_corinthians/3-18.htm)And we all, as with unveiled face we see as in a mirror the esteem of יהוה, are being transformed into the same likeness from esteem to esteem, as from יהוה, the Spirit.”

 Personal relationship is the only way to enter the Kingdom, as a little child with purity of heart seeks the good parent to provide for them. (**Matthew 18:1-4**)

The ways of man, of religion, only lead down a dead-end alley. (**Jeremiah 17:5-10**)

 **Matthew 18:1-4**: The child-like in faith receive so easily, for faith is a basic to little ones – trust in the one higher than them, parents, grandparents, parents of friends, teachers, police, firemen, – those in authority above them. The horrible tragedy is that in our world today, very few in authority over these little ones are even good, even have love, let alone pure of heart and blameless before Yahuwah.

 **Yahuwah is the SOURCE of all good for us**. **Yahushua is the sole MEDIATOR between us and Yahuwah. I Timothy 2:5-6**: “[5](https://biblehub.com/1_timothy/2-5.htm)For there is one Elohim, and one Mediator between Elohim and men, the Man Messiah יהושע, …”

 Press in to know Yahuwah personally, to dwell in His Presence. Press in to know Yahushua personally, to abide in His Presence. (**Psalm 91:1; John 15:7**)

 As you persist to press in, seeking Him with all your heart, asking, knocking, to know Them as They are, so that They speak to you in your re-born spirit because the Spirit dwells within you.

 No, He never asks you to “beg.” Our Father is kind and good. We must talk to Him from our heart, then allow Him to tell us if we really need it, or not. We must rest in peace knowing that He does all things well. He tests us a lot to make sure we love Him by faith, and not because we wallow in selfish carnality of material wants. **He knows what we need. He wants us to seek Him so that there might be a love-relationship between us and Them**.

 I give you wisdom here from His heart. He wants to answer your prayers, but He is wise. **There are some prayers He cannot answer for His own reasons, and some He waits on to see if we are mature enough to receive His good gifts. He won’t play games with the fearful and cowardly who seek for “self” alone, but He seeks those that He finds having His nature in operation**.

 **Galatians 5:22-25**: “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, trustworthiness, [23](https://biblehub.com/galatians/5-23.htm)gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no Torah. [24](https://biblehub.com/galatians/5-24.htm)And those who are of Messiah have impaled the flesh with its passions and the desires. [25](https://biblehub.com/galatians/5-25.htm)If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.”

 The Torah aligns to His nature, ways, and thinking. Those who walk by His Spirit’s control are at peace with His Torah! I do not give you Christianity here! I give you what I’ve learned through a life-time of hardship, yet seeing my heavenly Father in His loving graciousness to bring me through to victory! Ask, seek, and knock but find out first what is His will for you. Let Him speak to you in the secret place of your spirit.

In His love, Yedidah

March 21, 2021 Happy Spring!!