

The Body of Messiah, Seen Through His Creation.

We can learn a lot from his creation, just like plants we are a part of his creation, so we can look at how we prune fruit trees, using it to show us how to prune stuff in our own lives, so that way we're not a hindrance to the body of Messiah. In saying that let me show you how Yahweh prunes us. Matthew 13:24-30 is a good passage of scripture to look at how he can show us how to deal with things in our own lives. Let us look at these versus.

24 ¶ Another parable He put forth to them, saying: "The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field;
25 "but while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat and went his way.
26 "But when the grain had sprouted and produced a crop, then the tares also appeared.
27 "So the servants of the owner came and said to him, 'Sir, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have tares?'
28 "He said to them, 'An enemy has done this.' The servants said to him, 'Do you want us then to go and gather them up?'
29 "But he said, 'No, lest while you gather up the tares you also uproot the wheat with them.
30 'Let both grow together until the harvest, and at the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, "First gather together the tares and bind them in bundles to burn them, but gather the wheat into my barn."

I want to take a look at this phrase Grow Together. Let us start by looking at them, by themselves and then we will bring them together

Let's look at Grow. In the Hebrew the word is samah צמח it means to spout, spring up, grow up, of plants, of hair, of speech. Also, if we look at the John Parkhurst Hebrew and English Lexicon Samah is, the shoot or branch is used as a title of the Messiah

And the Hebrew word for Together is Tapar תפר which means to sew, sew together.

Now as we look at them together it can mean as you branch out to the Messiah you then are sewing together your life with his by surrendering all that is not of him, so you can walk in what he has called us to do, but we can also use this as a way we branch out to each other and sew in our lives to make the body of Messiah stronger.

If you think about it when you see trees growing together they can't grow wide enough to support themselves but as long as they stay grouped together they are stronger, because their root systems are sewn together to keep them strong, but if one of them starts to fall it becomes weak in that area, so what he has shown me is if you allow things that are not of Yahweh to come in to our lives and it causes us to stumble and fall, then not only are we affecting ourselves, but we are affecting the body of Messiah. But even when a tree falls, the other ones around, it will start growing towards the area that's weak in doing so repairing what was damaged and lost to make it stronger so that way it doesn't affect the group. But

when the one falls, there's still damage that has been done and it will cause damage to the other trees because that tree was a barrier protector.

Let me expand upon this a little bit further what I mean by barrier protector is if you have a group of trees in a circle you have all the outer trees protecting the inner, the outer trees is what's exposed to the elements the harsh winds, the storms, and if one of them falls, not only are they doing damage to the trees on the inner circle on its way down, but it leaves a gap of the outer circle, allowing the storm to affect everything on the inside.

Here is what it looks like when a tree falls due to the harsh winds.

So this is why we need to be careful what we allow in because if we stumble and fall, we're not just affecting ourselves, but also the people around us. That's why it's important to be working on ourselves to help make the body strong, because like these photos, I showed you this is the damage we can do to each other without realizing it.

But even when we stumble the rest of us are there to help and support each other. It is not a burden we have to carry on our own, we are to lift each other up not tear each other down. But we still need to work on ourselves. The pruning process isn't easy in my job I have noticed every time I come to prune a fruit tree I have a tendency to want to prune them really quick. The proper process is slow and tedious. I always want to make shortcuts by cutting off a whole limb, because then I can get more of it done faster, but in doing that you can end up harming the tree more than anything. That's why when we are pruning stuff in our own lives there's no shortcut we have to take things away piece by piece.

I also want to take a look at the word root in Hebrew sheresh שרש which is translated as root or bottom, but if we take a look at the value of this word which is 800. We can also find another Hebrew word with the same value which is qeset קשת which means bow for hunting or battle, bowman, archer and rainbow.

(I can't take credit for this next part I had a little help when I was sharing what to do with these words.)

Scripture frequently portrays the LORD as the supreme Archer. "He bends His bow and sets it against His enemies" (Lamentations 2:4). Habakkuk saw Him marching in judgment: "You brandished Your bow; You called for many arrows" (Habakkuk 3:9).

Covenant Sign: The Rainbow

After the Flood God announced, "I have set My bow in the clouds, and it will be a sign of the covenant between Me and the earth" (Genesis 9:13). The same Hebrew word that delineates a lethal weapon is now transposed to a peaceful emblem. The visual arc recalls a war-bow hung in the sky, the string toward earth, the archer's side toward heaven—underscoring divine restraint. The recurring appearance of the rainbow renews assurance that universal judgment by water will never recur, establishing a foundation for trusting every divine promise.

Psalms 37:12-18

The wicked plots against the just, and gnashes at him with his teeth. The Lord will laugh at him for he sees that his day is coming. The wicked have drawn out the sword and have bent their bow, to cast down the poor and needy, to kill those who are upright on the path. Their sword shall enter into their own heart. Their bows shall be broken. Better is a little that the righteous has than the abundance of many wicked. For the arms of the wicked shall be broken, but the LORD upholds the righteous. The LORD knows the days of the perfect. Their inheritance shall be forever.

What I'm gathering is that our roots can be a representation of Yah's covenant with us and if used correctly a weapon that arms us in battle. But if used incorrectly, it will break us and cause our roots to rot.

Here is a photo of what it looks like when the roots rot away, what looked like a healthy tree fell over because its foundation withered away.

So the arms of a trees would be the branches, but what upholds a tree is the roots. If the roots are wicked, Yahweh will break them. And the "bows" are not just a physical weapon in archery, but also could mean bowing as in those who bow to the enemy rather than Yah. Which can be in the little things we do that are taking priority in our lives versus giving Yahweh our attention.

Yahweh is our firm foundation, if we remain rooted in Him, nothing will shake us.

As Brittney Scott was saying a few weeks ago when it came to boundary lines and protective barriers, if we take what we have learned here that we are the barrier protectors and as long as we're grounded in Yahweh, nothing can move us, but if there's things in our lives that were taking priority over Yahweh, then our foundation and our roots will rot away, and we will end up falling and if we fall, we have a potential of making others fall with us. That's why it's important that we work on our path and make sure that what we're rooted in Yahweh and not for the enemy.

Shabbat Shalom!