



He's Still Flipping Tables

He's Still Flipping Tables

Mat 21:12-14 And Yahshua went into the temple of Elohim and cast out all those who sold and bought in the Temple, and overthrew the tables of the money-changers, and the seats of those who sold doves. And He said to them, It is written, "My house shall be called the house of prayer"; but you have made it a den of thieves. And the blind and the lame came to Him in the temple, and He healed them."

A few years ago, I preached a message titled, "**He Is Still Rolling Stones.**" Before any stones were rolled away from the tombs, the zeal of our King had already been revealed when He flipped the moneychanger's tables in the Temple as well as their seats of position who sold doves. Later, after the Disciples were empowered by the Spirit, they carried this same pattern of Yahshua into the nations and whole cities were flipped over by the preaching of the Good News through the authority of His Name. The same Yahshua who brought life out of the grave confronted corruption in His Father's House, exposed what religion had normalized, and removed what men commercialized and exploited. Resurrection power can't be separated from His authority, because the King who gives life also confronts whatever corrupts that life. Religion can defend what YHWH commands us to confess, preserve what He commands us to forsake, and decorate what He commands us to tear down. Also, assemblies can maintain a religious appearance while resisting true repentance, protect reputation while grieving the Spirit, and call compromise wisdom when obedience becomes costly. Yahshua still possesses absolute authority over His House, and everything standing between His people and Covenant faithfulness must answer to Him, especially as we draw near the season of Elul. He sees you, and He is about to walk in the Field of this world – will you be found prepared for His Table?

That authority begins with this house we live in, these physical bodies. His eyes search the hidden places of the heart, and His Word pierces between soul and spirit, exposing motives, thoughts, and agreements no religious appearance can ever conceal. His holiness hasn't weakened, His standard hasn't changed, and His zeal for His Father's House hasn't diminished; it has become even more authoritative now that the Melkhizedek Order is in standing. The King who rolled away stones still overturns whatever obstructs prayer, corrupts worship, exploits His people, protects pride, or competes with His Throne. He's still flipping tables, and the first tables He must be allowed to confront are the ones within us all. Some wear crosses while idols remain enthroned in the heart. Crosses hang from necks, appear on clothing, decorate walls and stages, and fill public profiles, yet the flesh that was supposed to die upon that cross is often protected, promoted, defended, and celebrated. The symbol of crucifixion has become acceptable while the command to deny ourselves has become offensive. We can sing about surrendering while negotiating with lust, bitterness, envy, greed, wounded pride, or the fear of man. Repentance confronts that exchange because it tells the flesh that it has no right to remain on the throne and returns our lives to YHWH through the door of the Tree/Cross which is Teshuvah!!

Religion can become very skilled at identifying what is unclean while remaining unwilling to move toward the person who needs restoration. You can stuff pork down your throat while claiming, “All things are clean” – a huge lie – and still miss the greater need: get yourself out of the way and let the TOUCH of the Holy Spirit within you become contagious! Religion can protect appearances, maintain distance, and speak about holiness without carrying the compassion of the Holy One. Yahshua showed us something greater. He moved toward the broken without becoming corrupted by what He confronted, and His touch restored what fear and separation had pushed outside. The table said, “**Stay away! Stay outside! This condition defines you!**” ALL LIES FROM THE PIT OF HELL! The King overturned that table and declared that uncleanness didn’t have the final word because the Righteous Judge confronted these false judgment! His cleansing reached beyond the skin; it opened the way for dignity, fellowship, worship, and restoration. The same King who touched the untouchable still calls His House to carry holiness without fear, truth without cruelty, and compassion strong enough to move toward those others have pushed away. Let’s keep building as we continue!

Religion has often presented a version of Yahshua that makes His holiness seem softer and His words less demanding than they truly are. Yahshua wasn't passive, and He didn't come to make us comfortable while leaving us unchanged. He was the Word made flesh, from the tribe of Judah, full of grace and truth, carrying the authority of His Father and the scepter of the Throne. Grace never caused Him to ignore corruption; ahavah moved Him to confront oppression and sin, while mercy never required Him to tolerate what dishonored the House of YHWH. The same Messiah who welcomed children also rebuked hypocritical leaders, healed the broken, commanded unclean spirits to leave, and wept over Jerusalem while warning of coming judgment. The Lamb of Elohim showed us what true authority looks like: gentleness without compromise, compassion without fear of man, mercy without mixture, and strength without pride.

John records that when Passover approached, Yahshua entered the Temple and found those selling oxen, sheep, and doves, with money changers seated at their tables. He made a whip of cords, drove them out, poured out the money, and overturned the tables, commanding, "Take these things away; do not make My Father's House a house of merchandise" (John 2:13–16). Matthew, Mark, and Luke record the cleansing near the end of His earthly ministry, where He declared, **"My House shall be called a House of prayer, but you have made it a den of thieves"** (Matthew 21:13; Mark 11:17; Luke 19:46). Whether these accounts describe two cleansings or the Apostolic writers present the event within their own Spirit-led order, the message is unchanged: the Son entered the Temple, confronted corruption at its center, and called the House back to the purpose of His Father.

During the Second Temple era, the Ark of the Covenant was gone, though the altar of incense remained as Luke describes Zechariah standing by it (Luke 1:9–11). This was devastating, the Temple's insides LOOKED holy, but the Presence that set the Nation apart was no longer present. The deeper tragedy was that people could draw near to holy things and still remain distant from YHWH. Priests could serve at the altar and miss the One to whom every altar pointed, scholars could search the Scriptures and reject the Living Word standing before them, and leaders could defend a religious institution while resisting the true King. Magnificent buildings couldn't make up for corrupted hearts, and religious activity could never replace Covenant loyalty. The House remained busy while reverence for YHWH was displaced by business, status, and control. This scene now gains momentum:

Yahshua entered the Temple with the zeal described in Psalm 69:9: **“The zeal of Your House has eaten Me up.”** His actions of cleansing were judicial, prophetic, rooted in Covenant, and holy. He stood as the Son defending His Father's House, the promised King exercising authority over worship, and the Greater Prophet confronting what men had turned into a marketplace. As the Lamb approaching His own sacrifice, He declared through His actions that access to YHWH couldn't be bought, sold, manipulated, or controlled by religious profiteers. That same authority still confronts whatever replaces prayer, reveals platforms that make merchandise of souls, exposes leaders who use Scripture to protect ambition, opposes financial manipulation, and commands that what profanes worship **MUST** be removed.

This message doesn't give us permission to condemn the money changers of ancient Jerusalem while protecting our own tables. That Temple scene reaches directly into our assemblies, homes, ministries, businesses, relationships, habits, and hearts. If the King walked in, what tables would He flip? Or would He find a seat waiting for His arrival? A servant who won't preach without first negotiating an honorarium must examine his calling, because Yahshua said, **"Freely you have received, freely give."** Yes, the laborer is worthy of their hire, but the Kingdom servant doesn't hold the authority to do that. In every generation there are those who build tables when obedience is traded for convenience, truth for influence, holiness for acceptance, worship for entertainment, prayer for performance, Covenant for commerce, and the fear of YHWH for the approval of man. Every exchange places something belonging to YHWH on the table to purchase what the flesh desires.

The real question is what Yahshua would overturn if everything we call His House were laid before Him. Which programs would end because ambition replaced obedience, which microphones would fall silent because gifting replaced character, contracts unravel because Commerce replaced Covenant, and which platforms would collapse because men became greater than the One they claimed to serve? Crowds can celebrate what Heaven never commanded, excellence can stir emotion without producing repentance, and noise can imitate fire while obedience disappears. Popularity isn't fruit, a full room isn't necessarily a consecrated House, and applause never becomes YHWH's approval just because His Name is mentioned regarding it.

Every Miracle Was a Table Flipped

The Temple cleansing gives us the visible picture of righteous authority of the Melkhizedek Order, yet when we trace Yahshua's ministry from beginning to end, we discover that He had been flipping tables everywhere He went. Every miracle confronted something sin, death, brokenness, fear, religious control, or the fallen condition of this age had tried to make permanent. Every healing declared that the condition didn't possess the final word, every deliverance declared that an unclean spirit didn't own the person it tormented, and every resurrection declared that Death couldn't claim authority over the Author of Life. These weren't isolated displays of power; each miracle revealed the Kingdom of YHWH entering a place where another power had claimed a seat, and when the King entered, that table was flipped and removed.

The **table of demon possession** was flipped when Yahshua confronted unclean spirits with a word. In Capernaum on the Sabbath, He entered the synagogue and taught. During this time, He commanded an unclean spirit to come out of a man (Mark 1:21–28), and among the Gerasenes He crossed the water to meet the man called Legion, who lived among tombs, cut himself, broke restraints, and had been pushed outside ordinary fellowship (Mark 5:1–20). The table of torment told that man he belonged among graves, yet Yahshua restored him clothed, in his right mind, and sitting at His feet. Deliverance wasn't displayed as entertainment or a ministry brand; the King was reclaiming what Darkness had occupied, and He has empowered His people to confront bondage beneath His authority. The spirits recognized His rank and obeyed His command, while the tormented man ran toward Yahshua because of the Kingdom authority He carried. That impresses the question upon us: **what weight of the Kingdom are we carrying into the places where bondage has claimed a seat?**

This danger faces every generation – buildings, budgets, staff, media, equipment, administration, travel, publishing, conferences, and technology may assist the mission, but they must never become the mission. When preserving an institution matters more than obeying YHWH, the TABLE has replaced the ALTAR. When leaders guard income above integrity, fear losing donors more than grieving the Spirit, or soften the truth to maintain attendance & friendships – the TABLE has replaced the ALTAR! Every structure must remain a servant of the vision YHWH gave, never its master. A true House of prayer depends on YHWH; a den of thieves operates by control. Prayer confesses YHWH as the Source, while theft manipulates people to obtain what should be received through Kingdom obedience just like we see today with this Zionistic push towards the Noahide laws upon the people and the STATE OF ISRAEL now joining military forces with the USA. Prayer waits on YHWH; theft pressures people, Prayer seeks His will; theft uses His Name to secure our own. Prayer says, “**Your Kingdom come**”; theft says, “My platform must remain.” Prayer asks for daily bread; theft hoards bread while the sheep go hungry. Prayer gives glory to YHWH; theft takes what belongs to Him and puts a man’s name upon it. The real difference isn’t just what happens in the room, but whose authority rules that room. Its HEARD mentality, not HERD, but HEARD mentality! Don’t follow the HEARD....!

We must be precise here: Scripture doesn’t teach that every sickness, disability, or struggle is caused by a demon, and Yahshua rejected the assumption that every physical condition resulted directly from personal sin (John 9:1–3). The Gospels distinguish sickness from demonization while showing that Yahshua has authority over both. Where there was bondage, He drove it out; where there was disease, He healed; where there was shame, He restored; where there was sin, He forgave; and where there was death, He called life forward. The table differed in each life, yet the authority overturning it was the same – the authority of Yahshua, our Melkhizedek King-Priest, demonstrating the Right Hand of Power over every form of bondage.

The **table of blindness** was flipped repeatedly. Blind Bartimaeus sat by the road begging because blindness had reduced his future to dependence upon what others might place in his hand. If ANY of us depend upon what others can do and not what YHWH will do, then , these are blind Bartimaeus! STOP being a blind Bartimaeus! He heard that Yahshua was passing and cried out, “**Son of David, have mercy on me.**” The crowd tried to silence him, but Yahshua stopped, called him near, and restored his sight (Mark 10:46-52). One table said, “Sit down, stay quiet, accept the place society has labeled and given you.” The King said, “**Receive your sight!**” In John 9, a man blind from his nativity became the center of a religious argument. This is like today, those who have been BIRTHED into religion become the center of arguments and powerless patterns! The Disciples asked who sinned, while Yahshua refused their false choice and made the man’s condition an occasion for the works of Elohim to be revealed. The miracle flipped two tables at once: physical blindness and religious blindness. The man who had never seen received sight, while leaders who claimed to see hardened themselves against the One standing before them. One word flipped two religious tables that provided no bread of healing! Yahshua ALTERED these religious altars of the money changing world of that day!

The **table of the deaf and mute** was flipped when Yahshua opened ears and loosed tongues (Mark 7:31-37). A person who couldn’t hear the voices of their family, the reading of Scripture, the sound of worship, or ordinary conversation suddenly entered a world of sound because the King touched what had been closed. A tongue that couldn’t form words was released for the first time. Imagine the sound this man made? He worshipped for the first time in his life and NO ONE could stop him! The crowd said, “He has done all things well.” The miracle declared that what had been sealed wasn’t beyond His authority. The same Yahshua still confronts spiritual deafness when people have ears but refuse to hear what the Spirit says to the assemblies. A physical miracle is more than a picture or metaphor because Yahshua truly healed real people, yet those miracles still speak directly to us. We can have ears that work perfectly and still refuse to hear correction, warning, or the truth YHWH is trying to show us. We can speak clearly and still use our words for pride, gossip, manipulation, accusation, or false witness. The same King who opened deaf ears still calls His House to listen, and the same One who gave speech back to the mute still requires our words to come under His authority.

Leaders are here to help the whole Body grow so the life of Messiah is revealed through us all. Money should help those in need, support genuine ministry, and advance the mission, not make a few people rich, famous, or untouchable like we see in these MEGA churches today. Every part of the House must ask, **“Does this please YHWH, or is it only making us look important?”** Peter said we are living stones being built into a spiritual house, offering true worship to Elohim through Yahshua the Messiah (1 Peter 2:5), and Paul said we together are YHWH’s Temple and His Spirit dwells within us (1 Corinthians 3:16). The House isn’t just a building; it is YHWH’s people living beneath the King and empowered by His Spirit. Let’s BUILD up one another!!

The **table of the lame and paralyzed** were also flipped when Yahshua told broken bodies to rise. If you feel broken today, RISE UP AND WALK! There was an instant when four unnamed men lowered a paralyzed man through a roof they tore open because the crowd blocked the access, the door. Sometimes you might have to do the unthinkable, something outside of religious order and tear open a way when there seem to be no way! Yahshua is the Way Maker, Miracle Worker, Promise Keeper and Light of the World!! Yahshua first said, **“Your sins are forgiven,”** then commanded him to arise, take up his bed, and go home (Mark 2:1-12). Religious leaders objected to the forgiveness, so Yahshua healed the body as a visible witness that the Son of Man possessed authority on earth to forgive sins. One table kept the man on a mat; another table of religious unbelief tried to keep mercy inside boundaries it could control. Yahshua overturned both. At Bethesda, a man had lived in weakness for thirty-eight years and had built his explanation around the fact that no one put him into the pool at the right time that was stirred by an angelic power we still don’t know of. Yahshua didn’t strengthen the old system that had defined the man’s hope; He commanded him to rise, take up his bed, and walk (John 5:1-9). The King didn’t help him become better at waiting beside the table (pool); He removed the table’s authority over his future. Sometimes you must flip the tables of those voices that say you CAN’T!!!

The **table of leprosy and uncleanness** fell when Yahshua reached toward the very people others were afraid to touch. Someone say, “REACH!” Leprosy brought more than physical suffering; it often carried separation, isolation, and the painful awareness that others saw the person as someone to avoid. This projected the highest level of rejection! The unclean were kept at a distance, marked by what was wrong with them, and forced to live with a condition that affected more than the body. Then a leper came to Yahshua and said, “**If You are willing, You can make me clean.**” Yahshua didn’t step back, hesitate, or protect His reputation. He reached out His hand, touched the man, and said, “**חֶפֶץ אֲנִי הַטָּהֵר** “**I am willing; be cleansed.**” or “**I am delighted to, be clean.**” (Mark 1:40–45). It is the delight of our King to make you and I clean and acceptable! That touch is beyond important because Yahshua wasn’t made unclean by the man’s condition; His holiness overcame what had kept that man separated even though according to the religious world he would be ritually unclean.

The **table of fear and chaos** was flipped when even the wind and the sea obeyed Yahshua. I didn't know the wind and waves had ears to hear and obey!! Imagine the Body of Messiah collectively hearing and obeying WHAT the King says only?!! The Disciples weren't strangers to water, boats, changing weather, or the dangers of the sea. Several of them had spent much of their lives on those waters, yet this storm pushed them beyond everything their experience could control. Their skill was no longer enough, the boat was filling, and fear began speaking louder than everything they knew. Yahshua rose, rebuked the wind, spoke to the sea, and what had been a raging death trap earlier became a great calm (Mark 4:35-41). The storm had created a table where fear was being served to everyone in the boat, but one word from the King overturned it. Listen, if you are sitting at a table of fear and uncertainty, **WALK AWAY FROM THAT TABLE, IT MIGHT B E A T A B L E F O R D E M O N S !**

The greater revelation wasn't just that the storm stopped. The Disciples looked at one another and asked, **"Who is this, that even the wind and the sea obey Him?"** Every miracle keeps bringing us back to this question – It is the King of of all Creation in flesh. The point isn't only what Yahshua did, but who He must be for Creation itself to recognize His Voice again. He wasn't performing signs to entertain crowds or build a reputation. His miracles revealed the King, demonstrated His authority, fulfilled prophetic witness, expressed His compassion, and forced those watching to face His identity. The wind didn't debate Him, the sea didn't resist Him, and chaos didn't get the final word. The same Voice that spoke order into Creation stood in that boat and commanded disorder to become still. The storm revealed the limits of the Disciples, but it also revealed that there is no storm beyond the authority of Yahshua. When human experience reaches its boundary, His authority doesn't. **GIVE MESSIAH YAHSHUA ACCESS TO THE BOAT YOU'RE SINKING IN!** This is for someone today.

The **table of chronic suffering, shame, and lost identity** were flipped when the Woman with the issue of blood pressed through the crowd and touched Yahshua's garment (Mark 5:25–34). I preached this account years ago, yet there is something even deeper in the way Mark joins these two miracles together. For 12 years this Woman had been bleeding, losing strength, money, dignity, fellowship, and hope. She had spent what she had seeking help, yet instead of getting better she became worse. Her condition affected far more than her body; it touched every area of ordinary life and continually reminded her of what was wrong. At the same moment, another crisis was unfolding. Jairus (This Woman's Husband in my own research) had come pleading for his 12-year-old daughter, and while Yahshua was dealing with this woman's 12yr suffering, word arrived that the 12-yr old young girl had died. One woman had been losing life for 12 years; one daughter had lived for 12 years and was now losing life altogether. Two stories, two forms of suffering, the same number 12, and one King standing in the middle of both with the intention of restoring the divided House with a word and the Faith of the Mother. Faith will ignite the spoken word!

Then Yahshua did something that should arrest our attention here. When the woman touched His garment and power went out from Him, He stopped and called her forward. She may have wanted to receive her healing quietly and disappear back into the crowd, but Yahshua wasn't finished with her restoration or her story. Someone say, **"He's not finished with me yet!"** He didn't expose her to humiliate her; He brought her into the light so He could publicly restore what 12 years of suffering had stripped away and now had to payback what was taken by issues. Then He called her something the text had not called her before: **"Daughter."** That word connects the two accounts in a powerful way: Jairus is pleading for his daughter, and before Yahshua raises that 12-year-old daughter from Death, He stops and restores another Woman (The Mother of the 12 year old girl) to the identity of a daughter. He is dealing with **two daughters at once** – one whose life's issues had been slowly draining away for 12 years and another whose 12 years of life had suddenly ended because of one issue – the house that was divided was about to be restored. One reaches out and touches Him; moments later He will reach out and touch the other. When faith Touches the Word, Death has no more jurisdiction! The Woman REACHED & touched Yahshua and is raised out of 12 years of suffering; Yahshua moments later touches the 12yr old little girl and raises her out of the grips of Death.

That is what makes this account so powerful; Yahshua wasn't distracted on His way to Jairus's house, no, the interruption was part of the revelation and part of the authority to flip the tables and that's what happened here. He could stop for one daughter without arriving too late for the other because Death itself couldn't place Him under a deadline. Jairus may have thought, *My daughter is dying; we have to hurry*, while the Woman may have thought, *I have already suffered too long; perhaps I can just touch Him and disappear*. I can also say that no man could ever fully understand the love a mother carries for her children. She carried an entire world within her for nine months, and when that world, the Daughter in this case, who would forever change mama's life was suddenly separated from her because of mama's issues and the premature issue of death, that same loss would mark the woman's life through 12 long years of blood issues. Sometimes your issues are in the bloodline that needs to be dried up! You can be free, just reach out to the King now! Yahshua showed both of them that His authority wasn't limited by how long the problem had existed or by how far the condition had progressed. 12 years of suffering wasn't too long, and that death wasn't final. Yahshua had authority over both.

When He told the woman, *“Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace,”* He wasn't just giving her permission to leave; He was sending her forward into shalom – wholeness, restoration, and peace after 12 years of issues. Her issue would no longer be her identity!! Someone needs to declare that! That ISSUE will no longer be my identity! She entered the crowd known by her condition and left having heard the King call her **Daughter**. What the crowd rejected was embraced by Him. That is the revelation we can declare into our own lives: Woman, you are still a daughter! Your issue isn't your name! Your pain isn't your identity! Your issue isn't your destiny! What happened to you doesn't possess the authority to define who you are in Messiah! This is your season of REACHING. Someone say, **“I'M A REACHER!!”** Yahshua has come to deal with that issue you have been hiding or too ashamed to tell anyone without allowing the issue to become your identity and destiny.

Then He continued toward Jairus's house. The report said, "**Your daughter is dead.**" It's always the religious know-it-alls who will say that because they don't see what the POWER OF RESURRECTION sees! Yahshua had just spoken *Daughter* over one woman, and now He was going to raise another daughter from Death. He took the child by the hand and said, "**Talitha Cumi**" - "**Little girl, I say to you, arise.**" The Woman (Mama) was raised out of 12 years of issues, with life slowly draining from her, while the young girl was raised from Death's grip after having possessed life for only 12 years. Yahshua stepped into both ends of the same 12yr testimony and overturned both tables. One had been losing life for 12 years, while the other had only known life for 12 years and Yahshua touched them both. The Eternal Son also understood the mystery of the womb, because He had once been carried within His earthly mother Miriam. She believed, received the overshadowing power of the Holy Spirit, and trusted the process before she ever saw its fulfillment. In the same way, we must become carriers of faith and trust the process no matter what it looks or sounds like.

The **table of issues** had consumed the Woman's resources, strength, relationships, dignity, and even the way she saw herself, yet Yahshua gave her what no physician, marketplace, religious system, or amount of money could ever purchase: healing, shalom, restored family and the public restoration her 12yr old Daughter. Yahshua entered Jairus's house and proved that even the Table of Death couldn't remain standing before Him. Two daughters, two impossible conditions, one 12-year connection, and one touch REACHING in two directions. He showed what was about to take place on the Cross, His Arms stretched out wide healing man's issues of Death. We see this prophetic patter here in their lives, Two Daughters (Israel & Judah) and the 12 tribes bleeding out UNTIL the King stepped on the scene at His Crucifixion! One King declared through both miracles that neither prolonged suffering nor Death will ever have the final word when Yahshua steps into the story.

The **Table of Death** fell whenever Yahshua stood before it. Jairus heard the words every father and mother dreads: “**Your daughter is dead. Why trouble the Teacher any further?**” Yahshua answered the finality of the report with, “**Do not be afraid; only believe,**” entered the room, took the girl by the hand, and told this 12-yr daughter who was sleeping WITH Shalom to arise (Mark 5:35-43). Yahshua was flipping tables everywhere He walked and went. Here are more tables that were flipped: At Nain, a widow followed the body of her only son toward burial, and Yahshua stopped the funeral, touched the coffin, and called the young man back to life (Luke 7:11-17). At Bethany, Lazarus had been in the tomb four days when Yahshua declared, “**I am the Resurrection and the Life,**” then cried, “**Lazarus, come forth**” (John 11:25, 43). Death is the oldest table in this fallen world. Adam’s rebellion opened its DNA trafficking exchange, sin earned its wages, graves became its evidence, and generations learned to call it inevitable. **BUT** Yahshua stood in front of the tomb and showed that Death itself must answer to the Son, The King and the Resurrection and The Life no grave or Death could hold!

The resurrection of Lazarus wasn’t yet the final victory, because Lazarus would eventually die again, but Yahshua’s own resurrection went even further. He didn’t return just to mortal life; He rose in victory, never to die again. The stone was rolled away, the tomb was empty, and Death lost its claim over the One it couldn’t hold. The Table of Death was overturned at the Altar Throne of Golgotha and shattered by the empty tomb in a way no earlier miracle had ever displayed. Every resurrection before Him was a prophetic sign pointing forward, but Yahshua’s resurrection became the declaration that the age to come had already broken into this present age through the Firstborn from the dead, and now Death itself had been placed beneath His authority. The promise of our hope isn’t escape through secret knowledge, technological advancements, simulated survival, or digital memory. Our hope is resurrection through the risen King. Let’s keep building family!

Leaves Without Fruit: The Fig Tree and the Temple

It is interesting that Mark places the story of the cursed fig tree around the scene of the Temple cleansing (Mark 11:12–21). Yahshua saw a fig tree full of leaves, but when He looked for fruit, He found nothing – a reminder of the Voice searching for Adam in the Garden. It was also known in rabbinic writings where the study of Torah took place by many (Sanhedrin 41a), but Yahshua found NO FRUIT of the Torah, just rabbinic and pharisaical EXCUSES/LEAVES. Fig Tree (עץ תאנה) has the same N.V. as: Ha'Torah (התורה) – The Torah. Man is obligated to produce the FRUIT of the Torah and that fruit is the Covenant Order, the very thing Adam forfeited! Then He entered a Temple area also covered in religious leaves: priests, sacrifices, courts, money, noise, titles, robes, customs, and public devotion. There was activity everywhere, but the fruit YHWH wanted was missing. The fig tree and the Temple give the same warning: leaves can impress people, but fruitlessness invokes the King's examination. Ministries, congregations, preachers, and movements can all show leaves that are visible, but the fruit it bears must be tested. Leaves appear quickly; fruit takes Time, roots, seasons, pruning, patience, and life from the Vine. Leaves can look healthy from a distance, but fruit shows if the tree is rooted and feeds anyone. Yahshua never said false servants would be known by their gifts, crowds, claims, words, or platforms; He said they would be known by their fruit (Matthew 7:15–23). Gifts can function while character stays unchanged. A person can prophesy, cast out demons, and do great works, but still hear, “I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness.” The real issue isn't whether spiritual activity happened; it's whether the worker lived under the King's authority. Gifting reveals ability; fruit reveals what has been formed inside. Public power can draw a crowd, but only private obedience proves the heart is under authority.

Fruit is the evidence that the Spirit of YHWH rules the inner life: love that tells the truth, joy that endures suffering, peace without control, patience without retaliation, kindness without manipulation, goodness without show, faithfulness without applause, gentleness without weakness, and self-control when the flesh wants the throne (Galatians 5:22–23). Fruit is visible Covenant faithfulness – justice, mercy, humility, integrity, clean hands, a pure heart, compassion for the weak (*not compassion for a WEEK, but compassion for the weak*). The fig tree had leaves before Yahshua approached it, and the Temple had activity before He entered, yet His presence exposed what appearance concealed. Leaves may create shade, but they can't feed anyone. The same standard tests every prophetic claim, worship style, theology, alliance, charity, and platform carrying His Name.

The fig tree warns us not to confuse yesterday's appearance with today's spiritual life. Every leader must remain connected to the Vine, every assembly beneath the Word, every family in prayer and obedience, and every believer in honest fellowship with YHWH. No title creates life, no past visitation replaces present obedience, and no former anointing excuses present compromise. Yahshua pointed His disciples back to faith in YHWH, prayer, and forgiveness (Mark 11:22–25), because the answer to fruitless religion isn't more activity but living faith, Covenant obedience, and dependence upon YHWH. Let the King examine our fruit now. Let His Word cut away vanity, secret sin, unforgiveness, greed, self-preservation, and religious competition. The Father prunes fruitful branches so they bear more fruit (John 15:1–8). Pruning isn't rejection; it is preparation for greater fruit. **The test of fruit always leads to the test of true worship. Can we go deeper and more personal?**

Crosses Outside, Idols Inside

An idol isn't only a carved image; it is anything that receives the trust, fear, love, dependence, obedience, sacrifice, or devotion that belongs to YHWH alone. An idol can be a person, ministry, slogan, family name, bank account, reputation, doctrine, dream, painful memory, appetite, or ambition. Anything we refuse to surrender, or deliberately protect from YHWH's Covenant Word, can become a throne within us. The question isn't just what we possess, but what has begun to possess us.

In ancient times, people carried idols made of wood and stone; today, many idols are carried in our ambitions, appetites, technology, and even our secret thoughts. The form may change, but the demand is still the same: devotion. Ancient worshippers burned incense before carved images, while we can surrender countless hours to screens. Ancient kings built monuments to their own names, while modern leaders can build digital monuments through followers, likes, attention, and carefully managed images. Societies once sacrificed children for prosperity, while our generation can sacrifice marriages, family time, health, truth, integrity, rest, and even the mind in pursuit of success. If our success destroys our family, calling, and destiny, then that success has become an idol. A cross around the neck cannot sanctify an idol in the heart, and a Bible in the hand cannot replace obedience in our life. Outward symbols are not always evil but honoring the symbol while rejecting what it represents is. The Cross calls us to die to self, live in Messiah, and surrender completely to the crucified and risen King. Wearing the Cross while still crowning self turns our testimony into hypocrisy.

Nebuchadnezzar built an image and demanded that people bow before it, and the same spirit of idolatry can still appear wherever a religious personality becomes greater in the eyes of the people than the truth he claims to preach. Cameras, stages, branding, social media, and constant visibility can create an image around a leader until people begin surrendering discernment, loyalty, and even identity to that personality. They may never physically bow, yet they defend the leader more fiercely than Scripture, treat honest questions as rebellion, and call accountability betrayal. When loyalty to a man requires silence in the presence of error, manipulation, or sin, that loyalty has crossed the line into idolatry. True servants of YHWH refuse that kind of worship because they understand that the people don't belong to them. John the Immerser said, **“He must increase, but I must decrease”** (John 3:30). Peter immediately stopped Cornelius from bowing before him (Acts 10:25–26), while Paul and Barnabas tore their garments when the crowds attempted to honor them as gods (Acts 14:11–15). True leaders continually turn the attention of the people back to YHWH, using their authority to mature the Body, strengthen discernment, and lead people into deeper dependence upon Yahshua rather than deeper dependence upon themselves.

The Pulpit Can't Be for Sale

The pulpit isn't a throne for personality; it is a place of stewardship beneath the authority of the Word, and anyone who stands before the people should first tremble before YHWH. James warned that teachers will face stricter judgment (James 3:1), while Ezekiel condemned shepherds who fed themselves while neglecting the weak, sick, broken, and lost (Ezekiel 34:2–4). Standing behind a pulpit doesn't give a man greater ownership over the people; it multiplies his accountability before the Chief Shepherd because every word, influence, and decision concerning the flock must answer to Yahshua. The pulpit becomes corrupted when truth is adjusted to satisfy donors, when leaders refuse to confront what YHWH condemns because they fear losing income, influence, invitations, or access, or when preserving the crowd becomes more important than grieving the Spirit. A message may sound powerful and convincing, but when money, popularity, political access, or personal preservation determines what can be preached and what must remain silent, corruption has already entered the root. A servant of YHWH has no authority to sell silence where YHWH requires truth.

Micah condemned leaders who judged for reward, priests who taught for pay, and prophets who prophesied for money while still claiming YHWH's approval (Micah 3:11). Their religious position couldn't make corruption righteous. Jeremiah rebuked prophets who spoke their own visions, strengthened evildoers, and gave false hope (Jeremiah 23:14–17), while Peter warned that false teachers would exploit people through deceptive words for profit (2 Peter 2:1–3). Scripture also makes clear that those who labor in the Word may receive support (1 Corinthians 9:14; 1 Timothy 5:17–18), so honest publishing, responsible offerings, transparent salaries, and righteous stewardship aren't condemned simply because money is involved.

Corruption begins when people become products, fear becomes a tool for profit, blessings are sold, prophecy is monetized, access is divided according to wealth, or spiritual authority preys upon the vulnerable. Simon Magus attempted to purchase the authority of the Spirit, and Peter answered, “Your money perish with you, because you thought the gift of Elohim could be purchased” (Acts 8:18–23). The gifts of the Spirit aren’t inventory, the anointing isn’t a business, prayer isn’t a product, deliverance isn’t a premium service, and prophetic words aren’t to be prostituted for payment. THERE ISN’T A FINANCIAL COST FOR WHAT YHWH ENTRUSTS US TO DELIVER FREELY.

Not every supported minister is corrupt, but every servant must ask what money is allowed to change. Does it alter the message, determine who receives attention, protect influential sinners, silence correction, or create special access? Yahshua honored the poor widow who gave from her poverty (Mark 12:41–44), yet He had just condemned scribes who devoured widows’ houses (Mark 12:38–40). Her sacrifice must never be used to pressure struggling people into funding religious excess. Any system that celebrates the widow’s giving while consuming her house has become the very corruption Yahshua condemned. Offerings must be handled with reverence, transparency, and pure motives. Paul chose trustworthy men to administer gifts honorably before YHWH and others (2 Corinthians 8:18–21). Accountability isn’t unbelief, and financial secrecy isn’t spirituality. Honest stewardship protects the people, the leaders, the testimony, and the mission. Corruption appears when leaders exploit families, demand unquestioned loyalty, make themselves necessary for access to YHWH, or teach that loyalty to them is loyalty to Messiah. When sin is exposed, the righteous response is repentance that tells the truth, accepts accountability, makes restitution where possible, protects the wounded, and produces fruit that proves genuine change.

The Tables Inside the Temple of the Body

Paul asked, **“Do you not know that your body is the Temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from Elohim, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price”** (1 Corinthians 6:19–20). The Blood brought us into Covenant, and the Spirit inhabits what the Blood redeemed. Our body, mind, appetites, imagination, relationships, resources, speech, time, and future all belong beneath the authority of the King. We can’t ask Yahshua to cleanse His House while protecting corruption inside our own temple, demanding dishonest leaders be exposed while dishonest motives remain hidden, or condemning public idolatry while private altars still receive our devotion. The inward tables must be identified because what we refuse to confront is often what we continue to defend.

Esau exchanged his birthright for one meal because immediate appetite became more valuable than Covenant inheritance (Genesis 25:29–34). Temptation still offers the same exchange: pleasure, revenge, attention, money, comfort, numbness, or acceptance in return for some part of our obedience. Appetite becomes an idol when desire determines what is right and the flesh begins commanding what the spirit knows must be refused. Perversion sets a table in the imagination and consumes purity, intimacy, honor, and Covenant faithfulness. Bitterness keeps serving the same offense in the mind; envy turns another person’s blessing into resentment; gluttony allows comfort to rule the body; drunkenness and chemical bondage numb pain instead of healing it; gossip consumes another person’s reputation; pride rejects correction; fear delays obedience; and constant digital stimulation can scatter our attention until being still before YHWH becomes difficult. Yahshua exposes these tables not to shame the repentant, but to end the exchange and restore what His Blood purchased to Covenant order.

Joseph understood that even the secret room remained open before Elohim. When Potiphar's wife tempted him, he answered, “**How then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against Elohim?**” (Genesis 39:9). Joseph didn't negotiate with temptation; he fled. Some tables can't be reformed, some doors can't remain partly open, and some environments must simply be left. Certain contacts must be removed, devices may require boundaries, hidden patterns must be confessed, and opportunities leading repeatedly toward compromise must be refused. Paul told Timothy to flee youthful lusts and pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace (2 Timothy 2:22). Scripture doesn't command us to stand beside every flame and prove our strength. Wisdom knows when holiness requires us to leave immediately.

The **table of unforgiveness** must be flipped over. Forgiveness doesn't declare evil acceptable, erase consequences, or automatically restore access. Forgiveness releases personal vengeance into the hands of the righteous Judge and refuses to let the offender continue ruling the inner life through hatred or unforgiveness. Yahshua warned that a heart receiving mercy must become willing to release debt (Matthew 18:21–35). The wound may be real, the injustice evil, and the loss severe, yet pain becomes an inward ruler when it defines every future relationship, interprets every correction, and excuses sinful responses. Messiah doesn't ask us to deny what happened; He calls us to receive healing, keep wise boundaries, refuse personal vengeance, and let identity in Him become greater than identity formed through injury.

The **table of wounded identity** must also be flipped over. Trauma can explain patterns without becoming permission for sin. Pain deserves compassion, truth, safety, and patient healing, yet it can't remain a permanent ruler over the future. A wound becomes a throne when every relationship must bow to it, every correction is interpreted through it, and every act of obedience is postponed until everyone else fully understands the past. Yahshua doesn't shame the wounded; He heals deeply enough that the wound no longer governs what comes next. The table of doctrinal pride must fall as well. Truth matters, sound doctrine protects the flock, and error can destroy lives, yet conviction becomes corrupt when knowledge is used to dominate, mock, divide without righteous cause, or avoid the greater demands of love and obedience. Knowledge puffs up while love builds up (1 Corinthians 8:1). We can win an argument about holiness while losing holiness in the way we argue, expose false doctrine while hiding personal sin, pronounce Hebrew words correctly while speaking without mercy, and defend Scripture while refusing the correction Scripture brings to our own lives. Doctrine was given to bring us beneath the authority of truth, not to provide self with another throne.

Wisdom distinguishes destructive error from serious disagreement and from matters where faithful people may still be growing in understanding. A teacher who can't say, "I was wrong," has placed reputation above truth. Sound doctrine should produce sound worship, character, relationships, and obedience. Doctrine that enlarges pride while diminishing mercy hasn't yet reached the heart, and doctrine that exposes everyone else while leaving the teacher unexamined has become a hiding place. The strongest defense of truth is a life ruled by the truth being defended.

The Tables of Deceptive Doctrine and Religious Rebellion Are on the Rise

The table of these deceptive winds of doctrine must be flipped over and crushed, especially because these doctrines are causing many to reject who our King has always been and to exchange the plain witness of Scripture for another voice. Behind these false doctrine tables is the ancient Serpent Seed deception – the same counterfeit word first introduced in Eden, where the Serpent challenged what YHWH Elohim had spoken and planted another explanation of truth into the mind/womb of the Woman. That ancient pattern has never changed: the Serpent still works through another voice, another interpretation, another promise of hidden knowledge, and another path that slowly pulls the hearer away from the Word of YHWH. Paul warned that **we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine** (Ephesians 4:14), and he warned that **a time would come when people would turn their ears away from the truth and be turned aside to fables** (2 Timothy 4:3–4). Those who push back against this revelation of the Serpent Seed just might be deceived by this truth of what Scripture has recorded.

Therefore, Discernment can't be surrendered to novelty, hidden knowledge, confident personalities, impressive charts, unexplained historical gaps, secret chronologies, or theories that appear to connect mysteries Scripture itself never connected. We are commanded to test the spirits (1 John 4:1), test all things and hold fast what is good (1 Thessalonians 5:21), and refuse even the most persuasive message if it moves us away from the Good News already delivered (Galatians 1:8–9). Every false doctrine table carries the fingerprint of that first deception whenever it asks us to trust another word above the Word, another image above the Image of Elohim, or another source of life apart from Yahshua. A doctrine becomes another table when fascination with that system begins shifting our submission away from Yahshua and the plain witness of His Word toward the system itself, because once the counterfeit voice becomes authority, the Serpent has accomplished again in doctrine what he first attempted in Eden – replacing what YHWH said with what another voice claims He meant. This is why these tables must fall. We are not dealing only with theological error; we are confronting the ancient attempt to overwrite the **צֶלֶם** – *Tzelem* – Image of Elohim with another image by placing another word inside the Image-bearer. It is the battle between Altars and Seed!

One example is the modern **Satan's Little Season** theory when it teaches that Yahshua already returned, the resurrection and thousand-year reign are already behind us, and we are now living after those events in the short release of Satan described in Revelation 20. I am not speaking about every historic disagreement over how Revelation 20 should be interpreted; I am confronting the modern claim that requires the prophetic sequence to be moved into a hidden past and often depends upon rewritten, concealed, or reconstructed history to hold the system together. Revelation doesn't tell us to discover a missing Millennium by decoding erased history; it places the appearing and victory of the King, the binding of Satan, the thousand years, Satan's release, the final rebellion, the Great White Throne, and the new Heaven and new Earth in an **ordered** prophetic movement (Revelation 19:11–21; 20:1–15; 21:1). We must not let an internet theory move completed events behind us simply because the theory can gather unusual buildings, old photographs, mud-flood claims, Tartarian narratives, or historical questions around itself. Questions may deserve investigation, but they don't have authority to rewrite the testimony of the King.

Archaix presents another kind of table when chronology, reset cycles, a Simulacrum, an artificial or controlled reality, an Immortal Within, or a return to Source becomes the lens through which Yahshua and Scripture are reinterpreted. The danger isn't just that someone studies ancient chronologies or notices patterns; the danger begins when the pattern becomes the authority and the written Word is made to answer to the system. We don't need a hidden chronology, a Phoenix reset, AI X, a Simulacrum, an Oversoul, avatars, or secret knowledge to make us complete. We are complete in Yahshua, and He is the Head of every principality and power (Colossians 2:8–10)!! Any teaching that turns the historic Yahshua into a symbol inside a larger metaphysical system, makes His resurrection secondary to awakening, or shifts redemption from His Blood to hidden knowledge has placed another table in the House.

The same rebellion now speaks through transhumanism, where mankind is offered the overcoming of biological limits, extended life, altered bodies, merger with machines, identity stored in data, or the continuation of mind and personality through technology. These tables must be flipped as well! Technology can serve medicine, communication, research, and accessibility, yet no machine can redeem sin, no database preserve the soul, no neural device create eternal life, no genetic intervention produce the new creation in Messiah, and no artificial system replace resurrection. The tools may be modern, but the temptation is ancient: “You shall be as gods.” The Tower changes form while the desire remains intact: death without the Cross, immortality without the Immortal King, and transformation without repentance. Scripture doesn’t promise that we will upload ourselves beyond the grave; it promises that the dead in Messiah will be raised by the power of YHWH.

Once technology begins promising a higher species, self-salvation, technological immortality, or escape from created limits, the machine has moved from tool to altar, and that altar becomes another table of exchange. The warning isn’t that every medical implant, prosthetic device, computer, or use of artificial intelligence is sinful; that would confuse the tool with the promise. The real issues are identity, dependence, ownership, worship, and the promise being offered. Technological progress becomes a counterfeit Gospel when mankind claims it can conquer Death apart from resurrection or reduce man’s identity to data that can be stored, altered, copied, scored, bought, or traded. Yahshua didn’t die to make us better machines; He died and rose to redeem a Covenant people and bring sons and daughters into resurrection life.

From technological self-salvation, the same rebellion turns inward through New Age and Gnostic teachings, where Yahshua is reduced from the risen King to a teacher of hidden knowledge, a model of a so-called “Christ mind,” a guide to supposed inner divinity, or merely one avatar among many. Each version changes the language, yet the deception is the same: Yahshua is no longer the center of redemption but is reduced to a stepping-stone toward some higher awakening. Scripture never presents Yahshua as one messenger pointing beyond Himself toward a greater secret; He declared, “**I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life**” (John 14:6). The Apostles preached repentance, the Cross, resurrection, forgiveness, the authority of Yahshua, and the coming Kingdom and not awakening to our own divinity. Secret knowledge can make the student feel superior, while the Good News humbles us because Salvation isn’t discovered through a hidden code; Salvation is received through the One who died and rose for us.

Other voices move the same rebellion outward through alien-savior and ancient-astronaut beliefs. Strange phenomena, ancient writings, and things observed in the heavens may be investigated, yet no object becomes our savior, no created being becomes the Creator, and no disclosure can rewrite the identity of Yahshua. Scripture warns that signs may deceive and spiritual beings can lie, so our answer isn’t fear or fascination but faithfulness to the King. Any message asking us to exchange the Creator for advanced creatures, resurrection for evacuation, the Blood for genetic simulation advancements, or Scripture for a new revelation from supposed higher beings has rebuilt the oldest Table in the Garden: another voice asking mankind to trust it above YHWH. (Genesis 3)

The same test applies to New Age teachings that redefine Messiah as an inner awakening, alien-savior narratives, simulation cosmologies, date-setting systems, secret-code chronologies, and every lost-history theory that asks us to trust a hidden framework above the open testimony of Scripture. We don't reject investigation, history, archaeology, chronology, or difficult questions; truth has nothing to fear from honest examination. We reject the moment any system begins moving the Throne, changing the Good News, diminishing the Blood of The Lamb of Elohim, replacing repentance with awakening, replacing resurrection with escape from a simulation, Replacing the Name of YHWH with Archaic interface deception or making secret knowledge the doorway to freedom. Yahshua said, "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life" (John 14:6). The table falls when every claim is forced back beneath Him, because the purpose of discernment isn't to make us suspicious of everything; it is to keep us faithful to the One who is Truth.

The **table of Calendrical PRIDE** must be flipped – not Calendrical keeping, Sabbath observance, or honoring the Appointed Times, but the spirit of Calendrical superiority that exalts our understanding above others. I was actually attacked while putting this together this week. If left unchecked, that pride can shift our focus toward the same vein of a Third Temple ONLY platform, Levitical Priesthood authority ONLY platform, and outward appearance of righteousness while losing sight of the greater reality fulfilled in Yahshua alone. Remember, there are NO hypotheticals when it comes to the work Yahshua has fulfilled and still will. Sabbath and the Appointed Times carry deep prophetic meaning, preserve Covenant witness, and testify that YHWH is Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier. They teach us, remind us as we rehearse them, and point toward His order and purpose, yet they were never given to replace the Blood, accomplish redemption, become another mediator, or create a throne from which we measure everyone else by our own understanding. Signs serve the One to whom they point, and shadows testify of the greater substance. The Calendar witnesses to YHWH's order, but Yahshua remains the center, the sacrifice, the eternal High Priest, and the only source of redemption. We don't need to diminish Sabbath or the Appointed Times to exalt Yahshua, yet Yahshua must never be diminished so a Calendar position can appear greater. The sacred pattern bears witness; the Blood accomplishes redemption. An appointed day can testify to the appointment, but only the Altar and the sacrifice of Messiah cleanses sin and establishes access to the Father.

Calendrical conviction becomes another table when the question is no longer, “How can we honor YHWH?” but, “How can we prove that we understand this better than they do?” That is where truth can quietly turn into pride. Knowledge begins producing contempt, correction turns into mockery, fellowship is measured by agreement with our calculations, and Sabbath, Calendar, Temple, or Priesthood understanding starts being spoken of as though it carries the same saving power as the Blood of Yahshua. We must love truth enough to be accurate while loving YHWH and one another enough to stay humble, because being right about a date while carrying the wrong spirit is still wrong before Him. We can have the correct chart and still miss the heart of the matter. We can identify the right Appointed Time and still fail to see what YHWH is trying to form in us through it. Truth was never given to make us feel higher than our brethren; it was given to bring all of us lower before the King. The proper fruit of Sabbath and the Appointed Times is remembrance, dependence, humility, obedience, hope, and a deeper recognition of Yahshua. Sabbath reminds us that we are not the source of life, provision, or rest, Passover points us to deliverance and the Lamb, and the Moedim — Appointed Times — reveal the faithfulness, order, and prophetic purpose of YHWH. Their witness is strongest when those observing them walk with clean hands, truthful mouths, mercy toward others, and hearts free from superiority.

No one is made righteous because we won a Temple, Calendar, or Priesthood argument, and no heart is renewed simply because we can produce the most accurate chart. A calendar can help us recognize an appointed day, but it cannot cleanse the conscience. A Temple pattern can reveal the order of YHWH, but it cannot pour out redeeming Blood. A Priesthood study can deepen our understanding of service, authority, and access, but even the clearest understanding of the order must lead us to the Great High Priest Himself. The Blood redeems, the Ruach writes Covenant truth within us, and the Word teaches the redeemed how to walk. This does not make the Calendar, Temple, or Priesthood unimportant; it puts them in their proper place, where they become powerful witnesses that serve Yahshua, reveal Yahshua, and continually point us back to Yahshua.

We should study deeply, obey faithfully, test carefully, and honor everything YHWH has established, but the fruit of that understanding should be greater humility, deeper obedience, stronger love, and a clearer sight of the King. When the shadow becomes more important to us than the One it points to, we have lost the center. When knowing when becomes greater than knowing Him, we have lost the center. The goal is not to abandon the pattern, but to see the One revealed through the pattern. Our charts, calculations, Temple understanding, and Priesthood insights should all lead us to the same place: greater awe for the Blood, greater dependence on the Ruach, and greater devotion to Yahshua. If our understanding makes Him greater in our eyes and brings us lower before Him, then the pattern is doing what YHWH intended it to do.

The **table of political idolatry** must be flipped over. Righteousness should shape how believers understand law, leadership, justice, life, family, economics, and national conduct, yet no political party is the Kingdom of Elohim, no candidate is the Messiah, and no Nation-state is the New Jerusalem. Political usefulness can't cleanse corrupt character, and access to power can't justify unequal weights. We must never excuse in a preferred ruler what we condemn in an opposing ruler. Political allegiance becomes idolatry whenever it determines what truth may be spoken, whose sin may be ignored, or which command of YHWH may be postponed. The table of ministry ambition must also be flipped. Calling is received, not seized. Korah wanted priestly access without honoring Divine order (Numbers 16), Absalom stole the hearts of the people while presenting himself as their answer (2 Samuel 15:1–6), and Diotrephes loved preeminence (3 John 9). Ambition can quote Scripture and call itself vision while secretly desiring the chief seat. Ambition is exposed when another person's fruit produces jealousy, correction produces defensiveness, obscurity produces resentment, or service loses value when nobody notices. The call of YHWH never authorizes self-promotion to replace formation.

Yahshua taught His disciples that greatness in His Kingdom doesn't imitate rulers of the nations who lord authority over others. Whoever desires to become great must become a servant, and whoever desires to be first must become a slave of all (Mark 10:42-45). The Son of Man didn't come to be served, but to serve and give His life as a ransom for many. Therefore, Kingdom authority carries a towel before it carries a title, accepts accountability before demanding honor, and protects the weak rather than using them to prove strength. Any ministry table that enlarges the servant while diminishing the King must be overturned. Let me shift gears for a moment as we look at the lives of the Patriarchs:

Noah, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob built altars when YHWH revealed, delivered, directed, or restored. Jacob removed foreign gods from his household before returning to Bethel (Genesis 35:1-7), and Elijah repaired the broken altar before fire fell (1 Kings 18:30-39). Biblical repentance and returning move beyond emotion into reordered allegiance with the King: idols are removed, truth is restored, relationships are corrected, stolen things are returned, prayer is rebuilt, and life comes back beneath Covenant order.

Fire didn't fall upon disorder. Before the fire descended, Elijah first **repaired** the altar of YHWH that had been broken down (1 Kings 18:30). Scripture uses וַיִּרְפֵּא – **Va'ye'rappe**, from רָפָא – **Rapha**, meaning to heal, restore, or repair. Elijah then took twelve stones according to the twelve tribes of Israel, restoring Covenant identity before public power was displayed. The sacrifice was placed in order, the prophet prayed, and only then did YHWH answer by fire. The Covenant Order preceded this visible power. This gives even greater depth to the most used word for repair – תִּיקוּן – **Ti'qoon – Repair, Restoration**, whose N.V. is 566, the same numerical value as צִלְמָוֶת – **Tzal'mavet – The Shadow of Death**, also 566. This presents a profound prophetic picture: mankind fell beneath the Shadow of Death through Adam, but YHWH's work of restoration continually calls us back to His Order, His Covenant, His Altar, and ultimately to Life. Psalm 23 reveals this same movement. YHWH leads us in מַעְגְּלֵי־צֶדֶק – **Ma'gelei Tzedek – Paths of Righteousness**, and immediately afterward David declares that we walk through the valley of *Tzal'mavet* (Psalm 23:3-4). We weren't called to build our dwelling beneath the Shadow of Death; we pass through it while following the righteous path established by YHWH. The broken altar is repaired, Covenant identity is restored, the path is made clear, and what once spoke only of death becomes the very place through which YHWH leads His people toward Life.

The Moedim bear witness to this same Divine Order. Genesis 1:14 declares that the heavenly lights were established for signs, Moedim, days, and years, revealing that YHWH placed sequence, boundaries, appointed times, and recurring cycles within Creation itself. The Moedim don't save us and the heavens aren't our Elohim; they testify to the Order of the One who created them. Even the gnomon, casting what we may call the Shadow of Time, doesn't create Time or determine truth; as light moves and the shadow changes, it simply bears visible witness to sequence and order. Now Carmel comes into even sharper focus. This wasn't merely a contest to see which sacrifice would burn; it was a battle of Altars, a battle of Covenant identity, and a battle over which order Israel would follow. Baal had an altar, priests, sacrifice, shouting, cutting, religious activity, and expectation, yet heaven remained silent. Elijah repaired YHWH's Altar, restored the twelve-stone Covenant witness, placed everything back into Order, and the fire fell. That battle of Altars has never disappeared. The question remains before us: Whose Altar will we approach, whose Order will we follow, and what will the shadow reveal about the path beneath our feet? One way leaves mankind beneath death, confusion, and rebellion; YHWH's Way leads us through the Shadow of Death upon the Narrow Path of Righteousness toward Life. The shadow isn't the destination; it is the witness that Light is present. It has always been a battle of Altars, and the altar we repair reveals the order we have chosen to follow.

Fire didn't create Covenant; fire answered a servant who returned the altar to Covenant truth. A generation seeking fire while refusing repair is asking for power without submission. YHWH doesn't empower the altar of self-exaltation and call it revival. Many want revival without repentance, power without Covenant order, miracles without holiness, and visitation without surrender. The Spirit of YHWH isn't given to decorate rebellion or enlarge personalities behind the pulpits. The Ruach glorifies Yahshua, convicts concerning sin, leads into truth, gives power to witness, and produces fruit the flesh can't manufacture (John 16:8-14; Acts 1:8; Galatians 5:22-25). Any claimed move of the Spirit that makes men less accountable to the Word, less willing to repent, or more devoted to a personality must be tested.

Returning to Covenant life means first love, prayer, Scripture, confession, family worship, righteous leadership, truthful speech, marital faithfulness, care for the vulnerable, generosity, justice, and the fear of YHWH must be restored. Sabbath and the Appointed Times must testify of the Creator, preserve the witness of His Covenant Order, and point to Messiah rather than become weapons of pride or badges of superiority. The inward meaning must agree with the outward witness. Sacred observance without mercy, truth, and humility becomes another display of leaves without fruit. This Covenant life isn't an attempt to purchase redemption through works. The Blood alone redeems, cleanses, and ratifies the New Covenant. Covenant life is the response of a redeemed people who belong to the Redeemer. Jeremiah promised that YHWH would write His Torah upon the heart, and Hebrews repeats that promise after declaring the superior ministry and sacrifice of Yahshua (Jeremiah 31:31-34; Hebrews 8:6-12). Obedience doesn't compete with grace; it is the fruit grace produces in those restored to Covenant relationship.

Ezekiel reveals how this becomes possible: YHWH gives a new heart and places His Spirit within His people so they will walk in His ways (Ezekiel 36:25-27). The Spirit doesn't replace obedience with emotion; He empowers obedience from within. We don't overcome the flesh through religious pressure or public image; we put its deeds to death through the Spirit (Romans 8:1-4, 13). Covenant faithfulness is neither fleshly boasting nor passive confession. Covenant faithfulness is the life of the redeemed yielded to the power and rule of the Spirit. Josiah heard the Torah, humbled himself, renewed Covenant, removed idols, and restored Passover (2 Kings 22-23). Zacchaeus addressed his money, and the Ephesians confessed and burned the instruments of sorcery (Acts 19:18-20). True return changes what we once practiced, restores what can be restored, closes doors that gave Darkness access, and makes visible decisions consistent with our confession. Repentance that never alters conduct remains incomplete. DO NOT follow the Masses, sometimes that letter "M" is silent!

The Altar always costs something, and David refused to offer YHWH what cost him nothing (2 Samuel 24:24). Covenant worship presents the whole life as a living sacrifice (Romans 12:1-2). The Spirit's empowerment doesn't remove surrender; The Spirit of YHWH supplies power for it, giving courage to confess, strength to flee temptation, endurance to remain faithful, and love to obey without becoming hardened. The cost doesn't purchase redemption; it reveals that redemption has established new ownership. YHWH isn't asking for a portion of the table; He requires the throne in our lives. Covenant means He is our Elohim and we are His people. The Blood establishes that belonging, the Spirit empowers us to live as those who belong to Him, and the Melkhizedek King governs the Covenant people through an unchangeable Royal Priesthood no human system can own, purchase, reproduce, or replace. The restored altar therefore leads us to the eternal High Priest who alone possesses the right to govern worship.

Yahshua, High Priest According to the Order of Melkhizedek

Yahshua overturns corrupt tables, yet He also prepares a table for us in the presence of our enemies. Psalm 23 reveals the Shepherd who provides, and Psalm 110 reveals the enthroned King declared the Priest forever according to the Order of Melkhizedek. Shepherd, King, and High Priest meet in Yahshua. Nobody purchases a seat through influence, earns a seat at the Table through rank, or controls access through religious power. The Covenant people draw near because the eternal High Priest opened the way through His own Blood. Every table He removes is replaced by a greater reality beneath His authority: exploitation gives way to communion, religious control gives way to access through the High Priest, and self-exaltation gives way to worship of the King.

The night Yahshua was betrayed, He took bread and the cup and declared His Body given and the New Covenant in His Blood (Luke 22:19–20). Melkhizedek appeared as king of righteousness, king of peace, and priest of El Elyon, bringing bread and wine before Abraham (Genesis 14:18-20; Hebrews 7:1-3). Yahshua fulfills and surpasses the sign by giving Himself, securing eternal redemption, and establishing Covenant fellowship through His sacrifice. The bread and cup testify that the King-Priest gave what no religious system could sell and accomplished and what no temporary priesthood could complete. Hebrews declares that Yahshua became High Priest through the power of an endless life and the oath of YHWH: “You are a Priest forever according to the Order of Melkhizedek” (Psalm 110:4; Hebrews 7:15–22). His Royal Priesthood is unchangeable, and He always lives to intercede and is able to save completely those who draw near through Him (Hebrews 7:23–28). No title, succession, institution, or platform can place a man beside Him as a competing source of access, forgiveness, or spiritual authority.

The Melkhizedek Order exposes every counterfeit priesthood. Access can't be sold because Yahshua opened the new and living way. Forgiveness can't be merchandised because His one sacrifice is sufficient. No preacher owns the gifts of the Spirit, no prophet controls access to YHWH, no apostle becomes the Head of the Body, and no ministry can claim ownership over the Bride. True authority flows from submission to the King whose Royal Priesthood can't pass away. The servant carries authority only while remaining beneath the authority of the King-Priest. Peter calls the redeemed a Royal Priesthood (1 Peter 2:9). The Covenant people serve before the Royal High Priest Yahshua The Messiah. Our sacrifices are praise, generosity, obedience, intercession, service, giving, and bodies presented as living offerings. His sacrifice alone removes sin while our service points to Him; His Priesthood brings us to the Father.

Paul warned Corinth not to approach the Covenant Table while despising the Body, humiliating the poor, and maintaining division (1 Corinthians 11:17–34) **OR** practicing other religions. No, you can't come to our Sukkot if you are still involved with other religions! You **MUST** have your own encounter with the Passover Lamb that keeps record that you have made Teshuvah! The bread and cup don't sanctify injustice because true Communion calls us to examine ourselves, discern the Body, remember the price, proclaim His death, and wait for His return. We can't drink from the King's Table while rebuilding the money changers' table beside it. A Congregation may use the correct symbols and still eat and drink unworthily when the weak are dishonored, the poor are shamed, and division is protected. The Spirit of YHWH empowers this Royal Priesthood and He is the promised Presence poured upon sons, daughters, servants, and handmaidens (Joel 2:28-29; Acts 2:16-18), giving gifts for the Body, power for witness, discernment, boldness, endurance, and fruit that reveals Messiah. Gifts without fruit become another table, and power without submission becomes another opportunity for flesh to seek the throne. The Spirit glorifies Yahshua and forms a people able to serve, suffer, endure, and remain holy beneath the authority of the King.

Scripture gives us the ONLY blueprint that leads to the marriage supper of the Lamb (Revelation 19:6–9). Revelation places two tables before us: Babylon, which trades in bodies and souls, and Yahshua, the Lamb who gave His own Body and Blood to redeem a Covenant people. Babylon buys, sells, seduces, uses, and consumes people for its own gain, while Yahshua gives Himself for His Bride, washes her, prepares her, and brings her to His Table. One system asks, “What can I take from you?” while the Lamb reveals, “I gave Myself for you.” That is why the Spirit and the Bride say, **“Come”** (Revelation 22:17), because the Spirit is preparing a Bride who will recognize Babylon for what it is, refuse its corruption, keep her garments clean, and remain faithful to the Lamb even when compromise is rewarded and obedience comes with a cost.

I would rather lose every system built by man than lose fellowship with the Melkhizedek King. I would rather lay down money, titles, followers, false agreements, political influence, and every doctrine I have ever used to protect my pride than stand before Yahshua looking religious on the outside while bearing no fruit on the inside. I do not want a mouth that confesses Him while my life resists Him, or knowledge that can explain Scripture while my heart refuses Covenant faithfulness. Let the Blood cleanse me, let the King rule me, let the Word correct me, and let the Ruach empower me to become in daily life what I declare with my mouth. This message cannot end with the tables I recognize in other people, ministries, movements, or systems, because before I ask Yahshua to overturn anything around me, my own life must first be laid completely upon His Table.

Let Him Overturn It Now

We must bring everything to the feet of Messiah: our pulpits, offerings, worship ministries, boardrooms, prayer rooms, platforms, private messages, hidden accounts, compromised relationships, manipulated testimonies, family habits, doctrinal loyalties, Calendar arguments, secret appetites, the silver and the gold, and the way we treat wounded people. Nothing is exempt, because anything purchased by His Blood can't belong to another master. We can't keep asking Yahshua to bless what He came to flip over, calling compromise wisdom, fear peace, manipulation leadership, entertainment worship, popularity fruit, unchecked ambition vision, or an idol a blessing simply because someone placed a cross beside it. The Name of Yahshua doesn't make holy what His Word has already called unclean. Let false measures be exposed, agreements built on exploitation come down, prophetic merchandise be removed, stolen honor be returned, and wounded people finally be heard. Let leaders repent, congregations choose truth over charisma, families return to Covenant faithfulness, and every heart come under the rule of the Melkhizedek King. The table He overturns through conviction today may be the very table that would have testified against us tomorrow. What feels like exposure may actually be the beginning of freedom, because mercy does not always preserve what we have built; sometimes mercy tears down what has been quietly destroying us.

That means surrendering every area pulling us from obedience: the business practice we can't defend before the Word, doctrine used to avoid surrender, calendrical knowledge used to rise above others, a ministry structure protecting one man while crushing the sheep, bitterness carried through a family, secret addiction, hunger for applause, the need to control, fear of becoming unknown, or a wounded identity allowed to rule our relationships. A table keeps standing as long as we keep defending the exchange taking place upon it. Repentance therefore cannot remain a message for everyone else. When conviction speaks, mercy is calling us out before bondage grows stronger, and when YHWH puts His finger on something, the safest place for us is surrender. The King is not trying to empty our lives; He is removing what has been taking His place, because whatever He overturns in mercy is making room for what only His presence can fill.

Yahshua stands at the door of Laodicea and knocks because love calls for willing fellowship. Whoever hears His voice and opens the door will dine with Him (Revelation 3:20). Notice the Table He offers, because after overturning self-sufficiency He establishes Kingdom Communion. After exposing false riches, He offers gold refined in fire, white garments, eye salve, fellowship, and a throne to the overcomer. The One who rebukes corruption is the same Messiah who shed His Blood for sinners, and the King who searches the heart also provides the cleansing the heart needs. No sinner is beyond mercy while willing to repent, no broken leader is beyond restoration while willing to walk in truth, and no polluted House is beyond cleansing while willing to surrender every room. Surrender those winds of false doctrines, and let them be flipped over by the Hand of the King, because you didn't realize it, but you are the one being served for dinner as the deception comes to devour you!!

Babylon's merchants will mourn because no one buys their merchandise, and the kings joined to her will witness the collapse of systems that traded in luxury, bodies, and souls (Revelation 18). The Temple cleansing shows that the King won't forever tolerate worship joined to exploitation, and what He confronted in His Father's House points toward what He will judge across the kingdoms of this world. "The kingdoms of this world" will become the Kingdom of YHWH and of His Messiah (Revelation 11:15). Every throne built through violence, deception, sorcery, trafficking, oppression, and stolen worship will fall, and every hidden transaction will enter the Light! The safe place in that day is complete surrender to the King: redemption through the Blood, submission to the Melkhizedek High Priest, Covenant faithfulness, and a life empowered by the Spirit of YHWH. Religious association won't substitute for obedience, public reputation won't cover secret rebellion, and correct information won't replace a heart made faithful through grace. Safety is found in belonging fully to the One who judges in righteousness.

This message is also calling fathers to remove every table in the home that teaches children to love the world while speaking about YHWH, mothers to reject agreements that purchase temporary peace through silence while Darkness shapes the household, and sons and daughters to refuse the idol of acceptance this world offers. I am calling pastors to come down from thrones they were never given, prophets to stop selling what YHWH entrusted, teachers to tremble before every word, worshippers to stop offering songs from divided hearts, and assemblies to become Houses of prayer again!!! No more crosses displayed while the authority of the Cross is rejected, Bibles opened publicly while secret sin is protected privately, songs about fire while strange fire fills the sanctuary of your life, sermons about freedom while people are kept in bondage, talk of revival while repentance is treated as an enemy, or claims of Presence while prayer is absent. The outward confession must agree with the inward life. Yahshua still overturns every table where truth is exchanged for popularity, the poor are ignored while the wealthy are courted, spiritual gifts are sold, wounds are exploited, fear is monetized, and loyalty to men is confused with loyalty to Messiah. The issue isn't whether a system still appears successful; the issue is whether it can remain standing beneath His Word. Covenant restoration must enter the home, pulpit, private room, and daily decisions where future generations are being formed.

Don't resist correction, call conviction an attack of the enemy, cover what YHWH exposed, or rebuild what repentance required us to abandon. Genuine repentance doesn't move the old table into another room in case obedience becomes inconvenient; it removes its authority, closes its access, and refuses to restore the exchange. Let His Word break every agreement with mammon, the fear of YHWH silence every voice obeyed above Him, the Blood cleanse what public image couldn't hide, and the Spirit restore prayer and empower obedience where human strength failed.

Let the altar of surrender replace every table of compromise. The House doesn't need cosmetic reform; it needs cleansing. The pulpit doesn't need another celebrity; it needs servants who tremble before the Word. The platform doesn't need stronger promotion; the assembly needs clearer truth. The people don't need a more marketable Messiah; they need the true Messiah—crucified, risen, enthroned, searching, correcting, cleansing, interceding, and coming again. Any reform that leaves self sitting on the throne hasn't produced true cleansing. Revelation 19 shows Yahshua returning as King of kings and Master of masters, judging in righteousness and bringing every rebellious system beneath His authority. If final judgment is certain, then present repentance is urgent.

Choose repentance while conviction is speaking and mercy still gives us room to return. Let the idol fall instead of the soul, pride instead of the House, the platform instead of the testimony, secret sin instead of the marriage, stolen gain instead of integrity, and the false image instead of the lampstand. Nothing we surrender to Yahshua will ever cost more than what compromise eventually destroys. No platform is worth private disqualification, no reputation is worth protecting at the expense of truth, no relationship is worth keeping if it requires disobedience, and no ministry is worth preserving if its methods deny the Master whose Name it carries. No Calendar argument is worth pride, division, or pushing the Blood out of the center, and no table deserves to remain standing when Yahshua has declared that it has no place in His House. Yahshua has complete authority over His Father's House, my family, because He purchased His people – all of us – with His own Blood. He is still flipping tables because He hasn't abandoned His House, and He won't surrender what His Blood purchased to the rule of the flesh. Mercy won't leave us chained to what is killing us, grace won't bless what the Cross came to put to death, and love won't protect corruption that destroys the people Yahshua died to redeem. Conviction is mercy speaking before judgment gives its final verdict, and exposure becomes redemptive when truth is received and obedience follows. His cleansing can be severe because His ownership is complete, but His purpose is restoration: prayer must return as dependence upon YHWH, holiness as the fruit of belonging to Him, truth must return to the pulpit without fear of losing money, invitations, influence, or applause, and protection must return to the broken and vulnerable who should never again be sacrificed to preserve powerful names.

The Melkhizedek King must be exalted above every religious throne, and the Spirit of YHWH must be welcomed rather than grieved. Yahshua alone is the eternal High Priest established by the oath of YHWH; His priesthood can't be purchased, inherited through ambition, controlled by institutions, or reproduced through titles. No man owns the altar, no denomination owns the Bride, and no leader stands between the people and the eternal High Priest as though access to YHWH must pass through human control. The Spirit writes the ways of YHWH upon the heart, gives power to put the deeds of the flesh to death, produces holy fruit, distributes gifts for service, strengthens the inner man, and conforms YHWH's people to the image of Yahshua. Every true ministry therefore points beyond itself to the King-Priest, and every true cleansing removes what grieves His Spirit so the House can live beneath His empowering Presence.

May He find a House filled with prayer, a Covenant people washed in the Blood, a royal priesthood submitted to the eternal High Priest according to the Order of Melkhizedek, and a Bride empowered by the Spirit of YHWH. May He find clean hands, pure hearts, truthful mouths, faithful marriages and homes, protected children, accountable leaders, restored families, servants who would rather lose every platform than lose His approval, doctrine producing humility, sacred times pointing faithfully to Messiah, and inward lives agreeing with public confession. Let that prayer become personal, because the King must first be welcomed into every room we have asked Him to cleanse in everyone else.

“YHWH, this House is Yours. My heart, body, ministry, family, time, doctrine, understanding, relationships, resources, gifts, and remaining years are Yours. Return me fully to Covenant life beneath Yahshua, my eternal High Priest according to the Order of Melkhizedek. Fill and empower me by Your Spirit, write Your ways upon my heart, and give me strength to walk in them without pride, compromise, fear, or delay. Overturn whatever You didn't establish, remove whatever You didn't plant, expose whatever can't remain in Your light, break every agreement competing with Your Covenant, and cleanse every motive mixed with self. Tear down every throne I allowed pride, fear, lust, bitterness, ambition, money, doctrine, wounded identity, political loyalty, Calendar pride, or the approval of man to occupy. Leave nothing standing in me that won't bow before You. Restore the altar of prayer, the fear of Your Name, first love, truth in the inward parts, Covenant faithfulness, clean worship, righteous relationships, and the joy of obedience. Govern my life through Yahshua the King-Priest, empower me through Your Spirit to become what human strength could never produce, and let my public confession and private life agree beneath Your authority.”

This message must bring me before His authority before I use it to examine anyone else. A message about cleansing becomes hypocrisy when the messenger resists the cleansing he preaches. Before I ask Him to cleanse the pulpit, I surrender my mouth; before I ask Him to cleanse the assembly, I surrender my heart; before I expose another person's idol, I place my own beneath His light. The strongest declaration I can make isn't that Yahshua will cleanse everyone else, but that I will no longer resist His cleansing in me. He is still flipping tables. Let nothing in me resist His hand, grieve His Spirit, compete with His Throne, or remain outside His Covenant authority. Let His cleansing begin with me. AMEIN!!!

Shabbat Shalom, shepherd John-James 2026