

## The Red-Letter Words of Yeshua ~ Part 151

### Passion Week ~ Wednesday (continued)

In our last post, we continued to examine the final days of **Yeshua's** life and ministry. This post explores the events that may have occurred on Wednesday.

### Yeshua Teaches At The Temple

*<sup>37</sup> Yeshua spent His days at the Temple, teaching, while at night, He went out and stayed on the hill called the Mount of Olives. <sup>38</sup> All the people would rise with the dawn to come and hear Him at the Temple courts. <sup>1</sup>*

### Many Still Disbelieve

*<sup>37</sup> Even though He had performed so many miracles in their presence, they still did not put their trust in Him, <sup>38</sup> in order that what Yesha'yahu the prophet had said might be fulfilled,*

*"Adonai, who has believed our report?  
To whom has the arm of Adonai been revealed?" (Isaiah 53:1)*

Given the traditional method of citing the beginning of a passage to call to mind the whole, the inference is that all of Isaiah 53:1–12 applies to **Yeshua**.

*<sup>39</sup> The reason they could not believe was - as Yesha'yahu said elsewhere –*

*They could not believe. God* allows everyone to "believe" or "trust" Him. But if they reject him, He may eventually make belief impossible: He hardens hearts (Romans 9:18). In this case, **God** blinded them (vv. 40–41), just as He hardened Pharaoh's heart (Exodus 9:12, 11:10) after **Pharaoh** hardened his own heart (Exodus 8:32) so that it became impossible for **Pharaoh** to trust in **God**.

*<sup>40</sup> "He has blinded their eyes  
and hardened their hearts,  
so that they do not see with their eyes,  
understand with their hearts,  
and do t'shuvah (turn from sins)  
so that I could heal them." (Isaiah 6:10)*

*<sup>41</sup> (Yesha'yahu said these things because he saw the Sh'khinah (Manifest Glory) of Yeshua and spoke about him.)*

### Some Are Afraid

*<sup>42</sup> Nevertheless, many of the leaders did trust in Him; but because of the P'rushim, they did not say so openly, out of fear of being banned from the synagogue; <sup>43</sup> for they loved praise from other people more than praise from God.*

Believers in **Yeshua** are not to hide their faith but confess it openly. One hears of "secret believers" who acknowledge to a small circle of friends that **Yeshua** is the **Messiah** but refuse to let it be generally known or even deny it. What they have is a powerless intellectual consent that cannot save them. Yet, I would say that this does not apply to underground churches as a whole throughout the world.

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<sup>1</sup> Luke 21:37–38.

## Yeshua Makes His Final Appeal

<sup>44</sup> *Yeshua declared publicly, "Those who put their trust in me are trusting not merely in me, but in the One who sent me. <sup>45</sup> Also, those who see me see the One who sent me. <sup>46</sup> I have come as a light into the world so that everyone who trusts in me might not remain in the dark. <sup>47</sup> If anyone hears what I am saying and does not observe it, I don't judge him; for I did not come to judge the world, but to save the world. <sup>48</sup> Those who reject me and don't accept what I say have a judge—the word which I have spoken will judge them on the Last Day. <sup>49</sup> For I have not spoken on my own initiative, but the Father who sent me has given me a command, namely, what to say and how to say it. <sup>50</sup> And I know that his command is eternal life. So what I say is simply what the Father has told me to say."* <sup>2 2</sup>

This summary of **Yeshua's** public message and challenge encourages "secret believers" to become public witnesses who let their words and lives proclaim fearlessly that they rely on **God** and His truth. To reject **Yeshua** is to reject **God**, and His message will stand to judge all humanity.

## Talmidim Make Preparations

<sup>7</sup> *Then came the day of matzah, on which the Passover lamb had to be killed.*

**The day of matzah.** Not the day on which **matzah** is first eaten, but the day before **Pesach** begins, when **chametz** ("leaven") must be removed from the house. **On which the Passover lamb had to be killed** in the **Temple Court**. The laws of **Pesach** then mandated slaughtering and eating a lamb to memorialize the lamb slain and consumed by each family on the night of the **Exodus** from **Egypt** (Exodus 12:3–14).

<sup>8</sup> *Yeshua sent Kefa and Yochanan, instructing them, "Go and prepare our Seder, so we can eat."*

<sup>9</sup> *They asked him, "Where do you want us to prepare it?" <sup>10</sup> He told them, "As you're going into the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you."*

**A man carrying a jar of water** would be an unusual sight, as this was ordinarily women's work.

*Follow him into the house he enters, <sup>11</sup> and say to its owner, 'The Rabbi says to you, "Where is the guest room, where I am to eat the Pesach meal with my talmidim?"'*

**Where I am to eat the Pesach with my talmidim**, a rabbi's follower would consider it an honor to have his rabbi request the use of his home for Him and His students to observe Passover.

<sup>12</sup> *He will show you a large room upstairs already furnished; make the preparations there."*

<sup>13</sup> *They went and found things just as Yeshua had told them they would be, and they prepared for the Seder.* <sup>3</sup>

In our next, we continue to follow **Yeshua into Yerushalayim for His Crucifixion** by the end of the week and move on to **The Upper Room**.

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<sup>2</sup> Yochanan 12:37-50

<sup>3</sup> Luke 27:7-13