

We Need Power From Above

On May 3 I spoke on *Yeshua's* dialog with His Disciples recorded in John 14-17 with an emphasis on the need for another helper. Then on May 10 I spoke about making no provision for the flesh. Last week I spoke on Yeshua's command (A Standing Order) in John 20: *"¹⁹It was evening on that day, the first of the week. When the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Judean leaders, Yeshua came and stood in their midst! And He said to them 'Shalom aleichem!'" ²⁰After He said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Yeshua said to them again, 'Shalom aleichem! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you.' ²²And after He said this, He breathed on them. And He said to them, 'Receive (command form) the Ruach ha-Kodesh! If you forgive anyone's sins, they are forgiven; but if you hold back, they are held back.'*" At this point in John 20 the Disciples do not appear to be super empowered and ready to execute their mission. Pre-Resurrection in *John 14* the *Helper* is announced, and in *John 15-16* more of the *Helper* (the *Ruach's*) work is elucidated. But post resurrection, the first action item is the command *"RECEIVE the Ruach ha-Kodesh!"* An order is given, will the hearers *CHOOSE TO OBEY*?

The instructions (*de facto this is Yeshua's Last Message before His death*) given pre-resurrection have not yet been activated, even though they were crucial. In *John 20* *Yeshua* reiterates the need for *Another Helper* (as He said in *John 14-17*) saying *Receive (command form) the Ruach ha-Kodesh*. But in order to obey the hearers must first make the decision to obey by saying Yes to *Yeshua's* command (*Yah Adonai WILL NOT violate anyone's free moral agency*). What He said prior to His Death, is still in effect after His Resurrection. They/we MUST have *Another Helper*. But *saying Yes Lord* is essential!

It seems clear from the text that the disciples DID WANT TO and therefore must have in their own hearts asked the Father to send the *Ruach*. Eight days later (see *John 20:26*), they are still inside the same location — has the situation improved? Not really because the *Spirit had not yet been given*. The, *immersion of the Holy Spirit could not be given until Yeshua was glorified and ascended to the Father*. We note also that Scripture confirms that *Yeshua* could not give this or any other gift until He became the High Priest (*Kohen Gadol*) seated at the right hand of the Father: *"³For every kohen gadol is appointed to offer both gifts and sacrifices, so it is necessary for this One also to have something to offer. ⁴Now if He were on earth, He would not be a kohen at all, since there are those who offer the gifts according to the Torah" (Hebrews 8:3,4)*. Peter agrees: *"³³Therefore, being exalted to the right hand of God and receiving from the Father the promise of the Ruach ha-Kodesh, He poured out this – what you now see and hear" (Acts 2:33)*.

Scripture records in the conclusion of the Gospels and in Acts that they did receive *Another Helper* in *Shavuot (Acts 2)* and the situation (execution of the mission) was drastically different — there was no more *fear of the Judean leaders*.

I also believe that we in KS want to make a difference, embrace and activate the revival and be way more useful to Him than what we are have been currently. Do you feel unable to make much if any progress as the Disciples did in *John 20*? Are you satisfied with your spiritual life? What impedes you? Is your theology or what you have been taught elsewhere keeping you from being comfortable asking *Yeshua* for *His Helper*? Sometimes I think a simple faith in what the text says is truth which is His Word (*John 17:17*) is often the way to approach life. He said so and so, I believe what He said, let's go! If you believe you already have it, where are the results? Truly We must move toward becoming the disciples in *Acts 1*: *"⁴Now while staying with them, He commanded them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait for what the Father promised – which, He said, 'you heard from Me. ⁵For John immersed with water, but you will be immersed in the Ruach ha-Kodesh not many days from now (Acts 1:4-5).'*" We in *Kol Simcha* have been

waiting for *Shavuot* to arrive (June 2 and June 8). I know that most if not all of you have been immersed in the waters of repentance when you came to the Lord at salvation (John's immersion). If we accept *Yeshua's* words literally and fully expect that "*we will be immersed in the Ruach ha-Kodesh not many days from now*", then you are ready anytime between today and June 8.

As we do in *KS* every year, we coming to Him in this season of His Holy *Moed* of *Shavuot* to ask Him to change our heart and empower us with whatever we need at this time in history. We want *His Promise of Another Helper* so that *we will have greater power to do His Will*. It is up to you to ask, and I cannot do it for you. Are you expecting a miraculous and efficacious touch from the Almighty? I am. I expect nothing less than the *full measure* of the Father's Promise. This is precisely what we need to get into His Revival fully because it is possible for us to be witnesses for Him to the uttermost parts of the earth. The disciples waited with one mind continuing in prayer (*Luke 24:50-53*) for *The Father's Promise*. Have you waited in one mind continuing in prayer?

Let us be completely honest with ourselves and *Messiah Yeshua* and say *Lord, thou knowest*. I want to continue to raise the expectation between Pesach and *Shavout* that *WE in Kol Simcha* need *everything Yeshua* purchased for us. Like the disciples, we need to admit to ourselves and to Him that we really need *Another Helper*, exactly like He said we needed. In my opinion we need to *ask the Father in Yeshua's Name for this gift with all of our heart, mind and soul*. Do you agree? I pray it be so... Let us appropriate THE resurrection experience and power and let us together with His Spirit go change the world! *Shabbat Shalom!*