

(Some) Benefits in Knowing The Father

"27In "My Father has handed over everything to me. Indeed, no one fully knows the Son except the Father, and no one fully knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son wishes to reveal him" (Matt. 11:27)... "2but now in the end of days He has spoken to us in a son, Messiah Yeshua, His Son..." (Heb. 1:2)

Yeshua is defined in Christian theology as the *ultimate revelation of God*, representing the complete and final disclosure of His nature, will, and purpose. I have an alternative, but related definition: the *ultimate revelation* is the disclosure of *Yah Adonai Our Elohim as Abba Father*. The Hebrews passage establishes that while *The Almighty* spoke in the past through prophets, He has now spoken *finally* through *His Son*, who is the *full radiance of God's glory* and the *flawless manifestation of his reality*, that is, the *exact representation of his being*. The unrevealed nature of *The Almighty* is now made known to man, He is not only *Yah Adonai Our Elohim* but *He is also Our Father!*

When we come into the fullness of the revelation of *Yah Adonai Our Elohim* as *Father*, it supplies some benefits that the majority of people, including many Believers, conspicuously lack.

1. Identity: Modern man has a real problem with identity. It is significant that one of the most successful books and television series in the United States in the 1970s was *Roots*, the story of an African-American looking for the place he had come from. Both Scripture and psychology agree that a person cannot fully answer the question *Who am I* without knowing who his or her father is. Because relationships between parents and children have so broken down in the last two generations, our contemporary society is suffering an identity crisis. Multitudes are rootless; they have no sense of belonging. Our answer to that identity crisis is to bring men and women into a direct, personal relationship with *Abba Father* through *Messiah Yeshua the Son*. People who truly know *Yah Adonai* as Father no longer have an identity problem. They know who they are: they are the *Children of The Almighty*. Their Father created the universe, their Father loves them and their Father cares for them. They belong to the best family in the universe!

2. Self-Worth: Many people I have talked with have a great problem in not appreciating themselves sufficiently. They have too low a picture of themselves, which causes them many spiritual and emotional agonies. However, Scripture states: *"See what love the Father has lavished on us in letting us be called God's children! For that is what we are" (1 John 3:1)*. Once we really comprehend that we His children, that *The Almighty* loves us intimately and personally, that He is interested in us, that He is never too busy for us and that He desires a direct and personal relationship with us, then we discover our self-worth. This can truly transform our lives!

3. Awareness of a Home with Him: *When I die let my tombstone say: Gone home*. This is what we all should be trusting completely on, but we do not. Think about the poor beggar who lay outside the rich man's door. When he died he was *"carried by the angels to Abraham's bosom."* (Luke 16:22). Surely one angel would have been sufficient to carry him, but He sent *an escort of angels!* The beggar was given a royal welcome into *Abraham's bosom*. It should be like that for every child of *The Almighty*. He has an escort of angels ready to carry each of us to our eternal home.

4. Total Security: What do we view as the origin of the universe? A big bang? Well, if so, who knows what kind of bang might come next and blot us all out! Is the *bang* just some inanimate force that operates relentlessly without purpose or feeling? Or is it a Father? You will be a different person the moment you grasp the fact that behind all life is the *Fatherhood of The Almighty*.

Picture a child held securely in his father's arms with his little face pressed against his dad's shoulder. There may be confusion and distress all around and the world may seem to be falling apart, but the child is at peace, unconcerned by what is taking place all around him – he is secure in his father's arms. We, too, are held securely in the arms of our Abba. *Yeshua* has assured us that the Father is greater than all that surrounds us, and that no one is able to snatch us out of His hand.

To His *talmidim*, *Yeshua* also gave this assurance: *“Have no fear, little flock, for your Father has resolved to give you the Kingdom!” (Luke 12:32).* *Kol Simcha* may be just a little flock, surrounded by wild beasts of all kinds. But if our Father has committed Himself to give us the Kingdom, no power in the universe can withhold it from us!

5. Motivation for Service: Rabbi Paul warns us as servants of the *The Almighty*: ♪ *Fulfill ye my joy that ye be like minded. Having the same love. Being of one accord, of one mind* ♪ *“Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory (selfish ambition or conceit)...” (Philippians 2:1-2,3).* Over the years I have observed that one persistent, pervasive problem in the Believing Community is the personal ambition of those in ministry, manifesting itself in competition with other ministers. Let me add that I observed this first and foremost in my own life.

We often make the mistake of equating *security with success*. *If* one builds the biggest building, or holds the largest meeting, or gets the most names on my mailing list, one will be secure and successful. That is a delusion. The fact is, the more we aim at personal success, the less secure we become. We are threatened continually by the possibility that someone else may build a bigger synagogue, or hold a larger meeting, or get more names on his mailing list.

But here is a pattern in *Yeshua*, who said, *“The Father has not left Me alone, for I always do those things that please Him.” (John 8:29).* And: *“Unless ADONAI builds the house, it's builders work in vain.” (Psalm 127:1)* I want to be motivated less and less by any personal ambition. I have discovered a sweeter, purer motive: *simply to please my Father and attempt to do His Will.* I am training myself to approach every situation and decision with a single, simple question: *How can I please my Father and Obey Him?* In times of frustration or seeming failure, I seek to turn my focus from trying to solve the problem to *maintaining an attitude* that is pleasing to Him. As servants of *Yeshua*, we will experience no competition among ourselves if we are motivated by this simple desire to please our Father. Harmony and mutual concern take the place of striving and self-seeking.

All this – and more – is made available to us through the knowledge of *Yah Adonai Our Elohim as our Abba Father*. If we have found *Yeshua as Ha Derech (the Way)*, let us rejoice. But let's not be content to continue forever on the way without arriving at the destination: knowing *Yah Adonai Our Elohim as Father*. To miss this would be to frustrate the very purpose of Him sending the *Messiah*.

This is the month when we honor fathers. We will honor *THE FATHER, The Almighty. Shabbat Shalom!*