

A SPADE IS A SPADE UNLESS YOU ARE A JOKER WITH A CLUB

Pardon me for the play on words in the title of this journal. It just came to me on a whim and I liked it a lot.

I so hate to unfriend people on Facebook. I like to think that my friends are good and honest people that love Yeshua with all of their heart, mind, and strength. Once in a while, a deceived person and/or a fraud will slip through under my radar.

I friended my cousin's ex-wife about a year ago. Before I did, I went to her Facebook page to make sure that she was on the level. BTW, this was on my family Facebook page, not on my outspoken page. She looked like a strong believer, so I friended her. Now, this is not a criterion for that Facebook page. I have relatives that do not know Yeshua yet and I figure that if that's the way that they want to live then that's the decision that they make. They know about my faith and how I write about it and they tolerate me.

One thing I will not tolerate however is when a person claims to know Yeshua but they bear bad fruit, or if they've listened to a false gospel and post that philosophy on my site.

Last week this woman posted an image with 7 or 8 "psychology facts." It was very Freudian in nature. I started out by posting that the supposed "facts" in the list on the image were worldly in nature and not backed up by scripture and that it probably was not a good idea to post them because a "Christian" posting such things could be construed by unbelievers to think that these things are scriptural. She responded with one word, "huh?" To me, that is an invitation to explain further.

I wrote back to explain that the list contained blanket statements. For instance, one item stated, "people who sleep a lot are sad." Well, no, that's not true. Narcoleptics aren't sad, they just can't stay awake because of a chemical imbalance in their brain and/or some sort of brain damage. I explained that for the past few weeks I slept a lot, not because I was sad, but because I had been anemic because of colon cancer cause me to bleed in my gut. The list was rife with such assertions. Had the comments in the list been suggestive rather than presented like cold stone pseudo-truisms then I could have accepted them. For instance, had that one statement said, "One reason why a person might sleep a lot could be that they are sad," I would have had no problem. I ended that post by stating that psychology is a worldly answer, a sort of pseudo-

religion used by unbelievers to explain the human character. I happen to know this because I've worked in psych medicine a lot and I know psychologists and I know that their dogma is so faulty that many psychologists and psychiatrists often seek out others in their fields to help them explain why they are so screwed up.

I received a note back from her that started out, "Who the hell do you think you are..." and realized that she had not received my thoughts well. She accused me of being judgmental and all of the other things that people throw at you when they don't want to look at their errors. It's always easier for people to transfer guilt than it is to own up to their faults, that's human nature. As believers, we're not supposed to live like the natural man, but to a higher standard.

I know how this sort of thing goes, so I wrote back to her and said that I was not going to debate back and forth with someone who had one foot in the worldly kingdom and the other foot in Yahweh's Kingdom. I said that I'd do her a favor and unfriend her and wouldn't communicate with her any longer. You'd think the end of the story, right? Well no it wasn't.

Although I had unfriended her, I hadn't taken her off of my Messenger list. Today I received a message from her telling me to leave her alone and that I couldn't possibly be a "Christian," because of my posts to her regarding the matter above, the matter that she asked me to clarify. Well, in a way she is right, I do not call myself a Christian anymore. I refer to myself as a person that believes in Yeshua Ha Mashiach, but also as someone that "believes Yeshua," there is a big difference. I don't have a problem with people labeling themselves "Christian," but there are so many wackos out there who use that term I really don't want to use the term when referring to my faith. If you are a true believer, you know, the Elect in Yeshua, please don't be offended, count yourself as being blessed because you truly are part of The Remnant and you are an embodiment of the true meaning of the word Christian.

I replied I thought she was capable of figuring that I didn't want to talk to her anymore seeing that this is why I had unfriended her. As far as I was concerned all communication was over. It was then that I realized that this woman had conducted a hit and run. When do a hit and runs occur? A hit and run will occur when a coward, or someone who has no firm foundation, or a person who bears guilt that they do not want to address, will often write a comment that begs a response, but after they send the parting shot, they turn off your ability to answer.

The point of all of this is, please be careful of what you post. I don't fool around anymore. If you claim to be a believer in Yeshua (Jesus) but you post things that oppose

Scripture or cannot be backed up by the Bible then I will always address it. If you think that this is a problem then unfriend me now. I love Yahweh and I love His Word and I am told, as are you in His Scripture that we can use His Scripture to reprove anyone or anything that opposes and/or contradicts His Scripture. So if you post those cutesy little sayings, whether they are psychology, writings of Buddha or anything from other religions (including Rabbinical writings like the Mishna), I am going to write to you and let you know of your error, and I will do it publicly on Facebook because you posted that error publicly. Yes, there are truths in other religions that match what is written in scripture, but by quoting one truism from a malignant religion is paying homage to that whole religion. In essence, you're practicing idolatry because you're placing foreign gods in Yahweh's temple.

My wife often takes me to task because I address heresies and blatant lies in the public format of Facebook. It is her opinion that I should approach the person privately via a message and take it from there. She has a point, but let's look at the context. The context comes from a scripture that is found in Matthew, chapter 18 where we are told that if a brother offends us we are to approach him privately to talk about the matter. If there is no satisfaction and/or repentance then we bring others with us to approach the brother. If that doesn't work, we bring it before the Church and if that doesn't work, we ask him to leave the fellowship. Notice that this starts as a private offense between two people. However, when a brother, or as in this case, a sister posts something publicly that that has questionable veracity we are duty bound to bring it up publicly.

Take the occasion where the Ruach Ha Kodesh settled down on the disciples in the Upper Room. They spoke in different tongues yet some of the people thought that they were drunk. This was a public display and had to be dealt with publicly. Many of Paul's letters contained public rebukes and in one of those letters Paul called out one individual, named Alexander the Coppersmith, telling people to beware of him because Paul was wronged by him. One of the things that I wrote to the woman that I mentioned is that it wasn't me that was calling her out, it was the image that she posted that was calling her out. Any believer worth their salt would have addressed her post. The fact that she posted pagan ideology in itself was the accuser, not me. The troubling thing is that there was no discernment on her part and no conviction of the Ruach Ha Kodesh upon her to even question for one moment that her action might have offended Yahweh. With each and every point that was made in that image, there should have been that still small voice inside of her, if she is Ruach Filled, telling her that those points cannot be backed up by scripture and in fact were all anthesis to what is in Yahweh's word.

One major problem with what is called “the Church” today is that she is unscrupulous. We live in an age when not only worldly people but also those that call themselves People of Yahweh call good evil and evil good. If you sit there like a good little drone, keeping your mouth shut while sin is speeding past you left and right then you are accepted. However, if you question methods and motives, even in a fractional degree you become castigated, you’re called a troublemaker, a Pharisee and eventually, you’re shunned or asked to leave the fellowship.

The truth is that the modern Church looks much like the state of Israel during the time of the Judges. Scripture says that during that time, “every man did what was right in his own eyes,” What is even worse is that today, people use “Grace” to excuse the things that they do that seem right in their own eyes. Just about four years ago my wife and I, along with a friend were attending a church where one of those on the church board was introducing pagan Native American religious practices into the worship service and into ministry. When questioned about her playing the tom-tom drum and doing the eagle dance at the front of the church, the woman stated that “God has redeemed those things.” Well, first of all, redeem means to buy back something that you once owned to acquire it once more. Those two practices were never part of Jewish or Christian worship, so how can it be bought back. Second, the redemption talked about in Scripture has to do with buying back humanity and bringing us back into sync with Yahweh. Yeshua wasn’t born a drum or an eagle outfit and he didn’t die as a drum or Eagle outfit to redeem them. He is a kinsman Redeemer for mankind and only mankind. Keep that in mind also when you think about beings living on other planets and such. Yeshua died for mankind on Earth and nowhere else.

Look at allegory. If I searched and found quotes of people that said they believed in Yahweh, and one of those quotes was attributed to Anton LaVey (deceased founder of the Church of Satan), the cry against me would be so loud and many people would immediately accuse me of being a Satanist plant in Yahweh’s Church. Any credibility that I once had would be flushed. It’s no different for those who quote from unbiblical sources, it is sinful and it promotes doctrines of demons. Yet, somehow, they get away with it and are applauded by their sycophants who tout diversity of spirituality. We see this sort of behavior within the liberal political element of our nation, they sit high upon their thrones like parents saying, “do as I say, not as I do.”

Look around when you visit a person’s house and see what they exhibit as art and such. It is not uncommon to see statues of Buddha, Yin and Yang symbols, dream catchers and even

peace signs on walls, in gardens and other places of the property. All of these things are demonic in nature, and many of them carry attached demonic entities.

Years ago, when my now deceased wife and I were on courting we were given two rooms in a villa in Tepoztlan, Mexico. The villa was owned by her aunt and cousin. Being the UFO researcher that I am I was excited because it is very common for people to see the fallen angelic manifestations over the town and especially over the mountain that is host to a small pyramid. We never saw any manifestations while we were there. The town is also famous for its street market where you can pick up genuine Mexican art and sample many flavors of tequila. Lourdes and I stopped by one booth where the vendor was selling artwork that was printed on the soft side of tree bark. After our visit, we returned to Mexico City whereupon her driver dropped me off at my hotel. That night, as I was laying in my room the foot of the bed raised up off the floor about an inch and dropped back down. I wrote it off as a small earthquake. When I got back home in California, I was lying in bed one night trying to sleep when all of a sudden the foot of the bed lifted and fell three times. I realized that it had something to do with the artwork that I brought back home. I looked carefully at the paintings and saw that they were innocuous, there was nothing that looked demonic. I laid out the artwork and everything else that I purchased in that town and prayed over the items, claiming that they no longer had any place to house demons and told the demons to leave the house and to return to the pit where they belonged. I never had another bad experience after that.

Now someone will invariably ask why I kept the artwork while I'm telling people to get rid of the things, I wrote about in two paragraphs above. Well, the pictures and other things that I bought had paintings of people working out in fields and other nature scenes. The items that I listed above are used as icons for demonic religions and practices, that is the difference.

The main thought that I would like to convey is that people use their brains. Yahweh gave you one for a reason. I like to use stories when I try to explain something to a person. I mentioned my first wife Lourdes a couple of paragraphs up. She was new to American society, having moved to the US from Mexico City. I bought her the Spanish Language Network on Dish Network. She got into the habit of watching Mexican news feeds. It must be understood that a lot of Mexican Newscasts get their news from CNN here in the states, which is very bias against American values. One day my wife asked me why Americans were being so cruel to Mexicans who were coming over the border illegally. Since my wife's family was well off financially, I used an allegory with finances in it. I said, okay, let's say that one day a family of five just walks through our front door. They walk into our bedroom and start to sleep there, saying that since

we're Christians we need to grant them their wishes. Then they demand that we feed them three meals a day and pay for them to see the doctor whenever they are sick. They can't afford many things so they demand part of my paycheck to be able to buy clothes, beer, jewelry and other things. One day you find that some of your jewelry is gone and so are some of your shoes and two of your Coach purses. I said, "first, wouldn't that bother you and second, wouldn't it make you angry?" I saw the lightbulb coming on in her eyes. Personally, I think it was the thought about the shoes and purses. Then I showed her my paycheck and how much is taken out in taxes and how much of it was used for entitlement programs. I told her that since we had to support so many illegal aliens it was keeping us from having lower taxes, therefore, we couldn't buy a house nor could we afford some of the better things in life. In one evening, Lourdes went from being pro-illegal immigration to a patriot.

Where I credit Lourdes is that she was willing to listen and to consider the story that I related to her. The sad thing, especially with the Joker with the club that tried to destroy my and my character for questioning her post that so many through the boastful pride of life, like to destroy without thinking that they could possibly be wrong. People like her are no different than Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi, who when questioned about Obamacare at the very beginning said that the bill needed to be passed so that it could be examined more carefully. On the flip side, she has supposedly read Trump's new Healthcare Plan (the very day it was released, thousands of pages) and has made a determination. The same applies to so-called "Christians" who are so steeped in what they have heard, or what they have turned into a tradition, that anyone that challenges their preconceived notions is labeled as "not a Christian," or other such things.

I'd like to end with an example of how things should be handled. Back in 1979, I had just become a born-again believer in Yeshua. After a week or two, some of my new brothers had convinced me to start attending church. Sunday came along and I went to church dressed in a tee shirt and blue jeans. There was nothing wrong with choosing those two things to wear, but there was a picture on the front of my shirt. The picture showed demons having sexual union with human females and the writing on the shirt said, "Sworn to fun, loyal to none." I never gave it a second thought. I was a new believer and had not received the gift of discernment yet. At the end of the service, a dear brother named Greg walked up to me and very diplomatically explained why the shirt was not appropriate to wear to a Christian church service. I looked down at the shirt for a second and embarrassingly agreed with him. That shirt went into the garbage that very same day. Now, had my cousin's ex-wife had seen me it is most probable that she might have reacted to me like she did to my discourse on her post on Facebook? It is quite possible that she

would have walked up to me and said, “what the hell is wrong with you, you can’t possibly be a Christian if you wore that shirt.” Just like anything else, there are two ways to handle things, one is done in love, the other is done out of pride and contempt. In the same way that I looked at my shirt and realized my bad choice, the woman could have looked at the post and questioned her motives, but that didn’t happen because she was questioned publicly about a mistake that she made.

My advice, think and pray about what you are going to write or say. Be quick to listen but slow to speak. And let me reiterate, if anyone posts something that is worldly wisdom in lieu of the thousands of things that could be referenced from the pages of Scripture, you can bet your sweet bippy that I’m going to address it.