

SCRIPTURE TWISTING KNOWS NO BOUNDS

A RESPONSE TO DEAN

As you might know, both Jim Wilhelmsen and I host a radio show titled “Opposing The Matrix.” We’ve been extremely blessed to do this show and we have in the past, do currently, and in the future consider it a mission and blessing to come to our audience every Saturday night with what we feel Yahweh’s Ruach has given us to inform the audience.

When we heard from Yahweh that we were to start talking about correctly walking with Yeshua so that people could be ready for the events that are here and will come upon us we complied with what he told us to do. We knew that a lot of the audience came to listen because of the sensationalism that comes with talking about battling the occult and teaching about things that you probably won’t hear from a pulpit, all from a Biblical perspective. Had we not had the comfort knowing that we were being obedient, we would have been sort of hurt that when we did comply with Yahweh’s command to us, we lost almost 90 percent of our listening audience. No joke, we lost 9 out of ten of our listeners. That really didn’t bother us because we know that what HE wants us to do is more important than what the sensationalists want to hear. We never desired an audience, we want a family of listeners, and that is what we have now.

For the past five years, Jim and I have supported the show, with the exception of last year when a brother felt the prompting to offer us the blessing of paying for one year of the show. The last year has been hard on us financially. But that having been said, Yahweh has always come through at the last moment to provide for our needs. We’ve come close to being hungry, as have some of our direct family. When you’ve been given children and grandchildren it is the duty of a parent to help whenever possible, unless of course Yahweh tells us not to. That has happened too. As a pastor, I know that a pastor’s family is their first ministry. I’ve watched many times in my 36 years as a believer in Yeshua as pastors didn’t realize this and some refused to believe that their direct family is their first ministry. Satan loves to attack a pastor’s family. You always hear about the “unruly pastor’s kids,” that run rampant, become worldly and leave the faith. Rabbi Paul, when talking about deacons and elders of the church also reminds us that if a man can’t maintain his own family, he cannot be expected to shepherd the sheep that are under his shepherding. Both Jim and I have faced family challenges during the times when we’ve known each other and we’ve taken time off to minister to those needs, but we’ve always always returned to continue on with what we put on hold.

Many times, people look at the ministries of the Apostles and they believe that all pastors and those in other offices of Yahweh's Church should act like the Apostles did. Apostles are called to go out and start new churches and/or branch out existing fellowships into new ones. It is a unique office that is very demanding. We know that some of the Apostles had families and I'm sure that before leaving, they would ensure that there would be people to take care of their families while they were gone. Our own Yahweh Yeshua, while on the cross, gave his mother's charge to the Apostle John. Believing families take care of their believing relatives.

Our radio show has people that regularly listen to us. We currently have around 120 followers, according to Blog Talk. I don't like using that term. I would rather that Blog Talk call them regular listeners, that would be appropriate. The only person that Believers in Yeshua should be following is Yeshua Ha Mashiach. Blog Talk lets us see who are listeners are and it allows us to send them messages. Knowing that we had a need to help in the funding of the radio show, and that Scripture says "you have not because you ask not," I sent a message to all of our "listeners," telling them our story and our need. I also made the matter known on the radio show. Here is the letter that I sent out to listeners:

Dear Followers of Opposing The Matrix. For the past five years we've been on the air bringing what we hope is information and hope regarding the Matrix that we all live in. In the past, we have done well financially and have been able to pay for the network through our paychecks from our jobs and such. This year money is tight and we have incurred a lot of expenses. I think that I can speak for Jim as well as my family, when I say that we're blessed that Yahweh has given us a roof over our heads, food to eat and clothing to wear. We are blessed. However, because of lack of work, going to school and such, finances have dried up. We hope that this situation will end soon and pray for Yahweh to provide all that we need to continue ministry. Because of this, there is a strong possibility, lacking financial help from you our listeners, and/or a miracle from Yahweh, we might have to go off the air. We don't want this to happen, but our finances have to go to food, clothing and shelter first, and it leaves nothing to pay the \$400.00 that BlogTalk requires us to pay to keep the show going. If anyone of you is able to help with this need, please let me know. April 15 is fastly approaching and that is the due date. Thanks for any support you can give, and of course, the prayers that you send to God for help in this matter. We hope to serve you for many years to come, and we hope that there is no interruption in our broadcasts. Thanks for your consideration in this matter. Dave PS. You can contact me at haganah007@gmail.com We do have a paypal account, but I want you to know before anything, that we are not a tax exempt organization, and anything given is a gift to this ministry, which will be greatly appreciated.

This is a fairly innocuous letter. It tells a story and asks makes two requests; one being that any financial help would be appreciated and the second, and more important, an appeal for

prayer over the matter at hand. As you can imagine, I get such requests from ministries and from individual brothers and sisters. Of course, I pray first and I go with the leading of the Ruach Ha Kodesh. For instance, a few years ago, a brother that I've known for years, a man who loves Yeshua with all of his heart, was in a hard way and asked to borrow some money, anything that I could send. He had a wife and three children and they were hungry and were in danger of being kicked out of his house. At the same time, I was in a miserable job situation and wanted to get another job. I begged and pleaded with Yahweh and it seemed like the door was shut. After praying about my friend, Yahweh told me to give two hundred dollars to him. It put me in a hard place, but I had to be obedient to Yahweh. A week after I gave him the cash, I had two different employers (whom I never solicited for work) call me and offer me jobs. In the two weeks that ensued, they actually fought over me, one trying to outdo the other, offering me better benefit packages and higher pay. I took the one that gave the best offer, and it was a good thing because the other guy went out of business a year later. I worked for the winner of the auction for the next five years.

When I was growing up, my dad worked as a plumber. There were good years and there were lean years. Years after dad became a believer in Yeshua, he remarked to me how he was reflecting on how Yahweh looked after us all the years that we didn't believe in him or know him. Dad said that, at the last moment money would come in or a work offer would come in and he knew that our family was looked after because Yahweh knew that someday we would belong to him. If you knew how my dad was before he came to Yeshua, you would know that this was a profound statement because dad often felt burdened to have a family and it caused a lot of moodiness in him. All of our lives we've felt called out from other people. This is why I believe in "predestination." Yahweh knows those who will come to him because from His view in Heaven we have already come to Him, so He preserves us in linear time both before and after we come to faith in Him.

I know that it seems like I've gone down some rabbit trails and it might seem like I've gotten off track a couple of times up to this point, but I felt led to let people know me, where I come from and for you to know that I've been on both sides of the fence when it comes to needing and giving. To save time, I only included a couple of stories, but I have many more. With what I know, and in reflection of the appeal that I sent out to our listeners, I was taken back (but not surprised) by the following letter that I received from one of those listeners. I'm not immune to people writing me letters with pontification's, I get them often. I read all of them too. I know that Yahweh can speak through people with gripes and those who think that they know scripture better than everyone else. But what bothered me is that the man that wrote the letter

tried to teach me a lesson and he exhibited that he's done this sort of thing before, and he used a scripture clearly out of context. Jim and I always tell people to compare what they hear from anyone, even us, to the Bible to see if it is accurate. Yes, we've been corrected before, and it was by humble believers that urged us to look at scripture and compare what we present to others. We've had to backtrack and apologize to people before, and I'm glad because this is what keeps people humble. Scripture can be used two ways for correction; first, presented in a humble and contrite manner, and second, shot as bible bullets to create harm or provoke anger or sorrow in the person(s) that they're aimed at. The letter below uses scripture out of context fired from the gun of pontification:

*Hi, This is * Dean *****, I got your message. and see you having a hard time. I met a single mom who was Christian and having a hard time, and when we talked about it she said " My daughter comes first before anything else" , I reminded her that God said, " If you seek the kingdom of God first, all other things will be added unto you" When you don't do that your telling God that He is number 2 in your life and your security comes first, from trusting yourself. Your trust in Him is second in your life. Now if you were placing your ministry first, and said in your e-mail that you were placing your service to God as your number one priority, To please help us eat, And that's in fact what your doing...I would be the first to help do Gods work and be a blessing in His name. But Jesus says if you put mother, father, sister, brother or anyone else before me, your not worthy of me. PLEASE, Continue doing Gods work and watch Him provide all you need, Put your trust in HIM first, keep the show going no matter what and i would be happy to let Gods will be done through me, but do it in truth and with a real trust in Him and it will work, other wise there will be no Blessing for your show and it will die off, Please feel free to contact me back any time, Dean*

After I read Dean's letter, I immediately felt bad for him. From what I read, it seemed that Dean doesn't use a handgun to shoot Bible Bullets, he uses a machine gun.

Let me tell you a similar story. I attended a church back in the 1980's and early 90's that seemed to be what we back then called, "on fire for Yahweh." They recognized that I was adept in ministry and they put me in charge of the "Helps Ministry." This meant that I would mow lawns for people who were disabled, haul stuff to the dump and help with minor repairs. I was also to let the pastor know when there were bigger needs. One day I was loading an antenna (which had blown off a woman's house) into my truck. She came out and we talked. She was a young mother, probably in her mid-twenties at the time. She became a believer a year or two earlier and her husband didn't like her new relationship with Yeshua. He found himself a girlfriend and left his wife with three children. The woman explained to me that her former husband wasn't sending any support for the kids and he wasn't paying for the house, both things

that the court ordered him to do. Back then it was hard to get money from a deadbeat dad, so she had no recourse but to go into poverty. I felt bad because I was basically destitute myself. I had been out of work for months and was barely making my rent and truck payment and I ate my fair share of ketchup sandwiches, and if I could afford it, I'd eat ketchup and mustard sandwiches for lunch and dinner. I went to the pastor to let him know of this woman's plight. Without even giving thought to the matter, he looked at me and told me that "sometimes Yahweh lets people go through bad times to teach them a lesson." I resigned from that ministry right there in his office. Reading Dean's letter to me brought that memory back to me. My tendency is to help as much as I can without considering what might or might not be happening and let Yahweh work it out, not to flat out deny a request. I serve a God that is mighty and He can work things out no matter what any of us do.

Had he simply written back saying that he would pray or that he could not help, that would have been wonderful. In the stead of that, He wrote back to tell me that we aren't doing thing in a scriptural manner, and by suggesting that we would be blessed if we did it his way (by twisting scripture), then it suggests that we are being cursed for not doing it his way.

I can only imagine how the woman that Dean lectured to and turned down must have felt. Reaching out to people for help, expecting prayer and possible help is what Yahweh wants us to do. He wants us to be a big family; brothers and sisters to each other; giving and receiving in kind. If she was a believer then it is the obligation of a brother and sister to give without question, not quoting scripture. If someone asks for something (speaking about the woman he talked about) we're to give them the benefit of the doubt and if they are conning or lying it is for the Ruach Ha Kodesh to bring that person to conviction, not us.

I'm going to insert the scripture that Dean quoted to me, not just the one verse, but the entire account so we can see what the true intent of that scripture really means. An important part of quoting scripture is to do so correctly, in correct context:

³² Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven.

³³ But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven.

³⁴ Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword.

35 For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law.

36 And a man's foes shall be they of his own household.

37 He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me.

38 And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me.

39 He that findeth his life shall lose it: and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it.

40 He that receiveth you receiveth me, and he that receiveth me receiveth him that sent me.

41 He that receiveth a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet's reward; and he that receiveth a righteous man in the name of a righteous man shall receive a righteous man's reward.

42 And whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water only in the name of a disciple, verily I say unto you, he shall in no wise lose his reward.
Matthew 10:32-42

The context of the scripture is about salvation, confession, hindrance and its consequences and finally, reward. Yeshua starts out by saying basically that if you confess him before men, he will confess you before Aveinu (His Father). He said that if you don't confess Him, He will not confess you before Aveinu.

Then Yeshua talks about the fact that when people accept Him as Lord and Savior, there will be strife within one's own family, and that relatives will turn against each other on His account. This happens in just about every family. There are always those who turn against us, mock us or at the very least avoid us because of our testimony in Yeshua.

Okay, then Yeshua, knowing that the strings that hold a family together are strong, and knowing that people are weak, especially those who are rejected by family on his account, will sometimes want to please family rather than commit fully to Him. It wasn't easy for me when I was saved. I lost a lot of friends. There were many people who tried to convince me that I was making a mistake, and then when I wouldn't recant my testimony in Yeshua, dropped me like a hot potato. I also had family members spurn me which hurt a lot. Thankfully, I was tutored by

wonderful brothers in Yahweh who loved me and, in a way, replaced those friends and family that turned their backs. Thankfully, quite a few family members saw my new life, recognized my testimony and also turned to faith in Yeshua. I realized that a lot of my friends and family that turned their backs on me didn't want to help me when I was a drug abuser and most of them were in the same and/or worse state that I was in. If they didn't care about my welfare when I was on the road to hell then I knew that they would not care about me when I got right with Yeshua. So, it really didn't matter what they thought. I know that others have tighter binds and cannot turn around like I did, and these are the people that Yeshua was referring to in the scripture above. They're weak and cannot stand the fact of hurting friends and family, so they stay in their old lifestyle and don't convert. When Yeshua talked about confessing Him before others, He meant sharing Yeshua with them, and telling them about their new lives in Him. If people are too ashamed to take that step and tell others about their new faith, and about Yeshua, they are denying Him and in reciprocity, He has no recourse but to deny them before Elohim.

What I illustrated in the last paragraph is what Yeshua was talking about, giving reverence to the old crowd and spurning him; not like Dean's twisted notion suggests. Once people come into the family of Yahweh, we're supposed to help them, support them, suffer for them and even lay down our lives for them. Yeshua was talking about turning back toward the old, and not pursuing the new. Dean suggested to the woman (and to us for that matter) that she needed to look at Yeshua and that He would provide. Well, what if Dean was Yeshua's way of providing. I really don't know what prompted the woman to tell Dean that her daughter was her first priority, but from the sound of it, and knowing mothers, my thought is that somehow Dean provoked the woman to become defensive. It is the female instinct to protect their children, especially when feeling threatened. I can only surmise, that just as Dean's letter to us was a belittling pontification to us, his dissertation to the woman that he mentions in his letter might have received the same sort of Bible Bullets, and she answered back in return.

As mothers and fathers and in our case, both, and in addition, grandparents, we're charged to take care of our family's welfare. Yes, there are times when we let them go out on their own (when they are the right age) to receive correction by Yahweh and if our efforts to keep them on the straight and narrow have failed. My own dad had to kick me out of the house so that I could learn how to become independent and fend for myself. He had to cut away the strings that kept me home and dependent on him. I didn't understand at the time, but am thankful in my older age. I mentioned earlier that a mother and father's ministry is first to their family.

For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God? 1 Timothy 3:5

Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it Ephesians 5:25

Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it. Proverbs 22:6

But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel. 1 Timothy 5:8

And, taking it to an even higher level:

Neither was there any among them that lacked: for as many as were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the prices of the things that were sold. Acts 4:34

I will be the first to say that my wife and I, while we have come close a couple of times, haven't been in need like the scripture in Acts refers to. I included it to show that when everything was fresh and new in Yeshua's Church, they didn't ask questions. It doesn't say that the people who had resources told the poor and/or needy to turn their eyes upon Yeshua and ask Him for blessings. It clearly says that when they saw a need, they sold their possessions and brought it to be given out to those in need. There were no conditions, no special formula's, just faith in that what they were doing is what Yeshua wanted them to do.

Rabbi Paul told us that all of are part of a large body and he used human anatomy to show what he wanted to convey to the Church. When you understand human anatomy, you understand that each part of the body is integral to the rest of the body, and that the body as a whole is controlled by the brain, or as Paul calls it, the Head. He said that one part can't say to another, "I don't need you." Nor did he allude that one part could say to another that it would not support it. Take the hand for example. All five digits on the hand work together. Yahweh designed us with an opposable thumb so that we could carry effectively, but that also we could grasp more effectively. If the thumb said that it would not support the hand then the hand becomes less effective. The thumb would not say to the hand (like Dean told the woman), just rely on the brain more and it'll supply for you. No, the thumb is controlled by the brain and the will of the brain. If the thumb stops working then it considered faulty, or in biblical terms, disobedient. Putting anatomy together with Godly functions, the thumb would work on its own or not work at all because it wasn't receiving transmissions through the nerves from the brain

(the head). Where the Bible is concerned, people go off on their own doctrines or methods because they aren't receiving correct communication from our Head, our Yeshua Ha Mashiach.

Yahweh gave us His Word as a primer to conduct a godly life. Yeshua gave us His Spirit so that we can receive strength and comfort from Him and so we can interpret scripture correctly. If it comes from the Bible, Yahweh uses His Ruach to confirm that the scripture is true, and that we use it in proper context and the Word of Yahweh is a safety valve that ensures that we are really hearing from Yahweh, and not some erroneous spirit that is whispering in our ears. The two have to mesh or something is wrong. If Dean was operating properly from the Ruach Ha Kodesh, the still small voice of Yahweh would have told him to look at the whole context of what Yahweh was saying in the scripture that he quoted. And even more, if the Ruach was working through Dean, when he was committing an error, Yahweh would have pricked his conscience, telling him that he was interpreting the scripture incorrectly.

Because of that, it is easy to write off Dean's supposed word to us as something that doesn't come from Yahweh Yeshua, and also supported by his actions with the woman that he talked with, this is truly confirmed. I'm reminded of the phrase that states, "The middle letter of 'sin' is I." A quick review of Dean's letter shows that he uses himself quite a bit by using "I" as the major factor.

- I reminded the woman
- I would be the first to help do Gods work and be a blessing in His name.
- And I would be happy to let Gods will be done through me

Dean make it seem that if the show is going to continue, it is going to be through "Dean" doing the blessing. Let's be clear about something, "God's Work," is God's Work, not any man's work. We are servants and sons; we serve Yahweh Yeshua and we do what HE tells us to do, He tells us when to do it and one thing is for sure, He doesn't tell us to twist scripture to give a word to a fellow servant in Him. We know for certain that scripture was divinely inspired in the writers of canon and I'm sure that if Yahweh Yeshua was giving a word for Dean to give to us he would instruct Dean to use a scripture that was in context to what He was trying to tell us; not one verse taken out of context to suit the needs of the gun slinger.

Another way that Dean errs is that he in essence, places a curse on the radio show. First off, Dean knows very little about us aside from what we talk about on the radio show. He hasn't walked in our shoes, and it is seriously doubtful that Dean has an inkling about the trials and

tribulations that Yahweh has walked through with us. Dean has not been there when we were being tried in the many crucibles where our faith has been tried and tested so that Yahweh could remove the dross and make us purer. And, I'm pretty sure, in light of Dean's judgmental character, that had he been there during those times, he would have said that we were not in Yahweh's will because of trials and testing. So, the amazing audacity that Dean shows in telling us that we're not doing things correctly and that because of that, Yahweh will kill our ministry is truly jaw dropping and something that we can only turn over to Yahweh.

Now, for the good news. Yahweh always provides proof that a word that He sends is from Him. That proof comes in the manner that what He has said comes to fruition, totally and fully, and, many times He will overwhelm us with blessings to show that He has things covered. What Dean didn't know is that just a day before his poison pen dictated his letter to us, a wonderful brother in Yahweh told us that there might be a possibility that he could provide us space in his lineup for us to do our show using his format, and that my other show, "Bai-Ya-Mim" could also be hosted on his servers. It was still in the "possible" planning stages when I sent out the plea for help. Two days after the plea went out to the listeners of our radio show, we were given the okay to broadcast using this brother's server. Yesterday, another brother contacted me, telling me that he would be happy to help us financially. And, still another brother wrote and called today, saying that he is a businessman and likes our show and would pay for the Blog Talk service. Of course, I declined both offers, thanking the brothers and telling them about our getting away from Blog Talk. And if you even want to go farther in blessings, I did figure out a way that I could host the shows on my own server here at home if I really had to, for the same price that our benefactor is offering, "free."

Dean, if you ever read this blog, my question is, do you see what happened here? Out of your Pharisaical, pontificating, scripture twisting, cursing pronouncing rant Yahweh again showed that He has our backs. Not only did he send our current benefactor, who is giving us something free of charge because he "sees the ministry" for what it is and wants to be truly used by Yahweh Yeshua; He also sent two other benefactors who are willing to do the same, and provided a way for me to host it myself. Yahweh took your curse and turned it into a fourfold blessing. He knows our hearts and that we're devoted (with our families) totally to Him. He Dean, not you, knows a man's heart to its deepest measure and he knows the intention of a man's soul and spirit. And Dean, Yahweh blesses unconditionally, which is something that some in His Body have learned, and I hope that you come to learn someday. I do pray for you Dean, that someday you'll forsake your religious spirit and let Yahweh replace it with the Spirit of Relationship that He offers to all of His Children. All you have to do is repent and receive what

He has for you. I forgive you Dean. I know that what I have written might seem to be a bit strong, but the religious spirit that upon you is such that it takes a strong arm to get you to see what is going on. And Dean, if your pride causes you to not repent and apologize, I know that someday you'll realize what has happened here was a rebuke from Yahweh, who chastens all that he cares for, like that of a Father to a son. Oh, and Dean, let it go, Yahweh has us covered, we don't need any blessings from you; we desire blessings from Him.