



**Feasts of Weeks**  
**Chag Shabua- חג שבוע**  
**2017**

**Looking at Immersion By The Ruach and By  
Fire – Part 1**

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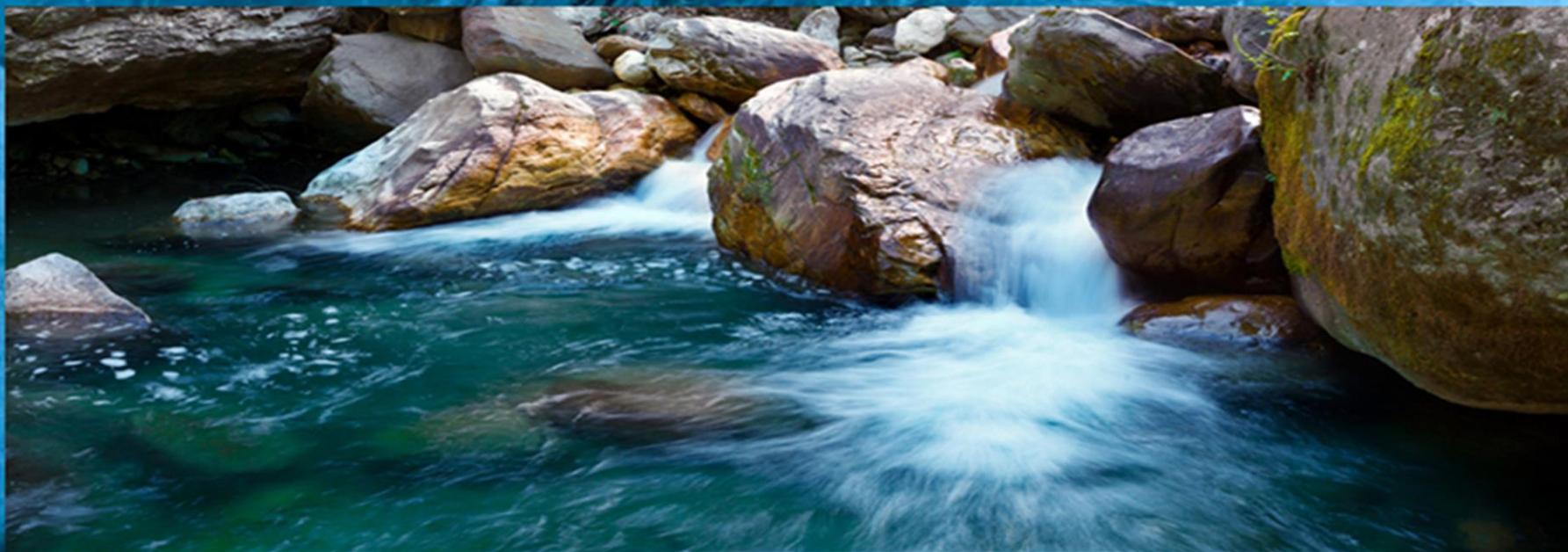
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APPOINTED TIMES (FEASTS)

THE TRIAL OF SAUL/PAUL

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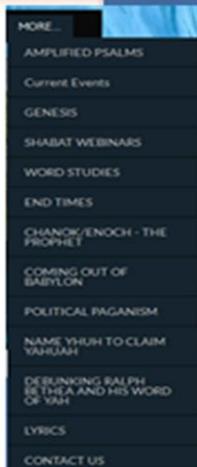
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And ye shall count unto you from the morrow after the Sabbath, from the day that ye brought the sheaf of the wave offering; **seven sabbaths shall be complete**: Even unto the **morrow after the seventh sabbath** shall ye number fifty days Leviticus 23:15,16

7

7

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+ 1

= 50

5/20/2017

For this feast we want to look at the what is the next step in Yahuah's plan to get us home. All of the Spring feasts have been fulfilled so it's important to understand as much as we can about them.

We have been gleaning some teachings lately from Steve Berkson who has had a Messianic congregation in Chattanooga, TN since 2010. We have really enjoyed the insight he brings from being raised as a Hebrew in New York. He found Yahusha through the World Wide Church of G- in 1986 but as we see now, through deeper study, he is using his Hebrew Roots to re-examine Scripture and beliefs of Christianity and trying to get to the truth of it all.

Unfortunately, he is still deeply into Paul, so in our opinion, he still has a big nut to crack.

Additionally, being Messianic he still retains the schizophrenia or split personality of Yahusha and Yahuah (Yahweh) in the Eyewitness accounts that somehow they turned into one being.



The great news is he understands that the NT is NOT a new testament and that the manuscripts available to us are a mess. We have not been able to listen to enough of his teachings to attach his website here- but you can find him with the information we have given you-should you choose to seek him out yourself. He uses Elohim but does teach out of The Scriptures- ISR which is a plus.

Just be very careful- be sure you know what you know, if you know what we mean. Be teachable -because he has some wonderful insights but also be cemented in what you have proven to be true. Search everything out! What else is there to do right 😊 !

He has a 3-hour teaching called Baptism of Fire regarding the misconception we have been taught regarding Shabua which we transcribed from the video but it's not word for word. Hopefully starting early on we can finish on Shabua. Our thoughts will be in Comic sans as normal 😊

We have been trying for years now to maybe reset the lexicon a little bit, to reestablish what things are and what they are not Scripturally. **Looking at leaving Egypt and passing through the water, which is a baptism related metaphor.** We are looking at leaving Egypt and the whole idea of passing through the Red Sea/Sea of Reeds and how that was a metaphor of **immersion** by water issue.

But it reminded me that in Matthew Chapter 3 verse 11, where it says “ I indeed **immerse** you with water unto repentance but he that is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to bear and he shall **immerse** you with **the Set Apart Spirit** and **with fire**.”

**\*\* Keep on the sticky side of your minds the word, **immerse!****

# WATER BAPTISM

**11**“I indeed immerse you in water unto repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to bear. He shall immerse you in the **Set-apart Spirit and fire.**”

**Matt 3:11** “I indeed immerse you in water unto repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to bear. He shall immerse you in the Set-apart Spirit and fire.

This is probably one of the most misunderstood or misquoted or misrepresented idea, is this “immersion of fire” thing. So let’s deal with immersion with fire. When most people think about the *immersion by fire*, they think of Acts chapter 2, and I want to point out something very important.

**Acts 2:1** And when the Day of the Festival of Weeks had come, they were all with one mind in one place.

Ok, now who are “they” that is being referred to? This is important. Well guess what – chapter breaks are not helping you out here. If you look before this, they are arguing over what to do about the fact that they are short one apostle. So they draw lots and it falls on Mattithyahu- another Matthew. And this is happening at the end of Chapter 1 verse 26.

**Acts 1: 26** And they cast their lots, and the lot fell on Mattithyahu. And he was numbered with the eleven emissaries.

So now it's Shabua and it says: And in the day of the festival of weeks was come, they (who are the "they"?) The eleven plus the one, the twelve apostles- let's remember they are not talking about everybody yet; they were all of one mind and one place.)

**Acts 2:2** And suddenly there came a sound from the heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.

**Acts 2:3** And there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and settled on each one of them.

Now the Hebrew word underlying the Greek word there is “cloven” or divided or parsed out or pieces of and actually, the word there for fire could really be translated much better as lightning. So there was this divided or equally portioned out lightnings or fire settling on each one of them.

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H8156 shā·sah' - to divide , split apart, cleave, rent, cleft, torn in two

H8157 sheh'·sah - cleft, cleave, split

**Acts 2:4** And they were all filled with the Set-apart Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them to speak.

Now it says that it appeared to them as divided tongues. It could literally mean like the tongue you use to speak but it also means languages. There appeared to be divided languages that looked like lightning or fire that settled on them.

It says: the divided languages as of fire that settled on each one of them.



Acts 2:5 Now in Yarushalayim there were dwelling Yahudim, dedicated men from every nation under the heaven.

Now we are talking about people outside the room. So this isn't happening to everybody outside the room, this is happening to the twelve. Let's keep that in mind. Nowhere in this section did you hear the word immersion or baptism. Nowhere! Nowhere does it ever refer to the future, after this event, as being a baptism or an immersion.

So this is not a baptism or immersion. This is an event that was there to be the launching of a ministry of these twelve and to allow them to communicate very clearly in an understandable way to everybody who was there, because we are going to see that each gets to hear their own language meaning that they would have the least likelihood of misunderstanding. This is a miracle of hearing and communication. But nothing here has to do with baptism or immersion.



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The true  
gift of tongues  
demonstrates  
a legitimate language  
that can be understood.

  
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Yet this is what all the charismatics and Pentecostals teach that this is the immersion of fire. They don't understand what immersion is and they certainly don't understand what is going on in Matt Chapter 3.

Now we are going to get into that, but we need to clarify what was going on in Acts chapter 2. Yes, there was an event that happened. Yes, there was something that appeared like lightning or fire. It had to do with languages, but it was not a baptism. It was a gifting for a purpose that these leaders were going to need. And it was given to those twelve. Now yes, later on others received the gift of languages etc., but this is not something everybody gets. Not everyone speaks different languages- not everyone has that gift. So, it's not an immersion. John is talking about someone who is going to immerse everyone in the Set Apart Spirit and in fire. Whatever that means. Now let's go back to Matt Chapter 3: 1-6.

**Matt 3:1** And in those days Yahuchanan the Immerser came proclaiming  
in the wilderness of Yahudah,  
**3:2** and saying, “Repent, for the reign of the heavens has come near!”



**3:3** For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Yashayahu, saying, “A voice of  
one crying in the wilderness, ‘Prepare the way of יהוה, make His paths straight.’”

**3:4** And Yahuchanan had a garment of camel’s hair, and a leather girdle around his  
waist. And his food was locusts and wild honey.

**3:5** Then Yarushalayim, and all Yahudah, and all the country around the  
Yardēn went out to him,

**3:6** and they were immersed by him in the Yardēn, confessing their sins.

Now here we have this man whom we should all know was a legitimate high priest which is why everyone was going to him, not because he was some crazy guy who had charisma that people were attracted to. He was the high priest and he was preaching this immersion.

**Matt 3:7** And seeing many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his immersion, he said to them, “Brood of adders! Who has warned you to flee from the coming wrath?”



So now there is a coming **wrath** connection with repentance and these waters. We must understand that the imagery of water is washing and cleansing and a status change. We think of it even as modern day people, we wash when we are dirty – it cleans you. This baptism immersion was to cleanse or make clean- as we see in the Tanak, anytime something happened they would have immersed their clothing or themselves – it's a cleansing.

It also is a status change from unclean to clean. He is saying to the Pharisees and Sadducees, who warned you to come and get this status change? Who warned you that there is destruction coming on those who do not change their status? To those who do not wash and cleanse themselves and change from Tamae to Tahoer.

H2930 tä·mā' unclean, defile, pollute, uncleanness, utterly

H2889 tä·hōre' clean, pure, fair, purer, variant

*water* BAPTISM

Water is linked to repentance to washing clean and changing your status because you need to repent in order to change your state from unclean to clean. You have to choose to make the change, to confess your sins, you have to make a decision.

# TRUE REPENTANCE

Now remember repentance is basically saying, I'm sorry for what I did. I wish I had never done it. If there was any way I could go back and undo it I would, and my desire is, that I will never do it again so please help me to never do it again. That's repentance. That is essentially what you're trying to confess and pray to Yahuah.

It's not just saying, "I'm sorry, I messed up".  
It is a lot deeper than that.

**Matt 3:8** “Bear, therefore, fruits worthy of repentance,  
**3:9** and do not think to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as father.’ For I say to you that Eternal is able to raise up children to Abraham from these stones.

He says if you are going to do this, then you’ll actually have to do this. This is a key verse to understanding baptism of fire. Don’t think “well, Abraham’s our father what do we need to do? We’re fine; we have our birthright; we have our promises. He is saying no! He says in verse 9. “For I say to you that Yahuah is able to raise up children to Abraham of these stones.”

**Matt 3:10** “And the axe is already laid to the root of the trees. Every tree, then, which does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

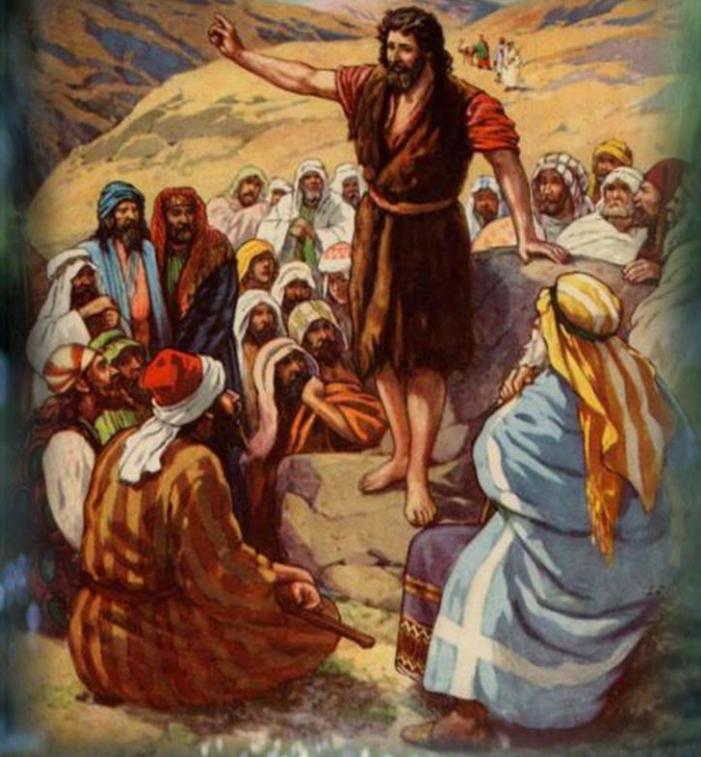


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# Spirit Promised

## Matt 3:11

“I indeed immerse you in water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to bear. He shall immerse you in the Set-apart Spirit and fire.



Immersion in water is a cleansing and a status change. What is the immersion in the Ruach ha Qodesh?

We are told in John Yahuchannon chapter 14 verse 26.

**John 14:26** “But the Helper, the Set-apart Spirit, whom the Father shall send in my name, he shall teach you all, and remind you of all that I said to you.

If you're going to get immersed in this spirit; in this teaching you're going to get instruction in Torah.

For example, we say “he is immersed in his studies or his work”, right? Well the Set Apart Spirit will immerse you if you allow it in, with the Torah instruction. The understandings of Yahusha. You are immersed in water so you're clean and your repentance and your status has changed.

What do you need to do when you come out? You need instruction in what to do next so you don't mess it up again! So now you're going to be immersed in Torah instruction, which by the way, does not mean that the Ruach did not exist before. But we are going to have this immersion into it. Yahusha is bringing the immersing of the Ruach; not just receiving a little bit or having a taste of it, but he is going to bring this total immersion – a total saturation of the Set Apart Sprit in Torah Instruction.



Then we have this thing where he says he is going to immerse us in fire. So, what happens after you have been washed clean, you've changed your state, you're immersed in Torah, now guess what you need? You need to be tested, you need Immersion in fire.

If you look up Baptism/Immersion of fire you will see it's; "a difficult or painful new undertaking or experience. The phrase can also refer to the fiery trial of faith which purifies the faithful in the process of being transformed and not being consumed."

We have lots of verses that talk about being tested and tried and purified by fire. That's the baptism of fire! It's not this charismatic craziness and it's not much fun. You made a commitment, you went through the water, then you received the Ruach so you could be immersed in Torah instructions, so you'd know the right path to get on. Then guess what? It's going to be put to the test. This is the testing of our status change and our walk. And I'm going to prove it to you from Scripture.

**Deut 8:2** “And you shall remember that יהוה your Eternal led you all the way these forty years in the wilderness, to humble you, prove you, to know what is in your heart, whether you guard His Mitzwah- terms and conditions or not.

Let us first continue on in Matt Chapter 3

**Mat 3:11** “I indeed immerse you in water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to bear. He shall immerse you in the Set-apart Spirit and fire.

He shall immerse you in the Set Apart Spirit and fire. That doesn't mean you won't still be immersed in water, that was what others were already doing, but Yahusha is still going to immerse you now with Torah instruction and the testing of whether or not it took. That is what fire does. It purifies but it can also consume. Remember the verses where Yahuah says He is a consuming fire. If you don't get purified by the fire and pass the trial of fire then you're going to get consumed and burned up by the fire.

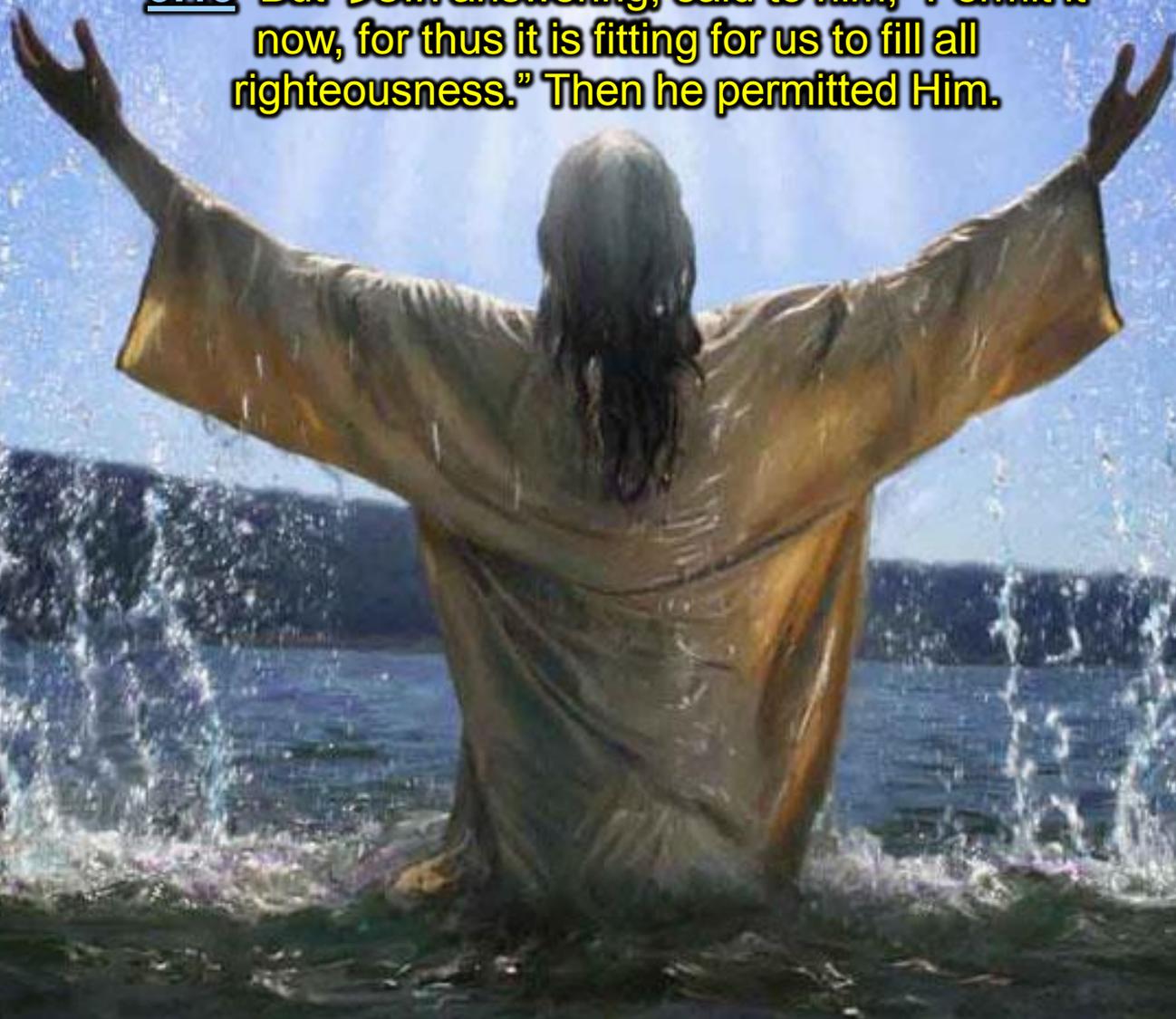
So, the fire can be a real positive or the end of the game.

**Matt 3:12** “His winnowing fork is in His hand, and He shall thoroughly cleanse His threshing-floor, and gather His wheat into the storehouse, but the chaff He shall burn with unquenchable fire.”

**Matt 3:13** Then יהושע came from Galil to Yahchanan at the Yardēn to be immersed by him.

**3:14** But Yahchanan was hindering Him, saying, “I need to be immersed by You, and You come to me?”

**3:15** But יהושע answering, said to him, “Permit it now, for thus it is fitting for us to fill all righteousness.” Then he permitted Him.



By the way you need to have fun with your Christian friends and ask them, “why was Yahusha baptized?” and they’ll say – well the only thing they can say is that he was setting an example for us so that we should do it; that is not necessarily true. He said to do it to fulfill all righteousness so there must be a Torah instruction that he was fulfilling.

What you will find is that the men in Numbers who were coming into ministry were immersed at age 30 by the way, to start their ministry. How old was Yahusha? He was 30 and he was about to go into the wilderness to **have ha shatan test him** and then start his ministry. His ministry had not started. He’s 30 and the first step is to get immersed. He was changing his status from carpenter to teacher/instructor. So he said look, “you have to do this because this is the way it works” then Yahucahannon was like “oh your right!”

**Luke 3:9** “And even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.”

**3:10** And the crowds asked him, saying, “What, then, shall we do?”

**3:11** And answering he said to them, “Let him who has two undergarments share with him who has none, and let him who has food do likewise.”

**3:12** And tax collectors also came to be immersed, and said to him, “Teacher, what shall we do?”

**3:13** And he said to them, “Collect no more than what is appointed for you.”

**3:14** And soldiers also asked him, saying, “And what shall we do?” And he said to them, “Do not intimidate anyone or accuse falsely, and be satisfied with your pay.”

**3:15** But as the people were in expectation, and all were reasoning in their hearts about Yahchanan, whether he was the Messiah or not,

**3:16** Yahchanan answered, saying to them all, “I indeed immerse you in water, but One mightier than I is coming, whose sandal straps I am not worthy to loosen. He shall immerse you in the Set-apart Spirit and fire.

**3:17** “His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he shall thoroughly cleanse his threshing-floor, and gather the wheat into his storehouse, but the chaff he shall burn with unquenchable fire.”

Now the wheat and the chaff is in the parable that Yahusha gives about the gathering of the wheat and the chaff. Understand that the unquenchable fire is for those that are not already purified by the fire.

Luke 3:18 And urging with many other words, he brought the Good News to the people.

So what was the good news? The good news is that there is a process here. You can repent, get washed in water, change your status, receive the Ruach to be immersed in Torah teaching and then you will be tested in fire; if you pass that test of fire you're going to be the wheat not the chaff. **That's the key!**

Numbers Chapter  
31:21 – let's talk  
about fire as it is  
understood in the  
Tanak.

Num 31:21 And El'azar the priest said to the men of the campaign who went to the battle, "This is the Ordinance- khoocka-kaw of the Torah which יהוה appointed as a strong covenant mark to Mosheh:

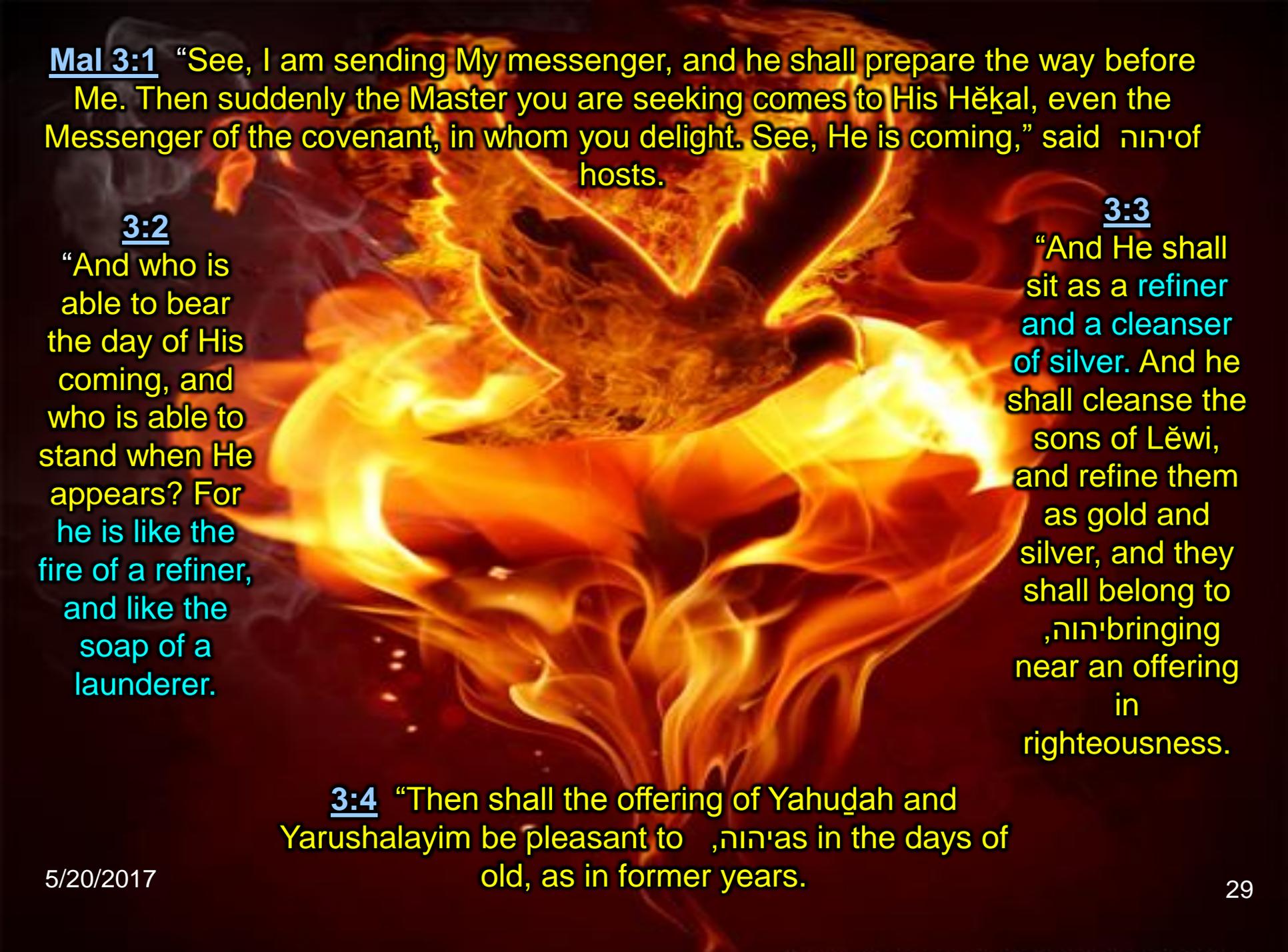
*through*

# Water and Fire

31:22 "Only the gold, and the silver, the bronze, the iron, the tin, and the lead,

31:23 every object that passes through fire, you put through the fire, and it shall be clean; only, let it be cleansed with the water for uncleanness. And whatever does not pass through fire you pass through water.

So what he is saying here is those things that burn up like clothes, or the things that don't burn up, pass through water only. However, objects that are like metal you pass through the fire. Notice what he says here; they get clean through this process. Now notice us as human beings, we go through both! We get passed through the water and the fire. Unlike this verse which tells us which things get cleansed **by either** water or fire. But don't make this mistake, we have to go through both.



**Mal 3:1** “See, I am sending My messenger, and he shall prepare the way before Me. Then suddenly the Master you are seeking comes to His Hēkal, even the Messenger of the covenant, in whom you delight. See, He is coming,” said יהוה of hosts.

**3:2**  
“And who is able to bear the day of His coming, and who is able to stand when He appears? For he is like the fire of a refiner, and like the soap of a launderer.

**3:3**  
“And He shall sit as a refiner and a cleanser of silver. And he shall cleanse the sons of Lēwi, and refine them as gold and silver, and they shall belong to יהוה, bringing near an offering in righteousness.

**3:4** “Then shall the offering of Yahudāh and Yarushalayim be pleasant to יהוה, as in the days of old, as in former years.

Look at the metaphors! It's the same metaphor- He says he is coming and will be like a fire of a refiner and a cleaner of silver and like a launderer's soap. Notice they used to use a lot of lye soap. That was harsh rough stuff. It wasn't any fun! There is no fun in this baptism/immersion of fire. This isn't where everyone is rolling on the floor and doing crazy talk. This is a trial! This is a testing! This is a reproofing – this is a purification process!

All the baptisms have an immersion in some way. Either an immersion for cleaning, immersion for instruction and an immersion for further cleaning. This is very different from what we have been told! Also, notice what he says after going through this process. “Then it will be like the old days when things were pleasing to Yahuah.” Now we are going to be doing it right, we will be cleansed out and changed in our status because they were/we are trying to be in the state of tamae (clean) by the thing you have to do when you are in the state of being in tahoer (unclean). They had not really been cleaned.

**Mal 3:6** “For I am יהוה, I shall not change, and you, O sons of Ya‘aqob, shall not come to an end.

**3:7** “From the days of your fathers you have turned aside from My ordinances - Choks- enactments (example feasts) and did not guard them. Turn back to Me, and I shall turn back to you,” said יהוה of hosts. “But you said, ‘In what shall we turn back?’

**3:8** “Would a man rob Eternal? Yet you are robbing Me! But you said, ‘In what have we robbed You?’ In the tithe and the offering!

**3:9** “You have cursed Me with a curse, for you are robbing Me, this nation, all of it!

**3:10** “Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, and let there be food in My house. And please prove Me in this,” said יהוה of hosts, “whether I do not open for you the windows of the heavens, and shall pour out for you boundless blessing!

**3:11** “And I shall rebuke the devourer for you, so that it does not destroy the fruit of your ground, nor does the vine fail to bear fruit for you in the field,” said יהוה of hosts.

**3:12** “And all nations shall call you blessed, for you shall be a land of delight,” said יהוה of hosts.

**3:13** “Your words have been harsh against Me,” said יהוה, “but you have said, ‘What have we spoken against You?’

**3:14** “You have said, ‘It is worthless to serve Eternal. And what did we gain when we guarded His Charge, and when we walked as mourners before יהוה of hosts?’

Have you ever fallen into that trap? Don't ever do that! Where you may think, what's the point of all this – it's not benefiting me! That's what they were saying here in verse 14. In 13 – your words have been harsh against Yahuah! We see this all the time where people say – “we have been doing this a long time and still my finances are not fixed’. My relationships aren't fixed! We do it all the time! But He says no! This is a purification process. I'm not just going to give you everything you want. You have to be tested and proven which means you're going to have to do things, and though you may not see any results, you have to trust it anyway.



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That's part of the testing, but we're so spoiled! We don't want that! After all you listen to all those health wealth gospels out there saying “Hey all you have to do is make your altar call and you're going to have money popping out of your belly button, and all your relationships should be perfect.” It's not going to happen that way.



**Ezek 22:1** And the word of יהוה came to me, saying,

**22:2** “And now, son of man, judge, judge the city of blood! And you shall show her all her abominations!

**22:3** “And you shall say, ‘Thus said the Eternal “, יהוה The city sheds blood in her midst, that her time might come. And she has made idols within herself to become defiled.

**22:4** “You have become guilty by the blood which you have shed, and have defiled yourself with the idols which you have made. Thus you have brought your days near, and have come to the end of your years. Therefore I shall make you a reproach to the gentiles, and a mockery to all lands.

**22:5** “Those near and those far from you mock you – defiled is your name and **great the confusion!**

Is this not where we have ended up today? Great is the confusion, and why? Because they syncretize (unite or harmonize) all the paganism and stuff that didn't belong! Yah's people of today are trying to swim upstream against a very heavy current of confusion. The leadership is first and foremost always to blame.

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**Ezek 22:6** “See the leaders of Yisra’ël: each one has used his arm to shed blood in you.

**22:7** “They have despised father and mother within you. They have oppressed the stranger in your midst. They have wronged the fatherless and the widow within you.

**22:8** “You have despised that which is set-apart to Me, and you have profaned My Sabbaths.

**22:9** “Slandorous men have been in you to shed blood. And in you are those who eat on the mountains. (**Pagan worship**) . They have done wickedness in your midst.

**22:10** “In you they have uncovered the nakedness of a father. In you they have humbled women who are defiled during their uncleanness.

**22:11** “And the one has done abomination with his neighbor's wife. And another has wickedly defiled his daughter-in-law. And another within you has humbled his sister, his father’s daughter.

**22:12** “In you they have taken a bribe to shed blood. You have taken interest and increase. You have cut off your neighbour by extortion. And you have forgotten Me,” declares the Eternal יהוה.

**22:13** And see, I shall smite My hand because of your greedy gain which you have made, and at the bloodshed which has been in your midst.

**22:14** “Would your heart stand, your hands remain strong, in the days when I deal with you? I, יהוה, have spoken, and shall do it.

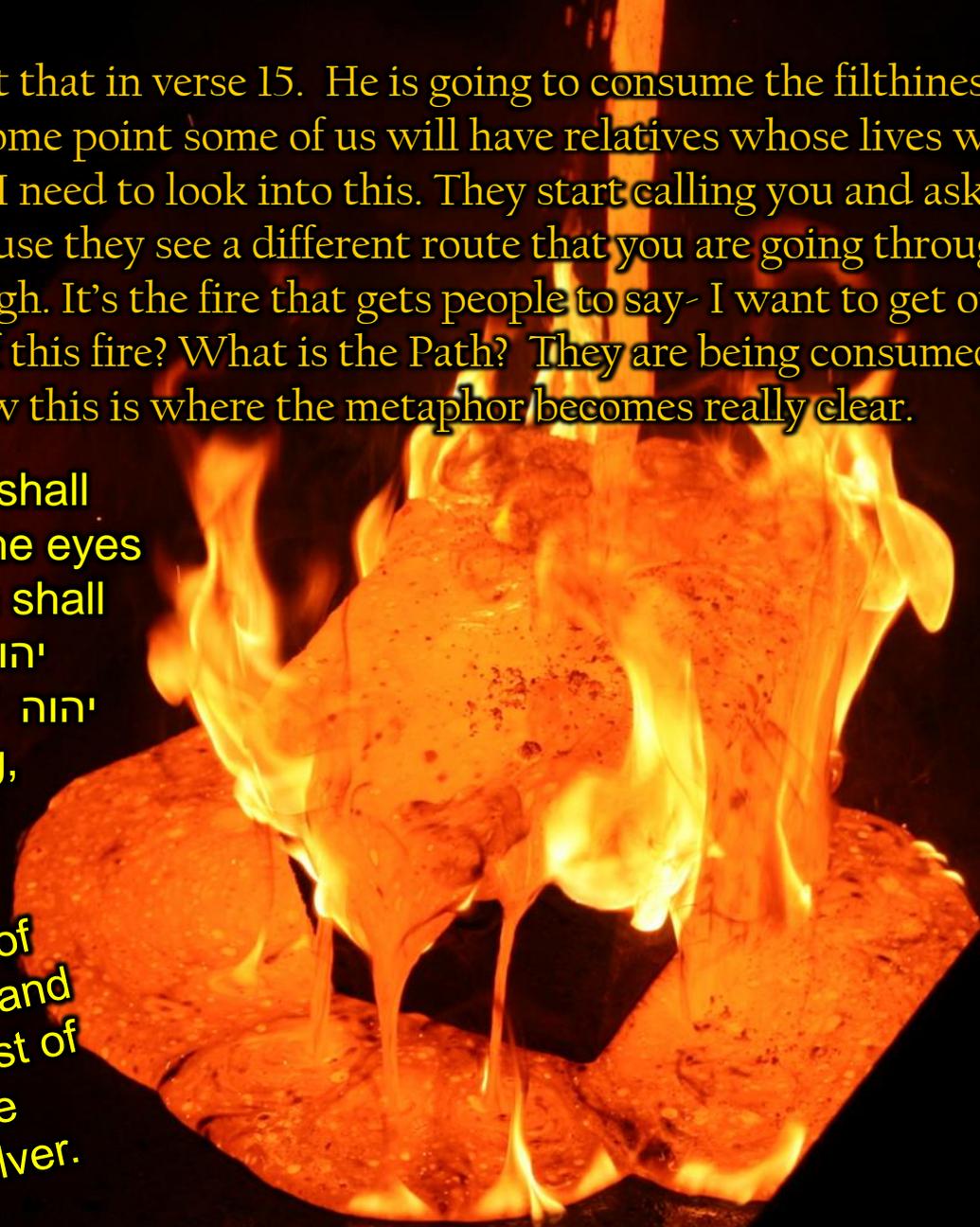
**22:15** “And I shall scatter you among the gentiles, and shall disperse you throughout the lands, and shall consume your filthiness out of you.

There is the first hint right that in verse 15. He is going to consume the filthiness. How? With fire! You know, at some point some of us will have relatives whose lives will get so bad they will say—maybe I need to look into this. They start calling you and asking you what you are doing, because they see a different route that you are going through than what they are going through. It's the fire that gets people to say- I want to get out of the fire! How do you get out of this fire? What is the Path? They are being consumed in their filthiness. Now this is where the metaphor becomes really clear.

**Ezek 22:16** “And you shall profane yourself before the eyes of the gentiles. And you shall know that I am ” ’ ”. יהוה.

**22:17** And the word of יהוה came to me, saying,

**22:18** “Son of man, the house of Yahsharal has become dross to Me. All of them are bronze, and tin, and iron, and lead, in the midst of a furnace – they have become the dross of silver.





What's dross? When gold and silver are put into a melting process, the impurities will float to the top and that's called the dross. That's the stuff you don't want, that's the garbage, that's the stuff your trying to get rid of. He's saying Israel has become that! This is how the smelting process works.

The silver used by the ancients was probably obtained by smelting lead sulfide ore, rich in silver. After the ore had been reduced to a metallic condition, the lead was separated from the silver by blowing hot air over the surface of the melted metal. The lead was thus changed to lead oxide, which, in a powdered condition, was driven away by the air blast. The resulting lead oxide is often referred to in the Bible as silver dross.

Notice there a blasting of the air like the Ruach ha Qodesh or the blasting of His nostrils. blowing it away. Now after hearing that let's continue.



**Ezek 22:19** “Therefore thus said the Eternal ‘יְהוָה, Because all of you have become dross, therefore see, I am gathering you into the midst of Yarushalayim.

**22:20** ‘As they gather silver, and bronze, and iron, and lead, and tin into the midst of a furnace, to blow fire on it, to melt it, so I gather you in My displeasure and in My wrath. And I shall blow and melt you.

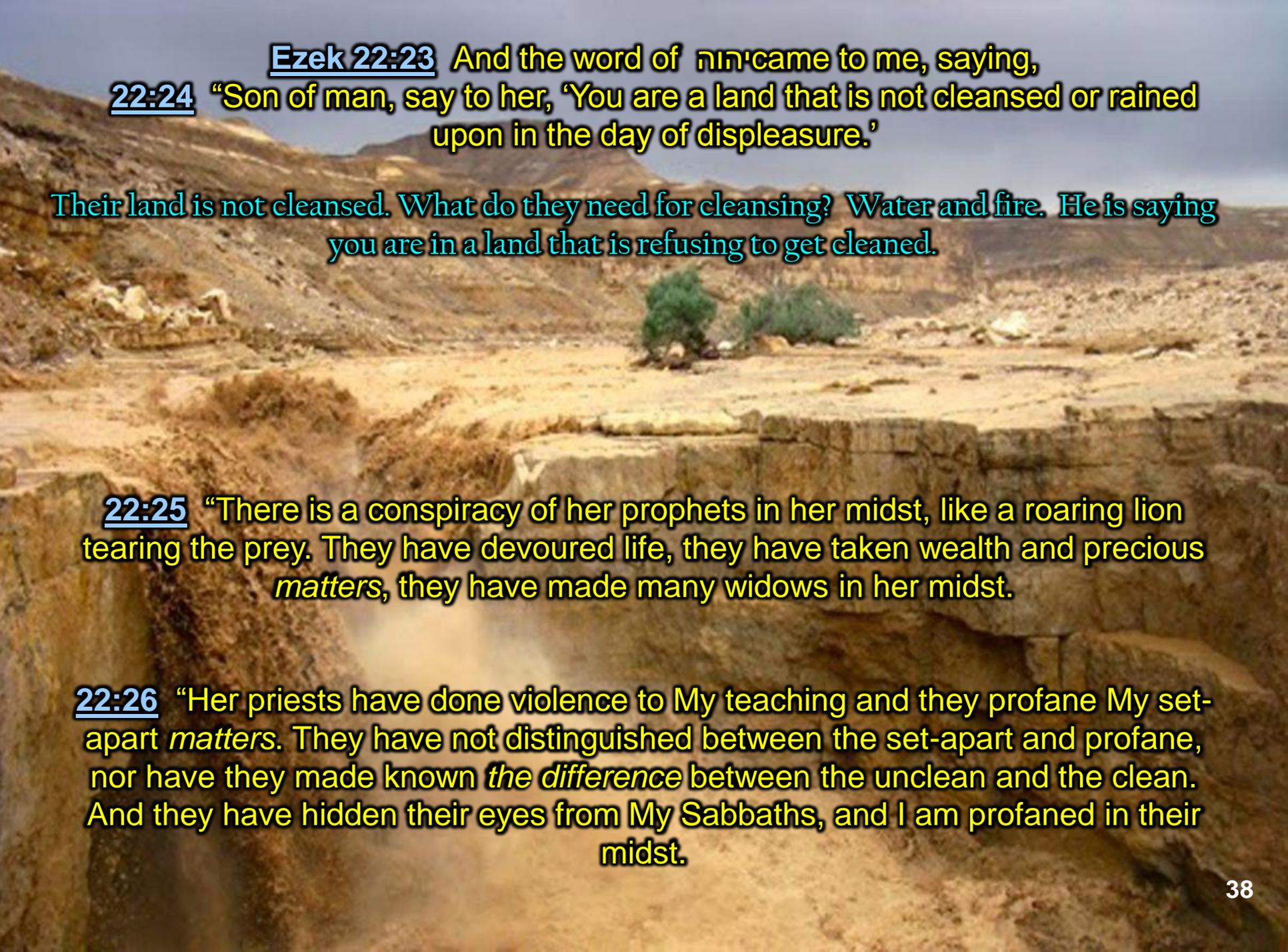
**22:21** ‘And I shall gather you and blow on you with the fire of My wrath, and you shall be melted in its midst.

**22:22** ‘As silver is melted in the midst of a furnace, so are you melted in its midst. And you shall know that I, יְהוָה, have poured out My wrath on you.’ ”

Incredible how this lines up! Do you see the picture? Do we understand that this is what John is talking about, that Yahusha is coming to bring a baptism of fire? We say, “Oh no, not that! That’s’ not what we have been taught! It means he is bringing all sorts of spiritual gifting and we’ll all be doing the happy dance”.

Really?!? Where does it say that? There is no verse that says that! There is not one single reference where it says that Acts chapter 2 is a baptism.

As a matter of fact, something was laid on them-they didn’t go through anything! It said these tongues settled on them. They were receiving something not going through something.



**Ezek 22:23** And the word of יהוה came to me, saying,  
**22:24** “Son of man, say to her, ‘You are a land that is not cleansed or rained upon in the day of displeasure.’”

Their land is not cleansed. What do they need for cleansing? Water and fire. He is saying you are in a land that is refusing to get cleaned.

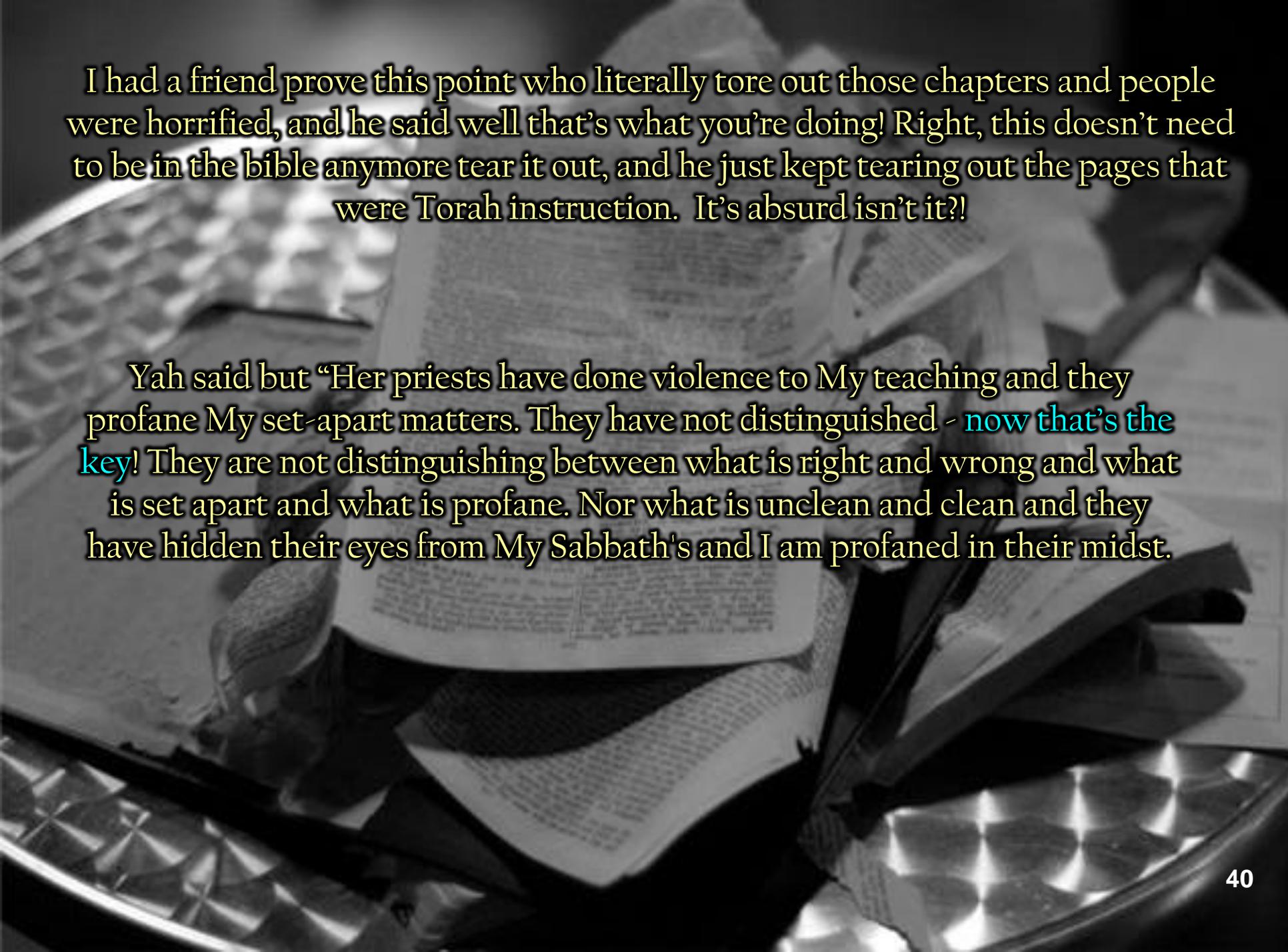
**22:25** “There is a conspiracy of her prophets in her midst, like a roaring lion tearing the prey. They have devoured life, they have taken wealth and precious *matters*, they have made many widows in her midst.

**22:26** “Her priests have done violence to My teaching and they profane My set-apart *matters*. They have not distinguished between the set-apart and profane, nor have they made known *the difference* between the unclean and the clean. And they have hidden their eyes from My Sabbaths, and I am profaned in their midst.

See! There is this confusion! We are back to that same confusion we read about earlier. The teachers had put forth confusion! The body is listening to the teachers saying, “well they are the ones that are supposed to know what is going on- they are supposed to be teaching us and now we are all confused”.

For example, there are people who say, I read this other verse and it says I can eat whatever I want. Really? No it doesn't! We read in Malachi, I am Yahuah, I do not change! If Yahuah says it's right, it's always right. If Yahuah says it's wrong, it's always wrong. That's it period! It's not that it was wrong then but now its ok. No wrong is wrong, if you couldn't eat pork in Leviticus 11 you can't eat pork in 2017. Not everything is food!

Here He is saying they have profaned everything and have done violence to the teaching. By the way is there anything more violent than saying the Torah is done away with? That is about as violent as you can get – just rip the whole thing out.



I had a friend prove this point who literally tore out those chapters and people were horrified, and he said well that's what you're doing! Right, this doesn't need to be in the bible anymore tear it out, and he just kept tearing out the pages that were Torah instruction. It's absurd isn't it?!

Yah said but “Her priests have done violence to My teaching and they profane My set-apart matters. They have not distinguished - **now that's the key!** They are not distinguishing between what is right and wrong and what is set apart and what is profane. Nor what is unclean and clean and they have hidden their eyes from My Sabbath's and I am profaned in their midst.

**Ezek 22:27** “Her leaders in her midst are like wolves tearing the prey, to shed blood, to destroy lives, and to get greedy gain.

**22:28** “And her prophets have coated them with whitewash, seeing a false vision, and divining a lie for them, saying, ‘Thus said the Eternal ’, when had not spoken.

Oh you’re going to hear that in your churches and on cable televangelists- somebody’s going to stand up and say – “Oh the lord told me to tell you”! NO he hasn’t! At least it’s not Yahuah! It really is “the Lord – Baal”! You be careful saying “Yahuah told me to tell you”. The last of the guys Yahuah told them to tell you is in the scriptures. You don’t get too many “Yahuah told me to tell you” until I think, the two witnesses. Then you’ll get some “Yahuah told me to tell you”, and guess what’s coming out of their mouths? FIRE! Do you see how that plays through? That’s when fire is going to be brought out. Then He says:

**22:29** “The people of the land have practiced oppression, and committed robbery, and have wronged the poor and needy. And they oppressed the stranger without right-ruling.

Now this is important – pay attention-

**Ezek 22:30** “And I sought for a man among them who would make a wall, and stand in the breach before Me on behalf of the land, that I should not destroy it – but I did not find one!

**22: 31** “Therefore I have poured out My displeasure on them, I have consumed them with the fire of My wrath. And I have put their way on their own head,” declares the Eternal .יהוה

Now there are two kinds of fires.

The kind that purifies and the destroying fire. If you will not be purified, you will be consumed.

That’s it! If you will not allow Him to purify you, you will be destroyed and consumed. Oh by the way, if you will notice the fire is always described as consuming and destroying not torturing forever.

You will see these metaphors, consumed, burned up, destroyed when we get to John 15 and other places, that which refused to be refined and to be set straight get burned up and consumed. Nothing left.

When your car consumes the gas you have to put more in because it has consumed it all. When you make a fire it consumes the wood you put on the fire, you have to put more wood cause it’s all gone. The wood being put into the fire is not being tortured forever.

We must understand this.

Next up Psalms 66

**PSALM 66: 1** Shout with joy to Eternal, All the earth!

**66:2** Sing out the splendor of His Name; Make His praise esteemed.

**66:3** Say to Eternal, "How awesome are Your works! Through the greatness of Your power Your enemies pretend obedience to You.

**66:4** "All the earth bow to You, They sing praises to You, They praise Your Name."  
Selah.

**66:5** Come and see the works of Eternal, Awesome acts toward the sons of men.

**66:6** He has turned the sea into dry land, They went through the river on foot.

There we rejoiced in Him,

**66:7** Who rules by His power forever; His eyes keeping watch on the gentiles; Let the rebellious not exalt themselves. Selah.

**66:8** Bless our Eternal, you peoples! And sound His praise abroad,

**66:9** Who keeps us in life, And does not allow our feet to be moved.

Now before we get  
to the next verses  
what have we heard?  
Rejoicing and  
praises of those who  
are about to tell you  
what they went  
through to get them  
there.

**Psalm 66:10** For You, O Eternal, have proved us; You have refined us as silver is refined.

**66:11** You brought us into the net; You laid affliction on our loins.

**66:12** You have let men ride at our head; We went through fire and through water; But You brought us out to plenty.



Do you see? It's been there all the time in our Scripture! Going through water, then going through fire and then rejoicing because you get it now! Notice he says "You **PROVED** us through fire and through water." Proving means He tested us and that is like Deuteronomy 8:2. Understand this is the process. You go through the water, now you're clean. You get instructed on how you stay clean.

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It's like a child is eating and not paying attention. They spill their food all over themselves and you go and clean them up. You then instruct them to not do that again. But you have to allow them to do it themselves to see if they understood it. Right?

So He says, I've got to prove you, I'm going to let you go through the waters of cleansing- then I'm going to give you the immersion of the spirit to teach you what to do and what not to do, but now I'm going to allow things to happen in your life to see if you understood it, to see if you have the courage of your convictions to actually do it. Were you serious or were you just playing games?

What we just read is the trial through afflictions. It's a beautiful picture.  
Next Isaiah 48:10



**Isa 48:10** “See, I have refined you, but not as silver; I have chosen you in the furnace of affliction.

Now He is explaining that it's really not like silver. I'm not going to put a real fire to you, because after all your flesh and blood and you'll die. He says I use affliction as My furnace.

Which is being hinted at Psalm 66 – do you see that?

He talked about affliction there so see again, if you are doing your studies, if you are allowing the word and the Ruach to inspire you as to what is in there you can find the connections because in Psalm 66 the verse talked about how they were refined and they were given this affliction. So a connection can easily be made here in Isaiah. He is going to let you suffer to see what you are made out of.

Next is Deuteronomy 8:2

**Deut 8:2** “And you shall remember that יהוה your Eternal led you all the way these forty years in the wilderness, to humble you, prove you, to know what is in your heart, whether you guard His Mitzwah- terms and conditions, or not.

The wilderness is affliction. The biggest part of our problem is a lack of humbleness, humility and our self-sovereignty. He does this to know how serious we are **and also to prove to ourselves how serious we are.**

Verse two is all about the baptism of fire, because at this point they had already been through the water, right? They had already been to Sinai where they were immersed in the Torah instructions, but He let them go into the wilderness for 40 years after that why? That is the baptism of fire – **and also the penalty for not paying attention to the Torah instructions and being so stiff-necked.**

Most of your life is the baptism of fire. It only takes a moment to go through the baptism of water. It takes a lot of study and time to be fully immersed in the Ruach and allow the Ruach to teach you and instruct you in the Torah, but your whole life is you proving you are worthy to be able to keep your crown.

That is why John said I'm doing the easy part, I'm just immersing you in water. The bigger piece of this is the one who's coming he is going to immerse you in the Torah; he is going to put you in the fires to see if you got it.

**Deut 8:3** “And He humbled you, and let you suffer hunger, and fed you with manna which you did not know nor did your fathers know, to make you know that man does not live by bread alone, but by every *Word* that comes from the mouth of יהוה.

**8:4** “Your garments did not wear out on you, nor did your foot swell these forty years.

In other words, if you had been paying attention, you would see that He is always with you in the affliction. He was always providing for you even in the midst of all of that. Oh, but a lot of people didn't appreciate that, because that is who we are. We don't appreciate what we do have, we only want to whine about what we don't have.

After all the manna wasn't enough, they wanted meat and He gave them meat until it was coming out their noses!

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**Deut 8:5** “Thus you shall know in your heart that as a man disciplines his son,  
so יהוה your Eternal disciplines you,  
**8:6** therefore you shall guard the Mitzwah –terms and conditions of יהוה your  
Eternal, to walk in His ways and to be in awe of Him.  
**8:7** “For יהוה your Eternal is bringing you into a good land, a land of streams of  
water, of fountains and springs, that flow out of valleys and hills,  
**8:8** a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a  
land of olive oil and honey,  
**8:9** a land in which you eat bread without scarcity, in which you do not lack at  
all, a land whose stones are iron and out of whose hills you dig copper.  
**8:10** “And you shall eat and be satisfied, and shall bless יהוה your Eternal for  
the good land which He has given you.

Now here is where the problem  
comes and this is where He has to  
allow suffering to test you, because  
if He just spoiled you -look what  
can happen.

**Deut 8:11** “Be on guard, lest you forget יהוה your Eternal by not guarding His Mitzwah- terms and conditions, and His Mishpat -right-rulings, and His Khook-kaw- ordinances- which I appoint you today,

He says look, after I have given you all this good stuff you might forget Yahuah!  
How? By not guarding His instructions.

**8:12** lest you eat and shall be satisfied, and build lovely houses and shall dwell in them, **8:13** and your herds and your flocks increase, and your silver and your gold are increased, and all that you have is increased,

**8:14** that your heart then becomes lifted up, and you forget יהוה your Eternal who brought you out of the land of Mitsrayim, from the house of bondage,

**8:15** who led you through that great and awesome wilderness – fiery serpents and scorpions and thirst – where there was no water, who brought water for you out of the flinty rock, **8:16** who fed you in the wilderness with manna, which your fathers did not know, in order to humble you and to try you, to do you good in the end,



All of this is for our good in the end! To humble us so we can do good in the end! Ah, we just want the beginning part. The land with milk and honey, the houses, the gold and all the other stuff. Give me that stuff! To never lack anything- but you know what? Every now and then He is going to have to take that away, just a little bit to see where you're at, otherwise how is He going to know?

It's just like Job right? Ha Shatan is hanging out, up there and Yahuah says what do you think of Job? And he says I can't tempt him with anything because he is spoiled beyond spoiled. I can't test him for you – Yahuah uses these things. How it came to be, someday we will know, but Yahuah uses them is all we need to know, He is in control and there is no authority that they have that is not under Abba's control. So Yah said alright fine, if you want to test Job go right ahead. After all that is what I am using you for – you're the trier of the brethren. You're the accuser and tester of the brethren.

He's the fire! He uses Ha Shatan as the fire so maybe you don't want to be immersed in that fire. Maybe Christians would be really scared if they understood that. He is used as the fire a lot. Ha Shatan is given enough open leeway with you to test you with fire, and if you play with fire you're going to get burned.

So He says “Fine I will let you test him with fire – you can burn down his houses, you can take away his children, anything you want- you just can't kill him. That is the purification process of fire, it's that you don't get consumed.

Maybe everything around you gets consumed; You lose your job, house, this and that- so what?!! You should be piling up treasure in heaven. You shouldn't be worried about things of this world right? Do you see the metaphor and how this plays out? Remember this process is set up so He can do good to us in the end! **How else can He get us to quit looking at what we have and look to Him if we don't sense and understand just how temporary it all is and that it is all from Him - ON LOAN - By the way!** What happened to Job after he went through his trials? He got back everything double.

**Deut 8:16** who fed you in the wilderness with manna, which your fathers did not know, in order to humble you and to try you, to do you good in the end, **8:17** you then shall say in your heart, 'My power and the strength of my hand have made for me this wealth!'

**That's the key right there!** It all comes from Yahuah-not us ! He wants to do good to us in the end. Why ?! So we can give Him the Honor He deserves! He is fulfilling the promises He made!

**Matt: 7:13** “Enter in through the narrow gate! Because the gate is wide – and the way is broad – that leads to destruction, and there are many who enter in through it.

**Matt 7: 14** “Because the gate is narrow and the way is hard pressed which leads to life, and there are few who find it.

Did you catch that? The way to life is narrow and hard pressed! You can call that fire. You have to move through the fire- the afflictions, the pressures, being closed in on.

**7:15** “But beware of the false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are savage wolves.

**7:16** “By their fruits you shall know them. Are grapes gathered from thorn bushes or figs from thistles?

**7:17** “So every good tree yields good fruit, but a rotten tree yields wicked fruit.

**7:18** “A good tree is unable to yield wicked fruit, and a rotten tree to yield good fruit.

**7:19** “Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

**7:20** “So then, by their fruits you shall know them –

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Isn't that what John was saying? He was saying the exact same thing! Now remember, you get thrown into the purification fire first and if you refuse to bear good fruit you get thrown into the destruction fire. Two different fires! The one is the pressures of affliction to get your attention so you make better choices as well as this way to get the dross out so you come out clean- otherwise He looks at you as dross and throws you out. So what is the fruit?

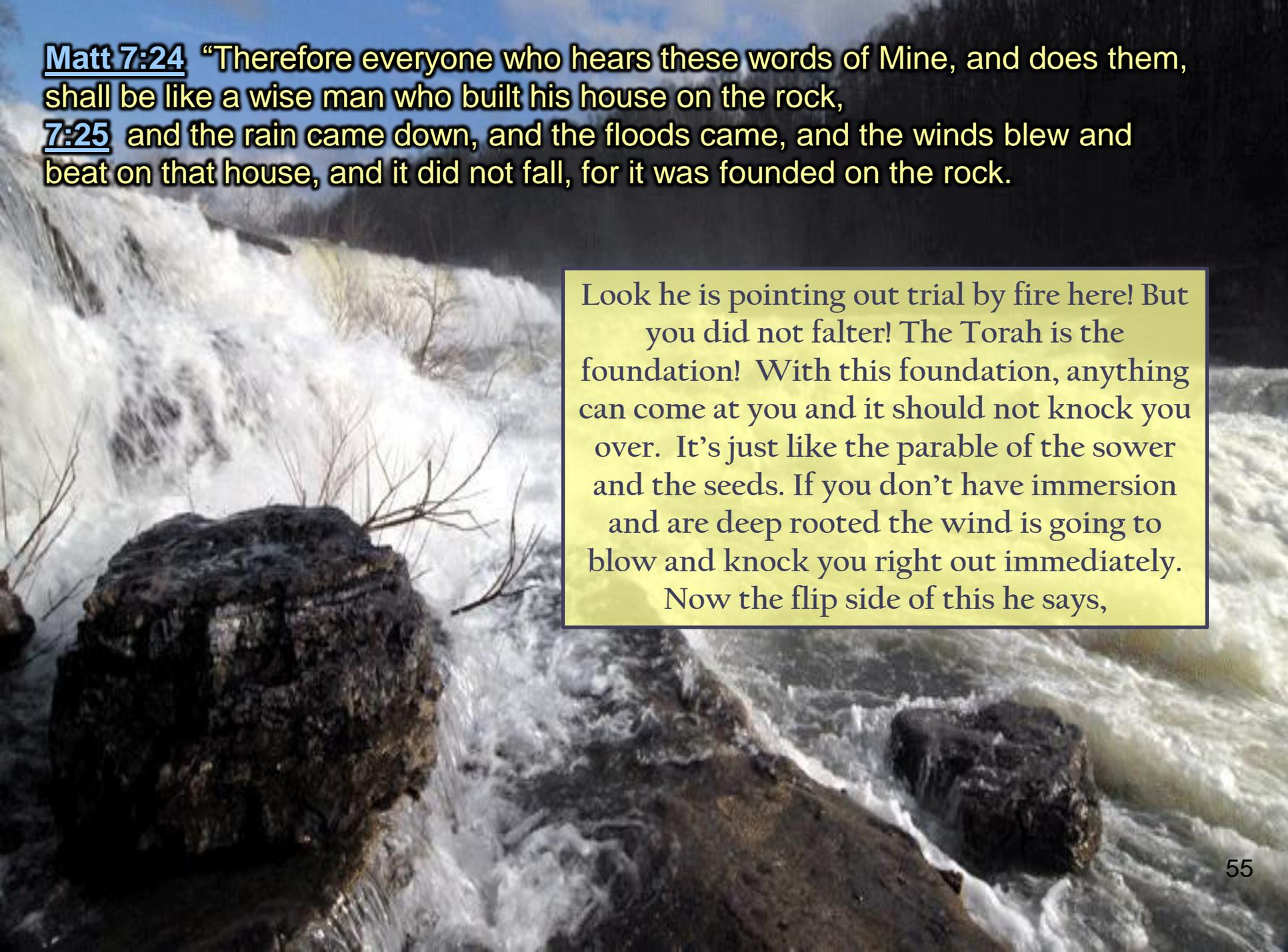
**Matt 7:21** "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Master, Master,' shall enter into the reign of the heavens, but he who is doing the desire of My Father in the heavens.

**7:22** "Many shall say to Me in that day, 'Master, Master, have we not prophesied in Your Name, and cast out demons in Your Name, and done many mighty works in Your Name?'

**7:23** "And then I shall declare to them, 'I never knew you, depart from Me, you who work lawlessness!'

Doing the will of Yahuah! That's what's being checked out and tested here. Are you doing the desires of Yahuah!. Do you see it? It's always been right there, that is what the fire is for!

First of all, realize these people are not doing the will of the Father. That's called being lawless. When you do His will, that is called being righteous. He says I never had the relationship with you that you thought you had with me. I never gave you that authority to do those things in my name. I never endorsed what you were doing.



**Matt 7:24** “Therefore everyone who hears these words of Mine, and does them, shall be like a wise man who built his house on the rock,  
**7:25** and the rain came down, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock.

Look he is pointing out trial by fire here! But you did not falter! The Torah is the foundation! With this foundation, anything can come at you and it should not knock you over. It's just like the parable of the sower and the seeds. If you don't have immersion and are deep rooted the wind is going to blow and knock you right out immediately. Now the flip side of this he says,

**Matt 7:26** “And everyone who hears these words of Mine, and does not do them, shall be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand,

**7: 27** and the rain came down, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and they beat on that house, and it fell, and great was its fall.”

By the way, that’s talking about a person who thought they had built their house on a rock, but didn’t choose the right way to build it. And by the way, I would say that would be the one choosing to pick and choose which Torah instructions to observe.



I’ll do a little bit of Torah here, little bit of Torah there, but I’m not going to immerse myself into it. You can’t skip step two. You must immerse yourself in the Torah and the

Ruach, not just dip your toe into it.

Kind of like when Peter said well if that’s that case why just wash my feet? Wash my whole body! Immerse me!



**Matt 7:28** And it came to be, when **עֲשׂוּה** had ended these words, that the people were astonished at his teaching,  
**7: 29** for he was teaching them as one possessing authority, and not as the scribes.

In other words, they could see he was a prophet. One who speaks the word of Yahuah with Authority. Now they saw him different than the scribes. People ask me all the time “How do we know if someone is anointed appointed? “They need to be doing this verse. You should be listening to them and know that this is a person that is teaching and owning authority. And you should be able to identify that. You should feel it, know it and see it, if they have authority – not any authority- because you all were impressed with guys from the church too that were preaching with authority but it was the wrong authority.

You have to look and ask if the words that the person is speaking are they the word of Yahuah being spoken with authority. That’s what you’re looking for. That is what they were seeing differently in Yahusha. He wasn’t like those other guys just talk, talk, talk. He’s talking like someone who has authority. Incidentally when Moshe gave the authority to the 70, they began to speak differently, like someone who had authority from on high.

They were anointed appointed.

With Yahusha they could start to recognize this is an anointed appointed.

Now remember he is talking about the trees bearing fruit and being cut down- that whole metaphor again in John 15.

**John 15:1 "I am the true vine, and My Father is the gardener.**

Steve had a talk with a SR Baptist pastor and showed him that verse along with those verses about the ones not bearing fruit being thrown into the fire.



Then he asked him, according to the way the pastor sees the metaphor, is the branch and the vine same person? The pastor said – Absolutely. But look- wait- he says a branch *in* me! A branch *in* him? So we are talking about people that are *in* him. Yahusha says he is the *vine*!

# BAPTISM IN WATER

The person that went through the water and was immersed in the Torah but didn't bear the fruit in the baptism of fire! Did not walk it out and bear the fruit- he says that person – who didn't bear fruit he prunes- and takes it away! That would be the craziness of Christian pastors!!

## John 15:2

“Every branch in Me that bears no fruit He takes away. And every branch that bears fruit He prunes, so that it bears more fruit.

## 15:3

“You are already clean because of the Word which I have spoken to you.

So they are already clean. Which clean are they? Steps one and two! Then he says.

**John 15:4** “Stay in Me, and I stay in you. As the branch is unable to bear fruit of itself, unless it stays in the vine, so neither you, unless you stay in Me.

Now why would he say that he wants people to stay unless they can leave? He says, Father I have not lost one that you gave me – he didn't lose them, they decided to leave. You can get out of his hand, you can climb out anytime you want (**that is free-will**). Why would he tell you to stay unless it was possible for you to leave? He's begging with them; he's pleading with us saying “Stay in me”! A branch is not able to bear fruit on its own unless you stay in the vine!



What are we able to do? Nothing! We went through the water because we knew we screwed up and wanted a fresh start. **We accepted His terms and conditions. But, we are not able to keep from missing the mark,** unless we stay in him. By the way, when we sin- miss the mark, and keep doing all the other dumb things we do, at that moment, we are “not staying in him”. We have to step away in order to do that- get off the path. Think of it as the path that leads to the kingdom door and you have the umbrella that was given to you by Yahusha as a covering and you’re walking the walk of Torah instructions and you **fall short**. What did you have to do? You had to have gotten off that path. **When we are off the path, we don’t have the same protection because we broke our covenant promises.**

**I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.**

*John 15:5*

**John 15:6** “If anyone does not stay in me, he is thrown away as a branch and dries up. And they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned.

What do dry branches do when you throw them into the fire? They burn up quickly, they are not tortured forever. So not only are they thrown into the fire – they are dried up.

**John 15: 7** “If you stay in Me, and My Words stay in you, you shall ask whatever you wish, and it shall be done for you”

This is step two-  
being immersed in  
the Torah – his  
words stay in  
you..



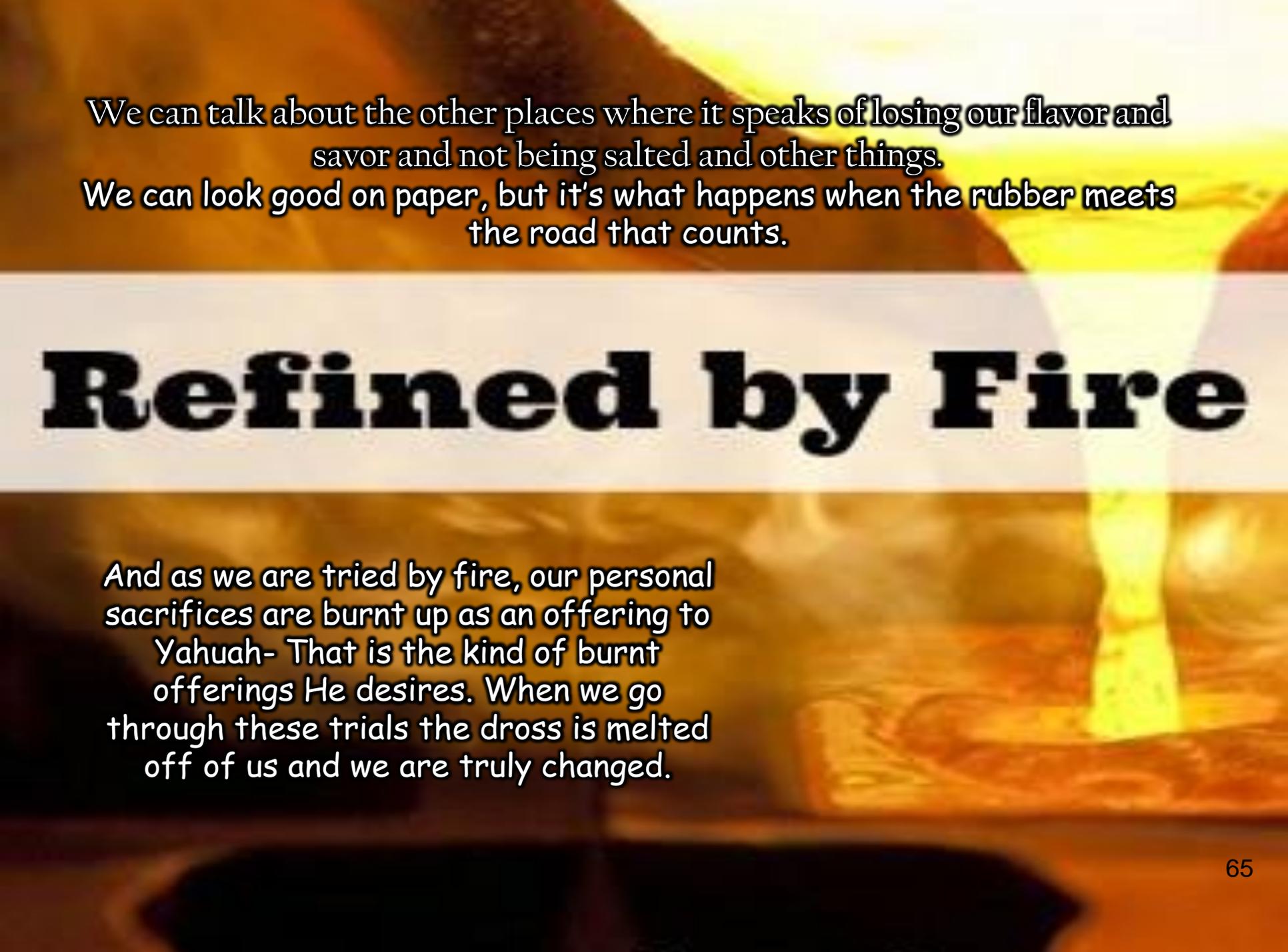
Let's understand that up to verse 6 what he was talking about earlier – this is what was going on in the other verses in the TANAK, the same metaphor about trees and being thrown into the fire. There is a process here, you have to stay in him to bear fruit and testing is going to come to see if there is any fruit there.



By the way I don't know how many of you have done this but as a youth we used to go out apple picking on a regular basis in upstate NY.

One of the things you do, is you see a tree and it looks like it has good fruit. But until somebody goes over and plucks one just to taste it, you're not sure. Because after all, if one tastes good, the whole tree probably tastes pretty good. Looks can be deceiving.

There were some really pretty apples but they didn't taste so great, however you would have to go and grab one to see. You had to test the fruit. It looked good on the outside. The tree looked good and the fruit looked good but it didn't taste good.



We can talk about the other places where it speaks of losing our flavor and savor and not being salted and other things.  
We can look good on paper, but it's what happens when the rubber meets the road that counts.

# **Refined by Fire**

And as we are tried by fire, our personal sacrifices are burnt up as an offering to Yahuah- That is the kind of burnt offerings He desires. When we go through these trials the dross is melted off of us and we are truly changed.

# Understanding The Path

through  
**Water**

Immersed  
in the  
Torah by  
the breath  
of the  
Ruach Ha  
Qodesh

Continual testing  
by  
**and Fire**



# BAPTISM OF FIRE



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