

Matthew 6: Israel vs. the World**Summary:**

We will go through Yeshua's teachings very in depth, as this is our whole purpose for studying the word, to understand his teachings and follow them.

| Verse | Summary |
|-------|---|
| 1 | Yeshua says be careful not to do good for others to be seen by men, because you will receive no reward from the Father. |
| 2 | He explains that when we do good to be recognized by man, we forfeit the opportunity to be rewarded by the Father. Those who do this will be judged accordingly. |
| 3-4 | He says when you do good for others, you should do it in secret rather than sounding a trumpet like the hypocrites in the synagogues do and the Father will give you glory by rewarding you openly. |
| 5-6 | Yeshua teaches us that we should also pray <u>to the Father</u> in secret and he will reward is openly. |
| 7 | He says when we pray do not repeat things over and over, he calls this vain repetition and says this is what heathens or gentiles do. |
| 8 | Yeshua tells us not to be like the gentiles, pagans, or heathens, because the Father knows what we need before we ask him. |
| 9-13 | He tells us to pray like this: <u>Our Father which art in heaven</u> , Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen. |
| 14-15 | Yeshua reiterates that we are only forgiven to the extent that we forgive others. |
| 16-18 | In regards to fasting, Yeshua teaches that we should also do it in secret. He says when we are fasting we are to make ourselves appear as though we are not fasting and the Father will reward us openly. |
| 19-21 | Yeshua says not to store up treasures on earth, but to store up treasures in heaven. He goes on to say that our hearts are wherever our treasures are. In other words, whatever we deem important to us, is where our hearts and souls are. |
| 22-23 | Here, he is teaching that whatever we allow into our minds will fill us up and if we allow light (the things of God) into our mind, then God will fill our mind, but if we allow darkness (the things of the world or the devil) in than darkness will overtake us. |
| 24 | He tells us that no man can serve two masters, he will love one and hate the other or hold on to one and despise the other. He goes on to specify that man cannot serve God and his earthly treasures. |

| | |
|-------|---|
| 25 | Yeshua says because of this we should not worry about our lives regarding what we should eat, drink, or wear. He says life is more than what we eat, drink, and wear. |
| 26-30 | Yeshua reminds us that our Father feeds and clothes animals and plants who do not store up anything and he will therefore clothe us all the more. He asserts that our faith is little if we do not trust in God to do for us what he does for the plants and animals. |
| 31 | He reiterates that we should take no thought regarding these things, because these are things gentiles seek after and our heavenly Father knows we need these things. |
| 32-33 | He says to seek FIRST the kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these things will be added to us. |
| 34 | He says do not even think about tomorrow because tomorrow will take care of itself. He ends by saying there is enough evil to deal with today and we need not focus on the evils of tomorrow. He is referring to the worldly things that we have need of as evil. |

Instructions: Read Matthew Chapter 6 in the King James Version and answer the questions below.

1. What are some deeper ideas and themes you notice about the story in Matthew 6?
2. Does anything speak to you?

Insights:

Instructions: Take a second look at each of these messages in Matthew 6 and find the lessons hidden within each message.

In chapter 6, Yeshua is teaching us what we must and must not do regarding our spiritual and physical being. He points out the differences between us (Israel) and the world.

Notice that he consistently compares us to the gentiles, heathens, hypocrites in the synagogues, etc. (Look at verses 2, 5, 7, 16, and 32) For each principle he teaches he compares us to “them”, saying not to be like them, but to be the opposite.

Furthermore, in verse 32, Yeshua implies that the reason we can afford to be different is because we have the Father to tend to our needs, we have a True and Living God who hears us and will provide for us when we make ourselves different in obedience to him. This means that we have something that they do not have access to, therefore we are held to higher standards.

Think of it like this. Your daddy owns everything that there is and you will inherit it, but there are stipulations. He will give you your inheritance when you become like him. If your daddy was a lawyer, then this stipulation means that you must follow in his footsteps and practice law in order to get your inheritance. Since you Father is the Almighty God, you must become like Him to receive your inheritance. This is what

Yeshua teaches us. Our Father wants to relieve us of our burdens and free us from the troubles of this world. He wants to give us the power to know, to heal, and to demonstrate His existence and Truth to the world, but we must first make ourselves pure and clean, like Him.

Insights for Application to Life:

- When you do good for others, do not sound the alarm to let everyone know what you are doing, rather do in secret and let your glory come only from God. In doing good works you, in this manner, are glorifying Yah and in turn He will glorify you. (John 13:31-32)
Often, we want our glory now, but according to Yeshua you have to choose – either you can seek glory from man or receive from the Father, but you cannot have it both ways. (Mat 6:1-5)
- We are to pray in the same manner that we give – in secret, that we can receive glory from Yah, rather than from man. So many people pray aloud to be heard by man, to show people how holy they are, or to tell them something they do not have the guts to say outright. Either way, Yeshua is teaching us that we should not do this. Moreover, the point he is making is that prayer needs only be between you and our Father. (Mat 6:5-6)
On the other hand, we sometimes have to do like Yeshua did in John 11:42 when he raised Lazarus from the grave. He thanked God for hearing him just to let the people know that it was Yah who sent him and it was by Yah's power that Lazarus was raised.
The one thing you don't want is for man to worship you as though you alone are God, because then you are back in a situation where you are receiving your glory from man and not from God and you lose your God-power.
- In verse 7, he reminds us not to use vain repetitions in prayer like the hypocrites in the synagogue's. The best example of this can be found in the Catholic faith. For example, Hail Mary and all those other prayers they say with prayer beads, which by the way is also against the will and instruction of our Father. It is an idol and the ten commandments say: "Thou shall make no graven image, nor should you bow to or worship any." (Exodus 20:4)
- He tells us how to pray. Study and meditate on the words of the Our Father Prayer and get some deeper insight to the message Yeshua is giving us in the words of this prayer. You will be amazed as what you may have missed over many years of reciting it. The main points are that he specifies we are to pray to the Father and not to him and at the end he tells us why God will answer our prayer. He says it's because we are the kingdom which belongs to Yah, our power is Yah's power, and we glorify Yah. (Mat 6:8-13)
So, in other words, Yeshua says we are earthly representations of Him, so it is good for him to give us what we asked for in the rest of the prayer.

- We must forgive others, because our Father will only forgive us to the extent that we forgive others. (Mat 6:14-15)
- Fast for our Father and not for man. Do not try to make it obvious that you are fasting... The point is that we should not have need for man to know that we are fasting if we are truly doing for the Most High God. (Mat 6:16-18)
- Don't let your goal be to save money and accumulate things, because when you do that you are manifesting that your god is those things and your trust is in those things, rather than in Yah. (Mat 6:19-21)
- The entrance way for light and darkness (good and evil) is your "eye", which is ultimately your mind. The moment you allow evil into your mind it has the tendency to take over everything that you are, but when you let only light in, it will also takeover who you are and you will become light, goodness, and purity. (Mat 6:22-23)
- You cannot serve money, things, this world, man, and God. Either you will love the things of this world and hate God or love God and hate the things of this world.
Some would beg to differ, but in verse 24, Yeshua says something else that brings clarity to this. He says, you will hold on to one and despise the other. The Greek word used for despise is *kataphroneō* which also means "think little or nothing of". (Mat 6:24)

So what he is really saying is that you will forsake or abandon one for the other. This is because they are opposite, you can't have and not have something at the same time, yes cannot mean no, and evil cannot be good.

We have forsaken our God in order to hold on to the world (the devil), but to attain Yah's fullness and receive His glory, we have to forsake the world and hold on to Him. Otherwise, all we have and will ever have will be a result of the being in the world which is all temporary. When you hold on to Yah, all that you have becomes a result of being in Him and will last an eternity.

- Finally, he teaches us to have faith and tells us who we are. We are children of the Most High God, the creator of all things. He knows what we need and will give it to us freely when we began to rely on him for it. As long as we live to attain the things of this world, we will get those things that are of this world which aren't the things of God. When we live to attain the things of God we get the things of God, everything we need, and all those things he chooses to give us that are of this world. (Mat 6:25-33)
- In verse 34, he infers that even the things we need are evil - food, drink, and clothing. When you think about it, it is for these things that we forsake God. He is not saying that we should not eat, drink, and wear clothing, but that because we are both spirit and human we must have them and therefore we must rely on God to provide them. The moment we began living for these

things they become our god, but when we live for God, God provides the things that He knows we cannot live without.

- Main lesson is to **Put Yah First!**

Deep Thought:

1. Do you ever forsake God to hold on to the world? Yes or No
2. Are you ready to take the next step of grabbing hold of God and forsaking the world? Yes or No
3. Is the amount of money in the bank more important to you than the amount of God-knowledge in your mind or the amount of God in you? Yes or No
4. What is more important to you (based on your action, not your thought) than being on God's team? _____
5. What are you going to do to become more like Yah and less like the world? _____

Final Thoughts:

Yeshua teaches us that the “world” seeks things of the world, while the children of God are to seek the things of God in the manner opposite of the world and will be provided with worldly necessities.

See we are not of this world – we being Israel. We are a chosen generation of God's people who embody God's spirit, made possible by the teachings and example of Yeshua. We can, have, and will achieve the impossible, manifest the supernatural, and overcome the indescribable. And it is by this Spirit of God given to us by God that makes it all possible.

Did you know that we were never of this world? Even as we live among those of this world and we err in our ways by being like them, we are all eventually to be converted, transformed into our true nature, which is the nature of God. Once the elect is all converted, Revelations tells us that the sky will roll away and the earth will be destroyed and vanish. God is waiting on you to become like Christ, to take your place as his son or daughter. He is waiting on you to, like Yeshua the Messiah, overcome sin and death and step into your eternal Truth, your eternal life.

As we continue to study the teachings of the 12 disciples, you will come to better understand this principle.

Until then, think about all the things you have made your god and decide if they are what you want to be your god, or if you want a limitless God who can give you all the things of this world because they belong to him. He can and will give you true joy, peace, and love that fulfills you in every way, but you must first seek him and forsake the world by becoming righteous. As a child of the Most High, you cannot afford to choose this world over your heavenly Father. He is offering you everything, including the opportunity to be like Him and all you have to do is serve Him and Him alone.

See when you forsake the world, none of it means anything to you, but it does not mean that God won't still give you "things", those things just cannot be what is important to you. You can still love your spouse, family, friends, just not more than you love Him. You can still have a comfortable home, career, etc., but these must only be the result of your spiritual walk with Him and not the goal of your walk.

What Yeshua is saying is stop caring about all the stuff the devil wants you to care about and care about your Father to whom all these things belong and He will give to you freely when you are devoted to only to Him.

P.S. If you have questions, ask. If you don't have questions than share what you've learned in the discussion group so you can help others to understand.