



Target Practice

Did Yeshua accept the authority in which the Rabbis spoke?

Atten'–Hut!

Last week's "Target Practice" results are in!

Question: Did Yeshua accept the authority in which the Rabbis spoke?

Targets:

- A. Yes
- B. No

Bull's-eye: B

Throughout history men have been chosen, elected, or delegated to rule as King, President, or dictator over the subjects, citizens, and slaves of their respective geographic stronghold.

As believers living in exile, like Daniel in Babylon, we understand that until The Messiah returns and establishes the Torah as the governing constitution of the kingdom, the fallible laws and constitutions of men govern humanity in civil matters. Concerning worldly governments, we must recognize it is YHWH who ordains government and remains sovereign over them. YHWH can set up kings and take them down.

- **Daniel 2:20** *Daniel answered and said, Blessed be the name of Elohim for ever and ever: for wisdom and might are his: 21 And he changeth the times and the seasons: **he removeth kings, and setteth up kings:** he giveth wisdom unto the wise, and knowledge to them that know understanding:*

Though Daniel could not keep the Torah fully while living in exile, he still sought YHWH in prayer three times a day. While in Babylon, Daniel clearly recognized King Nebuchadnezzar as the ruling authority in the land.

- **Daniel 2:48** *Then **the king made Daniel a great man,** and gave him many great gifts, and made him ruler over the whole province of Babylon, and chief of the governors over all the wise men of Babylon. 49 Then **Daniel requested of the king,** and he set Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, over the affairs of the province of Babylon: but Daniel sat in the gate of the king.*

However, within the vastness of **religion**, many parishioners, attendees, and followers have elected, appointed, or exalted a pastor, preacher, or rabbi as their “spiritual authority.” In contrast to the worldly governments YHWH did not ordain “religion.” We as the Body of Messiah need not seek for a king, ruler or exalted one, simply because we already have **ONE!**

In the days of our Messiah, amongst the acknowledged “religious leaders” were a sect called the Pharisees. The Pharisees are the ancestors of modern day rabbinic rabbis. Within the varying sects of Judaism, rabbis regard and adhere to the traditions and commandments of men even higher than the commandments of the Almighty! This virus of mixing human tradition with the Word of YHWH was a problem in Yeshua’s day and continues to afflict the people of God today!

- **Matthew 16:6** *Then Jesus said unto them, Take heed and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees.*
- **Mark 7:8** *You leave the commandment of God and hold to the tradition of men.” 9 And he said to them, “You have a fine way of rejecting the commandment of God in order to establish your tradition!*

Throughout the Apostolic writings, the Pharisees consistently accused both Yeshua and his disciples of doing that which is “unlawful” or contrary to the traditions imposed by the Pharisaic religious leaders.

- **Matthew 12:1** *At that time Jesus went on the sabbath day through the corn; and his disciples were an hungred, and began to pluck the ears of corn, and to eat. 2 But when the Pharisees saw it, they said unto him, Behold, thy disciples do that which is not lawful to do upon the sabbath day.*
- **Mark 7:5** *Then the Pharisees and scribes asked him, Why walk not thy disciples according to the tradition of the elders, but eat bread with unwashen hands?*

Sin is **NOT** defined as one who breaks the “traditions” of the exalted man elected and self-appointed “spiritual authorities.” Sin as defined in scripture, is transgression of the Torah that was received by Moses and taught by Yeshua.

- **1 John 3:4** *Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.*

The written and living words are very clear. Additions and subtractions to the spoken instructions given by the Almighty are impermissible.

- **Deuteronomy 12:32** *What thing soever I command you, observe to do it: thou shalt not add thereto, nor diminish from it.*
- **Matthew 5:17** *Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil. 18 For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.*

Yeshua recognized the authority granted to the “worldly government.”

- **John 19:10** *Then saith Pilate unto him, Speakest thou not unto me? knowest thou not that I have power to crucify thee, and have power to release thee? 11 Jesus answered, **Thou couldest have no power at all against me, except it were given thee from above:** therefore he that delivered me unto thee hath the greater sin.*

However, regarding the self-appointed “authority” of the Pharisees whose traditions, rules and regulations ensnare, control, and dictate every aspect of one’s life, Yeshua showed no regard only disdain.

- **Matthew 15:7** *Ye hypocrites, well did Esaias prophesy of you, saying, 8 This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me. 9 But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.*

Shaul (Paul) also confronted this issue unwarranted pharisaic authority which imposed its traditions upon unsuspecting believers.

- **Colossians 2:20** *Wherefore if ye be dead with Messiah from the rudiments of the world, why, as though living in the world, are ye subject to ordinances, {rudiments: or, elements} 21 "Do not handle, do not taste, do not touch!" 22 Which all are to perish with the using;) after the **commandments and doctrines of men?** 23 Which things have indeed a shew of wisdom in will worship, and humility, and neglecting of the body; not in any honour to the satisfying of the flesh.*

We like Yeshua must take a stand every day as to who we will serve. Yeshua clearly said “he came to do the will of the Father.” In doing so, Yeshua like Shaul was not trying to win a popularity contest.

- **Galatians 1:10** *For do I now persuade men, or God? or do I seek to please men? for if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Messiah. 11 But I certify you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached of me is not after man.*

In conclusion, Yeshua, by his words and deeds, did not accept nor regard the Rabbis of his day as an authority to be obeyed. His refusal to compromise the word of Elohim for the sake of keeping the traditions and commandments of men caused the religious leaders of his day to call for his execution. He clearly “Came to do the will of the Father,” not man! To accept and incorporate the words of the Pharisees as authoritative would be to add to and take away from the spoken words of the Father!

Join with us this week as we “march” to the firing range! Adjusting our sights on the “Bull’s-eye” of truth! This week’s Firing range question is;

Question: If the Spirit leads us into all truth, does this mean the written accounts of Scripture hold no weight regarding truth?

Targets:

- A. Yes
- B. No

Until next week, **Respect all, fear none, but ONE!**

Colonel Ken Klump

