

And El Shaddai bless thee, and make thee fruitful, and multiply thee, that thou mayest be a qahal of people.
Genesis 28:3



photo by Olivia Huth

Going Before His Throne of Grace

From the Heart & Home of Bill & Rosemarie Call

Honor and Respect for the King and for Your Fellow Man

Hebrews 4:16 Therefore let us confidently approach the throne of grace to receive mercy and find grace whenever we need help.

For many years, I wrestled with this idea not because scripture says it is possible, but because of the mindset from which it was spoken or taught to me for many years that we could basically barge right into the throne room and ask for anything we would want and expect to get it. This invokes images of a spoiled child displaying no understanding.

First and foremost, He is Creator of All things. He deserves the Utmost in Honor and Respect that could possibly be afforded anyone, anywhere, anytime, anyplace!

Secondly, He is King! In our human understanding that is about as high up as our finite minds can comprehend, affording Honor to any person/personality. Still yet, although that is the most our minds can comprehend, we fail miserably in understanding what any king is to receive in that regard, let alone THE KING. We must come to understand how much higher and grander and greater the honor and respect ought to be for the Creator of All things and for the King of Kings and begin functioning in that understanding and walking in it, meaning living it!

Now, many will say they do understand how much more so we are called to give all honor and praise and worship and respect and adulation to Him above all others as He is moreover deserving of all we can give and more! There is an aspect of this that I believe we do NOT understand, at least not fully.

King and Creator and Savior and Shepherd and Servant that He is, He states in His Word that if we come before Him not knowing how to honor and respect and love and forgive our fellow man whom we can see, then we are NOT to come before Him trying to give to Him that which we cannot give to our brother.

He is so humble; even when He has the right as the Almighty and the All-Powerful from His throne to look down on us from His state of perfection, He so gently and so kindly tells us to go to our brother and try to get that lesson right on love and forgiveness, honor and respect, and then come back and try again. He offered this same opportunity to do it right to Cain who rejected it.

I must see the Image of Him in them and honor that, if nothing else. This makes the honor that I possess that I then intend to give to Him more pleasing to Him. I have then elevated the quality of my honor by honoring His image in my fellow human beings. That honor I seek to offer to Him is now pure and holy and without blemish. It is a true sacrifice to humble myself, give up my pride, lower myself and esteem another more highly than myself. My heart has been prostrated. Now, when I return to prostrate myself before Him, my whole being is in right relationship! He is so beautiful!

Some scriptures relevant to this:

Matthew 5:23-24 Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to your brother then come and offer your gift.

(continued on page 3)

Morgan County Tornado

By Tracy Grijalva

Around 8 pm on Thursday, February 6th, an EF-2 tornado tore through Morgan County. The Huth's home was at the location that experienced the most damaging winds. The tornado passed directly over their home in Deer Lodge, uprooting trees on both sides. It felt like nothing short of a miracle to see their home amidst all the destruction around. Huge trees were toppled everywhere, their workshop and barn were destroyed, and the contents of their garage were scattered. The tornado caused the garage door to blow out—yet their home remained intact, with not even a broken window. Remarkably, Sara was on her way home that night with her car full and was driving right through the storm. It was a miracle that the trees that fell across the road, blocking her path home, did not land on their vehicle. Furthermore, once they reached the point where they could go no further through the pitch-black night, Chris and the neighbors cleared a path through the debris so they could return home.

Many from the Qahal community came out this past Sunday to assist with the massive cleanup. The consistent feedback I kept hearing was that the destruction was far worse than anyone anticipated. Their property looked like a bomb had exploded; it was heartbreaking to witness. Moises was reminded of the verse from Isaiah 1:8:

"So the daughter of Zion is left as a booth in a vineyard,
As a hut in a garden of cucumbers,
As a besieged city."

It was as if everything surrounding the Huths' home lay desolate, like the withered vines of a cucumber garden around the watchman's hut. In other words, the home stood safe amidst the ruins caused by the storm, much like that hut in the cucumber garden.

Yah truly had a protective barrier around their home and vehicle, preserving all their lives while providing them a warm and sheltered place to return to. This did not go unnoticed and was one of the first things they expressed to others—how completely grateful they are to Yah for the miracle He bestowed upon them. Sara expressed how she couldn't be angry or upset; the destruction is immense, but they are alive and still have their home. The outpouring of community help and prayers has been amazing and heartfelt.

That said, the Huth family will require ongoing assistance to restore their property. Some immediate needs include getting their septic system functioning properly, rebuilding their chicken coop (the chickens are currently residing under a trampoline), recovering tools and other belongings that have been buried, cleaning up the collapsed workshop and barn, and other property cleanup tasks. If you can volunteer your time to help in any way, please reach out to Sara at 413-204-1993. The family truly appreciates all the help they have received and is incredibly thankful for the prayers.



The chicken coop was destroyed, resulting in the loss of many chickens. They also lost their pregnant cat. Please keep the kids in your prayers, as this has been particularly difficult for them since they cared for the animals.



"We had a two story shop up here that's totally flat and with my husband's machinery and every tool, tractor everything out there and that all got flattened. The hay barn up the road a little bit more on our property that also is flat. Our house is fine. We had a clean, dry, warm place to be that night. So, I mean, really, you can't be anything but thankful," said Sara.



All the large trees that stood in front of their home were bent over like straw. Furthermore, a road that once was hidden by trees is now visible.



Going Before His Throne of Grace (cont. pg 1)

Matthew 21:22 If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer.

When He gave the disciples instructions on how to pray, there was so much 'protocol' regarding how we are to pray to Yahuah, if you will. We acknowledge who He is and His due Honor to His Name and to His Kingdom and to His Authority (His Will). Only after we have done so does Yahusha say we are then able to ask for anything. And the things He said we are to ask for is our daily bread (sustenance in the physical aspect, His Word for the spiritual body) and forgiveness and deliverance. When we ask for forgiveness, it is with the understanding that we have already forgiven others who have sinned against us.

Matthew 6:9-14 This, then, is how you should pray: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name, Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from the evil one.

For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their sins, your heavenly Father will not forgive your sins.

Even after giving the protocols of how we should pray, we are given further instruction in Matthew 6 that if we seek first His kingdom, His ways, to be obedient to Him that we will not even need to pray for our needs, for He is a good Father who knows of what we need and what is good to give.

Matthew 6:33 "But seek first the reign of Elohim, and His righteousness, and all these shall be added to you."

Psalms 100:4 Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, And into His courts with praise.
Give thanks to Him; bless His Name.

This is how we are to enter into His presence! Not brazenly, not entitled. We are to acknowledge Him and His goodness He has already been to us who are undeserving. Another point, the understanding of what the word 'believe' means is much more than an intellectual acceptance, it means we demonstrate our belief in Him by our obedient actions to His instructions given to us in His Torah. So, you see, there are protocols and requirements to take our requests to Him. If we are seeking Him and His Kingdom/His ways, we learn how to walk in His righteousness and how to appropriately love Him and our neighbor. We learn that we only have the 'right' to go to Him because of Yahusha and that should humble us, not make us behave in an entitled manner. Proverbs 28:9 He that turns away his ear from hearing the law, even he has made his prayer abominable.

We also must be willing to humble ourselves before men and before the King.

Titus 3:1-2 Remind the people to be subject to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready to do whatever is good, to slander no one, to be peaceable and considerate, and to show true humility toward all men.

Philippians 2:1-11 is our Messiah's perfect example of humility. Here it is from the TS2009:

If, then, there is any encouragement in Messiah, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of Spirit, if any affection and compassion, make my joy complete by being of the same mind, having the same love, one in being and of purpose, doing none at all through selfishness or self-conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each one should look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others. For, let this mind be in you which was also in Messiah יהושע, who, being in the form of Elohim, did not regard equality with Elohim a matter to be grasped, but emptied Himself, taking the form of a servant, and came to be in the likeness of men. And having been found in fashion as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient unto death, death even of a stake. Elohim, therefore, has highly exalted Him and given Him the Name which is above every name, that at the Name of יהושע every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and every tongue should confess (Isa_45:23) that יהושע Messiah is Master, to the esteem of Elohim the Father.

Bottom line, Yahuah deserves all the Honor and Glory and Praise, but He desires that we give it and show it to one another before coming before Him to give it because if we try to give it to Him without giving it to one another it is false humility and dishonor to Him, truly. If we have bitterness and unforgiveness in our hearts, how can our hearts be full of love and honor and praise for Him? I pray each of us will take this into serious consideration and prayer, asking Him for the wisdom to understand that He will give without measure to the one who asks.

James 1:5 But if anyone is deficient in wisdom, he should ask Yahuah, who gives to all generously and without reprimand, and it will be given to him. Praise Him for all His goodness! He says that if we will just humble ourselves, seek Him, make things right with our fellow man, He has wisdom and all manner of good to bestow upon us!

He started revealing much of this to me back in 2012. I tried to rewrite what I had written back then so it wasn't quite so long, but those who know me know that's a difficult task right there... Thank you for your time and attention. Also, thank you for allowing me the grace to use the names He has put on our heart when referring to Him. I hope this blesses you and is helpful to you in your walk. Much Shalom to you and your households.

February Qahal

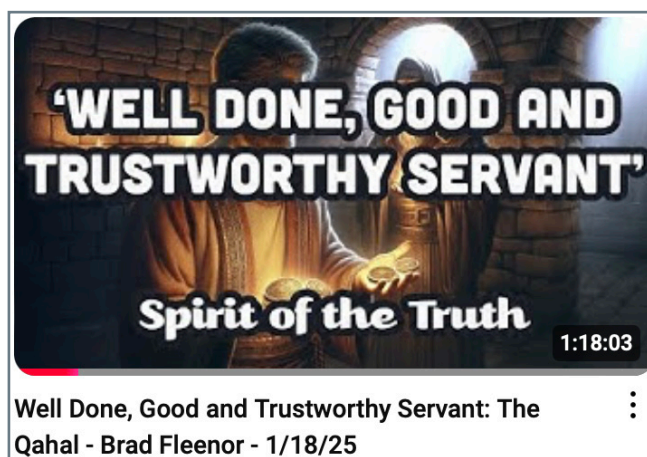
The February Qahal will be at a **new location** in Rogersville - at the Holston Electric Cooperative. This is at 1200 W. Main Street.



Qahal Recording

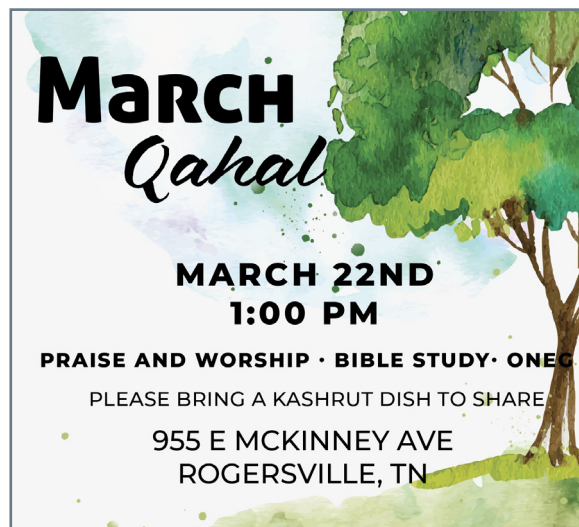
by Tracy Grijalva

With Molly behind the camera and Christine with the mic, we managed to get an excellent recording of the teaching at the January Qahal. If you missed it or would like to listen to it again, check it out here:
<https://www.youtube.com/@bereanechad>



March Qahal

Mark your calendar - the March Qahal will be back at Hawkins County Rescue Squad.



Support the Qahal

We would like to thank everyone who has supported the Qahal. Together, we have been able to reserve meeting spaces, provide costs for activities and snacks for the youth, provide paper products for eating, make songbooks, host Zoom meetings, support technology and administrative overhead, and more. We have been asked, so here is the link if you would like to support the various needs of our Qahal online. This is also where you can donate to Shalom Studios which will help pay for their filming equipment and other supplies they need. <https://theqahal.org/support/>

Midnight Lessons

By Amber Rogers

It's 12:30am, and I'm awake. Walking and bouncing a baby boy who is going through the 4-month sleep regression where his sleep cycles change from that of a baby to that of an adult. He spends half of his time crying and fussing and the other half sucking on his fingers with sleep laden eyes. Laying him down too soon only results in screaming that will wake up my husband who needs his sleep for work the next day. There are tears.... Tears of frustration, tears of exhaustion, tears of "Yah, I don't know how to parent this child you have given us." I love my son, but this is hard.

As I walk and bounce, I think. I think of the mothers before me and I wonder how they handled this. How did Eve, the first mama, handle a fussy baby who didn't want to be put down? Especially since she had no other mothers to ask for advice. How did Sarah manage with Isaac when she was in her nineties? How did Rebecca manage with twins? I think of Jacob and wonder if this sleep regression, and the incessant crying is what caused her to place her son in a basket in the river to try and save his life? All these questions dance through my mind in the wee hours of the morning.



photo by Elena Grijalva

Through it all, Yah's grace has been sufficient for me. I've leaned on Him and learned a few lessons along the way. This sleep regression is temporary. Eventually my baby won't be so little anymore, and one day he'll be a teenager who won't need his mama to help him fall asleep, but the lessons I have learned will last a lifetime. I'm trusting that the hard moments are refining me and I'm doing my best to "count it all joy" as it says in James 1:3 knowing that Yah is refining me and making me into the woman He wants me to be.

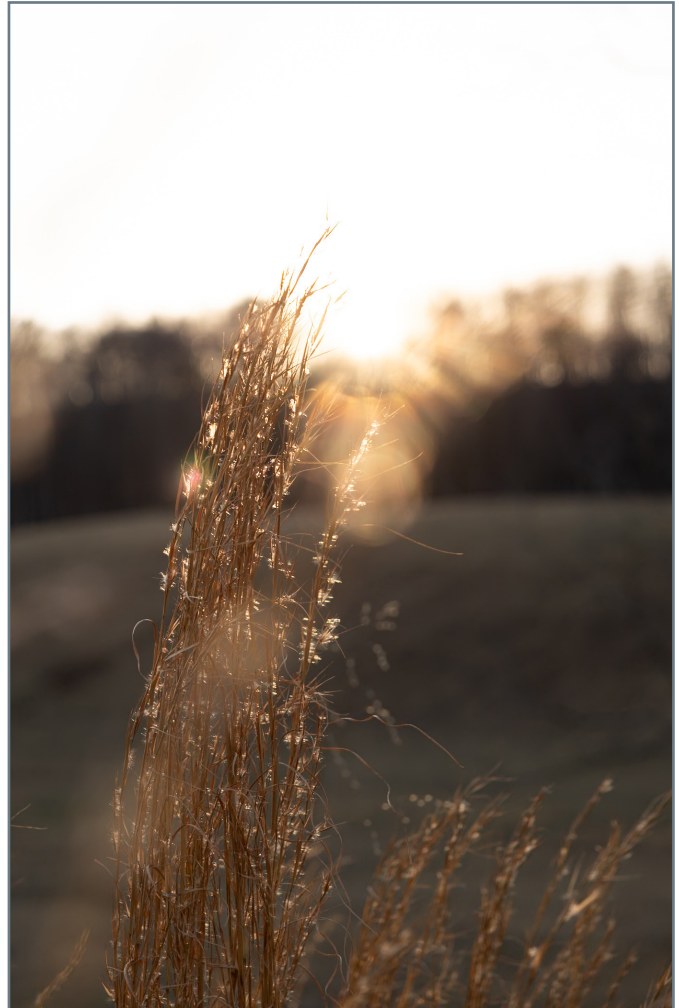


photo by Molly Fleenor

Local Fellowships

Are you interested in hosting Shabbats at your house, starting a fellowship, and need help? If you would like your fellowship to be part of the Qahal, please contact Moises @ (423) 300-2089.

Harrogate, TN

Berean Echad Fellowship

Contact: Brad Fleenor – 859.475.8658

Contact: Moises Grijalva – 423.300.2089

279 Keats Drive

Harrogate, TN 37752

bereanechad.com

Services begin at 3pm. Call or text for more information.

Roan Mountain, TN

Contact: Dan Whittaker – price1020@aol.com

Rogersville, TN

Contact: Kate Coffelt – 513.807.9654

Contact: Moises Grijalva – 423.300.2089

Rogersville, TN 37857

Services begin at 11am.

Outcomes

By Nicole Shelumiel

"For every action, there is an equal and opposite reaction." Though Isaac Newton coined this phrase to describe the concept of outcomes as demonstrated through force in the physical realm, a similar sentiment was given by the Bible long before to relate how outcomes operate in the spiritual realm. Galatians 6:7 reads "Don't be deceived: God is not mocked. For whatever a person sows he will also reap." Our choices lead to certain outcomes.

The entire book of Obadiah, a letter to the people of Esau/Edom, amounts to a single message which may be well summed up by verse 15: "The day of the LORD is near for all nations. As you have done, it will be done to you; your deeds will return upon your own head." The book begins by articulating that the people of Edom, in their pride, had considered themselves high as they created their civilization on a mountaintop. God responds with a proportional judgement, stating that He will bring them down to the lowest depths (v 3-4).

Truly the choices we make and the actions we live out in this life are not of no consequence. Each choice we make and the intention behind those choices may impact our very salvation and destinies. This principle is illustrated throughout the life of Jacob. Considering the series of events of the Biblical patriarch's life, what stands out is a seamless sequence of characters experiencing the outcomes of their actions, good or bad.

Beginning in Genesis 25, Esau's choice to trade his birthright for a bowl of Jacob's stew affects the outcome of his own destiny and the generations to follow. In one moment of weakness a decision to feed the flesh at any cost resulted in the removal of the most precious asset Esau actually possessed. Later Jacob participates in Rebecca's plan to deceive his dad into giving him Esau's firstborn blessing. Yet Esau wasn't the only one to experience the negative outcomes of these choices.

It is per the very rule of the elder child's birthright that Jacob himself is later deceived and robbed of the wife he worked for when Laban gives him the older daughter, Leah, in marriage rather than the younger Rachel. Can you imagine the dagger that must have pierced Jacob's heart when he heard the words from Laban, "It is not our custom here to give the younger daughter in marriage before the older one." Ouch. The right of the older sibling that he had schemed to work around is the very rule that came back to bite him, and Jacob was deceived in a similar manner of hidden identities with which he had deceived his own father. Even in a foreign land far from anyone who was aware of what he had done, Jacob was unable to escape justice - an important reminder for us that nothing is hidden from God's sight even if hidden from man.

Further, there is no indication in the Bible that Rebecca ever saw Jacob again after he fled from Esau's wrath over the stolen blessing. It is likely that her actions resulted in the loss of any further relationship with Jacob, which generates a sad irony to consider that her favored son would not have been present for her death and burial due to her willingness to invoke nefarious means to secure for him a favorable destiny.

We also see Laban experience outcomes in proportion to his actions. In Genesis 30-31, the scriptures indicate that Laban was stingy with payment for the labor he'd received from Jacob, changing his wages ten times, and attempting to rob Jacob of the agreed-upon "speckled and spotted sheep" by hiding them away under the care of his other sons. In response to this, God transfers Laban's wealth to Jacob by giving an abundance of speckled and spotted flock offspring. The very one from whom Laban attempted to cheat and steal wealth ends up being the recipient of all of Laban's wealth.

As the family flees from Laban, Rachel steals Laban's idol and hides it, lying to her dad. Unaware that Rachel had stolen the idols, Jacob spoke, "whoever has done this will die." Rachel indeed soon died upon giving birth to his son Benjamin, just as he had spoken. Though Laban didn't find the idols, the guilty party was known by God. Since the Bible states that the power of life and death is in the tongue, we can be assured that even the choices we make with our words wield great power which leads to certain outcomes.

Moment by moment, day by day, we are faced with the choices that will impact our destinies. What choice would we make in the moment if we were truly aware of the significant impact of the seemingly-small things? Would we choose to wake up early and spend time with the Father rather than pacify the flesh by hitting the snooze button? Would we choose to nourish our bodies with nutritious fuel rather than answer the call of our flesh to finish the last donut in the box? Would we choose to use our time being present with our families rather than allow ourselves to be distracted by the bombarding media and voices vying for our time, attention, and money? Surely all of these decisions would be easier if we could just maintain the awareness that such choices would lead to destiny-affecting outcomes.

As we see in the story of Jacob's life, every choice that we make is actually an opportunity to bring upon ourselves blessings and good gifts from our Heavenly Father, or to bring upon ourselves generational and eternal consequences. Whether we use our words to bless or to curse, or use our hands to steal or to serve - the choice is ours to make, as is the outcome.

Ladies' Get Together

by Kate Coffelt

The February Get Together was an enjoyable time of fellowship. It was a lot of fun getting to know each other better through conversation, focused prayer for particular needs, and snacks! The ladies were enthusiastic about having themes for future gatherings, such as tips for eating clean, gardening, canning, prayer disciplines, and sometimes a gathering for focused prayer and fasting. Details are still in the works for the next meetup, so keep an eye out for that announcement!



2025 Feast Days

by Tracy Grijalva

As you might now have a new wall calendar ready for important dates to be written on it, I have compiled the Feast Days that Berean Echad will observe this coming year. We recognize that many different calendars are used within this group and welcome others to share the dates they are celebrating Yah's Holy Days so we can inform the group.

Feast Day Committee

by Tracy Grijalva

I need your help! We want to enjoy wonderful times together celebrating the Feast Days this year, and that requires a bit of planning and behind-the-scenes work. If you have a talent or a willingness to help with any of the aspects of planning and executing enjoyable celebrations, please let me know. Send me a text message at 423-300-1389 or talk to me when you see me next.



New Community Page!

We have a brand new page on the website where brothers and sisters can go to find out needs within the community. If you have a need, or can fill a need please send those to: contact@theqahal.org.

<https://theqahal.org/community-needs/>

Immediate Needs:

In the wake of a devastating tornado, the Huth family needs assistance with their septic system, building a chicken coop, and other cleanup efforts. Please see page 2 for more details.

Work Available:

Bill and Rosemarie Call in Kingsport are inquiring if there's anyone in our Qahal who will be able to come monthly to mow their yard when the grass starts growing. They do not want any weed killer sprayed, unless you have a safe option not containing poisons. There's a lot of weedeating as they have a fenced in back yard that needs to be maintained inside and outside of the fence. Please give them a call at his number at 423-384-5317 if you can come see the job and discuss price per visit. Thank you!

Shalom Studios

Now that the weather is warming up, Shalom Studios will begin meeting more consistently again. We meet about every other Thursday, starting the day with a science class (currently electricity) before moving into filming episodes of Children of Israel. They have completed all the filming for Episode 1, and most of the episode is assembled. Next, they will work on the soundtrack, and hopefully, it will be released within a month. They also have some scenes from Episodes 2 and 3 ready, so things are starting to progress!

Below are some photos from the last meeting, where they learned about electric circuits and how to create batteries using copper, zinc, and an electrolyte. Although we didn't have a multimeter available, we estimate that the largest battery they made was about 9 volts! Also included are pictures of them playing gaga ball in costume and filming a scene from Episode 2! If you're interested in joining Shalom Studios, please text Tracy at 423-300-1389.



photos by Donna Reidman and Tracy Grijalva