



**Be On Track Spiritually, 2020  
(A Study to Accompany the Torah Portion Noach)  
By Moshe Schwab**

**While Praying:**

- \* Keep at life both physically and spiritually; be steady.
- \* Be prepared in life so you have your needs met.
- \* Stay on track; doing so will lead you.
- \* We need to address spiritual verities; don't allow worldly values to run your spiritual life.

**Keep at life both physically and spiritually; be steady.**

There is also a Torah study that accompanies this teaching. Have you ever let things pile up and then get stressed out trying to get things done that need to get done? That is a place we don't want to be in often. What about spiritually? We can tend to let up on our spiritual life at times so that it takes a back seat to other things in our life.

The Bible is very explicit about always being prepared spiritually. Hebrews 3:12-13 says, "Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God; but exhort one another daily, while it is called "Today," lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin." When we think about what Noach faced, we should have nothing to complain about. He was a believer surrounded by terrible sin and yet he remained faithful.

I can't imagine what Noach had to deal with. Someone I was talking to recently mentioned that we are in a spiritual battle. Thank you very much; we all need to be reminded about that. Kefa said, "For this reason I will not be negligent to remind you always of these things, though you know and are established in the present truth;" 2 Peter 1:12 NKJV. We need to be reminded often to do what is "right and good;" Deuteronomy 6:18 NKJV.

Shaul said in 2 Corinthians 10:4-5 NKJV, "For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ." Control your thoughts; they are your thoughts. Ya'akov said in James 4:7-8 NKJV, "Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts." Resist the devil; you do it; make everything you think clean spiritually. These are a couple of important scriptures for our walk with God.

**Be prepared in life so you have your needs met.**

Sometimes our spiritual walk in life can suffer because we didn't have the foresight to be prepared. Some go about life without thinking much about being secure both financially and spiritually. Of course there are other important things we should do too, but those are two major areas of life we need to take care of. It would be difficult to sustain life as we should if we are careless with our finances. It would be difficult to live like we should without being committed spiritually.

Shaul uses some strong language about taking care of ourselves. "But if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever." 1 Timothy 5:8 NKJV. We already talked about the urgency of taking care of ourselves spiritually.

Yeshua said we are to seek doing what is right; that is what righteousness means. "But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness; Matthew 6:33 NKJV. Leviticus 11:44 NKJV says, "For I am the LORD your God. You shall therefore consecrate yourselves, and you shall be holy; for I am holy." In order to be holy, you have to act holy. Some say you can be right or holy without acting that way. That's just ridiculous. Those that thing that way are just blind leaders of the blind.

### **Stay on track; doing so will lead you.**

The Bible says that doing things God's way will actually help you to live longer. "Therefore you shall be careful to do as the LORD your God has commanded you; you shall not turn aside to the right hand or to the left. You shall walk in all the ways which the LORD your God has commanded you, that you may live and that it may be well with you, and that you may prolong your day;" Deuteronomy 5:32-33 NKJV. Stay on track; don't go off to the left or right. Do what God says.

People can be extremely dedicated to success. I once heard about this lady who was working 70 to 80 hours a week for her job. That is a lot of work just to be successful at what you do. Be dedicated to God and not just fiscal success. The Bible says that God's commandments make us wise and understanding (Deuteronomy 4:6). Proverbs 20:15 NKJV says, "There is gold and a multitude of rubies, but the lips of knowledge are a precious jewel.

### **We need to address spiritual verities; don't allow worldly values to run your spiritual life.**

Don't we want truth and not just made up doctrine. We read scriptures like where Yeshua said, "And in vain they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men;" Matthew 15:9 NKJV. Man-made doctrine that is micromanaging, just ritual, or ridiculous commandments are not God's commandments. So, don't make them into commandments of God.

Colossians chapter 2 is about not keeping commandments of men. Keep God's commandments and not all the extra misapplied commandments of men. Shaul said, "Which all concern things which perish with the using — according to the commandments and

doctrines of men? These things indeed have an appearance of wisdom in self-imposed religion, false humility, and neglect of the body, but are of no value against the indulgence of the flesh;" Colossians 2:22-23 NKJV. What's the context? Commandments of men. So don't judge others on the extra man-made commandments.

What's really important? Shaul said that much of religious ritual doesn't help us to keep God's commandments. In fact, they can make it more difficult. Also, watch out for people who read into the scriptures and come up with all kinds of ideas. They can make the Bible deep and difficult.

And, its not true that it is too hard to keep God's commandments. It's hard to keep lots of non-essential man-made commandments though. About God's commandments: "For this mitzvah which I am giving you today is not too hard for you, it is not beyond your reach; Deuteronomy 30:11 CJB. So those who say it's too hard to keep the Old Testament commandments are just making that up. 1 John 5:3 CJB says, "For loving God means obeying his commands. Moreover, **His commands are not burdensome.**" Yochanan is referring to Deuteronomy 30:11 (There was no New Testament yet.)

### **Finally**

Noah was a man who did what was right and saved the world. People who foreshadow the Messiah are said to be a Messianic type. We now have archaeological evidence for the existence of Noah's Ark in Turkey. We have found Noah's Ark; it seems the stones cry out that God is indeed there (the petrified ruins of Noah's Ark are a witness to us; <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IoTkguzRaCU&t=212s>). Like Noah, we need to be faithful to keep God's commandments. We should stand strong and work hard at doing what is right. Resist the devil and draw near to God. Take care of the matters of life and our spiritual lives. Stay on track spiritually; God is an important part of our lives. Hang on to spiritual truth and live for God.