



**#36 Beha'alotecha Numbers 8:1-12:16**  
**Torah Teaching and Teaching, God is Still Involved with His People**  
**By Moshe Schwab**

We talked last week a little about the Aaronic blessing in last weeks portion.

**Numbers 6:24-27 NKJV**

"The LORD bless you and keep you;  
The LORD make His face shine upon you, and be gracious to you;  
The LORD lift up His countenance upon you, and give you peace.  
So they shall put My name on the children of Israel, and I will bless them."

God's help and protection is truly wonderful. The first line of the prayer and something we all need. That in itself is a tremendous blessing.

It then asks for God's glory to look on us and bless us. This implies that God imparts His supernatural blessings. How wonderful it is to know that we have a God that watches out for us and does good things for us. That is truly wonderful; we are a truly blessed people.

Then the prayer asks God to look on us and give us peace. One of the greatest gifts of life is having peace and satisfaction in life. People often search for this in life in many different worldly and even sinful ways. Just when they think they achieved satisfaction in life, their life is disrupted. They should have looked for God's peace in life.

We could call these pronouncements or edicts of our King and God, and we need to believe in them in order to receive them. Sometimes they are called promises of God. Numbers 23:19 NKJV says, "God is not a man, that He should lie." Believe and have faith in what God tells us. Claim His edicts. God says He will bless us, so believe it.

There are many scriptures in the Old Testament portion that promise us blessings. The people who say that the Old Testament is harsh, are reading a wrong understanding of the scriptures into the Bible. The Old Testament demonstrates God's love and care for mankind through His good commandments and blessings (they are "right and good" – Deuteronomy 6:17-18). Wrong understandings can lead to a sinful belief system.

Some belief systems tell us to believe in God, but are very weak in understanding the Bible properly. Some people teach there are no eternal consequences for sin. They do not think that scriptures like the following apply to them. Revelation 21:8 NKJV, "But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall

have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone." It is very clear, isn't it; there is a hell (lake of fire) and those who live a life of sin are going there.

False teachers ignore scriptures they do not want to believe in. Yeshua said in Matthew 7:21-23 NKJV, "Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness.'" This has to be talking about believers; they are prophesying and bringing to pass miracles and healings in the name of God.

Because of wrong teaching, many people will end up in the lake of fire because they are living sinful lawless lives. We need to hear this over and over because of the pervasive wrong teaching of our time that is out there. If you have left churches or ministries that do not have a strong grasp of correct biblical truths such as this, be glad. They are sending people to eternal death and the lake of fire through their wrong teaching. They may say they believe in God and the Bible, but they are not following what the Bible says and therefore, they do not believe in God.

We need to examine our lives and expel boxed religious doctrine that is not biblical. We all have different backgrounds and we have applied those to life including doctrines taken out of context and their Jewish biblical context. Also, we may find it confusing to find out that we have been taught man-made doctrines.

Take Colossians chapter 2 for example which is about not following misapplied man-made doctrines. Colossians 2:8 NKJV, "Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the **tradition of men**. Colossians 2:21-22 NKJV, "Do not touch, do not taste, do not handle, which all concern things which perish with the using — according to the **commandments and doctrines of men**."

What is the context? It is about doctrines of people and not God.

Commandment of God— keep Shabbat as a day of rest instituted by God in Genesis 2:3 NKJV, "Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made." Shabbat is our Friday at Sunset to Saturday at sunset.

Commandment of men — keep Sunday the day of the sun god Mithras.

**By simple context**, Colossians 2:16 NKJV tells us not to judge people by man-made laws! "So let no one judge you in food or in drink, or regarding a festival or a new moon or sabbaths."

Commandments of men — you cannot turn on a light on the day of rest because that is somehow the work of creating a fire; you cannot open an umbrella on Shabbat because you are putting up a structure.

The context is that we are not to judge others by how they keep Shabbat. That is between them and God. We are to rest on Shabbat. There is a tendency to judge what others do. Perhaps you won't pick up a pencil on Shabbat because that is something you do for work, but

for someone else, they will pick up a pencil to relax and draw on Shabbat. Be careful not to make excuses to work though! I will talk to God about even doing emergency work on Shabbat. If I can put it off, **I will not do it.**

People will tell me it doesn't matter if we keep Shabbat and they base their decision on the misinterpretation of Colossians 2. It is not about, not keeping God's commandments; it is about not keeping commandments of people.

They are not understanding the context. The context is about "commandments and doctrines of men;" man-made doctrines. It should be easy to understand, but they have been blinded by false theology. The book of James 1:25 translated from the Hebrew reads, "But anyone who observes himself by the whole Torah, which is the instruction of the Examiner, and stands in Torah, not hearing it (the Torah) in forgetfulness, for if he works the work, his happiness is in his actions."<sup>1</sup>

The Greek manuscripts added "law of liberty" to that verse to make their belief system into a pagan religion so they would not have to keep God's feasts, but instead their own feasts – that is heresy! The Romans Empire then made it illegal to keep God's feasts. We have inherited lies. Jeremiah 16:19 NKJV says, "The Gentiles shall come to you from the ends of the earth and say, "Surely our fathers have inherited lies." Do not let your pride get in the way of truth.

Teach others how to understand and apply the Bible. Tell them not to be confused by wrong teaching. All we can do sometimes is appeal to people's ability to use good sense and understanding the Bible the way it was originally intended. For example, do not follow the added commandments of men (or subtract from God's commandments), instead follow the commandments of God. People have learned the **commandments of men** as though they are commandments of God. Deuteronomy 4:2 NKJV, "You shall not add to the word which I command you, nor take from it, that you may keep the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you."

Sometimes when I tell people I keep Shabbat, they ask me if I am Jewish. Shabbat and all God's feasts are God's feasts, not just Jewish feasts. Leviticus 23:2 NKJV, "The feasts of the LORD, which you shall proclaim to be holy convocations, these are My feasts."

What is good comes from God; what is from man is often worldly. God's commandments are for our good. Also, God created the earth and the good things we need to live.

Deuteronomy 10:13-14,16 NKJV

Keep the commandments of the LORD and His statutes which I command you today **for your good**? Indeed heaven and the highest heavens **belong to the LORD your God, also the earth with all that is in it.** ... Therefore circumcise the foreskin of your heart, and be stiff-necked no longer.

God is good and is the creator of good things; **He has provided His good commandments** for us and **provided good things for us so we can live.** We are to cut off the worldly ways from our hearts. Shaul quotes Deuteronomy 10:16 in the New Testament. People read his quote and think that because we are to circumcise our hearts, the Old Testament is done away with.

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<sup>1</sup> Dr. Miles R. Jones, [The Epistle of James \(Ya'akov\), a Translation from the Hebrew](#), p. 24.

He is quoting the Old Testament to make a point. Over and over we see verses from the Old Testament quoted in order to instruct us on how to live. That is because we are to understand and keep God's good commandments from the Old Testament.

God's ways are not a cartoon that we can ignore and just go on doing things our own way.

Proverbs 14:12,14 NKJV

There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death. ... The backslider in heart will be filled with his own ways, but a good man will be satisfied from above. The simple believes every word, but the prudent considers well his steps.

Do what God tells us to do; don't just do what you want to do; be satisfied in doing things God's way; don't be mindless (simple) and do what people say or do something to get attention for doing it; be sensible and watch your step so you do what is "right and good;" and so you don't go to the lake of fire.

### **Torah Teaching**

Beha'alotecha means, "when you set up." The portion Beha'alotecha begins with instructions about the menorah for the Mishkan (Tent of Meeting). The Menorah is shaped like a tree and it gives light to the inside of the Mishkan. The Torah is referred to as a tree of life that gives us light because it gives us wisdom and understanding. Just as the menorah gives light to the Mishkan, the Holy Spirit gives light to believers in Yeshua.

The ancient rabbis will speculate on things written in the Bible. There are seven lamps for the menorah and there are seven words to the beginning of Genesis. These are interesting ideas, but they are just ideas. The rabbis make up quite a few of these diversions. The base of the menorah is the root of the tree and represents God. It has three legs. Why not four or just one? Perhaps this represents Yĕhōvâh, Yeshua, and the Ruach Hakodesh. Just like the Shema says Yĕhōvâh, Eloheinu, Yĕhōvâh echad – God, God, God is one.

The L'vi'im (Levites) were then cleansed and then the people of Israel laid hands on them; the Levites were a wave or elevation offering for Israel so the Levites would serve Israel at the Mishkan. Israel observed the Passover, but some were unclean; those who were unclean were to observe the Passover the next month on the 14th day of the second month. A cloud covered the Mishkan during the day and at night it appeared as fire. The cloud would give Israel relief from the heat during the day and warm them at night.

When the cloud moved Israel would break camp and follow it. The portion then describes what they did for each type of trumpet blast from the two silver trumpets. They were a large group of people, so they needed signals for how to proceed when the cloud moved. They used the trumpets to signal when the next tribe was to begin moving and for other purposes like for war and for the feasts. This teaches us we need order in what we do.

In the second year on the twentieth day of the second month (the 20th of Iyar) the portion describes how Israel set out. The very same prayer that is said before the procession of the Torah scroll in synagogues is in this portion starting in Numbers 10:35. It then says the people were complaining and it angered the Lord. The spirit of God rested on the 70 elders and also

two others. In response to the two others that prophesied, Moshe said that he wished all the Lord's people were prophets.

The Lord sent them quail, but the Lord struck them with a plague for their complaining. They had cattle to eat that they brought with them. Aaron and Miryam speak against Moshe and Miriam is stricken with snow white scales. Moshe speaks to God on her behalf and she is healed; she must remain outside the camp for 7 days. The cloud did not move for 7 days, so Israel remained encamped for 7 days while Miryam remained outside the camp. They moved on after she returned and the cloud began moving. Perhaps this a picture of the patience and mercy of God. They all waited so perhaps this teaches us to have patience with others.

Also, it says that Moshe saw the likeness of God (יהוה) in Numbers 12:8. God appeared to and talked to Abraham in Genesis 18:33 which says that Yĕhōvāh (יהוה) went His way after talking to Abraham. God talked with Adam in the Garden of Eden. God appeared to Jacob and the Bible says that God appeared to Isaac as well. God can appear as a man; He can do what He wants. The Messiah is to be from the line of David and God – Jeremiah 23:5-6.<sup>2</sup>

We see Israel as a nation laying on hands so the L'vi'im (Levites) would serve them. There is an apparent transference taking place by this laying on of hands and that is what the laying on of hands is for. We especially see this on Yom Kippur when the priest atones for the sins of Israel by laying hands on the scapegoat and sending it away (see Leviticus 16). As the scapegoat leaves, it signaled the atonement of Israel's sins.

They were the true believers back then and that was the way God provided for their forgiveness until the Messiah came. They knew this was a temporary Measure until the Messiah came. Similarly, we see Yeshua dying for our sins, raising from the dead and going away (until a future time when He will return).

Yeshua as God touched others and people were healed. This is a typical way of Jewish prayer. It is most often done by touching the other person's head. In the present, we often pray and lay on hands in God's name to impute God's healing, blessing, etcetera. Acts 4:29-30 is an example of this. As we lay on our hands, God stretches out His own hand to heal and bless. It is not us doing the healing; it is God doing the healing.

The Jewish procession of the Torah and the Jews following the cloud in the desert is a picture of Israel following God, it is a picture of Israel obeying (following) God, of believers in Yeshua following God, and of believers in Yeshua following the lead of the Holy Spirit. Yeshua tells us to follow Him in Matthew 16:24. He tells us to take up our execution stake. The word for "cross"<sup>3</sup> in the Greek is "execution stake" according to Strong's Greek Dictionary. This is in stark contrast to the easy believability that is being preached today. Yeshua said in Revelation 2:10 NKJV, "Be

<sup>2</sup> "Behold, the days are coming," says the LORD, "that I will raise to David a Branch of righteousness; a King shall reign and prosper, and execute judgment and righteousness in the earth. In His days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell safely; now this is His name by which He will be called THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS." Jeremiah 23:5-6 NKJV. Note the word LORD in all caps is God's name (יהוה). So the Messiah from the line of David is יהוה.

<sup>3</sup> The word "cross" may be a symbol of what Yeshua did for us, but the cross symbol has pagan origins and a cross can be used for the purposes of idolatry. "You shall not make for yourself a carved image—any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth; 5 you shall not bow down to them nor serve them;" Exodus 20:4-5 NKJV.

faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life." We are to keep God's commands and stay faithful. When you say a prayer to accept the Messiah, that is only the beginning of living out our faith. Believing in God means we are to actually act like we believe in Him and be faithful.

In this portion, Moshe says that he wished all God's people were prophets. It has always been God's intention that we fellowship with God personally. That close connection was lost when Adam and Eve sinned in the garden, but that connection has been restored to some extent now through the gift of the Holy Spirit; believers in Yeshua are commanded to receive the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:38-39). It is not true that God did not speak to His people in the Tanakh (Old Testament portion). The entire Tanakh is filled with people encountering God and God speaking to them. Some say that God does not speak any more; has he lost His voice? Remember the story of Elijah and the prophets of Baal. Elijah mocked the pagans because their pagan gods were powerless (1 Kings 18:20-40). The true God is not powerless; your denomination may be powerless, but why should He speak to a people who will not listen to Him anyway and those who just make up their own doctrine?

Also, we see dire consequences being administered by God to people who complain, have bad attitudes, or speak against God's anointed. Let us be ever mindful to avoid complaining, to avoid bad attitudes, and be careful what we say about those in authority especially our spiritual leaders. The rabbis say we should be careful not to commit lashon hara, evil speaking.

The Haftarah for Beha'alotecha is Zechariah 2:14-4:7. God says that someday He will dwell among the Israelites. We know that He literally did that when Yeshua was here and He will do it again someday. God then says that He will remove Israel's sin in one day. Yeshua did that for us when He gave Himself on the stake. The portion concludes with, "Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit," in Zechariah 4:6. The Holy Spirit is our helper to help us live right and walk with God in the here and now. We also expect that someday the Holy Spirit will keep us pure forever and we will not sin anymore. Those that do not want to live right will end up in the lake of fire for eternity.

### **God is Still Involved with His People (A Teaching to Accompany the Torah Portion)**

God's power in us can be amazing. It is important to follow God the way we are supposed to; follow God's commandments and how the Holy Spirit leads us.

The first thing we need to understand is that the Bible is God's revelation and should be our primary way how we are to be led by God. We have a whole set of commandments from the Old Testament portion that God gave us so we know how to live and behave. After we obey God's commandments, the Holy Spirit will sometimes fill in the details.

One of God's commands states that if an animal is in trouble, we are to help it (Exodus 23:4-5; Deuteronomy 22:4). This leads to understand the biblical concept of protecting the lives of both animals and people. Yeshua taught this same principle from the Torah, "Then He answered them, saying, 'Which of you, having a donkey or an ox that has fallen into a pit, will not immediately pull him out on the Sabbath day?'" Luke 14:5 NKJV. This is how we understand

that the Torah teaches us to protect life and so did Yeshua. We need to make proper applications of the Torah.

It is important to understand that Yeshua (Jesus) and Shaul (Paul) both taught appropriately applied applications of the Torah. This is not the same thing as the nonsense imposed by some that micromanages peoples' lives. We end up with some 1,050 appropriately applied commandments in the New Testament portion that was applied from the Old Testament portion. Take for example the command from the Torah to return someone's ox to them. We should understand that if anyone loses something of value and we find it, we should try to find the owner. It is not too difficult to see how this applies properly.

Also, take for example not to engage in revelry. Revelry at the time of Shaul included sexual perversion and idolatry that the Torah tells us is wrong, so it is wrong to engage in that type of revelry. This is not difficult to understand; we need to apply the Torah to our lives properly. The reason people do not understand how to apply the Torah is because most people do not know the Torah and have never been taught how to apply the Torah. I was mostly taught by my mother; she took the time to talk about various important issues the Torah teaches. Later I went on to get two engineering degrees and two Bible degrees with some work toward my doctorate. It was during my doctorate that I began my Messianic studies.

We not only need to understand how to apply the Torah, but in this Messianic age, we need to be led by the Holy Spirit. Years ago, the Holy Spirit probably saved me and my friends from injury or perhaps even death. I was driving on a main road at the outskirts of the city at night with my friends. All of a sudden, the Holy Spirit opened my eyes to a poorly marked construction hole in the road. If the Holy Spirit had not done that, I am convinced we would have been in a terrible accident.

I wasn't being reckless; I was a good driver and I took my driving seriously. First of all, it is so important to follow God's commandments; they give us life it says in Proverbs 7:2 NKJV, "Keep my commands and live, and my law as the apple of your eye." The Holy Spirit also gives life. Wow, God protecting us was an incredible blessing from God! That is the incredible great power of God at work. The Holy Spirit kept us safe and the Holy Spirit can even change the course of our lives for the better. God at times tells me not to do something and I know He is helping me or protecting me. I know my life has changed course for the better through His commandments and the Holy Spirit. You could say that God empowers us. The Holy Spirit is our super power. If you want a super power, believe on the Messiah Yeshua. Also, think about it; since we are to protect life, doing things safely and caring about others is a properly applied commandment of God.

We may feel small and insignificant at times, but we should stand strong in our spiritual walk in what we do and wherever we are.

At times, we can be truly humbled as a result of God's goodness. Sometimes though we may feel as though we are unimportant. The world is so immense and there is so much going on. Moshe (Moses) was responsible for perhaps some 2 million people. Could you imagine feeling the weight of all that as you looked across the Sea of Aqaba and wondered where you would go; and by the way, the Egyptian army was bearing down on you and the people? Then the Sea parts and the people get across safely with walls of water on each side of you. Exodus 14:29

NKJV says, "But the children of Israel had walked on dry land in the midst of the sea, and the waters were a wall to them on their right hand and on their left." God can do and will do amazing things. Talk about super powers! 1 Timothy 6:12 says to, "Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life;" So, stand strong no matter what so that you can take hold of eternal life.

Work on your personal life and spiritual life. Do not falter in these areas because they affect each other. Most of life is just taking care of the day to day and taking care of ourselves and those most near and dear to us. We understand from the Torah that we are to take care of ourselves and protect life. When we do not take care of ourselves properly, we are not keeping God's commandments. So, taking safety seriously, not taking extreme chances or being reckless, caring about others, being protective, and all the other things we do to get by in life are also important. Of course, our spiritual life is most important. **It determines where we will spend eternity.**

Israel was trapped at the Sea, they had no water or food, and they were in the desert. The Bible says that God was teaching them a lesson and we need to learn this lesson too. Deuteronomy 8:3 NKJV says, "So He humbled you, allowed you to hunger, and fed you with manna which you did not know nor did your fathers know, that He might make you know that man shall not live by bread alone; but man lives by every word that proceeds from the mouth of the LORD." God is the true giver of life in the here and now and for eternity.

The same things that apply to our physical life apply to our spiritual life. Take our spiritual life seriously and guard it; do not let temptation overcome you or be reckless spiritually; care about the spiritual lives of those around you; protect your spiritual life; and do all the things we need to do for our spiritual life. Pray, study, and learn how to apply God's commandments and follow the Holy Spirit. Do not let darkness get a foothold. 1 John 3:4 NKJV say, "Whoever commits sin also commits lawlessness, and sin is lawlessness." The word lawlessness is the Greek word for not keeping the Torah that was used in the Old Testament Greek.<sup>4</sup> Yeshua said that at judgment time He will say to those who do not keep the Torah, "I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!" Matthew 7:23 NKJV. Again, the word lawlessness is the Greek word that means not to keep the Torah. "Yeshua came to give us victory over sin. "For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil;" 1 John 3:8 NKJV. God has given us victory through the Messiah.

God leading us is important. It may not look like much at times, but it can take rock solid form and move us in the right direction.

It seems 99% of life is just living by God's manual for life and taking care of ourselves, but then there is that one very important area of life in this Messianic age. Our lives may not look like much at times, but it can take rock solid form as we allow the work of the Holy Spirit in our life.

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<sup>4</sup> The word "nomia" is the word used for the Torah in the Greek Old Testament that was translated by 70 rabbis in the 2<sup>nd</sup> century BC. Yochanan uses the word "anomia" which is translated "lawlessness" which then means to not keep the Torah. Yochanan says not keeping the Torah is sin. Yochanan implies then that those who do not keep the Torah are of the devil, "He who sins is of the devil;" 1 John 3:8 NKJV. So, people who are saying the Old Testament is done away are not only sinning, but are doing the works of the devil according to Yochanan. At the judgment Yeshua will say, "Go away from me you who did not keep the Torah (lawlessness, anomia). Yeshua said, "Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets;" Matthew 5:17 NKJV. We have lost the true understanding of the scriptures because we have lost the understanding of the Jewish roots of the Bible. Yeshua (Jesus) and Shaul (Paul) were Jewish.

The Holy Spirit encourages us and moves us in the right direction. 1 Corinthians 14:1, 3 NKJV says, "Pursue love, and desire spiritual gifts, but especially that you may prophesy.... He who prophesies speaks edification and exhortation and comfort to men."

Did you know that the primary purpose for the prophetic is to build us up, encourage us, and give us hope and comfort? First, we need the prophetic of God's word. Shaul (Paul) tells Timothy, "And that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise;" 2 Timothy 3:15 NKJV. Timothy's mother was Jewish so she taught him the Old Testament scriptures. "And behold, a certain disciple was there, named Timothy, the son of a certain Jewish woman;" Acts 16:1 NKJV. Shaul was quoting the Old Testament when he said the Holy Scriptures will make you wise, "Therefore be careful to observe them; for this is your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the peoples who will hear all these statutes, and say, 'Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people;'" Deuteronomy 4:6 NKJV.

God's word and the prophetic gives us direction and encouragement. God gave Joshua a word of encouragement and said in Joshua 1:8-9 NKJV:

"This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success. Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."

Isn't that great! A lot of times God's encouragement in this verse is taken out of context. People quote, "Be strong and of good courage," and ignore the rest. Keep God's commandments; they will help you greatly! "Be strong;" don't be "afraid" or discouraged; "God is with you;" and by the way, He is with us!

Some only trust in the written word of God and then often only part of it. Joshua got encouragement from God at that moment he needed it; it wasn't written down previously. The 70 leaders of Israel prophesied in this portion. They were words that built them up, encouraged them, and gave them hope and comfort. There were two others that prophesied and Moshe said that he wished everyone would prophecy. It is God's will that we hear encouragement from Him. Shaul said to seek our spiritual gifting, and "especially that you may prophesy." We live in a Messianic age where we should be using our spiritual gifts in the body of believers. It says in Acts 2:17-18 NKJV:

And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God, that I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your young men shall see visions, your old men shall dream dreams. And on My menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days; and they shall prophesy.

That is us. We need the work of the Holy Spirit that can form us and make us strong in the Lord. We need God's word and His prophetic words that are able to literally save our lives and give us the wisdom we need for life. Isaiah 28:29 NKJV says, " This also comes from the LORD of hosts, Who is wonderful in counsel and excellent in guidance." God still speaks to us and will guide us.

God was involved with His people in the desert and He is still involved with His people. God's power is amazing and His Holy Spirit is like a super power working in us and helping those who

believe in the Messiah Yeshua. Israel followed God in the desert and that is a picture of us following God's commandments and the leading of the Holy Spirit. No matter how you feel, stand strong. Moshe led Israel out of Egypt and God can help us and lead us. Keep your life in order both physically and spiritually. Take life seriously and do not allow the devil a foothold. God's leading is important and just like He led Israel to safety from the Egyptians, His word and the Holy Spirit will lead us and help us to live wisely.