

Jesus Has a Name

Episode 26

Call Upon His Name

Yahweh Shalom – Part 2

We finished the last episode talking about our having our own built-in “Gideon altar.” What that means is that we are to understand that the ping and the uncomfortable feeling we get in our soul when we dishonor God should be a reminder that we have peace with God because of **Yahweh Shalom**. Therefore, we do not have to live in shame, failure, and defeat, and we do not need to waste our time going through the normal gyrations of vain religious expressions of remorse and repentance.

Instead, that ping, that reminder, can become to us like a trumpet shout of praise that **Yahweh Tsidkenu** makes us righteous and continues to make us righteous over, and over again as **Yahweh Shalom** is our peace declaring that **Yahweh Shammah** will never leave us nor forsake us.

This truth should lead us to be **willing** to let **Yahweh Adonai, Yahweh Raah, Yahweh Mekoddishkem**, and **Yahweh Qanna** do what they deem necessary to cause us to abide in this peace.

Willingness

Throughout this podcast, I keep saying that **Yahweh** is fundamentally looking for us to be **willing**; willingness is our work of faith. If we are willing, He will transform us into His image in His timing.

All of that begs the questions, how do we become **willing**? Well, that is a job of the Holy Spirit, as He is the one who works within us to will and to do.¹ Our will is simply not adequate, our willingness must be a fruit of His work in our lives. With that said, we must choose to exercise our personal sovereignty and **choose** to be willing to let Him cause us to be willing. Sounds a bit circular, doesn't it?

As we have been learning, to take a risk on the name of Jesus and bet our lives upon His name,

¹ *Philippians 2:13*

Jesus Has a Name

Yahweh, we must be convinced that it is safe and that it is good, otherwise, we will self-protect and only kind-of be willing. That is why we are exploring the intimate details of His name in order that we might come to know **WHY** we can trust Him (why it is safe) and **HOW** to trust Him.

So, what does “**willingness**” look like? Simply said, **Yahweh** asks us to *present our bodies as a living sacrifice*, thereby letting Him do what He needs to do and slay what He needs to slay to secure and stabilize us in Him as one of the chosen. “**Willingness**” is in effect a free will offering. It is not a duty, it is not a compulsion, and it is not an obligation; rather, it is a relational reciprocation to the invitation He has extended for us to be transformed into the image of the Son.

Oddly enough, in the Levitical law, a free will offering is the only offering where an imperfect animal, with defects, was an allowable offering to **Yahweh**. A person could present an ox or a lamb with a stunted or overgrown part of its body as a free will offering. Yet, all other types of offerings required an animal without defects.²

The imagery is clear, **Yahweh** does not require us to be perfect to present ourselves to Him. Jesus was the only perfect sacrifice, and His sacrifice achieved all that it was intended to accomplish.³ In turn, He just asks us to be **willing** to make a free will offering, defects and all.

How do we know we have been **willing**? Well, that is an easy one to figure out. When **Yahweh** goes to war against us, for us. In His jealousy, **Yahweh Qanna** and **Yahweh Mekoddishkem** will go after everything that competes with **Yahweh** being our **I AM**, and absolutely nothing or no one in our lives is sacred to Him except for our personal sovereignty (our right to choose to be **NOT** willing). He goes to war against the deepest parts of our soul that find strength, solace, and resource in the **ME**—our self-love, self-pity, self-reliance, self-protection, and abundance of personal wisdom.

Willingness often feels like we must have done something wrong or that we could have and should have done more for God. But that is not the case. **Yahweh Qanna** is just taking what belongs to Him and doing what is necessary for Him to free you from yourself so you can be found

² See *Leviticus 22:23*

³ See *Hebrews 13:14; John 19:30*

Jesus Has a Name

to be free in His love. **Yahweh Mekoddishkem** is just separating you from your *flesh*, especially your *religious flesh*, so you are set apart for Him and Him alone. But make no mistake, when He goes to war, it totally sucks, and it is extremely hard to understand because He does not always announce what He is doing beforehand. Moreover, He uses all our brokenness, all our sin, and all our issues to accomplish His goal of personal possession.

Often, He just suddenly strikes and tears things apart, and our life becomes a bloody mess, and we have no idea what is happening. In addition, most of those around us do not understand war, they do not understand that it is a good thing, for we have been **willing** to let God have His way with us. They tend to look at what we do wrong and judge us instead of walk with us.

And, honestly, most of us do not actually grasp what it meant when we made that freewill offering, but we made it. After all, no one likes having their lives torn apart, having their sin and defects strewn all over the altar for everyone to see. It is humiliating. And remember, nothing is sacred to **Yahweh Qanna** except our personal sovereignty.

Then add to the pain and horror that in the mess of this war, it seems that people we thought loved us tend to pull away, judge us for our wrongs, and tell us what more we can do for God or should have done for God, or what sin we should not have committed.

This is what **willingness** looks like. As I said, it sucks; but that is the nature of a freewill offering and the nature of a God whose name is jealous. So, do not be dismayed when you find yourself in war. Let these words of truth come back to you and give you solace, always remembering that **Yahweh Shalom** has made peace with you and the Father and the work which **Yahweh Qanna** and **Yahweh Mekoddishkem** are doing is about helping you know and experience that peace throughout your being, in your heart, mind, soul, and strength.

The Godhead of Peace

In the last episode, I mentioned that this name **Yahweh Shalom** is appropriated by all members of the Godhead.⁴ For instance, regarding the Father, we are told, “Now the God of peace, who brought up from the dead the great Shepherd of the sheep through the blood of the

⁴ *Philippians 4:9; 1 Thessalonians 5:23; Romans 15:33, 16:20; 2 Thessalonians 3:16*

Jesus Has a Name

eternal covenant, even Jesus our Lord equip you ...” Hence, the Father is the God of peace.⁵

Regarding the Son, “For a child is born to us, a son is given to us. The government will rest on his shoulders. And he will be called: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His government and its peace will never end.”⁶

And regarding the Spirit, a fruit or an expression of the Spirit is peace.⁷ Moreover, the Spirit is frequently likened to a symbol of peace, the dove.⁸

What this means is that all the time we are safe with the Father, we are safe with the Son, and we are safe with the Holy Spirit, even when our lives are being torn to shreds, for **Yahweh Shalom** makes us safe and has bound us in peace. We need to remember this when we are enduring the natural results of our **willingness** to be a living sacrifice. Despite the war and mess, despite the sin and the humiliation, we have peace with **Yahweh!**

Perfect Peace

There is a familiar verse in *Isaiah*, which we should talk about, that speaks of **Yahweh** keeping us in perfect peace, “You will keep in perfect peace all who trust in you, all whose thoughts are fixed on you!”⁹ Can you imagine, not just peace, but perfect peace?

Confession time. Usually, when I read a verse like this, I tend to do a temperature check, and ask, “do I have that peaceful easy feeling,” with no anxiety, worry, fear, or any other “non-peaceful” feeling that gets me down? Needless to say, I figured this verse was a nice verse, beautiful, idyllic, but I clearly must be doing something wrong for it does not seem to apply to me. Obviously, I must not trust Him enough or think of Him enough, or fix my thoughts on Him enough, or whatever enough, because I did not always have that peaceful easy feeling. Maybe I need to discipline myself more, watch less TV, and read and pray more.

Honestly, I am amazed at how quickly I tend to resort to my own law and the lens of what I must do—through the **work of my hands**—or what I must **NOT** do according to the disciplines of

⁵ *Hebrews 13:20-22*

⁶ *Isaiah 9:6-7*

⁷ *Galatians 5:22*

⁸ *Matthew 3:16; Mark 1:10; Luke 3:22; John 1:32*

⁹ *Isaiah 26:3*

Jesus Has a Name

a good Christian. It is terrible how deep religion still runs through my veins. But I have to say that I do get a chuckle out of my ridiculousness.

With that said, I decided to dig in and study to figure out if my expectations of that peaceful easy feeling were accurate or not. Come to find out that “all who trust” and “whose thoughts are fixed” are both *passive participles*. What that means is that it is a work which God must do in our lives for us (hence, the use of the *passive voice*) and it is something He must sustain over, and over again (the *participle*). This is not our responsibility, it is His.

Maybe a way to look at it is that those who allow God to do this work in Him, to cause them to trust, to cause them to have obsessive thoughts of Him, will experience this perfect peace. But I do not believe the Spirit is talking about a peaceful easy feeling were nothing gets us down (although there is some of that), but He is addressing that assurance of being perfectly joined together with **Yahweh** without conflict or anything that interferes with our relationship.

Once again, our job is **willingness**, and His job is everything else. **Yahweh Shalom** will keep in perfect connectedness those who let **Yahweh** cause them to trust in Him and those who let **Yahweh** cause them to think obsessively about Him the way He does about us.

This is the peace which surpasses all comprehension.¹⁰ It is **NOT** a feeling so much as it is the reality—a confidence—that even when we sin and are not doing things right, that sin does not separate us from the Father for the Son died for all our sin once and for all. There no longer remains any need for remorse, penance, or punishment. The Son took all of that on His back.

Far too often we look to feelings to validate what we believe, and that is putting the cart before the horse. However, if we practically choose to trust in the name **Yahweh** and continually choose to live by trusting in the name, there will be times when our feelings catch up to our belief and they will be in glorious alignment. Those times are awesome, precious, powerful, comforting, joyful, and for me at least, I never want them to end.

Turning Away (Apostasy)

Yahweh Shalom promises that there is nothing that separates us from the Godhead of peace,

¹⁰ *Philippians 4:7*

Jesus Has a Name

for the sin that once separated us has been removed once and for all.¹¹ Hence, this is the reason why the issue of sin is no longer an issue of sin between God and man. Jesus literally died for the sins of the entire world¹² such that **Yahweh** now uses sin merely as a teaching tool to show us where it is that we do not trust in His name. It is a tool to help us become willing.

However, even though there is no longer any separation, as is true in any mutual relationship that requires reciprocation, we can choose to walk away from Him. We can choose to love ourselves and our religion (all our lawless deeds) instead of Him. That is what personal sovereignty empowers us to do.

We have already examined this in connection with legalism and the “called” of God—those sons in the kingdom who are now choosing to be living like a slave, in accordance with the ways of the son of the bondwoman. The “called” will find themselves cast into outer darkness where there is wailing and gnashing of teeth. We discussed this in *episodes 17-20* when we studied the name **Yahweh Mekoddishkem**. If you missed those episodes, I encourage you to go to *threshermediagroup.com* and listen to these critical podcasts.

Those who love the law (whether the law, my law, their law, or anyone’s law), have been cut off from Christ and **have fallen** from grace, just like those Jesus addressed in His letter to the church at Ephesus—they had fallen.¹³ Their fate is like those who perform all manner of religious (yet lawless) deeds **in His name**: prophecy, casting out demons, and the working of many miracles. **Yahweh** will say to them, “I never knew you, depart from me you who practice lawlessness.”¹⁴ And this is even though they did all this amazing, supernatural, and glorious work **IN HIS NAME**.

Ironically, this belief that we can in anyway be justified, accepted, or blessed because of what we do, by the **work of our hands**, is in fact lawless or illegal, for such deeds are not required to be right with God. They never have been and never will be. Our acceptance by the Father has always been by grace through faith.¹⁵ This is the baseline fabric of our relationship: grace through

¹¹ *Romans 6:10; Hebrews 10:10; 1 John 3:5*

¹² *John 1:29; 3:16; 1 Peter 3:18; 1 John 2:2, 4:10; Isaiah 53:6*

¹³ *Galatians 5:2-4; Revelation 2:4-5*

¹⁴ *Matthew 7:22-23*

¹⁵ *Acts 15:11; Galatians 2:16; Ephesians 2:5, 8; 3:12, 17; Philippians 3:9*

Jesus Has a Name

faith—100% of what God gives through our willingness to bet our lives upon the truth.

In fact, legalism reveals that we are not now believing in the work of the cross, in the peace that **Yahweh Shalom** has made for us with the Father. Legalism, though often subtle yet so deadly, reveals that we are living like Ishmael the child of the bondservant (Hagar) and not like Isaac, the child of promise from the freewoman (Sarah). And the child of the bondservant will not inherit with the child of promise.¹⁶ These are relational delusion busters. These truths shine the light on the fact that so many who proclaim the name of Jesus do not have the God of peace abiding within their being.

Therefore, being called into the household of God does not guarantee peace; rather, betting our lives on the finished work of Jesus does, believing that **Only God is Good** and that we have nothing to offer God but our **willingness** to let Him do everything else—100%. This is the essence of grace and the requirement of faith. And even then, our willingness is enabled by the work of the Holy Spirit, as He is working in us both to will and to do.¹⁷

Now, in terms of being cut off from Christ and falling from grace, Jesus warned us that in the last days many will fall away, or apostatize, and will hate and betray one another. Many false prophets will arise and will mislead many, and the love (*agape*) of many will be caused to grow cold as people exchange lawlessness (legalism) for the truth.¹⁸ In other words, the love that is expressed when Christ is abiding in a person (as God is *agape* love¹⁹), will literally be exhausted or breathed out as a person turns away from Him and rejects His grace in exchange for the law and for their **works of the hands**.

This is much like what is described in the parable of the 10-virgins where 5 virgins let their oil (symbolic of the Holy Spirit) run out – become exhausted – and, as a result, missed the coming of the groom. They were not let into the wedding supper no matter how much or how loud they knocked, as the groom insisted that He did not know them.²⁰

¹⁶ *Galatians 4:30*

¹⁷ *Philippians 2:13; Romans 15:10; Hebrews 13:21*

¹⁸ *Matthew 24:10*

¹⁹ *1 John 4:8, 16*

²⁰ *Matthew 25:1-13*

Jesus Has a Name

The Word is clear, this great apostasy must occur and must come first before the man of lawlessness is revealed (the one who will eventually bind these apostates in a religious legalism where he is the object of their worship). This is the one who is the son of destruction, the one who opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, displaying himself as being God.²¹ He is casually known as the Antichrist.

Thus, those who love the law, those who love the rules of religion, those who are stuck with the idea that our sin is the problem and therefore it must be controlled, held accountable, cut off, disciplined, and punished, have fallen from grace.

They have in effect walked away from **Yahweh Shalom** and they have decided there is a better way to get right with God and to be blessed by God than solely through grace by faith. Sadly, those apostates will never find another way but will likely find themselves joined to the one who vainly attempts to display himself as being God.

Hence, the warning given by the Spirit in the book of **Hebrews** calling us to enter **Yahweh's** Sabbath rest where we choose to live with Him in peace. The Sabbath rest, however, is found through belief and not through following the law (anybody's law).

Hebrews 3:7-19

Therefore, just as the Holy Spirit says, "TODAY IF YOU HEAR HIS VOICE, DO NOT HARDEN YOUR HEARTS AS WHEN THEY PROVOKED ME, AS IN THE DAY OF TRIAL IN THE WILDERNESS, WHERE YOUR FATHERS TRIED ME BY TESTING ME, AND SAW MY WORKS FOR FORTY YEARS. THEREFORE, I WAS ANGRY WITH THIS GENERATION, AND SAID, 'THEY ALWAYS GO ASTRAY IN THEIR HEART, AND THEY DID NOT KNOW MY WAYS'; AS I SWORE IN MY WRATH, 'THEY SHALL NOT ENTER MY REST.'"

Take care, brethren, that there not be in any one of you an evil, unbelieving heart that falls away from the living God. But encourage one another day after day, as long as it is still called

²¹ ***2 Thessalonians 2:3-5***

Jesus Has a Name

"Today," so that none of you will be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. For we have become partakers of Christ, if we hold fast the beginning of our assurance firm until the end, while it is said, "TODAY IF YOU HEAR HIS VOICE, DO NOT HARDEN YOUR HEARTS, AS WHEN THEY PROVOKED ME." For who provoked Him when they had heard? Indeed, did not all those who came out of Egypt led by Moses? And with whom was He angry for forty years? Was it not with those who sinned, whose bodies fell in the wilderness? And to whom did He swear that they would not enter His rest, but to those who were disobedient? So we see that they were not able to enter because of unbelief.

We provoke the Spirit when we insist on any way other than His finished work on the cross. We provoke the Spirit when we insist on any way other than His life lived through ours. We provoke the Spirit when we believe it is our responsibility to be transformed into the image of Christ. We provoke the Spirit when we believe that we can be righteous and should be righteous for God. We provoke the Spirit when we believe that others can be righteous and should be righteous. We provoke the Spirit when we believe that we should have, could have, and next time we will, do things better.

Why? Because there is only one who is good, there is only one who is righteous, and only one who has made a perfect sacrifice to usher in a perfect and lasting peace—having removed all obstacles—to our letting God be our goodness in all things all the time.

But if we want to live like Ishmael a son of Hagar, He will let us. Remember, He never violates our personal sovereignty. **Yahweh Mekoddishkem, Yahweh Qanna, Yahweh Raah, and Yahweh Adonai** will do all that He must to convince us otherwise and to induce us to be **willing** to let Him have His way, His war, and His role in our lives.

But eventually, like those who perished in the wilderness never entering the Promised Land, if we continue and insist on our way and our own effort, He will swear in His wrath that we will never enter His rest and it will sound like this: **"I never knew you!"**

Horizontal Peace

The amazing thing about the peace which **Yahweh Shalom** has brought into our lives is that it

Jesus Has a Name

is not just to be a vertical experience (between us and the Father), but it is also to be a horizontal experience that is experienced with all those who are willing to bet their lives on His name.

Colossians 3:14-15

Above all, ~~clothe yourselves with~~ love, which binds us all together in perfect harmony. And let the peace that comes from Christ rule in your hearts. For as members of one body you are called to live in peace. And always be thankful.

The idea is that if the peace of Christ rules in our hearts, we do not have to bring into our relationships shame, guilt, condemnation, and that defeatist attitude which sucks the life and joy out of our relationships and spreads like a wildfire infecting everyone. When we let go of legalism and the demand that we do it right and that others do it right for us, we can walk with each other through the transformation process, without guilt, without shame, without condemnation, without division, and so on. It is how we experience this horizontal peace.

The Spirit says that above all *agape* love—for that is what binds us together (what He has done for us). But if we do not live in His love, we will never know the peace that **Yahweh Shalom** brokered for us.

After all, *agape* love and peace are personality traits or characteristics of the godhead. They are not something we can “attain” to if we do things right and they are not a spiritual discipline that we can squeeze out of our bodies. Peace and love are what we experience when the One who is peace and love lives His life in and throughout ours.

Accordingly, peace and love become our reality through the *Design Point*, where it is no longer I who live but Christ lives in me.²² Therefore, when we become stuck on what we have done or what others have done to us, we are unable to live in peace.

Yet, the peace of **Yahweh Shalom** is to bind us; it is how we keep the unity of the Spirit.²³ Let

²² *Galatians 2:20*

²³ *Ephesians 4:3*

Jesus Has a Name

me say it this way, if there is no separation between us and the Father, regardless of our sin, there should be no separation or division amongst one another because of our sin. **Yahweh Shalom** has seen to it; therefore, we simply must drop the hammer of legalism which we use to beat each other up and to separate and divide relationships between those who we think are good and those who are not.

It is time, in the name of **Yahweh Shalom**, to get rid of the shame—to throw it away. Despise the guilt, laugh at condemnation, and rub Jesus' victory on the cross in the face of all the ugly and hateful spirits that want us to live in defeat. We are called to live in peace, and it is time that we choose to bet our lives on the name of **Yahweh Shalom** and live in the peace He has made for us with the Father and with one another.

Let us erect our Gideon altar such that the pang of our sin reminds us of the fact that we have peace with God, and nothing—not even my sin—can disrupt that relational reality. And if we have peace, then we will be more likely to hear the still small voice of **Yahweh** as He shows us the pathways in which we should walk.

Let us close this episode with some of Jesus final words to His disciples. "I am leaving you with a gift—peace of mind and heart. And the peace I give is a gift the world cannot give. So, don't be troubled or afraid."²⁴

In other words, He has our backs with the Father, regardless of our failures, so we can chill and rest in this beautiful relationship of peace—the peace of **Yahweh Shalom** which surpasses all comprehension and will guard our hearts and our minds in Christ Jesus.²⁵

All this circles back around to our willingness. Sadly, there are far too many who are either not willing or only kind-of-willing. It is a hard thing to grasp that 100% of everything, including our transformation, is the responsibility of the Holy Spirit. And all He wants is for us to let Him have His way with and in our lives. This is the pathway to peace.

²⁴ **John 14:27**

²⁵ **Philippians 4:7**