

## Love and Unity in the Body

<sup>34</sup> *A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another.* <sup>35</sup> *By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.* (John 13:34-35)

This is a commandment from our Master Yeshua that we love one another with the love that he had for us. What does this really mean? How can we practically apply this commandment to our walk? How did our Master show his love for us? First we have to ask: What is love? We need to define love from the scriptures.

### What is love?

<sup>3</sup> *For this is the love of Elohim, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome.* (1 John 5:3)

This is the definition of love from the scripture. Love is commandment keeping. If you love others you won't murder them, steal from them, and accuse them falsely. If you truly love your Elohim you won't worship other gods, make images and worship them, blaspheme his name, and you will keep his Shabbat. We show each other love by performing the commandments of our Elohim. Because our Elohim is love and all his commandments are made out of his love.

### How does love work?

We all know this one:

<sup>4</sup> *Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or* <sup>5</sup> *rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful;* <sup>6</sup> *it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth.* <sup>7</sup> *Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.* (1 Corinthians 13:4-7)

When we are showing our love for Elohim by following his commandments we cannot do it in an arrogant, unloving manner. To keep his commandments with this spirit is to not keep them at all. We must have it in our hearts to perform his commandment with love as the objective. We need to ask ourselves: what is my motivation? Am I doing this commandment out of love? If the answer is no then we need to reevaluate how we go about doing that commandment.

John 14:21 says:

<sup>21</sup> *Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him.* (John 14:21)

By keeping the commandments of Elohim and our Messiah we are expressing our love for them. Our love and appreciation for what they have done for us, saved us from this world and saved us from ourselves, is shown by our willingness to obey, to be good and faithful servants of the most high.

(Galatians 5:22) ... *the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness*

If we truly have the spirit of Elohim working within us we will reflect these qualities. We won't be arrogant, irritable, rude, and resentful. But we will be patient, kind, loving, and full of peace. These are the fruits that we are to look for, "you will know them by their fruits".

<sup>34</sup> *A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you ... (John 13:34a)*

### **How did our Messiah love us?**

<sup>11</sup> *I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. (John 10:11)*

<sup>13</sup> *Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. (John 15:13)*

Does this one even need to be quoted? We all know it by heart:

<sup>16</sup> *For Elohim so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. (John 3:16)*

<sup>4</sup> *But Elohim, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, <sup>5</sup> even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Messiah ... Ephesians 2:4-5a)*

<sup>8</sup> *But Elohim shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Messiah died for us. (Romans 5:8)*

This is our example. We are to love so intensely that we will be willing to die for one another. Are you willing to do that? Am I willing to do that? It is a tall order, but one that we must obtain.

### **What other commandments do we have to love?**

Well of course the two greatest commandments:

<sup>5</sup> *You shall love Yehovah your Elohim with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. (Deuteronomy 6:5)*

&

*...you shall love your neighbor as yourself... (Leviticus 19:18b)*

This is the shortened form of the verse. The full version of Leviticus 19:18 is:

<sup>18</sup> *You shall **not** take vengeance **or bear a grudge** against the sons of your own people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am Yehovah. (Leviticus 19:18)*

It is a command from Elohim that we do not bear a grudge against our brothers and sisters. You're not allowed to do it. Sorry. No grudges allowed... not allowed. I know our flesh doesn't want to hear that but this is a commandment straight from Elohim. **Torah law**. No grudges. If you have a grudge against your brother or sister in the faith then you are **sinning!** You are in active rebellion against the most high. We need to examine ourselves, who do we have grudges against? Who out there has wronged us, said something inconsiderate, slighted us? Have we reconciled with this person? If not, we need to. If we

have, are we holding on to something? Resenting them? If so, we need to stop. No grudges allowed in this kingdom.

<sup>44</sup> *But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, <sup>45</sup> so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. <sup>46</sup> For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? <sup>47</sup> And if you greet only your brothers, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? <sup>48</sup> You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect. (Matthew 5:44-48)*

Even if someone outside the congregation slights you, or says something that you take offense at, or attacks you, or wrongs you in any way we have a commandment from the Messiah himself that we to love that person. Turn the other cheek. Don't grumble, don't complain, don't murmur, don't retaliate, don't give evil for evil. Don't even just tolerate that person, but **love them!** We need to be perfect! Part of perfection is loving our enemies as the father loved us when we were his enemies. There was a time when we were the enemies of the Father; we lived in rebellion against his Torah. What did our Father do? He saved us. We have to act like the Father; that is our mission to reflect the light of the Father in this world. To live by the example of the Messiah who was able to take a beating and withstand evil.

<sup>35</sup> *But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he is kind to the ungrateful and the evil. (Luke 6:35)*

We need to learn to do good even to our enemies. We are not perfect people, that is our goal, but we come up short from time to time. When our brothers and sisters come up short of perfection, please brethren, do not write them off. Do not say in your heart: "so and so said such and such and now I don't want to fellowship with them anymore". We have to reconcile with each other when we come up short. We need to love even our enemies, how much more our brothers and sisters! Be patient, be kind, be long suffering. That is our fruit. That is our example. That is the commandment. No, grudges, allowed.

<sup>21</sup> *"You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not murder; and whoever murders will be liable to judgment.'* <sup>22</sup> *But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment; whoever insults his brother will be liable to the council; and whoever says, 'You fool!'* *will be liable to the fire of hell. <sup>23</sup> So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, <sup>24</sup> leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. (Matthew 5:21-24)*

We are instructed that before we offer our gifts to the most high we have to reconcile with our brothers and sisters. Stop what you are doing. Reconcile. We need to be free from these grudges to truly please our Father.

<sup>26</sup> *Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, <sup>27</sup> and give no opportunity to the devil. (Ephesians 4:26)*

Anger that is not reconciled can destroy friendships, destroy relationships, destroy marriages, and even destroy congregations. We need to reconcile with each other, preferably the same day the incident occurs. If we let these feelings of anger, these grudges, fester inside of us we are sinning! But how can I be sinning for being mad at someone who wronged me? Because our Master told us not to do that! No grudges, reconcile.

<sup>14</sup> *Let all that you do be done in love. (1 Corinthians 16:14)*

<sup>8</sup> *Anyone who does not love does not know Elohim, because Elohim is love. (1 John 4:8)*

<sup>12</sup> *Put on then, as Elohim's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience,* <sup>13</sup> *bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also **must forgive.***

This is not an optional commandment. You must forgive. Forgiveness is part of Elohim's character, resentfulness is fleshly. Continuing in verse 14:

<sup>14</sup> *And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.* <sup>15</sup> *And let the peace of Messiah rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. (Colossians 3:14)*

This love, this forgiveness, it binds us together in unity as one body. To truly be the body of Messiah we have to be able to forgive. Truly forgive. No Grudges. No holding back. Forgive and forget. We all know this parable:

<sup>21</sup> *Then Peter came up and said to him, "Master, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?"* <sup>22</sup> *Yeshua said to him, "I do not say to you seven times, but seventy-seven times.* <sup>23</sup> *"Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants.* <sup>24</sup> *When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents.* <sup>25</sup> *And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made.* <sup>26</sup> *So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.'* <sup>27</sup> *And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt.* <sup>28</sup> *But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, 'Pay what you owe.'* <sup>29</sup> *So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.'* <sup>30</sup> *He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt.* <sup>31</sup> *When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place.* <sup>32</sup> *Then his master summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me.* <sup>33</sup> *And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?'* <sup>34</sup> *And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt.* <sup>35</sup> *So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart."* (Matthew 18:21-35)

We need to forgive so that we can be forgiven. Peter told us:

<sup>8</sup> Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins. (1 Peter 4:8)

<sup>7</sup> Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from Elohim, and whoever loves has been born of Elohim and knows Elohim. (1 John 4:7)

<sup>9</sup> Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. (Romans 12:9)

<sup>18</sup> Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth. (1 John 3:18)

<sup>10</sup> Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. (Romans 12:10)

We need to be one upping each other in humility.

<sup>16</sup> By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. (1 John 3:16)

Can we do that? Can we be so committed that we can be willing to lay down our lives for each other? Put the old fleshly man to death, that murmuring, backbiting, resentful, angry, grudge holding, prideful man. Can we kill him?

<sup>12</sup> This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. (John 15:12)

<sup>13</sup> For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. (Galatians 5:13)

<sup>8</sup> Finally, all of you, have unity of mind, sympathy, brotherly love, a tender heart, and a humble mind. (1 Peter 3:8)

Yes Father, may we have such a mind.

<sup>24</sup> Let no one seek his own good, but the good of his neighbor. (1 Corinthians 10:24)

<sup>16</sup> Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight. (Romans 12:16)

Pride can keep us from humility and forgiveness.

(Philippians 2:1-15) <sup>1</sup> So if there is any encouragement in Messiah, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, <sup>2</sup> complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. <sup>3</sup> Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves.

This relates to assuming motivation. A lot of times we will assume wrong motivations for a person, this can easily happen in a text where you cannot hear the tone of someone's voice. We need to always assume that the other person is better than us and is telling us something out of their love for the truth. If we assume others are lower than us we can get into trouble, we need to assume everyone is better

than we are, when we do this we will be in a position of humility and servitude that is pleasing to our Father. Continuing:

*<sup>4</sup> Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. <sup>5</sup> Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Messiah Yeshua, <sup>6</sup> who, though he was in the form of Elohim, did not count equality with Elohim a thing to be grasped, <sup>7</sup> but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. <sup>8</sup> And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.*

Our Messiah is our example to live by. He is the Torah brought to life, the living word of Elohim. We **need** to humble ourselves to the point that we are willing to die for one another. That is the perfection of Elohim. That is the high goal we are after.

*<sup>9</sup> Therefore Elohim has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, <sup>10</sup> so that at the name of Yeshua every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, <sup>11</sup> and every tongue confess that Yeshua Messiah is Master, to the glory of Elohim the Father. <sup>12</sup> Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling,*

Humbling ourselves and counting others as more honorable than we are is part of our salvation. Our fleshly mind puffs us up; we need to kill that old man.

*<sup>13</sup> for it is Elohim who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure. <sup>14</sup> Do all things without grumbling or disputing, <sup>15</sup> that you may be blameless and innocent, children of Elohim without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world*

### **Encouraging words**

*<sup>19</sup> We love because he first loved us. (1 John 4:19)*

*<sup>13</sup> So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love. (1 Corinthians 13:13)*

*<sup>12</sup> Hatred stirs up strife, but love covers all offenses. (Proverbs 10:12)*

*<sup>9</sup> Whoever covers an offense seeks love, but he who repeats a matter separates close friends. (Proverbs 17:9)*

Are we peacekeepers? Or are we whisperers stirring up strife? We need to seek peace within the congregation.

*<sup>8</sup> Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law ... <sup>10</sup> Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law. (Romans 13:8, 10)*

Our Father is love, the Torah is made in love for love. No wonder love fulfills the law!

*<sup>8</sup> If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing well. (James 2:8)*

<sup>2</sup> *And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. (1 Corinthians 13:2)*

<sup>20</sup> *If anyone says, "I love Elohim," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love Elohim whom he has not seen. (1 John 4:20)*

Resentfulness and grudges separate us from our Elohim. How can we love Elohim if we don't love the brethren? It's not possible.

<sup>22</sup> *Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart (1 Peter 1:22)*

We need to cleanse our hearts of any evil thoughts we have. We need to ask the Father to do this for us. I pray that Elohim will cleanse us all.

<sup>9</sup> *Now concerning brotherly love you have no need for anyone to write to you, for you yourselves have been taught by Elohim to love one another (1 Thessalonians 4:9)*

He is referring back to Leviticus 19:18. Love each other, no grudges allowed.

<sup>12</sup> *And because lawlessness will be increased, the love of many will grow cold. (Matthew 24:12)*

The world is the one who doesn't forgive, that is a fleshly and evil mind. They don't follow the Torah, so they cannot truly love because love is basis for the Torah and the Torah is the basis for love.

*(2 Peter 1:3-11) <sup>3</sup> His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence, <sup>4</sup> by which he has granted to us his precious and very great promises, so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire. <sup>5</sup> For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge, <sup>6</sup> and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness, and steadfastness with godliness, <sup>7</sup> and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love. <sup>8</sup> For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they keep you from being ineffective or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Master Yeshua Messiah. <sup>9</sup> For whoever lacks these qualities is so nearsighted that he is blind, having forgotten that he was cleansed from his former sins. <sup>10</sup> Therefore, brothers, be all the more diligent to confirm your calling and election, for if you practice these qualities you will never fall. <sup>11</sup> For in this way there will be richly provided for you an entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Master and Savior Yeshua Messiah.*

Wow. May Elohim grant us such a mind.

<sup>3</sup> *As I urged you when I was going to Macedonia, remain at Ephesus so that you may charge certain persons not to teach any different doctrine, <sup>4</sup> nor to devote themselves to myths and endless genealogies, which promote speculations rather than the stewardship from Elohim that is by faith. <sup>5</sup> The aim of our charge is love that issues from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith. <sup>6</sup> Certain persons, by swerving from these, have wandered away into vain discussion, <sup>7</sup> desiring to be*

*teachers of the law, without understanding either what they are saying or the things about which they make confident assertions. (1 Timothy 1:3-7)*

The goal of all of this is love. If someone is teaching something that is speculative, check their motive. Is it love? Are they trying to build up the body and encourage the brethren to love each other and love the most high?

<sup>15</sup> *If you love me, you will keep my commandments. (John 14:15)*

### **Examples of the Body of Messiah Functioning in Love**

How do we go about reconciling with those who have wronged us or we are resentful of?

(Matthew 18:15-17 CJB) <sup>15</sup> *“Moreover, if your brother commits a sin against you, go and show him his fault — but privately, just between the two of you. If he listens to you, you have won back your brother. <sup>16</sup> If he doesn’t listen, take one or two others with you so that every accusation can be supported by the testimony of two or three witnesses. <sup>17</sup> If he refuses to hear them, tell the congregation; and if he refuses to listen even to the congregation, treat him as you would a pagan or a tax-collector.*

First, tell your brother your issue, one on one. If they listen and want to reconcile, you have won your brother or sister back. In turn, we have to truly forgive them. We cannot hold a grudge. If that doesn’t work, take another brother or two, if that doesn’t work tell the congregation. If that doesn’t work, treat them like a pagan. How are we supposed to treat our enemies? With love. Love your enemies! Pray for them. Be like the most high.

(John 17:14-26) <sup>14</sup> *I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. <sup>15</sup> I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one. <sup>16</sup> They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. <sup>17</sup> Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. <sup>18</sup> As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. <sup>19</sup> And for their sake I consecrate myself, that they also may be sanctified in truth. <sup>20</sup> “I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, <sup>21</sup> that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. <sup>22</sup> The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, <sup>23</sup> I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me. <sup>24</sup> Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory that you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world. <sup>25</sup> O righteous Father, even though the world does not know you, I know you, and these know that you have sent me. <sup>26</sup> I made known to them your name, and I will continue to make it known, that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them.*

This is our Master Yeshua’s prayer to the Father that we who are the believers in the testimony of Yeshua and who keep the commandments of Elohim are to be one in purpose as he and the Father are one in purpose. United is a cause, to spread the good news of Elohim’s salvation in Yeshua and to train up disciples.



We are to function in unity:

*<sup>1</sup> Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in **unity!** <sup>2</sup> It is like the precious oil on the head, running down on the beard, on the beard of Aaron, running down on the collar of his robes! <sup>3</sup> It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion! For there Yehovah has commanded the blessing, life forevermore. (Psalm 133)*

This unity leads to mount Zion, where there is a blessing of everlasting life! That is what we all want right? Eternal life in our Fathers perfect kingdom. Us being united leads to that goal. This is important.

*10 I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Master Yeshua Messiah, that all of you agree, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. (1 Corinthians 1:10)*

Divisions are not from above, that is our fleshly pride working. We need to overcome ourselves and our pride.

*(Ephesians 4:1-7; 11-32) <sup>1</sup> I therefore, a prisoner for the Master, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, <sup>2</sup> with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, <sup>3</sup> eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. <sup>4</sup> There is **one** body and **one** Spirit—just as you were called to the **one** hope that belongs to your call— <sup>5</sup> **one** Master, **one** faith, **one** baptism, <sup>6</sup> **one** Elohim and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. <sup>7</sup> But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Messiah's gift. ... <sup>11</sup> And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, <sup>12</sup> to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Messiah, <sup>13</sup> until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of Elohim, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Messiah, <sup>14</sup> so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes.*

Before we believe every new video, every new article, every new doctrine, we need to use our unity with the brethren to help us test these things. A lot of times we will watch a video or read an article and it will contain a teaching that could potentially destroys our unity of faith. We need to be leery of doctrines and teachings that can divide the body. If you come across a game changing doctrine, before you jump right in feet first and tell everyone how deceived we all are, let's talk about it first. Before you buy in, discuss it with others, talk it out. Maybe that rock solid teaching isn't as rock solid as it was presented. I'm not saying I or we as a body have it all figured out, but sometimes we can get carried away with these things. We need to be mature and not jumping from bandwagon to bandwagon. A good way to test these things is to compare it with Torah.

*<sup>20</sup> To the Torah and to the testimony! If they do not speak according to this word, it is because there is no light in them. (Isaiah 8:20)*

If a doctrine or teaching contradicts Torah or the scriptures, there is no light in that teaching.

Continuing in verse 15 of Ephesians 4:

<sup>15</sup> Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Messiah, <sup>16</sup> from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

Our goal is to emulate the Messiah.

<sup>17</sup> Now this I say and testify in the Master, that you must no longer walk as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their minds. <sup>18</sup> They are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of Elohim because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their hardness of heart. <sup>19</sup> They have become callous and have given themselves up to sensuality, greedy to practice every kind of impurity. <sup>20</sup> But that is not the way you learned Messiah!— <sup>21</sup> assuming that you have heard about him and were taught in him, as the truth is in Yeshua, <sup>22</sup> to put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, <sup>23</sup> and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, <sup>24</sup> and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of Elohim in true righteousness and holiness. <sup>25</sup> Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another. <sup>26</sup> Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, <sup>27</sup> and give no opportunity to the devil. <sup>28</sup> Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need. <sup>29</sup> Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear. <sup>30</sup> And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of Elohim, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. <sup>31</sup> Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. <sup>32</sup> Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as Elohim in Messiah forgave you.

Amen to that. That says it all. Forgive to be forgiven. Remove resentfulness from within yourself, pray to the Father to do this for you.

And I would like to close with this quote from first Thessalonians 3:12:

<sup>12</sup> ... may the Master make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, as we do for you (1 Thessalonians 3:12)

Thank you.

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