

LET THE APOSTLES SPEAK – Saul Paulus

Let's delve into the words of the Apostle Paul, as if he were here with us today, speaking directly. I will attempt to capture the essence of his teachings, weaving together his perspectives with the scriptures he penned.

The Apostle Paul's Message: A Direct Address

I find myself standing before you, not in the flesh, but through the words that have been preserved, the echoes of my voice resonating through the ages. I am Paul, a servant of Yahshua the Messiah, called to be an apostle, call out and set apart for the gospel of God. Let me share what I have to say.

The Core of the Gospel: Yahshua's Sacrifice

My message, at its heart, is the good news of Yahshua the Messiah. He is the fulfillment of the prophecies, the promised one who came to redeem humanity. Consider this:

Yahshua's Death and Resurrection:** This is the cornerstone of our faith. He died for our sins, as the scriptures foretold, and was raised on the third day [after being in the tomb three days and three nights]. This act of sacrifice offers forgiveness and reconciliation with God (1 Corinthians 15:3-4).

Faith as the Foundation:** Salvation is not earned through works, but received through faith in Yahshua. It is a gift of grace, not a reward for our efforts (Ephesians 2:8-9).

The Transformation of the Believer

The gospel doesn't just offer forgiveness; it initiates a profound transformation within us. Yahshua pores His own life into us and we are enlivened having given us His Spirit within.

The New Creation:** Through Yahshua, we become new creations. The old self, bound by sin, is crucified with him, and we are raised to walk in newness of life (Romans 6:4).

The Holy Spirit's Indwelling:** The Spirit of God dwells within every believer, empowering us to live a life that pleases God (Romans 8:9). This is the promise of the Father.

Addressing the Sinful Nature: Romans 6-8

Let us now explore Romans, chapters 6 through 8, as these chapters are crucial to understanding the battle within.

Romans Chapter 6: Death to Sin, New Life in Messiah:** Here, the concept of being "dead to sin" and being alive to God is introduced. The old nature, the "sin nature," is rendered powerless through Messiah's sacrifice. We are freed from its bondage and dominion, no longer slaves to sin but servants of righteousness. We are baptized into Messiah's death and raised to walk in newness of life. (Romans 6:1-14)

Romans Chapter 7: The Struggle Against the Sinful Nature:** I, Paul, can attest to the struggle and spiritual bondage I had. Before I knew Messiah, the law revealed sin within me, and I found myself constantly battling against it and it had control over me. I wanted to do good, but the sin nature

dwelling within me led me to do evil I did not want to do. I felt like a wretched man, enslaved to the law of sin and death. (Romans 7:14-25)

Romans Chapter 8: Life in the Spirit [Lord poured his own life into me and it is no longer I who live but Messiah living in me: But thanks be to God! Through Yahshua, we are set free from the law of sin and death. The Spirit of God dwells within us, giving us life. The Spirit leads us, guides us, and empowers us to live a life that pleases God. We are no longer under the dominion of the flesh but under the dominion of the Spirit. (Romans 8:1-17)**

Living in the Light: Practical Guidance

My letters are filled with practical instructions on how to live a life worthy of the gospel.

Love and Unity: Love one another as I have loved you. Strive for unity within the body of Messiah, putting aside selfishness and embracing humility (1 Corinthians 13; Philippians 2:3-4).**

Ethical Conduct: Live a life that is above reproach, avoiding sexual immorality, greed, and all forms of evil (1 Thessalonians 4:3-8).**

Spiritual Gifts: Utilize the gifts the Spirit has given you for the edification of the church. Each of us has a unique role to play in the body of Messiah (1 Corinthians 12:4-11).**

The Future Hope: Eternity

The gospel offers more than just a changed life; it offers hope for the future.

Eternal Life: We have been promised eternal life with God, a glorious inheritance that awaits us (Romans 8:18-25).**

The Return of Yahshua: I long for the day when Yahshua will return, and we will be united with him forever (1 Thessalonians 4:16-17).**

This, in essence, is the message I have dedicated my life to proclaiming. It is a message of hope, transformation, and eternal life. Embrace it, live it, and share it with the world.

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