

Finding Life and Joshua Families Video Series

Video Series 2

The Light and Life

How Are We to Live ~ Part 1

Hi and welcome back if you have viewed any of the previous videos. My name is Tim Spiess and I am serving as a guide to help people find the Light and Life ...to make it past shallow, pretentious and meaningless life, or an empty or merely emotional religious life - to find the one who said, 'I am the Life'.

We have been taking what is reasonable and arguably the greatest journey any human being can make...one to find the ultimate purpose to one's life and what it means to truly live a successful life according to the standard that was sent by the Creator. In the last video, we took a closer look at Joshua or Jesus of Nazareth, and what he himself said about his Father. Unfortunately, most people believe what they hear from other people regarding who Joshua is and what he taught. In fact, most Christians would fail a test given to them about what Joshua taught about himself, about his Father, and what they want. And if you don't know what they want, you can't possibly do what they want.

We learned that Joshua was very clear about who his Father was – the Creator of mankind – and what his Father gave him – the role of judging all people, what they believed, how they lived their lives, and their worthiness to enter into or continue in the state of eternal life. We learned that the Creator sent His only perfect Messenger to bring the Creator's Message of love, hope, Life, truth, rightness as well as responsibility and accountability. What someone chooses to believe or not believe about Joshua of Nazareth does not change the facts or reality of who HE said he is nor his place as the judge of all of us and what we did with the lives we were given. He defeated death to prove that all he said and did was true, and no one else in history did that.

So, now we get to where the rubber meets the road...how exactly does Joshua want us to live our lives as human beings? Are most people who claim some kind of association with or affiliation with 'jesus christ' living according to his teachings? Let us look for answers these very important questions, and let us start with this question.

Does Joshua of Nazareth tell human beings how we ought to live our lives?

The answer is yes he certainly does. But Let's first address what he does not tell us:

He does not tell us what kind of shelter to live in – God does not care as long as you are willing to share what you do have.

He does not tell us what kind of food to eat – God does not care but He would prefer you ate healthy food so that you can stay healthy and thus better help others.

He does not tell us what kind of clothes to wear – God does not care as long as you are not publically promoting yourself in a sexual manner.

He does not say some place on the earth is somehow better to be living than some other place – God doesn't care where you live as long as you can express compassion for others where you are...we should not live in remote or secluded areas away from other people.

He does not tell us what language to speak – God favors no language.

God does not tell us to 'go to church' – rather, he tells us to be the called out people of the Light.

God does not tell us to worship him in song – rather, He says worship him at your deepest level and in truth.

If you think about religion for a moment, you should be able to see how people – instead of accepting the simple truths above about what God does not want – instead invent all kinds of things that they believe God should want, and they do this with their religion. Mankind's religions specialize in things that don't matter, so they can avoid the things that do.

What does God provide us in the way of specific guidance for living our lives on the earth?

1. We need leadership, and Joshua is to be our Soul Leader.
 - a. This means you do not take as authoritative other leaders who claim to speak for God, moral, ethical or other matters pertaining to human relationships. This does

not mean that you should not listen to other leaders of men you encounter who are not speaking to God, moral, ethical or other matters pertaining to human relationships. It does mean that for the disciple of Joshua, Joshua alone provides the basic answers to “how am I to live?” and “why am I living” and “what am I living for”. So, for example if you live in a nation with political leaders, you ought to comply with their laws (‘listen to them’) unless doing so will cause you to disobey Joshua.

2. Love other people, meaning have compassion on them and treat them kindly and selflessly.
 - a. Loving other people **REQUIRES** being with them if you are able. If you love someone, you will want to be with them – this is a simple, undeniable truth. This does not mean all you love will want to be with you, for they would have to love you back in order to accomplish that.
3. Loving other people **REQUIRES** that you share what material things you have with them.
 - a. This does not mean you give all your material things away to the first person you meet. It does mean that if you claim to be a follower of the Light, you will share what you have with other followers for this is a key component to the new command. Furthermore, you will share with your neighbors or those in need once you are confident they will not use what you give them for evil purposes.
4. Care about what is true and right in all realms of existence.
 - a. Our first priority is to try and fix ourselves by looking at the Perfect One and then looking in the mirror and striving to be like him and to do what he says...we must strive to avoid hypocrisy.
 - b. If we see, hear, read, something that is false, we should react by identifying that it is false, or writing a correction if that method of communication is appropriate.
 - c. If we encounter a person doing something wrong, we are obligated to inform them and try to correct the wrong doing.

I'd like to ask the reader at this point, do you see any religion in there? You should not because Joshua does not teach or promote religion. Rather, he teaches and promotes love, truth and rightness.

That is the core of it above...those are what the Creator wants from human beings. Unfortunately, most human beings will reject those truths about how we ought to be living. However, as we who claim to follow the Light, we are **BOUND** to live according to our Master's Way and his

instructions.

While we live in this world, we are NOT part of it, meaning we don't live our lives for the things the world's people live for...for the things they value. We are a called out people who are to set the example for other people to see and follow.

Let us take a closer look at the new command, the key teaching of Joshua which defines his followers.

John 13:34-35, "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another."

John 15:12, "This is My commandment, that you love one another, just as I have loved you."

John 15:17, "This I command you, that you love one another."

John X, "There is no greater expression of love than to lay down your life for a friend."

Joshua elsewhere in his teachings defines the core of "love/agape" to exhibit selfless behavior towards others motivated by compassion for them.

Unfortunately, most people if asked, "do you love other people" they will answer "yes" because they believe themselves to be a 'loving' person. What they are really saying when they answer "yes" to that question is, 'yes, I am a good person' – but of course 99.9 percent of human being believe themselves to be a 'good person'. If you can get past the self-centered answering of the question, what most people are really saying is, 'I have those people I like to be with or whom I care about at some level'. Or, for some who have an ever lower definition of the concept of "love", they would answer, 'yeah, I love my children', or, 'I love my mother', or some other direct family relative. Thus the extremely important concept of "love" has been redefined to some version of "take care of your own", meaning treat well those from whom you get something back. Even worse, the basis of the flesh is the normal basis used to determine who qualifies for "taking care of my own". In other words, typically the "love" spoken about by the people of the world is restricted to direct family members or others from whom you get something in return. This is NOT the love/agape that Joshua of Nazareth speaks of. Please listen to him:

Quote, “If you love (*that is, behave selflessly including sharing what you have*) only those people who love you, you are no better than those you would judge as the worst kind of person.” Unquote.

Furthermore, a natural manifestation of true love is the desire to be with those whom we truly love. This is simple, clear and undeniable. The deeper and truer our love, the more we will want to be with – and thus share our lives with - those both whom we love and who are willing to love us back. This will, of course grow the number of people you want to spend your time with.

To make his point perfectly clear, the Light directly addressed the problem of only showing love towards your direct natural family members. Please listen to him:

Quote, “While Joshua/or Jesus was still speaking to the crowds, behold, his mother and brothers were standing outside, seeking to speak to him. Someone said to Him, “Behold, your mother and your brothers are standing outside seeking to speak to you.” But Joshua answered the one who was telling him and said, “Who is my mother and who are my brothers?” And stretching out His hand toward his disciples, he said, “Behold my mother and my brothers! For whoever does the will of my Father who is in heaven, he is my brother and sister and mother.” Matt. 12:46-50
Unquote.

Joshua clearly identifies who his family is, and it is not the natural by-blood or by-law relatives. He completely re-defines the concept of “family” for his followers. Please listen to him:

“Do not think that I came to bring peace on the earth; I did not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I came to *set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; and a man’s enemies will be the members of his household.* He who loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and he who loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me.”

He could not be any clearer in trying to break the natural human instinct to love only those who love you, or those of our flesh or by law. Sadly, next to religion, the refusal to love people other than your family is extremely strong...so strong, in fact, we normally need two things to overcome it.

First, we need to actually love our heavenly Father with all our heart, soul, mind and strength – without this real and actual love – which can only exist if actual faith is present – we will just pay lip service to God stuff and we in fact will not truly love people we are not naturally or legally related to.

Second, we need to be faithful followers of Joshua of Nazareth, and this will include offending others with our beliefs and behavior...it means we will not hide the truth from others and will thus experience rejection from them, including and especially our natural family.

Let us recap a moment before continuing. So, Joshua has direct teachings whose purpose is to EXPAND our view on who we should love...in other words, he teaches we must expand past just loving those who love us back like our natural family members. It is good to love everyone, but the expressions of love will only be manifest when two or more people decide to love each other. Furthermore, if we are to follow Joshua, we must love other of his followers just like we would love our natural family...in fact, more than our natural family since it is normal for our natural family members to reject Joshua and try and persuade us to stop following him. Please listen to him:

“If anyone comes to me, and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be My disciple. Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after me cannot be My disciple.”

Of course Joshua does not mean literal hatred here since his core teaching are to love others. What he does mean is that you must love God and those who want to sincerely listen to and follow Joshua, more than your natural family. This means you will no longer have your natural family as those in authority over you or whom you look to for guidance in life or who you depend on for food, clothing and shelter. When you make this switch from looking to and relying upon your natural family member, to looking to and relying upon your heavenly Father and Joshua, those who don't also do this – like your natural family members - will consider your words and desires as including hatred on your part. And, if it comes down to rejecting your Father and Master or rejecting your natural family members – which is the normal state of things for followers of the Light – then you ought to choose Life over the darkness and death those without the light abide in and offer even when they consider it hateful to do so.

The simple truth is that we all have something we are living for. For most people, it is for

themselves and what they can get out of their life in the world. For those with faith in Joshua and the Father only he can reveal, we live for them and the Life they offer to us, which life is not bound up in this world or the things the people of the world count as valuable. A natural outcome of two people with such drastic views of life, will be division or a parting of ways. This is not what God wants, but the truth that many will choose to reject God makes this division inevitable.

Here is a little story to help you understand.

Once there was a boy, Tom, who had a great dad. The dad cared deeply for his son and spent much of each day helping his son and encouraging his son and training his son for some important work he had for the son. One day the dad told his son he had to go away from a pretty long time. He told his son that by going away, he would be able to help many people who desperately needed help. He reminded his son that he had a good mom and that she would take good care of him while he was away. The son was very sad but trusted his dad and knew that if there was some other way to not be away, his dad would have found it. So, the day came when the dad left, and the son no longer had his dad in his daily life. His mom didn't understand why his dad had to leave, and she was afraid of being alone. So, she took Tom and went to live with her sister and her family. Her sister and her husband did not know Tom's dad well, and they thought he cared too much about what was right and what was wrong. Furthermore they thought it was bad for Tom to be trained that way by his dad. A day didn't go by that Tom did not think about his dad and miss his dad. So, naturally, Tom wanted to talk about his dad. Tom would bring his dad up regularly throughout the day and would look for others to affirm him that his dad was a great person. Unfortunately, those three adults in his life – his mom and her sister and her husband – just didn't care about Tom's dad, and didn't think he was special like Tom did. So, they would ignore Tom when he wanted affirmation from them when he spoke about his dad. This hurt Tom deeply. He just could not understand why they wanted to ignore his dad and why they insisted in rejecting his attempts to get them to affirm his statements and feelings about his dad. After a while, Tom did not speak about his dad anymore, and just wanted to be away from these adults who just didn't care about his dad.

And so it is with those who love their heavenly Father, and those who do not.

Please seriously consider the things that are said here, dear viewer, especially if you claim to be some kind of a christian.

Next time, we will continue to take a closer look at how the disciples of Joshua live and answer the why questions behind our manner of living.

Until next time, be real. Get past the shallowness and pretentiousness of typical American life – especially American religious life – and look deeper, to find what you truly need.