

Elpis Israel

for Young People

Being in the Crucible...

*And the Collective Manifestation of "Sin
in the Flesh"*

Class 10

Homework

Last paragraph of Section called “the spiritual body” – p41 (paragraph on page 46) before chapter title the Formation of Woman.

*Write in your own words.
Bring copy of Elpis Israel,
Listen to last class to review.
Bring note paper.*

What a week...

Well, all of you should be back at school now.

- Many of you have experienced some new challenges this week in school
 - Lot’s of pressures
 - Usual ones like “homework” etc.
 - Some new ones like trying out for a team
 - More serious ones –
 - Pressure to fit in
 - The language all around us is “foul”
 - Same at work “filthy conversation”
 - Things people talk about are “disgusting”
 - Some have been approached to buy drugs for the first time
 - Some have been approached to participate in things we know we cannot
 - This has been a “testing ground” for some of the things we have learned about at Junior Elpis Israel

Crucible of the kingdom

These pressures are the crucible of the kingdom

- Crucible:
 - a container of metal or refractory material employed for heating substances to high temperatures.
 - Metallurgy. a hollow area at the bottom of a furnace in which the metal collects.
 - a severe, searching test or trial.
- 1 Peter 1:7** *That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:*
- Our lives are like “crucibles” – testing us as to whether we will serve God or the World

What happens when you won't go along with people around us:

1 Peter 4:4 *Wherein they think it strange that ye run not with them to the same excess of riot, speaking evil of you:*

Do you feel good when you get ridiculed? Or when you don't fit in?

1 Peter 4:12-19 *Beloved, think it not strange concerning the **fiery trial which is to try you**, as though some strange thing happened unto you: But **rejoice**, inasmuch as ye are **partakers of Christ's sufferings**; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy. If ye **be reproached for the name of Christ**, happy are ye; for the spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you: on their part he is evil spoken of, but on your part he is glorified. **But let none of you suffer** as a murderer, or as a thief, or **as an evildoer**, or as a busybody in other men's matters. **Yet if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed**; but let him glorify God on this behalf.*

- Got to keep in our minds that this world around is isn't going to last for long!
V17-19 *For the time is come that **judgment must begin at the house of God**: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God? And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear? Wherefore let them that suffer according to the will of God commit the keeping of their souls to him in well doing, as unto a faithful Creator.*

That is why Junior Elpis Israel, CYC, Sunday School, Meeting are so important...

Heb 10:24-25 *And let us consider one another to **provoke unto love and to good works**: Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and **so much the more, as ye see the day approaching**.*

Contest for our affections

What you are experiencing at school is the effects of “sin in the flesh”

- Remember what we learned the other week – before the summer

Romans 5:12 *Wherefore, as by one man **sin entered into the world**, and **death by sin**; and so **death passed upon all men**, for that **all have sinned**:*

What you are seeing all around you is the “thinking of the flesh”:

James 3:15-18 ***This wisdom** descendeth not from above, but is **earthly, sensual, devilish**.... But the **wisdom that is from above** is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy. And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace.*

Those who are driven solely by it are described as having the mind of the flesh:

- Unfortunately, many people around us don’t know any better – it is all they have ever learned.
Romans 8:5 *For they that are after the flesh do **mind the things of the flesh**; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit.*
Phil 3:18-19 *(For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ: Whose end is destruction, whose God is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame, **who mind earthly things**.)*

The Common State:

- We have conflict in our lives because we are living out the FLESH vs. SPIRIT
John 3:6 ***That which is born of the flesh is flesh**; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.*
 - In our last class we looked at how the “mind of the spirit” is developed by the introduction of the word of God
 - We are in conflict with the world because we have the word of God put into our minds – this develops conscience
- Everything around us is pulling us toward serving the flesh
1 John 2:16-17 *For all that is in the world, the **lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life**, is not of the Father, but **is of the world**. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.*
 - All the institutions of the world are based on the “thinking of the flesh” or “serpent thinking”

- If we align ourselves with this thinking we are at enmity with God:

James 4:4 *Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? **whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.***

 - This doesn't mean that you can't have any friends who are not Christadelphians
 - It means you must be very careful who you give your friendship to, and how much you invest in people outside of the truth
 - This is very difficult at times, because we have been taught to be faithful friends – but our allegiance has to be God first.

The Collective “seed of the serpent”

It won't just be the moral or “immoral” behavior around you

- It will also be the ideas and concepts sometimes taught at school that will be in opposition to the things of God that you have learned.

Think back to Genesis where the great CONFLICT is laid out:

Genesis 3:15 *And I will put **enmity** between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.*

- **ENMITY:**

342 'eybah { ay-baw' }

from 340; TWOT - 78a; n f

AV - enmity 3, hatred 2; 5

GK - 368 { אֵיבָה }

1) enmity, hatred

- **BRUISE:**

7779 shuwph { shoof }

a primitive root; TWOT - 2349; v

AV - bruise 2, break 1, cover 1; 4

GK - 8789 { שׁוּף } & 8790 { שׁוּף }

1) to bruise, crush, gape upon, desire?, seize?, strike out?

1a) (Qal) to fall upon, bruise

This “hatred” or “hostility” between the “seed of the woman” and the “seed of the serpent” has been going on for centuries.

1 John 3:11-13 *For this is the message that ye heard from the beginning, that we should love one another. Not as Cain, who was of that wicked one, and slew his brother. And wherefore slew he him? Because his own works were evil, and his brother’s righteous. Marvel not, my brethren, if the world hate you.*

This has been the situation from the very beginning – it is a common theme throughout the Bible.

- Cain Vs. Abel
- Noah vs. the Preflood world
- Isaac vs. Ishmael
- Israel vs. Egypt
- Israel vs. the Canaanites
- David vs. Goliath
- Israel vs. Babylon
- Esther vs. Hamaan
- Jerusalem vs. Rome
- Disciples vs. Apostles
- Believers vs. The Apostate Church
- Tyndale & the Protestors vs. Catholic Church
- You vs. the World

Eph 6:12-18 *For we **wrestle** not against flesh and blood, but against **principalities**, against **powers**, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against **spiritual wickedness in high places**. Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;*

Brother Thomas: *“Human governments have all been opposed to God’s truth, and they have made war upon all that class of people in their several countries who are entitled scripturally to the designation of the saints. You cannot make peace between them. That is the reason why we who advocate the doctrine of God’s saints are in hostility to the world.*

Those on our side who would make peace with the enemy are not fit to be on our side. It is war to the knife between the powers that be and all Christadelphians. We accept no truce; we will consent to no compromise. Either they must conquer us or we will conquer them, - by argument is passed away, and the LORD has come with power and great glory, his saints will take the sword and conquer the world, whether the world likes it or not.

This has been the situation since the beginning of the world

- It will continue until the Lord Jesus Christ Returns

Daniel 7:21-22 *I beheld, and the same horn made war with the saints, and prevailed against them; Until the Ancient of days came, and judgment was given to the saints of the most High; and the time came that the saints possessed the kingdom.*

(v18) *But the saints of the most High shall take the kingdom, and possess the kingdom for ever, even for ever and ever.*