



The Church: A Call to repentance

Vision 3

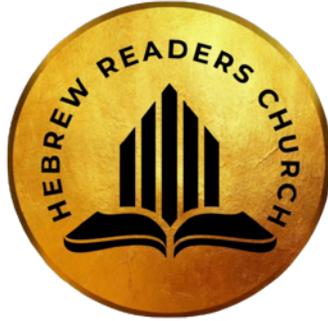
8[16]:11 for thou must understand first, and I charge thee, Hermas, first with these words, which I am about to speak to thee--(I charge thee to) tell all these things into the ears of the saints, that hearing them and doing them they may be purified from their wickednesses, and thyself also with them." 9[17]:1 "Hear me, my children. I brought you up in much simplicity and guilelessness and reverence, through the mercy of AHAYAH, Who instilled righteousness into you, that ye might be justified and sanctified from all wickedness and all crookedness. But ye will not to cease from your wickedness. 9[17]:2 Now then hear me and be at peace among yourselves, and have regard one to another, and assist one another, and do not partake of the creatures of Alahayim alone in abundance, but share them also with those that are in want.

9[17]:3 For some men through their much eating bring weakness on the flesh, and injure their flesh: whereas the flesh of those who have nought to eat is injured by their not having sufficient nourishment, and their body is ruined. 9[17]:4 This exclusiveness therefore is hurtful to you that have and do not share with them that are in want. 9[17]:5 Look ye to the judgment that cometh. Ye then that have more than enough, seek out them that are hungry, while the tower is still unfinished; for after the tower is finished, ye will desire to do good, and will find no place for it. 9[17]:6 Look ye therefore, ye that exult in your wealth, lest they that are in want shall moan, and their moaning shall go up unto AHAYAH, and ye with your [abundance of good things be shut outside the door of the tower. 9[17]:7 Now therefore I say unto you that are rulers of the Church, and that occupy the chief seats; be not ye like unto the sorcerers. The sorcerers indeed carry their drugs in boxes, but ye carry your drug and your poison in your heart.

9[17]:8 Ye are case-hardened, and ye will not cleanse your hearts and mix your wisdom together in

a clean heart, that ye may obtain mercy from the Great King. 9[17]:9 Look ye therefore, children, lest these divisions of yours deprive you of your life. 9[17]:10 How is it that ye wish to instruct the elect of AHAYAH, while ye yourselves have no instruction? Instruct one another therefore, and have peace among yourselves, that I also may stand gladsome before the Father, and give an account concerning you all to your Adonq."

10[18]:1 When then she ceased speaking with me, the six young men, who were building, came, and



took her away to the tower, and other four lifted the couch, and took it also away to the tower. I saw not the face of these, for they were turned away.

Parable 9

27[104]a:4 Moreover I bid all of you, whoever have received this seal, keep guilelessness, and bear no grudge, and continue not in your wickedness nor in the memory of the offenses of bitterness; but become of one spirit, and heal these evil clefts and take them away from among you, that the owner of the flocks may rejoice concerning them.

27[104a]:5 For he will rejoice, if he find all things whole. But if he find any part of the flock scattered, woe unto the shepherds.

27[104a]:6 For if the shepherds themselves shall have been found scattered, how will they answer for the flocks? Will they say that they were harassed by the flock? No credence will be given them. For it is an incredible thing that a shepherd should be injured by his flock; and he will be punished the more because of his falsehood. And I am the shepherd, and it behoveth me most strongly to render an account for you.

32[109]:1 "Amend yourselves therefore, while the tower is still in course of building.

32[109]:2 AHAYAH dwelleth in men that love peace; for to Him peace is dear; but from the contentious and them that are given up to wickedness He keepeth afar off. Restore therefore to Him your spirit whole as ye received it.

32[109]:3 For suppose thou hast given to a fuller a new garment whole, and desirest to receive it back again whole, but the fuller give it back to thee torn, wilt thou receive it thus? Wilt thou not at once blaze out and attack him with reproaches, saying; "The garment which I gave thee was whole; wherefore hast thou rent it and made it useless? See, by reason of the rent, which thou hast made in it, it cannot be of use." Wilt thou not then say all this to a fuller even about a rent which he has made in thy garment?

32[109]:4 If therefore thou art thus vexed in the matter of thy garment, and complainest because thou receivest it not back whole, what thinkest thou AHAYAH will do to thee, He, Who gave thee the spirit whole, and thou hast made it absolutely useless, so that it cannot be of any use at all to its Adon? For its use began to be useless, when it was corrupted by thee. Will not therefore AHAYAH of this spirit for this thy deed punish [thee with death]?"

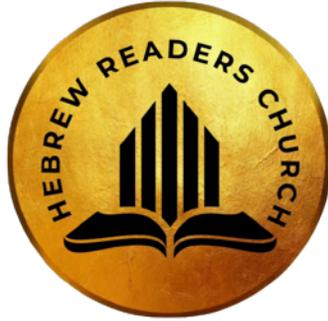
32[109]:5 "Certainly," I said,

"all those, whomsoever He shall find continuing to bear malice, He will punish."

"Trample not," said he, "upon His mercy, but rather glorify Him, because He is so long-suffering with your sins, and is not like unto you. Practice then repentance which is expedient

for you.

33[110]:1 "All these things which are written above I, the shepherd, the angel of repentance, have declared and spoken to the servants of Alahayim. If then ye shall believe and hear my words, and walk in them, and amend your ways, ye shall be able to



live. But if ye continue in wickedness and in bearing malice, no one of this kind shall live unto Alahayim. All things which were to be spoken by me have (now) been spoken to you." 33[110]:2 The shepherd said to me, "Hast thou asked me all thy questions?" And I said, "Yes, Sir." "Why then hast thou not enquired of me concerning the shape of the stones placed in the building, in that we filled up their shapes?" And I said, "I forgot, Sir."

33[110]:3 "Listen now," said he, "concerning them. These are they that have heard my commandments now, and have practiced repentance with their whole heart. So when AHAYAH saw that their repentance was good and pure, and that they could continue therein, he ordered their former sins to be blotted out. These shapes then were their former sins, and they have been chiseled away that they might not appear."

Acts of Thomas

37 And when the apostle had said these things to that youth, a great multitude joined them. And the apostle looked and saw them raising themselves on high that they might see him, and as they were going up into high places the apostle said to them: You men that have come to the assembly of Christ, and would believe on Yache, take example hereby, and see that if you are not lifted up, you cannot see me, and you will not be able to spy on me. If you cannot see me unless you lift yourselves up a little from the earth, how then can you see Him that dwell in the height and is now found in the depth, unless you first lift yourselves up out of your former old ways and your unprofitable deeds, with your desires that tolerate not, and the wealth that is left in here, and the possession of earth that grows old, and the raiment that corrupts, and the beauty that waxes old and vanishes away, and yet there are even more out of your whole body where such things are stored up, and which grows old and becomes dusty, returning to its own nature? For it is the body which maintains all of these things. But rather believe on our Lord Yache Christ, whom we preach, that your hope may be in Him and in Him you may have life in this world without end, that He may become your fellow traveler in this world of sin, and may be to you an harbor in this troubled sea. And He shall be to you a fountain springing up in this thirsty land and a chamber full of food in this place of them that hunger, and a rest to your souls, Yes, and a Physician for your bodies.

Acts of thomas 38

38 Then the multitude of them that were gathered together hearing these things wept, and said to the apostle: O man of Alahayim, the Alahayim whom you preach, we dare not say that we are His, for the works which we have done are alien to Him and not pleasing to Him; but if He will have compassion on us and pity us and save us, overlooking our former deeds, and will set us free from the evils which we committed being in sin, and not impute them to us nor make remembrance of our former sins,



we will become His servants and will accomplish His will to the end. And the apostle answered them and said: He reckons not against you, neither takes account of the sins, which you have committed, being in sin, but overlooks your transgressions which you have done in ignorance.