

Submit Yourself

Jeff L Mills

What does it mean to submit ourselves to Yehovah? How do we submit ourselves to Yehovah? Can we ever, truly, submit ourselves to Yehovah?

Most people believe that submitting to someone, or something, is a sign of weakness. We are taught by society and this world, that if we give in or concede, then we are a weak person. The truth is...that those who learn to submit themselves to Yehovah wield more power than the people of this world will ever know, or even begin to understand.

It takes great strength to overcome our own natural tendencies, our own self determination and the lusts and the pulls of this world. It takes great strength to completely submit ourselves to the Creator. It takes the power of the Holy Spirit (Ruach HaKodesh) dwelling within us, to give us the power to overcome even our own selves. That Spirit is something that those who are proud and arrogant, those that are wrapped up in materialism and the things of this world and those that are determined to do what they want to do, will never know, or understand.

When you submit yourself to Yehovah, it is not about you anymore. It is not about your wants and desires, or the things that you think you need. It is not about what you want to do and where you want to go...it is about Yehovah's will being done in your life. God does not twist your arm up behind your back and force you to give yourself to Him. It is a change of heart and a difference in the way that you think that allows you to submit yourself to Him. What is it that truly separates man from His Creator? Pride! Pride is always the downfall of man. Where does the attitude of pride and arrogance and self-will come from? The adversary.

You cannot be truly free, until you submit to Yehovah. If you do not submit to the Father and come under His protection and guidance, then you are under the influence and guidance of the adversary. If you do not believe that, then you are deceived and you must think that the Father is responsible for all of the bad things that are going on in this world. We are living in a broken and sick world, it is terminally ill and it is dying. Man refuses to see that this earth is in its death throes and that it is heading for complete destruction without the intervention of Yehovah and Yeshua.

Just imagine what life would be like on this earth right now if all men were submitted to our Creator. If only all of mankind were living by the laws and statutes and ordinances of Yehovah. It is so important that we, as followers and believers in Yeshua and Yehovah Avinu, are in submission to Him and obeying Him in all things. If we expect to be Kings and Priests and reign with Yeshua during the millennium, it has to start right now in this life, with us submitting ourselves to His will.

Do people really believe that they can just defy God and go right on doing the things they want to do and that God is just going to throw open the gate to the Kingdom and overlook that? What did the adversary do? He defied Yehovah! The adversary refused to submit to the Father and rebelled against Him. Now his fate is sealed. The adversary led a rebellion in the very dwelling place of Yehovah and convinced others to refuse to submit themselves to the Father.

If you do not submit yourself to Yehovah, then you lose your covering and your protection and you do not receive the full benefit of His Spirit. If we do not submit ourselves to Him, we are defying His authority. If we continue on our own path, seeking our own way and living just to please ourselves, we will never enter the Kingdom of God.

Deuteronomy 5:1-15

5 ¹ And Moses called all Israel, and said to them: "Hear, O Israel, the statutes and judgments which I speak in your hearing today, that you may learn them and be careful to observe them. ² The LORD our God made a covenant with us in Horeb. ³ The LORD did not make this covenant with our fathers, but with us, those who *are* here today, all of us who *are* alive. ⁴ The LORD talked with you face to face on the mountain from the midst of the fire. ⁵ I stood between the LORD and you at that time, to declare to you the word of the LORD; for you were afraid because of the fire, and you did not go up the mountain. *He* said: ⁶ 'I *am* the LORD your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.

⁷ 'You shall have no other gods before Me.

⁸ 'You shall not make for yourself a carved image – any likeness of *anything* that *is* in heaven above, or that *is* in the earth beneath, or that *is* in the water under the earth; ⁹ you shall not bow down to them nor serve them. For I, the LORD your God, *am* a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth *generations* of those who hate Me, ¹⁰ but showing mercy to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments.

¹¹ 'You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold *him* guiltless who takes His name in vain.

¹² 'Observe the Sabbath day, to keep it holy, as the LORD your God commanded you. ¹³ Six days you shall labor and do all your work, ¹⁴ but the seventh day *is* the Sabbath of the LORD your God. *In it* you shall do no work: you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your male servant, nor your female servant, nor your ox, nor your donkey, nor any of your cattle, nor your stranger who *is* within your gates, that your male servant and your female servant may rest as well as you. ¹⁵ And remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt, and the LORD

your God brought you out from there by a mighty hand and by an outstretched arm; therefore the LORD your God commanded you to keep the Sabbath day.

These first four commandments given to the people by Yehovah and reiterated here by Moses have something in common. Do you know what it is? Do you see what it is? They all involve submitting ourselves to Yehovah. By keeping these four commandments, we are acknowledging God, His sovereignty and authority, and submitting ourselves to Him as our Father who knows what is best for us.

As parents we set rules and boundaries for our children. We do not do that out of a sense of wanting to be mean, or to prevent them from doing things that they think are fun. We do it for their protection and for their education and because we do not want to see any harm come to them. If our children go out and disobey us, if they refuse to submit to us as parents, there can be very serious consequences. They go out from underneath the covering and protection that we as parents provide for them. If we refuse to submit to Yehovah, then we are also being disobedient and there will be very serious consequences for us too.

Israel was punished severely for breaking the Sabbath. They were warned over and over and they still refused to obey and submit themselves to Yehovah. Why? They wanted to follow their own way and to do what they wanted to do.

Jeremiah 17:19-27

¹⁹ Thus the LORD said to me: "Go and stand in the gate of the children of the people, by which the kings of Judah come in and by which they go out, and in all the gates of Jerusalem; ²⁰ and say to them, 'Hear the word of the LORD, you kings of Judah, and all Judah, and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, who enter by these gates. ²¹ Thus says the LORD: "Take heed to yourselves, and bear no burden on the Sabbath day, nor bring *it* in by the gates of Jerusalem; ²² nor carry a burden out of your houses on the Sabbath day, nor do any work, but hallow the Sabbath day, as I commanded your fathers. ²³ But they did not obey nor incline their ear, but made their neck stiff, that they might not hear nor receive instruction.

²⁴ "And it shall be, if you heed Me carefully," says the LORD, "to bring no burden through the gates of this city on the Sabbath day, but hallow the Sabbath day, to do no work in it, ²⁵ then shall enter the gates of this city kings and princes sitting on the throne of David, riding in chariots and on horses, they and their princes, accompanied by the men of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem; and this city shall remain forever. ²⁶ And they shall come from the cities of Judah and from the places around Jerusalem, from the land of Benjamin and from the lowland, from the mountains and from the South, bringing burnt offerings and sacrifices, grain offerings and incense, bringing sacrifices of praise to the house of the LORD.

²⁷ "But if you will not heed Me to hallow the Sabbath day, such as not carrying a burden when entering the gates of Jerusalem on the Sabbath day, then I will kindle a fire in its gates, and it shall devour the palaces of Jerusalem, and it shall not be quenched.""

At this point, the northern tribes of Israel were already in captivity for what they had done. Shortly after this warning, which Judah paid no attention to, they also were taken captive.

Jeremiah 21:1-10

21 ¹ The word which came to Jeremiah from the LORD when King Zedekiah sent to him Pashhur the son of Melchiah, and Zephaniah the son of Maaseiah, the priest, saying, ² "Please inquire of the LORD for us, for Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon makes war against us. Perhaps the LORD will deal with us according to all His wonderful works, that *the king* may go away from us."

³ Then Jeremiah said to them, "Thus you shall say to Zedekiah, ⁴ 'Thus says the LORD God of Israel: "Behold, I will turn back the weapons of war that *are* in your hands, with which you fight against the king of Babylon and the Chaldeans who besiege you outside the walls; and I will assemble them in the midst of this city. ⁵ I myself will fight against you with an outstretched hand and with a strong arm, even in anger and fury and great wrath. ⁶ I will strike the inhabitants of this city, both man and beast; they shall die of a great pestilence. ⁷ And afterward," says the LORD "I will deliver Zedekiah king of Judah, his servants and the people, and such as are left in this city from the pestilence and the sword and the famine, into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, into the hand of their enemies, and into the hand of those who seek their life; and he shall strike them with the edge of the sword. He shall not spare them, or have pity or mercy.""

⁸ "Now you shall say to this people, 'Thus says the LORD: "Behold, I set before you the way of life and the way of death. ⁹ He who remains in this city shall die by the sword, by famine, and by pestilence; but he who goes out and defects to the Chaldeans who besiege you, he shall live, and his life shall be as a prize to him. ¹⁰ For I have set My face against this city for adversity and not for good," says the LORD. "It shall be given into the hand of the king of Babylon, and he shall burn it with fire.""

God is merciful, He is gracious and kind and loving and longsuffering, but His patience does have a limit. Yehovah wants to make us over into new people. He wants us to serve as kings and priests, He wants us to reign with His Son for one thousand years during the millennium, but if we do not give ourselves over to Him so that process can take place, we will not be there! If we do not obey Him now and submit to Him, why would He entrust us with that place of honor? Only those who prepare themselves now in this life will be in those positions.

If you are honoring the Sabbath, then you are already on your way to submitting yourself to Yehovah. It takes commitment and it takes faith to keep the Sabbath and obey the Father. There are many pressures and persecutions brought on us by observing the Sabbath. The rest of the world thinks that we are weird! They think we are strange and that there is something seriously wrong with us, just because we love God and keep His Sabbath as He has told us to do.

This world does not want to submit to the Father and this world will fight until the bitter end and will even try to prevent Yeshua from taking control of the earth at His return. Mankind is in rebellion and they are under the sway and control of the adversary. Men think that they are in control of their lives, but they are being used by the adversary. If we are not submitted to the Father and under His protection, then we are being deceived and influenced by the adversary. The adversary controls this world.

Matthew 4:8-10

⁸ Again, the devil took Him up on an exceedingly high mountain, and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. ⁹ And he said to Him, "All these things I will give You if You will fall down and worship me."

¹⁰ Then Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! For it is written, '*You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve.*'" (Deuteronomy 6:13)

How could Satan offer the kingdoms of this world to Yeshua, unless they were his to control? If he were lying and they were not his to give, Yeshua would have known that and it would not have been any temptation to Him at all. Remember this was a test for Yeshua and He had to overcome the weakness of His flesh. Yeshua was submitted to the Father and He overcame because of that. It is the same for us, if we are going to overcome the temptations and pulls of this world we have got to be submitted to the Father. Satan will be dangling the kingdoms and riches of this world in front of us and we will be chasing after them and thinking that we are living our own lives and that we are in control. It is an illusion...it is designed to deceive and prevent you from entering the Kingdom and unknowingly you will be in submission to the adversary!

Deuteronomy 6:1-7:11

6 ¹ "Now this *is* the commandment, *and these are* the statutes and judgments which the LORD your God has commanded to teach you, that you may observe *them* in the land which you are crossing over to possess, ² that you may fear the LORD your God, to keep all His statutes and His commandments which I command you, you and your son and your grandson, all the days of your life, and that your days may be prolonged. ³ Therefore hear, O Israel, and be careful to observe *it*,

that it may be well with you, and that you may multiply greatly as the LORD God of your fathers has promised you — 'a land flowing with milk and honey.'

⁴"Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one! ⁵You shall love the LORD our God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength.

⁶"And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. ⁷You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up. ⁸You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. ⁹You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

Deuteronomy 7:6-11

⁶"For you *are* a holy people to the LORD your God; the LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for Himself, a special treasure above all the peoples on the face of the earth. ⁷The LORD did not set His love on you nor choose you because you were more in number than any other people, for you were the least of all peoples; ⁸but because the LORD loves you, and because He would keep the oath which He swore to your fathers, the LORD has brought you out with a mighty hand, and redeemed you from the house of bondage, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt.

⁹"Therefore know that the LORD your God, He *is* God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and mercy for a thousand generations with those who love Him and keep His commandments; ¹⁰and He repays those who hate Him to their face, to destroy them. He will not be slack with him who hates Him; He will repay him to his face. ¹¹Therefore you shall keep the commandment, the statutes, and the judgments which I command you today, to observe them.

Yehovah is asking for their obedience, He is asking them to submit. What does it mean to submit? To submit means: to yield to governance or authority. We have all sorts of laws and rules and regulations in this country. We all know that when we see a red hexagon sign with the letters STOP on it in white, that we must stop at that intersection. If you do not stop, there could be a serious accident and if you get caught running a stop sign, you will get a citation with a nice fine attached and it goes on your driving record.

We submit ourselves to the rules and regulations of man, yet people just ignore the commandments and statutes of Yehovah as if they mean nothing! They are going to pay a very heavy fine for their disobedience and total disregard for the Father's Word. They are going to pay with their eternal lives! That is a very heavy price...yet people are not worried and they are unconcerned with that and I am not talking about people in general, I am talking about those who claim to be believers in Yehovah and Yeshua.

1 John 2:3-6

³ Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments. ⁴ He who says, "I know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. ⁵ But whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. By this we know that we are in Him. ⁶ He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked.

Is there anything hard to understand here? No, it is very clear. We are to walk just as He walked. Was Yeshua submitted to the Father? Yes he was, in every way. He lived to please the Father and He was in complete obedience to the Father. We can fool ourselves and justify anything that we want to do, but if you think that Yehovah will look the other way and ignore disobedience to His Word and Torah, you truly are fooling yourself. The Avinu Prayer, which literally means the Our Father Prayer was given directly by Yeshua to His disciples. In that prayer He said, "Your will shall be done in heaven and on earth."

John 9:13-34

¹³ They brought him who formerly was blind to the Pharisees. ¹⁴ Now it was a Sabbath when Jesus made the clay and opened his eyes. ¹⁵ Then the Pharisees also asked him again how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and I see."

What happens here is very symbolic and I want you to think about what is happening here before we go on. This man was born blind and never saw the world around him. His physical blindness is the same as our spiritual blindness. We are born into this world and we are spiritually blind. The washing away of the clay, was representative of the spiritual blindness being washed away and true sight being restored through the Word of Yehovah. Yeshua represented the Father and He said if you have seen me, you have seen the Father.

¹⁶ Therefore some of the Pharisees said, "This Man is not from God, because He does not keep the Sabbath."

Others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" And there was a division among them.

¹⁷ They said to the blind man again, "What do you say about Him because He opened your eyes?"

He said, "He is a prophet."

¹⁸ But the Jews did not believe concerning him, that he had been blind and received his sight, until they called the parents of him who had received his sight. ¹⁹ And they asked them, saying, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?"

Look how these blind men reject this man's testimony of what happened to him! The man just explained to them what happened, but they reject his words because they would have to admit that Yeshua was the HaMashiach (Messiah) and they want to keep the power they have over the people teaching the doctrines and commandments of men!

²⁰ His parents answered them and said, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; ²¹ but by what means he now sees we do not know, or who opened his eyes we do not know. He is of age; ask him. He will speak for himself." ²² His parents said these *things* because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had agreed already that if anyone confessed *that He was Christ*, he would be put out of the synagogue. ²³ Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

²⁴ So they again called the man who was blind, and said to him, "Give God the glory! We know that this Man is a sinner."

²⁵ He answered and said, "Whether He is a sinner *or not* I do not know. One thing I know: that though I was blind, now I see."

²⁶ Then they said to him again, "What did He do to you? How did He open your eyes?"

²⁷ He answered them, "I told you already, and you did not listen. Why do you want to hear *it* again? Do you also want to become His disciples?"

²⁸ Then they reviled him and said, "You are His disciple, but we are Moses' disciples. ²⁹ We know that God spoke to Moses; *as for this fellow*, we do not know where He is from."

³⁰ The man answered and said to them, "Why, this is a marvelous thing, that you do not know where He is from; yet He has opened my eyes! ³¹ Now we know that God does not hear sinners; but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does His will, He hears him. ³² Since the world began it has been unheard of that anyone opened the eyes of one who was born blind. ³³ If this Man were not from God, He could do nothing."

³⁴ They answered and said to him, "You were completely born in sins, and are you teaching us?" And they cast him out.

These are blind leaders of the blind. There is another very important point here. If we want our prayers to be heard, then we have to be doing Yehovah's will. We have to be submitted to Him, we have to be following His Word and living Torah. We have to be obedient and we have to be allowing His Will to be done in and through our lives. We can profess Him and claim to be His all we want, but if we are not submitted to Him in all things then it is meaningless.

When we have important decisions to make we should go to Him. Do you pray and ask for guidance and direction when you have decisions to make, especially huge

life-changing decisions? If not, then you are not submitted to Yehovah. The decision you make on your own, may be totally and completely against His Will and what He wants to be done in your life. It is easy to fool yourself and talk yourself into believing that the decision you made was His Will, when it is really your own will and something that you want so badly that you are going to go ahead no matter what. You cannot make your will over into His Will; it does not work that way! When you go to Him with a decision be prepared to wait on His answer, sometimes He will test you to see if you will be patient or move forward on your own.

Luke 22:41-43

⁴¹ And He was withdrawn from them about a stone's throw, and He knelt down and prayed, ⁴² saying, "Father, if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me; nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done." ⁴³ Then an angel appeared to Him from heaven, strengthening Him.

Sometimes Yehovah's answer is no and we have to be prepared for that and accept it. He will give us the strength and the understanding to accept His Will. We may not always understand why things have to be a certain way, but we also need to understand that Yehovah's ways are far above our ways. It also shows a complete lack of faith on our part if we do not go to Him for an answer. We do not control anything. I know that is hard to get clear in our minds, but it is very important to understand that and we cannot completely submit ourselves to Him until we do understand that. If I walk into work on Monday and I am told that I am fired, is there anything that I can do about that? No, but Yehovah will provide and watch over us if we are submitted to Him.

You made a covenant with Yehovah, do you remember that? Do you remember what you agreed to do? Do you remember what is required of you to remain in that covenant?

Acts 2:36-39

³⁶ "Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ."

³⁷ Now when they heard *this*, they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Men *and* brethren, what shall we do?"

³⁸ Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call."

You agreed to Yehovah's terms, you accepted the sacrifice of His Son Yeshua the Messiah, you agreed to put away the old person that you were and to walk in

newness of life, you agreed to go and sin no more. Do you remember that? If you do not honor your side of that agreement, then how can you expect Yehovah to honor His? We can claim to be His all that we want to, but it takes more than lip service to please Yehovah. He looks on the heart, He knows our thoughts and our intent, we cannot fool the one who created us!

Matthew 7:21-23

²¹ "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. ²² Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' ²³ And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'

There are going to be many people who will be disappointed when the time comes and they find out they have been rejected, because they did not submit themselves to Yehovah and do His will. This scripture is condemning those who profess to be His, but they do things their own way, they are not obedient and submitted to Yehovah.

Exodus 24:3-8

³ So Moses came and told the people all the words of the LORD and all the judgments. And all the people answered with one voice and said, "All the words which the LORD has said we will do." ⁴ And Moses wrote all the words of the LORD. And he rose early in the morning, and built an altar at the foot of the mountain, and twelve pillars according to the twelve tribes of Israel. ⁵ Then he sent young men of the children of Israel, who offered burnt offerings and sacrificed peace offerings of oxen to the LORD. ⁶ And Moses took half the blood and put *it* in basins, and half the blood he sprinkled on the altar. ⁷ Then he took the Book of the Covenant and read in the hearing of the people. And they said, "All that the LORD has said we will do, and be obedient." ⁸ And Moses took the blood, sprinkled *it* on the people, and said, "This is the blood of the covenant which the LORD has made with you according to all these words."

Israel started off on the right path, they agreed to all the terms that Yehovah gave them, but we all know what happened...they did not keep their side of the covenant and Yehovah rejected them for that. This is a lesson for us, an important lesson. Do not go back on your word and do not break the covenant that you made with Yehovah. You made an agreement, a covenant with Yehovah. That covenant was sealed with the blood of Yeshua the Messiah...now submit yourselves to Yehovah completely and allow Him to do His Will in your life. Make His Will, your will.