Wrestling With Life to Perfect Ourselves!

<u>The Alliance with the Creator in Genesis</u> revealed that humans are meant to join the Creator as partners in creation, doing our part on earth to confer dignity and caring on others and alleviate human suffering. This is a "core Jewish value today." It is one of the reasons that the Creator created humans. This was not a religious belief, because Jesus did not teach "religious beliefs."

- The original Jesus taught that what you do is more important than what you believe.
- Doing the right thing for the wrong reasons is far more important than waiting for the proper motivation, even if doing so makes one unpopular or jeopardizes one's vital interests.

As we learned in the "Parable of Rich Man and the Poor Man," a human is **more than the sum total of his actions**; misdeeds (sins) can always be forgiven and he or she can return to the path of Elohim and the loyal and faithful ones, by "**doing acts of tzedaqah**" as long as they are alive.

The Creator did not create humans to be perfect. He gave humans the power to wrestle with their unique natures – "the soul of an earth creature that has the spirit of the Creator with them."

Imagine what it would be like to be an animal in the ancient world. Today you can go to YouTube to Wild Earth and see daily LIVE Safaris that connect people around the globe with nature daily. They do an amazing job!

Now back to imagining that you are an animal. Your primary purposes in life would be searching for food to eat, searching for water to drink, and not be eaten! You wouldn't have the "brain" or "DNA" requirements to change nature. However, as you wrestled with the daily challenges your instincts would become sharper and your body stronger.

- We must be taught how to wrestle with the appetites, desires, and longings of our earth soul.
- We do it by practicing how to exercise impulse control and self-discipline.

Beginner's Guide for Exploring the Teachings of Jesus

• We elevate ourselves above animals by developing the skills required to cooperate with each other. Cooperation is what sets humans apart from animals.

As we wrestle with the daily challenges above, we will become more perfected.

Perfect no!

Will the challenges continue? Yes.

But, as part of the Creator's Kingdom, we are not alone – "<u>we are a kingdom of partners</u> <u>of the Creator, doing our part on earth to confer dignity and caring on others and alleviate human suffering</u>."

<u>This is not a religion</u>. It is a commitment "<u>to life</u>" as "<u>our highest value</u>." If people guard and protect lives, <u>they fulfil the obligations of the Creator's Alliance in the Torah</u>, and <u>the requirements for entering the Kingdom of Elohim in Matthew, Mark, and Luke</u>.

Shalom, Jim Myers, President Biblical Heritage Center, Inc.

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