

When Truth Looks Foreign



Perception bends the mirror. YHWH's Word reveals the truth.

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For the Awakening Remnant**

**Walking the Ancient Path of Torah Obedience
Calling out Deception – Calling out Truth**

*Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil;
who put darkness for light, and light for darkness;
who put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter. (Is. 5:20)*

*To whom shall I speak and give warning, that they may hear?
Behold, their ear is uncircumcised, and they cannot listen;
behold, the word of YHWH has become a reproach to them,
they have no delight in it. (Jer. 6:10)*

As Roots Nourish the Tree ~ So Torah Nourishes the Soul

When Truth Looks Foreign – *Perception or Reality?*

Introduction

Truth is eternal, unbending, and set apart. Yet to human eyes clouded by tradition and perception, Truth often appears foreign—even false. A lie, repeated for generations, feels familiar, warm, and safe. But when Reality finally stands before us, unmasked, it feels like a threat, a disruption, an alien presence that doesn't belong. This is the struggle of every generation: to discern between what only looks true and what is true. Between perception and reality.

The Uneasy Mirror

Imagine a man standing before a warped mirror. The glass bends his reflection, stretching his features, distorting his form. He stares and nods. Yes, that is me. He has seen it so long that the distortion has become his truth.

Now, place in his hands a clear mirror. He looks—and recoils. The face staring back feels wrong, foreign, almost offensive. That cannot be me. This must be false.

So it is, with generations who have lived under the distortions of man's traditions. When the unfiltered Word of YHWH stands before them, pure and unbent, it feels like a lie. Reality itself looks false.

Whisper Nugget:

“A lie, lived long enough, feels like truth. Truth, when revealed, feels like a lie.”

The Weight of Perception

Perception is a heavy cloak, woven thread by thread from the culture we inherit. Most never take it off; they wear it as their only covering. It shapes how they see, what they accept, and what they dismiss without thought.

A lie does not need to be proven to feel true—it only needs to be repeated until it becomes familiar. Tradition, repetition, and authority can make almost anything appear right. And when something unfamiliar stands in its path—like the eternal Torah of YHWH—it feels foreign, uncomfortable, even false.

The people of Israel lived this cycle again and again. Prophets rose with the unbending Word of YHWH, but their message clashed with the perception of the people. “The temple is here; we are safe,” they said, while Jeremiah warned of judgment. To their eyes, his warning was the lie and their comfort was the truth. Yet history proved otherwise.

So it is today. When Torah is spoken, many see only a burden. When YHWH’s Name is restored, it sounds strange to ears dulled by centuries of substitutes. What is eternal looks false because perception has been trained to reject it.

Whisper Nugget:

“Perception is not proof. The familiar can be false, and the foreign can be true.”

When Reality Breaks In

There are moments when reality smashes through the fragile glass of perception. Those who laughed yesterday suddenly weep. Those who mocked the prophet suddenly remember his words.

Yirmeyahu (Jeremiah) stood in the streets of Jerusalem, tears running down his face. He cried out that destruction was coming, that the people’s confidence in the temple and their rituals was misplaced. To them, he was a liar, a madman, a traitor. But when Babylon’s armies set fire to the city and carried its people into exile, the truth was no longer “false.” It was reality, sharp and undeniable.

Noah preached righteousness while building a vessel on dry land. To the crowds, his words looked absurd, his warnings false. But when the fountains of the deep burst open, truth no longer seemed strange — it was the flood swallowing their disbelief.

Even righteousness itself often appears wrong in the world’s eyes. When a man refuses to bow to an idol, he is called stubborn. When he keeps the Sabbath holy, he is mocked as foolish. Yet in the eyes of YHWH, such faithfulness is counted as life.

Why Truth Looks False Today

In our own time, the distortion has only deepened. The clear mirror of Torah is called “legalism,” while the cracked glass of lawlessness is praised as “freedom.” A man who obeys the Covenant is labeled rigid; the one who ignores it is celebrated as enlightened.

The Name of YHWH, written thousands of times in the Scriptures (over 6,800 times), feels foreign to lips accustomed to titles like “Lord” or “God.” Centuries of repetition have made the substitute seem natural, while the true Name of the Most High sounds unusual—even suspicious.

This is the great tragedy: perception has flipped reality upside down. What is eternal appears false, and what is counterfeit appears true. The majority walk in shadows and call it light; the minority stand in the light and are accused of darkness.

Yet the mirror has not changed—only the eyes staring into it have grown accustomed to distortion.

Whisper Nugget:
“When perception rules, truth looks false and falsehood looks true.”

The Cost of Living by Perception

To live by perception alone is to stumble blind along the edge of a cliff. Each step feels secure until the ground suddenly disappears beneath the foot. The danger was always there, but perception dulled the senses and whispered, “All is well.”

Generations have trusted in temples, in kings, in creeds, in crowds. Each time, the collapse was swift, because the foundation was not YHWH’s unshakable Word. Perception may soothe for a season, but it cannot hold when reality presses in.

By contrast, those who cling to YHWH’s reality—even when it looks strange to the world—stand firm. They are like trees planted by streams of water, unbending in drought, unmoved by storm. What the world calls “foolish” becomes their wisdom. What the world mocks as “bondage” becomes their freedom.

Call to Return — Choosing Reality Over Perception

The time has come to choose. Will you keep staring into the mirror of men, content with distortions, or will you lift your eyes to the Word of YHWH that stands clear and eternal?

Perception is a fragile mask; it cracks under the weight of reality. But the Word of YHWH does not crack, does not bend, does not fade. It calls to you now, as it has called to every generation:

Return. See with clear eyes. Walk in the light of Truth, no matter how strange it may appear to a world drunk on illusions.

The prophets were despised, yet they were right. The righteous were mocked, yet they were upheld. The Name of YHWH was hidden, yet it still endures. Do not let the familiar chains of perception keep you from the freedom of reality.

Whisper Nugget:

***“Reality does not bend to perception. It is we who must bend to Truth
– When Truth looks false, know this, reality belongs to YHWH.”***

Questions to Ponder

Why does Truth often look false when it first appears?

Because perception is shaped by culture, tradition, and repetition. Lies repeated for generations feel familiar, while the pure Word of YHWH feels foreign. It is not Truth that has changed—it is our perception that has been trained to reject it.

What danger is there in trusting perception over reality?

Perception is like walking a cliff path in the dark—it feels safe until the ground disappears beneath your feet. When reality breaks in, perception shatters. Only those rooted in YHWH’s Word endure.

Why does obedience to Torah seem “legalistic” while lawlessness seems “free”?

Because the world has flipped reality. Torah, which is life and liberty, has been painted as bondage, while rebellion against YHWH is celebrated as freedom. But freedom without Truth is slavery in disguise.

Why does the Name of YHWH feel strange to many, while titles like “Lord” feel normal?

Centuries of substitution have trained people to accept the replacement as truth. The eternal Name has been hidden, so when it is restored, it feels unfamiliar—even though it is the true Name written thousands of times in Scripture.

How can we know if we are living by perception or reality?

Test every belief against the Word of YHWH in Hebrew truth, not against tradition or majority opinion. If it aligns with Torah, it is reality. If it contradicts Torah—even if it feels normal—it is perception and must be discarded.

What choice must each of us make?

Whether to remain in the distorted mirror of men or to look into the clear reflection of YHWH's Word. The call is to return to Truth, even if it looks false to the world. Reality belongs to YHWH, and only those who choose Him will stand.

As Blood is to the Body – So Torah is to the Soul