

I have a FREE GPS for everyone today, and I'll present you with this FREE GPS here in a bit, but first.....

I'm going to start today > by playing a wonderful piece of music for you, it's a George Gershwin composition titled "An American In Paris"... ..

What's wrong, did I miss a note? Oh wait, yes, I think I did, hold on let me get that? [play one more note] Is that better? I know I played all the notes??? What.... Did I still forget something else???? > Let me look close here???

Ooooooh, yes, there is another element I forgot to include in my playing,- > Yes, I'm sorry in my haste, I did forget something very VERY **VERY** Important! > The SPACE **Between** the Notes!

But isn't it just empty space? > It's Blank Space, > there aren't ANY notes there,- who needs Blank Space?? In reality SPACE ISN'T EMPTY, even science has discovered that space instead of being void contains something they are calling Dark Matter. But staying on point of Music.....

Since I tortured you with my noise, Let's look and listen for a few minutes, I'll let the masters have a try at it for just a few minutes and then we can hear how WONDERFUL the SPACE really can be?!?!!! >
[4 minute music video plays]

Soooo, I think it should be pretty absolutely clear, that the SPACE, as well as OTHER elements like FLAGS and DOTS and other Time & Space SYMBOLS really are JUST AS IMPORTANT AS THE ACTUAL NOTES. There's the Space Between the notes, as well as the Notes Around the Space. The Symbols denote RESTS and Voice/Volume/Timbre. >

French composer Claude Debussy put it this way, "Music **is** the space between the notes."

The space between notes allows them to resonate, reverberate, and reach their full measure of expression. Without this space, noise and cacophony would result.

Cacophony is defined as > chaotic noise as "barking dogs and screeching sirens".

So, that's MUSIC, but how does SPACE or BREATH of music; I also call it the BREATH, because the notes without their BREATH have no life,..... They CAN'T TOUCH OUR LIVES DEEP WHERE WE LIVE, OUR EMOTIONS!

Now I know in the many of the COG's we've harbored an anti-Emotion state, > fearing our emotions might get the best of us. And it can be true to a point, because emotions WITHOUT Thoughtful Direction is chaos. HOWEVER, the opposite of facts and knowledge WITHOUT FEELINGS- FEELINGS- the emotional side of our beings, is like that NOISE I played on the piano, Notes WITHOUT SPACE and BREATH! You see on the screen; singing and chanting PRAISE that Job speaks of at creation.....

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What about our Creator God? Does God have emotions?
Ephesians 4:29 Guard against foul talk; let your words be for the improvement of others, as occasion offers, and do good to your listeners,
4:30 otherwise you will only be **grieving** the Holy Spirit of God who has marked you with his seal for you to be set free when the day comes. >

Nehemiah 8:10 He then said, 'Go, eat the fat, drink the sweet wine, and send a portion to the man who has nothing prepared ready. For this day is sacred to our Lord. Do not be sad: the **joy** of YHWH (Yehoweh) is your stronghold.' >

John 15:9 "Just as my Father has loved me, I too have loved you; so stay in my love.
10 If you keep my commands [IF YOU GUARD AND FOLLOW MY DIRECTIONS - **GUARD AND FOLLOW MY GPS**] {have you ever thought of the MITZVA His Commands as simply our GPS provided by Yehoweh for us to stay on course and find our way through all of the traffic of life?}, SO LET ME START AGAIN ON THIS VERSE:
John 15:9 "Just as my Father has loved me, I too have loved you; so stay in my love. 10 **GUARD AND FOLLOW MY GPS**, you will stay in my love — just as I have kept my Father's commands {GUARDED AND FOLLOWED OUR FATHER'S GPS} and stay in his love. 11 I have said this to you so that **my joy** may be in you, and **your joy be complete**. >

All of these symbols that occupy the space between the notes do more than just fill the space, THEY ARE THE EMOTION of the music, the emotion that allows the notes to reach our hearts. Do we have an emotional connection to our own parents and kids? An emotional connection with our heavenly daddy ABBA and husband Yeshua is also a good thing, a very good thing.

How about a different angle on subject, a non-musical example to help illustrate:..... >

I read of a man who stood to speak, At the funeral of a friend
He referred to the dates on her tombstone
From the beginning...to the end.

He noted that first came her date of birth
Then spoke the second date with tears,
But he said what mattered most of all
Was > the dash between those years.
(1934-1998)

For that dash represents all the time
That she spent alive on earth...
And now only those who loved her
Know what that little line is worth.

For it matters not, how much we own;
The cars...the house...the cash,
What really matters is how we live and love
And how we occupy our dash.

So think about this long and hard...
Are there things you'd like to change?
For you never know how much time is left,
That can still be rearranged.

If we could just slow down enough
To consider what's true and real,
And always try to understand
The way other people feel.

And be less quick to anger,
And show appreciation more
And love the people in our lives
Like we've never loved before.

If we treat each other with respect,
And more often wear a smile..
Remembering that this special dash
May last only a little while.

So, when your eulogy's being read
With your life's actions to rehash...
Would you be proud of the things they say
About how you LIVED your dash?

>

SO, What is the Essence of our DASH?

What is the measure of our NOTES? >

THIS IS WHERE I REALLY WANT TO BRING THIS MESSAGE INTO FOCUS.....

The Note SPACES are the MEDITATION, PRAYER, and BIBLE STUDY that we ALLOW and PLACE BETWEEN our Notes. Then the Notes we play, Our NOTES, which are Our ACTIONS, get their EXPRESSION, their Resonance, their MEANINGS from the SPACES placed Before and After our notes. The NOTES we play in this Great Symphony called OUR LIFE, EQUALS, and IS Our DASH on our Gravestone!

We need a moment to let this sink in, so I'm going to repeat it, and leave it on the screen a little longer.... >

The Note SPACES are the **MEDITATION**, the **PRAYER**; which is the CONNECTION,- Our Connecting with our CREATOR one-on-one- Mano-a-Mano, PERSON TO PERSON, Son/Daughter to FATHER, Connecting with our Creator, and the **Study of the HANDBOOK** our Creator sent with his Prized Creation. > Then the **Notes** that we play, meaning Our **ACTIONS**, > get their **EXPRESSION**, their **Resonance**, their **MEANINGS** from that **SPACE** we allow and place **Before and After** these notes/actions that are played. >

These SPACES and NOTES are what EQUAL the Great Symphony called OUR LIFE.

Our DASH on our Gravestone! >

WHICH "IS" OUR DASH, OUR NAME THAT WE STRIVE TO HAVE WRITTEN IN THE "BOOK OF LIFE" !!!!!!!!! >

Now why did I include the mention of > **BLESSING** in my sermon title?

Allow me to TIE these elements mentioned to BLESSINGS. I gave you the close-up view with the notes and spaces, SO now here's the summery of what those Spaces, Notes, Our DASH/**LIFE** needs to be.... ... >

a BLESSING **Rather** than a CURSING....

BLESSING or CURSING to Our Family, Brethren, Friends, People we meet that SOME DAY may be our brethren, OURSELVES "AND" ultimately, to our GOD; Yehoweh and Yehoshua or Yeshua (in the more common form)

Are we not really either a blessing, a void, OR a cursing to relationships in our lives?!

As a parent, we our either a blessing, a void, or a curse to our children.

As a son or daughter, we are either a blessing, or curse to our parents (rarely a void)

As a friend, we are either a blessing, void, or curse.

As a employer, we are either a blessing, void, or curse.

As an employee, we are either a blessing to our employer, or a void, or a curse, if one of the latter two, probably not for long, in which case we'll become a dead-weight curse to the public unemployment system.

Now I'm sure everyone here wants your life to be a blessing, that's why we're here, so How do we INSURE that Our SPACE, Our BREATH, Our ACCENTS, Our LIFE, "OUR DASH" is a Blessing, rather than a Cursing?

The answer is a TWO-STEP Answer, and included in the handbook provided by our creator, to set the stage lets start: >

In Gen 1:26 Then God said, "Let **us** make humankind in **our image**, in the **likeness of ourselves**;

So, our creator made us in Their very own image, and one of the first things that we see about Elohim shown in their constant Biblical communication with man, from Adam to Paul, is that Our God is a > relational being.

Fortunately for us,- through in our handbook we find the **perfect** prototype model relationship.

It's modeled after the most fulfilling and longest lasting relationship in history, EVER, of all time, and that's the relationship **between Yehoweh the "Father" and Yehoshua the "Son"**.

Lets go to Hebrews chapter 1... Hebrews, chapter-1 and take notice... >

Whenever we see our Father talking or interacting with Our elder brother, His 1st born Son, we see that Father **always** glorifies His Son. His focus always turns to, and magnifies His Son. >

In Hebrews 1: 8 & 9, Listen to what the **Father** says about the Son (quoting from Ps 45:7-8)...

⁸But to the Son *He (the Father) says:*

"Your throne, O God, (the Father calls the Son Elohim) is forever and ever;

A scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Your kingdom.

⁹ *You have loved righteousness and hated lawlessness;*

Therefore God, (again the Father calls the Son God/Elohim)

*Your God (Eloheicha), has anointed You
With the oil of gladness more than Your companions.”*

And of course we all remember Matthew 3:17, as Yeshua is coming up from the water and hearing in a *BAT* voice (**tender daughters, from the OJB**)... >
“This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.” >

Then, every time in the scriptures where you see the Son interacting with Our Father or referring to our Father, the Son ALWAYS glorifies the Father and submits to the Father.

In John 6:38, **the Son submits to the Father, saying...**

**“For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will,
but the will of Him who sent Me.” Step ONE: >
Be “Other-centered”**

> In John 10:29 the Son proclaims...

**My Father, who has given *them* to Me, is greater than all
(and He’s including Himself in that statement)**

And just so there’s no confusion Yeshua again plainly states in the last part of John 14:28... “You have heard Me say to you, ‘I am going away and coming back to you.’ If you loved Me, you would rejoice because I said, ‘I am going to the Father, for My Father is greater than I.”

So, when we examine their interaction and put it all together we get this;

The Father lifts up, praises and glorifies the Son, whom He calls both “**God**” and “**My beloved Son**”

The Son turns it right back around and glorifies the Father, ALWAYS submits and points to the Father, acknowledges the Father to be greater than Himself, and always seeks and DOES our Fathers will.

The Father is lifted up and fulfilled by the unselfish love and devotion of the Son... and the Son has complete contentment by the great depth of love and vast endless blessings His Father bestows upon Him.

And, the result > of this “*other-centered*” balance- is that > you get a perfectly harmonized relationship, IN PERFECT TUNE,- Because there is no “Me, Myself & I”. And they, AS SHOULD WE: > always seek to Bless those who are SEEKING TO BLESS “OTHERS”. “OTHERS”! I can’t say it enough,- > When you are OTHER-CENTERED you are a BLESSING to Others, and YOU WILL BE BLESSED IN RETURN!

Because each one seeks to lift and honor the other!

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Step-Two; involves applying the “Platinum Rule” What’s the Platinum Rule?
The Platinum Rule takes the Golden Rule up to the next level...
The Golden Rule from Matthew 7:12 of course says “12 “Always treat others as you would like them to treat you; that sums up the teaching of the Torah and the Prophets.

But that’s actually not far enough! There is someone who IS higher on the list then self, correct?

Who are we to have more regard for, more respect for,- than even ourselves! **Yehoweh the Father and Yehosua our brother and king!** As with the 1st commandment.

So, the **PLATINUM RULE** is; > **Do unto others as you would do unto Yeshua or Yah the Father!** Treat everyone like you’d treat Yeshua Himself if He was standing in front of you!

NOW I’M NOT SAYING TO break the 1st commandment and WORSHIP EVERYONE, AND PUT EVERYONE ON AN EQUAL PLANE WITH GOD.

No, I’m simply referring to respect, and if the person you’re interacting with were Yeshua Himself, would you still be “TREATING” that person same way?

If you wouldn’t say it or do it to Yeshua Himself, then you shouldn’t do it or say it to anybody else.

If you’re having a disagreement with your spouse, a co-worker, a friend, a customer, a service provider... Would you still be treating them, SPEAKING to them the same way IF that person you’re dealing with was Yeshua Himself?

Now, I don’t know, some of you might be thinking, come on Robert, isn’t that a bit extreme????!!

Is it? And can we find the Platinum Rule anywhere in the Bible? >

Consider to Matthew 25... and in verse 34...

Notice who Yahshua says will be in His Kingdom:

Mat 25:34 34 Then the King will say to those on His right hand, 'Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: 35 for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; 36 I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.'

37 "Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink? 38 When did we see You a stranger and take You in, or naked and clothe You? 39 Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?' 40 And the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of **the least of these** My brethren, **you did it to Me.**' >

There it is, The PLATINUM RULE: **Do unto others, as you would do unto Yahshua.**

Everyone is included here,- from that person handing you your bag of Del Taco drive-through burritos, yeah, the one that handed you the Bean & Cheese burrito, when you clearly ordered the Macho Combo burrito... ... or to the Super-Cuts girl that made your hair look like Marge Simpson!

Come on, if that was Yeshua, would you still read HIM the riot act?

TREAT THEM AS IF THEY WERE YESHUA!

Again, I "didn't" say "worship" them as Yeshua, I'm talking about showing respect and love as we're commanded to show our neighbor.

Here's the final stanza: Compose your life as a FABULOUS Space and Note filled SYMPHONY, so your DASH will be a BLESSING to all that SAW and HEARD it, because you were OTHER CENTERED and Strove to always apply the PLATINUM Rule.

You know what your eulogy will be then? >

It will be read by the KING: When you stand face to face with your redeemer Yeshua, the King will say to you 'Come, you **blessed of My Father**, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world'!