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City Slicker

Psalms 19:7

The law of (YHWH)the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul. The statutes of (YHWH)the LORD are trustworthy, making wise the simple.

I grew up in the city all my life. From the day my parents brought me home from the hospital, I lived in the city. In fact, I never moved from that same city all my life until the recent years.

While growing up in the city as a young boy though, I always wanted to live in the country. I was just a city slicker who deep down wanted to be a country boy. My dad was a country boy. That’s probably why I wanted to be one. Hearing all his stories about growing up in the country just made it sound so cool and fun.

And then when we got together with family, I loved hearing everyone else’s side of those same stories. The next thing you knew, everyone is literally crying because of laughing so hard. Everyone talking about the “Glory days” of yesteryear in the country. Who wouldn’t want to live in the country after good times like that?

And now, 46 years later, here I am today with 32 chickens, two lambs and who knows what’s coming next. I’m not on a farm like my dad was, but I’m definitely not living in the city either. And the funny thing is, I have no idea what I’m doing. We’re just figuring it all out as we go. I’m still just a “wannabe” country boy. I’m still a city slicker. And at times it’s pretty obvious.

Don’t get me wrong, I have no problem with getting down in the dirt. The problem is, I’m just not exactly sure what to do when I’m there. Oh sure, I like to think that I know what I’m doing. But the reality is that I’m simply winging it the best that I can.

The more I'm trying to live the "farm life", the more I'm seeing that it's really not that hard. At least not AFTER I learn it. Learning something here and learning something there. Then after you learn that something you just say, "Oh. Well, that makes sense." At times it seems overwhelming because it's all new. But once you get the hands-on experience, it makes all the difference in the world.

In fact, once you have hands-on experience, you end up thinking "Well, why didn't I get this before?" Something that just seemed too difficult or just wasn't your "cup of tea" seems like a no brainer afterwards. You just had to have that experience in trying it out first. And the more you practice it, the easier it is. And the better you get at it.

From butchering a chicken, that needed to be done (which, by the way, still seems kinda gross) to trimming sheep's hooves. From learning what grows in the garden to when to plant according to the moon. Things I would have never thought of before. And, quite honestly, I didn't. But now it's something that I can honestly say that I'm learning.

A cool thing is how you learn that some things can be done completely to your own taste. While your neighbor may do the same task completely different from you. So, while there are some things that really need to be done and followed perfectly, there are other things that you can just do how you want to do it.

So, yea, I'm city slicker just trying to be a country boy. And that's OK. I'm having fun, and a great time learning.

Yet, that's kind of how it is for us in pursuing Torah. I'm just a "wannabe". I'm just learning as I go. There is so much to comprehend and wrap around your head that it can seem overwhelming at times. But then, the more we pursue an understanding in it, we find just how simple it really is. It can be a struggle to learn some things at first, but once you learn it you just say "Oh. Well, that makes sense."

Oh, there will always be elements to it that we just won't fully get. Not until Yeshua returns anyway. But we are learning just the same and it's amazing how the Torah just ties everything together.

Understanding the Feast days and how they point to prophecy. Learning that traditions are OK. As long as you know they are just traditions. And that if someone else doesn't want to follow that same tradition, it's OK. It's just a tradition.

Learning that the Law was given for our benefit and that it wasn't taken away for our benefit. Learning to apply all that we can to our lives today in truly wanting to fully obey our Heavenly Father. I have to tell you that it's fun! Since coming to Torah I have grown so much in understanding how the Scriptures just all tie together.

So yea, I'm a "wannabe". I'm just learning as I go. Relying on his grace and mercy to show me the way as I go. And finding out just how something that can seem SO difficult and out of our league can really be made simple.

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We hope you have enjoyed this brief message. Remember, continue to test everything.

Shalom!

For more on this and other teachings, please visit us at www.testeverything.net

Shalom, and may Yahweh bless you in walking in the whole Word of God.

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