

Behavior and Beards so called Torah followers or spectators by Rabbi Simon Altaf

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HTHS - (Hidden-Truths Hebraic Scrolls), all references to this bible or otherwise stated.

Some things can be very alluring and other things may be a put off.

One of the things that you must not be drawn into is how someone dresses themselves as that can be a negative way to view someone and does not tell you about the person. When you assess a person it's always by his fruit. If someone says they are a believer check their deeds and actions do they line up with the Tanak.

Torah is the lifestyle and government of YHWH but the rest of the religious systems came from man and they will try to captivate you to a particular set of rules and it's not the same as Torah obedience. With Torah obedience you can either read it yourself or ask a competent Rabbi to explain imperative details such as Kosher laws, ritual purity, niddah, etc, etc. Those that contend to teach Torah out there but have little to no understanding of what I just mentioned should be ruled out as incompetent teachers and avoided.

When someone enters into your life for guidance he could be entering as a teacher, or a prophet. However note prophethood ceased. There is no prophethood today so when someone comes today and says he or she is a prophet reject that person.

The infamous beard

Osam's Bin laden's beard became famous for the twin towers collapse whether he did it or not we will never know as he was never brought to trial. This beard was then used as jokes on many other people such as ex President Bush and even in some other movies it was used by actors.

Literally speaking beards are used in this world to cover ones sins and the longer the beard the more sins one has to cover. I don't want you to think I am joking, I am quite serious.

True Israel did not keep long beards but short ones as one is allowed to trim his beard as long as you do not remove your payots (sides). Even a one day payout is halakikly valid, means you can trim or shave all the way down close to the hairs. These days we see scrawny scruffy beards which Jews and Muslims wear.

In order to tell the character of the person see how he treats his brothers, sisters, children in and out of the family and strangers? If a man is stingy with outsiders he is unlikely to be big hearted to his family, stingy people have an evil eye well to be avoided. A man is good who waters liberally.

So first find out about his household.

Peh – Find out if he kept his word and lived up to it, most don't so cannot be trusted.

Resh – Find out if he walked with God with integrity. Many claim it but hardly do it.

Mem – Find out how he treated people around himself those other gentiles. If you have one who swears at gentiles or mistreats them watch out, he may do the same to you this man's spirit is out of line with the Torah!

A person having an excessively long beard needs to be checked as very few individuals with long beards can be trusted, this is my observation.

Men who keep long beards also have a long list of wrongs and a long beard is a red sign. The longer their beard the longer their list of sins. In other words many times it's just a front by so called Messianics to keep beard as they are not sincere but simply Torah spectators!

In Islam a long beard is a sign to watch out. When I was in the midst of Muslims I was very weary of long beards. I found the most intolerant people were with long beards and the most hypocritical ones also had long beards in Islam.

Beard

You can tell a lot about a man from his beard if he is a goat or a sheep! Whether he is redeemed or not.

This is why when I first became a Torah believer I had a hard time to keep a beard, I knew I needed to keep a beard but I just did not want a scrawny beard hanging down to my toes. I knew what beards have come to mean to me so I had to find a good balance to keep a beard that suited me but yet was not the long variety as I explained earlier. When you see Moses depicted with long beard that is not what he looked like either. Contrary to opinion not everyone in Jewish law has to keep a beard as mostly the beard was a sign of an Torah Scholar or it was for the priesthood.

Wayikra (Lev) 19:27 You shall not round the corners of your heads,¹ neither shall You destroy the payot² (sides) of your beard.

¹ It's like making a circle which was done in the ancient times for the dead.

² We have an explicit commandment here to make beards but no size is specified and we are allowed to trim the sides but not destroy them or disfigure them unless we have an illness that does that. Also the same applies to the head where hair is not supposed to be kept long but kept short and trimmed. Keeping long hair was only allowed in the Nazarite vow which was a sign of humility before YHWH. A case can be made against beards as they are not a requirement for all of Israel but only the priests but it was more a tradition that the rest of Israel kept beards. The word Zakan in Hebrew refers to a scholar of Torah so careful attention needs to be paid who the short beards apply to if at all. We have an explicit commandment here to make beards but no size is specified and we are allowed to trim the sides but not destroy them or disfigure them unless we have an illness that does that. Also the same applies to the head where hair is not supposed to be kept long but kept short and trimmed. Keeping long hair was only allowed in the Nazarite vow which was a sign of humility before YHWH. A case can be made against beards as they are not a

Also know that behind every beard is a story and the longer the beard the longer the list of stories.

I found people of beards who were Muslim especially of no integrity those that have been to hajj, the Muslim pilgrimage, I found them the most intolerant and hostile to others. I thought maybe this only applies to Muslims but when I saw Messianics and Christians I found the same thing and even worse with orthodox Jews many of which are racist to non-Jews. Again remember not everyone might be like this but the majority are. A few individuals with beards may not fit this category.

So when I kept a beard I wanted to keep a small one. I wanted to be different from those individuals and be examined differently.

If a man keeps a long beard he will have to maintain it so look out for that, does he maintain it. If he is scruffy and does not care about maintenance then what chance that he will maintain you if you are marrying such a man? Men who keep shorter beards always maintain them and are the ones to look for. You will notice they are conscious of self and others around them.

That is a character trait to look for. It means these guys are considerate to others, they consider others feelings and needs. A person just growing a three foot bush cares little of others and certainly not going to look at your feelings and I really mean that as I have seen and observed this in my experience.

While men who keep long beards, their beards become their own righteous action, so the longer the beard the more righteous they think they are when in fact they may not be. This is a majority issue and a minority few may not fit this description with long beards.

A person who is righteous in his own eyes may not be righteous in YHWH's eyes.

But a person who lowers himself he is righteous in YHWH's sight. We always need to put ourselves in YHWH's sight first. I need to ask the question am I right in his sight? When I was a Muslim I would hate to go to the Mosque but would rather pray at home. Why? I saw too many hypocrites lining up the mosques and then found them doing all sorts of bad things outside therefore I decided earlier on while a Muslim that I was not going to be the hypocrite like them. I decided I will be honest, I will have integrity but not with that lengthy beard so I never kept a beard as a Muslim.

Why do I trim my beard? To lower my status before YHWH, to show YHWH it's not my long beard but my short beard that I keep before you so that you know I try to walk

requirement for all of Israel but only the priests but it was more a tradition that the rest of Israel kept beards.

Micah 1:16 Shave your heads bald, and mourn for your delicate children; enlarge your baldness on your forehead as the eagle; for they are gone into captivity from you.

upright in all my affairs, I never try to show outward righteousness with inward hypocrisy.

This is why when someone dies we remove our facial hair altogether to show respect and mourning to the dead.

Your beard should not be more than a fist in size to your own hand at its largest level.

To me a beard the first question I ask is why am I keeping it? I need to remember who I am keeping my beard for that is YHWH but not to grow like a tree then if I do that then I would be keeping it for myself and not for YHWH in other words hiding my sins. My righteousness is not dependent on a long beard running from my face to my feet but many people in the world function this way. You have the two extremes the ones with no beards which fits the Greek culture and those that have too big beards equally hypocritical. Try it and test it and you will see what I am telling you has a lot of truth in it.

If you asked me are you righteous, I will tell you only YHWH is righteous but we are mere creatures who try but don't measure up. Everyday I examine myself and ask myself how can I do something better and more pleasing to Abbah. Did I do anything wrong yesterday that I should not repeat today.

I ask, Am I wicked, because I am trying to obey the Torah of YHWH. Am I righteous on my own? No. Then what am I?

I am entirely in the Abbah's hands and that is the best place to be in.

Then how can I believe I am good for the Kingdom? The honest answer is without the Abbah YHWH I am not good enough. I used to be like that. While many people would line up the mosques to show how good they were I would find a corner spot to say to myself I am inadequate in front of God. I cannot go right up to the front. When I first became a believer and I would get invited to some function or some fellowship I would go and want to sit at the back in a little spot where I do not get noticed. I never wanted to stand with the people in the front because I felt my inadequacies in the heaven above, in that I should do even better. I knew my own righteousness was nothing but filthy menstrual rags in comparison to God's set-apartness. How could I stand in His presence, which is so pure that I can not even reach 1/10 of that?

Beresheeth (Gen) 47:9 And Yakov said to Pharaoh, The days of the years of my pilgrimage are one hundred and thirty years: few and evil have been the days of the years of my life, and they have not attained to the days of the years of the life of my ahvot (fathers) in the days of their pilgrimage.

When Jacob was asked his age by Pharaoh Jacob told him I am 137 years of life and the days of my life are few and evil and that they have not been as good as I like them to be such as the days of my forefathers.

In other words he had seen a fair share of evil around him and had gone through equally with problems and wasn't ashamed to own up to it. He was a righteous Tzadik man but even then he felt he need not beat his chest and stand up proclaiming it.

The bottom line

Beards are important but watch out their sizes.

Our righteousness is not measured by a beard, it must always be judged in the Torah we keep and practice and not the size of our beards but keep it trimmed and remember every time it grows above two inches you need to cut it down as the righteousness of our Abbah is what we need to be clothed with and we need to own up our sins to the heavens, we need to make restitution with those we have wronged and live our life to serve the Most High YHWH. If I claim to be Torah obedient then I must be tithing to my Rabbi, a Lewite, I must be building the kingdom. If I am supposed to tithe 10% and don't even bother to give 5% then what good is my Sabbath that is out of line since my basic start is wrong. What good then the beard? Nothing but showmanship.

Psalm 1:3 And he shall be like an etz (tree) planted by the rivers of mayim, that brings forth his fruit in its season; and whose leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he does shall prosper.

What rivers of waters is this righteous tree planted in? He is planted in living waters that is the only way he can be righteous. Firmly planted in Torah, which is mayim chayim, waters of life.

Our leaves may not wither and the only way this can happen is if we constantly examine ourselves to make sure we live correctly for our Abbah.

May the God of Israel guide you and bless those of you who obey His Torah.

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