“FOR THE JOY SET BEFORE HIM

HE ENDURED THE STAKE”

 This is based on a revelation given to Derek Townsend from Abba Yahuwah about **John 19:25-30 and Hebrews 12:2**, on Shabbat November 30, 2019

 **Hebrews 12:1-2**: “We, too, then, having so great a cloud of witnesses all around us, let us lay aside every weight and the sin which so easily entangles us and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to the Princely Leader ad Perfecter of our faith, **Yahushua,** **who for** **the joy that was set before Him endured the stake**, having despised the same, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of Elohim.”

 The words “set before” refer to “in the visual eye sight of…” “in the literal view of.” Strong’s #473 Greek: “anti,” “denoting contrast” between literal suffering and what He literally saw in his sight - “over-against,” opposites” “a substitute for.”

 The word for His death instrument, in Greek, is “stauros,” #4716 Strong’s Concordance, meaning an “upright stake, pole, or tree.”

 **John 19:25-30**: “And near the stake of Yahushua, seeing His mother and His disciple whom He loved, standing by, He said to His mother, `Woman, behold your son.’ Then to His disciple He said, `behold your mother.’ And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home. After this, knowing that all had been accomplished, said `I thirst.” A bowl of sour wine stood there. They filled a sponge with sour wine and put it on hyssop and held it to His mouth. When Yahushua took the sour wine He said `IT IS FINISHED!’ And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit.”

 The words “It is Finished” in Greek, refers to a business transaction concluded with a stamp of “Debt Paid,” or “Paid in Full.”

 Knowing the payment for sin was finished, He thought of His thirst. He finally had time to think of Himself. His mother would be well taken care of by His trusted disciple whom He would see later on. Yahushua asked for the sour red wine to sip, which was put on a sponge and held up to Him by a stalk of hyssop. Then He cried out “It is Finished!” Then He simply released His spirit.

 But, why did He sip the red wine on the sponge held up by the hyssop before He cried “It is Finished” and gave up His spirit? Was it like a hard-working man relaxing with a glass of good wine after a hard day’s work? I think not…

 Interjecting a revelation Yahushua just showed me. He was tasting the “last cup” for Passover in order to go on to First Fruits and His Kingdom!

 In **Exodus 12**, we read that the blood of lambs was put on the doorposts using the herb-shrub “hyssop.” All who put the blood over their doorpost using the hyssop, symbolic of simple faith, would be saved from death in the final 10th plague. Yahushua was/is the Lamb of Yahuwah who took away the sin of the world. (**John 1:29**)

 **His last act on earth** **before death was to reenact the Passover** **of** **Exodus 12!**

 Just before sunset beginning Passover, Aviv 15, entering the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, Messiah was laid in the tomb. Messiah fulfilled all the Festivals: Passover, Unleavened Bread, First Fruits, Shavu’ot/Pentecost, Trumpets, Atonement, and Tabernacles. The seven festivals (**Leviticus 23**) are the outline of Yahuwah’s Plan of Salvation for us.

 In the Temple, at the exact same time Yahushua cried out “It is Finished,” the High Priest took the final, specially chosen Passover lamb, the lamb for the nation, the perfect spotless lamb, and slit its throat crying out “It is Finished.”

 The dark red blood-colored sour wine was mixed with the dripping blood from the face of Yahushua. He drank it as it was held to His mouth by a stalk of hyssop.

 **Exodus 12:21b-24**: “Go out and take lambs for yourselves according to your tribes, and slaughter the Passover lambs. And you shall take a bunch of hyssop. Dip it in the blood that is in the basin and strike the lintel and the two doorposts with the blood that is in the basin. And no one of you shall go out of the door of the house until morning. And Yahuwah shall pass on to smite the Egyptians and shall see the blood on the lintel and on the two doorposts and Yahuwah shall pass over the door and not allow the destroyer to come into your houses to smite you. And you shall guard this word as a law for you and your sons forever.”

 **II Corinthians 5:15, 21**: “…and He died for all, that those who live should not longer life for themselves but for Him who died for them and was raised…For He (Yahuwah) made Him (Yahushua) who knew no sin, to be sin for us, that in Him we might become the righteousness of Yahuwah.”

**THE AWESOME REVELATION GIVEN TO DEREK ON SHABBAT:**

As I read this in an e-mail he sent, chills burst forth from my spirit like water from a fountain. The chills went all over my upper body.

 As Yahushua was in the last stages of dying in our place, taking the punishment due us for our sins, He looked down at the foot of the stake and saw with His eyes His disciple, Yochanan, standing there with His mother. He had been aware of their presence. But, then He looked intently at Yochanan. He thought of the time when He would rise from the dead and see Yochanan again. Then He thought of when He would visit Yochanan on Patmos and give him the Revelation of Himself, telling him what was to come--the eternal state being His grand conclusion. He knew He could trust Yochanan with the future. He knew Yochanan as “the disciple Yahushua loved” - the disciple that He shared His innermost grief with regarding Judas at the last supper (**John 13:21-26**). He knew that Yochanan would be His representative of the end-time remnant that would be blameless – His Bride. He knew that on Patmos He and Yochanan would see together the victory over sin forever.

 As He shared His grief with Yochanan before He went to the stake, He knew He would share His greatest joy with him – His Wedding Day. **For the joy of what lay ahead with Yochanan and those “beloved” ones like Him, His Bride, He endured the stake.**

 Sometimes when we’re in a lot of pain, yet thinking about some joy, the pain seems to leave our consciousness--we temporarily forget it because our mind “sees” the joy ahead. On that day, as Yahushua saw with His eyes Yochanan standing there, the only disciple who remained faithful to Him even if it meant death, it gave Him the joy to finished paying for our sins. Are we, today, showing Him that His death for us was worth it, because of our passionate devotion to Him even in the face of death?

 It was seeing faithful Yochanan at the foot of His stake, watching Him pay for the sins of mankind, that gave Him the joy to endure the pain of death, knowing that this young man would also be a good guardian of His mother. What trust! He trusted Yochanan with His deepest emotions, then with His deepest plans, then with His deepest joy, and Yochanan trusted Him with everything.

 Yahushua knew that 50 days after First Fruits, the day of His resurrection, His mother, who would be born again would be filled with the Spirit of His Father along with Yochanan and the other disciples on the day of Shav’ot/Pentecost. He knew that because of Yochanan, many would come to know Him, love Him, and walk in love toward other born-again ones. Yochanan was the key to His Wedding Day! He represented those who would be with Him in “the fellowship of His sufferings,” – those who would not deny Him, nor leave their own execution stake until His return. He trusted Yochanan more than any other human being because they had come to know each other personally as “yedid” - “Beloved.”

 **Luke 14:17, 33**: “Whosoever does not bear his execution stake and come after Me is unable to be My disciple…And everyone of you who does not forsake all that he has is unable to be My disciple.”

 Yochanan risked his life to be there with Miriam at the foot of the stake. But, his passion for his Master didn’t even consider the danger. He was faithful to Him until the end of His suffering, then faithful to Him unto this day.

 Apostle Sha’ul said in **Philippians 3:10-11**: “…that I might know Him, and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death, if somehow I might attain to the resurrection from the dead…Brothers, I do not count myself to have laid hold of it yet, but only this: forgetting what is behind, and reaching out for what lies ahead, I press on towards the goal for the prize of the high calling of Yahuwah in Messiah Yahushua.”

 Yochanan is our role model. Those that identify with His sufferings and death, His resurrection, His eternal life, are also beloved to Him. Yochanan’s book, *I John,* shows us that Yochanan’s nature was aligned totally to that of his Master, and thus to Abba Yahuwah. This is what the Spirit is doing in the lives of those who stand at the foot of the stake and let the Spirit of Yahuwah transform them into the nature, ways, and thinking of Elohim in preparation for His coming.

 **Philippians 2:5**: “Let this mind be in you that was also in Messiah…”

 Let us look higher and beyond the troubles of this life and endure our execution stake for His sake, looking unto Him – the author and finisher of our faith. Yahuwah wants to show us our personal future. Yochanan wrote our destiny well in **Revelation 19-22**. Let us keep our eyes on the finish line, and not look back for any reason! We must cross our own Red Sea, but the Promised Land is on the other side. (**Exodus 14:13-15**) Never look back to Egypt, or you’ll not reach what is promised to His children in the Kingdom. Raise your spiritual eyes higher!

In His love, blessings, Yedidah

December 2, 2019