Turning Faith into Substance

A Special Message for T’shuvah 2018

 We’ve passed the half-way mark in the month of Elul. How’s your month of T’shuvah been going? Is this a special Elul for you--marking a turning point in your life? We’re moving quickly towards Yom Teruah! Abba has become more personally involved in the lives of His servants than ever before. I am amazed!

 T’shuvah: What does this Hebrew word mean? -- “Repentance (**Hebrew**: תשובה‬, literally, `return’ pronounced `tshuva’ or `**teshuva’** is a `returning in repentance.’”

 We come to Yahuwah with repentance, knowing we are helpless without Him. We forsake sin, carnality, our own will. We die to self, and take on His life, His will. Once we are free from the strongholds of the kingdom of darkness and firmly planted in the kingdom of light, we begin our personal relationship with our Savior, Yahushua, the Lamb of Yahuwah, and with our Abba/Daddy/Father Yahuwah.

 In the true new birth, we begin our walk of faith. This adventure for us humans here on planet earth is known as a walk of faith, a journey of faith, a journey in learning to know Yahuwah and our Savior, Yahushua.

 **Hebrews 11:1,6**: “**Faith is the substance of what is expected, the proof of what is not seen…Without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to Elohim must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him**.”

 Here, I want to briefly share with you a little about what faith means in Abba’s thinking, for He is a “Father,” Hebrew: “Abba,” not a remote, untouchable “God.”

 How do we develop strong faith? It comes from developing a strong relationship with Abba and Yahushua--learning through the Word and personal experience.

 **Lamentations 3:21-26**: “…Great is Your faithfulness!” **Numbers 23:19-20:** “El is not a man that he should lie…has He not said and will He not do it?...” **II Timothy 3:11-14**: “Trustworthy is the Word! For if we died with Him, we shall also live with Him…If we are not faithful, He remains faithful, for it is impossible for Him to deny Himself!”

 Real faith begins by believing the Word of Elohim--the “logos,” Greek for the written Word, and the “rhema,” Greek for the spoken Word--spoken into our spirit by the Spirit of Yahuwah. At the true new birth, 40 things are done to create a temple within us for Yahuwah’s Spirit to dwell in. We must completely cross the bridge that separates the kingdom of darkness and the Kingdom of Light, and burn it. Thus we die to the past; we die to “flesh” and its sinful demands, and come alive unto a new Master, Yahushua! (**Colossians 1:12-15; I Peter 2:8**) Once completely out of the kingdom of darkness, it is mandatory that we ask the Spirit of Yahuwah to come reside in our re-born temple within our spirit area (our middle area). It is the spirit that is reborn; the mind must be disciplined by the Word to always say “yes” to the Word of the Master. [Refer to: “The True New Birth”/Mikvah of Eternal Salvation.

 Our faith must be built by experience and obedience upon the firm foundation of our tried and tested personal relationship with the Faith-Giver, faith in the Words spoken from His mouth to us, and the peace He gives assuring us that what we need will be provided. He gives peace and assurance for His will is already done! “Has He not said and will He not do it? Has He not spoken and will He not bring it to pass? Of course! What He says, He will do it! We just have know His nature, ways, and thinking, through His Word and our personal experiences with Him! He is faithful to the maximum!

 If He does not say something is ours, and gives us His assuring peace about it, we can quote Bible verses days on end, and never receive what we want. We must never presume – faith and presumption are two different things! Just because we hang onto a Bible verse for what we want, doesn’t mean He is involved with our presumption! Refer to: “The Curse of Presumption”/Mikvah of Set-Apartness and Separation. Faith must rest solely on the reputation of the Promise-Giver, and what He has said His will is for us personally, by giving us His Word, His peace, His joy, and His assurance in our spirit. There is a lightness, a skipping type of joy, and deep peace, when we’ve heard from Him personally to our spirit what He will do for us. We know it for sure, we can “take it to the bank,” because our Daddy said it.

 **Ya’cob**/James **4:3**, KJV: “You ask and receive not because you ask amiss, that you may consume it upon your lusts.” To “ask amiss” because we ask for what would satisfy our longings, our will. But, our Father sees the end from the beginning, and works with us to obtain our long-range good. Therefore, the safest prayer we can pray is: “Let nothing usurp Your will Abba, only Your will be done.”

 **Isaiah 57:15b**: “`I dwell in the high and set-apart place, with him who has a bruised and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble and to revive the heart of the bruised ones.’ ”

 **Isaiah 66:1-2**: “…`All these things My hands have made, and all these that exist,’ declares Yahuwah. `Yet to such a one I look--on him who is poor and bruised in spirit (KJV: humble of heart), and who trembles at My Word.’ ”

 The “blab it and grab it,” or “name it and claim it,” mentality is 99.99% presumption. That’s not considering the will of the Most High! Presumption is NOT faith! We might get emotionally hyped, jump, shout, cry, yell, proclaim till the cows come home, but if our faith is misplaced, the answer will not come – there will only be silence from heaven. He has to be Elohim. We must pass the test of Iyob in order to go forward with relationship with Elohim. [Refer to: “The Test of Iyob”/Mikvah of Separation and Set-Apartness] Iyob/Job was a righteous man, a “saved” man, a man with solid faith in his Creator. Yet, he had to be freed from his fears, and be humbled to understand why Abba let such tragedy happen in his life. He had to conclude: “You are Elohim; I am not.”

 **Matthew 18:1-4** is mandatory for even entering the Kingdom-childlike humility, faith, and purity. He will not let us override His will, no matter how hard we try to, or we plead. He will not give in to our trying to manipulate Him. We so often tie His hands from being able to help us by sin, or presumptuous attitudes.

 Knowing His nature, His ways, and His thinking, how He reasons thing, is mandatory to receiving. He is no game-player! He tells us ahead of time what will be! He does not waste time with guessing games. **If something is ours, we know it by His joy, His peace, and His calm assurance deep in our spirit**. He cannot and does not speak to our volatile carnal mind and emotions (soul), for our carnal soul is aligned with our carnal fleshly desires, and our sin-prone nature that is based on the will of our five senses. The mind must be disciplined by the Word, the Spirit, and our instant obedience, in order for it to align to our re-born spirit. This alignment of the “spirit man” is called “blamelessness.” (**I Thessalonians 5:23-24**) The fruit of the re-born spirit automatically controls the soul!

 Faith bypasses the reasoning mind--totally. It is not based on what the five senses detect – sight, hearing, touching, smelling, tasting.

 The gift of faith mentioned in **I Corinthians 12:1-12**, goes far beyond the “measure of faith” (**Romans 12:3**) which we receive at our true new birth according to our position in His Kingdom. The “gift of faith” totally leaves the mind standing blank, the emotions idle, the soul quiet, and the carnal flesh silent. It comes upon us immediately and we obtain immediately. It’s because it is an extra-dimensional exchange between our Creators and us. Miracles take us by surprise, as we pray and praise. The surprise in this type of faith is when it manifests – on His timing. Day-to-day faith is our lifestyle, based on “thus says Yahuwah.”

 Faith is like an arm muscle – it can be strengthened and enlarged by discipline and exercise of faith.

 He speaks in 40 different ways, each with a precedent in the Bible. [Refer to: “The 40 Ways Elohim Speaks to His People”/Mikvah of The Spirit of Elohim]

 Most of the time, He speaks to our re-born spirit when we are reading or meditating on the Word, or He brings the Word to our inner memory, or when He speaks into our spirit by His “still, small voice.” (**I Kings 19:11-12**)

 It’s a life style relationship that is natural to His children, as natural as a good Daddy speaks to his children in love and kindness. We can, communicate with Him all through the day, talking to Yahuwah our Abba and/or Yahushua our Beloved Savior as we would talk to our most beloved friends. Abraham was His friend. Moses knew Him face to face. They were humans who lived a life of obedience.

Read **Hebrews chapters 11 and 12**.

 How does a young child talk to a beloved Daddy? If Daddy promises the child something is theirs, do they question it? Yes, they might ask him questions about it in their excitement. But, they know that when he says something, he means it. So, the child goes on their way happy, excited, and content, because Daddy promised and Daddy never lies. That is not presumption – only faith in someone loved and known.

 He tells us the end from the beginning (**Isaiah 46:9-10**) Remember what He has done for you, in saving you, in being with you, in answering prayers, in performing miracles for you, of comforting you, encouraging you. Remember!

That builds our faith!

 I must say here very strongly that every time you hear from Him, via a dream or a vision, a revelation to your spirit of what His Word is saying to you in some way--His instructions to your spirit--WRITE IT DOWN IMMEDIATELY AND DATE IT, GIVING THE HOUR, DAY, MONTH, AND YEAR. Keep it close to you. I have two thick notebooks filled detailed reports on what He’s said to me in dreams, visions, words of wisdom and foreknowledge, prophecy, revelation, and specific instructions.

 Because I love my Abba, I consider it near blasphemy to hear from Him and then not even write it down immediately so that i have it before me. He gives us His mind and His instructions. I don’t mean to be crude here, but I can’t think of any other way to put it: Not to write down, or voice record, what He speaks to us is like “flipping Him off,” as if what He says is not important. How can He build on what He has said if we have no foundation to build on in spirit or mind? This is very, very serious! Our memory is not that good! We forget easily. We also get easily distracted with carnality! He usually does not repeat Himself to a lazy servant!

 Thus, we must write it down immediately in detail, or voice record it, and then do whatever He says, asking His wisdom as to what He means and how to do what He says. He is Master! We live by every word that proceeds from His mouth! (**Deuteronomy 8:2-6**; **Isaiah 55:8-13**)

 **The reason I’m being so intense about this is because He is now speaking to His servants more than ever before. He is in “urgent” mode. He is preparing us for what is soon to happen. As a loving Abba, He wants to protect us, and also to use us in this end-game mightily. But, how can He, if we will not take Him seriously?**

 He always builds on what He says, if we do what He initially says. How can He give you step 2 if you have not recorded and acted on step 1? So be diligent to write it on paper, or the computer, with backups, and print it out. If He allows, share it with others as He directs. Discipline and diligence! This is how He works with us, and how we must work with Him.

 **Isaiah 28:9-12**: “For to whom would He teach knowledge? And to whom would He make to understand the message? Those weaned from milk, and those taken from the breasts! For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept, line upon line, line upon line, here a little there a little. For with stammering lip and unknown tongue will I speak to this people, to whom He said, `This is the rest, and this is the refreshing, but they would not hear.’ ”

 Note: For those who have His Spirit within their spirit, He speaks through tongues and interpretation of tongues also, which equal prophecy.

 Don’t be one who does not hear! He is speaking! **Daniel 2:20-22**: “Blessed be the Name of Elah forever and ever, for wisdom and might are His…He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to those who possess understanding. He reveals deep and secret things. He knows what is in the darkness and light dwells with Him.”

 **Luke 8:18**: “Therefore, take heed how you hear. For whoever possesses to him more shall be given, and whoever does not possess, even what he thinks he possesses shall be taken away from him.”

 Be warned! If you do not possess what He has given you by expanding it and using it, investing it in the lives of others, He will remove it, and leave you to your own ingenuity. We are in the most dangerous time of human history to be left without His help! Refer to Derek Townsend’s mini-book: *For the Love of Truth – Possessing Your Eternal Life* on Amazon and his website, thewelltroddenroad.org.

 To take His speaking to us lightly will destroy the faith He wants to give us!

As His children, we are under a Master and bond-servants in training for reigning. After repentance and faith in Messiah in our new birth, we must allow our Abba to have the aul thrust through our ear, so that we are marked as one of His forever. The Greek word is “doulos,” a bond slave. (**Deuteronomy 15:15-16**)

 Our confession must be that of Sha’ul in **Galatians 2:20**: “I have been nailed to the stake with Messiah, nevertheless I live, yet not I, but Messiah lives in me. And that which I now live, I live by faith in the Son of Yahuwah, who loved me and gave Himself for me.”

 **Deuteronomy 8:3**: “**Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every Word that comes forth from the mouth of Yahuwah**.”

 We live by every word that proceeds out of His mouth! Messiah repeats this in **Matthew 4:4** and gives Satan two other verses from Deuteronomy – **Deuteronomy 6:16 and 6:13**! How can you do spiritual warfare without knowing the Word of Yahuwah that sends the enemy flying away?

 We have the same privilege Yahushua had on earth: **John 5:19, 30; 7:16; 8:28, 40; 12:49-50; 14:24 and 17:8!** Look those Scriptures up and COPY HIM!

 We have the right to submit to our Master and obey Him. The Spirit is given to us that we might be transformed into the likeness of Yahushua our Master. His good servants are well rewarded in this life, and the next. He takes good care of His servants, for they are those whom He is preparing to rule and reign with Him.

 If you’re going to New York City do drive through Texas, or Florida? No! You plan out your trip route. You go by a well-plotted map, or GPS. Isn’t that sane? You don’t go off without knowing the shortest and most direct path to your destination. So would Abba send you off on the journey of life with no map? He also speaks like GPS, only with a softer voice! Spiritually, most believers go through life acting from their own reasoning. They wander around, turning the wrong way, getting beat up by life, trying this door or that door, going by their reasoning and intellect, yet they have no idea of how to hear from the One who knows how to get them there by direct route. After trying this and that, and failing, so many of His children end up wondering “where’s God?” Then they lose what little faith they had. Disconnected humans from the Presence and power of Yahuwah!

 So simple: Why not ask Yahuwah His opinion? He answers questions.

Religion has made Him so unknowable, so unreachable, no more than a theology--a “subject matter,” so people don’t even consider going to him about their decisions? That’s like stopping at a gas station for directions and getting them from a guy who doesn’t have a clue as where something is, then trying the next gas station, then the next, then the next, and ending up going home and watching TV.

 **Our Elohim does not waste the time of His servants! He’s better than GPS!** Thus, we must have His Spirit dwelling within our spirit in order to survive in the days ahead. **We’ve got no time to waste on guessing games!** Yet, so few of His children take the time to get His directions, which He speaks directly into our re-born spirit--NOT the carnal soul/mind, emotions, that are so unstable.

 Walking with the Master is a return to the lifestyle of Adam and Eve BEFORE their rebellion. He’s always present with us. As we go through our day, we know He is with us. We talk to Him, we do as He directs, from the simplest impression to our spirit, to the loudest command to our spirit. As we go through our day, we are changing the lives of others as He leads us, we are changing as He shows us what we need to change, we are being changing into His image and likeness.

 It’s a walk that returns us, i.e. T’shuvah, to all that we could have been if only Adam and Eve had told the Nachash to get out and leave them alone, taking his lies and deceptions with him. Through the true new birth, we can return to the extra-dimensional relationship that they once had with Elohim.

 We can sit in heavenly places with Messiah and we can enter into the Presence of Yahuwah and dwell with Him through our spirit. We can have personal fellowship with Father and Son! But, the majority of people, including believers, still choose to go after the lies and deception of the Nachash/Serpent. This is why Messiah said that the path to eternal life was walked upon by the few (**Matthew 7:14-15**).

 We are in mid-month of Elul, the time of T’shuvah – the return. What are you doing at this season to return to the Garden relationship with the Master?

[Refer to: “Back Beyond the Garden Gate”/Mikvah of Set-Apartness]

 “You will seek Me, and you will find Me, IF you seek Me with all your heart.”

(**Jeremiah 29:11**)

 Never forget the price that Yahushua paid for you on the stake! “All that stands between you and hell is the blood of the Lamb of Yahuwah.” That’s what He spoke to me a couple of months ago. Never take Him for granted or presume on Him. Know Him; walk with Him. The Garden is opening for those who know Him.

In His love,

Yedidah

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