

The Word of Faith is Very Nigh Thee, Even in Thy Mouth

♪“The joy of the L-rd is my strength...He heals the brokenhearted and they cry no more...he gives me living water and I thirst no more...the word of faith is nigh thee, even in thy mouth...the joy of the L-rd is my strength”♪

This week's *Parasha* is *Nitzavim-VaYelech*, which means “Ye Stand-And He Went.” Moshe is getting ready to deliver his last message to our people, and they are all standing in front of the Jordan (*Yarden*) as they listen:

“Today you are standing, all of you, before יהוה your Elohim - your heads, your tribes, your leaders and your officers - all the men of Isra’el, along with your little ones, your wives and your foreigners here with you in your camp, from the one who chops your wood to the one who draws your water. The purpose is that you should enter into the covenant of יהוה your Elohim and into his oath which יהוה your Elohim is making with you today, so that he can establish you today for himself as a people, and so that for you he will be Elohim - as he said to you and as he swore to your ancestors, to Avraham, Yitz’chak and Ya’akov. But I am not making this covenant and this oath only with you. Rather, I am making it both with him who is standing here with us today before יהוה our Elohim and also with him who is not here with us today... When the time arrives that all these things have come upon you, both the blessing and the curse which I have presented to you; and you are there among the nations to which יהוה your Elohim has driven you; then, at last, you will start thinking about what has happened to you; and you will return to יהוה your Elohim and pay attention to what he has said, which will be exactly what I am ordering you to do today — you and your children, with all your heart and all your being. At that point, יהוה your Elohim will reverse your exile and show you mercy; he will return and gather you from all the peoples to which יהוה your Elohim scattered you. If one of yours was scattered to the far end of the sky, יהוה your Elohim will gather you even from there; he will go there and get you. יהוה your Elohim will bring you back into the land your ancestors possessed, and you will possess it; he will make you prosper there, and you will become even more numerous than your ancestors.” (Deut 29:9-14, 30:1-5 CJB)

Moshe tells us that we are free moral beings, with the power to choose either life or death. *Nitzavim* ends:

For this mitzvah which I am giving you today is not too hard for you, it is not beyond your reach. It isn't in the sky, so that you need to ask, ‘Who will go up into the sky for us, bring it to us and make us hear it, so that we can obey it?’ Likewise, it isn't beyond the sea, so that you need to ask, ‘Who will cross the sea for us, bring it to us and make us hear it, so that we can obey it?’ On the contrary, the word is very close to you - in your mouth, even in your heart; therefore, you can do it! “Look! I am presenting you today with, on the one hand, life and good; and on the other, death and evil - in that I am ordering you today to love יהוה your Elohim, to follow his ways, and to obey his mitzvot, regulations and rulings ; for if you do, you will live and increase your numbers; and יהוה your Elohim will bless you in the land you are entering in order to take possession of it. But if your heart turns away, if you refuse to listen, if you are drawn away to prostrate yourselves before other elohim and serve them; I am announcing to you today that you will certainly perish; you will not live long in the land you are crossing the Yarden to enter and possess. “I call on heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have presented you with life and death, the blessing and the curse. Therefore, choose life, so that you will live, you and your descendants, loving יהוה your Elohim, paying attention to what he says and clinging to him - for that is the purpose of your life! On this depends the length of time you will live in the land יהוה your Elohim swore he would give to your ancestors Avraham, Yitz’chak and Ya’akov.” (Deut. 30:11-20)

Will you (we) choose life? There is time and we can repent. We can turn ourselves around. How you ask? We have *Messiah*. We still can repent—and we must. Kol Simcha is also standing today before יהוה our Elohim and must choose to obey Him or choose to disobey Him, and if we do, we choose to die.

Moshe went and spoke the following words to all Isra’el...Moshe wrote down this Torah and gave it to the *cohanim*, the descendants of Levi who carried the ark with the covenant of יהוה, and to all the leaders of Isra’el. ...you are to read this Torah before all Isra’el, so that they can hear it. Assemble the men, the women, the little ones and the foreigners you have in your towns so that they can hear, learn, fear יהוה your Elohim and take care to obey all the words of this Torah; and so that their children, who have not known, can hear and learn to fear יהוה your Elohim, for as long as you live in the land you are crossing the Yarden to possess” (Deut. 31:9-13)

The Struggles of an Un-Surrendered Soul

When one's emotions get all tangled up with the symptoms and drives coming up out of our un-surrendered soul, and our will floods our soul with the consequences of the wrong choices we have made, then our mind kicks in with its input. Whatever one chooses to believe in one's mind, that very belief system will always control how a person lives out their life. G-d has designed our whole being in such a way that we cannot 'live' or behave in a way that inconsistent with what we believe in our soul—well, not for long, anyway. An un-surrendered soul tries to fabricate different attitudes and characteristics to reflect different beliefs about itself, but such false traits have to be constantly reinforced and the soul wears itself out doing that. The Word tells us that: *“As a man thinks within himself, so he is”* (Proverbs 23:7). In fact, our souls have been trying to change their *‘so he is’* traits to what they *‘wish we were’* for years.

The soul's first line of defense is its strongholds—its logic, reasoning, arguments, justification, defensiveness, and especially its constant denial that it needs to change anything. This is when an un-surrendered soul tries to justify every dangerous thing it does. Can you see these things entrenched within our stronghold walls—wrong ideas, wrong beliefs, wrong attitudes, and wrong patterns of thinking? In this day I urge us to look at the thickness of those protective walls our un-surrendered soul has built around them.

Our soul is terrified that any change one might try to make would cause everything to fall apart and thereby reveal its culpability in the whole mess. So, to keep you from doing that, it is destroying itself by defending and denying the deception it has been accumulating for years. Ridiculous, isn't it?

The fact is *Yeshua* paid the price a long time ago to release our soul, and the written Word of God is our Paid-In Full Receipt for that transaction. That is your guarantee in case you want or need one. No one has ever come back and complained when they have diligently followed their post-operative instructions to keep binding themselves to the will of God and the mind of *Messiah*.

“If יהוה hadn't helped me, I would soon have dwelt in the land of silence. When I said, "My foot is slipping!" your grace, יהוה, supported me. When my cares within me are many, your comforts cheer me up.” (Psalm 94:17-19). Lets Just Do It. Whatever we apply these Kingdom Keys in prayer we will get results. If our prayer request is aligned to G-d's will, then the answer is a done deal.

Praying rightly always means that we are agreeing with G-d's established Will in heaven. This takes a lot of pressure off of us. We are confident in our prayers because we do not have to know the details to pray rightly. We can pray with trust and confidence in the outcome of His divine plans for us, others, and situations. We can come out of a “problem mode” and move into a “problem solving/problem solved” mode! The we will be using the keys for life change and that is sweet!

L-rd Yeshua, I thank you for the Keys of the Kingdom, binding and loosing. I bind my will to your will, and I am so grateful to be able to put my will under obligation to you. I bind my mind to your mind, my Yeshua, which helps me slow down my soul's self-centered thoughts, stop the recycling of old patterns of thinking, and helps me rest in your thoughts. I bind my emotions to your healing, balancing control, Ruach HaKodesh. I bind myself to the whole truth of your Word, Abba, I want to know it in purity, without any twisting or perverting of its meaning by my soul. I loose all wrong beliefs, ideas, and patterns of thinking that my soul has cherished and flown like banners. I loose all wrong attitudes I have had, and I loose all of my wrong motives and agendas. I loose all word curses from myself; dissolving the residue of any and all harsh, cruel words spoken to me, about me, and even by me. I loose the effect and influences of all wrong agreements made about me or by me. I loose all soul ties I have allowed myself to develop. I loose all of the layers and facades that my soul has established to try to bury my hidden unmet needs, unhealed hurts, and unresolved issues. I want to throw open every square inch of my soul to your healing power and love. Abba, I cannot fix myself. My soul has tried to do this for so long, it has become scarred and bitter I am ready to take down and dismantle all barriers, self-defense systems, and self-protection devices that my soul has learned to use to keep my pain in and you out. I choose to do that right now! I surrender to you, L-rd Yeshua, and I thank you for loving me even when I have not been lovable. I want everything you want to give me, and I will loose everything you want me to give up. Thank you for these keys which empower me to do this. Amen