

## Don't Lose Heart in Doing Good

*<sup>9</sup>So let us not lose heart in doing good, for in due time we will reap if we don't give up. (Gal 6:9, TLV)*

As I consider again the verses in my Bar Mitzvah portion (*Parashat Chukat*) I might find several different reasons for us (maybe it is just me) to be distraught. First, we see again that the entire community gathered together and instead of being thankful for what *Adonai* had already done for them by bringing them out of the land of Egypt they choose to focus on the flesh and start murmuring and complaining again. Second, when they realize that they had a pressing need (water), instead of turning to *Adonai* for His intervention, they look back at Egypt through rose-colored glasses so that instead of seeing 430 years of slavery they only see a place where their physical needs were met.

Thirdly, they fail to see their current location as a blessing! Even after experiencing multiple deliverances, they see *Adonai's* current deliverance as a curse because they see no figs, grapes pomegranates or water. A fourth reason is that instead of looking for *Adonai's* provision they murmur and complain again against the men whom *Adonai* had placed over them. They blame the anointed leaders for their sovereignly chosen situation.

The Children of Israel arrived at *Kadesh* (the same Hebrew root as *Kadosh*) and their reactions and responses were not good. As I meditated on today's reading, I reviewed my life to see how I have reacted and responded to life's uncertainties and challenges in my walk with the Lord. I concluded that I have often (in my 43 years as a Believer) reacted in very similar ways. Scripture shows me how much of a complainer I can be!

However, my greatest source of sadness is not what the people said or what Moses said, but what the Lord said to Moses: "*Because you did not trust in Me so as to esteem Me as holy in the eyes of Bnei-Yisrael...*" Moses lost his temper, got angry and *lost his future*. The truth is that when we fail to demonstrate faith in *Adonai* (when we do not trust Him) it affects everyone around us because our actions belittle people's understanding of whom *Adonai is*. Instead, we depict *Adonai* as weak and ineffective in our situation. Can you hear *Adonai* speaking to our hearts saying: "*Because you did not trust in Me...*"? It is hard to imagine a more heart-breaking statement spoken to us. Such are the trials of leadership!

In the June 16, 2021, *Give Him 15* post, Dutch Sheets shared a portion of a dream given by Holy Spirit to comfort The Body. It spoke of hope deferred and discouragement from the 2020 elections continuing to stall the growth process of many in *The Body of Messiah*. They couldn't mature from *sheep* to *lions*. Like Isaiah 40, the dream's beginning, which describes this problem, isn't comforting. However, later in the dream the Lord made it clear He had no intention of allowing this setback to continue. He instructed Dutch to issue the command, *LIONS* (He called them lions, *not sheep*), *TO YOUR FEET!* As they stood, Holy Spirit blew on them, bringing healing and transformation.

The comfort many of us envisioned for America last November didn't come. To millions of us, the process was evil and flawed and the results have been catastrophic. {*Doesn't this sound like the situation of Children of Israel at Kadesh?*} *Adonai*, however, is saying He wants to use this outcome for His own purposes (in this case to strengthen us and expose evil). We will emerge stronger, more like Him and functioning from a position of victory; those who oppose Him, while promoting death, polytheism (many gods), secularism (the removal of religion from government and public policy), government control, immorality and lies will not emerge from this season stronger. They will be exposed as fools.

The dream we considered in the June 15, 2021, post comforts by assuring us *Our Heavenly Father* has no intention of leaving His kids in a weakened state. He fully intends to heal all who are in a hope deferred stall. He wants us to be bold, *courageous lions, not just sheep*. Our Commander desires us to be warriors, not passive sheep bleating for more food. He demands faith, not fear. Our Father is asking us to trust His ways and processes,

assuring us that as we do so, He will do as He promised. We will release a roar, take our inheritance - our promised land - and we will war FROM the victory we warred FOR with our prayers.

‘It is time to **Rise Up** and take up your sword. Decree *Adonai’s Words* at the leading of **His Ruach**. Strengthen yourself in the Lord and allow your faith to arise. Surround yourself with others who will stand in faith with you and will strengthen you in your stand. **Wage war through worship as you turn your eyes on Adonai and use every weapon in your arsenal. Wage war with His Word and see Adonai make the path straight before your very eyes...**’

**“LIONS, TO YOUR FEET! WIND OF GOD, BLOW UPON THESE LIONS AND BRING THEM INTO THE POWER OF THEIR TRUE IDENTITY!” SHABBAT SHALOM!**