

כִּי תִשָּׂא

Ki Tissa

(when you lift up)

Shemot [Exodus] 30:11-34:35

When YHWH Delays

Shemot (Exodus) 32:1

And when the people saw that Moshe delayed to come down from the mount, the people gathered themselves together to Aharon, and said to him, "Come, make us gods, which shall go before us; for as for this Moshe, the man that brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we know not what is become of him."

Because man's time upon this earth is so short, he has an inbred tendency to be impatient. This tendency seems to be exacerbated when it is dealing with something that affects him personally. In the verse above we see that Moshe had been gone, getting instructions from YHWH, for what seemed to the people at large for way too long. They wanted to see some action and they needed to see it right away. Now for us to truly get a handle on what is happening at this point, let us back up a bit and put the following passage in our minds.

Shemot (Exodus) 20:18-19

18 And all the people perceived the thunderings, and the lightnings, and the voice of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking; and when the people saw it, they trembled, and stood afar off.

19 And they said to Moshe, "You speak with us, and we will hear; but let not Elohim speak with us, lest we die."

The one thing that YHWH desires more than all else is a relationship with His people. But if His people cannot, or in fact, refuse to hear His Voice, then how is this possible? It is not! YHWH had just brought this multitude of people out of the heavy bondage of Egypt so that He could enter into a covenant relationship with them. Yet, they were afraid to hear His Voice. They did not want to hear His Voice and declared as much. And this was after they had seen His mighty hand do all that He did to the Egyptians, and how He destroyed them so that they would never have to fear the Egyptians coming in the night and taking them away into captivity.

The tragedy of their attitude in not wanting to hear His Voice was then manifested in less than forty days simply because the one person whom they desired to go and hear His Voice and then come and tell them what it was that YHWH Elohim desired for them to do delayed in his return. The people, because of this delay, began clamoring for something tangible to see so that they could follow it.

One of the tragic things about this is that it shows to us that they were actually following Moshe more than they were following YHWH Elohim. And so we see this same attitude in both houses of Israel today in that they tend to follow men rather than following YHWH Elohim.

But it is this delay that our focus is upon today. There are often delays in seeing the will of YHWH played out in our lives. Let us take for an example the prophet Dani'el. He prayed for an answer and the answer was delayed in coming to him.

Dani'el 10:12-13

12 Then said he to me, "Fear not, Dani'el; for from the first day that you set your heart to understand, and to humble yourself before your Elohim, your words were heard: and I am come for your words' sake.

13 But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me twenty-one days; but, behold, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me; and I remained there with the kings of Persia."

When Dani'el was seeking to understand the things that YHWH was showing to him, he fasted for three weeks. But YHWH dispatched this messenger immediately. However, there was a delay in his arrival because of fallen messengers (angels) that came and tried to prevent him from delivering the message to Dani'el. But Dani'el was faithful and remained steadfast in his seeking an answer from YHWH till the answer arrived.

I wonder how many times we begin seeking an answer from YHWH and give up too soon. Perhaps many times the answer is sent right away, but because of delays in the spiritual realm the answer is delayed in coming to us. I wonder how many times we go off on the wrong path because of delays?

Havaquq (Habakkuk) 2:2-4

2 And YHWH answered me, and said, "Write the vision, and make it plain upon tablets, that he may run that reads it.

3 For the vision is yet for the appointed time, and it hastens toward the end, and shall not lie; though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not delay.

4 Behold, his soul is puffed up, it is not upright in him; but the righteous shall live by his faith."

YHWH admonishes Havaquq to write down the vision that He is showing to him. Furthermore, YHWH tells him that it will come to pass at the appointed time and that we are to wait for it. Those who live by faith, whose being is not puffed up with pride, will be those who wait in faith.

It is this activity of waiting that we do not seem to properly understand. Let us consider it carefully.

Shemot (Exodus) 14:13-15

13 And Moshe said to the people, "Do not fear, stand still, and see the salvation of YHWH, which He will work for you to-day; for the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall not see them again forever.

14 YHWH will fight for you, and you shall hold your peace."

15 And YHWH said to Moses, "Why are you crying to Me? Speak to the children of Israel, that they go forward."

First Moshe tells the people to stand still that they may see the salvation of YHWH. Then YHWH tells Moshe to get moving. What we need to learn from this is that the activity of waiting upon YHWH is not idleness, but it is actively doing His will.

If we are not sure what His will is, then we are to do what we know is His will. Further revelation of His will for us personally will follow as we obey Him. This is waiting upon YHWH, to obey Him.

It is when we run off in a different direction because we do not have the patience or faith to wait for His answer to us that we get ourselves into hot water, spiritually speaking.

When the king of Israel was attempting to capture and kill Elijah he sent a message to the elders of Israel with a message.

Malakim Bet (2nd Kings) 6:33

And while he (Elijah) was yet talking with them (the elders), behold, the messenger came down to him; and he said, "Behold, this evil is of YHWH; why should I wait for YHWH any longer?"

It is common for man to put himself into a position where he no longer desires to wait upon YHWH. He will wait for a short time, but then he will do his own will and depart from YHWH. This is what is typically found in the heart of mankind. Yet, when we come to YHWH through Mashiach Yeshua we are to be filled with His Spirit and thus we are to learn to walk in the fruit of His Spirit. This enables us to be patient and self-controlled in our actions.

Tehillim (Psalm) 27:14

Wait for YHWH;

Be strong,

And let your heart take courage;

Yea, wait for YHWH.

We are admonished in many ways and in many places that we are to wait upon YHWH. It is when we do not wait upon YHWH that we get ourselves into predicaments that are spiritually and physically life threatening. It is not necessary for us to get into these situations, if we but wait upon YHWH.

Tehillim (Psalm) 130:5

***I wait for YHWH, my being does wait,
And in His Word do I hope.***

It is YHWH that we are to wait upon. It is in His Word that we are to place our hope. Of course, that Word we know to be Yeshua our Mashiach. When we wait upon YHWH then we can stand all that this life can throw at us.

Ya'aqov (James) 5:7-8

7 Be patient therefore, brethren, until the coming of YHWH. Behold, the husbandman waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient over it, until it receive the early and latter rain.

8 You also be patient; establish your hearts; for the coming of Adonenu is at hand.

We are admonished to be patient in the same vein as a farmer is who plants his seed in the ground, then waits for it to germinate, grow to maturity and then produce its fruit, ready for harvest. This process takes time. It does not happen overnight. Rather it takes both the early and latter rains upon it to cause it to flourish and grow and produce its fruit.

Likewise, we also are to grow and flourish and produce fruit, so that we too might be ready for harvest.

One of the characteristics in us that works against waiting upon YHWH is grumbling or complaining. When we do not get what we think we should have, when we think that we should have it, this is often what follows. This is evil in His sight, for we are not walking in faith when this happens. Let us consider the following passages.

Shemot (Exodus) 17:2

2 Therefore the people strove with Moshe, and said, "Give us water that we may drink." And Moshe said to them, "Why do you strive with me? Why do you test YHWH?"

3 And the people thirsted there for water; and the people grumbled against Moshe, and said, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our cattle with thirst?"

We are not to test YHWH!

Matithyah (Matthew) 6:7-8

7 "And in praying use not vain repetitions, as the Gentiles do; for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking.

8 Be not therefore like them; for your Father knows what things you have need of, before you ask Him."

We are to ask in faith believing, then we are to wait upon YHWH. Sometimes that asking may include fasting in order to secure an answer, not because YHWH has not given the answer, but because it is delayed in getting to us because of the spiritual battle that is raging around us.

Then there are times in which His answer is delayed because He is testing us to see if we will obey Him in what we already know to be His will.

Devarim (Deuteronomy) 8:2

“And you shall remember all the way which YHWH your Elohim has led you these forty years in the wilderness, that He might humble you, to test you, to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep His commandments, or not.”

Whatever the reason that we are experiencing a delay in receiving an answer from YHWH, we must know that He is completely sovereign over all of His creation. He knows exactly where you are and what you need. He also knows the plan that He has for your life. If we will but be patient and wait for Him, then He will deliver His will to us that we may do it.

In the meantime, we are to do that part of His will that He has already revealed to us. We are to let no man shake us from that which He has revealed to us. If we allow a man to come and snatch away what He has already shown to us in Mashiach Yeshua, then how can He entrust more of His wondrous knowledge and understanding to us? We are to be faithful in those little things that He has already shown to us.

ABBA YHWH, let us see clearly how to walk in the Spirit of patience and longsuffering that we might attain the fullness of Your will for us; in the name of Yeshua our Mashiach. Amein.

Shabbat Shalom

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