

Restoring Your Soul

I have been praying for you all, asking YHWH God to show you all the prophetic days we have now entered. Why are you even meeting in a house learning Torah and revisiting the scriptures? Why have so many turned from traditional church? Why are many of you feeling like you really don't know the Word as well as you thought you did? Why are so many people feeling a need to fast? Oh, how I wish you could see where YHWH is attempting to take you. He is attempting to restore your souls! He is attempting to bring you back from where you made a wrong turn!

What we fail to realize is that the "dry bones" in the book of Ezekiel was/is a picture of us. We fail to realize the "prodigal son" was/is a picture of us. The ones in the Old Testament who died without receiving the promise were our forefathers. Here is the question we all must answer, Will you allow YHWH God to restore your soul, will you?

The law (Torah) of the LORD is perfect, restoring/converting the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple. Psalm 19:7

Restoring the Soul – How is our soul restored? The answer is obvious as soon as we recognize the consonant root of this word, meshivat. It is shuv, used more than 1000 times in Scripture. To return, to go back, to turn, to do again, to bring back, to reestablish, to answer, to restore, to recompense and even more nuances. How do we restore our soul? We turn back to the Lord. We return to His instruction. We go back to the beginning, to the garden where we once delighted in Him.

When we are dried up, when we are exhausted, when our spirit weakens, we need restoration. The psalmist tells us where to find this vital nourishment – in the law (Torah) of YHWH. Two facts are crucial here. The first is that "soul" is the Hebrew word nephesh, the whole person, not simply our "spiritual" existence. When we need full-person restoration, we must turn to the Torah of YHWH. Torah is not just for our heavenly direction or spirituality; it is for restoration between you and your fellowman, between our world and us. It provides emotional stability, physical direction, mental agility and moral guidance. It is what Peter would call "the words of life." Perhaps our contemporary existence lacks resilience and foundation because we don't know Torah as the source of living.

The second crucial fact is the Torah is not simply the rules, rituals and regulations of the believing community. Torah is everything from Genesis 1:1 to Rev 22:21. Torah was the Tree of Life in the midst of the Garden. It was the Rod of Jesse, the Bread of Life, the Way-Truth-and the Life. It was the Lamp Unto Your Feet and the Light Unto Your Path. It was the Way of Escape and the Standard that is raised when the enemy comes in like a flood. Oh, how I wish you

all could see it! Torah is the narrative, the poetry, the prophecies, the commandments, the genealogies. It's all part of God's instruction and it's all capable of meshivat nephesh (restoring us). If we read Torah with an eye toward identification and restoration, we will find the hand of YHWH touching us as He touched the men and women of Torah. We are not so different from them. The real needs of men have not changed since we were expelled from the Garden.

Perhaps it's important to reflect on our attitude toward Torah. Perhaps we run too quickly to the gospels, the letters of Paul or the comforting words of Peter. The authors of our Messianic Scriptures knew where to find restoration – in Torah. If those Newer Testament authors found solace, comfort, nourishment and renewal in Torah, don't you think it could be of use to you? When Yeshua Himself was taken up to the high place by Hasatan (Satan), in (Luke 4 Matthew 4), He only quoted from the Torah (Deuteronomy). Perhaps poring over the Scriptures, absorbing God's point of view on our world and responding to His ultimate concern for us requires far more than knowing a handful of Sunday school stories. The Torah of YHWH is perfect (tamiym), then it is perfection perfected in application, and the application of the Torah of YHWH is to bring us back to life.

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord; and all the families of the nations shall worship before Thee. Psalms 22:27

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