

## HEALING THROUGH SANCTIFICATION

(4)

(Luke 5:3-9; Matthew 26:36-39; II Corinthians 12:7-10)

### BY SUBMISSION

According to Webster's dictionary, submission is resignation; obedience; meekness; yielding or surrendering; to submit is to **yield to the power, control of another.**

Submission to God is recognizing His sovereignty over my will, my life, my decisions, and over my trials; when I say to God, "Your will be done", it must include all that affects my life, and right then I must lose control of all that is mine to His control, knowing that He is loving and all knowing to do to me what He wants to do and to take me where He wants me to be; It is in submission that I see Him for whom He is. Then, only then I will understand that my God, and not circumstances, dictates my future. The rough waters of the raging sea, I will be travelling through, will not seem so rough because in my surrender of all to Him, love, and not fear, will be guiding my life. In my belief, I now have the confidence that He is the master of that raging sea and nothing I do, will change the course of my life for better. "He hushes the storm to a calm and to a gentle whisper, so that the waves of the sea are still" (Psalm 107:29). I know my God is in that gentle whisper comforting and guiding me.

As long as I remain submissive to Him, I can walk on the raging sea of circumstances, and as long as I keep my eyes fixed on Him only and not in the center of my circumstances, His protection I will enjoy; But if at the cold of the strong winds, I start panicking, as Peter did, and walk away from His control, into my own, where all I see are the dark clouds of storm over me, then like Peter, I must cry to Him for help and reposition myself under His care.

Even when I pray for my children, my will should be of submission to God's will, yielding them to Him for Him to perform the work in their lives that will bring glory to His name. I must place them on the altar and let God be God of their lives. The Psalmist said, "Taste and see that the Lord is good, blessed is the man who trusts and takes refuge in Him" (Psalm 34:8).

Submission is an act of faith, and only walking in and by faith I can surrender all to Him trusting that He is whom He says He is and that He will do what He says He would do. The rest is history in the spectrum of His truth and His purpose for my life until He calls me home. Learning to live this way is what I should aim for during my days lived on earth, believing that it will be worth it all, at the sound of My Savior's words, "Well done, faithful servant"!

In Luke five, we read the account of the time when **Peter** and his partners had toiled all night with their nets trying to catch fish, without any catch of a single fish. Yahshua came at the moment when they were exhausted and discouraged in need of their boat. It is important to note that Peter didn't argue with Him, but submitted to His request and let Him have the source of his income to feed the crowd the spiritual food. Seek ye first the kingdom of God, said Yahshua, and all these things shall be added unto you- all your needs will be met.

In Peter's need he met the needs of others. To receive his blessing, Peter had to submit again to Yahshua's command, "Put out into the deep and lower your nets for a haul". It was as if Peter had said, "we've been there and done that". However, in the ground of (because of) Your word, Peter said, I will lower the nets [again]. And in his attitude of submission, in spite of the circumstance, Peter lowered the nets, not realizing the size of the blessing that would follow his actions of obedience to Yahshua. The first step of faith in submission and obedience to God, we must take to receive God's blessings.

In submission to his father, **Isaac** laid himself down on the altar and let his father tie him down for his sacrifice. God's purpose was accomplished in the life of Isaac, as he submitted to his father, for not knowing, he well represented Yahshua's submission to His Father many years later at the Garden of Gethsemane, when He, in complete submission to God, said, "Not my will be done" before His crucifixion on those same mount ranges where Isaac submitted his life to his father. And expressing his anguish to the disciples, He said, "My soul is very sad and deeply grieved, so that I am almost dying of sorrow. And He prayed, My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass away from Me; nevertheless, not what I desire, but as You will and desire". At that moment of His sorrow, there was not one disciple who would intercede for Him not even for just one hour; He suffered alone, as He was forsaken and rejected by His own, the offspring of Isaac.

Are we submissive enough to God in our relationship with Him, to pray such a prayer? Or are we praying otherwise saying, take it away from me; I don't deserve it; are we telling Him that it is enough? Submission surrenders all and goes through the suffering in the valleys and deserts without trying to run away; without screaming and kicking. Submission offers the other cheek, and overcomes the snakes in the deserts and the depression of the valleys.

The Apostle **Paul's** life was one of suffering through many persecutions. We read these words about his sufferings in II Corinthians three, "We are hedged in on every side, but not cramped or crushed; we suffer embarrassments and are perplexed and unable to find a way out, but not driven to despair; we are pursued, but not deserted to stand alone; we are struck down to the ground but never struck out and destroyed; always carrying about in the body the liability (responsibility) and exposure to the same putting to death that the Lord Jesus suffered, so that the life of Jesus also may be shown forth by and in our bodies ( II Corinthians 3:8-10). Paul's suffering had to do with a thorn that God allowed a messenger of Satan to rack and buffet and harass him, to keep him from being excessively exalted ( II Corinthians 12:7). Although, he had asked the Lord to have it removed from him three times, the Lord granted him that His grace would be sufficient for him. He said, "For my strength and power are made perfect in [your] weakness". His attitude to this answer was in complete submission to God's will for him and not once he blamed the devil for it. He said, "I will all the more gladly glory in my weaknesses and infirmities, that the strength and power of Messiah may rest upon me (vs.9)!"

Paul understood then that for him to be accomplishing God's will, he had to be in complete submission to Him through his weakness.

All the heroes of the faith submitted their lives to God because they believed their citizenship was not of this world; They were tortured to death with clubs, refusing to accept release [offered on the terms of denying their faith], they were sawn asunder; they were slaughtered by the sword - [men] of whom the world was not worthy (Hebrew 12:35, 37, 38). They suffered in submission the whole time and did not value their lives above that of Yahshua's, but gave themselves up to God in complete submission to Him.

Submission first is necessary for us to be able to carry our cross and follow Yahshua; it is also necessary for us to be able to resist the devil, for him to flee from us (James 4:7). Often, we skip the submission part and go straight to resist the devil. We will be powerless resisting the devil without submission to God first. When temptation comes our way in the form of trials, submission to God brings us the acceptance of His sovereign will and we will be successful going through it. Submission to God requires faith; for faith conquers the powers of the spiritual forces of darkness. It is in submission that faith works in us girding us with truth and dressing us with the breastplate of integrity; it is in submission that faith shoes our feet for promptness; it is in submission that faith quenches all the flaming arrows of the wicked one; it is in submission that faith protects our minds with the helmet of salvation and it is in submission that faith conquers the battle for us. It is in submission that I can pray and intercede for others in agreement with the Holy Spirit's desires.

Submission to God in every aspect of life brings us to the Secret Place of the Almighty, where His protection is always available; where fear and anxiety will not coexist, not a chance. In His presence confidently we can say I will not fear though the mountain quakes though the earth change, though the waters roar and foam, for I am hidden in Christ, I am complete in His love and nothing can take me away from His hands.

In His presence, be it in the desert or in the valley, as it was for Moses and Joshua, when God told them to take their shoes off, for the place where they were were holy grounds, is a place where we too must take our shoes off, to stay with Him, to receive from Him directions. Never be in a hurry to leave His presence, but there submit to His will and desires for your life and He will tell you "mighty things that you do not know".

I will lift my eyes in submission to God, where my help will come from; my help will come from the Lord the Maker of heaven and earth. By the power of His word He sustains me, so that I will not stumble and fall. There is not a slumber moment in His watching me; He is my keeper, He is my shade; I will not be hurt by the rays of the sun neither by the moon; He is always with me, in my goings, and in my comings until I die.