

Lest I Forget Your Agony



Just think of Him (YAHSHUA) Who endured from sinners such grievous opposition and bitter hostility against Himself, so that you may not grow weary or exhausted, losing heart and relaxing and fainting in your minds. You have not yet struggled and fought agonizingly against sin, nor have you yet resisted and withstood to the point of pouring out your blood (Heb. 12: 3-4). “Just think of Him” is a phrase that demands the action of losing focus. Focus of one self: our sufferings, disappointments, failures, because there is Someone Who suffered worse than we have, no matter how intense and difficult our sufferings are. He is our Savior and Lord, YAHSHUA. The letter to the Hebrews open our understanding when He compares our sufferings to that of YAHSHUA. He said that His sufferings

were to keep us from losing heart and fainting in our mind. The extent of His sufferings was to the point of having His blood being poured out. No one will ever be able to go through what He suffered, for He suffered and carried the weight of the pains of the entire world. Paul in his letter to Timothy said, Constantly keep in mind YAHSHUA the Messiah. (II Tim. 2: 8) He is our source of strength and He is our example. He went before us caring the weight of our sins; He crucified them on the cross, and while His blood was being poured out, He gave us His life. Constantly keeping in mind the Lord YAHSHUA is a way to keep focus on His suffering and to put in perspective our responsibility to Him. We suffer many times because of sin; sins bring consequences soon or later as Paul said, Do not be deceived; God will not allow Himself to be sneered. For whatever a man sows that and that only is what he will reap (Gal. 6:7). Sometimes it is necessary for God to take us on a trip to Calvary through sufferings for us to witness the suffering of His Son so we can learn to appreciate and understand our position in suffering with Him as His children and also understand the damage sin does in ones' life, as ours did to His only Son, YAHSHUA.

The life of a believer is unique in many aspects, if we could only accept the fact that our uniqueness is found in suffering for and with our Savior. While many react to sufferings by blaming and forsaking God, the believer must recognize his sin, repent of them and seek forgiveness. He should submit to YAHSHUA'S sufferings and follow His example. Paul said, If we are [His children], then we are [His] heirs also; heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ; only we must share His suffering if we are to share His glory (Rom. 8:17). There many other ways suffering comes to us, besides sin. One of them is through persecution of our faith. Peter assured us that if we are suffering for the name of Christ, then we are blessed, because the Spirit of glory, the Spirit of God, is resting upon us. He also tells us not to be amazed and bewildered at the fiery ordeal which is taking place to test our quality, as though something strange were befalling, but insofar as we are sharing Christ's, rejoice, so that when His glory is revealed, we may also rejoice with triumph (I Peter 4: 14,12-13).

Suffering is neither to be regarded as bad nor unfair when we are under Divine correction and discipline. They are necessary lest we forget the Lord's suffering for us. Calvary is a place we all should visit to learn how to renounce sin, for its consequences in the life of our Savior when He took its penalty upon Himself. Paul said that for our sake He (God) made Christ to

be sin Who knew no sin, so that in and through Him we might become the righteousness of God (II Cor. 5:21). Being this the case, what motivates us to remain in sin after our new birth in Christ, when the Word says that the old things were gone; we have been made new in Him? One of many reasons is that we do not perceive and we do not experience the sufferings sin caused our Lord, YAHSHUA. We have no idea of the extent of His sufferings, we take Him and His sufferings for granted. But we do have a responsibility toward what He suffered for us. In Gethsemane, He suffered at the hand of the enemy, Satan, who returned to Him with temptation to give up the cross. Although He prayed that that cup be passed from Him, He also submitted Himself to God's will and prayed, yet not what I will, but what You [will]. He suffered at the hand of the His people, who handed Him to the Gentiles to be killed, a criminal death. He was rejected and beaten by His own people, He was scourged and mocked and crowned with thorns by the Romans, His beard was plucked. Isaiah prophecies in chapter 50:6: I gave My back to the smiters and My cheeks to those who plucked off the hair; I hid not my face from shame and spitting. He was condemned to death of crucifixion by His people, who rejected Him for Cesar as their king. In Golgotha He suffered at the hand of His Father, Whose will was to bruise Him; He was put to grief and made Him sick; He made to light upon Him the guilt and iniquity of us all (Isaiah 53:10a, 6b). When our sins became unbearable for Him to carry, His Father looked the other way and there in Golgotha He cried, My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me? (Matt. 27: 46; Psalm 22).

While being mocked and rejected, abused, mistreated and pierced, He let a prayer come to His Father, "Forgive them, for they know not what they are doing." Run to Calvary, my friend, if you are lost in your sins and perishing under their penalties. Look closely to YAHSHUA'S pierced and broken body; that was for you that He did. Let go of your sins and let His blood cleanse you from all guilt. Hear His prayer of forgiveness and accept Him today. Today is the opportune time, it is the day for your salvation. With His pierced hands He can embrace you and mark you with His blood, which is the love that flows from Calvary.

Never lose focus of the cross where He suffered and died for you. There is nothing you suffer today that He hasn't already suffered for you. Treasure the love that He has for you with your whole heart. Let Calvary guide you to His sufferings and learn that in Him all sufferings are finished and done with.

**May I be willing Lord,
To bear daily my cross for Thee
Even they cup of grief to share
Thou hast borne all for me
Lest I forget Gethsemane
Lest I forge they love for me
Lead me to Calvary!**

(Jessie Evelyn Hussey)

THINK ABOUT IT!