

Ishshah — Jephthah's Daughter 2

This was the weekend of Ben Nabi and Shimeny Yowm's wedding and ha-Emeq told the story of Ishshah, the daughter of Jephthah to everyone at Tabitha's Place that night, including all of the guests. In the time of the judges, when Israel was listening to the judges, their enemies were not coming against them. But then they worshipped idols and their enemies came in and started taking over. Then Israel threw away their idols and YHWH mercifully sent help. Jephthah was the first born son of his father, but was born of a non-Israelite woman. So the other sons of his father had run him off, but now went to him for help to defeat their enemies. The Spirit of YHWH came upon Jephthah on his way to fight the sons of Ammon when he made a vow to sacrifice the first thing to come out of his house when he returned home victorious. His daughter Ishshah was the first thing to come out to greet him. She gave herself willingly, knowing what it meant that her father had made a vow. Our Father honored Ishshah because she honored vows. She gave herself as a burnt offering — a sacrifice — just as we give our lives in the Body as a living sacrifice.

Hakam — Ishshah knew what a vow was and she knew that she had a purpose. She had thought that her purpose was to be fruitful and multiply. To get married and bear children. Now she saw that this was her friends' purpose, but not hers. This story cuts against the grain of everything we have ever learned in this perverted society. The standard I was raised up in was to not believe the word of anybody. And that I could say one thing and mean another. It bred mistrust in me. I was raised to not trust — that nothing is absolutely true.

I am grateful for Ishshah. She proved that she believed in the word of her God. That is the hope of the world. That we can believe in the true word of the true God. We can base our life on it. It is in the heart of every man to want something solid to stand on. The trouble in the world is there is nothing to stand on. It is shifting sand. The only way we can learn to love each other is to believe and stand on his word. God never asked something of His people that He did not do himself. He gave His own Son that we could come into the truth. I am thankful for Ishshah. I want to be like her.

Jephthah was a true son, the seed of Abraham, who was commanded to train his children after him. Jephthah commanded his household. He was confident that whoever it was that came out of that door would willingly (just like Isaac) — with no whimpering and complaining — obey him. Their father had complete authority over their lives. If Jephthah had reneged on his word, he would have been cursed. Ishshah knew it. So she gave herself.

In the New Covenant we do not make vows. We say *yes* or *no*. In baptism we say *yes*. Our old life dies and we will live our new life for Him. Our new life is what we offer daily in the Body. Ishshah — woman — burnt offering. It is a shame to us when we will not give up our petty little momentary desires. Ishshah gave up everything. Gave up her desire to be fruitful and multiply.

The time of that battle was an important time in history because Israel could have been taken over by the nations which would have been the end of Israel. Just like it takes a human sacrifice with us to bring Israel back now, the depth of the importance of that battle was such that Jephthah would make the vow that he made to gain Israel back. It was so important and he knew what it would take. It was a type of what it would take to bring Israel back. YAHSHUA was that burnt offering to gain Israel back. The first church declined and now Israel is coming back, but only by making our bodies a living sacrifice. It is not the old life that we offer — we gave that life up. Now we walk in newness of life and it is that life that we put on the altar.

To be Abraham's seed a father has to have supreme authority over his family. Jephthah had it. It must be that our children do not reason, do not ask questions, but they obey. Ishshah was entirely submissive. There is an entirely submissive woman. She has taught us all what a burnt offering was. We cannot willingly give our new life as a living sacrifice unless our old life is done away with — then we put our new life on the altar as a living sacrifice.

Hakam — The only way we can be a living sacrifice, a burnt offering, is if we give our Father supreme authority. If He does not have supreme authority, we cannot be a burnt offering. The reason His purpose has not been

accomplished all these years is because people did not understand that. I am thankful that we are coming to understand about that — Him having supreme authority ruling over us. If He can, His purpose can be accomplished. Just like Jephthah won the victory that day. His purpose is that He would rule on the earth. He cannot do it until He has a people He can rule over.

Since Jephthah made that vow, our Father did not intercede. But Abraham did not make a vow; it was obedience to our Father's command to offer up Isaac. As soon as He saw that Abraham was willing, only then did the angel speak to him to stop. But if Abraham had made a vow, then our Father would have let him carry it out — otherwise our Father would have had to curse him. Jephthah did not think it was an animal that was going to come out of his house. He knew it would take a significant sacrifice that would deliver all of Israel. The bible says that the Spirit of YHWH was upon Jephthah when he made the vow. It happened in history in order that someday a people would understand that and it would change their lives. Ishshah said, "Don't even think about breaking your vow." Ishshah loved her father. I'm glad she did it and went to death and YAHSHUA took her out and she will come back someday with the other saints who have gone before us. We will see her on earth someday. She will have great authority in Israel. Apostles will sit on the twelve thrones in Israel with the patriarchs. King David will be king over Israel and those of us who overcome will have authority over the nations. She will have authority in Israel because she is from Israel. We were in the nations so we will rule over the nations.

The bible does not state that her name is Ishshah. We named her Ishshah because she is a burnt offering. When we see her — if we are Israel — her name will be Ishshah. Ishshah was Jephthah's only darling — the apple of his eye. He loved her more than anyone had ever loved a daughter on the earth. She was the nearest thing to his heart.

The Word says that Jephthah was one of the overcomers by faith. It says they overcame because they pleased YHWH by their faith. Ishshah is a sweet smelling aroma to our Father all day long. It has to be a willing offering — not something by force. She did not save her father from death, but from being cursed. In Israel, there was no sacrifice to atone for breaking a vow; you would be cursed — go to the second death.

Ishshah shared that Ishshah in the story was submitted to our Father and faithful to His Word. My desire is to live up to this name. I want to be like Ishshah.

Gideon said that Ishshah had eyes to see ahead. She had vision. I want to be like her and not let petty things hinder me. I want to give up my life.

Yael — She had true fear of our Father and she loved her Abba and our Father more than her own life.

Holger — shared how his sap comes from letters and phone calls. He is fed by letters. That is how he gets fresh oil.

We can be faithful to give Holger oil. It means YOU. The sin is saying, "Oh, I'll let somebody else do it."

Ishshah knew what marriage was about. To be fruitful and multiply. You can see that we are being obedient and faithful to that.

Abigail — was thankful that our Father is restoring that purpose to us as women and as a people.