

Saving our Soul

Anav repented of letting something rule over him last night in the breaking of bread that did not let him express his heart. He is thankful. He does not want to let any evil spirit rule over him. Yoneq spoke in response:

It is not easy for our Father to redeem us because He is dealing with our emotions, our intellect — our damaged soul. He is dealing with our intellect that has learned so much of the world's knowledge. We have been filled with the things of the world. Our emotions have been totally wrecked with these horrible things. Our emotional makeup was formed by fantasy and horror movies that over-stimulated our emotions making them go up to great heights and down to great depths when it was meant that our emotions would be built by the wonderful stories we learn in the bible that are meant to stimulate us, giving our emotions a proper education. Instead we were trained wrong by our parents and we learned wrong from our so called friends. Therefore, to restore us, He has to deal with these fallen things in us.

Anav is giving in to his old nature instead of the new man and the Spirit that is restoring our soul (our nature) back to how our Master's nature is. The Spirit is here to make our human nature like His. He doesn't bypass our human nature but rather, He is restoring it — restoring the soul. The word of YHWH is good, restoring the soul (Ps 19:7-11). Just think how damaged our soul is. Was your soul damaged? By the job you used to have, the college you attended? Some people think they are not so damaged, but they were damaged, almost beyond repair. For some of us it takes a longer time than others to restore our damaged soul. Just think about your soul for a while. What is your soul? What is wrong with your soul? Anything wrong with it? There is not too much wrong with Hadassah's soul because she was raised almost four years in the community. [Hadassah is Anav's 13 year old daughter.] And then here is 1½ year old Naphtali [ben Nahaliel] — his soul is being protected from much damage. Our children's souls are being kept under protection (Rev 14:1-5).

By the time you were Naphtali's age you were having your sense of reality destroyed with TV, cartoons, fantasy books, stories about witches and ghosts and Frankenstein and Donald Duck — crazy idiotic stories designed to stimulate children in a way that ruins them. These things are written on our soul — indelibly printed in our brain. All you have to do is recall it — 30 years ago — and there it is, all the things that we learned. But the children are way ahead of us in redemption. Their soul is going to be restored a lot faster than ours, because we are the stem. We have come directly out of the world, out of the environment of the evil one, out of his influence — and we are damaged. But they are going to excel us. It takes us 30 years to be where they are going to be in a year. They are going to go ahead of us to be the male child — every generation more and more pure, more and more able to be in harmony and perfect peace — blameless — not defiled by what we were defiled by. Believe it or not, it says that men are defiled by women. Women can defile man. The first woman defiled the first man when she was actually created to help him. We are defiled in many ways — in spirit, soul and body. We are damaged and corrupted, but not beyond repair. Don't be discouraged by how your emotions are sometimes. They are being restored. We have to have dominion over them now.

That is what we are doing here. We are offering our bodies to our Father and we are no longer conformed to this world but we are being restored — *transformed* (Rom 12:2) by the renewing of our minds. Our mind is being renewed — restored. It says that it is being renewed; so that means that the mind is damaged and *needs* to be renewed. Some people do not think that their mind needs to be renewed; they're satisfied with their mind, but they do need to be transformed by the renewing of their mind, no longer conformed to this *world*. Because we all were damaged — in *school*, and even though our parents may have done the best they knew how, they even damaged us because they didn't know much. *We learn a lot by the word.*

(Yesterday our children went to a science expedition. We judged it before they went and trusted that this was not going to damage our Children but that they would learn things that go along with the bible and creation. So there must be nothing that would damage our children's minds so that later they would have to be renewed.

Sometimes we can damage our children, so we must carefully judge these things because one wrong recommendation can ruin, hurt, damage your child.)

We are coming to have the mind of Messiah. It is not a fallen mind, but a mind being renewed to rule with Him in the next age and if our mind is not being renewed, we are not going to be fit to rule with Him. That is the process we are going through here; our mind is being renewed, purified, sanctified. We are learning to exercise dominion over our fallenness. Last night Anav could have exercised dominion over the fallenness in him. That is what our spirit is for. It has to exercise authority over everything. Our spirit is king when it is one with Yahshua. Yahshua is *the King* and His Spirit united with our spirit makes our spirit exercise authority over all other aspects of our personality. For this reason, we have to live by the spirit. If we lean up against the pole and let our mind be distracted, our mind then is not being renewed because it is not really taking in what can redeem us; Satan has our mind. But when the Holy Spirit has our spirit and our spirit has our mind, then we are on the road to restoration. So let's allow our mind to be on our spirit so that we can be renewed — no longer conformed to this world which is passing away and will be destroyed with everything in it.

It is so wonderful that we can have an environment separate from the world so that we do not have to take in the things of the world. Christians do not have that protective environment that our Father provides. It was clear when our Master prayed to His Father in John 17, that He was creating an environment for His people to be in — the edah. We are in the edah and the edah is in the world. We are in the world but not of the world because we are in the edah.

It is wonderful that our children can escape this world and also that further damage cannot be done to us. That is why it is difficult for a person older than me to be saved. When a person reaches 30 years old, he is getting in a danger zone. It is not that our Master cannot save them if they hear His word, but it is more difficult because their hearts are already set toward evil. So we give thanks to our Father that we were able to hear His voice, even so late in life. We give thanks to our Father that he was moved to rescue us from something so horrible that it was only designed for Satan and His angels (Mt 25:41). We have been rescued and now are being saved. The more we admit the damaged condition of our damaged soul, the more He can redeem it. The less we admit it, the less he can renew it. But if we do not see it, we cannot confess it, so we must see how damaged we really are so that He can repair us. This morning we are going to offer our bodies to Him. We hear this every day. Let's not get tired of hearing it. It is there to test us. A sensitive heart will not grow dull to it.

Whatever remains of the filthiness we picked up in our soul and whatever remains of lawlessness (Jms 1:21), we must get rid of so that our soul can be saved. We have to get rid of the overflow of wickedness and receive with meekness and humility the implanted word, which is *able* to save our soul. The person who erred in James 5:20 went off. His soul was not going to be saved because he was straying away (not from the edah, but) from the word that was able to save his soul from death. So if a soul cannot be saved, it goes to death. The truth is what saves your soul, so if we stray from the truth our soul will not be saved. Are any of us straying from the truth? What is straying? Heb 2:1 — drifting. Just kind of drifting off course in a kind of unconscious process where you drift and drift and pretty soon you are over in the rocks; you've drifted off course. We must give heed to what we have heard which is *the truth that saves our soul*, lest we drift away.

(Anav says that in a sailboat on the sea, you do not even realize you are drifting; you have to be really sharp to realize you are drifting. You have to be really keen. You have a course and then the sea has a current, and you have to keep your course but you do not realize how the current takes you away from your course. In the sea, Anav says, you have to always consider the current.]

Everything tries to get you off course of saving your soul. If you take your eyes off the course just for a minute, you drift. You've got to be really sharp, really keen to stay on course. A husband helps his wife to stay on course; the leaders help the sheep to stay on course.

Heb 2:2-3 —*Neglect*. We drift through neglect. We neglect our soul — don't pay attention to what is going on in it. We neglect keeping our mind on the spirit. We drift through negligence. There is a process of saving our soul that is going on here — spirit, soul, and body (1 Ths 5:23) and He will do it

if we let Him. He will save us if we will be obedient. We just have to let Him, put ourselves in His hands, be led by the Spirit (1 Ths 5:24).