

He Treats Us as Beloved Sons

Jonathan Elazar: What our Abba communicated to me is that I'm a beloved son. I realize that our Father treats me as a beloved son. If you are not a beloved son it's almost as if you don't have a father. Our Father has only beloved sons. Knowing that makes us trust Him and cry out, "Abba, Father" in times of need and hard circumstances because a beloved son wants to please His Father instead of getting discouraged about the problems and circumstances. When you know you are a beloved son, when you know you are special to Him, what do you want to do? You want to please Him. Our Master said, "It is finished," and He already saw us sitting in heaven with Him. He sees us as perfect, beloved. The Holy Spirit raised our Master from the dead. He can do the same thing with us. The Abba and His beloved Son — our Abba was well pleased with His Son. And how much I am beloved... I want to please Him, and when I'm lacking grace, cry out to Him. I need to pray, get to know Him. This is how I'm going to please Him. I'm thankful that I am beloved. It's wonderful that He's made us beloved.

This is my name: *Elazar* — "Elohim is my help." I want to live by His grace. Then I'm going to be *Elazar*. This takes going to pray, crying out to Him.

Ha Emeq: It speaks to me what Jonathan said. If it were up to us we would make the community so nice and smooth. Haggai just would go in the morning in the office and give the petty cash money for the day to Christine. Then people would come in and express their need, and Christine just would tell them, "Oh yes, here is all the money you need. And here is the key to one of our many nice and well-kept vehicles, full of gas. [*Lately, it has really been a major task to find a well-running vehicle in the community.*] Just have a nice day."

And then we would come here in the lodge. Of course, the lodge already would be finished. The heating system would be in. It would be so nice and warm and cozy. Nice, soft furniture all over the place and you just could sit back.

But it's not like that. Our Father treats us as beloved sons. Which son is there whom his abba doesn't discipline? Our Master was born in an animal barn. He should have been born in a palace with a red carpet before Him.

We are beloved sons, His beloved sons. Yahshua never doubted that He was a beloved son. But He didn't have a pillow. He had a stone to rest on. We are beloved sons. There will be hard circumstances.

Yahshua said, "I give my life voluntarily." We are called to do the same thing. We've been called to die voluntarily. Our flesh keeps on rising. We need to remember that we received His Spirit. We need to give our lives voluntarily without complaining. Our Master has put His Spirit into us. I often forget it. Our Father has given us His Spirit.

David Ishmael: Miriam didn't have pampers and baby wipes for the baby when they fled to Egypt. We can hardly imagine going on a trip without having these things. Our Father wants to take out of us all the things that were passed on to us from our parents and the world.

If this lodge was finished, and all the vehicles were in order, and we had everything that we like, it would be easy to be thankful. But then we would be like fair-weather Christians, giving thanks only when things are just right. I am thankful.

We need to thank Him for all things. He has planned it. That's why He chose Abraham. He didn't have all the comfort.

Israel crossed the Red Sea, and then they were wandering through the desert. They wanted to leave Egypt because it was hard. But He closed the door a little bit longer. They really wanted to get out of that slavery. But after they had gotten out they forgot very quickly where they came from. They remembered the meat. They were clinging to that, they were murmuring. So our Father gave them meat. Evil spirits came (Ps 106:24,25). We have many circumstances in our life in the community. But if there is no money, or if the car key is gone, maybe our Father doesn't want you to have the money, or the car key. So be thankful.

When we don't give thanks, we are gloomy. We don't know who we are. But if we think that we are beloved sons, we'll give thanks.

Dt 8 confirms that it was our Father's good will to let them go through this. He led them for 40 years. He allowed circumstances in their lives to let them see what was in their heart. First He has to humble us. When we are totally humble there is no room for any other spirit to come in. Like in Asher when we break bread we humble ourselves and bow down and kneel before our Master. There is no airspace in between, no room for anything else to come in.

We have to be humble; that's the only way we can make it into the kingdom. Unless we are humble we can't be in the kingdom. Unless we are humble we can't receive the word. We have to become like children. He allows circumstances and hardships in our lives to let us know what is in our heart. Unless you know what's in your heart you can't confess it. Without these circumstances and hardships you can get along very well, but then you come to the door of the kingdom and you won't get in.

Acts 14:22 — I'm sure they were dismayed. They were baptized. They had come out of the world. They had become disciples, and then hardships and adverse circumstances came upon them. Then Paul and Barnabas came along and strengthened and encouraged them.

Our Father let the children of Israel go hungry in the wilderness. He wanted them to know that man doesn't live on bread alone but on every word that proceeds from His mouth. We don't live on eggs and butter. We live on every word that comes forth from His mouth. That's why we come here every morning. If we don't hear the word we die. It's worse than to die physically.

He lets us know what's in our heart. When someone drives off in the car with the key to the other car in his pocket and you really need that other car, you know what's in you. When the washing machine is broken, when you come into a cold lodge, you know what's in your heart.

But we do what we can by His grace. We aren't negligent and inadvertent.