

Forgetting What Lies Behind

Chanowk – I was thinking about the story of Shimshone ha-emeq told this week and how our Father brought him to the place where he was able to be led by a little child. Our Father humbled him. And at the end it says that he killed more Philistines at his death than when he was alive.

Baruch – I'm thankful we have a purpose to attain to. I was reading Phil 3:12 and I thought how we were laid hold of for a reason – not just to be saved, but for the building up of His kingdom. We are to represent His life to the nations on earth, and this life will go on and on into the next age. We start by being saved and then go on in the works prepared for us. That's how we can repay Him for all He's done for us. I'm thankful we can be builders of something that's eternal.

Yatsaq – Because we have been laid hold of we have a reason to take up our cross every day, to surrender our self-life and trust ourselves into the hands of our Father instead of getting anxious. I read what Baruch read in Philippians and I thought that we can look back and feel sorrow for things that have happened or we can do what Paul said, "*forgetting what lies behind...*" It's not that He doesn't care about these things, but that the future has so much more meaning for us.

Our Master has given me a whole new life and I'm thankful for it and it makes me want to press on. He has taken hold of us and I want to take hold of Him and press on to what lies ahead.

Elishevah of Israel – What we are talking about reminds me of the salmon. The only thing on their minds is to go upstream and reproduce. I'm thankful I live with people who are embracing that challenge, and press on and go upstream. When our Master looks at us He sees the potential in us, the same that was in Abraham. There's no one here that can't make it. He has every provision for us to make it.

ha-emeq – I was thankful for what Yatsaq shared. It's a key and I received that key also a long time ago. I knew I couldn't go on unless I saw the key. I saw this at the beginning when I came to our Master Yahshua. I saw how I had to break off the ties I had with family and friends. If not, you can sit and think about the relationships you had with friends and your relatives and it's like always looking in the rear-view mirror. If you are always looking back then you'll end up crashing.

I found that verse years ago, "*Forgetting what lies behind ...*" ~~what~~ happened 30 years ago or just yesterday. If I want to I can look in the rear-view mirror, but I saw years ago that I was wasting my life doing that and it would only be death. So I took it on and I actually forgot the names of people in my past. I believed and didn't give it another thought and just forgot my past and cast it out immediately and looked ahead. Then I felt so free, not to have to carry around all those ties to my past. I found the key. We have to stay focused.

It's sad how some people that have left are still hung up on things that happened in their training group years ago. We learn and gain by going through our experiences, but we have to set our minds ahead.

When you talk to people who have left over the years they remember everything wrong that people did to them. Mk 11:25 doesn't mean much to them. "*When you stand praying and you see someone who offended you [or you think he did], forgive him.*" Ha-emeq could only believe about forgetting what lies behind because of the Holy Spirit. Natural people can't do it.

In the beginning in Chattanooga we didn't know what we were doing. We'd work and pray. Then we saw a house and I prayed, "*Father I want that man to give it to us! Let him hand me the keys.*" I went to the man and told him that we needed that house for our ministry and he gave the keys to me! Then everyone flooded to the "Lighthouse" and ha-emeq and I had to quit our jobs and tend to the sheep. Several months later the man wanted the house back to build something on the property, but we had already started. And it kept growing. We got one house after another! And we had several delis. But we couldn't have done it without our Father's intervention.

We have the power to forgive others, and if we don't we won't be forgiven and then we'll end up having to pay for our sins. It means we'll go to the same place our Master went to and pay for our sins. But we have a lawyer, an advocate who goes before our Father saying, "*I died for His sins. He's confessing them.*"

Forgive him.”

1 Jn 1:7 – *“But if we walk in the light as He Himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Yahshua His Son cleanses us from all sin.”* What does “one another” mean? It means with our Father in heaven. Then we can have fellowship with one another. There’s no way we can have fellowship with one another unless we first have fellowship with our Father (1 Jn 1:7; also read 1 Jn 1:9 and 2:1-6).

T’ara – It seems like the thing that hinders us the most is if we don’t forgive. If we don’t forgive we’re not forgiven even if people tell me “I forgive you.” I’m not forgiven if I don’t have forgiveness in my heart for others. It would be amazing if we were all walking around forgiving from the heart. I’m thankful we can be sharpened. I want to be a loving person.

This is the message we heard from the beginning. 1 Jn 1:6 – The main thing is that we have fellowship with Him. Many people try to have fellowship with one another, but not having fellowship with Him. 1 Jn 2:1 – *“My little children, I am writing these things to you that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Yahshua the righteous.”* 1 Jn 2:6 – *“The one who says he abides in Him ought himself to walk just as He walked.”* That’s the life of a *normal* disciple. It’s normal to overcome all His enemies and put them under His feet. It’s totally abnormal not to overcome. That’s what we do; we have fellowship with Him and one another. But our fellowship with one another doesn’t secure our fellowship with Him. If our fellowship with Him is first then we’ll walk right.

In Revelation we see one church after another destroyed and their lampstand taken away. 1 Jn 2:4 – *“The one who says, I have come to know Him, and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.”*