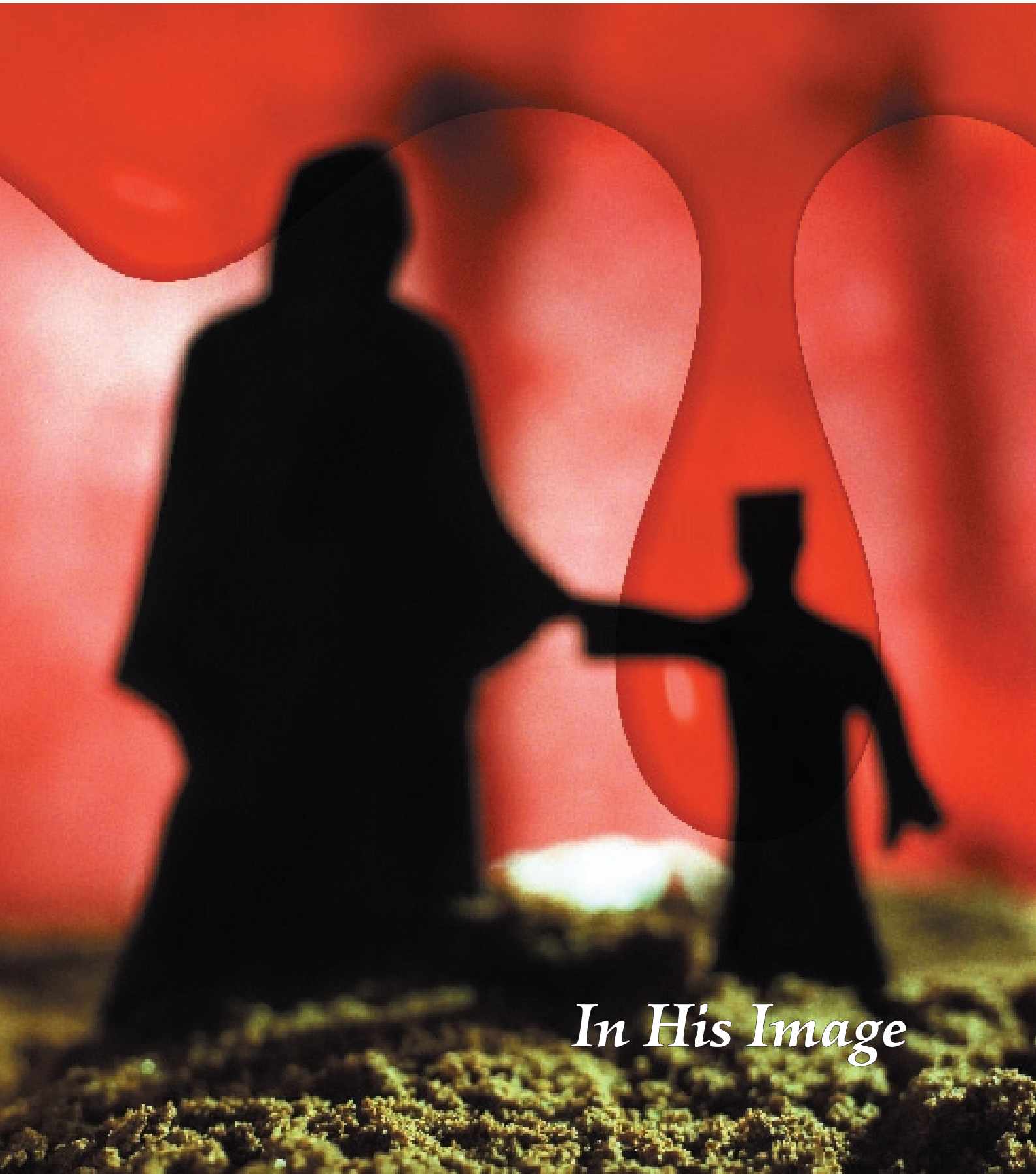


Issue 41 - Spring 2007

# HA'SHEM

**Truth That Transforms**



*In His Image*

# Editorial

## *In His Image*

It's really cute when you hear a little child saying to his friends, "I want to be just like my dad when I grow up." Which dad, on hearing that, wouldn't be proud that his child wants to be like him? Disciples have similar childlike desires: they dream of becoming like their teacher or master. I'm thinking about Yahshua, our Master, who calls us to follow Him and to be like Him in our living of life on planet earth. And it's so wonderful for us to be able to say, "You know what, I want to be just like my Lord when I grow up." Heaven's big idea for you is exactly that – to be conformed to the likeness of the Master.

Achieving Yahshua-likeness is the chief goal of the disciple and I'm afraid it doesn't happen automatically or at the moment you become a follower. It's a process that can last your whole life; one that requires you to access through faith and spiritual disciplines what has already been achieved in Messiah for you.

As you delve into this issue of Ha'Shem I hope you will be inspired and challenged about the reality of His image expressed through you.

*Alcot*

## HA'SHEM is Hebrew for the 'THE NAME' (Yahweh)

### DIVINE NAMES AND TITLES

Throughout this magazine you will see the names YAHWEH and YAHSHUA. Yahweh is the original name for the heavenly Father and Yahshua is the original name of His Son, our Saviour. Also the term ELOHIM (or its shortened form El) may be used. This literally means 'Mighty One' and is usually translated 'God' in the King James Version of the Bible.

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# DISCIPLINES OF A DISCIPLE

FEATURE

Valerie Warsop

Valerie Warsop has served over forty years as a minister of the Congregation of Yahweh. During that period she has held many distinguished posts. She lives in Nottingham and, although retired, she continues to serve in specific ministry areas.

*“You shall be blameless before [Yahweh]...” (Deut. 18:13 NAS).*

**M**any years ago, when I was still a young woman, I was seated at table with a mature, highly respected and much-loved minister from The Congregation of Yahweh in Jamaica; we were indulging in ‘table talk’ and had been there for hours. We were discussing gifts and calling, when she told me, “After my salvation I said to Yahshua, ‘Sir, what is my work to be?’ and He replied, ‘Your work is to be blameless!’” We gazed at each other thoughtfully, and there was a moment of deep silence. “What,” she asked eventually, “do you think of that?” What indeed! It has recurred in my memory as a regular challenge for almost forty years. At the time, however, I looked at my older sister and dear friend with something approaching awe. I knew she was a prophetess, the evidence was there in her life and ministry – but to be blameless, was that possible? What a high calling! I came away from that meeting with a heightened admiration for this devoted minister of Yahweh.

It was not long, however, when the Scriptures started to come alive in my heart as I devoured them with my eyes! This was not just a calling for Tavita Barrett of Jamaica this was a *requirement of discipleship*. Understanding began to unfold when I found this scripture, “You shall be blameless before [Yahweh]...” (Deut. 18:13 NAS). Astonished by what I saw I checked with the Authorised Version and read, “Thou shalt be perfect with [Yahweh]...” Things began to slot into place as I thought about the frequent calls to perfection which echo throughout the Scriptures. Yahshua Himself said, “Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect” (Matt. 5:48 KJV).

## **Be Like Yahshua? – How?**

The definition of a disciple is this: ‘One who follows the opinions and teachings of another, believes in all his ideas, is a pupil to all his doctrines, *tries to copy*

*him in everything* and be *just like him*.’ Our life’s work and greatest challenge, is to grow more and more like Yahshua every day. He said, “The disciple is not above his master: but every one that is *perfect* shall be as his master” (Luke 6:40 KJV, **italics mine**). What a promise - but how to be perfect? Perfection, sanctification, holiness – these words should be found habitually on the lips and in the thoughts of those who are aspiring to be disciples of Yahshua, who are longing to have His likeness engraved upon their hearts. The apostle Peter wrote, “He gives us everything we need for life and for holy living. He gives it through His great power. As we come to know Him better, we learn that He called us to share His own shining-greatness and perfect life” (2 Pet. 1:3 New Life Version). This is the ‘how?’ It’s all there for us, we need to apprehend it! The power is in the sacrifice of Calvary, and we receive cleansing and purity when we trust in Yahshua for our salvation. His, and only His, is the power that enables



a perfect life here and now. Ours is the job of appropriating all that is offered and ensuring that we walk before Him blamelessly and in ever-increasing holiness. Paul wrote, “Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all defilement of flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of [Yahweh]” (2 Cor. 7:1 NAS). As I understand it there is something here that disciples are expected to do for *themselves*!

A life of discipleship demands a variety of disciplines in order for us to arrive at that “...really mature manhood (the completeness of personality which is nothing less than the standard height of [Messiah’s] own perfection), the measure of the stature of the fulness of the [Messiah] and the completeness found in Him” (Eph. 4:13 Amp). The primary meaning of the word ‘discipline’ is ‘training or a way of life aimed at self-control and obedience’ (Oxford Dictionary). A soldier in any of the armed forces around the world has such self-control and obedience thrust upon him/her by the rigorous expectations and often ruthless training of the army concerned. An unruly, disobedient soldier will not be tolerated, since this could put lives at serious risk during war or other emergencies. The General of our army is the King of Love and so it can be easy to lose sight of the fact that His followers are actually *fighting a war*, and that disobedience and/or sloppy, lazy habits could put themselves and others at risk! He won’t shout and

*...men and women are responsible to Yahweh for what they do (or, indeed, don’t do) with what has been given.*



*Perfection, sanctification, holiness – these words should be found habitually on the lips and in the thoughts of those who are aspiring to be disciples of Yahshua.*

bawl at us like a sergeant training new recruits – and neither will His ministers, when they find themselves training His people. But let us never forget that we need the discipline and obedience of a regular army if we are to win the last great battle, and that the only person who can ‘thrust it upon us’ is our own self!

### **A Successful Disciple? – How?**

Self-discipline begins with the basic things of a spiritual life: Bible reading and prayer. These are habits that need to be cultivated by a new believer and maintained by seasoned believers as a life-line to the heart of the General. It is imperative that each one of us has a personal and intimate acquaintance with Yahshua; this is the bedrock of every successful disciple. Regular fasting with prayer is a discipline that opens the heart and sensitises the spirit to hear from Yahweh,

whilst long fasts can increase dependence upon Yahshua and promote incomparable closeness to Him. Fasting should not be something we regard as an ‘emergency’ tool. It will make a great difference to the inward nature if we bind it into our regular discipleship disciplines. As disciples we are obligated to set ourselves to seek for Yahweh with *all our heart*. Your minister can only encourage you to do this – the incentive has to come from within, no-one can do it for you.

Another meaning of the word discipline is, ‘a branch of instruction or learning’. For example it would be correct to ask a university student what discipline he was studying. As believers and disciples of Yahshua we may have different disciplines (ministries and callings), but they will all have one aim, ‘the perfecting and the full equipping of the saints (His consecrated people), [that they should do]



*...we need the discipline and obedience of a regular army if we are to win the last great battle...*

the work of ministering toward building up [Messiah's] body (the church)' (Eph. 4:12 Amp). Whatever we have been gifted to do will make a difference in the Body of Yahshua, so it is fitting for us to be the *best that we can be for His sake*. It is necessary that we make 'full proof' of our ministry even as Paul instructed his son in the faith, Timothy (2 Tim. 4:5). Various versions of this scripture help us to understand that Paul was urging the young man to fulfil all that Yahweh had given him to do and to perform his duties with excellence.

## **Fulfil My Calling? – How?**

When Yahweh calls us to a specific task then it is up to us to find the most effective way to do this for *His glory* and for the greater benefit of His People. If you feel your calling is to be a singer or a musician – then take some lessons and learn from experts how to make the most of what Yahweh has given to you. If you are called to preach then take advice as to how to prepare sermons, how to be effective in communication, how to bring His Word to His People in the most effectual way – these things

do not happen, necessarily, just because we are called to do it. If you are called to be a shepherd of Yahweh's people then sit at the feet of those with experience and learn how! This is one of the highest privileges Yahweh can give to a man or a woman, and it is a demanding job requiring multi-tasking abilities alongside huge stores of discipline, patience, wisdom, understanding and discretion.

What is the discipline to which you are called? Take time in the University of Heaven to be trained to be the best that you can be. You will often find the University of Heaven will lead you to places of training and learning on the earth – but when you find His place for your training you will also find a heaven on earth. Make those talents work so that there is an increase in what you have been given! The successful servants in the story Yahshua told (see Matt. 25) put their talents to work and increased what they had been given. Observation and experience over the years has taught me that talents can be enlarged and enriched through use and training; men and women are responsible to Yahweh for what they do (or, indeed, don't do) with what has been given. Be diligent to fulfil all

that you have been given to do in the best way possible.

There are two disciplines in the University of Heaven that are compulsory for all disciples – those of obedience and submission, and we will not function fruitfully until we have been exposed to intensive training. The ordinary journey of life ensures that we each receive frequent opportunities to practise and grow in these disciplines. My advice to all believers is to learn to align your inner self to the will of Yahweh however that presents itself. It is perfectly normal for the human spirit to kick when things don't seem to be going the way we thought they should or would personally choose; perfectly normal for there to be an inner struggle before we bow to what seems to be inevitable, but I must learn to make His will my will. Aligning oneself with the will of Yahweh can take hours, days, months, or even years depending on a variety of personal issues, lifestyles and preferences, it's not how long it takes that matters, but that it eventually happens! We should cultivate both our inner self and our personal relationship with Yahshua until we bend flexibly under the winds of change and know the joy of total submission.

*“Let your hearts  
therefore be blameless  
and wholly true to  
[Yahweh our Elohim],  
to walk in His statutes  
and to keep His  
commandments”  
1 Kings 8:61 (Amp).*



# IN THE IMAGE OF THE KING

Paul Bird



**W**hen Yahweh created mankind, He made them in His own image. He didn't create clones of Himself, but people to represent Him to all other living creatures and rule over them. This is how the theme of 'image' appears in Genesis 1:26-29. Yahweh created a surrogate king, Adam, and a helper, Eve. They were to reign over all creatures as Yahweh would. The problem came when Adam rebelled against his King, Yahweh. Adam's kingship over the earth continued, but it was made harder because the earth would, in turn, rebel against him. He would also have to rule over Eve; for her part in Adam's downfall, she went from helper to subject.

Humanity has an 'image' problem. ***We are made in Yahweh's image, to reflect His glory and reign in His character.*** But we are fallen people, who prefer to ignore Yahweh. Instead of ruling the earth, we bow

down and worship it. Or else we terrorise it and make it bow to us rather than its Creator. We don't want to represent Yahweh. We have no allegiance to Him, so why lift Him up? Let's glorify ourselves instead! We've lost sight of our mission to rule the earth on His behalf. Our lives have become vain and without purpose. We only please ourselves and don't even know why.

But, just as Yahweh was merciful to clothe a naked Adam and Eve, so He provides hope for all their descendants. Yahweh sent a second Adam – a new King who bears His image in its fulness, One who can represent Him completely because He is Yahweh in character and being. This new Adam, Yahshua, the only-begotten Son of the Father, Yahweh in the flesh, is the image *par excellence* of the invisible Father. He can reign over creation properly because

He helped create it. Yahweh's purpose for His people is to be transformed into the image of His Son (2 Cor. 3:18); to rule and reign with Him; to be kings and priests (Rev. 1:6), representing Yahweh to creation and representing creation to Yahweh. We are to 'reign' responsibly over all creation, to live a kind of life which Yahweh would live if He were on earth. Yahshua is the ultimate example to follow in this. To a lesser extent, His apostles are also examples to follow, along with any Christian who imitates Messiah.

How do we reign with Him? By achieving material wealth? No. Yahshua rejected this path and so must we. Satan tempted Yahshua by lying to Him that he could give Him the kingdoms of the earth. ***They were never His to give!*** "The earth is [Yahweh's], and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it..." (Ps. 24:1). We reign in this life by doing what pleases Yahweh rather than pleasing ourselves. We reign by taking on the characteristics of the King of kings and letting these motivate us and guide our lives. And Yahweh helps us! The Holy Spirit is the One who works to transform us into Yahweh's image. We co-operate in this by increasing our knowledge of our Creator. We reign by praying according to His will. This kingship is never an enforcing of OUR wills. "Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven" (Matt. 6:10). We reign by doing whatever we can to make this happen.



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# TRANSFER TROUBLE

John Thornton

**W**hen a person comes to Yahshua and receives His salvation they are essentially being transferred from one kingdom to another and this means living life in a new way, with new values and standards. Transferring requires transformation. All this takes some handling and to really make the transfer work requires a whole new way of thinking. Many people struggle with this because there is no delete button to press and wipe out one's past life, learning, attitudes and habits. Interestingly enough, in the world of football, transfers happen frequently – do players struggle with this and is there anything to be learnt from their experience?

One of the world's most famous footballers in the past decade, David Beckham, hit the media headlines once again in early 2007 with his shock decision to move to USA, with a hope to raise the profile of 'soccer' in that baseball-loving country.

Beckham's move from Manchester United to Real Madrid sparked speculation about his future in his much-loved sport with one of the richest football clubs in the history of the game. Beckham, it has to be said, was one of Manchester's 'golden boys', and having been raised in their academy he became the 'darling' of English football. One could be forgiven for thinking that his transfer from Manchester to Madrid was a 'walk in the park'. For his blood ran thick with the red of Manchester; he thought this club, breathed it, ate and drank it and many thought he would end his career with his beloved Manchester.

With his transfer, his very roots were dug up and replanted in another culture, where he had to learn a new style of European football, new training regime, and new tactics. His own style of play would have needed to be adapted to suit another big club in world football. Maybe the very style with which he attracted the attention of the, then, manager was the thing that eventually found him going out of the backdoor of the club – not being able to adapt with the development of the team in more recent years.

One must not forget the impact this would have had on his immediate family. His wife and child had to have been willing to follow the golden boy of Manchester in order to keep his dream alive. This type of career move could have caused a different family to suffer irreparable breakdown.

And what about the challenge of Madrid facing his boyhood team in the Champions league? Imagine the conflict of interest as he lined up against his 'blood team', knowing that if he scored against them, there was a huge chance that Manchester would be prevented from proceeding in the competition. This must surely have put his own loyalties to the test. Undoubtedly though, Beckham was and is a true professional and his loyalties proved to be with the team to which he had pledged the next few years of his life.

Transfers in the world of sport have their troubles. One wrong move could result in the end of a promising career. But for many, like Beckham, they can be stepping stones to greater things, like a blossoming international career and the captaining of his own national team. But with success there is always a price being paid somewhere.

Finally, let me point out, that for any international sportsman to stay at the top of his game he must continually subject his body to intense training, fine tuning his skills and reflexes, else there is someone already waiting in the wings to have his number.



*John Thornton is director of CY Horizons, a charitable organisation dedicated to supporting under privileged young people and the poor; he also oversees New Hope Community Church in Northumberland UK.*



# THE TRANSFER

Richard Willetts



*The apostle John alludes to the process of growth in the faith in his first letter, where he identifies three stages in the life of a believer: **little children, young men and fathers.***

*“Therefore, if anyone is in [Messiah], he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!” (2 Cor. 5:17).*

**W**e know, both from the Scriptures and from personal experience, that being ‘born again’ is an instantaneous operation of the Spirit. It occurs the moment we turn from sin and believe in Yahshua and His atoning work on the cross, inviting Him into our life. We are suddenly and immediately **transferred** from the kingdom of darkness to the kingdom of light. Yahweh promised, in Ezekiel, that He would replace our hard hearts with soft ones, put His Spirit in us and move us to obey Him (Ezk. 36:26).

Whilst this transformation is instantaneous, yet it would seem that many of us struggle to translate our new **desire** to serve Yahweh and to live the way that He wants us to into **ability** and a walk of **obedience** to His Word. We should not be discouraged or surprised by this conflict of obedience that is faced by us all and to which Paul alludes in his letter to the Romans: “...For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do...For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out” (Rom. 7:15-18).

The truth is that whilst it is correct that the gift of salvation is a ‘once-in-a-lifetime’ consummate transaction, there is plenty of evidence in the Scriptures (and I am sure from all our own personal experiences) to show that it is also a process of growth and change that we all need to embrace. The Scriptures exhort us to grow in our knowledge and experience of Yahweh (2 Pet. 3:18). Ultimately, the process in all its forms will be complete only when we step into eternity: “I was saved...” (Eph. 2:5). “I am being saved...” (1 Cor. 1:18). “I will be saved”

(Rom. 5:9). All these statements are equally true and are supported in the Word.

The apostle John alludes to this process of growth in the faith in his first letter, where he identifies three stages in the life of a believer: **little children, young men and fathers.**

*“I write to you, **dear children**, because your sins have been forgiven on account of his name. I write to you, **fathers**, because you have known him who is from the beginning. I write to you, **young men**, because you have overcome the evil one. I write to you **dear children**, because you have known the Father. I write to you **fathers**, because you have known him who is from the beginning. I write to you **young men** because you are strong, and the word of [Yahweh] lives in you, and you have overcome the evil one” (1 Jn. 2:12-14 **emphasis mine**).*

Understanding and identifying these three key stages in the personal development of a believer is helpful in understanding the true nature of **the transfer**.



## Little Children

I was eight years old when I first asked Yahshua to come into my life. I had been attending a children's Sunday school run by the Congregation of Yahweh and held in a hut at the end of our road for a couple of years. I had heard the 'basics' of the gospel message many times and in many different ways, through songs, stories, prayers and plays. One day the leader at the front asked a question that was often asked, "Who has Yahshua in their heart?" Not wishing to be the odd one out, I stuck my hand up. When I went home I thought logically about how I had responded and its possible consequences. "I have just told everyone that I have asked Yahshua into my heart when I know that I have not. This is a lie. Lying is sin and if I sin I am going to hell. I don't want to go to hell, so the best thing I can do is ask Yahshua into my heart." Having worked this out, I got down by the side of my bed and asked Yahshua into my life - job done! I have to say that I

didn't feel much different after this, however every time I did something wrong I felt prompted to apologise to Yahshua and ask Him to come back in again! (My understanding of Yahshua's grace was limited!)

It was not until I began to attend Sunday night family services that I began to be more aware of the Spirit of Yahweh and His presence not just around me but also in me. I have discovered over the years that it is this presence of Yahweh in me that is not only a guarantee of future blessing in heaven (2 Cor. 5:5) but also a source of life and power, enabling me to live the kind of life that as His disciples, Yahshua has called us to live.

Yahshua instructed us that in order to enter the Kingdom of Heaven, we have to 'become as little children'. I had a distinct advantage in that I came to know Yahshua as a child of eight and in a home, too, where no one else was a believer. This child-like approach to faith and Yahshua's teaching came naturally to me - if Yahshua said it, it must be true,

and so it can and should be done. Knowing that our sins are forgiven and that Yahshua also forgives us even when we fail, at times, in our quest to live according to His Word, is key to our early stages of growth in the faith (and indeed throughout our walk with Yahweh).

"My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have one who speaks to the Father in our defence – [Yahshua Messiah], the Righteous One. He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins..." (1 Jn. 2: 1-2). It is however not Yahweh's intention that we should live a life of repeated forgiveness for the same old problems and issues (Rom. 6:1-2). There is much more to Yahweh's gift of salvation than that.

## Young Men

I have to say that in striving to live a right life, I found myself, particularly in my younger years, failing. I found that the same Holy Spirit that was a source of joy and blessing was also a convicting voice, making me feel bad, even desperate at times, at my own inability to speak and act in the way that I knew I should, especially when with my friends. We should not be surprised at these growing pains. This convicting of sin is one of the key works of the Spirit (Jn. 16:8). Yahshua emphasised the importance and benefits of such attitudes in His sermon on the mount. "[Yahweh] *blesses those who are poor and realise their need for him, for the Kingdom of heaven is theirs. [Yahweh] blesses those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness for they will be filled*" (Matt. 5:3, 4, NLT, 6, NIV *emphasis mine*).





At this time many in our national church had been praying for revival and as a result, were experiencing a great breakthrough in their quest for personal holiness - an experience called sanctification. Many were finding that through true repentance and faith in Yahshua the root of sin was being taken from their life, and the desire to do wrong was gone. I will never forget being prayed for by the late Peter Warsop, who was the senior Pastor of our national church. It was during a national gathering at the Feast of Unleavened Bread 1979 and I was fourteen years old. He prayed that Yahweh would give me the 'gift' of sanctification, and that one experience was, for me, the most significant and life-changing of my entire walk with Yahweh. It proved more life-changing than asking Yahshua into my heart for the first time, better than speaking in tongues for the first time, better even than getting baptised in water, though all of these were significant and great milestones in themselves. It was as if the 'penny' had finally dropped. I was finally experiencing a vital aspect of what true salvation was - the power of sin destroyed in my life; and Yahweh was so near.

It was this experience that catapulted me into a new level of personal victory. Whilst I did fall a few times, I found myself learning how to pick myself up and get back into that close relationship with the Father and walk the

pathway of holiness. I found myself able to make the tough day-to-day decisions between right and wrong no matter what the personal cost. I had, within, a sense of having overcome the evil one's influence in my life. It was not long after this that I began to seriously read and study the Scriptures on a regular basis. As a result, I found myself becoming strong in the Word and more readily able to discern the voice of Yahweh and His will for my life. The book of Hebrews classes this as a mark of spiritual maturity (Heb. 5:12-14). In short I had progressed from being a spiritual babe to a young man in the faith. "...I write to you, **young men**, because you are strong, and the word of [Yahweh] lives in you, and you have overcome the evil one" (1 Jn. 2:14 **emphasis mine**).

I particularly remember a time when, aged fifteen and on holiday with my family, Yahweh began to convict me of unrighteous thought patterns and to show me that this stronghold of the evil one in my life was the domain of a demon. He told me what its name was and showed me a Scripture in Psalms where we are taught that Yahweh has given us weapons to overcome our enemies. "May the praise of [Yahweh] be in their mouths and a double-edged sword in their hands, to inflict vengeance on the nations and punishment on the peoples, to bind their kings with fetters, their nobles with shackles of iron, to carry out the sentence written

against them..." (Ps. 149:6-9a). I renounced any sin on my part in this area and then commanded this evil power to leave me. I had an immediate sense of release, forgiveness and freedom, as I felt it leave. Remember these great words from Paul: "For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of [Yahweh], and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to [Messiah]" (2 Cor. 10:3-5).

## Fathers

Whilst it is true that, as Paul points out, we have '*not many fathers*' in the faith, that is to say leaders of rare stature, influence and example in the Church, yet in another sense we are all called to be 'fathers' in the faith. Our ultimate calling in this life is not only to live in the resurrection power of Yahshua but also to co-operate with the Holy Spirit in **producing life in others**. Some years ago, Yahweh presented me with a two-word mandate which I now see as the whole direction that my life should now take: "*duplicate yourself!*"

In so many words Yahweh said to me. "You have learned well (and continue to learn) how to live your life in a way that pleases Me.



Now seek to reproduce that life in others. In the measure that you know Me, bring others into that same knowledge.” As the psalmist said after recognising his need for forgiveness and a new heart: “Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will turn back to you” (Ps. 51:13).

It is in obedience to this mandate that I am taking time out now to convey some of my experiences of Yahweh in written form. As

the songwriter said, “It doesn’t matter where you come from, but it counts where you’re going.”

My friend, it does not matter how deeply into sin and degradation your life may have taken you. There is no sin or injustice, whether committed by you, or by others against you, no habit or stronghold of the evil one in your life, no impure action, no words, not even thoughts in your mind, that is too great for change.

The blood of Yahshua shed freely for you at the cross (1 Jn. 1:8), has the power to make everything new. The Word of Yahweh and the resurrection power of the Holy Spirit can identify the problems and the blood of Yahshua cleanse and heal your heart if you truly want him to. “For **every** child of [Yahweh] defeats this evil world by trusting [Messiah] to give the victory. And the ones who win this battle against the world are the ones who believe that [Yahshua] is the son of [Yahweh]” (see 1 Jn. 5:4-5 NLT).

So what is Yahweh looking for from you? A simple decision of your own will and faith in the mighty power of the risen Messiah. What He’s done for me, He can do for you. Trust Him today, get down on your knees and confess to Him whatever it is that is getting between you and your relationship with Him. Remember this, “...everyone who calls on the name of Yahweh **WILL** be saved...” (Joel 2:32 **emphasis mine**). Yahshua did not die for anything less than total victory over sin, sickness, demons and death. He has promised us everything we need to live a holy life (2 Pet. 1:3). So let’s be strong in Yahweh and in **His** mighty power (Eph. 6:10 **emphasis mine**).

*“duplicate yourself”... In the measure that you know Me, bring others into that same knowledge.”*



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# LIVING WITH THE ENEMY

Daniel Smith

Over fifty years ago Yahshua came into my life, saving me from a dreadful life of sin. The miracle of the New Birth became my own personal experience. What a joy it was to know that my sins were forgiven and that I had been truly “delivered from the power of darkness and translated into the kingdom of his dear Son” (see Col. 1:13 KJV). Halleluyah! From that moment my one consuming passion was to serve the One who had done so much for me.

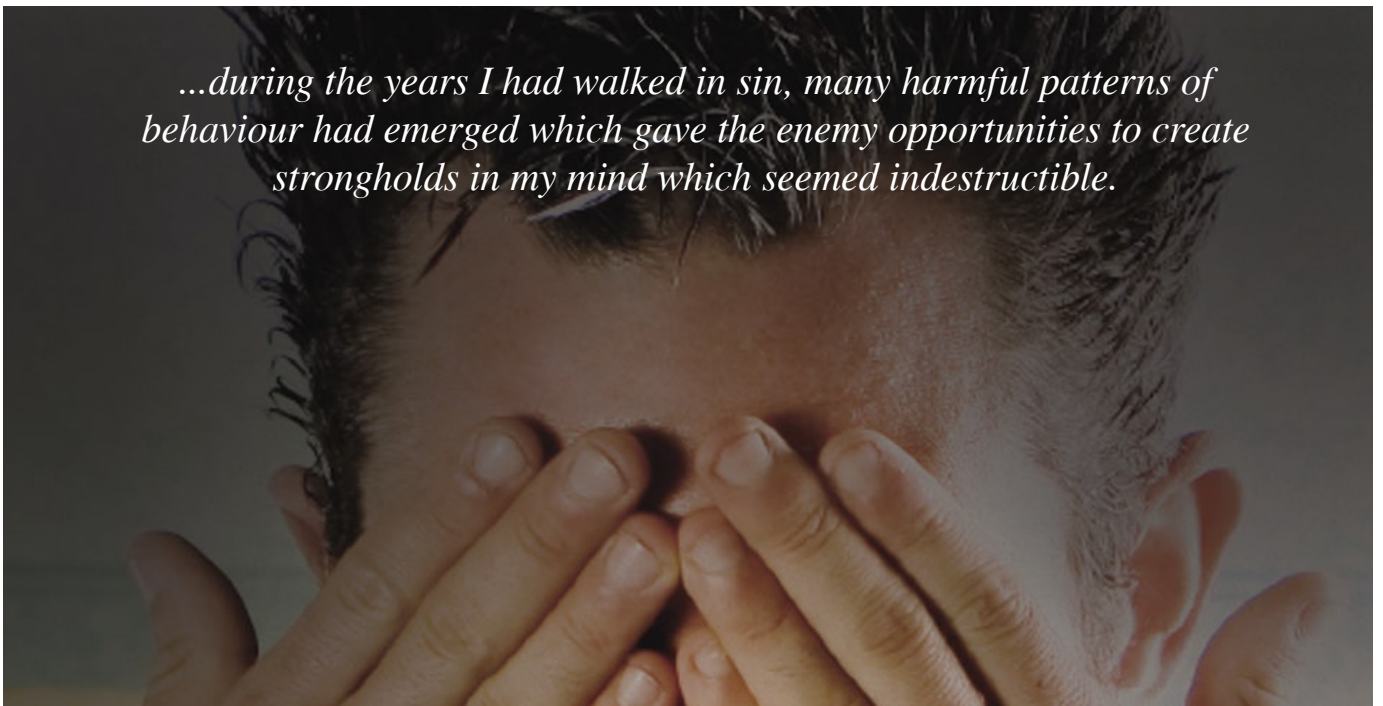
Looking back over the years I can truthfully say that I have been “...kept by the power of [Yahweh]...” (1 Pet. 1:5 KJV) as He has led me and used me in His service. However, as I journeyed along in my new-found faith, it soon became apparent that this was to be no easy path. Inner conflicts and crises over which I seemed to have little or no control often arose. During these times I was able to prove the love and faithfulness of my wonderful Saviour as He patiently brought me through each situation. One such crisis I faced was in 1976. In July of that year a dramatic event occurred which would change my life forever.

On a particular day in that month some fellow ministers and myself were gathered together to discuss the work of the congregation. As we knelt together to pray at the

close of the meeting suddenly, and quite unexpectedly, the awesome presence of Yahweh filled the room; I found myself prostrated before Him. No prayer passed my lips but as I lay there a deep struggle was taking place in my inner man. Seeing my distress, some of the brothers began to pray for me; it was then that the Almighty spoke very powerfully to me through a word of prophecy. This is what He said, “I have chosen you, my son, that you might walk with me in purity, holiness and truth and you shall be free. You shall know the joy of an unfettered soul, of a soul unencumbered with sin, for I have chosen you. You shall walk before me in peace, and I shall be with you, the power of the enemy shall no longer bind you for I have chosen you; for whom I set free is free indeed; for whom I set free is free indeed.”

So what had happened to bring me to this place? Over twenty years had passed since the King of love had taken over my life. In that time I had experienced His mighty power to save, been filled with the Holy Spirit and rejoiced in the privilege of serving Him. The truth of the matter, however, was that things were not as they might have appeared to be. Although I still desired and endeavoured to be faithful to the call on my life, I could no longer say with honesty that my life was one of victory. In fact it was

*...during the years I had walked in sin, many harmful patterns of behaviour had emerged which gave the enemy opportunities to create strongholds in my mind which seemed indestructible.*



quite the opposite. Inner conflicts raged which often left me ineffective and helpless.

It was soon after my first wife had left me for another man that the poison of rejection took hold of me and I found myself eaten up with a desire for acceptance, love and affection. The enemy, it would seem, came in like a flood, wreaking havoc with my emotions and thought life. Almost unbearable tension built up within as I struggled with a continuous yearning for affection. I remember times when I felt as though I could end it all because I couldn't handle the pressure of living with the inner conflict. It seemed as if the enemy had set up camp within and was systematically destroying my spiritual life – I had almost lost hope.

Now, as Yahweh spoke to me through prophecy, new hope sprang up and I resolved to pray and seek His face until I found the answer to my problems. As I waited upon Him, He gently led me to understand that the battleground where the conflict most often raged was in my mind. More heart searching and waiting on Yahweh brought further understanding that, during the years I had walked in sin, many harmful patterns of behaviour had emerged which gave the enemy opportunities to create strongholds in my mind; strongholds which seemed indestructible.

About this time I was led to the Scriptures in Paul's epistle to the Romans where we find him exhorting the saints to, "...be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind..." (Rom. 12:2 KJV). Now I understand that although I had been born again, and that I had, indeed, been transformed into the Kingdom of Yahweh's dear Son, there was yet a further work of transformation to be done in the renewing of my mind.

By prayer, and through feeding on His word, thought patterns changed as each thought was taken captive and brought to the obedience of the Messiah (see 2 Cor. 10:5). The ultimate victory came some time later when after a period of prayer and fasting I entered into the glorious experience of sanctification. Halleluyah!

As the prophesy had foretold I was now free indeed. That liberty has remained with me to this day. There have been many times when the enemy has counter-attacked and tried to regain territory he has lost to King Emmanuel, but I thank Yahweh that He whom the Son has set free is free indeed! Praise His wonderful Name!



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# THE IMAGE OF YAHWEH

*Joan Lewis*

**Recently I was asked what it means to be made in the image of Yahweh, when no one has ever seen Him. It is my belief that Yahweh sees us as spirit-beings rather than mere physical beings.**

**We are endowed with attributes of Elohim; made a little lower than Elohim; crowned with glory and majesty; made to rule over the works of Elohim! (See Psalm 8:5-6 NASB.) Man has a moral consciousness knowing right from wrong, and is able to make choices. He has the capacity to engage, like no other, the divine presence of Yahweh. Therefore humanity is unlike any other of Yahweh's creations – it is in the image of Elohim.**

**Man was perfect. Yahweh gave him the awesome responsibility of naming all living things created, and every decision pleased Yahweh until that fateful day when Satan raised a question in man, contradicting Yahweh; challenging the dignity of obedience which includes a measure of freewill. Here man failed. The implication of the fall is that our identity is distorted.**

**But bless Yahweh! Yahshua has devoured all the power of Satan when He died on the cross. He swallowed up sin and death, so we can become a new creation in Him.**

**Accept Yahshua as Saviour and be transformed into His image. Let the change begin today.**

# WORSHIP AND MUSIC:

## How Can This Be An Avenue Through Which His Image Is Imprinted In Our Lives?

Ffrenchie Taylor

*“Sing to [Yahweh]  
a new song: sing to  
[Yahweh], all the earth.”  
“WORSHIP [Yahweh]  
in the splendour of his  
holiness: tremble before  
him, all the earth”  
(Ps. 96:1&9 KJV).*

**W**hen Yahweh thought of creation, I believe His ultimate purpose was that honour and adoration be ascribed to Him continuously. “From the lips of children and infants you have ordained praise” (Ps.8:2). The heavens declare His awesomeness, the trees of the field clap their hands in honour to Him, the seas roar with exuberant joy, and even the angels laud Him with praise and exultation.

When Yahweh created man in His own image, He patterned man after Himself (see Gen. 1:27).

It wasn't long before Adam became aware of the fact that the supreme duty of all creatures, including himself, for time and eternity, was to worship the Creator. Adam experienced a unique intimacy with Yahweh through daily worship in 'the cool of the day'. Unfortunately, when Adam sinned, this intimacy

of worship was broken and humanity fell from such original worship. However, since worship remains inevitable, we continue to find ways to rekindle our intimacy with Yahweh. Although the true essence of worship and the efficacy of Yahweh's image in the lives of human beings grew less significant over the centuries, it should be our desire to return to Yahweh's original purpose for man.

A.W.Tozer, in his book entitled, “What Kind of Worship is Yahweh Looking For?” said, “Yahweh is trying to call us back to that for which He created us; to worship Him and to enjoy Him forever!” Throughout the Book of Psalms, we see how David made worship his lifestyle. His experiences, which were diverse, did not deter him from magnifying Yahweh through expressions of music, songs, offerings of thanksgiving, and praise. “I will exalt you, my [El] the King; I will praise your name forever and ever” (Ps. 145:1). As David delighted himself in Yahweh; he found the heart of worship and Yahweh, being pleased with his offering, said, “I have found a man after My own heart” (see 1 Sam. 13:14). I'm sure Yahweh will say the same of us when we give ourselves unreservedly to Him in worship.

### What is Worship?

Worship as an attitude is the showing of reverence, honour and adoration; as an action it is humble, loving service to Yahweh. It is a way of recognising His inexpressible, indescribable, infinite value. Worship is initiated by Yahweh, centred on Yahweh, offered to Yahweh and made acceptable by Yahweh.

### Worship is not:

- Done for you by others. It is personal and individual.
- Music or musical skills.
- Mechanical or inanimate.
- A preliminary activity that is done in preparation for a main event.
- Optional or a preference, though we have the right to choose.
- Corporate action that's done only on weekends or when we're emotionally stirred.

For many people, their perception of music is the enhancing of worship with instruments. Music means more than that; it can be an anointed ministry from Yahweh. The music we play must speak to more than our emotions. It must not be geared towards enticing the youth through catchy rhythms and quick beats! Music calls for total consecration and commitment to finding



Yahweh's key note – 'Kingdom Music', which takes us beyond emotions into the performing of a heavenly ministry. As we attain to such a place, the Holy Spirit will sing and play through us so that the musical minister can reveal Yahweh to His people and bring them into His presence.

Yahshua made a profound statement in John 4:23-24; "But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers, shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. [Yahweh] is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth" (KJV).

Since creation waits to see

the manifestation of Yahweh through us, it becomes our responsibility as worshippers and musicians to ensure our lives reflect His image daily.



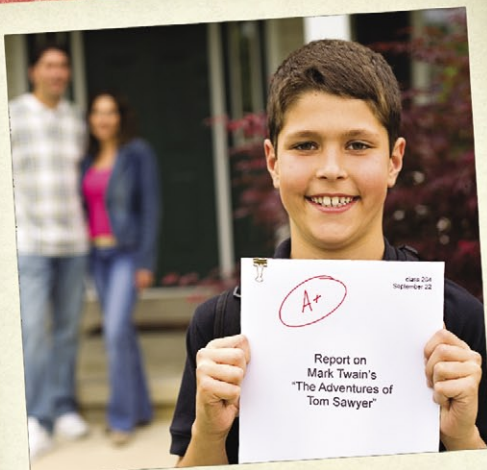
*Efrenchie Taylor is worship leader for First Congregation of Yahweh International (Jamaica); she is also a school teacher and has a prophetic ministry.*

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# A Framework for Building the Church

Alcot Walker





**T**he old Caribbean adage,  
“Learn to dance a yard  
before you go dance

abroad” teaches us that we’ll do  
a better job of doing something in  
public if we first practise at home.

Over the years I have utilised  
this principle in my own life as I  
have given myself to the work of  
the ministry, and it’s something  
that I have pointed others to. It  
works! The apostle Paul, in giving  
Timothy some instructions on  
selecting leaders for the local  
church, made it clear that anyone  
who aspired to be a church  
leader must first “...manage his  
own family well and see that his  
children obey him with proper  
respect. (If anyone does not  
know how to manage his own  
family, how can he take care of  
[Yahweh’s] church?)” (1Tim. 3:4-  
5). If you can’t do it ‘a yard’ (in  
your home) don’t bother applying  
to do it with the church family. It  
isn’t going to work! That’s pretty  
good advice – ignore it at your  
peril. I believe that a number of  
breakdowns in church leadership  
that I’ve seen in the network of our  
congregations (and in other church  
groups), a decade or so ago, was  
as a result of people failing the  
‘1 Timothy 3 test’, and being  
allowed to carry on in positions  
of leadership. The consequences  
of getting our selection of leaders  
wrong can have devastating  
effects.

It has been said often enough  
that ‘the family’ is the building  
block of society - get the family  
right and you get society, in  
some ways, right. The same thing  
goes for the church. The Bible  
sometimes refers to the church as  
the ‘household of Yahweh’ or ‘the  
family of Yahweh’; in a real sense  
it is a community, and so it is  
feasible that wholesome principles  
for rearing a natural family can  
be valuable in growing the church  
family. I have said (and I am sure

*...get the family right and you get society, in some  
ways, right. The same thing goes for the church.*

many a pastor and church leader  
have said similar): “my children/  
family is my first congregation”;  
they are my foremost disciples. I  
have been building my family for  
over twenty years, and although  
it’s far from perfect, I have  
discovered that family and home is  
an ideal place for leaders to perfect  
the art of growing the church. I  
want to share some things about  
shepherding that can be gleaned  
through growing our families as  
believing communities.

## **An Open Environment**

During our marriage preparation,  
Dorcas and I created a vision for  
our marriage. Part of that vision  
was, if Yahweh gave us children,  
we wanted them to be totally open  
and honest with us about anything  
and everything. We didn’t want to  
have a situation in our home where  
our children would keep things  
from us or where they couldn’t  
speak to us about stuff that was  
going on in their lives. So when  
our first child came along we set  
about building an open family  
environment. Every opportunity  
we had (and there were thousands)  
we shared with her about ourselves  
and told her she could talk to us  
about anything - nothing was  
too small or too big; if it was  
important to her it was important  
to us. We became a ‘no-secrets,  
truth-telling family’.

A crying need in the church  
today is for people to be able to  
share their burdens, problems  
or needs with others before they  
become destructive to themselves  
and maybe to others. Church  
leaders must work to create an  
open family environment within  
the church where it’s natural for

disciples to be open and real with  
each other; to be able to share  
what’s going on in their lives  
without getting themselves all  
‘wound up’ or having to pluck  
up the courage to do so. This is  
something that cannot be taught  
but modelled, and leaders must be  
the examples. We must let people  
know, not just by saying it but by  
our actions, that it is fine to share.  
When the flock sees the shepherd  
sharing they will get the idea that  
it is safe to do so. The fact is, that  
of all people, shepherds ought to  
share the most. Why? Well, they  
carry so many burdens, especially  
the burden which is the church.

This kind of openness is  
achieved when leaders interact  
with the flock in different areas,  
and at various levels of doing  
life as a community. It means  
being accessible, approachable,  
available, confidential (nobody  
wants to hear stuff that they’ve  
shared with you being reported in  
the church), and above all ‘real’. I  
really believe that when a church  
community lives in an open,  
honest and loving environment  
secure and mature believers are  
produced. And further, the cancer -  
gossip - that so easily disables the  
church can be rendered inactive.

## **Building Confidence and Self-Esteem**

As parents our responsibility is  
to nurture our children so that they  
grow in a balanced way and are  
equipped to live life successfully.  
It really helps when our children  
are secure and confident about  
who they are and what they are.  
Too many youngsters go off into  
the big wide world not knowing  
who they are, why they are here;  
many have huge identity crises. I



have met several individuals who are into their thirties and forties and who are still struggling to find themselves, having problems discovering who they really are. Many have become what others (or circumstances) have dictated. In growing our children my wife and I have continually said to them, “At school: in the classroom, in the playground among your friends, or wherever you are - be yourself. Let others see and know who you are.” But that is not enough; that’s not where it starts. From the earliest moment - from birth we began to instil some values into our young ones and created structures in which these values were lived out.

Recognising that the church is also, a family – then if members are to properly mature steps have to be taken not only to instil biblical values into their lives, but also to build confidence and self-belief. I have known young people who haven’t had the courage to share their faith on college and university campuses, simply because they weren’t built up in these areas. If we’re going to produce balanced and rounded disciples who know who they are, have the confidence to be who they are ‘in the world’, and positively contribute to the life and work of the church, then leaders must endeavour to build them up on the inside.

Believers begin a journey of discipleship the moment they come to faith; it’s a journey that shepherds, leaders help them on. We walk with them teaching and encouraging them to talk to their Father. We give them the milk of the Word so they grow steadily; we begin to teach them how to stand on their own and walk. Of course, during this development process they will make mistakes and fall. But we encourage them to get up and try again (isn’t

that what good parents do with their little ones who are trying to walk?). We teach them about the requirements of the Father and to be obedient. We make clear the purpose for them being part of the household – to become like Yahshua (the firstborn Son), and to serve the Father through the gift(s) given to them.

Children grow and blossom in their gifts and self-confidence through encouragement. When a child accomplishes something, however small, encourage him and he will have the confidence to take the next step up in reaching his Yah-ordained potential. We fail our children if we don’t consistently encourage them. They will, in all probability, struggle in their growing and ultimately fail in life. As spiritual leaders we fail the members of the Body if we don’t consistently encourage them as they seek to fit the shape that Yahweh purposed for them in the Body.

“Train children in the right way, and when they are old, they will not lose their way” (Prov. 22:6 - writer’s paraphrase). This Bible passage is often quoted to parents with little help as to how that can be achieved. Yes, this is a principle of life that works! If a child is not reared in the *right way* then he will live out life in the wrong way, and will be lost. Our societies are rife with examples of people whose paths have not been directed in the right way – they’re lost, out of control, caught up in crime, violence and all kinds of addictions. To train and bring up children is hard work! It involves taking the time to teach them values, to model those values before them and to encourage them to live out those values – firstly in the home and then out in the wider world.

Many of the choices people make in life are in some way

based on how they were brought up; the values and standards that were instilled into them from a young age. If the saying is true, “You reap what you sow”, then it’s imperative for parents to make right investments in their children – there will be a payoff. When it comes to the church a heavy responsibility is on shepherds as they look to the care and growth of their congregation. What is sown in the lives of members is what will be reaped. Therefore it’s necessary for shepherds and leaders to have a clear vision for growing and nurturing disciples who are in their care. This should include exposing believers to the quality and standard of life that Yahweh invites His children to live. It’s hard work but this is the cost of ‘making disciples’.

To lead or shepherd the local congregation, yes, one must have experience in leading one’s own family well. But perhaps a qualification that comes before that is to be able to lead oneself. Is it possible to manage others if I am not able to manage my own life? Who would have confidence following or taking direction from a person whose life shows signs of disorder? Clearly, having a well ordered personal life is included in Paul’s instruction to Timothy.



*Alcot Walker is editor of Ha'Shem and Chair of the National Leadership Council of the Congregation of Yahweh. He is also lead Pastor of the Congregation in Nottingham; he is married with two children.*

# INPUT FROM EVERY GENERATION

Shoshana Willetts



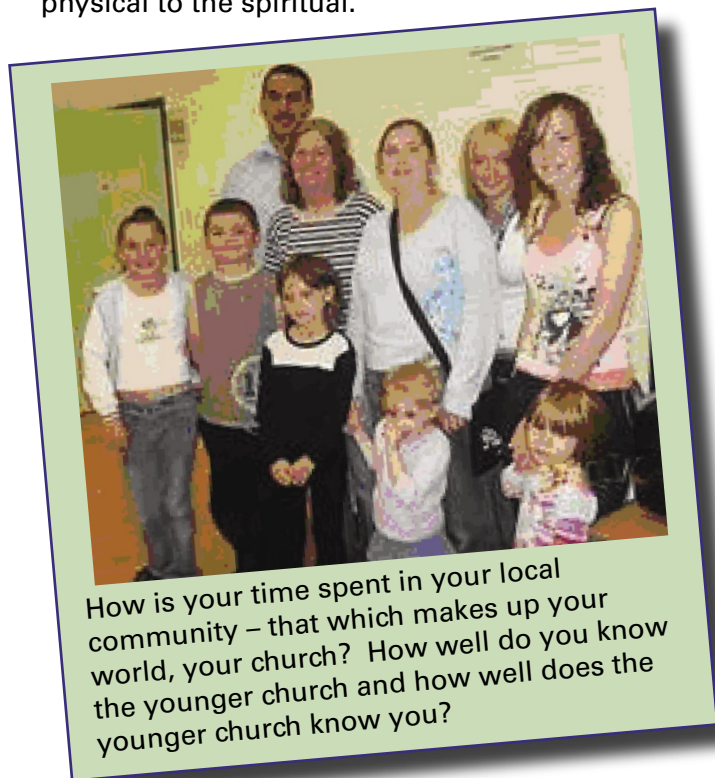
*Just be prepared to be amazed at what Yahweh can do through the younger ones.*

**D**o the young people in our local fellowship or church know that not only does Yahweh have a plan for them, but so does the church?

Yahshua saw the potential of the boy with the loaves and the fishes – he was spotted in the crowd and what he had fed the ‘church’ on the hill. Can you spot the potential in one of the young people in your local church? Be prepared to be amazed at what Yahweh can do through the younger ones.



Throughout Yahshua's ministry years on the hills and dusty roads of Israel, He spent His time being interested in and caring about His local community, every aspect from the practical and physical to the spiritual.



For a while I was employed as a 'detached' youth worker for the local authority where I live. This entailed going out onto the streets and into the estates in Aylesbury on the same night at the same time and visiting the same areas where the young people hung out. After a while they got to know our faces and realised that we could be trusted and we were there to help in whatever capacity they needed.



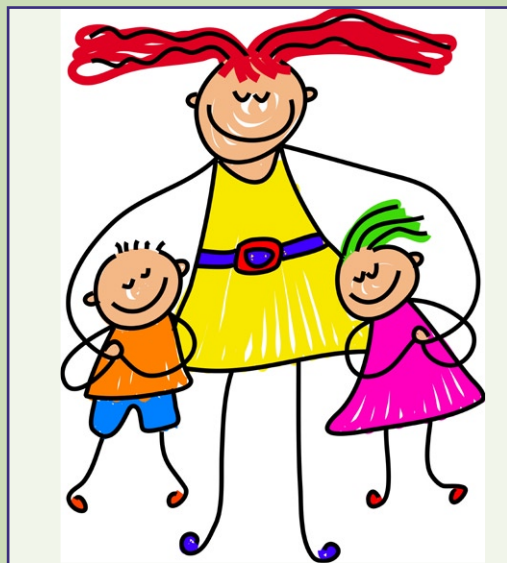
#### SHOW YOU CARE

Our younger church sees you every week in the same place at the same time; do they know you are interested in their lives and that you pray for them? It isn't just down to the local pastor or the youth and children's workers within our church to disciple, but every member has a vital part to play; it's about showing that you care, that you pray for them, that you are interested - it might even mean stepping out of your comfort zone!

"One generation shall speak of thy works to another" (Psalms 145:4 - author's paraphrase) – it is important that we all speak of what Yahweh has done in our lives. When was the last time you spoke out – shared what Yahweh has done in your life – not only to those in your church fellowship but to those who make up your own personal world?

It is vital, especially at this time when the family unit is breaking down, that the church continues to be a place of security, a place of peace, a place where the younger generation can receive input from every generation – input that is faith-building.

When I think of Timothy in the Bible, I class him as a 'church kid'. The apostle Paul writing to him said, "When I call to remembrance the genuine faith that is in you, which dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am persuaded is in you also" (2 Tim. 1:5 NKJV). Here is a man that has had input from every generation; from Paul, who was not a blood relative, but a mentor to young Timothy; he was constantly showing interest in him, praying for him and giving him direction. Is there a 'Timothy' in your local group that you could get to know? Are you a 'Paul'?



Within the church generational relationships are possible – they can exist spiritually, just as they exist naturally – each generation has a treasure it can give to the other. I have heard it said that older generations connect younger ones to their past, they give them roots and perspective; the younger generations give the older ones joy, hope for the future and the confidence that their legacy will outlive them.

The church is healthy and in safe hands when we “speak of his wondrous works” (see Psalms 145:4-5) to others, passing on the legacy of Yahshua.

It is interesting to note that Paul encourages Timothy to “Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching” (2 Timothy 4:2 NKJV). A tall order, but Paul constantly saw the potential in this young man.



## OFFER YOURSELF

**Any young person who is reading this – you have a lot to offer the members of your church! Remember the boy with the loaves and the fishes? As far as he was concerned he was coming to a ‘meeting’ to hear Yahshua speak – he brought his lunch and Yahshua used what he had. The established members in your local church need to hear from you, your experience and your input is needed. Be the voice for your generation, and listen to Yahshua’s voice within. Yes, Yahshua has plans for you – a hopeful future – and so does your local church.**



It is important that when opportunity knocks we give the younger members of our congregations - from tots to teens (and beyond) - the space to express themselves, speak out and find the place that is theirs in the local church; from expressions of worship in our meetings to the decision making/ideas/input within the local church. Samuel, the boy, heard the voice of Yahweh and spoke to his older mentor. What will Yahweh say through the younger church? Young person go on - I dare you to listen and find Yahweh’s voice within you - be bold!

The world is running crazy and Yahshua is coming soon – the call and greatest commission is to go out into all the world, and preach the good news, but a great personal challenge is to go out into your world – and reach those around you from every generation.

Ishmael – a well known Christian children’s writer wrote: “Just look outside your window and ask yourself honestly how the thousands of lost little ones around you will ever get to know [Yahshua], or get to love the church, if we just stay where we are for the next 2000 years.”

*Go on I dare you...*



*Shoshana Willetts together with her husband Richard leads the Congregation of Yahweh Open Door Community Church in Buckinghamshire. She is heavily involved with the Children and Youth Ministry.*



# BEING HOLY IN AN UNHOLY WORLD

Susan Goodinson

**I**s it possible to live a holy life in this our generation? Can we, as believers, live above sin now in our earthly life? Some say that this is completely impossible and to our human mind it may seem so, as it seems as though the sin around is greater than ever before. Moral standards are being eroded away, even from the government standpoint. The laws of our land were originally founded on the Ten Commandments but moral principles have no place in today's society. That is just a distant dream and sinful actions are frequently accepted as the norm. Many people do not even know the difference between right and wrong. This makes it difficult for Christians who are living and working with people from all walks of life to maintain different standards from those around them. They can easily feel that they can only reach people with the gospel of salvation if they are more like them.

In today's changing climate, living a life of holiness does seem to be a distant goal for the majority of Christians, only achievable when we reach the eternal kingdom. Perhaps a chosen few believers may be able to live a righteous life if their whole lives are dedicated to the service of Yahweh. Holiness is absolute perfection. How can

anyone be perfect and holy like Yahshua?

## A Command

According to the Scriptures, holiness is not a special state to which only some believers may attain. It is the mandate of Yahweh that all His children be holy. "But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written: 'Be holy, because I am holy'" (1 Pet. 1:15-16). The Epistle of Peter was written to all believers so if we call ourselves Yahshua's disciples this command must refer to us. It does appear that holiness is a directive from Yahweh. His word is unchanging and no matter what is going on around us, there is no room for negotiation. If it is a command to be holy, then we, as believers, must adhere to it. Therefore, we need to know what it means to be holy.

We need to look at the root word from both the Greek and Hebrew:

The English definition is also very similar: holy means consecrated, sanctified, morally

**Hebrew:** Qadesh - set apart, holy, consecrated, sanctified, dedicated, sacred, clean.

**Greek:** Hagios - holy, sacred, blameless, consecrated.

and spiritually perfect. To live a life of holiness means to be blameless, clean living, separated and consecrated to Yahweh.

## A Holy Calling

Living a holy life in an unholy world can seem a formidable challenge but the Scriptures would not speak of it if it were not possible. The Bible is full of references to holiness, sanctification, perfection and purity; the standard of holiness has already been set and it cannot be modified. Yahweh will not change His standards just because the standards of this generation have changed. We get the message that Yahweh does want us to live holy and separated lives, and with the command Yahweh will always give the strength and ability.

We, as disciples, are called to a holy calling. All believers have been chosen to live a holy life unto Yahweh. "But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to [Yahweh]..." (1 Pet. 2:9). "For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight" (Eph. 1:4). "...I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received" (Eph. 4:1).

## Walking Worthily

Walking worthily of our calling is a difficult task considering all the temptation around us every day. However the Scriptures do not state that it depends on the sin around us whether we are able to live holy lives or not. We are encouraged to throw off the sin that so easily entangles us. To walk worthily of such a calling means putting off all that is not godly and pure. If we call ourselves His disciples we are, as it were, standing on holy ground, since nothing unholy can enter into His presence. There is no spiritual alternative to holiness. Holiness is measuring everything we do, think or say to the standard of His Word. Let us always ask the question, "What would Yahshua have said and done, if He were in my place?"

Yahshua prayed that His disciples might be sanctified (set apart and purified). He regarded our sanctification of sufficient importance, not only to offer a special prayer for it, but also to suffer death upon the cross for the specific purpose of making it possible.

"...[Messiah] loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless" (Eph. 5:25-27).

## Do you want to see Yahweh?

Without holiness, nobody will see Yahweh. What an awesome statement! "Make every effort to live in peace with all men and to be holy; without holiness no one will see [Yahweh]" (Heb.12:14).

Holiness is not an optional extra in our Christian lives if we want to be in the presence of the King of kings one day. Revelation 21:27, speaking about the heavenly

city, the New Jerusalem, states, "Nothing impure will ever enter it...." Therefore, if it is the case that it is a command from Yahweh that we are holy, and without holiness, we will neither see Yahweh nor be a part of the New Jerusalem, then how is it achievable? This is a high calling, one we can only attain to as we abide in Him, follow His Word and live the life of the Spirit.

We are cleansed, sanctified and set apart, simply because Yahshua made it possible; it is only achievable through the holiness of Yahshua! He is the 'veil' through which we have to walk. When we accept the salvation offered to us then we are a new creation without sin. "No one who is born of [Yahweh] will continue to sin, because [Yahweh's] seed remains in him; he cannot go on sinning, because he has been born of [Yahweh]" (1 Jn. 3:9). That is beautiful. If our lives are hidden in Him, we cannot sin. Nevertheless, do we really believe it?

We have a new nature within and our new nature cannot sin for it is Yahweh's seed, which is holy and lives forever in us. Now the question may be, "How do I take my position of holiness and apply it in my temporal life? Can this be done?" Yes! Yahweh has made His grace available to us by faith. This grace is the ability of Yahweh that helps us do something that is impossible for us to do on our own. I know that in the flesh it is impossible for us to live holy lives. The life that Yahshua lived while on earth was a perfect and holy life. When He lives in the believer by the Holy Spirit and controls the believer's spirit and body, the life that comes forth will be a holy life.

The holiness and perfection of Yahshua makes holy anything or any person that is exposed to Him. The more we strive for holiness the more we see that we fall short of the required standards. We fail but

He never fails. He is our holiness. However, by the strength and power of Yahweh, all things are possible; and, yes, that includes the sanctity of miserable sinners such as we are. "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled." "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see [Yahweh]" (Matt. 5:6, 8).

As we live our lives according to His word, as we are obedient to His commands and as we hunger and thirst for righteousness, then Yahweh by His Holy Spirit will give us the ability to overcome sin and live holy lives. We cannot do it on our own but only by His grace.

Everything about Yahweh is holy: His Name, His Son, His angels, His Spirit, His Word, therefore, His people must be holy. He is coming back for a holy people. "...and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but **holy** and blameless" (Eph. 5:27 **emphasis mine**).

*"Say not that thou hast royal blood in thy veins and art born of God," said puritan William Gurnall, "unless thou canst prove thy pedigree by daring to be holy."*  
The Christian in Complete Armour  
– William Gurnell



*Susan Goodinson has served on the leadership team at The Congregation of Yahweh Crabtree Community Church in Bulwell Nottingham; she is a school teacher and has a teaching ministry in the congregation; she is married with two grown-up children.*



# OLD LANDMARKS

Patricia Thomson

**S**aints, be encouraged to get back to the old landmark, where the blessings are flowing and our minds are renewed by being filled and refilled by Yahweh's Holy Spirit. I do believe that in this information age, followers of Yahshua must realise that knowledge without the anointing dries one up, and knowledge with the anointing empowers and unites. As I seek to enlighten every saint, the intent of this article is to address some of the issues facing the assembly today: such as lifestyles, attitudes, morality and spiritual decline. This is my hard talk to you.

## LIFESTYLE

Firstly, the lifestyles of many in the assembly are no different from that of the world. We claim to know the Father and the Son, and even their names, but the billboard is reading for many, "No power over self ambition, foolish pride and clinging to those besetting sins that stop us from humbling ourselves." A humble child tastes the grace of Yah, but anything that gets in the way of service to Him is a hindrance to the person who tolerates it. These hindrances can be bad temper, anger, unfaithfulness, and the lust of the flesh (or the lust of anything else), and this list can go on. Nonetheless, we who know the Father's name must demonstrate more power of authority in righteousness, because His name means power. Calling on the holy name of the Father gives us power to overcome our bad temper, anger, unfaithfulness, and the flesh in

general, that leads to degenerating lifestyles. His name also empowers us to see eye to eye. Good character brings glory to the Father's name. Isaiah 52:6 says, "...my people shall know my name" (KJV). He does not mean in the letter only, because Satan knows the Father's name is Yahweh. So if the name alone is all we know it would not make a difference in our lives; we must know Him in the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His suffering, which will lead to remedying our lives of the illness of sin. Saints! We need more power and a better understanding of the true meaning of Yahweh so that we can break every yoke and the band of wickedness to let the oppressed go free. The Father wants to manifest the meaning of His name among His people and the nations. Now is the time for the assembly to be dignified by signs and wonders, but this cannot be done by our might or power, only by the Holy Spirit of Almighty Yahweh. Let us start to seek Him as never before so that the assembly can be glorious in lifestyles.

## ATTITUDE

Secondly, the attitude that helps build our lifestyle needs some attention. Others must see something of the influence of the holy name in our everyday walk. Let us take a closer look at our attitude toward people who do not know our Father's true name. I do believe that most people who know the authentic name of our heavenly Father and His Son have accepted the Messiah as their

Saviour. However, those of us who know the Name often send the wrong message to those who do not know that the name of the Father is Yahweh. They can be labelled pagans or idol worshippers, for example. This type of attitude is wrong when directed towards someone who is in ignorance but sincere in their worship. Moreover, those who have accepted the blood atonement of the Messiah for sin are not idol worshippers, even though they may not know, or be convicted about, the true name. I can identify with such people, because I was once in the same place, and knew I was not an idol worshipper. I was once not of this flock; I came into it through knowledge and the anointing. I do believe that there are "...other sheep...which are not of this fold: them also I must bring..." (Jn. 10:16 KJV). Our job is to try and win these sheep that are still in ignorance. Proverbs 11:30 says, "The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; and he that winneth souls is wise" (KJV). Let us be careful not to be so heavenly minded that we are no earthly good. Our Saviour admonished us to be "...wise as serpents, and harmless as doves" (Matt. 10:16 KJV). So let us have a positive attitude toward everyone.

## MORALITY

Thirdly, morality is another quality that shapes us, and it crops up in many areas. I'd like to focus on just one of these: the way we dress, which is also a part of our witness. If we say we know the Father's name and we do not have

power and character, it means we really don't know the significance of His name. Character defines the qualities that make a person who he or she is. It makes us special, interesting, yes! I dare any of us to be different from the world, so different that we cannot blend. I see believers today who could blend in with the world because there is no difference in their manner of dress. We need to realise that everything we do and say is a witness, including the way we dress. Ladies: when the neckline of our dress is cut too low and our bustline is visible, or our dresses, skirts, slacks or pants are so thin and revealing that the shape of our undergarment or body parts can be clearly seen, this could promote lust in another person - and lead them to sin. The men too, must take note as how to dress because the same applies. We should not invite evil against ourselves or open the way to temptation. Yahshua said, "Whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart" (Matt. 5:28 KJV). We must be a holy people. Whatever we do, we must always try to bring glory to the name of Father Yahweh and His Son, Yahshua. Our aim should be to walk according to the Scriptures, keeping ourselves clean from the contamination of sin. We must "Abstain from all appearance of evil" (I Thess. 5:22 KJV). Is anyone among us man or woman enough to do these things which are required? Yes, I think so, with Yah's help!

## FINALLY

When there is a break down in our lifestyles, attitudes and morals we reap a full force of **spiritual decline**. This will happen when we do not understand the name and character of Father Yahweh. We become non-productive and of no effect. Our witness cannot hold up because we do not live according to

the words we preach. This can lead to mockery, low self esteem and loss of confidence. Spiritual decline is a result of idolatry and it subverts the servant of Yahweh. It is a sly thing that can come on us unaware. First it starts internally and then manifests itself outwardly. We must not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of our mind. In order for this to happen we must study Yahweh's word to be "...a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth" (2 Tim. 2:15 KJV). Then after all of this, we will be led to go and "...build the old waste places ... and thou shalt be called, The repairer of the breach, The restorer of paths to

dwelt in" (Isa. 58:12 KJV).

May the Father help us to grow in the knowledge of His name, so that when He comes or sends a call, we will be ready and He will say, "Well done."

His blessings, so long!



*Patricia Thompson, is the founder of "Yahweh House of Prayer" Assembly situated in the Nassau, Bahamas. She is an ordained Evangelist, with a prophetic gift.*

# Intimacy Through Prayer

Joan Lewis

*"...but the people that do know their [Elohim] shall be strong, and do exploits" (Dan. 11:32).*

Through the prophet Daniel, Yahweh said that those who are truly intimate with Him will remain strong in the face of battle and do exploits.

Just as intimacy in marriage creates a deep and meaningful relationship, so intimacy with Yahweh, through prayer, creates a meaningful spiritual relationship. Prayer is more than interceding or petitioning; prayer is also receiving spiritual secrets; it is confiding with Yahweh and letting Yahweh confide in you; it is listening to Him. Prayer is entering into partnership with Yahweh to remove satanic obstacles; sometimes experiencing unusual happenings such as miracles and being able to speak to your 'mountains'. It is working together with Him in rebuking and binding Satan. Prayer is the channel of many blessings, the secret of power and spiritual life. It is fellowship with the Unseen and Most Holy one.



Yahweh has given us this wonderful gift of prayer, let us, as we strive to understand its ultimate purpose and scope, develop a daily prayer time with power and effectiveness.

*Joan Lewis is a minister in the First Congregation of Yahweh International Jamaica; she supports her husband in leading a local group in Content.*



# I'LL SERVE HIM ON BROKEN PIECES

Nathan Prince

**D**uring the early sixties, at the age of eleven, when most boys of that age in the Island of Jamaica were more interested in playing cricket and eating sugar cane, my heart was arrested by a question put to the whole class by our form mistress, "What do you want to be when you all grow up?" Some were wanting to be nurses, teachers, police officers, bank clerks, bank managers and engineers; but from somewhere within me came my answer, "I want to be a minister of religion." My form mistress was staggered by that response from such a young person, she later called me over and inquired why I wanted to be a minister.

For me the die was cast from a very early age, the call of Yahweh was on my life and somehow I knew there would be no getting away from it. I realised, even at that tender age, I would be spending the rest of my life working with and for the greatest

'Boss' of the whole universe; I realised that I was born to love and serve my Master and King, Yahshua. I didn't know where serving Him would lead, what it would cost me, or what the rewards would be, I only knew that there was a desire in my young heart to work for Him.

I suppose there was a tinge of romance and to some degree, adventure in my heart at the thought of working in the church, working for Yahweh and working with people; perhaps even a sense of self-importance may have entered my eleven-year-old heart, at the thought of working for Yahweh. I later heard a portion of the late Dr Martin Luther King's sermon on the importance of working for the King of the universe; he said that working for Yahweh is the highest form of work a human being could undertake and that working with humanity has cosmic significance. So I had grandiose ideas of being a minister of religion.

## FACING FACTS

If the feelings of self-importance and grandeur had invaded my heart they were quickly driven out by the message and testimony of a seasoned minister. He was eighty years old and had served Yahweh on three continents: North America, Europe and Africa. Speaking of his experiences, he highlighted the sufferings, disappointments, and hardships he had suffered at the hands of some people for and with whom he had laboured - not to mention sustained attacks at the hands of the enemy. He said some of the blows he had taken had left him with many 'bones broken', heart aching and spirit weary. But amidst those hindrances he was still determined to serve his Master and King, labouring for Him wherever he was sent. He put it in these terms, 'I WILL SERVE HIM ON BROKEN PIECES.' That message got hold of me deep down, I was impressed and challenged by the love the old

warrior had for his Master and the dedication he displayed to the people with whom he was called to work.

I began to understand that working for Yahweh would mean full surrender to His perfect will for my life, all my life, throughout my entire life. It dawned on me that being His servant would mean accepting whatever He would allow me to encounter, basically for the express purpose of making me into His image, and for the perfecting of the saints He would entrust to the care of the ministry. It was quite a revelation, but I felt constrained to pursue the goal to be of service in His kingdom.

In the early eighties, after years of serving Yahweh, that early desire was realised and I embarked on the mission of serving the Master as a shepherd of His flock. The task has not been easy, there have been many rivers to

cross, deep valleys to go through, mountains to climb; times when it seemed as if I had been taken by unseen hands and placed in infertile, dry, desert places where the conscious presence of Yahweh could not be felt; but it was during such times and experiences that I began to understand the word of Yahweh given to Saul, the apostle, “My grace is sufficient for you...” (2 Cor. 12:9). I began to see that the grace spoken of there was not unmerited favour, but it was the life of Yahweh coursing through Saul’s being, empowering him to be what he was called to be and to do what he was called to do.

The old minister had learned the secret that in the strength of Yahweh he was made strong and therefore able to serve Him on ‘broken pieces’. Serving Yahweh, labouring in His vineyard is still the driving, motivating force in my life today; it lights me up, it

invigorates me, it brings sorrow, but amidst the sorrow there is a deep settled peace; the knowledge that my Master is being my all in all. So like the old warrior in his eighties I can truly say that I will serve my Master knowing that wherever He leads, whatever I may have to face, His strength is made perfect in my weakness, I will serve Him on ‘broken pieces’.



*Nathan Prince is head of Evangelism for the Congregation of Yahweh, and also lead Pastor of Crabtree Community Church, a branch of the Congregation in Bulwell, Nottingham; he is married with two children.*

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# GLOBAL PRAYER

*Prayer is the chain that links believers together in petition to Yahweh; therefore let us take the advice of George Muller who said, 'We must patiently, believingly, continue in prayer until we obtain an answer.'*

**Every great move of Yahweh begins with prayer, therefore, if we want to see Yahweh moving in our land we must join together and pray.**

## **From Assembly of Yahweh in Dominica West Indies**

Pray

- That ministers may rise up in their local congregations
- For the development of the Body of Messiah in Dominica

## **Ha'Shem contacts**

### ***Yahweh Sacred order of Israel Sabbath ministry – Nigeria***

- Pray that Yahweh will gather His flocks and build the Body firmly

### ***Samuel – Ghana***

- Pray for healing

### ***Bethesda Gospel Mission – Nigeria***

Pray for . . .

- A move of the Holy Spirit
- The building of a house for worship
- Effective evangelism in the unchurched areas

### ***Simon – Nigeria***

- Pray that outstanding debts will be paid
- Pray for good health

## **From India**

Pray for...

- A sister who is running an orphanage in Mandapet
- The children and those working with them
- Yahweh's provision and guidance

## **From the Congregation of Yahweh UK**

### ***Drive 2007 – National Evangelistic Campaign***

Pray . . .

- That Yahweh will inspire and quicken the leaders as they prepare the messages
- That people's hearts will be receptive to the message
- For local groups that they will be equipped for the challenge
- Against spiritual opposition – remember that we are not fighting against 'flesh and blood'

## **The International network of churches**

### ***Jamaica***

Pray . . .

- That Yahshua will challenge the hearts of the people and bring them closer together
- Numerical and spiritual growth of the work
- Against criminal activities on the Island

### ***Kenya***

Pray . . .

- That Yahweh will unite the hearts of the people together
- That He will equip, inspire and anoint the leaders working in the area of evangelism and discipleship courses
- That the National Leadership Team will be inspired regarding the vision for Kenya

### ***Malawi***

Pray . . .

- That Yahweh will continue to bless and prosper the development of the Joseph Project
- That the work will expand
- That leaders will emerge and be equipped for service

### ***New Beginnings Church – USA***

Pray . . .

- For numerical and spiritual growth
- For wisdom and strength for leaders

### ***Messianic Congregation of Yahweh – India***

Pray for . . .

- A brother suffering with TB, and another who is paralysed
- Yahweh's Direction for David and Eunice

**"... I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything you ask for, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven" (Matt. 18:19).**

*Send your prayer requests, along with your name, church and country to:*

Ha'Shem Magazine

'Global Prayers'

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Or Email: [hashem@CongYah.co.uk](mailto:hashem@CongYah.co.uk)