



Dear Precious Friend,

March, 2014

## **FAITHFUL**

A few weeks ago, once again the truth hit home: there is absolutely no one who can be completely faithful to me all the time. I felt sad. As I was pondering this truth in my heart, Yeshua suddenly revealed to me that no one has ever been completely faithful to Him either, not even His finest believers throughout history. Since the very first act of betrayal in the Garden of Eden, from generation to generation, man has been unable to remain completely faithful to God or to one another. My first reaction to this renewed revelation was surprising, yet revealing. Like Peter, I began to feel that though everyone else be unfaithful to Yeshua, I am able to remain faithful to the end.

*Lord, I am ready to go with you, both into prison, and to death. Luke 22:33*

Have you ever felt that no other believer is as true as you? As part of original sin, we tend to think that everyone else may fail, but that we are faithful, and that if everyone were to forsake the Lord, we would remain true to the end.

*I tell you, Peter, the cock shall not crow this day, before you shall deny that you know me three times. Luke 22:33-34*

Moreover, Jesus declares not just to Peter, but to all His disciples,

*All of you shall be offended because of me this night: Mar 14:27*

**All of us** have been unfaithful at times, particularly when it will cost us dearly to identify with the Crucified One. But Peter was still not convinced and insisted,

*Although all shall be offended, yet I will not. Mar 14:29*

Once again I was profoundly made aware that the only Person in the universe who is always completely faithful is Yeshua because of His immutable sinless nature. We can change. He cannot. Sin changes us. He changes not because he sins not.

*If we believe not, He abides faithful: He cannot deny Himself. 2Tim 2:13*

Through our unfaithfulness, Yeshua reveals His own faithfulness to us.

Instead of being condemned by this renewed revelation of our infidelity and instead of feeling that I had to try much harder, God brought me once again to His divine solution: a full death to self so that He, the only faithful One, can live in and through us. I saw that whenever God permits us to see our shortcomings, it is not to condemn us, but through the cross, to offer Himself once again to be fully formed in us so that it will no longer be I, but Christ.

After battling with his own dual nature, Paul the Apostle cried out, "*Oh wretched man! Who will deliver me from this body of death?*"

He is immediately awakened to God's divine solution and enters into it:

*I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord! Rom7:25*

Paul then begins to declare in *Rom8:1* that there is therefore, (*because of Christ's cross and the hope of divine exchange*), no more condemnation!

Paul comes out of despair and into hope. In seeing our shortcomings, God desires to impart to us the hope which was in God's heart in the beginning before Adam fell:

*For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who has subjected it in hope, Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. Rom 8:20-21*

Some believers, upon realizing that they have fallen short of God's glorious nature, begin out of condemnation to strive much harder, to do more works, or they become harsh and legalistic, but beloved, this simply means that they have only seen in part and have not entered into the fullness of the revelation, for if we only see OURSELVES and our failures, we have not yet known as we ought to know. Others, after coming to the realization that they cannot attain to His faithfulness, either fall into despair or simply begin to live out a theology of permissiveness and they make peace with their sin. The full revelation comes, not when we see ourselves beloved, but when we see Christ! It is when we perceive HIS FAITHFULNESS that we cease to focus on ourselves... Then...we embrace the cross, not in despair, but in hope! We "die" in the hope that He will live and not I. In the fullness of divine revelation, we surrender our lives fully to be transformed into His likeness because we know that in His faithfulness, He cannot fail to accomplish it! Our co-crucifixion with Christ becomes the one and only place of hope and not despair!

God's divine solution for our unfaithfulness is His faithfulness. In seeing who we are, we choose to become who He is, for we see Him as He is...Jesus, on His way to the cross, looks into the face of the one who has utterly denied Him. Peter immediately sees who he is but also sees who Jesus is. He is awakened to his own unfaithfulness and weeps bitterly. He is transformed by the faithfulness of God in the face of Jesus. The transaction begins. Peter is no longer confident in himself. Instead he begins to say, "You know, Lord."

Are you like Peter, beloved, thinking that others may fail the Lord, but you remain faithful? Peter needed the cross and yet the cross was the very thing that caused Peter to stumble, to flee, to deny the Lord. Many of us, like Peter, stumble at the cross. We think that we will go to "prison and death" with Him, but when that reality comes, we fail, because like Peter, our false self-perception causes us to deny Him.

Peter was offended by the cross, yet he desperately needed the cross and Jesus knew it. After Jesus rose from the dead, He met the disciples across the sea. He had breakfast ready. It was to be a joyous celebration of the resurrection. Seeing Jesus alive from the dead, Peter must have thought that the issue of Calvary was finally behind him. It would no longer be a stumbling block between him and the Lord. But Jesus was not finished with Peter. And He is not finished with us either.

*Verily, verily, I say to you, When you were young, you girded yourself, and walked where you wanted: but when you will be old, you will stretch forth your hands, and another will gird you, and carry you where you don't want. This he spoke, signifying by what death he should glorify God. And when he had spoken this, he said to him, **Follow me.** John 21:18-19*

*If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and **follow me.** Matt 16:24*

God knows that it is only in our full surrender to the work of the cross that we will remain faithful to Him, become like Him and be able to walk as He walked on earth.

*Be faithful unto death, and I will give you a crown of life. Rev 2:10*

### **Good News from the land:**

I chose to write about Christ. on my Midterm exam in Hebrew. May the Lord be glorified in my words and may those who read it be drawn to Christ and be saved!

I will be singing a famous Greek song about the Greek Jews of Aushwitz in the yearly Holocaust Memorial Ceremony at Hebrew University. I will be singing in Greek and Hebrew before a large gathering of students and professors. There is a strong anointing on the piece I will be singing accompanied by a Messianic musician. Already at the rehearsal people were touched. Since then I have had lunch with an Israeli student from the rehearsal and shared my testimony! She is very open! Please pray for "S" to behold her Messiah and be saved!

I am experiencing a fresh anointing to share the good news in Hebrew. My dear friends who I evangelize with on the streets are back in the land for another season and we are planning weekly outreaches with bible distribution.

I gave my oral presentation in front of my class recently and was able to clearly express the message God gave me years ago: that there is a brain inside our heart that scientists have discovered which indisputably proves God's word, both in the Old and the New Testament. I was able to clearly connect what scientists have found with what God calls in His word, "the thoughts of the heart." My teacher was quite impressed. May he and the students who heard be marvelously saved!

Your effectual fervent prayers are availing much for the salvation of Israel and the nations. Thank you so much for your faithful prayers and support!

In His faithfulness and love,

Greta