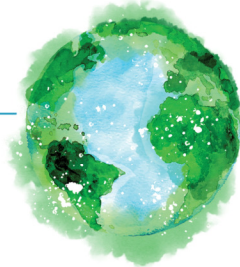


Sisters for Yah

Nothing can separate us

Who shall separate us from the love of Messiah? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? (Romans 8: 35).

Life is scary. But we are assured that nothing we could ever experience, no matter how terrible or frightening, could EVER separate us from Yahweh's love. No tribulation and distress we might ever suffer could be so intense that Yahweh's love for us is not even more fervent. No persecution could be so painful that Yahweh's love cannot bring comfort. Famine may starve us of food, but we will never hunger for Yahweh's love. Poverty cannot strip us of Yahweh's compassion, just as death itself is incapable of robbing us of our Heavenly Father's love.



In the world
you will have tribulation.
But take heart;
I have overcome the world.

John 16:33

If we base our view of Yahweh's love on our circumstances, we may find ourselves confused. Many times we may ask, "How could a loving Father allow this to happen to me?" We may begin to question what is clearly written in Scripture. Yahweh promised that we would never be separated from His love. He did NOT say we would never face hardship, persecution, poverty, and danger. If you doubt Yahweh's love during difficult experiences, consider the life of Paul. Paul experienced many trials, even

being beaten and left for dead!

Consider Yahshua's life on this earth. He was tempted in every way that we are, but He never sinned. He suffered because of our sins. Yahshua's agonizing death on the torture stake should forever settle any questions about whether Yahweh really loves us or not. Don't ever judge Yahweh's love based on your circumstances. Instead, evaluate your circumstances from the perspective of Yahweh's love. Knowing that there will never be anything that could separate us from Yahweh's perfect love, we can watch to see how Yahweh expresses His love in each circumstance.

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No one can prevent you

Others' decisions and disobedience will not cancel Yahweh's will for you. Other people's actions will affect you, but no one can prevent what Yahweh wants to do in you, and through you. Joshua and Caleb, though they trusted Yahweh, were forced to wander in the wilderness for forty years because of the fear and unbelief of others. Have you ever felt that someone was thwarting Yahweh's will for you? It may be a friend, co-worker, or family member. Perhaps someone kept you from getting a job or earning a promotion. Perhaps a prospective employer would not approve your application, or maybe a committee on which you sat, disagreed with your recommendation. Regardless what others may do, no one can stop Yahweh from accomplishing His purposes in your life!

Yahweh did everything He intended to do in the lives of Joshua and Caleb. His primary assignment for them had not been to enter the Promised Land, but rather to serve as righteous leaders for their people. They could not lead the people if they were in the Promised Land, while the people were still wandering in the wilderness. So Yahweh kept these leaders in a position where they could exert a righteous influence upon their nation, and, as a result, they became models of spiritual leadership for generations to come. Even so, Yahweh ultimately brought Joshua and Caleb into the Promised Land as He said. They had not been delayed or thwarted. Be assured of this: No one can hinder Yahweh from carrying out His plans for your life. Once Yahweh sets something in motion, no one can stop it (Isaiah 46:11).



Motives do matter

Psalm 19:14: May the words of my mouth and the thoughts of my heart be pleasing to You, O Yahweh, my Rock and my Redeemer.

Psalm 26:2: Put me on trial, Yahweh, and cross examine me. Test my MOTIVES and affections.

Proverbs 10:11: The words of the righteous lead to life; evil people cover up their harmful intentions.

Proverbs 17:3: Fire tests the purity of silver and gold, but Yahweh tests the heart.

Ezekiel 33:31: They come pretending to be sincere and sit before you listening. But they have no intention of doing what I tell them. They express love with their mouths, but their hearts seek only after money.

Matthew 6:1: Take care! Don't do your good deeds publicly, to be admired, because then you will lose the reward from your Father in Heaven.

2 Thessalonians 1:11: We keep on praying for you, that Yahweh will make you worthy of the life to which He called you. And we pray that Yahweh, by His power, will fulfill all your good intentions and faithful deeds.

Plan for the Spring Holy Day season

Even though this is being written in winter, I can see spring approaching. I thought it prudent to look through my kitchen cabinets, and freezer. To my dismay, I discovered a lot of leavened items that need to be used up before Passover. I encourage all my sisters in the faith to do the same. There's nothing worse than waiting until the last minute to cram the de-leavening process into a few short days. Save yourself a great deal of stress and start planning now.

We've added quite a few new people to our mailing list, who are just starting to learn

about the Holy Days. I say to those people: Don't panic! Go through your kitchen and look for any items that contain yeast, baking soda, or baking powder (these are the common leavening agents). Most breads, cookies, crackers, cakes, rolls, store-bought tortillas, pizza crusts, buns, self-rising flours, breaded meats, and some cereals contain leavening. These items must be either used up or discarded by Passover. This is not an exhaustive list; you need to read labels. And now is not the time to stock up on sales of leavened items from your local grocery store. You won't be saving money if you can't use something up, and to end up throwing it out. This is also a great time of the year to examine our spiritual selves. Ask yourself some hard questions: Am I still committed to Yahweh? Am I trying hard to grow my faith? What can I do to improve my walk with Yahshua? These questions are not meant to discourage you. They are meant to show you the areas in which you need more work. We all need to work on our spiritual lives more, even those of us who have been in the faith for many decades.

Many have asked me (in a worried frame of mind), "What can I eat during days of unleavened bread?" I tell them, "You have many options!" Fruits, veggies, rice, pasta, un-breaded meats, corn tortillas, eggs, many cereals, and dairy products, and many pie crusts don't contain leavening. Plus, I encourage you to experiment with baking your own unleavened bread, crackers, and desserts. (Concerning making unleavened bread, I've included some easy recipes on the back page.)

We know that physical lessons have spiritual meaning. The Israelites had to leave Egypt quickly before their bread had time to rise, which is why we don't eat leavened products, which "puff up." Think about what makes us "puff up." The sin of pride, for example, can "puff up" – making us feel more important than others. And while you are examining yourself spiritually, ask Yahweh if there are any sins of which you may not be aware. I did this recently, and wow, was I ever amazed at what Yahweh revealed to me! I am now actively working to overcome these challenges in my life. Only do this if you are serious about knowing the answer to this question! Yahweh will not hesitate to reveal to you things you need to change. And it may take some serious action on your part.

Spring also starts Yahweh's new year. It's a good time to set some goals. I've already decided that I'd like to eat healthier and exercise more this new year coming. What goals would you like to accomplish this new year? Happy spring cleaning!



Yahweh's Assembly in Yahshua
2963 County Road 233
Kingdom City, Missouri 65262

Main Line: 1-573-642-4100
Toll Free: 1-877-642-4101
Fax Line: 1-573-642-4104
Website: www.SistersForYah.org



Easiest unleavened bread

4 cups all purpose flour
1 t. salt
2/3 cup oil, your favorite (I like olive oil)
1 1/3 cup milk



Mix the above until you have a large ball of dough. Divide dough in half and roll out until as thin as pie crust. Bake on an ungreased cookie sheet (or on parchment paper) for about 12 to 15 minutes at 400 degrees until light golden brown. After cooling, you can break it into pieces. This is a very versatile bread. It can be topped with chicken or tuna salad. Peanut butter and jelly are nice, too. Or try it more dessert-like with cinnamon and sugar.

Unleavened Chocolate Chip Cookies

1 stick soft butter
3/4 cup brown sugar (or 1/2 cup white sugar, and 1/4 cup brown sugar)
2 t. vanilla
1 egg (not whipped), lightly incorporated into the dough
1/2 t. salt
1 1/4 cups flour
1/2 cup chocolate chips
1/4 chopped nuts, optional

Mix thoroughly. Set your oven to 325 degrees. Line a pan with parchment and drop the dough by tablespoonfuls. Depending on your oven, bake from 15 to 20 minutes, .

Easy Unleavened Pizza (makes 2 crusts)

3 cups all purpose flour
1 cup very warm water
1 T. olive oil
1/2 t. salt
Pizza sauce
Your favorite toppings: Cheese, olives, onions, bell peppers, etc.



Thoroughly mix the dough and divide into two balls. Roll them out thin. Place on parchment-lined cookie sheets. Set your oven to 450 degrees. Top with sauce and your favorite toppings. Bake about 15 minutes. Check to make sure the crust is fully cooked

