

Where's the stick



Well, this is the month of February, and it is also the month when people celebrate Valentines Day in a attempt to stir up old flames or lost flames or just to fall deeper in love. But during this month we focus on developing a deeper love for our Messiah and God. There are so many reasons today why some Christians are not really holding to the love they once held for the Lord. A few reasons may be that people are just discouraged about their faith at times, or are frustrated by world events or maybe even life in general is just dull and stagnant.

Poor Results lead to separation and isolation

As a result, people will just withdraw from the faith avoiding church or friends not wishing to engage in fellowship and not willing to communicate their feelings or current issues to anyone. Altogether they just kinda hide out hoping they will not have to explain their absence from the church community. Isolation can be a positive, yet negative thing. Speaking to the positive side it's a good thing now and again to draw nearer to our Messiah in such times, as this just cultivates the intimate relation with our Lord. While on the back side not drawing near the Lord when you're in need of spiritual help and encouragement can hurt your walk and lead you down paths you weren't willing to go down.



A solution in those times

It's always our choice to act or not act, but some choices just end up kicking ya' in the rump.



And that's the problem when we choose to go that way. But on the good side a healthy method of staying close to our Messiah is the best choice. No matter what we may have to deal with in life we are assured that if we draw near to our Messiah he will always draw near to us as [James 4:8] said:

*Draw near to God and He will draw near to you.
Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and
purify your hearts, you double-minded.*

And [Tehillim.Psa.34:18] says;

¹⁸ The LORD is near to those who have a broken heart, And saves such as have a contrite spirit.

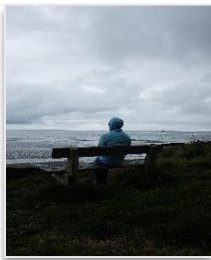
Cares of this life can lead us astray

There are also times when people forget about things like this because of the overwhelming of life's trauma and dramas. They unfortunately stray away from the faith and get smothered by the things of the world that distract them from staying faithful to God. And with the demands of life and problems people just don't stay close to our Lord. Its easy to find yourself in that place but ya know what? You don't have to stay there and become cold and callous and live in isolation. We can move on from our hurts, worries, problems etc. The b'rit ha dasha -New Testament tells us that being a luke warm follower of the Messiah isn't something that he wants or wills for us to be. In fact, back in the apostle Johns time Yeshua, Jesus warned the church about becoming luke warm in their love and faith towards our Messiah and this is what it says in [Rev. 3:14];



4“And to the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write, ‘These things says the Amen, the Faithful and True Witness, the Beginning of the creation of God: 15“I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot. 16So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth. 17Because you say, ‘I am rich, have become wealthy, and have need of nothing’and do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked.

Are you lukewarm, have you forsaken your first love



Yes, becoming luke warm unwarily can be a spiritually dangerous place to be. It's also not the kinda message that tells or shows our Messiah that we no longer have a deep or close love or are in love with him anymore. If that's where we are then were told to return back to the proper way of loving our God and Lord. And that starts with getting the spiritual stick out. Stirring up our heart and make tracks back to the father. Getting the stick out is just a way of saying ya just gotta pull it together emotionally, mentally or spiritually, and just pick yourself up and fully turn back to God. It's his desire to see us all grow in love with him. Not make us feel guilty that we found

ourselves in a not so good place.

Gods thoughts towards us

Its Gods heart that we all serve him in honest living and love. It's also Messiahs heart that we have a strong bond and walk with him daily. That may sound like an easy “A” or easy thing to do..but its how you truly motivate yourself to live it out between you and him. Developing a great relationship with our Messiah takes time..its not instant coffee. But consider this. If you make no effort to stay close you drift away into the wrong place. It's just that simple. Our encouragement this month is to get the stick and stir you up to see where your relationship is with our Messiah. Are you in the Hot zone or in the Cold or are you just going through the motions being luke warm hoping not to get noticed or seen?



Our encouragement for you



This month we also encourage everyone and want to leave you with this question. Will you take time this month and see where your hearts have been and where it is today? Do you need a spiritual check up? or do you need to rid yourselves from things keeping you from getting closer to Messiah? We pray that you will all dive deeper into knowing serving and loving our Messiah more now than we once did. [2 Timothy 1:6-7]

Blessing, love and shalom to all, see you next month.