

On our faith-journey we all have questions that we are searching for answers for



Then Yeshua told him, "You believe because you have seen Me. Blessed are those who believe without seeing Me." John 20:29

Faith and Questions

As a teenager I experienced a crisis of faith. My seven-year-old conversion and faith while foundational was not enough to keep me without a subsequent "re-upping" with the LORD. I've discovered that there are key times in our lives where it's important to recalibrate our covenant friendship with the LORD. As a young man, I came to a place where I needed to know the truth...even if that truth took me away from the faith of my forefathers. That was a scary launching off point for me. I didn't know where I would land. This time of searching lasted five years.

During this time of searching I had my foundational questions answered in a

convincing way. I discovered that my confidence grew in the biblical storyline as I questioned, searched, and discovered needed truths. But, there were a number of things that I still didn't understand or get satisfactory answers to. The heart of my deepest, most important questions were sufficiently answered but there were other peripheral things that I didn't have answers for. These things I had to take by faith in believing that there was a true and compelling answer but that I hadn't yet discovered it. I had peace that I could continue on with my faith in Yeshua...even though I didn't have all my questions answered.

Two weeks ago I had the pleasure of discovering the answer to a nearly thirty year old puzzle for me. I had struggled to reconcile Matthew's and Luke's genealogy of Yeshua. They followed different paths and in places seemed to contradict each other as well as Matthew having gaps in his record. It was such a delightful joy (even worshipful) for me to slowly read an author's work of compellingly putting it all together for me and answering all my major questions.

This discovery encouraged me (yet again) that though I will never have all my questions answered, there are answers...even if for a number of them I might have to wait until I see Yeshua face to face.

Here are a few additional takeaways:

1. We won't have all our questions answered in this present age. But, it's important to have our most important questions answered. To me my most crucial questions had been incrementally and convincingly answered in a glorious Person--Yeshua! Because of that foundation, I had confidence to re-up with Him and go forward even in the midst of other challenges and other unanswered questions.
2. There is great joy in searching and discovering answers...especially ones that take some time and diligence to uncover. I remember Jess telling me from reading a book about chickens that one of their greatest joys was searching for (and finding) something. As with chickens, so with humans! The fact that it took thirty years to answer this conundrum, made the answers all the more

satisfying.

3. We can be (and should be) honest with YHWH and with trusted others about our questions and concerns. Being courageous enough to express them is often a part of the process of staying on the path to discover answers.

In closing, I find it crucial to have the objective foundation of the Scriptures (and Who they point to [see John 5:19]) that I can trust and line my life up with. There are many times I don't initially appreciate what I read (like bridling my tongue, loving my enemies, taking up my cross daily, etc.). There are other times that as I search for understanding, I'm slow to find it. But, I believe the answers are there, and I am confident that there's a coming Day when these questions and my greatest longings will be answered and fulfilled. Until then, I'm so grateful to have an objective foundation to regularly return to to recalibrate and help me.