

To love Yeshua to the end we need His help and perspective



¹Let us run with endurance the race that is set before us...³Consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners...lest you become weary and discouraged in your souls. Hebrews 12:1-3

Loving Yeshua to the End

Last week I taught from John 13:1-3. In those verses the phrase that Yeshua loved His disciples to the very end impacted me. I turned the phrase around and declared to Yeshua that I wanted to love Him to the very end. This certainly sounds good when giving a sermon and can look good on an inspirational poster, but the challenge for us is in the living--because loving Yeshua to the end with the subsequent obedience to His ways and commandments takes perseverance and hard work. I don't always "feel it" and this commitment of loving Him is to be carried out in the midst of boredom and resistance as well as often small and frustrating circumstances.

I love to serve God and obey Him when I feel inspired and can see the significance of my actions. But most of our right thoughts, words and actions will be done where few people are observing (much less cheering us

on). Faithfulness, in fact, is actually quite boring. To consistently walk in faithfulness to God and those around us we need a heavenly perspective and a godly perseverance.

I like how Mike Bickle puts it:

Perseverance includes continuing to faithfully press into God and to serve in small things in the face of frustrating circumstances, lack of cooperation, and many other annoying issues which may include lack of finances, lack of appreciation, poor health, disappointing relationships, etc. It is a form of “hiding” when God’s favor is seemingly withheld and things do not work right.

To successfully love Yeshua to the end we have to grow in the awareness that He sees us and our small, faltering, obscure steps of obedience matter to Him even though His response to us is delayed. It matters to Him when we continue to battle against the ungodly thoughts, and in the midst of the battles when we continue to talk to Him about our failings and weaknesses and continue to ask for His help.

Dear saint, are you growing weary of the monotony or difficulty of the journey? Don't give up! Your small, faltering steps towards Him matter. If you've messed up, get back up. He is for you and will help you if you ask Him.

Yeshua, help me to grow in the awareness of Your presence and watchful eye even when I don't feel it. Strengthen me on the inside and help me to be faithful to You in the midst of all the resistance. Help me walk in a manner that pleases You and give me a joyful endurance to love You to the end.