Loving the Most High Part 2

We have taken a look at who YAHUAH is, according to Scripture. We covered so much and yet we have only scratched the surface of the information we have about who exactly the Father is! And now that we have a better idea of His nature and character.



it's time to look at Scripture for instructions on how He wants us to worship and praise Him, and how we can show Him that we love Him!

"If you love Me, you shall guard My commands." John 14:15

Here is the most important instruction that we are given regarding loving Elohim. Yahusha tells us that if we truly love Him, we will keep His commandments, His Law!

Everyone who believes that Yahusha is the Messiah has been born of Elohim, and everyone who loves the One bringing forth also loves the one having been born of Him. By this we know that we love the children of Elohom, when we love Elohim and guard His commands. For this is the love for Elohim, that we guard His commands, and His commands are not heavy. 1 John 5:1-3

This is not a case of "If you love me, do what I say," a way of controlling us, but rather, "If you love Me, you'll trust that what I say is best for you." The Father truly loves us, and He requires that we should keep His commands in the faith, showing that we trust in Him, knowing that He knows what is best for us! His Law keeps us safe from destruction, both spiritually and physically.

With all that He has done for His people over the millennia, as well as what He has done personally for each of us, the very least we can do is to show Him our love by keeping His commands!

His commands, the Law of YAHUAH, begins with the Torah – the first five books of the Bible. The Torah does indeed give us instructions on how exactly we should show our love to the Father.

"And you shall love YAHUAH your Elohim with all your heart, and with all your being, and with all your might." Deuteronomy 6:5

"And now, Yashar'el, what is YAHUAH your Elohim asking of you, but to fear YAHUAH your Elohim, to walk in all His ways and to love Him, and to serve YAHUAH your Elohim with all your heart and with all your being, to guard the commands of YAHUAH and His laws which I command you today for your good?" Deuteronomy 10:12-13

"And you shall love YAHUAH your Elohim and guard His charge: even His laws, and His right-rulings, and His commands, always." Deuteronomy 11:1

And it shall be that if you diligently obey My commands which I command you today, to love YAHUAH your Elohim and to serve Him with all your heart and with all your being... Deuteronomy 11:13

"And YAHAUH your Elohim shall circumcise your heart and the heart of your seed, to love YAHUAH your Elohim with all your heart and with all your being, so that you might live, and YAHUAH your Elohim shall put all these curses on your enemies and on those who hate you, who persecuted you. And you shall turn back and obey the voice of YAHUAH and do all His commands which I command you today." Deuteronomy 30:6-8

"See, I have set before you life and death, good and evil, in that I am commanding you today to love YAHUAH your Elohim, to walk in His ways, and to guard His commands, and His laws, and His right-rulings. And you shall live and increase, and YAHUAH your Elohim shall bless you in the land which you go to possess." Deuteronomy 30:15-16

"I have called the heavens and the earth as witnesses today against you: I have set before you life and death, the blessing and the curse. Therefore you shall choose life, so that you live, both you and your seed, to love YAHUAH your Elohim, to obey His voice and to cling to Him – for He is your life and the length of your days – to dwell in the land which YAHUAH swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Yitshaq, and to Yaacov, to give to them." Deuteronomy 30:19-20

The Torah tells us over and over again that we are required to keep the commands of YAHUAH, to seek Him diligently, to obey His Word and to cling to Him with all that you are! He is everything, the Creator of all and the One that gives us life. His promises of blessings and life still stand for those who follow His way and call out to Him. Loving Him is a choice we have to make. Are we showing Him our love in the ways He has commanded?

"Only, diligently guard to do the command and the Torah which Moshe the servant of YAHUAH commanded you, to love YAHUAH your Elohim, and to walk in all His ways, and to guard His commands, and to cling to Him, and to serve Him with all your heart and with all your being." Joshua 22:5

"And you shall diligently guard yourselves, to love YAHUAH your Elohim." Joshua 23:11

Yahoshua (Joshua), who was appointed as the leader of Yashar'el after Moshe, continued to tell his people to obey the Law of the Father! Loving YAHUAH, to Joshua and the people of Yashar'el in those days, was obviously keeping the commands.

Love YAHUAH, all you His lovingly-committed ones! For YAHUAH guards the trustworthy ones, and exceedingly repays the doer of pride. Be strong, and let Him fortify your heart, all you who are waiting for YAHUAH. Psalm 31:23-24

David sets a brilliant example of how we should love the Father! We will take a look at some more examples from the psalms later on.

And Yahusha said to him, "'You shall love YAHUAH your Elohim with all your heart, and with all your being, and with all your mind.' This is the first and great command." Matthew 22:37-38

And he answering, said, "'You shall love YAHUAH your Elohim with all your heart, and with all your being, and with all your mind,' and 'your neighbour as yourself." And He (Yahusha) said to him, "You have answered rightly, do this and you shall live." Luke 10:27

Yahusha answered him, "If anyone loves Me, he shall guard My Word. And My Father shall love him, and We shall come to him and make Our stay with him. He who does not love Me does not guard My Words. And the Word which you hear is not Mine but of the Father Who sent Me." John 14:23-24

But whoever guards His Word, truly the love of Elohim has been perfected in him. By this we know that we are in Him. The one who says he stays in Him ought himself also to walk, even as He walked. 1 John 2:5-6

We love Him because He first loved us. 1 John 4:19

For this is the love for Elohim, that we guard His commands, and His commands are not heavy, because everyone having been born of Elohim overcomes the world. And this is the overcoming that has overcome the world: our belief. Who is the one who overcomes the world but he who believes that Yahusha is the Son of Elohim? 1 John 5:3-5

Messiah and the apostles make it clear that loving Him is still, even now, proven in the keeping of His law and commands. It hasn't changed since the beginning, just as YAHUAH Himself hasn't changed.

Loving YAH's Word like David

As I mentioned earlier, King David was known as a man after YAHUAH's heart, and His love for the Father is obvious in all his psalms. Reading through David's writings, it is easy to see that he held the Torah of Elohim in high regard, and David truly did his best to show the Father love according to the Law!

Blessed are the perfect in the way, who walk in the Torah of YAHUAH! Blessed are those who observe His witnesses, who seek Him with all the heart! Yes, they shall do no unrighteousness; they shall walk in His ways. You have commanded us to guard Your orders diligently. Oh, that my ways were established to guard Your laws! Then I would not be ashamed, when I look into all Your commands. I thank You with uprightness of heart, when I learn the right-rulings of your righteousness. I guard Your laws; Oh, do not leave me entirely! Psalm 119:2-3

That I might delight myself in Your commands, which I have loved; that I might lift up my hands to Your commands, which I have loved; while I meditate on Your laws. Psalm 119:47-48

Making time for Him and changing yourself for Him

It is so important that, as believers, we should make time to spend with the Father, studying the Word and praying. We need to change our old habits and incorporate more and more of YAHUAH and the Scriptures into our daily lives! We should not stick to the "old me" that spends tons of time with worldly pursuits, but we should "be transformed" by the Scripture with the help of the Ruach!

And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you prove what is the good, and well-pleasing, and perfect desire of Elohim. Romans 12:2

As I said, turning away from worldly activities and pursuits and towards the Father is a great way to show Him we love Him! He created us and so it is important that we make Him a priority in our lives!

YAHUAH is not slow in regard to the promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward us, not wishing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. 2 Peter 3:9

The Father is so patient with us, wanting us to draw close to Him. He makes time for us, so it is the least we can do to do the same for Him.

"See, I am doing what is new, let it now spring forth. Do you not know it? I am even making a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert." Isaiah 43:19

The Most High makes paths open for us that we can't foresee, expect or hope for! He is willing to change our circumstances and change us as well, as long as we have faith in Him and show Him our love and praise.

Bless YAHUAH, O my being, and all that is within me, bless His set-apart Name! Bless YAHUAH, O my being, and do not forget all His dealings, who forgives all your crookednesses, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from destruction, who crowns you with loving-commitment and compassion, who satisfies your desire with the good, your youth is renewed like the eagle's. Psalm 103:1-5

YAHUAH is forever committed to those who love Him! He forgives, heals, loves and redeems us! That commitment should be mirrored by us, even though we could never possibly match His love. We should do what we can, as humans, to love Him as best we can!

And My people upon whom my Name is called, shall humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their evil ways, then I shall hear from the heavens, and forgive their sin and heal their land. 2 Chronicles 7:14

It is up to us to turn from our sins, our addictions and bad habits – our evil ways – humble ourselves and call out to the Father. Contrary to what many churches teach today, it is an active choice to turn away from the world and our sins, to repent, and turn towards YAHUAH. He expects that from us, and in turn we will receive the blessings that He has promised us!

Sow for yourselves righteousness, reap according to loving-commitment, break up your tillable ground, it is time to seek YAHUAH, till He comes and rains righteousness on you. Hosea 10:12

We need to actively seek the Father, to run after Him. We have to do the "work", in other words, spend time learning about Him in the Word, praying, and keeping Torah. This is a verse of action once again. Loving YAHUAH is never a metaphoric, or only spiritual, experience. It takes hard work on our part, as in relationships with other people.

Do your utmost to present yourself approved to Elohim, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly handling the Word of Truth. 2 Timothy 2:15

We need to do our absolute best to truly love Him, presenting ourselves as clean and upright for His judgement.

And these Words which I am commanding you today shall be in your heart, and you shall impress them upon your children, and shall speak of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise up, and shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. And you shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates. Deuteronomy 6:6-9

These verses in the Sh'ma clearly show us how often YAHUAH expects us to be in the Word, talking about it to our children and others, and even thinking about Scripture. We need to know the Word to keep it in our hearts, we need to teach it to those in our care, talk about it all the time, and show everyone that the Father's Word is a priority in our lives!

Actively seeking the Father

We can purposefully seek the Father by reading and studying Scripture, praying and getting to know Him and Yahusha through the Word. Knowing YAHUAH and seeking after Him needs to be an intentional part of our day. As we will see in some of the following passages, we need to call on Him, wait for Him, actively ask Him to be a part of your life, be patient to hear His answers, devote ourselves to Him, worship Him and show Him our thankfulness.

Let's take a look at what some of the Biblical characters did and said to seek the Father:

For the perverse one is an abomination to YAHUAH, and His secret counsel is with the straight. Proverbs 3:32

The Father is with those who are upright in their righteousness! We can seek Him by loving Him and keeping His commands.

"I and My Father are one." John 10:30

Yahusha said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and you have not known Me, Phillip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father, and how do you say,

'Show us the Father?' Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father is in Me? The words that I speak to you I do not speak from Myself. But the Father who stays in Me does His works. Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father is in Me." John 14:9-11

"I am the vine, you are the branches. He who stays in Me, and I in him, he bears much fruit. Because without Me you are able to do naught." John 15:15

To get to know the Father's heart to love Him the way He requires, we should get to know His Son. We do so by reading about Him in Scripture, actively studying His character and learning about Him.

Thus said YAHUAH, "Stand in the ways and see, and ask for the old paths, where the good way is, and walk in it; and find rest for yourselves. But they said, 'We do not walk in it.'" Jeremiah 6:16

This is a point I absolutely love. To know the Father and to seek Him, we should walk in the paths and steps of the people from Bible times. How did they live for YAHUAH? How did they seek Him? How was their faith evident? They kept Torah and were blessed for it, or they followed their own understanding and chose curses and death. The "old paths" are there as our example! We should attempt to live our lives as the Scriptural patriarchs did, walk out our physical and spiritual lives as they did! We should hate sin as much as they did, we should repent as hard as they did. We should believe as they did, even when they didn't live to see all of the Father's promises happen. What a challenging, yet amazingly beautiful prospect!

All Scripture is breathed out by Elohim and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for setting straight, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of Elohim might be fitted, equipped, for every good work. 2 Timothy 3:16-17

We seek YAHUAH by spending time in Scripture. The Word is breathed by Him for our benefit, to keep us safe and to draw us near to Him.

Wait on YAHUAH, be strong, and let Him strengthen your heart! Wait, I say, on YAHUAH! Psalm 27:14

I waited, waited for YAHUAH; and He inclined to me, and heard my cry. Psalm 40:1

O YAHUAH, Elohim of my deliverance, by day I have cried out, in the night also before You, let my prayer come before You, incline your ear to my cry. Psalm 88:1-2

I love YAHUAH, because He has heard my voice, my pleas. Because He has inclined His ear to me, and I shall call throughout my days. Psalm 116:1-2

I rise before dawn, and cry for help; I have waited for Your word. My eyes have gone before the night watches, to study Your word. Hear my voice according to Your loving-commitment; O YAHUAH, revive me according to Your right-ruling. Psalm 119:147-149

As for me, I look to YAHUAH, I wait for the Elohim of my deliverance, my Elohim does hear me. Micah 7:7

We need to remember that the Father's time is not ours. We must not give up on Him, but wait patiently for His answer, staying true to Him and constantly seeking Him even when He is silent.

And He said, "Let Me go, for the day breaks."

But he said, "I am not letting You go until You have blessed me!"

So He asked him, "What is your name?"

And he said, "Yaacob."

And He said, "Your name is no longer Yaacob, but Yashar'el, because you have striven with Elohim and with men, and have overcome."

And Yaacob asked Him, saying, "Please let me know Your Name."

And He said, "Why do you ask about My Name?" And He blessed him there. Genesis 32:26-29

Jacob insisted on receiving Elohim's blessing when he wrestled with Him! He told Him that he wouldn't let go until he had been blessed. While that sounds outrageous to some of us, it wasn't to Elohim. Jacob was blessed because he had lived according to the commands of YAHUAH and had overcome the challenges of men and the Most High. This is a great example to all of us – we should wait on YAHUAH, holding on to Him for His blessings in our lives, as long as we are living in accordance with His commands and His will.

And YAHUAH said to Moshe, "Even this word you have spoken I shall do, for you have found favour in My eyes, and I know you by name."

The he said, "Please, show me Your esteem."

And He said, I shall cause all My goodness to pass before you, and I shall proclaim the Name of YAHUAH before you. And I shall favour him whom I favour, and shall have compassion on him whom I have compassion." Exodus 33:18-19

Moses lived for YAHUAH, keeping His commands and leading his people according to the Word of the Father. He knew YAHUAH in a personal way, and YAHUAH knew him. When Moses asked to see the esteem of the Father, He

gave Moses what he asked for. Moshe was to the Most High, and sought Him in pretty much everything He did.

My son, give me your heart, and let your eyes watch my ways. Proverbs 23:26

We are meant to give our hearts up to the Father, and to follow His ways in everything we do.

'And you shall seek Me, and shall find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart. And I shall be found by you,' declares YAHUAH, 'and I shall turn back your captivity, and shall gather you from all the nations and from the places where I have driven you,' declares YAHUAH. 'And I shall bring you back to the place from which I have exiled you.' Jeremiah 29:13-14

But seek first the reign of Elohim, and His righteousness, and all these shall be added to you. Matthew 6:33

"With all your heart," with everything in us, we are to seek YAHUAH. Being lukewarm or giving Him less than our full attention, not making Him a priority, is not going to lead Him to move in our lives. His promises and blessings stand, but we have to run after them, really want them more than anything. The Father and His ways should come first for us, and then He will fulfil all our needs!

Seek YAHUAH and His strength, seek His face continually! 1 Chronicles 16:11

"Now, give your heart and your being to seek YAHUAH your Elohim. And rise up and build the set-apart place of YAHUAH Elohim, to bring the ark of the covenant of YAHUAH and the set-apart vessels of Elohim into the house that is to be built for the Name of YAHUAH." 1 Chronicles 22:19

More verses on seeking the Father! We need to learn about Him continually, talk to Him, and make Him important in our lives.

And on the last day, the great day of the festival, Yahusha stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me, and let him who believes in Me drink. As the Scripture said, out of His innermost shall flow rivers of living water." John 7:37

We need to rely on Elohim for what we need, we need to run to Him and He will quench our thirst and sustain us.

And He spoke a parable to them, that they should always pray and not lose heart, saying, "In a certain city there was a certain judge, not fearing Elohim nor regarding man. And a widow was in that city, and she came to him saying,

'Do right to me on my adversary.'

And he would not for a while, but afterward he said within himself, 'Even if I do not fear Elohim nor regard man, yet because this widow troubles me I shall do right to her, lest by her continual coming she wears me out.'"

And the Master said, "Hear what the unrighteous judge said. And shall Elohim not do right by all means to His chosen ones who are crying out day and night to Him, and being patient over them? I say to you that He shall do right to them speedily. But when the Son of Adam comes, shall He find the belief on the earth?" Luke 18:1-8

This passage made me laugh! Should we nag the Father? Maybe not nag, but rather we should be persistent in showing Him our love and devotion, and persistent in asking Him for what we need. YAHUAH will not be worn out by our constant prayers, devotions and petitions, yet sometimes we may feel like we shouldn't ask too much of Him or "annoy" Him with our requests. But Yahusha used this parable to tell us that the Father expects us to patiently wait on Him, and to cry out to Him at all times! YAHUAH will look after us and "do right by us."

And all these we continuing with one mind in prayer and supplication, with the women and Miryam the mother of Yahusha, and with His brothers. Acts 1:14

And they were continuing steadfastly in the teaching of the emissaries, and in the fellowship, and in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers. Acts 2:42

"And He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, having ordained beforehand the times and the boundaries of their dwelling, to seek the Master, if at least they would reach out to Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us." Acts 17:26-27

We are to reach for Him, and seek Him in all that we do, as the apostles did.

Take also the helmet of deliverance, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of Elohim, praying at all times, with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, watching in all perseverance and supplication for all the set-apart ones. Ephesians 6:18

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in all circumstances give thanks, for this is the desire of Elohim in Messiah Yahusha for you. 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

In these verses we are told to pray throughout our days, asking the Father for what we need, giving thanks to Him for what He has done and for who He is, praying for others, and being active participants in our relationship with Him!

But without belief it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to Elohim has to believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who earnestly seek Him. Hebrews 11:6

We need to show YAHUAH our belief in Him by seeking Him, chasing Him, and keeping His Law. Not for the blessing or reward's sake, but to show Him love because He loved us first.

Draw near to Elohim and He shall draw near to you. Cleanse hands, sinners. And cleanse the hearts, you double-minded! James 4:8

By repenting and turning towards YAHUAH (*teshuvah*), keeping the commands and diligently seeking the Him in our lives, he will draw close to us as well. What more can we ask for?

Eliyahu (Elijah) was a man with feelings like us, and he prayed earnestly that it would not rain. And it did not rain on the land for three years and six months. And he prayed again, and the heave gave rain, and the land brought forth its fruit. James 5:17-18

James tells us the story of the prophet Eliyahu, emphasizing that he was a person just like us! And in his faith and obedience his prayers were answered in a mighty way. We are truly capable of the same. Elijah had his down moments, his moments when he doubted and lacked faith, but the Father stayed true to His man and renewed him when he needed it, and granted him his requests, because Elijah sought after Him.

In conclusion, we need to show YAHUAH love by studying His Word diligently, learning His ways and paths, keeping His Torah, His Law, to the best of our abilities; by believing in Him and having faith in His faithfulness. We need to learn about Him and seek Him in all that we do! We need to follow the examples of those who have gone before us, and just do our best to turn away from the world and towards its Creator in everything we do!