

Ways to Remember

Shalom,

ADONAI said to Moshe, “Send men on your behalf to reconnoiter the land of Kena'an, which I am giving to the people of Isra'el. From each ancestral tribe send someone who is a leader in his tribe.” (Numbers 13:1-2 CJB)

The Torah portion for this week is **Numbers 13:1–15:41, called Shelach, or “Send for yourselves.”** It records the sending of the twelve leaders to search the land of Canaan. They were not told to devise plans for invasion, nor appraise their abilities. He **told them to check out the land that He had already given them.** Ten of the spies came back with an **evil report** based upon the **assessment of human ability** to take the land causing **an entire nation to forget God and His Word.** Nevertheless, God’s assurance of His never-changing truth endured, though delayed by unbelief, it happened just as He said.

At the end of this portion, YHWH provides a somewhat obscure teaching to most western believers involving an alteration to the clothing of the people of Israel designed by God to help His people to remember Him and His Words.

“Speak to the people of Isra'el, instructing them to make, through all their generations, tzitziyot on the corners of their garments, and to put with the tzitzit on each corner a blue thread. It is to be a tzitzit for you to look at and thereby remember all of ADONAI's mitzvot and obey them, so that you won't go around wherever your own heart and eyes lead you to prostitute yourselves; but it will help you remember and obey all My mitzvot and be holy for your God. I am ADONAI your God, Who brought you out of the land of Egypt in order to be your God. I am ADONAI your God.” (Numbers 15:38-41 CJB)

This word, “Tzitziyot,” refers to a tassel which was to be attached to the corner of their clothing.

Speak unto the children of Israel, and bid them that they make them fringes in the borders of their garments throughout their generations, and that they put upon the fringe of the borders a ribband of blue: (Numbers 15:38 KJV)

It is not uncommon, during times of stress or when we are confronted with trials that we have no idea how to handle, that we resort to human understanding and fear-filled reasoning that offer no solution, but rather worsen our situation. At these times, **we need to be reminded** that it is God Who cares for us, and that He is the provider of

every good and perfect gift. The woman with the issue of blood was reminded of **the Word of God, the Messiah of Israel**, and grasped the hem (tzitzit) of His clothing.

*And there was a woman with a blood flow for twelve years, who could not be healed by anyone. **She came up from behind and touched the tzitzit of Yeshua's garment.** Immediately, **her blood flow stopped.*** (Luke 8:43-44 TLV)

It is so important to keep things before us that direct our focus to the Eternal Word of God, the Light of the Word, our Savior, and our God. We can use meditation of the Word to keep our hearts tuned in, and, without a doubt, visual reminders are a strong motivation to keep our attention fixed on Him.

*“Sh'ma, Yisra'el! ADONAI Eloheinu, ADONAI echad [Hear, Isra'el! ADONAI our God, ADONAI is one]; and you are to love ADONAI your God with all your heart, all your being and all your resources. **These words, which I am ordering you today, are to be on your heart; and you are to teach them carefully to your children.** You are to talk about them when you sit at home, when you are traveling on the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them on your hand as a sign, put them at the front of a headband around your forehead, and write them on the door-frames of your house and on your gates.* (Deuteronomy 6:4-9 CJB)

*... **let the Word of the Messiah, in all its richness, live in you, as you teach and counsel each other in all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude to God in your hearts.*** (Colossians 3:16 CJB)

*... and when He had given thanks, He broke it, and said, “This is My Body, which is for you. **Do this in remembrance of Me.**”* (1 Corinthians 11:24 ESV)

*But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My Name, He will teach you all things and **bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.*** (John 14:26 ESV)

God has given us instructions in His Word to make use of special things to remind us of Him so that, in every circumstance, we will put Him first, remembering His promises and His way of doing things.

Keeping my heart and mind on Him,
Terry

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