

Heart, Soul and Might

Deuteronomy 6:1~5 Now these are the commandments, the statutes, and the judgments, which the LORD your God commanded to teach you, that ye might do them in the land whither ye go to possess it: That thou mightest **fear** (*meaning reverence*) **the LORD thy God**, to keep all his statutes and his commandments, which I command thee, thou, and thy son, and thy son's son, all the days of thy life; and that thy days may be prolonged. Hear therefore, O Israel, and observe **to do it**; that it may be well with thee, and that ye may increase mightily, as the LORD God of thy fathers hath promised thee, in the land that floweth with milk and honey. Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD: And **thou shalt love** the LORD thy God with all thine **heart**, and with all thy **soul**, and with all thy **might**.

Note: We are instructed to fear; meaning having reverence for Yah by keeping His statutes and commandments, not just knowing them, but living them. Yah, "The Lord" states, that we "shall love The Lord" with our whole heart, soul and might...by a complete, dedicated action, showing forth a devoted servant worship.

Deuteronomy 6:6~9 And these words, which I command thee this day, **shall be** in thine **heart**: And thou **shalt teach** them diligently unto thy children, and **shalt talk** of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. And thou **shalt bind** them for a sign upon thine hand, and **they shall be** as frontlets between thine eyes. And thou **shalt write** them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates.

The instruction of Yah's, actual commandments, must become part of our daily lives. Not just on the Sabbath to be remembered or thought about, but every day, as we go about our live's. This compliance insures that the hearer remains in constant contact with Yah's truth through living it.

Deuteronomy 6:10~16 And it shall be, when the LORD thy God shall have brought thee into the land which he sware unto thy fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give thee great and goodly cities, which thou buildedst not, And houses full of all good things, which thou filledst not, and wells digged, which thou diggedst not, vineyards and olive trees, which thou plantedst not; when thou shalt have eaten and be full; **Then beware lest thou forget the LORD**, which brought thee forth out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage. Thou **shalt fear** (*meaning reverence*) the LORD thy God, and serve him, and shalt swear by his name. Ye shall not go after other gods, of the gods of the people which are round about you; (For the LORD thy God is a jealous God among you) lest the anger of the LORD thy God be kindled against thee, and destroy thee from off the face of the earth. Ye shall not tempt the LORD your God, as ye tempted him in Massah.

As we read these scriptures they declare that we are commanded to reverence Him: "Thou shall fear," and beware lest we forget the LORD, disregard His will after being unreached by His blessings. We are to reverence Him by actively loving Yah with our hearts, our soul and our might.

Heart #03824. lay-bawb' from 3823; the heart (as the most interior organ) is used also like 3820: bethink themselves, breast, comfortably, courage, ((faint), (tender-)heart((-ed)), midst, mind unawares, understanding.

The heart is that part of the body from which thought and reasoning were said to originate, functioning as we know today as does the brain. In earlier times the heart was believed to process thoughts and feelings. Today one can easily imagine why people thought that way. When we are beset with emotional troubles it feels as if our heart is holding that pain. Note in verse 6 it states that Yah's commandments were to be kept in our hearts, meaning in our thought processing section, the mind; always working focusing on His will.

Soul #05315. neh'-fesh from 5314; properly, a breathing creature, i.e. animal of (abstractly) vitality; used very widely in a literal, accommodated or figurative sense (bodily or mental): any appetite beast, body, breath, creature, with desire, or discontented, greedy, with lust, man, me, mind, mortally, one own, person.

The soul refers to your physical body and as such also refers to the carnal aspects of our demeanor which manifests cravings for physical gratification. The soul is also the part of us that dies, as stated in the saying, "he was a good old soul." The soul is the temple in which Yah's Spirit lives...if you are called.

Might #03966. meh-ode' from the same as 181; properly, vehemence, vehemently; by implication, wholly, speedily, etc. diligently, especially, exceeding(-ly), far, fast, good, greatly, louder and louder, might(-ily, -y), much, quickly, well.

*Might describes the way we serve, the amount of effort devoted to serving in love such as being zealous, whole hearted, giving to the maximum, your all. It's not **what** you are giving, but **how** you give it, sharing it, expressing it. There is work defined by action and there is feeling behind that action, one's motivation, passion, excitement. There are many people that do good deeds, but there are others that genuinely love to serve, and do so with such feeling because their joy is in giving...not just doing what is expected of them, but doing all that their abilities allow them to do. It's the difference of a zero and a plus attitude.*

Yah, Our Creator requires three different ways for us to love Him that should become part of our being:

Deuteronomy 6:5 And thou **shalt love** the LORD thy God with all thine **heart**, and with all thy **soul**, and with all thy **might**.

*"**Thou shalt love:**" Putting it very bluntly for us with ears that hear, Yah is commanding us to love Him. It's not a request, not dependent on your feelings about the matter; it's a commandment demanding compliant action, having the same power as in the Ten Commandments; you shall not kill, steal, lie etc... as it is here, **you shall love** your Creator.*

It's not dependent on your feeling in the matter, but your actions to respond. Let's take a look at it from a different perspective. Yah says that He is committed to you and is always looking to your best interest, as He seeks to create in you the likeness of His son, Yahshua. Not just some of the time, but all of the time as stated:

Hebrews 13:5~6 Let your conversation be **without covetousness**; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, **I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee**. So that we may **boldly** say, **The Lord is my helper**, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.

Leviticus 26:1~13 Ye shall make you no idols nor graven image, neither rear you up a standing image, neither shall ye set up any image of stone in your land, to bow down unto it: for I am the LORD your God. **Ye shall keep my sabbaths, and reverence my sanctuary: I am the LORD. If ye walk in my statutes, and keep my commandments, and do them;** Then I will give you rain in due season, and the land shall yield her increase, and the trees of the field shall yield their fruit. And your threshing shall reach unto the vintage, and the vintage shall reach unto the sowing time: and ye shall eat your bread to the full, and dwell in your land safely. And **I will give peace** in the land, and ye shall lie down, and none shall make you afraid: and I will rid evil beasts out of the land, neither shall the sword go through your land. And ye shall chase your enemies, and they shall fall before you by the sword. And five of you shall chase an hundred, and an hundred of you shall put ten thousand to flight: and your enemies shall fall before you by the sword. **For I will have respect unto you, and make you fruitful, and multiply you, and establish my covenant with you.** And ye shall eat old store, and bring forth the old because of the new. And I will set my tabernacle among you: and my soul shall not abhor you. **And I will walk among you, and will be your God, and ye**

shall be my people. I am the LORD your God, which brought you forth out of the land of Egypt, that ye should not be their bondmen; and I have broken the bands of your yoke, and made you go upright.

The conditions of the contract between Yah and man are stated in His Covenant with us. If we love him, He in turn will love us. According to the covenant, we the people are commanded to love Yah. The definition of love is the fulfillment of the law as stated:

2 John 6 And **this is love**, that we walk after his commandments. This is the commandment, That, as ye have heard from the beginning, ye should walk in it.

John 14:15 & 21 If ye **love** me, keep **my commandments**. He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that **loveth** me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him.

*As stated in the agreement of the covenant, we are to **love Yah**. We're not just asked to think about loving Him or sometimes love Him, but according to the contract, we **are commanded** on our part to love Him. He in turn is required to do the same for us as stated: "**He will have respect unto you, and make you fruitful, and multiply you, and establish my covenant with you,**" "**And I will walk among you, and will be your God, and ye shall be my people.**"*

*Now if we examine our lives and find things are not turning out as they should, perchance the reason lies in not keeping up our end of the contract. "You get what you give" is one of Yah's basic principles. Also note the contract stipulates we are to love Yah with **action** and **truth** with our **mind** and **soul**, **in might**, not with mere words of affirmation that we know as just lip service. Love is not based on an awareness of Yah, but upon action done through obedience to His will ...the law.*

1 John 5:1~5 Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God: and every one that loveth him that begat loveth him also that is begotten of him. **By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep his commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments:** and his commandments are not grievous. For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even **our faith**. Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?

Once again our part of this covenant with Yah is to keep His commandments through our actions. At the same token, we would be foolish if we did not hold Yah to the same legal standard that He imposes on us. Perchance the next time you pray, we should remind ourselves of the mutual agreement that we made with Yah, and note that if our hearts don't condemn us, we should not fear but wax bold as we approach the throne. We are fearful because we don't know Him as we should and have not walked according to His will. Yet David as a prime example was bold before Him as stated in:

Psalms 26:1~5 **Judge me**, O LORD; for I have walked in **mine integrity**: I have trusted also in the LORD; therefore I shall not slide. **Examine me**, O LORD, and **prove me**; **try my reins and my heart**. **For thy lovingkindness is before mine eyes**: and I have walked in thy truth. I have not sat with vain persons, neither will I go in with dissemblers. I have hated the congregation of evil doers; and will not sit with the wicked.

*The definition of **love** #0157: aw-hab' to have affection for, like, friend. Webster's dictionary: an intense affection for another based on ...ties. Regard or shared experiences or interests, have a relationship with ...another.*

According to the covenant (contract) we made with Him at our baptism, we stated that we would love Him with **“all”** our **heart, soul and might**. Yah gave us these words and set the verbiage of the covenant. So if Yah asked for **“all”** on our part, He fully understood the ramifications of what **“all”** entailed as being possible from His creation, meaning us. He would not ask for the impossible to be achieved, for that would be lying, defeating and deceiving us, against His own laws of life.

Leviticus 26:14~39 states the consequences that would happen to those that fall away from keeping up their side of the agreement. Perchance it would be good to read of the effects and compare if some of what is stated has the potential to come true in our lives unless we effect positive change.

One’s heart and your soul shows **“with what”** I am to love Yah with; with all my might tells **“how I am to serve Yah.”**

Mark 12:28~31 And one of the scribes came, and having heard them reasoning together, and perceiving that he had answered them well, asked him, Which is the first commandment of all? And Jesus answered him, The first of all the commandments is, Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is one Lord: And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with **all thy heart**, and with **all thy soul**, and with **all thy mind**, and with **all thy strength**: this is the first commandment. And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these.

The Greek writings speak in the same vein with the added perspective of mind. Remember the Hebrew language incorporates **action**, of works and effort, in relation to a goal or an object, and so the word **“heart”** is associated with **action**, such as feeling internal discomfort as one’s heart groans under pondering a weighty matter.

Ergo the Greek language originates out of a culture of philosophy, of thinkers, that separates knowledge from action. With that orientation we can see where we go astray when following the Greek culture that defines love as not requiring action. But both languages are saying the same thing: the giving of one’s **“all”** in our relationship to Yah.

If I seek to worship Yah with my **heart** and my **soul**, and then establish how to do it with my **might**, I’m left with the question: According to the covenant, what are the actions I must do in order to keep my end of the covenant?

Deuteronomy 6:6~9 And **these words**, which I command thee this day, **shall be** in thine **heart**: And thou **shalt teach** them diligently unto thy children, and **shalt talk** of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. And thou **shalt bind** them for a sign upon thine hand, and they **shall be as frontlets between thine eyes**. And thou **shalt write** them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates.

Living according to **His words** keeps our relationship with Him alive. **His words** are to be in our **hearts**, meaning our **minds**, and we are to teach them to others and talk about them and make them a part of our process of reasoning and of **doing** work. This effort would refer to the decision making process upon which we base our judgment, our thinking, including the methods by which we do business, and other work. We are also to write them so as to preserve them for generations to come. Funny how as a people past generations preserved the word, often under peril, yet ironically, in these times, the great majority never read it, even fewer live it. So our negative behavior, our **“minus,”** stands as a testament against us as stated in Lev 26:14~39.

Summary: Once again there are three things we are asked to do in our covenant agreement with Yah: **“To love him with all our heart, with all our soul and with all our might.”** The heart and soul as stated show

*with what we are to love Yah with, but it's with **all of our might** that shows the amount of love one has for Yah.*

John 21:15~19 So when they had dined, Jesus saith to Simon Peter, Simon, son of Jonas, **lovest thou me** more than these? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my lambs. He saith to him again the second time, Simon, son of Jonas, **lovest thou me**? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my sheep. He saith unto him the third time, Simon, son of Jonas, **lovest thou me**? Peter was grieved because he said unto him the third time, Lovest thou me? And he said unto him, Lord, thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love thee. Jesus saith unto him, Feed my sheep. Verily, verily, I say unto thee, When thou wast young, thou girdedst thyself, and walkedst whither thou wouldst: but when thou shalt be old, thou shalt stretch forth thy hands, and another shall gird thee, and carry thee whither thou wouldst not. This spake he, signifying by what death he should glorify God. And when he had spoken this, he saith unto him, Follow me.

John 15:13 **Greater love hath no man than this**, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

*We are called to give up the lives we once had that would bring His wrath and our death.
So live for God! Serve in the newness of heart that brings forth love.
It's "**all**" in the doing!*

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