Passion for Compassion

Psalms 145:8-9 The LORD is gracious, and full of compassion; slow to anger, and of great mercy. 9 The LORD is good to all: and his tender mercies are over all his works.

During His ministry, Yahshua our Savior bestowed wonderful acts of love and compassion spread out over all walks of life. This study will describe many of these remarkable blessings but will focus on pressing each believer to develop an active role, not remaining passive in their walk of faith as they receive blessings from God. God is looking for a maturity of commitment and dedication with each believer customizing his personal zeal and passion into their heart to become Christ-like, spiritually attuned, to recognize profound human to human need to receive genuine love and compassion from brethren eagerly wanting to provide such loving service.

Col 3:12-14 Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering; 13 Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye. 14 And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness.

Compassion 07355. racham, raw-kham' a primitive root; to fondle; by implication, **to love**, especially to compassionate:--have compassion (on, upon), love, (find, have, obtain, shew) mercy(-iful, on, upon), (have) pity, Ruhamah, X surely.

Oxford's definition states: sympathetic pity and **concern** for the sufferings or misfortunes of others

Compassion motivates people to go out of their way to relieve the physical, mental, or emotional pains of others.

The following two verses prove that through the comfort and compassion that God has for us, we are able to comfort those around us. However, the way I see it's not just providing help and assistance to others but having the zeal (the passion) to do so living inside of you that is the gift He's given you to eagerly use for others to receive. Further explanation on this in a bit...

2 Corinthians 1:3-4 ¶ Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort; 4 Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God.

As we all know well, the Bible is filled with many examples of compassion, healing, serving and the like, basically showing love towards one another. A few basic examples:

Matthew 9:35-36 And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people. 36 But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd.

Mark 9:41 For whosoever shall give you a cup of water to drink in my name, because ye belong to Christ, verily I say unto you, he shall not lose his reward.

Romans12:1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

1 Thess 5:14 Now we exhort you, brethren, warn them that are unruly, comfort the feebleminded, support the weak, be patient toward all men.

Compassion is a feeling of deep sympathy and sorrow for another who is hurting, or has misfortune, accompanied by a strong desire to help the one suffering. Yahshua is the greatest example of someone with true compassion. Not only did He have compassion and heal people from physical suffering, He also showed the greatest compassion for mankind when He died on the cross for our sins.

1 John 3:16-18 Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren. 17 But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him? 18 My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth.

Yahshua's presence in the world is the ultimate act of compassion. We did not deserve His sacrifice, but because of the Father's great love, we were treated with mercy and are called to live lives of compassion and mercy.

It's giving without expecting anything in return. It has to be embedded with love as well. Truly having passion about being compassionate!

Compassion moves people to act on behalf of those in need. It is not a simple caring about others, but is a radical caring that we have no choice but to make sacrifices for others. Those with the gift of compassion rarely ask "Should I help," but instead focus on how to help.

Ephesians 4:32 And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.

Use your voice for kindness, your ears for compassion and your hands for charity.

In Mark 12:30 *Yahshua states:* 30 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.

Love - How can we love when we don't feel loving? In the Bible, love is more than a feeling. It's a decision to serve another person's interest. Only through God's help can this decision be made with "all your heart."

Compassion comes from your heart, it's His Spirit working within you. It's feeling the need of others and having a burning desire to step in and help. Yahshua is our greatest example.

Only the divine love of our Father, in Yahshua will satisfy the depths of our hearts, mind and soul to overflow both in this life and forever.

Matthew 20:29-34 ¶ And as they departed from Jericho, a great multitude followed him. 30 And, behold, two blind men sitting by the way side, when they heard that Jesus passed by, cried out, saying, Have mercy on us, O Lord, thou Son of David. 31 And the multitude rebuked them, because they should hold their peace: but they cried the more, saying, Have mercy on us, O Lord, thou Son of David. 32 And Jesus stood still, and called them, and said, What will ye that I shall do unto you? 33 They say unto him, Lord, that our eyes may be opened. 34 So Jesus had compassion on them, and touched their eyes: and immediately their eyes received sight, and they followed him.

Surely it was through their trust that Yahshua could heal them. Christ encouraged them and cured their blindness. Just like none of us follow Yahshua blindly, He opens our eyes and draws us to Himself. Once we were blind...but now we see!

Matthew 14:13-21 (Also ref Matthew 15:29-39) ¶ When Jesus heard of it, he departed thence by ship into a desert place apart: and when the people had heard thereof, they followed him on foot out of the cities. 14 And Jesus went forth, and saw a great multitude, and was moved with compassion toward them, and he healed their sick. 15 And when it was evening, his disciples came to him, saying, This is a desert place, and the time is now past; send the multitude away, that they may go into the villages, and buy themselves victuals. 16 But Jesus said unto them, They need not depart; give ye them to eat. 17 And they say unto him, We have here but five loaves, and two fishes. 18 He said, Bring them hither to me. 19 And he commanded the multitude to sit down on the grass, and took the five loaves, and the two fishes, and looking up to heaven, he blessed, and brake, and gave the loaves to his disciples, and the disciples to the multitude. 20 And they did all eat, and were filled: and they took up of the fragments that remained twelve baskets full. 21 And they that had eaten were about five thousand men, beside women and children.

Only Yahshua is the one who can satisfy deep spiritual hunger. This miracle of physically feeding over five thousand people was the precursor to feeding each and every

believer spiritually with His own body, the bread which came down from heaven. Whoever eats this bread will live forever!

John 6:51-58 I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world. 52 The Jews therefore strove among themselves, saying, How can this man give us his flesh to eat? 53 Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you. 54 Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day. 55 For my flesh is meat indeed, and my blood is drink indeed. 56 He that eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, dwelleth in me, and I in him. 57 As the living Father hath sent me, and I live by the Father: so he that eateth me, even he shall live by me. 58 This is that bread which came down from heaven: not as your fathers did eat manna, and are dead: he that eateth of this bread shall live for ever.

Matthew 9:35-38 And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people. 36 But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd. 37 Then saith he unto his disciples, The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; 38 Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest.

He is bringing both physical and spiritual restoration. And we, as laborers, will be transformed as we participate in His plan of salvation.

Through Christ we have access to the love, power and compassion of our almighty Father through their Holy Spirit which has been given to His children. This love is the power that transforms each of us with mercy every step of "the way." Let us respond always from a place of compassionate acceptance with this gift of unmatched love, with our lives, as Yahshua does.

Mark 14:3-9 And being in Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as he sat at meat, there came a woman having an alabaster box of ointment of spikenard very precious; and she brake the box, and poured it on his head. 4 And there were some that had indignation within themselves, and said, Why was this waste of the ointment made? 5 For it might have been sold for more than three hundred pence, and have been given to the poor. And they murmured against her. 6 And Jesus said, Let her alone; why trouble ye her? she hath wrought a good work on me. 7 For ye have the poor with you always, and whensoever ye will ye may do them good: but me ye have not always. 8 She hath done what she could: she is come aforehand to anoint my body to the burying. 9 Verily I say unto you, Wheresoever this gospel shall be preached throughout the whole world, this also that she hath done shall be spoken of for a memorial of her.

Love isn't self-seeking. The world tells us to love for ourselves but the Bible shows us that love is caring about the needs of others. Yahshua commanded that we love God and

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love others as a powerful reminder that it's not all about us. Christian love turns a blind eye towards others' faults and keeps no record of wrong.

"Love loves the unlovely, the unloving, the unlovable. It doesn't care if it's loved in return."

The woman feels deeply compelled to use what's obviously a very fine perfume to anoint Yahshua's head prior to His burial. He commands the people to let her alone and do as she wishes; tells them that nothing she's done has been a waste! What she has done was a righteous work onto Him. Her action (her **passion for compassion**) shall be remembered and spoken of for generations to come.

Let us strive to imitate the Father and Yahshua's compassion, along with this woman's tender-heartedness...always!!!

Selah

Proverb to Ponder:

Pr 23:26 My son, give me thine heart, and let thine eyes observe my ways.

All Scriptures KJV unless otherwise noted

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