

ELUL

We entered into the month of Elul (the first day of the sixth month) Thursday night; and for those who have been studying their Hebrew Roots of the faith, we know that this is a forty day time frame leading up to Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement), where we deal with both our vertical relationship with our Father and His Son and our horizontal relationships with our fellow brethren. It's a time of introspection...a time of repenting of every way that is not pleasing to our heavenly Father.

It's our prayer that each of us will get through this time with sincere hearts surrendered to the will of YHVH.

It says in Hosea 14:1-2; "Return, O Israel, to YHVH your Elohim, for you have stumbled because of your iniquity. 2. Take words with you and return to YHVH. Say to Him, "Take away all iniquity and receive us graciously, that we may present the fruit of our lips.'" The word 'return' here is the Hebrew word 'Shuv', Strong's H7725. This is the word used for 'repentance'. It means to turn back, to turn, and to return. This is what true repentance is...returning or turning back to Yah's Torah (teachings and instructions). The end of the verse says 'that we may present the fruit of our lips'. The actual phrase is 'our lips as bulls' meaning a 'sacrifice of praise'. When we T'Shuvah/Repent/Turn Back to the Torah the Father takes away our iniquity, receives us graciously and then we can bring to him our offerings or sacrifices of praise. As we pray with open hearts to receive, the Ruach HaKodesh (Holy Spirit) will gently lead us in the areas that need to be made right with both Elohim and man. As we enter into this time let us lift each other up in prayer.

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Just a reminder that Psalm 27 is read throughout the month of Elul until the seventh day of Sukkot, Hoshana Rabbah. May this chapter be a source of encouragement and strength as we go through these difficult times.

As you begin reading Psalm 27 we want to share once again a nugget from there.

1 YHVH is my light and my salvation; Whom shall I fear? YHVH is the defense of my life; Whom shall I dread?

2 When evildoers came upon me to devour my flesh, My adversaries and my enemies, they stumbled and fell.

3 Though a host encamp against me, My heart will not fear; Though war arise against me, In spite of this I shall be confident.

4 One thing I have asked from YHVH, that I shall seek: That I may dwell in the house of YHVH all the days of my life, To behold the beauty of YHVH and to meditate in His temple.

5 For in the day of trouble He will conceal me in His tabernacle; In the secret place of His tent He will hide me; He will lift me up on a rock.

6 And now my head will be lifted up above my enemies around me, And I will offer in His tent sacrifices with shouts of joy; I will sing, yes, I will sing praises to YHVH.

7 Hear, YHVH, when I cry with my voice, And be gracious to me and answer me.

8 When You said, "Seek My face," my heart said to You, "Your face, YHVH, I shall seek."

9 Do not hide Your face from me, Do not turn Your servant away in anger; You have been my help; Do not abandon me nor forsake me, O Elohim of my salvation!

10 For my father and my mother have forsaken me, But YHVH will take me up.

11 Teach me Your way, YHVH, And lead me in a level path because of my foes.

12 Do not deliver me over to the desire of my adversaries, for false witnesses have risen against me, and such as breathe out violence.

13 I would have despaired unless I had believed that I would see the goodness of YHVH in the land of the living.

14 Wait for YHVH; Be strong and let your heart take courage; Yes, wait for YHVH.

To begin with we want to point out from Psalm 27:14 the Hebrew understanding concerning the word *wait*. It has the meaning to *bind together* and *gather*. So the verse can say "*Bind together or gather for YHVH; be strong and let your heart take courage; Yes, bind together or gather for YHVH.*" With that premise in mind notice in verses 4, 5, 6 & 13 a repeatable word used in Psalm 27...the word **IN**.

David wrote that he desired to...

Verse 4: Dwell **IN** the house of YHVH all the days of his life and to meditate **IN** His temple

Verse 5: **IN** the day of trouble to be concealed **IN** His tabernacle (Sukkah) and **IN** the secret place of His tent He will hide me;

Verse 6: He will offer **IN** His tent sacrifices/offerings with shouts of joy

Verse 13: Would have despaired unless he had believed that he would see the goodness of YHVH **IN** the land of the living.

Every one of these **IN's** is at the place where the Father **gathers** and **binds together His people** **IN** unity to dwell with Him and each other. It's truly a joy and privilege to be revealed these truths, hear the "Teruahs" and put them into practice at this time. May we always have ears to hear and hearts to obey what the Spirit is saying!!